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A PUBLICATION OF THE 502nd AIR BASE WING – JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-FORT SAM HOUSTON



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## Critical Care Flight Paramedic Program hosts second pilot course

By **Marla Garza**  
Critical Care Flight Paramedic  
Program training instructor

The Critical Care Flight Paramedic Program at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, U.S. Army Health Readiness Center of Excellence at Fort Sam Houston recently hosted their second pilot course for Soldiers wanting to become a national registered paramedic.

The course ran from Sept. 14-25 and was held in Willis Hall, AMEDDC&S, HRCoE.

The course consisted of 100 hours over a two-week period, during which students participated in lectures on various critical care topics from subject matter experts and practiced critical care scenarios in the Training Mobile Transport Lab, which is a UH-60 Blackhawk platform designed to replicate combat conditions.

Hands-on training included performing focused assessment with sonography for trauma exams, military working dog assessments and treatment at veterinary sciences, advanced airway lab and an anatomy lab with synthetic cadavers.

The course provided flight medics with continuing education units needed to recertify as a national registered paramedic and half the amount needed to recertify the Flight Paramedic-Certification through the Board of Critical Care of Transport Paramedics.



Maj. Steve Carrol (right) teaches airway techniques on synthetic cadavers as students (from left) Sgts. Eric Emmons and Javier Carrillo observe.



Staff Sgt. Michael Baugher (foreground) applies direct pressure while applying a tourniquet to a mannequin during the pilot course for becoming a national registered paramedic held at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, U.S. Army Health Readiness Center of Excellence at Fort Sam Houston Sept. 14-25.

Photos by  
**Phillip Reidinger**

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# U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command issues warning about Internet romance scams

“He loves me, he loves me not.” The phrase has been repeated by many looking for love.

In today’s world of online dating and social media sites, however, the phrase may have changed from the plucking of petals to a stroke of the keys with, “he is real, he is not.”

With millions of Americans turning to the internet for love and companionship, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command warns of romance scams and impersonation fraud that drains one both emotionally and financially.

In the last six months of 2014, online romance scams cost their victims more than \$82 million, according to the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center. The average financial loss from these romance schemes is between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

The Criminal Investigation Command, commonly known as CID, reports many of these cyber criminals pose as U.S. Soldiers or senior Army officers and non-commissioned officers. The criminals often post official Army photographs and biographies in an attempt to build trust with their victims and lure them out of personal and financial information.

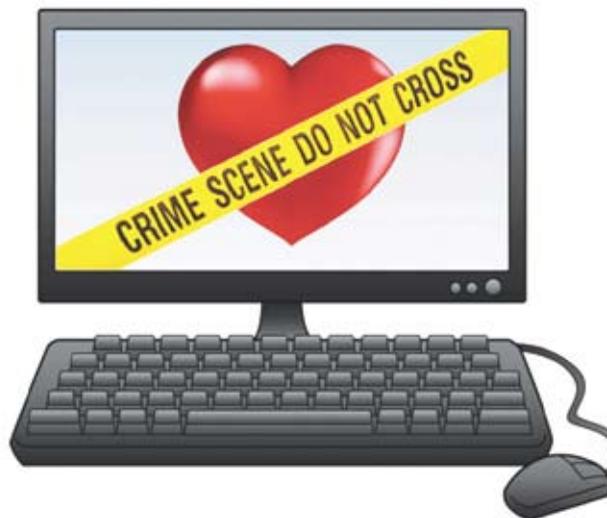
Officials warn that the perpetrators use both social media and online

dating sites, promising love and romance to unsuspecting victims. After the initial introduction, often through very personal, intimate conversations via instant messaging or email, the scammers attempt to manipulate and exploit their victims. Tactics used by cyber criminals include preying on their victim’s emotions and appealing to their sense of empathy and patriotism.

Before long, the cybercriminal makes a request for money. Complying with these requests often places the victim at risk financially and opens them up to the possibility of becoming a victim of identity theft.

“We cannot stress enough that people need to stop sending money to persons they meet on the Internet and claim to be in the U.S. military,” said Chris Grey, Army CID spokesman. “It is heartbreaking to hear these stories over and over again of people who have sent thousands of dollars to someone they have never met and sometimes have never even spoken to on the phone.”

Grey explained that the victims are most often unsuspecting women, 30 to 55 years old, who think they are romantically involved with American Soldiers on the Internet, when in fact they are being



cyber-robbed by perpetrators thousands of miles away.

The perpetrators often take the true rank and name of a U.S. Soldier who is honorably serving somewhere in the world, or has even left the service, and post that information with photographs of a Soldier downloaded from the Internet.

Many of them state they are serving in a combat zone or foreign country, most often West African countries. The perpetrators give excuses for needing money, to include medical care, to return to the states, to sell their car, and to help their children.

“These thieves are very good at what they do. They manipulate the emotions of their victims and will make claims about Army regulations that the public does not know are incorrect,” Grey said. “The majority

of the time, the service member is not even aware their name and photo is being used in this way.”

### Investigators urge the public to consider the following:

- Be extremely suspicious if you are asked for money for transportation costs, communication fees or marriage processing and medical fees. Don’t ever send money.
- If you do start an internet-based relationship with someone, research what they are telling you with someone who would know, such as a current or former service member.
- Be very suspicious if you never actually speak with the person on the phone or are told you cannot write or receive letters in the mail. Servicemen and women serving overseas will often have an APO or FPO

mailing address.

• Many of the negative claims made about the military and the supposed lack of support and services provided to troops overseas are inaccurate – check the facts.

• Be very suspicious if you are asked to send money or ship property to a third party or company. Often times the company exists, but has no idea or is not a part of the scam.

• Be aware of common spelling, grammatical or language errors in the emails.

### Where can people go for help:

Report the theft to the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) (FBI-NW3C Partnership) online at <http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>.

Report the theft to the Federal Trade Commission. Your report helps law enforcement officials across the United States in their investigations. Visit <http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft> for more information; call 877-ID-THEFT (438-4338) or by mail to Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580

Report the fraud to the Federal Trade Commission on Nigerian Scams via email at [spam@uce.gov](mailto:spam@uce.gov)

(Source: U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command)



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## News Briefs

### Fort Sam Houston Invites Family Members To Attend Military Family Forum

Annette Wiggins, wife of Lt. Gen.

Perry Wiggins, U.S. Army North's commanding general and senior Army commander for Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis, invites all Army family members in the area to join her Tuesday and Wednesday to participate in the Association of the United States Army's annual Military Family Forum. The AUSA Military Family Forum is part of the organization's annual symposium in Washington, D.C., and is designed to discuss initiatives, issues and best practices in order to help Army families manage the challenges of military life. Locally, the forum will be viewable via video teleconference in the Army North main conference room at the Quadrangle on Fort Sam Houston. Local participants will be able to join the discussions by posting questions and issues through a social media station in the conference room. Scheduled discussions are: Tuesday, 8-10 a.m., Healthy Home Part 1-Health and Wellness; 1-3 p.m.: Healthy Home Part 1-Resilient Families; Wednesday, 8-10 a.m., Soldier and Family Readiness, a system of support; and 1-3 p.m., transitioning to veteran or retiree status-what spouses need to know. Anybody interested in attending the session can contact Gerri Calonge at 221-2103.

### Hispanic Heritage Luncheon At Gateway Club Oct. 9

The Joint Base San Antonio Hispanic Heritage Committee hosts the 2015 Hispanic Heritage Luncheon at the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 9. Guest speaker is Command Chief Master Sgt. Jose LugoSantiago from the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center. Price is \$15 and includes salad, pernil (pulled pork), Spanish rice, fried plantains and flan. The 2015 theme is "Hispanic Americans: Energizing Our Nation's Diversity." Dress is uniform of the day for military and business casual for civilians. For more information, call 218-1682 or visit <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/index?i=256403&k=0064440D7B54>.

### Community College Of The Air Force Graduation Oct. 20

The fall 2015 graduation and diploma recognition ceremony for the Community College of the Air Force takes place at 2 p.m. Oct. 20 at the Forbes Hall auditorium, 950 Voyager Drive at the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Medina Annex.

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# U.S. Army South takes part in Colombian army aviation conference

By Maj. Janelle A. Garner  
U.S. Army South Public Affairs

More than 30 countries and military forces participated in the three-day International Aviation Conference of the Armies held in Bogota, Colombia, Sept. 22-24. The Colombian Army hosted the event in downtown Bogota as they celebrate 20 years of Colombian aviation assets in their military.

The three-day conference highlighted the strengths and challenges within the aviation community as well as provided a forum to discuss future plans on addressing interoperability, tactics, techniques and procedures.

An overriding theme throughout the three-day conference was that no partner nation needed to defend their country alone. The shared capabilities of coalition partners can collectively bring to the

fight a full range of operational, humanitarian or defense support to civil authority assistance in fighting the enemy.

In preparation for potential engagement, the Colombian army has the second largest S-70/UH-60 Black Hawk utility helicopter fleet. The benefits of having a fleet so large include the Colombian army's ability to conduct combat rescue, training and security operations, as well as respond to natural disasters and humanitarian assistance.

Colombian Brig. Gen. Emiro Jose Barrios Jimenez, Air Assault Division commander, opened the conference highlighting the capabilities of the division, as well as the challenges they face.

"With a conference like this, we have the ability to communicate, share, understand and



Photos by U.S. Army Maj. Janelle A. Garner

Colombian soldiers pose in aviator gear during the opening ceremonies of the International Aviation Conference of the Armies 2015, held in Bogota, Colombia, Sept. 22-24.



Colombian Brig. Gen. Emiro Jose Barrios Jimenez, Air Assault Division commandant, answers questions from the Colombian media about the International Aviation Conference of the Armies held in Bogota, Colombia, Sept. 22-24.

gain trust of one another," Jimenez said.

"We are the savers from floods and fires, serving, helping and giving a hand to the less protected, those suffering who really need our help," added Colombian Maj. Gen. Alberto Jose Mejia Ferrero, army commander, emphasizing the importance of the army's role.

With training and doctrine as the basis to building its organization, Mejia notes the need to improve protection plans in order to attack and defeat the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, or FARC, with more modern operation concepts.

Lt. Gen. Kevin Mangum, deputy commander and chief of staff of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command and former commander of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, addressed the conference pointing out the commonality in using army aviation as a key

enabler.

"The hardest thing we have to do, the hardest thing any aviation force in the world has to do is, at night, enter into an objective, into a target that may be contended by an enemy force, overcome the elements and overcome the night," Mangum said. "For those young Soldiers, it is a given that the aviators and their crews supporting them will get them there safely and more importantly, bring them home at the completion of their mission."

Mangum emphasized the need for an inherent trust, for and in army aviation the world over, to be there when needed for Soldiers on the ground.

Maj. Gen. Richard Felton, commander of the Joint Helicopter Command in the United Kingdom, also addressed the aviation delegation and echoed Mangum's remarks.

"We don't have a monopoly on good ideas. One of the bene-

fits of a conference like this is we have a forum rich in opportunity to share ideas," added Felton. "It's not about U.S. Army aviation, It's about army Aviation and being able to help the Soldier on the ground," said Felton.

U.S. Col. Jason Halloren, Army South deputy commander for support, represented the command and engaged with partner nation countries and representatives because of his history and background in Army aviation.

Mangum, a second-generation aviator, said he felt the conference, "reinforces important relations and builds trust, as well as creates an understanding between aviation armies across the world who will continue to have to interact in the future. It is remarkable to see what the Colombians have been able to do in 20 years. They are well integrated with their ground forces."

# JBSA, community partners establish new Commuter Center and Rideshare program

By 2nd Lt. Avery Larkin

JBSA-Randolph Public Affairs

Joint Base San Antonio Community Partnership leaders signed a new memorandum of understanding to formally establish the JBSA

Commuter Center and unveil the enhanced JBSA RideShare program during a ceremony at the Port Authority of San Antonio offices Tuesday.

The JBSA Virtual Commuter Center will serve as the primary source of information regarding the JBSA Mass Transportation Benefit Program, which encourages the use of alternative transportation options with monetary incentives.

“The JBSA vCommuter Center website will be a one stop shop for anyone at JBSA considering alternative transportation,” said James Williams, for the 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron deputy director. “The mass transportation benefit program provides several opportunities for our employees to be environmentally friendly, helping us become more successful at reducing our collective carbon footprint.”

The JBSA vCommuter Center was created through a partnership between the base, vRide, the Alamo Area Council of Governments, VIA Metropolitan Transit and Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Together, these partners will offer several alternative means of transportation to the JBSA community, including the RideShare program, through the JBSA vCommuter Center website at [http://](http://www.jbsa.mil/Resources/JBSARideShare.aspx)

[www.jbsa.mil/Resources/JBSARideShare.aspx](http://www.jbsa.mil/Resources/JBSARideShare.aspx).

The first part of this mass transportation benefit program is the RideShare program, a vanpool system that links JBSA employees with selected vanpool providers.

Once an individual applies for the program, they select a vanpool provider through VIA or vRide, after which they will be assigned a vanpool based on location and availability. Additionally, participants receive a monetary incentive for using the program.

According to officials, each established vanpool takes anywhere from four to 11 personal vehicles off the road, reducing automotive emissions and helping to minimize the stress individuals may feel during their commute. Currently, only 3 percent of eligible JBSA employees participate in the program.

RideShare will be one of several alternatives within the mass transportation benefit program which will eventually include specific processes for use of a bus, vanpool, train or light rail system.

“We are very proud to be working with our incredible community partners on this important traffic reduction and environmentally responsible initiative,” said Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander.

“Utilizing alternative forms of transportation will not only decrease congestion on the highways and other traffic arteries in and around San Antonio, it will also have a positive environmental impact as we reduce emissions,” LaBrutta added. “Bottom Line: JBSA is a



Photo by Johnny Saldivar

(From left) Diane Rath, Alamo Area Council of Governments executive director; Kieth Hom, deputy CEO, VIA Metropolitan; Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander; James Kessler, chief operating officer of vRide and John Busarello, Enterprise Rent a Car director of business rental sales, sign a memorandum of agreement Oct. 6 at Port San Antonio.

proud member of this tremendous community known as ‘Military City USA.’ The Commuter Center and RideShare program is the simply the right thing to do, and we appreciate the teamwork and support of everyone involved.”

The JBSA Community Partnership Initiative works to increase the efficiency of JBSA installations partnerships with both public and private organizations. These working relationships are referred to as P4 (Public to Public, Public to Private) partnerships and allow military installations to join with nearby public and private entities to consolidate resources while reducing the financial burden.

# USAISR doctor selected for American Dental Association's leadership institute

By Steven Galvan  
USAISR Public Affairs

Col. (Dr.) Richard L. Williams, U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research director of dental and craniofacial trauma research and tissue regeneration, was selected to participate in the American Dental Association's Institute for Diversity in Leadership 2015-2016 class.

The class consists of 16 active leaders of the dental profession from various regions of the county.

The leaders were selected by the ADA Board of Trustees for this unique leader development program which will be completed during three on-site training sessions in Chicago.

"It feels great to be selected for this program and I'm

very proud to be a part of it," Williams said. "It's an opportunity for us to get involved at a higher level of organized dentistry and assimilate into those ranks, and hopefully transfer into those positions in the future."

USAISR provides a diverse group of dental professionals with education and experience to develop their leadership skills, strengthen professional networks and set leadership paths in dentistry and their communities.

"Helping to encourage and inspire the future leaders of our profession through our diversity institute enriches our communities and our association," said ADA President Dr. Maxine Feinberg in an ADA press release.

"Many of the program

graduates have gone on to leadership roles in the organized dentistry," Feinberg added. "I'd love to see more leadership development programs like this at the local level."

The ADA Institute for Diversity in Leadership is sponsored by Henry Schein, Inc. and Procter & Gamble.

A key part of the program is to have each participant design and implement a personal leadership project for their community or profession.

For his project, Williams proposed an idea to a local underprivileged school district in San Antonio to promote opportunities in dental or medical education and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

"I have already consulted

with academic leaders from the 'Promise Zone' from San Antonio's east side. The director for Science and Technology for San Antonio Independent School District and I have already started collaborating and developing a plan to enhance the development and preparation of students of the Young Men's Leadership Academy."

Williams and his class members are scheduled to attend two more sessions at the ADA Headquarters – one in December and the third in September 2016.

During the sessions they will be working with leading educators from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

"I'm looking forward to it,"



Photo by Steven Galvan

Col. (Dr.) Richard L. Williams, U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research director of dental and craniofacial trauma research and tissue regeneration was selected to participate in the American Dental Association's Institute for Diversity in Leadership 2015-2016 class.

Williams added. "It's an opportunity not too many military dental officers get. It's also a wonderful opportunity for me to represent the Army and the Army Medical Command."

## News Briefs

CONTINUED from P3

### Budge Dental Clinic Welcomes Army North, Army South Soldiers

Starting Monday, the Budge Dental Clinic at 3145 Garden Ave. will provide dental treatment for all U.S. Army North and U.S. Army South Soldiers. Hours of operation are 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays. Call 808-3735 or 808-3736 for more information.

### Air Force Military Ambassador Program Accepting Applications

Two articulate, self-confident Air Force, Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard members are needed to serve as military ambassadors at community events to represent Joint Base San Antonio in 2016. One male and one female ambassador are chosen each year to represent the Air Force at many community events and promote the military's commitment and relationship with the local community around South Texas. All E-4 to E-7 Air Force members, who are 21 years old and older and assigned to Joint Base San Antonio are eligible to apply to be a military ambassador. Once nominated, candidates appear before a selection board of chief master sergeants and former Air Force ambassadors. Nomination deadline is Oct. 16. For more information, call 808-0002.

### North New Braunfels, Harry Wurzbach West Access Control Points Open In Mornings

The North New Braunfels Access Control Point, located by the Quadrangle, and the Harry Wurzbach West ACP, also known as the Pershing Gate, are open for incoming and outgoing traffic from 5:30-8:30 a.m. Mondays through Fridays, except on federal holidays, according to the 502nd Security Forces Squadron.

### U.S. Army Soldier Show Performing in San Antonio

An on-night-only special performance of the U.S. Army Soldier Show titled "We Serve" takes place at 7 p.m. Monday at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, 100 Auditorium Circle with doors opening at 6 p.m. It is a free general admission performance, but tickets are needed for entrance. For information and to reserve tickets, visit <http://www.tobincenter.org/box-office/2015-10/us-army-soldier-show/> Call 466-2020 for more information.

# Four local Army medical organizations earn Lean Six Sigma Excellence Awards

By J.D. Leipold  
Army News Service

Four Army medical organizations are among the 10 that streamlined their business operations by eliminating redundancies and saving the service millions of dollars were recognized Wednesday for their excellence in Lean Six Sigma practices.

Acting Undersecretary of the Army Eric K. Fanning hosted the Pentagon ceremony paying tribute to the winners of the 2014 Army Lean Six Sigma Excellence Awards Program, known as LEAP. He then presented framed certificates and plaques to the winners with Robert Swan,

Army Office of Business Transformation deputy director.

Now in its seventh year, LEAP recognizes outstanding project teams and organizations, which have demonstrated excellence in implementing results-driven process improvement projects using the Lean Six Sigma, or LSS, concept to adopt new ways of doing business, while streamlining processes and reducing costs.

"It's not just the cost-savings and avoidance that you realize... you actually introduce real efficiencies for our Soldiers, for their Families and our civilians," Fanning said. "You make a difference in people's lives every



Photo by Leroy Council

Acting Undersecretary of the Army Eric K. Fanning speaks to the 2014 Army Lean Six Sigma Excellence Award winners at a Pentagon ceremony Sept. 23.

single day. You make their lives easier.

"I just want to thank you again for all that you do on behalf of the Army and all the help

that you are providing year after year," he added. "Congratulations to the winners. Thank you."

The U.S. Army

Medical Command at Fort Sam Houston won the Lean Six Sigma AR 10-87 Organizational

See AWARDS, P16

## Highlighting Hispanic Americans in Army South

By Sgt. Mahlet S. Tesfaye  
U.S. Army South Public Affairs

Mely Childs, a first-generation Hispanic American immigrant who works at U.S. Army South headquarters, came to the United States of America in 2006 with her mother and younger brother from Mexico hoping for a better life.

At the time, Childs, which is her married name, did not speak English, which she said was "the biggest challenge I had to overcome."

Childs lost her older brother, Spc. Sergio Diaz-Varela, in 2004 in

Iraq when a homemade bomb exploded near him during a mission. Diaz-Varela, who she calls her "hero," was assigned to 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, and was awarded his U.S. citizenship as a result of his death.

"He left us too soon," Childs said. "He paid the ultimate sacrifice, but did what he loved most: being a Soldier."

Childs is grateful she had a support system she calls "family" from her brother's old Army unit and members in U.S. Army South, who supported her in her

journey in becoming a U.S. citizen and in every aspect of her life in America.

Robert Pelegreen, Army South Regional Affairs Directorate deputy chief, is part of Childs' support system and sponsored and helped Childs and her family settle in America.

"Mely is a hard working person who came to America as a family and is working her way to the American dream," Pelegreen said.

Every day, Childs remembers her older brother's advice to her "to face her challenges and keep fighting," which she uses daily to

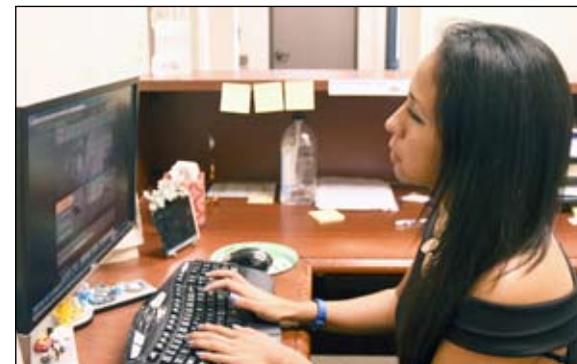


Photo by Sgt. Mahlet S. Tesfaye

Mely Childs, first-generation Hispanic-American and immigrant from Mexico, works at her desk at Orion Partners Management at U.S. Army South headquarters.

push herself to accomplish her dreams.

Childs continues pursuing her dreams and has advanced from working at Blimpie's to

an office assistant at U.S. Army South headquarters. She hopes to pursue work in the medical field in the future.

## U.S. ARMY SOUTH HOLDS TOWN HALL



Photo by Miguel Negron

U.S. Army South personnel listen to Maj. Gen. K.K. Chinn, ARSOUTH commanding general, at his town hall at Fort Sam Houston Theater Sept. 25.

## The public is invited to join us at the Joint Base San Antonio 2015 Air Show



Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 at JBSA-Randolph

featuring the Air Force Thunderbirds,  
U.S. Army Golden Knights and the Air Force Wings of Blue

For complete details, visit us at <http://www.jbsa.mil>;  
<http://www.facebook.com/JBSARandolph>  
or follow us at <http://www.twitter.com/JBSARandolph>

## BAMC FISHER HOUSE CELEBRATES 22 YEARS



Photo by Robert Shields

Inge Godfrey (second from left) Brooke Army Medical Center Fisher House manager and other guests cut the cake to celebrate Fisher House Founder Zachary Fisher's birthday Sept. 25 at the 22nd annual Fisher House BBQ at Fort Sam Houston. There was also a cake honoring the 25 years of service by the Fisher House.

## GAZEBO CONCERTS WRAP UP FOR 2015



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Members of the 323rd Army Band "Fort Sam's Own" and the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Galvez conduct the opening ceremony during a gazebo concert hosted by U.S. Army South at Fort Sam Houston Sept. 27. The concert was the last of the summer as members of the community came out to listen to an array of music.

# Not all super heroes wear capes: BAMC holds annual event to celebrate cancer survivors

By Lori Newman  
BAMC Public Affairs

The 9th Annual Cancer Survivors Day celebration was held Sept. 26 at San Antonio Military Medical Center on Fort Sam Houston to honor cancer survivors and their families.

"The event celebrates all cancer survivors and their families, and their brave fight against this insidious disease," said Army Maj. (Dr.) Winnifred Wong, who helped to organize the event.

"We usually hold the event to coincide with the National Cancer Survivors Day in June, though this year we had to postpone the

event to September."

Don Doyle, a Vietnam veteran who served 22 years in the Army and another 22 years working for VIA Metropolitan Transit, attended the event for the first time. He was diagnosed with cancer in September 2014 and treated at SAMMC.

"I think this event is great. I'm pleasantly surprised because people are very positive. I was also surprised to see a lot of the staff here, because I know they work every day of the week and they still came in on a weekend," Doyle said.

"The whole staff and everyone at the radiation clinic are amazing.

I feel very fortunate to get my treatment here," he added.

This year's theme was "Not All Super Heroes Wear Capes" to symbolize the strength and perseverance of cancer survivors. Many of the attendees came dressed in their favorite superhero costume.

"It is a fun day dedicated to positively celebrating our cancer survivors and their families, which includes live music, free food, a costume contest, drawings for prizes and a health fair," Wong said. "This year we had 11 outside agencies and 17 SAMMC departments participate in the event and more than 200 patients attend."

The event brings awareness not only to survivorship, but also screening and prevention, because cancers

that are caught earlier tend to have more favorable outcomes.

"Patients and their families benefit by celebrating another year of survivorship and having access to our associated health fair, which provides information on new cutting edge techniques SAMMC departments provide and also interacting with our amazing cancer care teams," the doctor said.

Cancer survivors and their families also benefit from sharing their experience with others.

Thanhphuong Halcomb has been in remission for almost six years. "It means a lot that there is an event like this for cancer survivors. I have attended this event for the past five years now," Halcomb said. "Last year I came with my son and I met



Photos by Lori Newman

Joanna Long (left) paints 7-year-old Isabella Limon's face as Destiny Rodriguez waits for her turn Sept. 26 at the San Antonio Military Medical Center during the 9th annual Cancer Survivors Day celebration.

a really nice couple and we chatted."

Pfc. Christopher Vandenberg's entire family came out to support him. "It shows me that they care and support me," he said. "This event highlights the accomplishments of

everyone who overcame their illness."

Next year will be the 10th annual Cancer Survivors Day celebration here at SAMMC.

"In June 2016, we're expecting a great turn out and celebration of life," Wong said.



Army Maj. (Dr.) Winnifred Wong holds a hand over the head of one of the contestants for the superhero costume contest Sept. 26 during the 9th annual Cancer Survivors Day celebration at the San Antonio Military Medical Center. Wonder Women Crystal Bell took first place in the women's category.

# Court-martial, crimes and punishment at Joint Base San Antonio

The Joint Base San Antonio Judge Advocate General completed one Air Force court-martial in the month of August. The results of a court-martial are not final until the clemency and/or appeals process is completed.

All courts-martial are open to the public and upcoming courts-martial can be viewed at the United States Air Force Judge Advocate Generals website: <http://www.afjag.af.mil/docket/index.asp>.

Tech. Sgt. Chad S. Lukkes, 342nd Training Squadron, JBSA-Lackland, was tried by a general court-martial consisting of a military judge Aug. 11 at JBSA-Lackland. Lukkes pled and was found guilty of three specifications of false official statement (falsely claiming to have been awarded a Purple Heart and an Army Combat Action Badge) in violation of Article 107, Uniform Code of Military Justice, and six specifications of violation of the general article, (improperly wearing a Purple Heart and Army Combat Action Badge on his uniform and lying to a reporter

about an injury and members of his unit about receiving said awards) in violation of Article 134, UCMJ. The military judge sentenced Lukkes to a reprimand, nine months confinement, and reduction to airman basic.

During the month of August, JBSA Air Force commanders administered 16 non-judicial punishment actions under Article 15 of the UCMJ.

The punishments imposed reflect the commander's determination of an appropriate punishment after considering the circumstances of the offense and the offender's record. Officers may not be reduced in rank as a punishment. A suspended punishment does not take effect unless the offender engages in additional misconduct or fails to satisfy the conditions of the suspension. The suspension period usually lasts for six months unless a lesser amount is specified.

**JBSA-Lackland (12):** The Article 15 actions from JBSA-Lackland include, but

are not limited to:

**Dereliction of Duty, Willful:** A first lieutenant misused her government travel card and lied to leadership when questioned. The member received forfeitures of \$2,292 pay per month for one month and a reprimand.

**Absent Without Leave:** A senior airman without authority failed to remain in the local area as defined in a memorandum for all 543rd Support Squadron personnel. The member received a suspended reduction to airman first class, forfeitures of \$1,027 pay per month for one month, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

**Absent Without Leave:** A senior airman without authority failed to remain in a designated duty location and failed to report to duty at the designated time. The member received a suspended reduction to airman first class, suspended forfeitures of \$511 pay per month for two months, 15 days extra duty and a reprimand.

**Dereliction of Duty, Willful:** A senior airman misused her government travel card by making unauthorized purchases. The member received a reduction to airman first class and a reprimand.

**Dereliction of Duty x 2, Willful:** Two airmen first class in technical training failed to remain inside the dormitory between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. and fled from an NCO when seen attempting to leave. They received a suspended reduction to the grade of airman, 14 days restriction, 14 days extra duty and a reprimand.

**Dereliction of Duty, Willful:** An airman in technical training failed to remain inside the dormitory between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. The member received suspended forfeitures of \$404 pay per month for one month, 14 days restriction, 14 days extra duty and a reprimand.

**Dereliction of Duty, Willful:** An airman basic in technical training failed to remain inside

the dormitory between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. The member received a reduction to the grade of airman basic, forfeitures of \$773 pay per month for two months, one month of \$773 pay per month suspended, 60 days restriction and a reprimand.

## **JBSA-Fort Sam Houston (3):**

The Article 15 actions from JBSA-Fort Sam Houston consist of:

**Failure to Go x 2 & Dereliction of Duty, Failing to have a 29B:** An airman first class failed to report to the physical training pad where the squadron performed PT. He also went outside the allowed radius without an Air Force Form 29b, which resulted in the member missing accountability. The member received 14 days of restriction to JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, forfeiture of \$911 for two months with one month suspended and a reprimand.

**Dereliction of Duty, Willful x 2:** During a health and welfare

inspection, an airman first class was found in possession of alcohol. The member was also under the legal age of 21. The member received a reduction to the rank of airman and a reprimand.

**Dereliction of Duty, Willful:** An airman first class was found out of her dormitory after accountability was performed. The member received 14 days of restriction to JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and a reprimand.

## **JBSA - Randolph (1):**

The Article 15 action from JBSA-Randolph consists of:

**Failure to Go:** An airman basic failed to go to his appointed place of duty. When contacted by his unit to determine his location, he lied about his whereabouts. The member received forfeitures of \$773 per month for one month and a reprimand.

*(Source: Joint Base San Antonio Judge Advocate General)*

# Army South reintegration teams work with U.S. Army SERE school grads, families to rehearse key mission

By Eric R. Lucero  
U.S. Army South Public Affairs

In the movies, kidnap victims or prisoners of war often come home to parades and marching bands as large crowds cheer the returnee emerging from the airplane and waving to the masses.

A few short steps later, a wife hugs him as children run to embrace their father after an extended period of time apart.

Lost in the movies is the real-world application of how that process of reuniting families works and what exactly happens from the moment of recovery, to the first seconds the returnee spends with his loved ones.

With that in mind, a group of Soldiers and civilians left Fort Sam Houston to travel to Fort Rucker, Ala., to work with recent graduates of the Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape, or SERE, school and their families to rehearse the process of reuniting recent captives with their families, and returning them back to full duty.

"This scenario is as close as we can get to the real thing," said Mike Moccia, a U.S. Army South SERE personnel recovery specialist. "Through these interactions with the returnees and their families, we are setting the conditions to get the individuals back to a healthy lifestyle and return to society."

The exercise at Fort Rucker is conducted four times per year and is designed to start at the conclusion of Level-C SERE school training to create a realistic flow from the captivity environment into the post-isolation process for the Army South reintegration teams, the

SERE school graduates and their families.

The reintegration program is a structured process that not only engages the returnee through a de-briefing activity, but allows him a chance to normalize his ordeal and his return to society, and also reaches out to the families involved so that they and their loved one are better equipped to be able to digest what has happened, as well as assist in his return to the world he knew before captivity.

Returning from captivity all personnel have the same basic needs, medical stabilization, gaining control and predictability over their life, telling their story in a healthy way, have their emotions normalized, and to re-engage socially and with family.

"It's a reassuring feeling knowing that my family will be taken care of in the event I may find myself isolated in the future," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Justin Owen, a flight school student assigned to Company B, 1-145th Aviation Regiment out of Fort Rucker, Ala.

"One of the biggest challenges a Soldier faces during time away from his family, whether it is through school assignments or deployments, is returning home and having your family understand what you've been through," Owen said. "With this reintegration process, it will be a really big difference going home and having my wife feel like she was included in everything and having an idea of what I have been through."

The Army South group was comprised of military debriefers from the 470th Military Intelligence Battalion and mem-



Doug Sanders (left), U.S. Army South personnel recovery director speaks with Rachel Owen, wife of Chief Warrant Officer 2 Justin Owen, a recent Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape school graduate, while her daughter Aurelia Owen plays Sept 18 at Fort Rucker, Ala. Rachel's husband was one of five SERE students who volunteered to participate in a post-isolation reintegration exercise hosted by U.S. Army South Sept. 15-21.

bers of the family assistance teams. The two teams' mission centers entirely on the returnee and returning him to the life he knew.

Normally, a third group would join the team for the reintegration process, but the medical team responsible for an initial health evaluation and treatment were unavailable for the trip to Fort Rucker.

Forgoing their medical evaluations, the SERE students were whisked away from their class peers and shuttled to a remote location in a small van where they were met by Moccia, who explained to them what their role was and the importance of



Warrant Officer Joshua Bone, a recent Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape school graduate, shares a laugh with his wife, Alyssa Bone, shortly after being reunited Sept. 20 at Fort Rucker, Ala., after three weeks apart. Bone was one of five SERE students who volunteered to participate in a post-isolation reintegration exercise hosted by U.S. Army South Sept. 15-21.



the training they were preparing to take part in.

Each returnee was then escorted into a room to meet with de-briefers to begin the process of trying to recall any information from their time in captivity.

The immediate de-briefings are important in these scenarios because the experience is still fresh in the returnee's mind. This experience and the relaying of the information to the de-briefing team can often lead to invaluable information in regard to lessons learned while in captivity and intelligence.

"The post-isolation de-briefing process is an important step," Moccia said. "The first thing we do is make sure the returnee knows he is important, he has a mission to complete, and that he may have information that is vital for the military in order to keep other people from getting isolated and to save lives."

Owen believes the de-briefings were an important step for him retaining his SERE training.

"Being able to retell my experience in isolation really helped me to remember everything I learned during my training," Owen said. "During my training, there were times where I told myself, 'I really need to remember this later.' Having the opportunity to say it out loud and tell the story of my captivity helped bring back some of those memories that



Mike Moccia (back turned), U.S. Army South personnel recovery specialist speaks with Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape school students as they arrive to a de-briefing site during a post-isolation reintegration exercise at Fort Rucker, Ala., Sept. 18.

would have possibly been lost."

In addition to recalling information for intelligence-gathering purposes, the de-briefing also serves as a cathartic experience for the returnees. Part of that healing process is a step called storytelling, where the returnee learns to speak about his experiences numerous times and learns how to effectively tell his story.

"People who have been isolated often experience traumatic emotional events while in

captivity," Moccia said. "If they don't learn to deal with these traumatic events, they'll process them in different ways and often when not processed right, it becomes difficult to re-enter their healthy lifestyle."

"We have them tell their story repeatedly, in an emotionally healthy manner so they can face those issues that happened to them and gain some toolsets to help them deal with those issues once they re-enter their normal life," he added.

Moccia believes the unique relationship Army South shares with the SERE school at Fort Rucker is critical to replicating the details the Army South team might encounter in a real-world reintegration mission.

"Bringing our teams out to this situation, where they can interact with a person who has been as close as possible to an isolated scenario, really gives us an opportunity to train our debriefers in as realistic environment as possible," Moccia said.

While the de-briefing teams were busy working with the returnees, the family assistance teams used their time to prepare the families, families who were truly separated from a loved one.

"The value our teams will

get out of this is the ability to experience real families and real emotions," Moccia said. "During isolation, real things happen to real families and real emotions happen between them. This process replicates almost exactly what happens during a real-world isolation process."

It is the experience gained during the Fort Rucker post-isolation exercise that Moccia feels

will enable his family assistance teams to be successful when called to execute a real-world reintegration mission.

"This isn't a simulator. This is a real situation with real people with real problems, real challenges and real goals to meet and our teams do that very well," Moccia said. "When they take that back and have to execute a real-world mission, as they walk into a home of a family of a Soldier, they are ready for it."

Adrian Mighty, husband to recent SERE school graduate Spc. Cameil Mighty, feels his interaction with the family assistance teams has helped him overcome any anxiety about seeing his wife after weeks without contact; something that was not available to him during her time away at basic training or other military schools she has attended.

"I think working with the family assistance teams is a great thing because they give you an idea of what our loved ones have experienced and provide an idea of how to react once they come back," Mighty said. "I feel really good. In the past, I felt left out. With the reintegration program, it helps me feel like part of the solution in helping my loved one back to a normal, healthy life."



Army photo

Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape school students at Fort Rucker, Ala., apply what they learned to construct a Dakota hole to provide fire covertly so as not to attract enemy forces in this 2014 photo.



Photos by Eric Lucero

Sgt. Miguel Casillasgarcia (right), 470th Military Intelligence Battalion debriefer speaks with 2nd Lt. William Morgan, a recent Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape school graduate, Sept. 18 at Fort Rucker, Ala. Morgan was one of five SERE students who volunteered to participate in a post-isolation reintegration exercise hosted by U.S. Army South Sept. 15-21.

# JBSA committed to reducing energy consumption during Energy Awareness Month

By Andy Hinojosa  
JBSA-Lackland  
Base Energy Manager

October is Energy Awareness Month and Join Base San Antonio is committed to reducing energy consumption to meet all conservation directives.

The JBSA Energy Program is designed to comply with federally mandated energy goals while maintaining a healthy and productive workplace.

Energy reduction goals are specified by the new Executive Order 13693 and EISA 2007 which requires federal installations to reduce energy use by 2.5 percent every year for 10 years. The goal is to reduce energy per square foot by a total of 25 percent by fiscal 2025, based on a fiscal 2015 baseline.

With the start of a new fiscal year, 2016 begins the new energy reduction goal of 2.5 percent per year going through 2025. Everyone is encouraged to be vigilant and persistent in our efforts to reduce energy consumption in fiscal 2016.

San Antonio and JBSA utility providers are planning to promote energy awareness month by setting up energy conservation display tables at some of the installations through the month of October.

CPS Energy, San Antonio Water System and Civil Engineering Squadron will be handing out pamphlets on energy and water conservation, including informational tips on how to conserve our natural resources. Keep in mind; Air Force

theme for energy awareness campaign continues to be "Power the Force. Fuel the Fight. I am Air Force energy."

Here's a checklist of ideas in the office or work area to reduce energy:

- Buy Energy Star certified appliances such as refrigerators, microwaves, desk lighting, etc.
- Turn off office equipment (monitors, printers, copy machines, fax machines) at night and on weekends.
- Report energy wastes, including water leaks, building deficiencies, and energy abuses.
- Check the age and condition of the major appliances, especially the refrigerator. Replace it with a more energy efficient model.
- Survey your incandescent lights for opportunities to replace them with compact fluorescents and light-emitting diodes lighting. LED lighting can be more efficient, durable, versatile and longer lasting. LEDs are now being incorporated into bulbs and fixtures for general lighting applications. Some LED light fixtures have LEDs built-in as a permanent light source.

Remember, do not over cool air conditioned spaces and report all energy problems in your building to the facility manager or energy monitor.

For questions or comments about energy conservation, call the JBSA base energy managers at 671-1537 for JBSA-Fort Sam Houston or 671-0252 for JBSA-Randolph and JBSA-Lackland.

# U.S. Army Medical Command sergeant major visits USAISR combat casualty care research staff

By Steven Galvan  
USAISR Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj. Gerald C. Ecker, U.S. Army Medical Command senior enlisted leader, visited the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Sept. 8 to meet with the staff and become familiarized with latest combat casualty care research.

The call to the Fort Sam Houston-headquartered command was Ecker's first and was an opportunity for the USAISR enlisted Soldiers and staff to showcase their research aimed at optimizing care for wounded warriors.

"The importance of this visit was first to thank every member of the team for their contributions in optimizing combat casualty care over the past 15 years of war," Ecker said. "The USAISR has been and is central to understanding the science of how to provide effective combat medical interventions to very complex wounds

and injuries far forward on the battlefield."

Ecker, a combat medic, knows firsthand the importance of having well-trained medics with state-of-the-art equipment and material to save lives of those wounded on the battlefield.

"I want to ensure that our medical Soldiers performing their duties within the scientific walls of the ISR have a full appreciation for the battlefield art that our first responders and combat medics must master outside of a controlled environment" he said.

"In order for us on the Army Medicine team to master our profession of saving lives, we must understand not only the warfighter, the enemy and terrain, but also see ourselves within the overall situation" Ecker said. "I believe this methodology then provides the why of what we medics do, in whatever our capacity."

Sgt. Maj. James L.

Devine, USAISR senior enlisted leader, said he was pleased with briefs Ecker received on the latest research initiatives and burn care at the USAISR Burn Center.

"Our Soldiers and staff did a great job at providing Command Sgt. Maj. Ecker with a detailed description of the various research task areas at the USAISR," Devine said. "I believe he now has a better understanding of our mission, capabilities and responsibilities."

Ecker ended his visit at the USAISR with a talk to the Soldiers where he encouraged them to read and be familiar with the Army's transformation and future outlook.

"The USAISR's future endeavors of professional expertise will certainly be needed in order to meet the demands of our Army continuing to win in a complex world," Ecker said.

Sgt. Francisco A. Rosario, USAISR NCO in charge of the Burn Intensive Care Unit and



Photo by Steven Galvan

Sgt. Maj. James L. Devine (left), U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research senior enlisted leader, welcomes Command Sgt. Maj. Gerald C. Ecker (right), U.S. Army Medical Command senior enlisted leader, to the USAISR Sept. 8 as USAISR Commander Col. (Dr.) Michael D. Wirt (center) looks on.

the Burn Flight Team, briefed Ecker on burn care, patient medical evacuations and inflight patient care.

Rosario believes that it is imperative for senior leaders to make these types of visits to gain knowledge of the command and for the

Soldiers to receive the latest information directly from Army leaders.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Ecker was able to provide a detailed overview of the Army's goal to ensure that every military treatment facility becomes a high reliability organization, while

operating as a medical training and readiness platform," said Rosario.

"Our USAISR Soldiers are extremely intellectually gifted, mission-oriented and impressive, and they provide a unique capability that will help our Army win," Ecker said.

# Army changing basic training this month

By C. Todd Lopez  
Army News Service

Who's the best judge of how well a young person is performing in Basic Combat Training, or BCT? It turns out the Army thinks that other basic trainees might be really good at evaluating how their peers are doing.

Starting this month, the Army is making some changes to how it runs BCT, which serves for enlisted Soldiers as their first introduction to soldiering. One of those changes includes peer evaluations, something that is already being done in places like Ranger School.

With peer evaluation, Soldiers in BCT units will evaluate each other on how they are adhering to standards, performing on tasks and even if they shine when the drill sergeant is away in the same way they shine when he's glowering over them in formation.

"Nobody is going to know you more than the guy next to you," said Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Woods, with U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's Center for Initial Military Training.

"If I am the instructor, all of your buddies you are with know the things you are doing that the instructor never caught," he said. "Maybe you are only spotlighting when the instructor is around. But when he's not around, everybody has to pull your weight. This peer evaluation lets Soldiers see themselves through the eyes of their peers."

The peer evaluation

won't be entirely new for basic training. Already at Fort Jackson, S.C., a peer evaluation pilot program was tried out. But in October, it will be implemented at all four Army basic training locations, including Fort Jackson; Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Fort Sill, Okla.; and Fort Benning, Ga.

Woods said that the peer evaluations will primarily serve as an indicator of character for Soldiers – that will allow the Army to better evaluate some of the things that are important about being a Soldier, but which are harder to measure through testing and performance.

"Some people will get

all the warrior tasks, battle drills, and skills, because they are physically inclined," Woods said. "But their character may have an issue. That peer evaluation will help us uncover that character. As a result, a Soldier may spend more time in basic training before he ships to that first unit of assignment."

There are more changes to BCT than just the introduction of peer evaluations. The driving force behind changes to BCT is a shift in what the Army thinks Soldiers will need to have under their belt when they make their first salute at their first permanent unit – and this is directly related to

the end of conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan.

During the 14 years after 9/11, Soldiers knew that they'd probably be going to the Middle East after basic training. During that time, the Army was well-equipped and well-funded to recruit, train and equip Soldiers for an ongoing war. That is no longer the case.

Additionally, Soldiers went to their first unit of assignment ready to fight the ongoing conflict. The Army trained those Soldiers in BCT with a focus on the desert, convoys, improvised explosive devices, and countering insurgents, for instance. And when Soldiers deployed, most

would fall in on a combat environment that was already manned by American Soldiers who'd warmed all the seats for them.

Now, with conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan over for most all of the force, Soldiers must be ready to deploy almost anywhere in the world – not just the desert. And when they get there, they may not find American Soldiers already on the ground. Instead, they must be ready to clear the ground for Soldiers who will follow them. Soldiers must be trained to execute decisive action through combined arms maneuver and must be trained up on wide-area

security competencies.

"We are transitioning from an Army at war to an Army in preparation," said James Walther, a key designer of the new BCT program of instruction. "With that in mind, we got together at Fort Benning, Georgia, and we brought in company commanders, first sergeants and drill sergeants – the ones that actually deal with the program of instruction on a daily basis. What we looked at was how we could go about preparing our Soldiers to meet the new demands of Force 2025 and beyond."

Army BCT includes a red, white and blue phase. Each includes lessons that focus on the social, physical and cognitive development of new Soldiers. At one time, the Army tested Soldiers to make sure they had learned what they were supposed to learn while in those phases of BCT.

"Long ago we used to do phase testing," Woods said. "Then we quit doing that. We are bringing phase testing back. There's red, white and blue phase testing."

In October, the Army will re-introduce end-of-phase testing. Soldiers will be evaluated at the end of each phase for what they were supposed to learn – and each phase builds on and re-tests Soldiers on what they had learned in previous phases. "Testing at the end of each phase gets more difficult," Woods said. "And blue phase testing includes everything."

Woods said testing at the end of phases for ev-

**Changes to Basic Combat Training in October**

**Physical Readiness Training**  
**Was:** Soldiers not adequately trained on how to do exercises. Training conducted at same time with PRT  
**Now:** Soldiers learn exercises, tempo and form first, independent from actually doing PRT. Actual PRT comes after Soldiers have learned correct form, which maximizes its effectiveness

**Land Navigation**  
**Was:** Soldiers trained in four-man groups. Some Soldiers could slip through the training without learning anything by just "tagging along."  
**Now:** Training in two-man groups, more demanding test, tracking devices issued to teams, increased training time

**Landmine Defense**  
**Was:** Targeted toward Afghanistan and Iraq theater  
**Now:** Broad, non-theater-specific training. Soldiers will get additional, theater-specific training at their first unit of assignment

**Tactical Training**  
**Was:** Camouflage was removed from POI due to lack of need in Afghanistan and Iraq  
**Now:** Camouflage training reincorporated for self, gear and fighting position so Soldiers learn to protect themselves and gear from observation by enemy

**Man-to-Man Contact**  
**Was:** Not enough instruction on Pugil sticks to understand bayonet fighting  
**Now:** Combines Combatives and Pugil stick fighting, more Pugil stick training to produce a Soldier who is capable of operating across the full range of force

**Rifle Marksmanship**  
**Was:** Basic Rifle Marksmanship 10 qualification conducted with no tactical gear, and no integration of optics  
**Now:** Aligns with FORSCOM standards. Soldiers qualify in "full kit" and optics are integrated

U.S. Army illustration

The U.S. Army is making changes to how it runs basic combat training, which serves for enlisted Soldiers as their first introduction to soldiering.

## BASICS from P14

everything taught up until then is a change from how things had been done, which was to test Soldiers after each lesson was taught. He said that created problems with knowledge retention. There simply wasn't enough time to get in the skill and knowledge application repetition that makes new ideas stick.

"I'd give you a bunch of first-aid training, and then test you on it," he said. "And if you pass, we move on to the next subject. But we weren't doing enough repetitions of these activities to make sure you have it under stress. There are more repetitions now and more time spent on a task."

One reason there is more time, Woods said, is because less time is going to be spent in BCT on theater-specific knowledge. Soldiers have to have general knowledge now, rather than Iraq-specific knowledge. Clearing out lessons that prepared Soldiers for the desert means there is more room to hammer home the ideas that are more applicable the world over, he said. Soldiers failing to pass those

end-of-phase tests might, at the discretion of the commander, be recycled back to an appropriate part of BCT so they can re-learn what they failed to capture the first time. Then they will be able to re-take those phase tests and prove they are good enough to be a Soldier.

Systems are in place now to recycle Soldiers back into earlier parts of BCT for such things as failure to meet physical fitness requirements, or for having gotten hurt. But those recycles are at the discretion of the commander and are also somewhat ad hoc in nature.

Thriso Hamilton Jr., who worked with Walthes on making changes to the BCT program of instruction, said recycles will now be standardized across all four basic training locations. "All BCT locations will be "on the same sheet of music" when it comes to recycles, he said.

"When commanders identify individuals who are not able to meet the requirements of BCT, they will have the opportunity to new-start or recycle those Soldiers to a point where they are able to go back over

what they were not proficient at to begin with," Hamilton said. "Those Soldiers – instead of them progressing though and possibly not meeting the requirements to graduate from BCT – are going to be afforded a second opportunity to go through the training and that will increase the numbers of those who graduate."

In the new BCT Program of Instruction, the Army plans to increase focus on Army values and discipline, increase emphasis on physical readiness; update rifle marksmanship training; reduce theater-specific training; update the existing field training exercise; and increase the rigor of some existing training courses.

In the past at BCT, Soldiers learned 15 warrior tasks, 81 individual tasks and six battle drills. The new BCT will drop three warrior tasks and add one. The knowledge of those warrior tasks is not gone, however. TRADOC experts said that some of the warrior tasks were repetitive and could in fact be rolled in under other similar warrior tasks.

Gone is "perform counter IED" operations, "adapt to changing op-



Photo by Senior Airman Desiree N. Palacios

U.S. Army recruits wait their turn to go through the convoy live-fire course during Army basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., Sept. 19, 2006. Basic combat training is the first step toward a challenging and rewarding experience in service to the nation.

erational environments" and "grow professionally and personally" from the existing roster of 15 warrior tasks. Being added is "select a hasty fighting position."

Among battle drills, "performs actions as a member of a mounted patrol" and "react to indirect fire, dismounted" have been dropped as well, reducing total number of battle drills from six to four.

TRADOC experts said that changes to warrior tasks and battle drills were changed based on a 23,000-person survey that concluded

that WTBDs needed to be refreshed based on changes to unit missions and doctrine updates.

Some instruction in the current BCT will be moved out of BCT and instead placed into a Soldier's first unit of assignment. For instance, lessons regarding interaction with news media, personnel recovery, and a class called "what is culture," will all be moved to a Soldier's first unit of instruction.

Instruction related to man-to-man combat, called "combatives," will also be updated. New BCT instruction

will combine the use of hand-to-hand fighting techniques with rifle fighting techniques to create a Soldier who is "capable of operating across the full range of force," read a TRADOC document.

Soldiers use Pupil sticks now to simulate how they might use their rifle as a weapon once it runs out of ammunition. That kind of training will be enhanced, as well as combined with combatives, which is hand-to-hand combat.

"If all I ever teach a

See BASICS, P17



### Employment Readiness Orientation

Mondays, 9-10 a.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. An opportunity for the employment readiness team to get to know you and to assess how they can best assist you with your employment needs and desires. Call 221-2380.

### Helping Us Grow Securely Playgroup

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon, Middle School Teen Center, building 2515. An interactive playgroup for infants and toddlers; open to parents and their children ages 5 and under. Registration not required. Call 221-2418.

### Facilitator Training Course

Tuesday-Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. A professional development course for individuals who

have attended the instructor course. This training provides an overview of the facilitator training course and the skills and techniques that are necessary to be a successful Instructor. Call 221-2380.

### Citizenship, Immigration Assistance, Ceremony

Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon and Oct. 27, 9 a.m. to noon with ceremony at 2 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Information is provided on American customs and culture. A U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service officer will be available on-site to assist with application questions. Eligible patrons will take the Oath of Allegiance at a naturalization ceremony at 2 p.m. Oct. 27. Registration not required. Call 221-2705.

### OPM Federal Application Process

Tuesday, 1-4 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Review the Federal employment process and careers offered within the Federal government. Learn about resources that support the Veterans Employment Program, skill translators, resume builders and more. Call 221-1213.

### Family Readiness Group Leadership Academy

Wednesday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. This training covers key positions, roles and responsibilities. Establish a network, resources and communications. Call 221-2418.

### Relocation, Overseas Orientation

Wednesday, 10-11 a.m. and 2-3 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Mandatory for personnel E-5 and below. This orientation focuses on pre-departure counseling, relocation planning, and preparing for a PCS move. Topics cover entitlement, shipment of household goods, emotional stressors of relocation, employment and education. Only one session is needed. Call 221-2705.

### General Resume Writing Techniques

Wednesday, 9-11 a.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Creating a resume is one of the first steps in finding a job. Learn about the different resume formats and which one to use when writing a non-Federal resume. Call 221-2380.

### Post-Deployment

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 28, 1-3 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Patrons returning from deployment are required to attend this briefing. Review ways to deal with the stressors associated with reintegration back into the home life. Call 221-2418.

### Peer-To-Peer Support Group

Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., and Thursday, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Caregivers have the opportunity to build a peer support network, share experiences and information with a safe place to talk. Lunch is provided after the morning session and before the afternoon session. This group meets at the SFAC, building 3639 near Brooke Army Medical Center.

### Coffee Talk: EFMP Support Group

Wednesday, noon to 1 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. This Exceptional Family Member Program support group meets monthly for a casual dialogue to share helpful resources and ways to overcome challenges. Call 221-2705.

### Troops To Teachers

Thursday, 1-3 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Troops to Teachers assists eligible military personnel in pursuit of teaching as a second career. Topics include counseling, referral and placement assistance, identifies required certifications and employment opportunities. Call 221-1213.

### Safety Seat Clinic

Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Make sure your child is safe while traveling on the road by ensuring restraints are properly installed and fit the child appropriately. Child and vehicle must be present; parents will be seen by appointment only at the Fire Station, building 3830. Prerequisite is Car Seat 101. Call 221-2418.

### Career Technical Training

Thursday-Oct. 16, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Service members will receive guidance and help in selecting technical training schools and technical fields. Topics covered: accredited institute applications, scheduling a session with

a counselor or a career technical training expert, and Veteran Affairs vocational education counselors. Call 221-1213.

### Connecting Through Communication

Oct. 16, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Learn communication and relationship building skills that will help to foster connection in relationships at home and in the workplace. Call 221-2705.

### Interviews, Dress For Success

Oct. 21, 9-11 a.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Take pride in your appearance and follow expected guidelines of what to wear and be prepared for your interview. Discover ways to make a connection. Call 221-2380.

### Sponsorship Application, Training Mandatory Class

Oct. 21, 2-3 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Mandatory for military sponsors. Sponsors serve as the link between a newcomer and their unit, installation and new community. Learn about roles and responsibilities. The Electronic Sponsorship Application & Training is available at <http://apps.militaryonesource.mil/ESAT> and provides registration, training certificates, sponsorship duty checklist, newcomer needs assessment, welcome packet and links to important Department of Defense and service relocation websites. Call 221-2705.

### Talk Is Cheap

Oct. 21, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. This class is designed to focus on communication skills, listening and speaking skills and understanding the fundamentals of rhythm, tone and emotional factors of communication. Call 221-2705.

### Trails & Tales Tour

Oct. 23, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Take a tour of Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston and learn about its rich history. Transportation is provided, limited seating available. To reserve a seat, call 221-2705.

### Super Heroes Howl Down

Oct. 23, 5:30-8 p.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Exceptional Family Members and the Joint Base San Antonio community are invited to eat, drink and be scary. This Halloween party includes a costume parade, haunted houses, sensory gross out stations, face painting, arts and crafts, a photo booth, scavenger hunt and trick-or-treating. For more information or to RSVP, call 221-2705.

### Family Readiness Group Treasurer Training

Oct. 27, 9-11 a.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Provides information and guidance to leaders on how to help service members, families and units understand and respond when traumatic events occur. Call 221-2418.

### Microsoft Office 2013 Excel

Level I, Oct. 27, 8 a.m. to noon and Level II, Oct. 29, 8 a.m. to noon, Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Microsoft Office 2013 Excel foundational classes provide novice users with the skills and knowledge needed to advance. To register, call 221-2380 or 221-2705. Trainings are held in the computer lab, seating is limited.

### Salary Negotiation And Social Media

Oct. 28, 9-11 a.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Learn the skill of salary negotiation and tap into the power of social media to find jobs and market yourself. Call 221-2380.

### Volunteer Orientation

Oct. 28, 9-10 a.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Newly assigned Military & Family Readiness Center volunteers will in-process and receive training on their responsibilities. Volunteers with other organizations will receive orientation from their host organizations. Call 221-2380.

### Volunteer Management Information System

Oct. 28, 10-11 a.m., Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Volunteers will receive hands-on training with the Volunteer Management Information System, or VMIS. Open to all registered volunteers. Call 221-2380.

## AWARDS from P6

Deployment Award for outstanding efforts in the deployment of LSS methodologies and the achievement of exceptional process improvement results.

The other awards are project team awards, which recognize the outstanding contributions and results of the individual project teams of master black belt, green belt and non-rated projects:

- U.S. Army Dental Command, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, U.S. Army Medical Command at Fort Sam Houston for the outstanding enterprise level project, "Decrease Process Cycle Time for Dental Basic Officer Leadership

Course Graduates to Receive Clinical Privileges and Treat Patients." The project resulted in a 57 percent reduction in the time between the dental professional's arrival on station and a release to treat patients. The solution was replicated to all Army MEDCOM Dental Clinic Commands encompassing 40 installations worldwide.

- Europe Regional Medical Command for the Non-Enterprise Level Project Team Award (Black Belt) for their outstanding project, "Improve the Europe Integrated Disability Evaluation System [IDES] Soldier Reassignment Process." This project resulted in exceptional operational improvements of an 80

percent reduction in process cycle time for exception to policy and a 90 percent reduction in the process cycle time for IDES.

- U.S. Army Public Health Command at Fort Sam Houston for the Non-Enterprise Level Project Team Award (Green Belt) for its outstanding project, "Reduce Process Cycle Time of the Ergo Course Planning and Execution Process." This project applied distance learning practices, eliminated all travel temporary duty assignment, or TDY, from the training delivery, and achieved the removal of 97 percent of recurring labor hours and reduced process cycle time from 124 days to five days.

# OUTSIDE THE GATE

## Free Admission To San Antonio Golf Championship

The San Antonio Championship is providing complimentary admission for all active duty military, veterans and first responders. Military IDs will grant free access to the 31st annual Champions Tour event on days of championship play, Oct. 16-18, at the TPC San Antonio AT&T Canyons Course. Members of the military and first responders will also have access to the Forestar Military Appreciation Tent on the 18th hole. The tent is an open-air skybox with covered, stadium-style seating on the 18th hole. Complimentary lunch and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided daily. Tickets for the general public are currently being sold through the Champions FORE Charity ticket program for \$10 and will be sold at the gates on the

days of Championship Play for \$20. For information on the 2015 San Antonio Championship, visit <http://www.sachampionship.com> or call 698-3582.

## Military, Veterans, First Responders Appreciation Luncheon

Oct. 17, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Crown Plaza Airport, 1111 NE Interstate Loop 410. A free appreciation luncheon for military members, veterans, wounded warriors, first responders and their families will include barbecue and all the fixings, music, dancing, door prizes and more. For more information or to RSVP, call 843-7738

## SeaWorld, Aquatica Offer Veterans Free Admission

Military veterans and up to three guests are invited to enjoy complimentary admission to both SeaWorld and Aquatica on scheduled operating days during their San Antonio tribute program through Nov. 8. Veterans must register in advance at <http://www.WavesofHonor.com> and verify their proof of service through the ID.me

qualification process. SeaWorld is working with ID.me to provide an online verification of former military personnel in a secure manner. Once veterans and their guests have registered online, they can bring their e-tickets directly to the park's turnstiles. Tickets may be obtained and redeemed by Nov. 8.

## Military Salute At The Briscoe Museum

The Briscoe Western Art Museum, located at 210 W. Market St. in San Antonio, offers a military salute program that allows year-round free admission for active duty military and up to four members of their family. For more information, visit <http://www.briscoemuseum.org>.

## Van Autreve Sergeants Major Association

The Sgt. Maj. Of the Army Leon L. Van Autreve Sergeants Major Association meets at 5 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the Longhorn Café, 1003 Rittiman Road. All active duty, Reserve, National Guard and retired sergeants major are invited. Call 539-1178.

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE PLANNED



Photo by Olivia Mendoza

Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta (left), 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, signs the Fire Prevention Week 2015 Proclamation for Fire Chief Mark Ledford (right) and Joint Base Civil Engineer Brenda Roesch (bottom right), while the Joint Base Fire Emergency Services Team and Sparky the Fire Dog look on Sept. 30. The JBSA Fire Department is hosting a Fire Prevention Week 2015 Open House from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at Fire Station No. 1, building 2325, on the corner of Truemper Street and Kenly Avenue at JBSA-Lackland. Sparky the Fire Dog will have fire trucks, firefighters, jaws of life tools, UFC fighter Shawn "The Savage" Jordan, an inflatable ladder truck, balloons, face painting and free hot dogs.

## BASICS from P15

Soldier is how to shoot a rifle or throw a grenade, then when they interact with a person, death is the only thing on the table," Woods said. "Sometimes, a good smack to the face solves the problem. That's hand-to-hand fighting. Or if you are in some mega-city, and you have combatants hiding among civilians, and the civilians are agitated too, maybe to create a safe space a push or shove will suffice."

"When Soldiers come in, they know nothing about how the Army conducts physical fitness," Hamilton said. "If you go to a gym to work out, one of the most important things the trainer can do for you is teach you proper technique."

The Army will now ensure Soldiers are doing physical readiness training, or PRT, with

the proper technique, so that they can do it safely, Hamilton said.

Now, during the first two weeks of red phase at the beginning of BCT, Soldiers will learn how to do PRT in a session that is separate from where they actually perform the PRT.

The Army estimates that with new Soldiers, their mental and physical capacity to absorb large amounts of new information during PRT sessions hinders the ability of a unit to exploit good conditioning.

By separating the teaching of PRT from actually doing the PRT, new Soldiers will better be able to absorb instruction regarding correct movement patterns, cadence, precision and body positioning as they relate to PRT.

The result, the Army estimates, will be Soldiers who are more knowledgeable on how to do

PRT correctly, and this will result in fewer injuries and more physically ready Soldiers.

"This ensures the Soldiers conduct exercises properly," Hamilton said. "When they do that and you train them correctly the first time, it reduces injuries because they aren't performing exercises in an incorrect manner."

To increase the ability of Soldiers to find their way home – or a combat objective – the Army has changed the land navigation portion of BCT by reducing the amount of classroom instruction, creating more demanding end-of-course land navigation evaluations, and changing from four-man land navigation teams in training to two-man land navigation teams.

Smaller teams means a decreased likelihood that Soldiers with less-developed knowledge

of land navigation will be able to simply "tag along" with more skilled Soldiers.

Soldiers will also be introduced to fewer weapons than they have been in the past. The M-16 and M-4 series rifles are still the centerpiece of weapons training for Soldiers. But familiarization with weapons that are less common among Soldiers, or that are similar in function and operation to weapons that remain in BCT, will instead be moved to a Soldier's first unit of assignment.

Soldiers coming into BCT in October can also expect to get more training and use of weapons optics, as well as expect to shoot more often in full battle gear – as they would in actual combat, Woods said.

While BCT changes in October, the curriculum over at the U.S. Army

Drill Sergeant Academy at Fort Jackson, S.C., has already changed to prepare new drill sergeants to teach the new BCT program of instruction.

"There's a lot more emphasis on 'this is the weapon, this is how you use it' and more in-depth detail on how to operate the weapon," said Sgt. 1st Class Ryan McCaffrey, drill sergeant leader at the drill sergeant school. "It's the same with PRT. We are trying to get the sergeants to understand the concepts of PRT and understand why we do movements the way we do."

He said drill sergeants will be able to explain "why we do push-ups, or why we do the different exercise and condition drills, and tie it into the warrior tasks and battle drills. Then Soldiers understand how their physical training ties into what they do on the

battlefield."

McCaffrey, who was former Army Reserve drill sergeant of the year, said that new instruction in the drill sergeant school also prepares noncommissioned officers for incoming Soldiers who are accustomed to asking a lot of questions. He said there is a course now in drill sergeant school that addresses the topic of "Generation Y," the generation now coming through basic training.

"They are more apt to ask questions, and question why we do things," McCaffrey said. "I think once a person understands why you are supposed to do a task, they take more ownership of it, and they are more willing to execute it properly. We discuss that in class. We are not looking for Soldiers that just say yes and no. We want Soldiers who can think."