



WINGSPREAD

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH

No. 27 • JULY 11, 2014

Youth group tours 99th FTS

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COMMENTARY

Ask yourself: Is the Air Force in you?

By Chief Master Sgt. Edward Edgar
317th Recruiting Squadron superintendent

When I think about being a good Airman first, there are two quotes that have framed my focus.

The first came from Chief Master Sgt. A.C. Smith, the command chief master sergeant for the 388th Fighter Wing at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. It was part of his address to the Team Hill 5/6 Association; I was attending as president of Hill's Top 3.

He said, "I was 19 years old when I got into the Air Force. I was 32 when the Air Force got into me."

I heard the other quote while attending a senior NCO induction seminar at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. We were being addressed by the commander's panel and one of the members urged us:

"Be visible in uniform with your stripes, be it on the flight line or on base at the commissary – be visible."

These two senior leaders spoke to committing more to the Air Force than just your technical expertise, which should be a given.

"Be a great Airman first" as a slogan encompasses enlisted development institutional competencies, specifically the personal competency of "embodies Airman culture." There are sub competencies to "embodies Airman culture" which you can read in the Professional

"Identify with the institution! Step out of your comfort zone and into leadership, mentorship and warrior ethos that build opportunities consistently and deliberately."

Development Guide or at the LeMay Center for Doctrine Development and Education website at <http://www.au.af.mil/au/lemay/main.htm>.

The point is that although vital to force multiplication, simply recruiting is not enough. Being a great Airman requires ethical leadership that promotes the Air Force core values both within and outside your unit.

It requires building warrior ethos by honing skills to support employment of military capabilities; skills that stagnate when we simply focus on tasks in our job description. It also requires self-development that continually increases breadth and depth of knowledge and skill.

What does all this mean? In my perspective, we tend to compartmentalize in recruiting much more than traditional Air Force Specialty Codes. You've no doubt heard the old saying that when you ask a United States Marine Corps member what they do, their response is

"I'm a Marine," or "Sailor" or "Soldier" for the other services.

However, ask an Air Force member what they do and you might hear, "I am a heavy equipment operations technician." While this pride in specialty is admirable, overall growth comes from service pride.

Identify with the institution. Step out of your comfort zone and into leadership, mentorship and warrior ethos that build opportunities consistently and deliberately.

The good news is the opportunities are endless. Educational institutions (professional and personal), professional organizations (Top 3, Toastmasters, Veterans of Foreign Wars), shadow programs, community, etc. – you can't go wrong as long as you are committed and passionate in your selection.

As most readers are not 19, I'll ask: "What age will you be when the Air Force gets in you?"

ON THE COVER

Dana Gunter (left), 12th Operations Support Squadron T-6A Texan II simulator instructor pilot, explains the principles of flight and maneuvers to Alexa Mumford during a simulator demonstration June 27 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. For more coverage, see page 3.

Photo by Melissa Peterson

WINGSPREAD

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Youth group tours 99th Flying Training Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph



Capt. Christine Wagner (right), 99th Flying Training Squadron T-1A Jayhawk instructor pilot, explains her squadron's Tuskegee heritage to youth from across the Central Texas region June 27 during a three-day tour at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Photo by Melissa Peterson

CRITICAL DAYS OF SUMMER SAFETY

Officials offer advice for summer pet safety

By Senior Airman Krystal M. Jeffers
502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

During the summer time there are a range of dangers to household pets from hot weather to insects and dangerous animals to even plant-life.

Dr. Donna DeBonis, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Veterinary Clinic veterinarian, provided tips and information to keep pets safe from a wide variety of dangers that occur during the summer season.

Pets that are new to the area need to acclimate to the warmer temperatures. In addition, they are not familiar with local wildlife and do not know what is dangerous, according to DeBonis.



Courtesy photos

HEAT

"I think one of the biggest problems we have is that people travel with their pets around town as they do errands and they forget that their car gets hot in just a few minutes," DeBonis said. "It is safer to leave their pets at home. If they are going to take their dogs out to somewhere like the dog park, then they should make it a round trip to the park and back home. Pets shouldn't be left in the car for any amount of time."

A study by San Francisco State University's department of geoscience, where the outside temperature ranges from 72 to 96 degrees, showed that the interior temperature of vehicles parked in outside temperatures rose steadily as time increased and cracking the windows had little effect. In 10 minutes, the temperature rose 19 degrees and within an hour it rose 45 to 50 degrees.

The summer sun warms up more than cars; asphalt and sand is also affected, which can burn animals' paws. Instead of taking dogs to run on pavement, take them somewhere grassy like a dog park.

Heated cars and cement aren't the only

challenges pets face. They also need to stay properly hydrated.

"People get used to leaving out a certain amount of water for their pets and not realizing they are going to go through more water during the summer time," DeBonis said.

The veterinarian suggested that owners not only leave out more water, but also have multiple sources of water in case the pet knocks over or spills one.

In addition, sunburns, heat exhaustion and heat stroke can occur if pets are outside for long periods. Without some type of shade to cool off under. For that same reason, DeBonis advises people who run with their dogs to do so in the early mornings before it gets hot. The heat doesn't dissipate immediately after the sun sets so the evenings could still be too warm.

SWIMMING

"People like to take their dogs swimming with them like to the lake," DeBonis said. "If they take them, they have to make sure to teach their pets how to swim."

Some dogs however, can be unsuited for swimming for a number of reasons.

High bone density can make it difficult for some animals, like bulldogs and boxers, to float. Also, if they are short-faced, or brachycephalic, they could have breathing difficulties, which would cause them to panic, become disoriented and drown, DeBonis elaborated.

Even if owners teach a dog how to swim, there are dangers they must be aware of.

"They might be good at swimming, but if they go underwater for a moment and are unable to breathe well they could panic, which will cause them to get disoriented," the veterinarian said. "If they get disoriented or panicky, then they will run out of energy quickly and drown."



For people with pools DeBonis provides the following tips:

- Don't allow a dog to have unsupervised access to a pool.
- Show them where the stairs are.
- Put something to identify where the steps are like a colorful towel, something the pet will notice when they are in panic.

WILD LIFE

"Something people don't always realize is that insects are more prevalent in the summer time," DeBonis said. "Dogs might try to eat them or they might accidentally lay down in a red ant pile."

"Puppies are very silly and will try to catch (bees)," she continued. "If they get it in their mouth, it can sting them and leave the stinger. Owners need to look into the mouth and try to remove the stinger, and then get them to the emergency room as quickly as possible if they are swelling up. Typically one side is going to be more swollen than the other."

Other dangers from insects can come from fleas and ticks, and mosquitoes which can carry heartworm disease. Owners are advised to place pets on flea and tick preventative and heartworm preventative medicine.

In addition to insects, owners should watch for snakes, even if they live in city. Some common poisonous snakes in Texas include the copperhead, cottonmouth, various types of rattlesnake and harlequin coral snake.

The South Texas Poison Center advises people and pets to stay out of tall grass and underbrush and to remain on hiking paths as much as possible. Also, avoid snakes that appear dead because they are able to strike up to one hour after death.

If bitten and unable to immediately seek medical attention, wash the bite with soap and water, immobilize the bitten area and keep the area lower than the heart. Do not apply oral suction to the bite, cut into or incise bite marks with a knife, apply either hot or cold packs, apply a tourniquet or try to kill, bag or bring in the snake in question, according to the South Texas Poison Center.

To protect pets from snakes and insects, DeBonis recommends that owners thoroughly examine their backyards for any potentially harmful creatures, such as snakes, wasps, bees, scorpions and hornets, and fix



holes in fencing that could make it easier for pets to get out or for unwanted animals to come in.

PLANT LIFE

Another danger to consider is plants, some of which could be harmful to pets if ingested. Some plants poisonous to pets include aloe vera, amaryllis, apples (leaves, stems and seeds), oleander, callas, lilies, daffodils, ivy, garlic, hydrangea and tomato leaves. A more complete list of poisonous plants can be found at <http://www.aspc.org>.

"Common signs of problems with plants are vomiting, diarrhea, shaking, shivering or outright seizures, where they fall to their side and begin waving their legs around uncontrollably," DeBonis explained. "If they are not showing any signs but you suspect they ate something they shouldn't, then call the poison control. You're going to want to describe what (they came in contact with) because the treatment could change depending on what it was."

She also advised that owners have the name, address and phone number of the closest emergency veterinary clinic available.

For more information about pet summer safety, contact the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Veterinary Treatment Facility at 808-6101 or 808-6104, the JBSA-Lackland Veterinarian Treatment Facility at 671-3631 or 671-2245 or the JBSA-Randolph Veterinary Clinic at 652-3190.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, also known as ASPCA, animal poison control center can also be contacted at 888-426-4435.

Airmen can change how Air Force does business

By Debbie Gildea

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

Creative, motivated Airmen are the key to changing how the Air Force does business, and every Airman has an equal opportunity to make a lasting contribution through the Airmen Powered by Innovation program, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

Launched in April, API was initiated thanks to the success of the Make Every Dollar Count initiative (which generated 11,616 ideas in one month). Airmen Powered by Innovation combines and streamlines the processes of four legacy improvement programs: Innovative Development through Employee Awareness, Productivity Enhancing Capital Investment, Best Practices and Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century.

API is an enduring program that provides an outlet where Airmen's ideas can be tested and implemented.

"API is more than just another suggestion program," said Roger Flynt, AFPC API program manager. "We must fundamentally change how we do business at every level of the Air Force and we must watch how we spend every dollar. Nobody is more aware how much time, effort and money is wasted because of bad processes than the Airmen who do the job every day. That's

who we need to get involved in API."

According to Flynt, in the month since the program launched, hundreds of Airmen have submitted ideas and those are being reviewed by field experts and decision makers to determine if implementation is feasible.

"Some of those ideas may not be accepted, but many will. A good rule of thumb is to suggest ideas that will save money, improve quality or productivity, decrease cycle time, improve processes or improve morale," Flynt said.

API is not the right venue for some concerns, however. Airmen who have personal complaints or concerns need to work through their chain of command to resolve those issues.

"We also ask that Airmen not submit a problem without a suggested solution. We need the bright, creative minds out there working together to help us solve problems, so if you see something that is wrong, tell us how you think it can be fixed," Flynt said.

Making a suggestion starts with developing and clearly articulating an idea to improve a process, situation or method.

"Look at your area of influence, look at where you work, question what you're

See **AIRMEN P7**

EXERCISE – EXERCISE – EXERCISE

Active Shooter Exercise Notification

The 502nd Air Base Wing will conduct an Active Shooter Exercise July 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and July 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in and around Joint Base San Antonio. The purpose of this exercise is to conduct realistic law enforcement training in response to a simulated active shooter incident, improving staff coordination, validating post incident management planning and emergency response management operations.

During the exercise, there will be additional police, security and fire personnel activity. People should not be alarmed by the sound of sirens and a possible exercise-related temporary lock-down of access control points around the area.

The 502nd ABW will perform Giant Voice speaker mass notification announcements as part of the exercise. There is no cause for alarm and no actions need to be taken by anyone not directly involved with the exercise. The messages will be preceded by the announcement "Exercise, Exercise, Exercise."

A Joint Base San Antonio Active Shooter Response tri-fold can be accessed at:

<http://www.jbsa.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-140611-033.pdf>

The JBSA Active Shooter Response Tri-fold explains terminology used to notify JBSA members of an active shooter event and acts as a visual reminder of actions to take to increase the chances of survival. The tri-fold should be downloaded and kept in the work place and at home.

502nd Installation Support Group to change commanders

By Mike Joseph
Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Public Affairs

The 502nd Installation Support Group will change senior leaders during a change of command ceremony Friday at the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Gateway Club.

Col. Alexander Smith will assume command of the group from Col. William Eger III, who heads to Fort Meade, Md., to become deputy director of network services at the Defense Information Systems Agency.

Eger said his time at JBSA-Lackland has flown by since arriving in August 2012 to command the 802nd Mission Support Group, the 502nd ISG's predecessor.

"It has been a very quick two years," he said. "It's gone by in the blink of an eye."

Eger guided the group through its transformation from a traditional wing structure to a functional structure when the 502nd Air Base Wing reorganized JBSA support areas to improve command and control, simplify operations and re-

duce overhead. The reorganization took effect last December.

The 802nd MSG had been JBSA-Lackland specific in its support functions while also assisting its partners at JBSA-Randolph and JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. The new realignment streamlined support functions into one organization with customer service centers at each JBSA location.

Consolidated under the 502nd ISG at JBSA-Lackland were civil engineering, communications and operations support squadron functions and sustainment for all JBSA locations. In addition, the group was also responsible for airfield operations support at JBSA-Lackland.

"There's never been a dull moment with what went on," Eger said. "Through the transformation, we lost some organizations, but the mission set grew immensely.

"We had people come to Lackland from Randolph, Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis to help solve problems," he said. "That to me is a true sense of what we do. It wasn't just taking care of the location you were assigned to; it was go-

"We had people come to Lackland from Randolph, Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis to help solve problems. That to me is a true sense of what we do. It wasn't just taking care of the location you were assigned to; it was going where you're called to go. They were true professionals all around."

Col. William Eger III
502nd Installation Support Group
outgoing commander

ing where you're called to go. They were true professionals all around."

Although the past two years have been fast paced, Eger said it's been an enjoyable time.

"Even though there were issues, there was a lot of laughter," he said. "I couldn't be more proud of what we've done. I'd like to give a heartfelt warm thanks to all that were here.



The folks were just fantastic."

Smith, who graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in San Antonio, comes to JBSA-Lackland from the

Pentagon after spending the last year at Headquarters Air Force as chief of the Joint Information Environment Division, Cyberspace Operations Directorate.

AIRMEN from P5

spending, ask ‘can we do it differently, do we have to spend that much for it?’ They’re questions we’d ask ourselves if we were sitting at home balancing our check-book,” said Gen. Larry Spencer, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff.

When developing a suggestion, Flynt recommends Airmen gather information about likely benefits, cost of implementation and who will be affected by the change, and advises that they take time to visit the local Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century representative for support, guidance and information.

“We’re in this for the long haul, so suggestions need to be comprehensive and clearly beneficial to other Airmen, our service and our country,” Flynt said.

Once an idea is ready for submission, Airmen can go to the API submission page at <https://ipds.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

Each submission is quality checked to determine if the idea is ready for evaluation. If the idea is not specific enough, the AFPC idea cell will work with the submitter and may direct the submitter to their local AFSO 21 experts.

Ideas that are clear, specific and ready for evaluation will be reviewed by the idea cell and within three days will be submitted to the office with the authority to approve and implement the idea.

That office – the wing commander or higher – has 30 days to respond with an approval decision and intention to implement.

“Depending on the nature of the idea, implementation may take months to accomplish and up to a year to quantify results as far as dollar or manpower savings,” Flynt said.

Airmen will be notified when their idea is forwarded to the decision maker (within three days) and when the decision maker responds (up to 30 days).

While past suggestion programs relied heavily on monetary incentives to generate ideas, API is about Airmen and their stake in a better Air Force.

“Every Airman has a stake in making every dollar count,” Flynt said. “Whether active duty, Reserve, Guard or civilian employee, we are all on the same team and we want what’s best for our teammates and our service. That was abundantly clear in the number of type of ideas submitted so far.”

For more information about API, go to the Air Force Portal at <https://my.af.mil> and enter “API” in the search window. To submit an idea, go to <https://ipds.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

For information about other personnel issues, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>.

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502nd ABW Honorary Commanders learn about Air Force missions



Members of the 502nd Air Base Wing Honorary Commanders Program tour the inside of a C-17 Globemaster that is being converted to train medical personnel for in-flight patient care July 2 at JBSA-Randolph. The honorary commander program matches local civic leaders with Air Force commanders and is aimed at increasing public awareness and understanding of the armed forces and the missions.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Stormy D. Archer

Above: Paula Gold-Williams, 502nd Air Base Wing honorary commander, tries on body armor with the assistance of Lt. Col. Tom Hoskins, 502nd Contracting Squadron commander, and Lt. Col. Glenn Garay, 502nd Installation Support Group deputy commander, July 2 at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Del Torro Deployment Readiness Center. Right: Kelvin Boone, 502nd Air Base Wing honorary commander, takes to the virtual sky via flight simulator at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Trainer Development Squadron July 2. The honorary commander program is intended to educate those with limited knowledge about the military or the installation while building relationships with members of the local community and encouraging those local civic leaders to share the Air Force story.



Active-duty members must avoid off-limits businesses

By Alex Salinas

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Armed forces members may face severe punishment if they are spotted at a few local businesses that are off-limits, but they also have a responsibility to stay away from areas with suspicious activity and report it wherever they are.

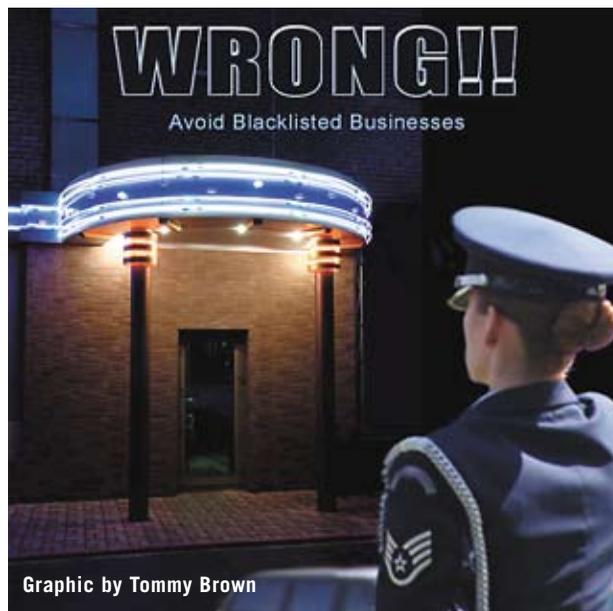
“We rely on our members to make good decisions and use their basic instincts when they sense trouble,” Mance Clark, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph antiterrorism officer, said.

Military members are forbidden to enter the Cracker Box Palace, Voodoo Tattoo Parlor, Players Club of San Antonio and Planet K, according to a JBSA memorandum from last June.

Planet K, a smoking paraphernalia shop with multiple stores in San Antonio alone, is prohibited at all locations in Bexar, Atascosa, Wilson, Guadalupe, Comal, Kendall, Medina and Bandera counties.

These establishments were placed off-limits by the San Antonio Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board starting in 1997 because they featured conditions such as underage buying of alcohol, drug trafficking, sexual solicitation or gang presence that endangered the “health, morale and welfare” of military members, Clark said.

However, criminal activity can happen anywhere, so people must keep their eyes and ears open at all times.



Graphic by Tommy Brown

“We all must be proactive and look out for each other,” Clark said. “When traveling to a new place, whether it’s a new bar or restaurant, do your homework: Search the Internet for reviews, check social media sites for blogs, or ask family and friends about their experiences at that place.”

A business’ outside appearance can often reveal its identity in terms of safety, but some have been known for their curbside appeal to mask shadier affairs, which reinforces the need for them to be researched as much as possible, Clark added.

Members should take extra caution if they decide to visit bars or lounges, Master Sgt. Charlene Basallote, JBSA-Randolph Antiterrorism Office NCO in charge, said. Several in the city have ties or affiliations with gangs; one is owned by the Mexicanemi, a Texas Mexican mafia formed in the early 1980s known for extortion, narcotics trafficking and murder.

For local crime statistics and records, visit the San Antonio Police Department website at www.sanantonio.gov/SAPD/CrimeandCallInformation.aspx or call their non-emergency number at 207-7273.

“Participating in illegal activities is a career-ender,” Clark said. “Never get involved, and if you witness or sense something that doesn’t seem right, something that makes the hairs on the back of your neck stand up, report it.”

To report suspicious or unusual activity, call 652-5700 or 652-5509 for JBSA-Randolph; 671-3030 or 671-2018 for JBSA-Lackland; and 221-2244 or 221-2222 for JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

For emergencies, call 911.



Mexico travel restrictions in place for active-duty members

By Alex Salinas

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Mexico is among the world’s most popular destinations for warm weather vacations, but because of violence stemming from drug wars that have killed tens of thousands of people in recent years, active-duty members can only travel to certain locations there with a commander’s approval.

According to an Air Education and Training Command memorandum from August 2013, nonofficial travel to, or through, any part of Mexico within 50 statute miles of the U.S.-Mexico border is prohibited.

Also forbidden is nonofficial travel to 13 of its states: Michoacan, Tamaulipas, Chihuahua, Sinaloa, Durango, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, San Luis Potosi, Jalisco, Zacatecas, Sonora, Nayarit and Guerrero – where Acapulco is.

Family emergencies such as funerals are the only exception that can allow active-duty members to go to restricted Mexican areas, Mance Clark, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph antiterrorism officer, said.

Regardless of where members want to visit in Mexico, they must first notify their supervisors and antiterrorism representatives at least 30 days in advance, Clark said.

Members then must fill out an Exception to Policy form, receive Advanced Distributed Learning Service training, listen to a travel briefing from antiterrorism representatives, create an individual travel plan and get approval signatures from an O-6 or government service-equivalent for travel to prohibited states, or an O-5 or government service-equivalent for non-prohibited states.

“This process applies to members who intend to travel to any foreign location,” Clark said. “We ensure they receive the latest intelligence about where they are going for their safety and awareness.”

According to the memorandum, “AETC civilian employees, AETC dependents, other members of the reserve components and AETC contractors traveling for nonofficial purposes are strongly urged to abide by all travel prohibitions and advisories.”

Master Sgt. Charlene Basallote, JBSA-Randolph Antiterrorism Office NCO in charge, also urged everyone to do exten-

“Know the area and its surroundings the best you can. Ask people who have traveled to your destination what they did, what went right and wrong. Read online travel reviews and informational guides.”



Master Sgt. Charlene Basallote

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Antiterrorism Office NCO in charge

sive research before they book a trip.

“Know the area and its surroundings the best you can,” she said. “Ask people who have traveled to your destination what they did, what went right and wrong. Read online travel reviews and informational guides.”

To access information about a country’s threats to safety, medical facilities and road conditions provided by the Department of State, visit <http://travel.state.gov>. For passport requirements, travel advisories, health precautions and more, visit <http://www.fcg.pentagon.mil> and type a

country’s name in the search bar.

“If you notice anything suspicious during your travels, contact the local authorities and inform us about your experience when you get back so we can further research the matter,” Clark said. “The more facts we collect from travelers, the better we can prepare those traveling in the future.”

For more information, call the JBSA-Randolph Antiterrorism Office at 652-1357; JBSA-Lackland Antiterrorism Office at 671-5926; or the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Antiterrorism Office at 295-0534.

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph News Briefs

JBSA-Randolph Road closures

Construction on the southwest side of building 675 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph is scheduled for Monday through July 18. A portion of 3rd Street West, southwest of building 675, will be closed during that time. Construction on the west side of building 499 at JBSA-Randolph begins Tuesday and continues through Sept. 26. A portion of 5th Street West, west of building 499, will be closed during that time. Detour and warning signs will be in place in advance. For more information about construction on 3rd and 4th Street, call Kevin Meyer at 652-1316. For more information about construction on 5th Street, call James Cipollone at 889-8113.

JBSA-Randolph South Gate construction

Drivers should be aware that during construction at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph's South Gate there will be a temporary entrance through Sunday. Beginning Monday, the South Gate will be closed until Sept. 15. Electronic signs have been placed as a reminder to drivers that the gate will be closed. Signs are posted at the intersections of FM 1516, Lower Seguin Road and Loop 1604 and, Lower Seguin Road.

JBSA-Randolph legal office changes hours

The 502nd Security Forces and Logistics Support Group Judge Advocate Office at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph will be changing their legal assistance and estate planning hours starting July 22, due to decreased manning. As of July 22, walk-in legal assistance will be available from 1-2 p.m. every Tuesday. Appointments are available on a limited basis. Wills and estate planning services will be offered every Tuesday by reservation, with one session starting at 8 a.m. and the other at 9 a.m. Active Duty and deploying personnel will receive priority. Notary and power of attorney services will be available 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, to schedule an appointment or to reserve a slot for estate planning services, call the legal office at 652-6781.

JBSA Sexual Assault Prevention, Response

To report a sexual assault, call the 24/7 Joint Base San Antonio Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Hotline at 808-7272 or the Department of Defense Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247.

Airmen discuss what July 4 means



Photos by Airman 1st Class Stormy D. Archer

Above: Jeremy Baker (left), a KENS 5 San Antonio multimedia journalist, interviews Capt. Chris Osborne, 902nd Security Forces Squadron deputy commander, June 30 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. JBSA-Randolph Airmen were asked about why they joined the Air Force and what July 4 means to them. Right: Staff Sgt. Katie Bowling, 902nd Security Forces Squadron trainer, talks about why she chose to join the Air Force.

AETC command chief visits 59th Medical Wing Patient Squadron

Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Tapia (right), Air Education and Training Command command chief master sergeant, speaks to Master Sgt. Christopher Barker, a patient assigned to the 59th Medical Wing Patient Squadron, during a tour of Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center June 27 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Tapia visited the facility to meet with staff and patients.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla



Air Force legal assistance website places help at fingertips

By Charles Hasberry Jr.
502nd Security Forces and Logistics Support Group
Chief of Legal Assistance,
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph

The Air Force legal community continually strives to find better ways to serve military members, retirees and their family members. To achieve better service, a public legal assistance website was launched that is available from any computer and does not require the use of a Common Access Card. The site can be found at <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil>.

The website offers short information papers on common legal assistance topics. Those who visit the site can review basic information regarding things that commonly affect military members such as consumer affairs, identity theft, dependent support, family law, wills or powers of attorney. There is also a legal services locator to help individuals find the nearest military legal office within the continental United States.

The site also allows users to fill out an online legal worksheet prior to visit-

ing the legal office for expedited service, though this is not required. Eligible legal assistance beneficiaries can complete a will worksheet online. In return, they will receive a ticket number that should be provided to the receptionist while making an appointment.

However, no legal documents can be printed from this website – users are required to visit the nearest Air Force legal office to obtain legal documents. User information will be retrieved from the secure website and individuals will be able to review legal documents during their legal assistance appointment. Only Air Force legal offices have access to the data entered and data is deleted after 90 days.

Following a visit to an Air Force legal office, individuals can submit anonymous comments through an on-line survey available on the website.

Note the following when using the Air Force Legal Assistance website:

- The website does not produce legal documents.
- All information contained within the website is for educational and informational purposes.



• Nothing contained in the website is a substitute for the competent legal advice of a licensed attorney.

• Individuals are not required to use this website prior to obtaining legal assistance at their nearest military legal office.

Lt. Gen. Richard C. Harding, United States Air Force Judge Advocate General, summed up the Corps' efforts.

"Many of our clients use the Internet to take care of personal and financial matters already. Knowing that, we created a website that would provide access to legal assistance information

and provide worksheets necessary to obtain legal forms, like powers of attorney and wills, in the base legal office. The website is an important supplement to Airmen's legal assistance benefits and a time-saver for the Airmen and their families. I encourage military members, dependents and retirees to try this new website," he said.

To schedule a legal assistance appointment at JBSA-Randolph, call 652-6781. Walk-in legal assistance is available every Tuesday from 8:30-10:30 a.m. The office is located in building 100, suite 6.

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph

Word on the Street

What is your favorite summertime food?



Airman 1st Class Walter Lackings
359th Medical Group
patient administrator

"It's a tie between funnel cakes with ice cream on top and funnel cakes."



Patrice Valadez
359th Medical Group
optometry technician

"I like to make a lot of Asian food, Italian food and Cajun food during the summer time."



J.D. Turnbow
502nd Civil Engineer Squadron Joint Base
San Antonio-Randolph dorm manager

"My favorite summer food is pulled pork."



Master Sgt. Lara Harris
340th Flying Training Group
Advanced Distributed Learning Service
system administrator

"I like a lot of fruit during the summer. I like the juice when it's hot outside."