



WINGSPREAD

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH

No. 9 • MARCH 7, 2014



Monster move

*C-130 travels across
San Antonio roads*

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COMMENTARY

THINK BEFORE YOU ACT

It only takes a second for your actions to go viral

By Christa D'Andrea
Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

Have you ever done something you wish you could take back? Said something mean ... wrote something inappropriate ... behaved in a way that was disrespectful? I'm sure you have or you wouldn't be human.

However, in today's society some of these behaviors never go away, even if you tried to delete them. They are documented in Facebook status updates, Instagram photos, Vine videos and on a number of other social media sites, and it only takes a second for your documented actions to go viral.

You may know a few of our fellow Airmen, and Soldiers, who've recently made headline news for all the wrong reasons. Within the last few weeks photos that were taken several years ago popped up on a number of official Air Force Facebook pages, including ours. These photos show Airmen acting in a way that is utterly disrespectful and is not consistent with the Air Force's Core Values.

There is no need to perpetuate the situation by describing the photos to you, but as you can imagine one photo of one Airman can taint the American public's view on the Air Force and the type of people we employ, as a whole.

As an Airman, you have the duty to be an ambassador for the U.S. Air Force; and as a recruiter, you have an additional duty to inspire others to want to join this world-class team. Therefore, you must always be cognizant of your actions ... in and out of uniform.



There is no margin for error in today's digital world, where everyone has a camera and a video recording device in the palm of their hands. Air Force Instruction 1-1, "Air Force Standards," outlines what your responsibilities and standards of conduct are as an Airman. It also outlines the responsible use of social media and how it applies professionally and personally.

Every Airman should be acutely aware of this AFI and its contents. When everything is laid out in front of you, there are no excuses about not knowing what you can and cannot do on social media.

Unfortunately, there are still some individuals who neglect to stop and think before they act. For those in the news recently, something they may have found funny in the moment is now haunting them. In one case, there were multiple people in the situation, and not one person thought to stop and think about the consequences of

what they were about to do. The result ... their image as Airmen is forever corrupted.

Social media is not the enemy. It's actually a fantastic venue to inspire and talk to others about what the Air Force has to offer, what it's like to be part of something bigger than yourself, and what an honor it is to be an Airman. In your personal life, it's a lifeline to friends near and far.

You, in fact, can be your own worst enemy. Don't become the subject of the next viral photo or video. Hold on to your personal self-worth and live by the Air Force's Core Values daily. Think before you act and teach your Delayed Entry Program recruits to do the same. Ensure they join the Air Force with a thorough understanding of the responsibilities they are inheriting as an Airman.

Be a great Airman first and ensure the Air Force image – and your image – always mirror the core values.

ON THE COVER

Those responsible for the transport of a retired and partially disassembled Air Force C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland gather before travelling across San Antonio to the aircraft's final destination at JBSA-Camp Bullis Sunday. For the complete story, see page 7.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Alexandria Slade

WINGSPREAD

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

Top Performer

The Air Education and Training Command Top Three Outstanding Performer Award is presented to an Airman for his or her superior performance and positive contributions to the Air Force and community.

Airman 1st Class Kristen Hackworth is a Headquarters Air Education and Training Command commander's support staff apprentice. Hackworth is critical to the success of the CSS. She was hand-selected for this position for her dedication, motivation and enthusiasm. She's also aggressively audited immunizations statistics for more than 500 Airmen and ensured HQ AETC was 100 percent immunized, fulfilling Department of Defense requirements. She became the key facilitator of duty information for 2,096 updates and HQ



Photo by Joel Martinez

Airman 1st Class Kristin Hackworth, HQ Air Education and Training Command commander's support staff apprentice, received the AETC Top Three Outstanding Performer Award Jan. 29 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

AETC's Personnel Data System information integrity increased by 70 percent. She's completed duty status and information updates for 19 directorates and more than 500 Airmen, identified and rectified 105 errors in one month. She is a volunteer for the Armed Forces against Drunk Driving program. As a member of the Air Force Sergeants Association, Hackworth honored fallen and missing comrades while being a key participant in POW/MIA Day ceremonies.

(Information courtesy of Staff Sgt. Tiffany Jones, AETC NCO in charge of commander support staff.)



NEWS

An Air Force C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft makes its way up Texas State Highway Loop 1604 to its final destination at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis Sunday.

Photo by Dan Solis

C-130 travels San Antonio highways

By Airman 1st Class Kenna Jackson
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

While common to see military aircraft in the sky, San Antonio drivers shared the road Sunday with a retired, partially disassembled Air Force C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft as it was towed on highways between Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland and the Medical Readiness Training Center at JBSA-Camp Bullis.

The aircraft's four-hour road trip was successfully accomplished through combined efforts of members from the 502nd Trainer Development Squadron at JBSA-Randolph, JBSA-Lackland Security Forces, San Antonio Police Department, Texas Highway Patrol and World Wide Aircraft Recovery.

"The move was definitely a team effort, one that took us about five months to plan and execute," Reimo Estrada, 502nd Trainer Development Squadron project manager, said. "Everything came together though, and we delivered the aircraft with no issues."

Once equipped to immerse the medics in a combat environment, the aircraft will become a vital training tool used by the 937th Training Group's aeromedical evacuation and patient staging course students. AEPS

is a week-long course where instructors teach students to load, transport and treat patients aboard a C-130 in contingency, humanitarian and disaster relief environments.

Sunday's move of this 116' asset entailed only the fuselage of the bulky aircraft. According to Kevin Haley, 502nd TDS director, other major parts of the C-130 were transported to JBSA-Camp Bullis since Feb. 12.

"For the replacement aircraft to be prepared and moved the contractor had to remove the C-130's engines, wings, and horizontal and vertical stabilizers to facilitate overland transportation to Camp Bullis," Haley said. "There, the contractors will reassemble the aircraft and restore it to its non-flying original electrical, electronic and mechanical, functional and operational status."

According to Lt. Col. Charles Cambron, 937th Training Support Squadron, MRTC flight commander, the required plane was scheduled for decommissioning from the Puerto Rico Air National Guard and it was diverted to JBSA-Camp Bullis, by way of JBSA-Lackland. Utilizing designated funds from the Readiness Training Oversight Committee, 502nd TDS fabricators will reconfigure the plane into a state-of-the-art trainer.

"Students in the AEPS course will practice loading and unloading patients on our flightline, as well as putting their clinical skills to the test while running patient scenarios during in-flight simulations," Cambron said. "The C-130 is equipped to simulate the sounds, sights, feel and even smells of actual flight to better prepare our deployers to be more effective for our patients downrange."

About 1,300 students will be trained each year during the course, according to Cambron. He also said that several medical specialties, to include doctors, nurses, administrative staff, medical technicians, officers and enlisted will take the course.

The simulation project is expected to take another two months to complete. In the next few weeks, the team will be busy putting the C-130 back together and ensuring that everything works properly before beginning the process to simulate explosions, smoke and even temperature changes, according to Estrada.

"All the players' determination, whether active duty, civilians or contractors have made this project a success, and their efforts will directly affect the lives of our patients we're sent to bring home," Cambron said.

Hagel outlines budget reducing troop strength, force structure

By Nick Simeone
American Forces Press Service

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has proposed cuts in military spending that include further reductions in troop strength and force structure in every military service in the coming year as part of an effort to prioritize U.S. strategic interests in the face of reduced resources after more than a decade of war.

At a Pentagon news conference Feb. 24 detailing President Barack Obama's proposed Pentagon budget for fiscal 2015, Hagel called the reductions – including shrinking the Army to its smallest size since before World War II and eliminating an entire fleet of Air Force fighter planes – "difficult choices" that will

change defense institutions for years to come, but designed to leave the military capable of fulfilling U.S. defense strategy and defending the homeland against strategic threats.

Under a Pentagon budget that will shrink by more than \$75 billion over the next two years – with deeper cuts expected if sequestration returns in fiscal 2016 – Hagel and other senior defense and military officials acknowledged that some of the budget choices will create additional risks in certain areas.

Some of that risk, Hagel said, is associated with a sharp drawdown in the size of the Army, which the proposed budget calls for reducing to as low as 440,000 active-duty soldiers from the current size of 520,000, while ensuring the force re-

mains well trained and equipped.

The cuts are made with the assumption the United States no longer becomes involved in large, prolonged stability operations overseas on the scale of Iraq and Afghanistan.

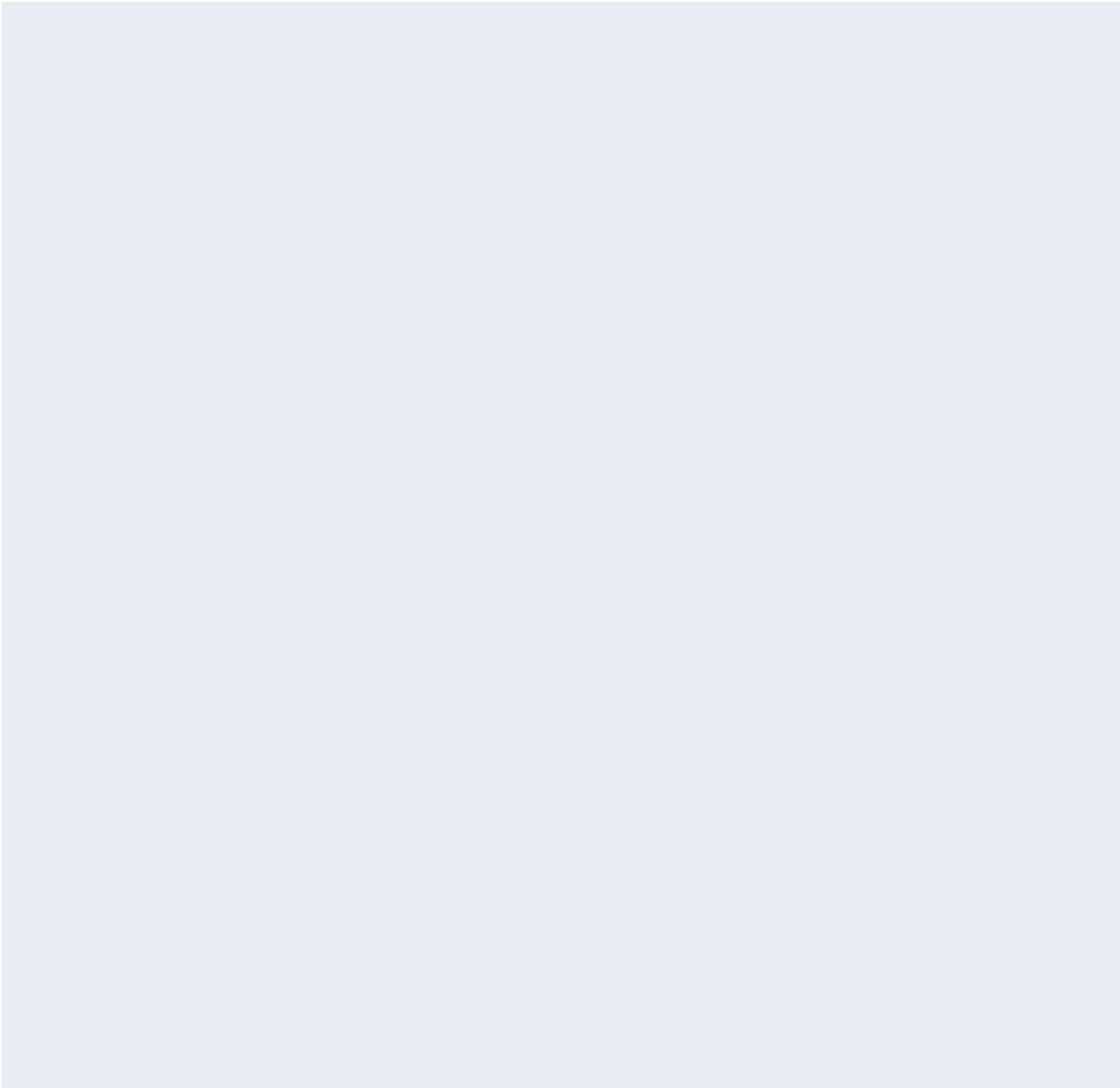
"An Army of this size is larger than required to meet the demands of our defense strategy," Hagel said. "It is also larger than we can afford to modernize and keep ready."

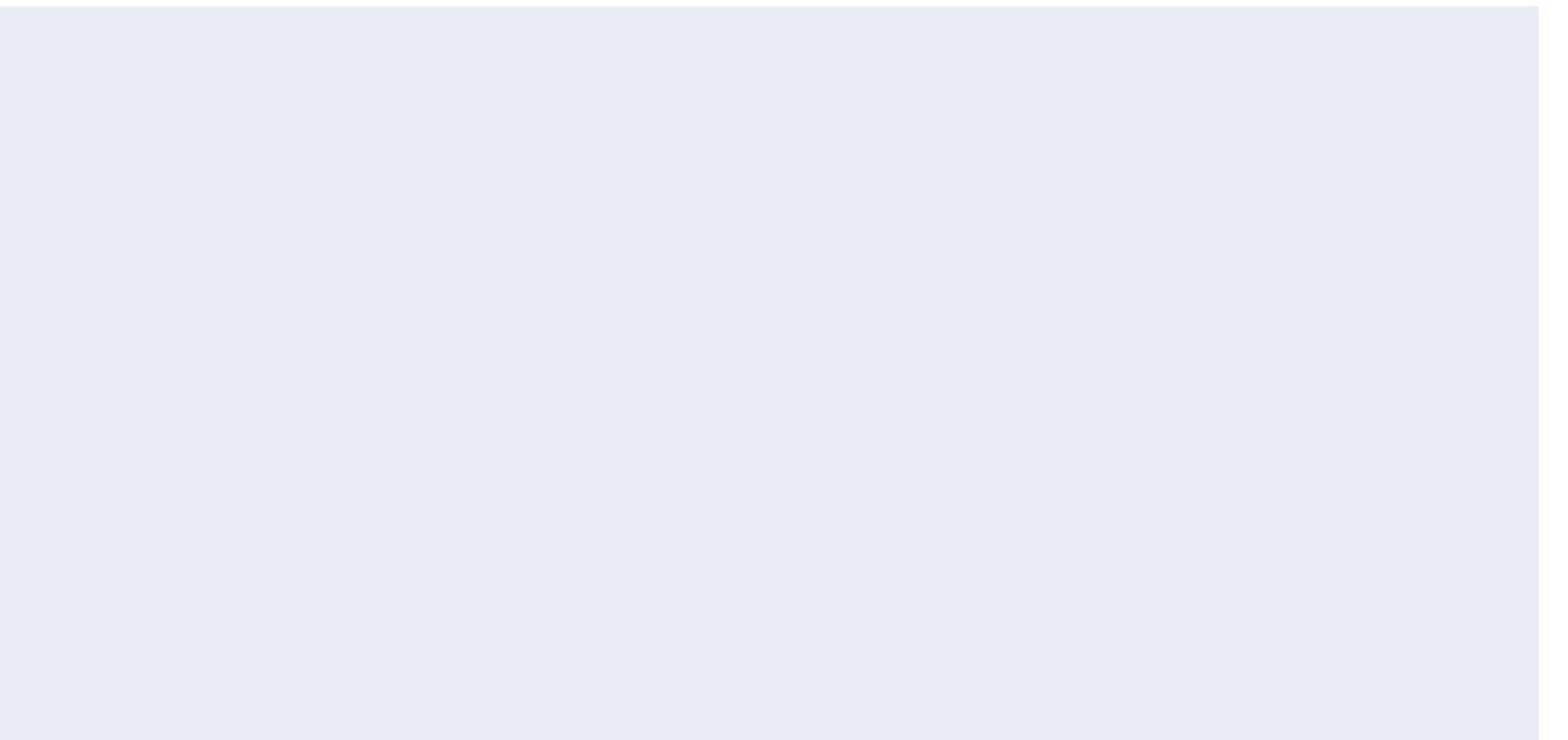
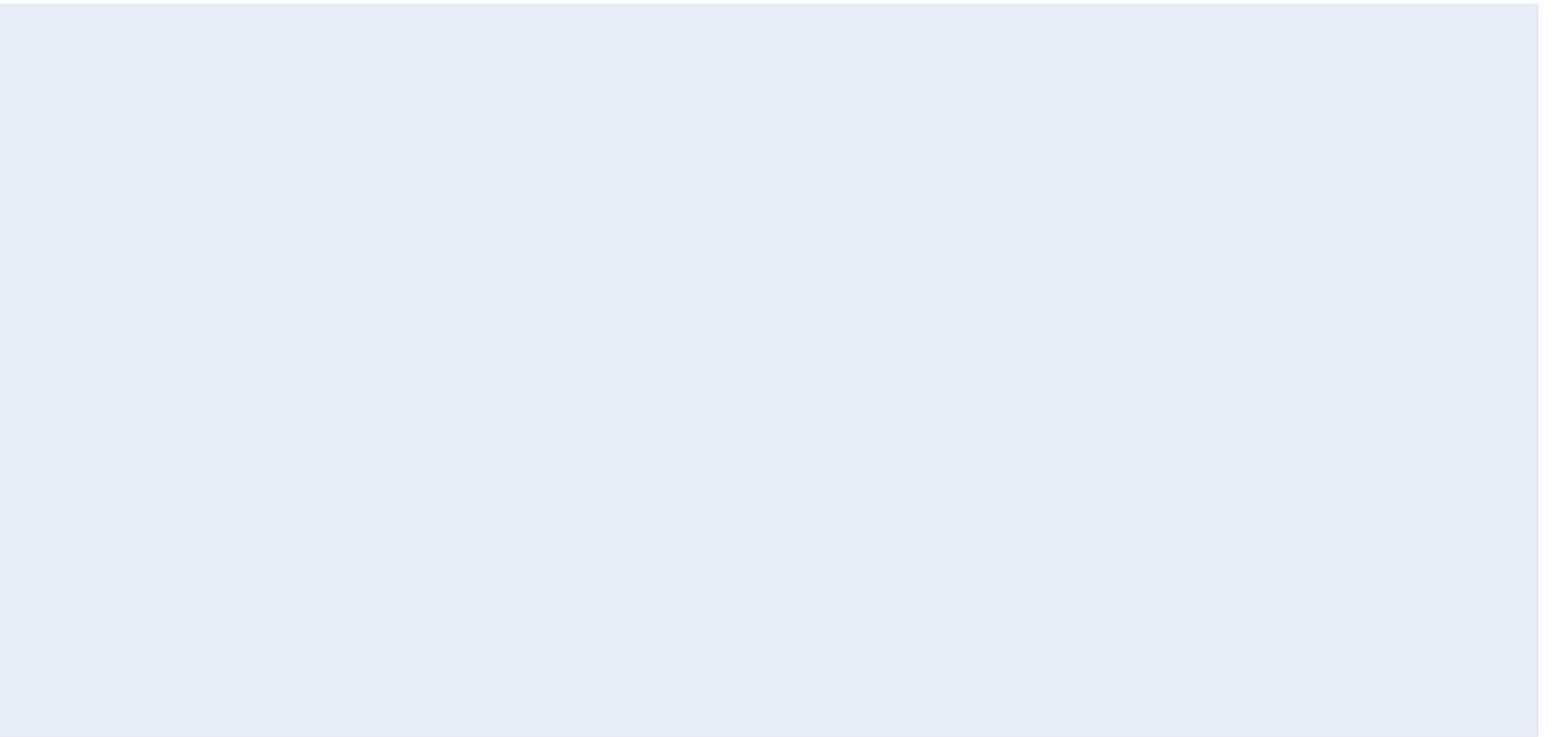
But, he said, the smaller force still would be capable of decisively defeating aggression in one major war "while also defending the homeland and supporting air and naval forces engaged in another theater against an adversary."



Photo by Marine Corps Sgt. Aaron Hostutler
Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel briefs reporters on his recommendations to President Barack Obama for the fiscal 2015 budget Feb. 24 at the Pentagon.

See BUDGET on page 7





BUDGET from page 4

The budget request calls for special operations forces to grow by nearly 4,000 personnel, bringing the total to 69,700, a reflection of the asymmetrical threats the nation is likely to face in the future, Hagel said.

The restructuring and downsizing are in line with a two-year budget agreement that the president and Congress worked out in December, which limits defense spending to \$496 billion. Hagel warned Feb. 24, that if the budget for fiscal 2016 returns to the steep, automatic spending cuts imposed by sequestration, “we would be gambling that our military will not be required to respond to multiple major contingencies at the same time.”

Asked to define that increased risk, a senior Defense Department official expressed it simply. “If the force is smaller, there’s less margin for error,” the official said. “Let’s face it – things are pretty uncertain out there.”

The proposed budget also envisions a 5-percent reduction in the Army National Guard and Army Reserve. “While it is true that reserve units are less expensive when they are not mobilized, our analysis shows that a reserve unit is roughly the same cost as an active-duty unit when mobilized and deployed,” Hagel said.

In addition, the Army Guard’s Apache attack helicop-

ters would be transferred to the active force, while Black Hawk helicopters would be transferred to the National Guard, part of a broader realignment of Army aviation designed to modernize the fleet and increase capability.

Within the Air Force, the defense budget calls for saving \$3.5 billion by retiring the A-10 Thunderbolt II fleet and replacing it with the F-35 Lightning II by the early 2020s.

“The A-10 is a 40-year old, single-purpose airplane originally designed to kill enemy tanks on a Cold War battlefield,” Hagel said. “It cannot survive or operate effectively where there are more advanced aircraft or air defenses.”

In addition, the service also will retire the 50 year-old U-2 Dragon Lady surveillance plane in favor of the unmanned Global Hawk.

Hagel warned that much deeper cuts in Air Force structure and modernization will be necessary if sequestration is not avoided in 2016.

Among other proposals in the budget request:

- The Army will cancel the Ground Combat Vehicle program;
- The Navy would be able to maintain 11 carrier strike groups, but any steep future cuts could require mothballing the aircraft carrier USS George Washington;
- Half of the Navy’s cruiser fleet, 11 ships, will be placed

in reduced operating status while they are modernized and given a longer lifespan;

- The Navy will continue buying two destroyers and attack submarines per year;
- The Marine Corps will draw down from about 190,000 to 182,000, but would have to shrink further if sequestration returns;
- An additional 900 Marines will be devoted to securing U.S. embassies; and
- The Defense Department is asking Congress for another round of base closings and realignments in 2017.

Hagel said most of the recommendations in the budget were accepted by senior military officers. Addressing reporters alongside him, Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the spending plan reflects a balancing of the military while ensuring it remains the world’s finest.

“It reflects in real terms how we’re reducing our cost and making sure the force is in the right balance,” Dempsey said.

Dempsey and Hagel will testify on the budget before Congress next week. Lawmakers will have the final say on spending decisions.

“This is the first time in 13 years we will be presenting a budget to Congress that is not a war footing budget,” Hagel noted.

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH MISSION PARTNER

99th Flying Squadron honors Tuskegee Airmen's history

By Capt. Ashley Walker
Air Education and Training Command
Public Affairs

The story of the Tuskegee Airmen is an American tale of triumph over trials and tribulation.

The 99th Flying Training Squadron keeps the legacy and heritage alive by continuing in the pursuit of excellence, many years after the groundbreaking Tuskegee Airmen paved the way.

"Many people throughout the Air Force are aware of the challenges faced by the Tuskegee Airmen," said Rick Sinkfield, the San Antonio Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. president. "The Tuskegee Airmen saw it as an opportunity to demonstrate their patriotism and persevere – that story resonates with every Airman, every American."

On March 19, 1941, the 99th Pursuit Squadron was constituted as the first African American fighter squadron in the Army Air Force and the first to deploy overseas. The squadron supported Allied invasions of Sicily and Italy by conducting air raids on enemy ground assets, providing close air support to allied forces, and later bomber escort missions.

"The 99th was born in warfare as an experiment to see if African American aviators were able to accomplish what was asked of them," said Lt. Col. Gavin Marks, 99th Flying Training Squadron commander. "It was created during a

time of civil rights turmoil and turbulence in our nation."

According to Sinkfield, the Tuskegee Airmen certainly did succeed in the 'experiment.'

"The Tuskegee Airmen were successful because of their professionalism, skill and determination," said Sinkfield. "Many of the Tuskegee Airmen now call it the Tuskegee Experience."

After World War II, the squadron returned to the United States to fly training missions until it was inactivated in 1949.

The 99th Pursuit Squadron was redesignated in 1988 and reassigned as the 99th Flying Training Squadron to be the sole provider for T-1A Jayhawk pilot instructor training. Additionally, the squadron provides initial qualification training for instructor combat systems officers.

"The Airmen who come into our squadron are aware of our rich history and of the drive for excellence that Tuskegee Airmen embodied," said Marks. "We honor that heritage by being and instructing world-class instructor pilots and combat systems officers, being actively involved in the local community, supporting our local Tuskegee Airman Chapter, seeking speaking opportunities, and honoring the legacy of this great squadron."

Sinkfield said knowing the legacy and the strength of airpower creates a sense of purpose within new and



Photo by Capt. Jennifer Richard

Lt. Col. Gavin Marks (left), 99th Flying Training Squadron commander, and Ralph Sinkfield, president of the San Antonio Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., stand by a Tuskegee Airman statue in the 99th FTS building Feb. 19 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

future Airmen.

"The Tuskegee Airmen proved that the strength of airpower can turn the tide of war and change the nation," Sinkfield said.

"The Tuskegee Airman story creates a bond with Airmen; it connects them

to a very rich heritage of excellence and achievement despite all odds. It is an American story of perseverance and triumph," said Marks. "This is a story of success in our Air Force and we keep this Air Force legacy alive by continuing that pursuit of excellence."

Women's History Month: JBSA-Randolph committee hosts several events

By Alex Salinas
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

With the month of March being Women's History Month, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph is celebrating "women of character, courage and commitment" – this year's national theme, through several events.

The first event is today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., where a montage of posters honoring women in the past and present as well as door prizes were set out at the JBSA-Randolph Housing Community Center, building 144. Women's health information was also provided.

To get youth involved, Randolph Elementary third-, fourth- and fifth-graders are encouraged to participate in an essay contest describing a contemporary or historical American woman using the 2014 theme. Submissions, 500 words or less, are due March 21.

A team-building obstacle course called the JBSA-Ran-

dolph Warrior Challenge is planned from noon-3 p.m. March 28 at the Rambler Fitness Center field. Four-person teams will compete for first-, second- and third-place prizes. The entry fee is \$10 per team.

A luncheon 11 a.m.-1 p.m. March 31 at the Parr Club will conclude the month-long celebration with guest speaker Mary Saunders, retired Air Force major general, who was selected as the Texas Woman's University Leadership Institute's executive director to prepare young men and women for positions of leadership.

Essay contest winners are invited to read their work at the luncheon.

"It's important for us (in the military) to recognize women's history, not only because there are now more combat roles for them, but they are as capable as ever," Senior Master Sgt. Demetrice Webb, JBSA-Randolph Women's History Month Committee president, said. "Women are becoming individuals

as opposed to being confined to a gender."

Military forces continue to be defined by women who are more educated, equally paid and who have opportunities for leadership positions, Senior Master Sgt. Felica Young, JBSA-Randolph Women's History Month Committee vice president, said.

"They are more vocal, more present and better able to express themselves in today's world, whether it's in the classroom or in the workplace," she said. "Men still make up the majority of the military, but there's no question that women can make the same decisions as men and have just as much impact or more."

To view a complete listing of events, visit <https://randolph.eis.aetc.af.mil/902msg/olb/EO/whm2013/default.aspx>.

For essay submission and more information, email Webb at demetrice.webb@us.af.mil or Young at felica.young@us.af.mil.



TAP course helps transitioning military members open small businesses

By Alex Salinas

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Transitioning service members with an itch for entrepreneurship can enroll in a free, two-day course offered by the Transition Assistance Program at all three Joint Base San Antonio locations.

The purpose of this course is to give transitioning military members foundational knowledge on opening small businesses.

According to the Boots to Business website, <http://www.boots2business.org>, the class, called "Operation Boots to Business: From Service to Startup," helps participants "identify a business opportunity, draft a business plan, connect with local small business resources and launch their small business."

"Boots to Business is sponsored by the Small Business Administration and its instructors are SBA-approved successful business owners," Ray Ramos, JBSA-Randolph Military and Family Readiness Center community readiness consultant, said. "Discussion topics include taxes, small business loans, business plans, forecast-

ing earnings and pitfalls."

Upon completion, participants have the option to further study in an eight-week online course offered by Syracuse University.

"A lot of people might not follow up with their business ideas because they can be huge risks," Mike Bell, JBSA-Randolph Military and Family Readiness Center community readiness consultant, said. "Taking the first step is usually the hardest part, and Boots to Business is a great way for participants to network with experienced business owners, narrow down their ideas and face some of their (business) nightmares."

Small businesses are important in the marketplace because they account for a majority of jobs.

Sixty-four percent, nearly two-thirds, of new jobs in the United States come from small businesses, according to the University of Texas at San Antonio's Small Business Development Center.

"Fifteen percent of all U.S. business owners are, or were, in the military," Ramos said. "Boots to Business is a testament to the military's impact in



Photo by Joel Martinez

Ray Ramos (left) and Mike Bell, both community readiness consultants at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Military and Family Readiness Center, discuss the Boots to Business program Monday.

business and economics."

The next Boots to Business seminars are Thursday and March 14 at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston; July 22 and 23 at JBSA-Randolph; Aug. 26 and 27 at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston; and Oct. 7 and 8 at JBSA-Lackland.

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

To sign up, transitioning service members and their spouses or partners can call 652-5321 for JBSA-Randolph, 221-1213 for JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and 671-3722 for JBSA-Lackland.

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph

Word on the Street

"What is your favorite book?"



2nd Lt. Justin Smith
561st Network Operations Squadron
Operations Flight Commander
Hometown: Washington D.C.

"My favorite book is 'Things Fall Apart' by Chinua Achebe."



Senior Master Sgt. Cowetha Castillo
Air Education and Training Command
Help Desk Administrator
Hometown: Fort Worth, Texas

"My favorite book would have to be 'Leadership 101' by John C. Maxwell."



Rhodeen Howell
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph
Librarian Aid
Hometown: Chicago

"My favorite book is 'Divergent' by Veronica Roth."



Dr. Brian Davis
AETC Advanced Distributed Learning
Development project integration team manager
Hometown: Bandon, Oregon

"My favorite book is 'The Sound and the Fury' by William Faulkner."

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.

**Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph
News Briefs****JBSA-Randolph tax center open**

The Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph tax center hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 652-1040.

JBSA-Randolph Toastmasters to host open house

The Randolph Toastmasters will host an open house 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 19 at the JBSA-Randolph Education Center. This event is open to all who have base access. For more information, contact Amy Espinoza, Randolph Toastmasters Open House chairperson at 652-9437 or 422-6271.

Chiefs' Group sponsors golf tourney

The Randolph Chiefs' Group holds its annual golf tournament 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. March 21. For more information or to sign up, contact any chief master sergeant or call 652-9348 or 652-2281.

Seminar set for March 27-28

The JBSA Joint NCO Professional Development Seminar is scheduled for March 27-28 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Medical Education Training Campus Auditorium, building 1467. The two-day course is designed to introduce NCOs to sister-and joint-service performance reporting, award writing, career progression and physical fitness standards. Registration deadline is March 19. To register or for more information, contact Master Sgt. Donnie Pleasant at donnie.pleasant@us.af.mil or call at 977-2073 and Master Sgt. Alberto Maldonado at alberto.maldonado@us.af.mil or call at 977-5723.

2014 Freedom Flyer Reunion, road closure

The 560th Flying Training Squadron will host the 41st Freedom Flyer Reunion, an annual gathering of Vietnam War prisoner-of-war pilots, March 28 at JBSA-Randolph. Public events will include a POW/MIA symposium at the Fleenor Auditorium beginning at 9 a.m. and a wreath laying ceremony at noon at the Missing Man Monument in Washington Circle. All DOD ID card holders and their families are invited to attend. For more information contact Maj. Edward Balzer at 652-0789 or edward.balzer@us.af.mil.

2014 JBSA Annual Awards Banquet

The 2014 Joint Base San Antonio Banquet will be held March 29 at the Marriott River Center Hotel, 101 Bowie St, San Antonio. Military attire will be mess dress and semi-formal and civilian attire will be formal. Award nominees must reserve and pay no later than March 14. Spouses will pay the same price as their military partners. For ticket prices, more information or to make reservations, visit <http://jbsaannualawards.com>.

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH MISSION PARTNER

Air Force kicks off High Flyin' BBQ Challenge

By Staff Sgt. Ian Hoachlander
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

The Air Force Personnel Center Directorate of Services is hosting the inaugural Air Force High Flyin' BBQ Challenge now through September.

The competition is open to all active-duty Airmen and sister service members at Air Force-led joint bases in the continuous United States who think their barbecue is the best in town and want to prove their barbecue prowess.

"The intent of this program is to encourage Air Force member participation in locally sanctioned barbecue competitions in an effort to improve morale and resilience, as well as foster local community involvement," said Scott Black, AFPC special projects officer.

To apply for the competition applicants must submit an essay by April 18 to AFHighFlyingBBQ@MyAirForceLife.com explaining in 500 words or less why their barbecue skills are the best.

"The top two essay writers from each of the three geographic regions will earn the chance to compete in an officially sanctioned local barbecue competition this summer," Black explained.

AFPC will announce the essay winners April 25, and those winners will be automatically entered to compete in local competitions slated for May 23 through Aug. 23.

"All regional competitions will be held at sanctioned events throughout the continental United States," Black said. "The top three winners from the regional events will win a trip to the Air Force barbecue finals in September."

The three Air Force finalists will compete during the San Antonio Stock and Rodeo Show's Fall Fest, held in September. All participants will receive a commemorative gift for participating in the High Flyin' BBQ Challenge, and additional prizes will be awarded to winners of the regional and grand final competitions.



For more information about the High Flyin' BBQ Challenge visit <http://www.MyAirForceLife.com/bbq>. To find out about other quality of life programs visit <http://www.usafservices.com> or <http://www.MyAirForceLife.com>.

SPORTS - HEALTH - FITNESS

JBSA-Randolph honors dental ancillary staff

By Robert Goetz

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

The readiness and customer service ratings at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Dental Clinic consistently exceed Air Force goals, a testament to the dedication and tireless work of the clinic's staff.

This week, some 20 members of the staff were in the spotlight as the 359th Aerospace-Medicine Squadron's dentists honored them during Dental Ancillary Staff Appreciation Week.

"This was an opportunity to give special thanks to the active-duty members and civilians for making the clinic work," Maj. (Dr.) Amy Schultz, 359th AMDS Dental Flight chief of periodontics, said. "This was a way of showing them we're only as good as we are because of you."

Maj. (Dr.) David Dennison, 359th AMDS Dental Flight dentist, called the ancillary staff "the unsung heroes of our dental clinic."

"Without their support, our clinic could not operate and provide the high standard of care we seek to provide for our patients," he said. "Although we appreciate their professionalism on a daily basis, it was a wonderful opportunity to honor them during the Dental Ancillary Staff Appreciation Week."

Special events of the week included breakfast Tuesday and lunch Wednesday, with both meals served by the clinic's dentists. The week concluded with an ice cream social today.

"We also showed appreciation in our own way," she said. "Some doctors brought doughnuts, blueberry muffins and other snacks," Schultz said.



Photo by Rich McFadden

Lorna Firehammer (left), 359th Aerospace-Medicine Squadron Dental Flight dental assistant, helps Lt. Col. James Kutner, 359th AMDS Dental Flight commander, during a procedure Jan. 22 at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Dental Clinic.

The dental clinic's ancillary staff comprises three hygienists, two dental technicians, nine dental assistants and two lab technicians, Schultz said. In addition, two staff members are assigned to dental supply and two to the front desk.

Hygienists, who have advanced training and have completed formal training, are licensed by a state, Schultz said. They clean all surfaces of the teeth and

below the gum line. They also take radiographics and provide patient education.

Dental technicians are trained to clean teeth above the gum line, she said.

Dental assistants help dentists perform their procedures, which range from restoration and crown lengthening to surgery and implants; they also set up and clean rooms, schedule patients, take X-ray and make impressions.

Lab technicians are responsible for fabricating dental prostheses, crowns, bridges and hard night guards.

Schultz said one of the lab technicians, Mark Keaton, has expertise in fabricating implant crowns, so that work does not have to be sent to another lab.

The dental flight's clinical and support NCO in charge, Master Sgt. Stacy Robinson, leads the dental supply effort, Schultz said.

"She is in charge of ordering supplies, stocking items and ensuring the clinic is fully functional," she said. "She is also in charge of scheduling and is responsible for the day-to-day running of the clinic."

Another aspect of dental supply is the dental instrument processing center, where instruments are sterilized and packaged for continued use, Schultz said.

"The staff members assigned to the front desk pull all the records and patient charts, manage administrative paperwork, check in patients and answer the phone," she said. "They're responsible for a lot of our good customer satisfaction."

Schultz said the dental ancillary staff "definitely deserves" recognition.

"We have a great clinic here, with really great numbers," she said. "They make the clinic work."

CAUTION – CAUTION – CAUTION – CAUTION

JBSA-Randolph road-repair work schedule

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph South Gate, East Gate, 5th Street West and Golf Road will be closed for road repair, according to the timelines below. Detour and warning signs will be placed in advance of repair activities. A temporary road will be constructed for South Gate access during construction via Perimeter Road. All closures and detours are subject to weather conditions.

Fifth Street East (East Gate), through May 2:

- Electronic signs will be posted along both sides of FM 78 to route vehicles to Main Gate and West Gate.
- Propose using the perimeter gate for construction vehicles as needed. Gate will otherwise remain closed. In-ground barriers will remain deployed to ensure unauthorized vehicles are not able to enter the base.

Golf Road Phase 2, through March 31:

- Golf Road Phase 2 will close Golf Road from South Perimeter Road to the clubhouse. Duration: six weeks.
- Enter Golf Course from East Perimeter Road or South Gate Road via South Perimeter Road.

Fifth Street West, through Aug. 15:

- Replacement of 5th Street West is being performed concurrent with South Gate Road to minimize the impact.

South Gate, May 2 - Sept. 15:

- Signs will be posted at the high school to deter traveling toward South Gate Road on Perimeter Road.
- An alternate road will be constructed for commercial vehicles to enter JBSA-Randolph at South Gate. A temporary perimeter gate and guard house will be provided for entry control.

Photo by Joel Martinez



Gate closures mean drivers take alternate routes or use a different entrance. Construction continues at some gates until Sept. 15.

Water Conservation Tips

- Use drip irrigation systems for bedded plants, trees and shrubs or turn soaker hoses upside down so the holes are on the bottom. This helps avoid evaporation.
- Use only a little water in the pot and put a lid on it for cooking most foods. Not only does this method save water, but food is more nutritious since vitamins and minerals are not poured down the drain with the extra cooking water.
- When possible, use the lowest water level setting on the washing machine for partial loads.
- Use cold water as often as possible to save energy and to conserve the hot water for uses cold water cannot serve. This is also better for clothing made of synthetic materials.
- Learn to repair faucets so drips can be fixed promptly. It is easy to do, costs very little and can mean a substantial savings in plumbing and water bills.

(Source: 502nd Civil Engineer Squadron)

