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LACKLAND TALESPINNER

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A final farewell

Friday is a SAPR Down Day for 502nd ABW

"Every Service Member Counts"

Photo by Benjamin Faske

Col. Deborah Liddick, 737th Training Group commander, pictured here June 6, 2013, will oversee her final Air Force Basic Military Training graduation and parade Friday as the BMT senior leader. Following a BMT change of command ceremony Monday, Liddick will retire after 25 years in the Air Force. **See story Page 3.**

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Initiative generates first of many JBSA, community partnerships

By L.A. Shively
JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Standing from left, Antony Person, 502nd Civil Engineering Squadron chief executive officer; Col. Bill Eger, Interoperability Steering Group commander; and Erik Walsh, deputy city manager; watch as Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, commander, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio, signs a Memorandum of Agreement with the city for animal control services.

Photos by L.A. Shively

From left, Erik Walsh, deputy city manager; Terrye Heagerty, 502nd Force Support Squadron director; Michael Baldwin, assistant San Antonio Parks and Recreation manager; and Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, commander, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio, pose with a certificate of appreciation for the members of JBSA from the City of San Antonio, signed by Mayor Julian Castro.

Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, commander, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio, signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Erik Walsh, deputy city manager, May 29, during the Joint Base San Antonio Public/Public/Public/Private (P4) Community Partnership Initiative Table Top Exercise held at the Alamo University Center in Live Oak.

A certificate of appreciation for the members of JBSA from the City of San Antonio, signed by Mayor Julian Castro, was also presented to LaBrutta.

The agreement allows the City of San Antonio Animal Care Services to capture nuisance strays on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Lackland. ACS would ensure the animals are neutered and have dogs placed up for adoption and cats released back into their environment.

"Erik, we are absolutely looking forward to partnering with you in the future. This is the first of many more initiatives we'll be able to address together in the days and years ahead," LaBrutta said.

"It's in our best interest and it's in the taxpayers' interest to work with all of our partners to solve many of our community issues we have. We certainly appreciate the relationship." Walsh said.

The P4 initiative was organized in direct response to the fiscal constraints that the 502nd Air Base Wing faces over the next five to ten years. In 2013, the defense authorization bill allows installations to enter into intergovernmental support agreements with local governments.

This initiative will permit the 502nd ABW and JBSA to enter into partnerships in the community in order to provide, receive or share installation support services for many of its municipal and morale, welfare and recreation functions.

Such agreements have proven successful previously at a handful of installations, but this new authority permits all military installations to partner with host communities to obtain or provide support services.

Locally, several planning meetings were launched beginning in February where a core group of installation and community leaders shared information on existing partnerships, organizational needs, capabilities and resources, while identifying potential partnering opportunities to reduce operating and service costs, or reduce risks, while retaining or enhancing quality of services and infrastructure.

Last week's table top exercise hammered out strategies for creating and budgeting new community partnerships while mapping the way ahead for the long range.

"We have subject-matter experts from all of our locations of Joint Base San Antonio reporting on what requirements they need," said Fil Jimenez, technical director for installation support. "A good example is our libraries – due to funding we may be forced to close our libraries."

Jimenez explained that a partnership agreement for installation libraries would not only continue to provide programs to military and family members but also establish student resource centers, spaces for military staff and faculty development, and allow access to the professional medical collections library and cybrary.

"These community partnerships are put into play to allow installations to run more effectively and efficiently," explained Corina Castillo-Johnson, an attorney with the Department of the Air Force General Counsel, Installation Energy and Environment Division.

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LACKLAND TALESPINNER

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Deadline for story submissions is noon Wednesday the week prior to publication.

News in Brief

JUNE 19

HOME BUYERS' SEMINAR

There will be a home buyers' seminar from 1:30-4 p.m. June 19 in the Fellowship Room at Freedom Chapel.

Seminar topics include the home buying process, how much money is needed, current market conditions, mortgage basics, information about the Veterans Administration and Texas Veterans Commission loan programs, credit information/tips, and a question-and-answer session.

For reservations and more information, call 375-5149.

JUNE 20

JBSA BAH MASS RECERTIFICATION

A mass recertification for Joint Base San Antonio Airmen on the service-wide basic allowance for housing entitlements recertification process is from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 20 at JBSA-Lackland, building 5616, room 118.

The Air Force has started the recertification process, mandating that every Airman provide their servicing finance office with documentation for all dependents by Dec. 31.

The recertification is part of Air Force audit readiness for 2015 as required by the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act. The one-time process allows the Air Force to validate the $5.4 billon spent annually on BAH entitlements and also ensures the money spent on BAH is fully auditable.

For information, call 652-1851, email finance.callcenter@us.af.mil or visit a local AF finance office. The finance office at JBSA-Lackland is located in building 5616, Suite 1; on JBSA-Randolph, the finance office is in building 399, Suite 2; and on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, the finance office is in building 4196.

The finance offices are open to walk-in customers Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointments are not required.

Finance offices will be closed Friday and open only from 1-3 p.m. June 17.

INFORMATIONAL

PASS AND REGISTRATION MOVE

The Pass and Registration Office has relocated to building 9504, next to the Valley Hi gate, from building 5616.

Basic Military Training commander to conclude 25-year Air Force career

By Mike Joseph
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Friday's Air Force Basic Military Training graduation and parade will no doubt be special for BMT's senior leader.

It will be the last BMT graduation and parade for Col. Deborah Liddick as the 737th Training Group commander before Col. Michele C. Edmondson assumes command of the group during a ceremony Monday morning.

It also means the countdown has begun to bring Liddick's 25-year Air Force career of service to the Air Force to a close. It will conclude Monday with her retirement ceremony following the BMT change of command.

Liddick said it felt like only yesterday that she came into the Air Force as a second lieutenant (March 25, 1989).

"It's been a great 25 years," she said. "I always tell people find something special about every assignment. Not every assignment is going to be perfect, but find one thing and then you can look back and say, 'Wow, I had a great career.' It's goes by fast."

Liddick summed up her time commanding BMT with words like rewarding, challenging and proud.

"At times it has been challenging, but on top of that it's been very rewarding," she said. "I wouldn't change a thing about the last 21 months. I'm very proud about what we've accomplished.

"I thought when I came here it would be like my previous job (commanding the 56th Maintenance Group at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., the largest maintenance group in the Air Force), but we had to implement significant changes here," Liddick said. "Organizational change is pretty difficult anywhere and that's why I'm proud as I leave here: BMT is in a much better place."

When Liddick took command of the Air Force's largest training group in September 2012, BMT was dealing with sexual assault charges, subsequent investigations and courts martials involving multiple basic military training instructors.

Col. Deborah Liddick
737th Training Group Commander

Following an independent Air Force investigation, Air Education and Training Command recommended 46 program and organizational changes be implemented into BMT for a safer and more productive environment.

"The trainees have a safe environment and are being properly trained," Liddick said. "Our MTIs do a great job of making the trainees understand and live by the Air Force Core Values.

"How we treat our Airmen extends all the way from Gen. Welsh (Gen. Mark Welsh, Air Force chief of staff) with dignity and respect. It starts right here in BMT. In the end, we are a better organization."

Liddick said watching first-hand how the MTIs, NCOs and senior NCOs transform civilians into Airmen have made her job as BMT commander the most rewarding of her career.

"I see what our MTIs produce every week over an eight-week period," she said. "They take these civilians who come into training who can barely march, often with no military background, and develop them into really motivated Airmen.

"I see these Airmen graduate on Fridays and how proud their families are. These Airmen seem like they stand about two inches taller in the eighth week when they graduate. I see the final product and I know it doesn't happen on its own."

She cited extraordinary professional and tireless efforts of the entire BMT team, from the best of the best NCOs and senior NCOs, to extremely committed military and civilian leaders throughout.

"There are so many people in this group that make this machine move," Liddick said. "They are so dedicated and they make a difference every day. I'm certainly going to miss it."

When asked what footprints she would leave on BMT, the commander quickly cited two.

"When I first started here, I was coming in at 4:45 a.m. for PT," she said. "I kept asking why 4:45 and nobody could give me a really good answer. Anytime the clock says 3 anything in the morning, whether it's to get up or go to bed, that's not good.

"I called my counterparts at the Army, Navy and Marines to see what time they started. The Army and Marines started at 5:30 a.m., the Navy at 5:45 a.m. or 6 a.m. We changed ours to 5:45 a.m. last December by modifying the schedule. It's a better quality of life for our MTIs and probably for their spouses."

The other change involved BMT parade. The 737th TRG Drum and Bugle Corps members never marched down the bomb run during their graduation parade.

However, in response to a number of comment sheets on the issue, the flight does now.

"The MTIs really talk up about walking down the bomb run at graduation during training," Liddick

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JBSA hosts Wingman week

By Staff Sgt. Marissa Tucker
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Members of the 502nd Air Base Wing participated in a weeklong celebration of the Wingman concept through a series of classes, fitness events and group outings May 26-30 across Joint Base San Antonio.

Wingman Week was held as an opportunity for all members of the 502nd ABW to deviate from the normal workday activities to focus on various facets of the Air Force's wingman concept, such as teamwork, problem solving, camaraderie and resiliency, said Senior Master Sgt. Aubrey Herrera, JBSA legal operations superintendent and project officer for the event.

"Comprehensive Airman Fitness (aka Wingman) Week is our

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Squadron and 802nd Security Forces Squadron softball game May 30, at

Photo by Staff Sgt. Marissa Tucker
Members of the 502nd Air Base

Avoiding the 'attractive' nuisance

By Jesse Bolaños
502nd Installation Support Group,
Judge Advocate Legal Intern

With the start of summer just around the corner, chances are you are thinking of the many ways you will relax and perhaps spend time with your kids. Most schools let out in early June and packs of kids (including your own) will soon be roaming your neighborhoods.

The usual summer days are filled with children relaxing at the pool or maybe bouncing on the trampoline in the backyard. Oh, the joys of summer!

You can just close your eyes and imagine the coming months being filled with music, laughter and…liability?

If you have a pool or trampoline in your backyard, you may be the proud owner of what we in the legal field call an "attractive nuisance."

An attractive nuisance is essentially an artificial condition on your property that may come with some extra liability. The extra liability arises when a child trespasses on your property and gets hurt playing with that pool or trampoline. If the child is deemed too young to appreciate the danger, you could be on the hook for any injuries that cute little trespasser sustains.

This liability could very likely come out of your own wallet, as home and renters insurance usually exclude coverage for trampolines and pools.

Sound unfair? Maybe, but it's the law in Texas. To protect yourself, you must ensure appropriate safety measures are in place.

Luckily, avoiding liability can be relatively easy. If you own a trampoline or a pool, you must ensure that the average child can't just waltz right in and have a dip or a bounce.

High fences, in this case, don't just make good neighbors; they make you less likely to get sued by even the most determined 5–10-year-old summertime intruder. A high fence, however, will do you no good if you forget to lock the gate.

The bottom line is to take reasonable precautions to ensure access to your attractive nuisance is restricted.

Military housing residents typically aren't allowed to have trampolines or above ground pools. Protection is built in this way for both you and the privatized military housing company.

Poorly maintained backyard playground sets may still qualify as attractive nuisances. As long as your backyard recreation sets are safe for your children, liability can probably be avoided in attractive nuisance claims.

It literally takes a village to ensure the safety of your neighborhood. If you have concerns that your neighbors have trampolines or pools that may be easily accessible to the adventurous little one, the neighborly thing to do would be to let them know.

Cooperation in your neck of the woods can keep everyone, even the occasional child trespasser, safe. Watching out for attractive nuisances, even in your own backyard, will reduce liability and increase the fun for all this summer season.

For questions, contact the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Legal Office at 671-3362.

Fraud, Waste, or Abuse

Members of the public, military members, Department of Defense civilian and contractor employees may report suspicious activity concerning fraud, waste or abuse and employee or management misconduct.

Report suspected FWA to your local inspector general, the 502nd Air Base Wing IG or the DOD FWA Hotline.

502 ABW/IG FWA Hotline 808-1000, http://www.jbsa.af.mil/fwa.asp

DOD Hotline 800-424-9098, http://www.dodig.mil/hotline

JBSA-Lackland, CMSAF Cody hosts international enlisted leader summit

By Senior Airman Krystal Jeffers
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody hosted an international senior enlisted leader summit May 13-16 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Command chiefs and senior enlisted leaders from around the Air Force participated in the summit. They were joined by senior enlisted leaders from the air forces of 24 countries, many the equivalent of the chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

"Our Air Force, and the entire Department of Defense, has always recognized the value of our international partnerships," Cody said. "Over time those relationships have become increasingly more important and we've seen the impact in operations around the globe. We want to build on those partnerships. We want to develop them and use them to strengthen our team."

Gen. Robin Rand, Air Education and Training Command commander, opened the summit by sharing his thoughts on the importance of the exchange.

"It's how we support each other, whether it is humanitarian assistance or combat operations," Rand said. "It is how we preserve our freedom and take care of those in need. I think that one of the best things about (this summit) is the opportunity to exchange ideas and to learn from each other."

Both the senior leaders from the U.S. and allied countries echoed Rand's thoughts in regards to exchanging knowledge and experience.

"The more we get together to share ideas and learn from each other, the stronger the partnerships become and the greater we are as a combined force accomplishing common goals around the world," Cody said.

"I think we have a lot to learn from each other," said Warrant Officer of the Royal Australian Air Force Mark Pentreath. "I don't think any service or any country has it perfect. This summit is quite unique; bringing together people from Europe, Asia, and other parts of the world. We have very different cultures and training, but we all have the same goal and are very proud to be in (our respective) air force. We have the same love for our air force and country, the same pride."

Over the three-day summit, the group had the opportunity to observe practices and discuss in-depth and share their thoughts on a wide range of topics. During the opening comments, Rand shared his top priorities as the AETC commander: "the mission, the Airmen who do the mission, the families who support the Airmen, our core values which are fundamental to us, and our heritage which can inspire and enforce our core values."

Some of the other topics covered include how to care for military families as defense budgets are minimized, the U.S. Air Force core values and Airmen's Creed, recruiting, professional development, how basic military training instructors are adapting to changes in BMT and developing character in Airmen.

"The majority of the discussions focused on the professional development of our enlisted force," Cody said. "We talked about strategic international enlisted development, training and education and how you shape those core concepts to strengthen the force. We also talked about sexual assault prevention and resiliency, and we shared some of the challenges we face in our air forces and how we are working to eliminate those from the ranks.

Photos by Joshua Rodriguez

Senior enlisted leaders from the air forces of 24 countries tour basic military training facilities and speak with Airmen at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody hosted an international senior enlisted leader summit May 13-16.

"Every time you have these discussions there is information from other nations that you can pull out and consider adopting in our own approaches," Cody continued. "So, it all contributes to the growth of the enlisted force, both here and around the world."

The United Kingdom Royal Air Force, Royal Canadian Air Force, Royal New Zealand Air Force and U.S. Air Force each presented how they train, educate and develop their enlisted airmen. The presentations were followed by a question-and-answer session and discussions.

A Military Training Instructor speaks with senior enlisted leaders from the air forces of 24 countries as they tour basic military training facilities at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody hosted an international senior enlisted leader summit May 13-16.

As part of the summit, the group toured both the old basic military training dormitories and the new Airman Training Complexes, the Basic Expeditionary Airman Skills Training site at the JBSA-Lackland Medina Annex, and the security forces technical school.

United Kingdom Master Aircrew Duncan Hide, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Air Command, said he enjoyed seeing how the U.S. does their training and seeing the difference from the old dormitories and the new ATCs. He noted that there were a lot of similarities between the U.S.'s eight-week BMT program and the U.K.'s 10-week training program; however, the biggest difference was the large scale on which the U.S. Air Force trains recruits.

During the tour of BMT facilities, the senior leaders had the opportunity to speak to trainees and observe a BMT graduation.

Pentreath said that one of his favorite parts of the summit was learning what recruits thought about the training. He could see that the trainees held great respect for their MTIs and how much they loved their air force, a feeling he shared for his own air force.

In addition to viewing how the U.S. Air Force recruits and trains Airmen, the summit also included visiting the Inter-American Air Forces Academy and the Defense Language Institute English Language Center, both of which trains foreign military members. IAAFA provides 34 courses taught in

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"There are constraints on their budgets but the San Antonio community needs to provide services to all of the operations that are inside the fence," she said, adding that successful partnerships will not only sustain services but potentially create ideal situations where other Defense Department organizations and civilian businesses will be drawn toward San Antonio.

"A premier installation, such as JBSA, is a huge source of economic development for the San Antonio region. So this initiative behooves us to become better service providers and that's what these community partnerships do," Castillo-Johnson said. "It is something communities can use to make their cities better places to live and work by leveraging each other's access to funds."

"This is uncharted territory," LaBrutta said, "but it is absolutely the right thing to do for both JBSA and the San Antonio community that we're so fortunate to have the opportunity to live and work."

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Spanish covering professional military development, aircraft maintenance, logistics and other similar training to members of the armed forces of the Americas and annually graduates 800 partner-nation students. The curriculum at DLIELC acculturates and trains international military personnel to communicate in English so they can instruct English language programs in their country. DLIELC annually graduates 2,800 students.

"JBSA is an ideal location for international exchanges," Cody said. "We have phenomenal organizations here in the IAAFA and the DLIELC, which provide a venue for different nations to come together and learn from and with each other in a common environment. There is also the benefit of what we do here in regards to our enlisted development. When you look at recruiting, training and education ... it all begins here. So, this is a great location and venue to see firsthand the way we develop our enlisted force, and use that as a starting point as we discuss enlisted development on a global scale."

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said. "It's like the Super Bowl of BMT, marching down the bomb run and doing eyes right. I asked why the band didn't and then we figured it out. Now every Friday the band marches down the bomb run. It's a beautiful sight and I'm proud of that."

Liddick said it was a personal decision to retire so she could spend more time with her husband of 14 years. While BMT commander, they only saw each other about every three months because of his work requirements.

"We built a house in South Dakota in 2011 and we've been dreaming about living up there and enjoying our life together," she said. "I made this decision last summer. It was difficult at first because I knew I'd be leaving the Air Force.

"You have to make those decisions in life and I thought it was the right time. The Air Force has been the experience of a lifetime and my current job is so unique, there's no other like it in the Air Force. What an honor it's been to command BMT."

JBSA-LACKLAND HEART LINK

Photo by Senior Airman Krystal M. Jeffers

Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, speaks to military spouses during Heart Link May 22 at JBSA-Lackland. Heart Link is a program hosted by the Military & Family Readiness Center that is designed for spouses both new to the Air Force and new to JBSA. It covers a range of topics such as how to read a leave-and-earnings statement, base history, the organization of the 502nd ABW, spouse benefits, installation resources and future changes for JBSA. Participants are also provided a gift bag that includes details on local schools, resources for children with special needs, a Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center directory, deployment information, counseling resources and more. Heart Link additionally provides an opportunity for new spouses to connect to other spouses and key spouses from their respective units.

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community's opportunity to stand down and recommit to central aspects of Airmanship - namely Comprehensive Airman Fitness and resiliency," she said. "For it to be successful, it requires strong and innovative leadership behind each of the activities so as to effectively reinforce the concept of employing resilient strategies that enhance CAF not just on Wingman Day, but all year long."

Various JBSA locations held an all-call where topics such as interpersonal relationships, listening techniques, San Antonio safety and various approaches to resiliency were discussed. A highlight for many was a speech by the fifth chief master sergeant of the Air Force, retired Chief Master Sgt. Bob Gaylor.

While discussing both pleasant and difficult times of his life and career, Gaylor stressed the necessity of putting each experience into perspective and not allowing the sad or negative things in life to cause one to give up.

"Have I failed? Yes, many times in my life. Have I faltered? More times than I can count," he said. "But I took responsibility, faced up to it and kept moving. I'm not sure if that's resiliency or not, but that's how I've made it all these years. You face it and move on."

The fifth CMSAF also shared his philosophy on the most important things in life, which included fourteen colorful words beginning with the letter F. Through many laughs and a few somber moments, those in attendance were moved by his story as he received a standing ovation upon his exit.

Dedicated Airmen designed various events at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph to ensure maximum participation and availability to all Airmen and Department of Defense civilians of the 502nd ABW. Events included a Crossfit Challenge and group fitness classes, a burger burn, team building training, a two mile funny run at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, a competitive softball game between the 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron and the 802nd Security Forces Squadron, and a field day organized by the 502nd Installation Support Group at JBSA-Lackland.

While Wingman Day activities are a requirement at Air Force installations, JBSA held events for a week to ensure the message behind the activities was not lost in simply "checking a box". Both participants and organizers of the events expressed their thoughts on why Wingman Day is important at JBSA.

"I was a point of contact for the Oct. 18 Wingman Day events and wanted to do it again because I saw that people really enjoyed it, said Staff Sgt. Melissa Williams, 502nd ISG knowledge operator and POC for the 502nd Installation Support Group Field Day. "Wingman Week is a time for us to really learn about each other and remember that under the uniform, we are all people with a story. Knowing a little of that story can help us all work together more cohesively and let people know they are never alone in the Air Force family."

DIAMOND SHARP

Staff Sgt. April Mullens

Unit: *3rd Combat Camera*
Duty title: Broadcast Producer
Time in service: 8 years
Hometown: Mount Olive, Miss.

"Staff Sgt. April Mullens demonstrates strong leadership and professionalism in all she does. She stepped up to become a bailiff for a six-day-long court martial where she oversaw the smooth processes of the military court system. This enabled the proceedings to be completed with judicial expediency and efficiency that provided the military member a fair hearing. Also, she participated in the DC Shootoff where she led a three-member team in a competition that provided multimedia journalists the advanced techniques that would lead them to become better Air Force storytellers. Additionally, Mullens devoted 40 hours in crafting the 12th Fighter Training Wing mission video that highlighted the importance of Air Education and Training Command's flight training mission. Lastly, she has been personally chosen by the commander to lead the unit's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Stand-Down Day whereby she had 8 hours of instruction to properly facilitate instruction to 44 Airmen. Mullens is without a doubt a vital part to the success of the 3rd Combat Camera Squadron."

-Tech Sgt. Rico Sison
Additional Duty First Sergeant, 3rd CTCS

Airman 1st Class Christine Thomes

Unit: *743rd Intelligence Support Squadron*
Duty title: Client Systems Technician
Time in service: 1 Year, 1 Month
Hometown: Richmond, Minn.

"Airman 1st Class Christine Thomes is a rising star in the U.S. Air Force whose drive for mission accomplishment stands out. As a client systems technician, Thomes has expertly resolved 110 trouble tickets, operated her work center's call center and performed preventative maintenance in direct support of 3,200 Headquarters Air Force Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency computers. She demonstrated her leadership ability by directing a four-man team while performing an alarm system software upgrade in support of multiple buildings on Security Hill. Thomes also took it upon herself to create an electronic database to track her work center's hardware bench stock, enabling collaborative access to current and future hardware inventory requirements. Additionally, she has contributed 14 hours to the San Antonio Meals on Wheels organization, providing 66 ready-made meals for senior members of the local community. Thomes' positive and assertive attitude makes her an asset to her peers, the 743rd Intelligence Support Squadron and the U. S. Air Force."

-Master Sgt. James E. Harris Jr.
First Sergeant, 743rd ISS

Staff Sgt. Aza Pierce

Unit: *59th Dental Squadron*
Duty title: Air Force Oral Hygiene Instructor
Time in service: 9 years, 9 months
Hometown: Port St. Lucie, Fla.

"Staff Sgt. Aza Pierce exemplifies the Diamond Sharp Award and our Air Force core values. Pierce sets the example for all Airmen to follow through her professionalism. She is motivated, proactive and a valued member of the $2.4 million Air Force oral hygiene course and Air Force dental service. As an instructor treatment coordinator, she is essential to developing oral preventive assistants to support 76 dental clinics Department of Defense wide. She displays service before self by providing tutoring for four hours outside of the duty day, to ensure students pass the block test and graduate. She earned an "excellent" rating on her instructor evaluation and scored a 98 percent on her no-notice subject matter test. Pierce is actively pursuing her second Community College of the Air Force degree and a Bachelor of Arts degree. She is devoted to developing herself and her peers, as she was instrumental in the recent Joint Base San Antonio speed mentoring for non-commissioned officers and Airmen for which she created a reference resource to handout to all 63 attendees. She exudes enthusiasm and integrity; this has been recognized by her 971 NCO peers when she was elected as the 59th Medical Wing NCO executive council secretary. As an Air Force ambassador in our community, she volunteers her time as a sexual assault prevention response victim advocate where she has given 172 hours of her free time; she served meals at the Fisher House and led the 59th Dental Group's Air Force Assistance Fund fundraising event. Pierce embodies our core values and is the example for Airman to follow."

-Master Sgt. Jason M. Fitts
First Sergeant, 59th Dental Group

Senior Airman Alexander Hodges

Unit: *502nd Communications Squadron*
Duty title: Client Systems Team Technician
Time in service: 5 years, 2 months
Hometown: Yoakum, Tex

"Senior Airman Alexander Hodges, client systems team technician of the 502nd Communications Squadron, is a textbook example of a remarkable client systems technician. His sharp dress and appearance, along with his vast knowledge in troubleshooting, is second to none. He has shown tremendous leadership qualities and is always willing to take the first step for others to follow. His active involvement with on-and off-base organizations, such as his squadron booster club and African American Heritage Club, has raised more than $5000 to date."

-Tech Sgt. Russell E. Mullens Jr.
First Sergeant, 502nd Communications Squadron

Staff Sgt. Justin Boskoski

Unit: *Headquarters Air Force Security Forces Center*
Duty title: Action Officer, Contingencies Branch
Time in service: 8 years
Hometown: Morgantown, Pa.

Staff Sgt. Justin Boskoski is an action officer assigned to Headquarters Air Force Security Forces Center Contingencies Branch. Over the last month, Boskoski expertly sourced more than 60 military working dog teams from across the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force supporting missions for the president, vice president and first lady. Additionally, Boskoski identified the need for and developed a comprehensive after-action report template for national security leadership missions. This all-inclusive product was adopted by two major commands and four service components resulting in streamlining the method by which vital information regarding presidential support missions is disseminated. Finally, Boskoski is very involved in the local community and volunteered at the Animal Defense League. While supporting the ADL, he committed time to walking and socializing homeless dogs and cats, subsequently preparing them for potential adoption."

-Master Sgt. Sheritta N. Washington
Additional Duty First Sergeant, HQ AFSFC

Staff Sgt. Marissa Tucker

Unit: *502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs*
Duty title: NCOIC
Time in service: 6 years, 7 months
Hometown: Chicago

"Staff Sgt. Marissa Tucker has distinguished herself as a top public affairs NCO during her time here. She has flawlessly served as the NCO in charge and supervises three Airmen, providing them with mentorship and leadership beyond her years. Tucker helps oversee and manage the community relations, media relations and internal communication sections of the 502nd Air Base Wing PA mission. She helps to maintain the JBSA-Lackland social media pages to an audience of 250,000, responds to media queries, provides oversight for the weekly newspaper and ensures the office runs smoothly administratively. In addition to her normal duties, Tucker spearheaded coordination for an office relocation and merger of the public affairs shop with the visual information shop this quarter. She diligently managed dual location equipment accounts for inventory of more than 500 items and completed five critical transfers in lieu of $15,000. Tucker is devoted to mentorship and development and leads from the front, bringing others with her. She is a Diamond Sharp NCO!"

-Master Sgt. Reginald N. Williams II
First Sergeant, 502nd Wing Staff Agency

Senior Airman Bianca Miller

Unit: *35th Intelligence Squadron*
Duty title: Cyber Analyst
Time in service: 5 Years
Hometown: San Antonio

"Senior Airman Bianca Miller is an exceptional Airman who embodies the whole-person concept. First and foremost, she is a highly motivated and enthusiastic cyber intelligence analyst. Miller has provided key cyber intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to support U.S. Southern Command counter-narcotics operations. Miller is also an advocate for physical readiness and is a squadron physical training leader. She leads flight PT sessions and develops detailed workout plans to help fellow Airmen become fit to fight. Miller also devotes time to her community by providing snacks and refreshments for the San Antonio youth soccer league. Furthermore, she participated in events such as the Texas Flower Country Women's 5K which raises money and awareness for Any Baby Can, an organization that serves pregnant women, young children and families, some of whom have medical issues, through education, therapy and family support services. Finally, Miller is dedicated to self-improvement. She has seized numerous training opportunities to advance her cyber skill set and to train incoming Airmen and NCOs to become fully mission capable. Her professionalism, efforts and demonstration of the core values have not gone unnoticed and for that reason Miller is our Diamond Sharp winner this month!"

-Master Sgt. Marco Cerros
First Sergeant, 35th IS

Airman 1st Class Amber Suggs

Unit: *59th Medical Operations Squadron*
Duty title: Aerospace Medical Service Apprentice
Time in service: 1 year
Hometown: Marksville, La.

"Airman 1st Class Amber Suggs drove support operations for the largest internal medicine clinic in Air Education and Training Command, aiding four teams with fast patient management and flow. She also honed her leadership skills as Airman in charge of a specialized acupuncture clinic. Her flight efforts earned the clinic 45,000 Relative Value Units estimated at a workload cost of $2 million and kept the flight's business plan at 96 percent. She championed the infection control program by conducting hygiene audits and training staff on policies, which contributed to an 'excellent' rating on health services inspections for 2013. Her hard work earned her an 'excellence' coin from Gen. Robin Rand, AETC commander. Suggs hit the ground running when she spearheaded creation of a new clinic medication room, selected as the squadron's only Airman demand reduction trusted agent. She's also a member of the 59th Medical Wing Airman's Council and a squadron physical training leader. She showcased her exceptional talents as she provided core ideas to the new $250 million medical treatment facility planning committee when she identified exam equipment for movement. Her attention to detail helped her get selected to referee the Paralympic Games and properly train future Air Force medics in the phase II and III program. Suggs' exemplifies the terms initiative, leadership and devotion to duty."

-Master Sgt. Lawrence Snyder
First Sergeant, 59th Medical Operations Group

Staff Sgt. Steven Koster

Unit: *343rd Training Squadron*
Duty title: Instructor, Security Forces Craftsman Course
Time in service: 6 years, 6 months
Hometown: Englewood, Fla.

"Staff Sgt. Steven Koster embodies the title 'Airman' in his dress, appearance and professionalism. As a newly assigned instructor to the Security Forces Craftsman Course, there has been no challenge too great for him. On his initial subject matter qualification, he scored 100 across the board and completed it in only two days, instead of the average 30 days. Every day, he shows up for work early, motivated and with a positive "can do" attitude that he carries throughout the duty day. Koster was hand-selected by unit leadership and to represent the Air Force in the first-ever "United States Air Force Tweet Chat," which reached in excess of 192,000 potential new Airmen across the globe, aiding recruiting efforts for years to come. Furthermore, as a volunteer activist, he has dedicated countless hours to the Air Force Sergeants Association by recruiting at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland's newcomer in-briefs as well as the airman development center, netting 138 new Air Force Sergeants Association members fighting for the rights and benefits of every enlisted person. Lastly, Koster has proven his commitment to excellence by receiving the John L. Levitow award from Airman Leadership School and completed the Security Forces Craftsman Course at the top of his class! I can't think of another Airman more deserving of the First Sergeant's Diamond Sharp Award and it is a pleasure to nominate Koster!"

-Senior Master Sgt.Shari L. Colquhoun
343rd Training Squadron

Senior Airman Fredrico James

Unit: *59th Dental Training Squadron*
Duty title: Dental Assistant Journeyman
Time in service: 3 years
Hometown: Timmonsville, S.C.

"Senior Airman Fredrico James is one of 11 periodontic flight technicians. He has displayed excellent attention to detail not only in caring for his patients, but with his extra duties as well. On April 16, James was seating a patient at the Air Force Post Dental Graduate School. As he looked out the window he noticed an elderly man having a hard time walking in the parking lot. After a few moments passed, the elderly man fell to the ground and hit his head on the pavement. James saw this and immediately notified the front desk, grabbed Capt. Peter Holden and Maj. Daniel Palazzolo, director of periodontic training, ran downstairs and provided first aid. Had it not been for James and his quick response, the elderly man would not have received the immediate treatment he needed."

-Master Sgt. Jason Fitts
First Sergeant, 59th Dental Group

ICE Interactive Customer Evaluation

One of the best things about ICE is that people can let service providers know when they do a great job, not just for poor service. It takes 5 minutes or less to submit a comment at http://ice.disa.mil.

Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Levesque

Unit: *Cryptologic and Cyber Systems Division*
Duty title: Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, Network Operations Center
Time in service: 6 years, 4 months
Hometown: Anchorage, Ala.

"Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Levesque is the non-commissioned officer in charge of cryptologic and cyber systems division offensive cyber operations network operations center. Levesque's technical skill enables 70 personnel with the ability to continue the mission on numerous cyber weapon systems to ensure that the most advanced offensive & defensive cyber capabilities are delivered to the warfighter. He was responsible for ensuring that the units' security inspection was successful in the areas of information systems and communication security. He took the lead for the team and verified that all inspection items were compliant prior to the arrival of the inspector general team. His actions facilitated our unit clinching the highest rating possible during the inspection. Levesque was also instrumental in ensuring that our network systems were ready for operators to start work on a $3 million state-of-the-art cyber platform. Finally, Levesque has revamped the squadron's physical fitness program enabling a 100 percent pass rate for the unit. His enthusiasm for work and his expansive knowledge in the cyber field has guaranteed the best products are being delivered to the warfighter. His accomplishments reflect why he truly is a "Diamond Sharp" NCO!"

-Master Sgt. Eric Rascoe
First Sergeant, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center/Det 6

Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland is on Instagram

Share your JBSA-Lackland photos by tagging us @JBSALackland

Straight Talk Line

For current, automated information during a natural disaster, crisis or emergency, call your local Straight Talk line.

- **JBSA-Fort Sam Houston: 466-4630**
- **JBSA-Lackland: 671-6397**
- **JBSA-Randolph: 652-7469**

JBSA Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

JBSA SEXUAL ASSAULT HOTLINE • 808-SARC (7272)
DOD SAFE HELPLINE • (877) 995-5247

JBSA CRISIS HOTLINE • 367-1213
JBSA DUTY CHAPLAIN • 365-6420

BMT HONORS

Congratulations to the following 58 Airmen for being honor graduates among the 586 Air Force basic military trainees who graduated today:

320th Training Squadron
–Flight 355
James Petros
Donovan Prochaska
–Flight 356
Hannah Cooper

321st Training Squadron
–Flight 361
Kevon Anderson
Dustin Gober
Andrew Kang
Roderick Lewis
Jesus Morales
Bilal Redd
Derrick Robinson
Reginald Shoats
Raymond Thomas
–Flight 362
Matthew Leonard
Matthew Welge
Trayvond Whitfield
Jabir Williams

322nd Training Squadron
–Flight 365
Nicholas Blanchette
Joshua Brown
Andrew Congdon
Joshua Davis
Davis Drury
Brandon Hantho
Christian Hubbard
Manuel Navarro
Sonny Perry
Bradford Randall II
–Flight 366
Julissa Clark
Chelsea Cummings
Grace Mccaffrey
Breanna Newman
Kayla Poole
Annelise Rowe
Iesha Stewart
Lena Vasquez
Jessica Wallis

323rd Training Squadron
–Flight 357
Logan Anderson
Johnathon Luna
Conner McVey
Justin Moechnig
Lucas Necessary
Christopher Phillips
Jared Ward
–Flight 358
Robert Pruitt
–Flight 363
Paul Amaral
Anthony Jenkins
Jay Jiang
Dana Lewin
Cameron Nardi
Adam Watters
–Flight 364
Christina Costa
Chelsea Martz

326th Training Squadron
–Flight 359
Husni Agri
Richard Davis
Matthew Hiland
–Flight 360
Cody Dickerson
Jordan Komorny
Stephen Miears
Jacob Winn

Top BMT Airman
Brandon Hantho
322nd TRS, Flight 365

Most Physically Fit
–Male Airmen
Kwadwo Opokuagyemang
331st TRS, Flight 360
Jacob Winn
331st TRS, Flight 360
John Florio
331st TRS, Flight 359
Tyler Murphy
331st TRS, Flight 359
–Female Airmen
Annelise Rowe
322nd TRS, Flight 366
Anna Gomez
322nd TRS, Flight 366
Mckenzie Marshall
322nd TRS, Flight 366
Tynisha Henry
322nd TRS, Flight 366
–Male Flights
323rd TRS, Flight 363
331st TRS, Flight 359
323rd TRS, Flight 357
320th TRS, Flight 355
331st TRS, Flight 360
321st TRS, Flight 361
323rd TRS, Flight 358
321st TRS, Flight 362
322nd TRS, Flight 365
–Female Flights
322nd TRS, Flight 366
320th TRS, Flight 356
323rd TRS, Flight 364

Top Academic Flights
321st TRS, Flight 361
322nd TRS, Flight 366
322nd TRS, Flight 365
323rd TRS, Flight 363
321st TRS, Flight 362
323rd TRS, Flight 357
331st TRS, Flight 359
331st TRS, Flight 360
323rd TRS, Flight 358
320th TRS, Flight 355
323rd TRS, Flight 364
320th TRS, Flight 356

Fire Safety is Everyone's Business

Home fire sprinklers save lives

Did you know? Installing sprinklers and smoke alarms in your home reduces your risk of dying in a fire by 82 percent?

Test your home sprinkler system IQ

Here are five statements about home sprinkler systems. Are they true or false?

- When one sprinkler goes off, all the sprinklers go off.
  False! *Only the sprinkler over the fire will activate*
- A sprinkler could accidentally go off, causing severe water damage to a home.
  False! *This is not likely to happen. Home fire sprinklers are specifically designed and tested to reduce such accidents.*
- Water damage from a sprinkler system will be worse than fire damage.
  False! *The sprinkler system will limit a fire's growth. Damage from a home fire sprinkler system will be much less severe than the smoke and fire damage as well as water damage from the fire department hoses.*
- Home fire sprinkler systems are expensive.
  False! *They typically cost one to one-and-a-half percent of the total building price.*
- Residential sprinklers are ugly.
  False! *Sprinklers for home use are now being designed to fit in with most any décor.*

(Information provided by the U.S. Fire Administration and the Federal Emergency Management Administration, http://www.usfa.fema.gov)

Local Briefs

FRIDAY

JBSA-LACKLAND LEGAL OFFICE CLOSURES

The Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Legal Office is closed Friday for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Stand Down Day and will be closed June 13 for an official function.

For more details, call 671-3362.

SATURDAY

SKYLARK QUARTERLY FLEA MARKET

The Skylark quarterly flea market is from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. Reserved spaces are $10 or $15 with a table.

For more details, call 671-3191.

JUNE 13

PARENTING ORDER LEGAL CLINIC

The Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Legal Office and the Texas Attorney General's Office will host a parenting order legal clinic from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 13 in building 2484, 1701 Kenly Avenue, room 029.

Issues to be discussed will include custody, child support, DNA testing, paternity, parent-child visitation and modification of court orders. Attendees may bring lunch to the clinic, but are asked not to bring children.

For more details, call 671-3362.

JUNE 13-15

SINGLE PARENT CARE RETREAT

The Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center chapel will sponsor a free retreat for single parents of children ages 3-17 June 13-15 at the Flying L Dude Ranch in Bandera. The retreat starts at 5 p.m. June 13 and ends at noon June 15.

For additional information or to register, call 292-7373.

JUNE 19

JBSA-LACKLAND JUNETEENTH EXPO

The Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland African American Cultural Association will host a Juneteenth Expo from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 19 in building 171 on Port San Antonio.

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

Free food samples will be served, local vendors will introduce their goods and services (no selling), and artists will display their talent through praise dancing and singing.

JUNE 21

FREE CHRISTIAN MUSIC CONCERT

A free Christian music concert begins at 6:30 p.m. June 21 at the Refuge Student Ministry Center.

The concert features recording artist Living Water Sound.

For additional information, call 830-765-2476.

INFORMATIONAL

WHASC CART DRIVERS NEEDED

The 59th Medical Wing Volunteer Service Office needs licensed drivers, who are at least 20 years of age, for its step saver program.

Qualified volunteers will transport patients to and from clinic entrances and parking lots in the vicinity of the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Clinic. Carts operate from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Training is available.

For additional information, call 292-6591.

SAFETALK TRAINING CLASSES

SafeTALK training classes are scheduled over the next three months at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph.

The classes teach how to recognize persons with suicidal thoughts and assist them in seeking help resources. The program concentrates only on recognition and referral.

The JBSA-Lackland classes will all be held at Freedom Chapel, building 1528. The dates are June 17, 8-11:30 a.m. and 1-4:30 p.m.; July 17, 8-11:30 a.m. and 1-4:30 p.m.; Aug. 7, 1-4:30 p.m.; and Sept. 25, 8-11:30 a.m. and 1-4:30 p.m.

The JBSA-Randolph classes at the chapel annex are June 12, 1-4:30 p.m., and June 23, 8:30 a.m. to noon.

To register for the class or for more information, c all 691-2911. Maximum class size is 40 except for the Aug. 7 class, which has a maximum size of 30.

ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE RECOGNIZED

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service has been selected a "Best for Vets" employer for 2014 by Military Times.

The military publication recognized the Exchange for its commitment to providing job opportunities to veterans, naming it No. 31 among the top 59 employers for veterans. This marks the first time the Exchange has received this recognition.

Veterans make up 10 percent of the Exchange's workforce of about 38,000. In 2013, the Exchange hired 1,112 veterans.

AAFES HOMEWARD BOUND CAMPAIGN

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service's Homeward Bound campaign has a variety of June giveaways to celebrate the homecoming of America's warfighters and honor those who serve.

Shoppers who visit the Exchange's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX have a chance to win various prizes throughout the month.

They include one of seven Apple MacBook Air computers from June 13-19 and an MWR Vacations trip for two valued at $999 or a 65-inch LG SMART television valued at $1,699 from June 27 to July 10.

To enter the Homeward Bound contests and for more information about upcoming promotions, shoppers can visit www.shopmyexchange.com/homewardbound.

CHAPEL SERVICES

—PROTESTANT

• Freedom Chapel – building 1528

Contemporary Service	Sun.	9:30 a.m.
Religious Education	Sun.	11 a.m.
Gospel Service	Sun.	12:30 p.m.
Spanish Service	Sun.	3 p.m.
AWANA	Wed.	6 p.m.

• Airmen Mem. Chapel – building 5432

Liturgical Service	Sun.	8 a.m.

—DENOMINATIONAL

• BMT Reception Center – building 7246

Church of Christ	Sun.	7:30 a.m.

• Gateway Chapel – building 6300

Seventh-day Adventist	Sat.	12:30 p.m.

• Education Classroom – building 5200 Room 108

Christian Science	Sun.	7:30 a.m.

—PENTECOSTAL RE

• Gateway Chapel – building 6300

Pentecostal RE	Sun.	2:30 p.m.

—ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

• Airmen Mem. Chapel – building 5432

Divine Liturgy	Sun.	9:30 a.m.

—WICCA

• BMT Reception Center – building 7246

Military Open Circle	Sun.	12:30 p.m.

• Freedom Chapel – building 1528

Military Open Circle	First Tues.	6 p.m.

—REFUGE STUDENT CENTER

• building 9122 (Tech Training & TDY Students)

Wednesday Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
Thursday	6 – 8 p.m.
Friday	6 – 11 p.m.
Saturday	Noon to 9 p.m.
Sunday	11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

—THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

• Gateway Chapel – building 6300

Religious Education	Tues.	6:30 p.m.
LDS Institute	Thurs.	6:30 p.m.
LDS Service	Sun.	1 p.m.

—JEWISH

• Airmen Mem. Chapel – building 5432

Sabbath & Kiddush	Fri.	4:30 p.m.
Religious Education	Sun.	1:30 p.m.

—ROMAN CATHOLIC

• Freedom Chapel – building 1528

Religious Education	Sun.	9 a.m.
Reconciliation	Sun.	10 a.m.
Mass	Sun.	11 a.m.
	Sun.	5 p.m.
Reconciliation	Sun.	4:15 p.m.

• Gateway Chapel – building 6300

Daily Mass Mon., Tues. and Thurs. 11:30 a.m.

Note: Reconciliation(s) may be scheduled by appointment

—ISLAMIC

• Global Ministry Center – building 7452

Jummah Prayer	Fri.	12:45 – 1:15 p.m.
Religious Education	Sun.	9 a.m.

OTHER FAITH GROUPS

• BMT Reception Center – building 7246

—Buddhist	Sun.	10 a.m.

• Gateway Chapel – building 6300

—Eckankar

First, third and fifth Saturdays 12:30 p.m.

—Baha'i

First, third and fifth Saturdays 11 a.m.

For more details, contact

Freedom Chapel - 671-4208 • Gateway Chapel - 671-2911

JBSA-LACKLAND

Air Force Aid Society	671-3722
Airman & Family Readiness Center	671-3722
Airman's Attic	671-1780
American Red Cross	844-4225
Base Post Office	671-1058
Bowling Center	671-2271
DEERS	800-538-9552
Exceptional Family Member Program	671-3722
Family Child Care	671-3376
Legal Office	671-3362
Library	671-3610
Medical Appointment Line	916-9900
MPF ID Cards	671-6006
Outdoor Recreation	925-5532
TRICARE Info	800-444-5445
Thrift Shop	671-3608

Enlisted Spouses' Club	http://www.lacklandesc.org
Force Support Squadron	http://www.lacklandfss.com
Lackland ISD	http://www.lacklandisd.net
Officers' Spouses' Club	http://www.lacklandosc.org
JBSA Public website	http://www.jbsa.af.mil
My Air Force Life	http://www.MyAirForceLife.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Military & Family Support Events

ALL CLASSES, SEMINARS, MEETINGS AND EVENTS ARE HELD AT THE MILITARY FAMILY READINESS CENTER, BUILDING 1249, *UNLESS NOTED BELOW.* CALL MFRC AT 671-3722 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

FRIDAY

▶ Transition Assistance Program, 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

▶ AMVETS national service officer available by appointment only. For information, call 773-354-6131.

MONDAY

▶ Exceptional Family Member Program camp, Start with the Arts, 9 a.m. to noon

▶ Family readiness briefing, mandatory for personnel deploying longer than 30 days or going on remote assignments, 10:30-11 a.m.

▶ Resume writing techniques, noon to 2 p.m.

▶ Post-deployment briefing, required for all Airmen returning from deployment, 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron IDRC briefing room, 2:30-3:30 p.m., building 5160.

TUESDAY

▶ Pre-separation briefing, mandatory for all members retiring, pre-registration required, 9 a.m. to noon.

▶ Pre-deployment briefing, required for all airmen preparing to deploy, 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron IDRC briefing room, 9-9:30 a.m., building 5160.

▶ Exceptional Family Member Program camp, Start with the Arts, 9 a.m. to noon

▶ AMVETS national service officer available by appointment only. For details, call 773-354-6131.

WEDNESDAY

▶ Newcomer's orientation briefing, mandatory for personnel new to JBSA-Lackland, Gateway Club, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

▶ Four to Go, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

▶ Exceptional family member program camp, Start with the Arts, 9 a.m. to noon

▶ AMVETS national service officer available by appointment only. For information, call 773-354-6131.

THURSDAY

▶ Pre-separation briefing, mandatory for all members separating voluntarily, pre-registration required, 9 a.m. to noon.

▶ Exceptional Family Member Program camp, Start with the Arts, 9 a.m. to noon

▶ Bundles for Babies, 1-4:30 p.m.

▶ Air Force Basic Military Training spouse and parents seminar, BMT Reception Center, 1 p.m., building 7248. For details, call 773-354-6131.

▶ AMVETS national service officer available by appointment only. For information, call 773-354-6131.

JUNE 13

▶ Interview with Confidence, noon to 2 p.m.

▶ Federal employment process taught by the Office of Personnel Management, 1-3:30 p.m.

▶ AMVETS national service officer available by appointment only. For more information, call 773-354-6131.

JUNE 16

▶ Five-day Transition Assistance Program, mandatory pre-separation briefing and Form 2648 are required prerequisites, 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

▶ Family readiness briefing, mandatory for personnel deploying longer than 30 days or going on remote assignments, 10:30-11 a.m.

▶ Post-deployment briefing, required for all Airmen returning from deployment, 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron IDRC briefing room, 2:30-3:30 p.m., building 5160.

▶ AMVETS national service officer available by appointment only. For details, call 773-354-6131.

JUNE 17

▶ Transition Assistance Program, 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monthly Meetings

ENLISTED SPOUSES CLUB

The Lackland Enlisted Spouses' Club meets every third Tuesday of the month at the Balfour Beatty Community Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, visit http://www.lacklandesc.org.

OFFICERS SPOUSES CLUB

The Lackland Officers' Spouses' Club meets monthly. For dates and times, or more information, visit http://www.lacklandosc.org.

MILITARY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

The Military Council of Catholic Women meets the first Friday of the month, 9:30 a.m., at Freedom Chapel. For additional information, call 671-4208.

On the web

http://www.lacklandfss.com

Growth at Wilford Hall signals new era of services for wounded warriors

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Carwile
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

A ribbon-cutting ceremony witnessed by a gathering of staff and wounded warriors May 20 marked a new era of rehabilitative and administrative services for wounded warriors at the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center.

The ceremony showcased a much anticipated expansion, officially designating a large portion of the medical facility's fifth floor as home for a growing 59th Medical Wing's Patient Squadron.

Normally considered an administrative holding program for Airmen with complex medical conditions, "this new area lets us streamline operations, and improve and expand patient services," said Lt. Col. John DaLomba, patient squadron director of operations.

Previously, the core staff was spread out over two different floors, in cubicles that did not allow for privacy when attending to patients. "Now, all the core and support staff is located in once place, with more than twice the amount of space as before," said DaLomba.

The unique thing about the patient squadron is that every patient is also a member of the organization. "Every patient is issued permanent change of station orders, or sent here on a temporary duty assignment to be a part of the unit while they recover," said DaLomba.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Carwile
Col. Heather Carter, 59th Medical Support Group commander, cuts a ceremonial ribbon officially designating the new home of the 59th Patient Squadron May 20 in the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. The Patient Squadron is dedicated to the treatment and rehabilitation of Airmen and wounded warriors with complex medical conditions.

While assigned to the squadron, patients are offered a variety of services by representatives from warrior support programs and the Air Force Personnel Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

With the new space, DaLomba is working to expand the services available within the squadron. The goal is to have representatives from other base agencies, such as finance and personnel, visit weekly to help patients and their families.

Also, depending on their medical needs, some patients are allowed to work in organizations throughout the JBSA.

"About 60 to 65 percent of our patients are able to work in areas within their career fields or similar ones," said DaLomba.

All of treatment and rehabilitative services work toward one common goal, he said, "integrating every patient back into the Air Force, whether in their career field or a new one, or helping them through the process of separating and transitioning back into civilian life."

AFMS historian seeks to preserve military medical history

By Senior Airman Courtney Moses
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

A modest display that occupies what was once a flower shop at the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center is the seed of what one day may be an Air Force museum dedicated to military medicine.

For Judith Taylor, Air Force Medical Services historian, that is the goal.

"There has always been a desire by many to have a medical museum for the Air Force. I think it's time the Air Force Medical Service had one" said Taylor.

The AFMS was created in 1949. Its components included the Medical Corps, Dental Corps, Veterinary Corps, Medical Service Corps, Air Force Nurse Corps and the Women's Medical Specialist Corps.

"Each of these groups has contributed greatly to advancements in military medicine, and to saving people's lives. It only makes sense there should be something out there to showcase what they've done," she said.

Photo by China Harold
Judith Taylor the Wing Historian of the 59Medical Wing discusses past history with retired Master Sgt. Tony Garcia and wife, Gracie, May 21 at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

"Many don't know how AFMS has contributed to the medical world," said Taylor. "The concept of aerobics began in the Air Force. AFMS also helped develop the bird ventilator which helps newborns to breath."

For now, the humble display of lithographs and storyboards by the WHASC information booth will suffice. The current medical facility, affectionately called "Big Willy" by those who know its history, is scheduled for demolition and health care services are set to move to a new adjacent facility within the next few years.

"There's not a lot of time left to build a permanent display. With operations set to move to the new building, the solution was a modest, but in-depth, timeline highlighting AFMS contributions," said Taylor.

Now, everyone can see and learn a bit about the accomplishments of medical personnel from years past. "Hopefully, providing more awareness and stirring up a better appreciation for the foundation upon which modern Air Force medicine was built," she added.

It's a much-needed and well-deserved tribute to Air Force military medicine, and "it's just the start," she said. "With a few other projects in line, this is only the beginning of bigger things yet to come."

Military organizations give back to vets

By Senior Airman Lynsie Nichols
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Memorial Day is a special day to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice of their lives while defending this nation.

This year, approximately 200 bikers from San Antonio, Beeville, Texas, and Portland, Ore., along with members of the Joint Base San Antonio military community delivered basic items to residents of the Frank M. Tejeda Veterans Home in Floresville, Texas, to thank them for their service.

The Frank M. Tejeda Veterans Home opened in 2000 and provides long-term care exclusively for up to 160 Texas veterans, their spouses and Gold Star parents.

"We wanted to drive home the importance of this day. America has many holidays, yet none is as significant or forgotten as Memorial Day," said Tech. Sgt. Christopher Dion, 341st Training Squadron team chief. "It's celebrated in honor of all the men and women who put this country's uniform on and answered their nation's call. We remember those men and women who put on the uniform never to return."

Planning for the event began in February and was put together by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter 23-8, JBSA 5/6 Association and staff members of the Tejada Home.

Items collected for the run included blankets, toiletries, socks, T-Shirts and monetary donations from groups like the JBSA Airman's Voice. The items were then delivered to the veterans following a motorcycle ride from San Antonio to the facility, where the group also held a ceremony.

While collecting and purchasing items, members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association met local shoppers who donated money to the cause after learning about the event, and the bikers immediately used the money to purchase more items.

Courtesy Photo
"Bam Bam," president of the Sons of Liberty Motorcycle Club Blanco Chapter, greets a World War II veteran May 26 at the Frank M. Tejeda Veterans Home in Floresville, Texas. Approximately 200 bikers from San Antonio, Beeville, Texas, and Portland, Ore., along with members of the Joint Base San Antonio military community, delivered toiletries, clothing and other items to residents of the veterans home to thank them for their service.

The group consists of combat veterans from all branches of the United States Armed Forces who ride motorcycles as a hobby. Their mission is to support and defend those who have defended this country and its freedoms by helping veteran care facilities provide warm meals, clothing, shelter and guidance.

The JBSA 5/6, who garnered JBSA support for the event, is an association of Air Force staff sergeants (E-5s) and technical sergeants (E-6s) whose strive to develop their peers both professionally and personally.

"It was an honor [to be a part of this event]," Dion said. "This was the first time anything like this had been attempted and was the largest event experienced by the veteran's home. We plan to do it again next year."

Tejeda resident Pablo Duenes, an Army veteran who spent three years in Vietnam, praised the event.

"We're not alone," he said. "They appreciate what we did and that means a lot to us."

sports

JBSA-Lackland Airmen compete in USA Open Volleyball Championships

By Jose T. Garza III
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Two Airmen from Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland participated in the USA Open Volleyball Championships May 23-25 in Phoenix.

Tech Sgt. Carlos Trevino, 433rd Airlift Wing, and Staff Sgt. Derek Wilson, 92nd Information Operations Squadron, were asked to be a part of the Minot Air Force Base men's volleyball team by Joyce San Nicolas, a 91st Missile Maintenance Squadron executive assistant at Minot. She previously coached the two on the JBSA-Lackland men's varsity volleyball team and asked them to fill in because she lost players to military commitments.

The team competed in the Men's B pool and went 0-8.

Despite going winless, Trevino, an Air Force Reservist and public affairs specialist, said being part of the event was "volleyball heaven."

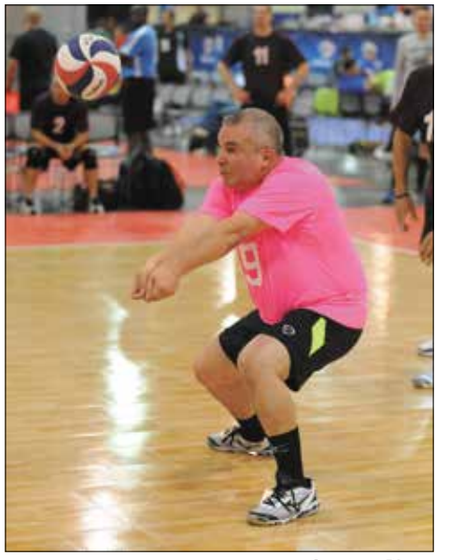
"You have national and international players participate in this event," explained Trevino, a libero or indoor volleyball defensive specialist on the team. "There's 46 games going on every hour, and it could be overwhelming for someone who has not competed in the championships before."

When asked what he took away from the event, Trevino, who has previously competed in the national championships three times, said that he needed to improve his fitness and continue practicing in open gyms around the city to get better in case he competes in next year's event.

"I need to work on my cardio and speed in order to continue competing at my best," noted Trevino.

San Nicolas appreciated both Trevino and Wilson's on the court efforts. The coach said she valued the leadership both brought to a team that she described as being inexperienced.

"They helped us be a more cohesive team with their experience," San Nicolas explained. "They helped teach our younger players how to play the game at a higher level and they made things go smoothly. I would like to have both of them play for me again in next year's championships."



Courtesy Photo
Tech Sgt. Carlos Trevino, a 433rd Airlift Wing public affairs specialist, passes an opponent's jump serve during a matchup at the USA Volleyball Open National Championship, which took place May 23-25 in Phoenix.