

JBSA LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

JUNE 22, 2018



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN STORMY ARCHER

Airman 1st Class Alicia Deluna and Air Force Staff Sgt. John Tapia, 74th Aerial Port Squadron aerial transportation technicians, attach a 2,000-pound sling load to a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter during Operation Lone Star Vigilance June 10 at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis.

Lone Star warriors hone skills across JBSA skies

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COMMENTARIES

What now, senior NCO?

By Lt. Col. Dear Beloved

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS,
326TH TRAINING SQUADRON

Two years ago, in June 2016, the Air Force gave me the rare opportunity to be a part of Basic Military Training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, where elite Military Training Instructors train the future with pride, passion and professionalism.

These noncommissioned officers and senior NCOs immediately blew me away with their high levels of dedication and initiative. Armed with skills forged by taking thousands from recruit to Airman status, the MTIs taught me more about leadership in one year than I had learned in the past 15 years.

Only in my second year at BMT did I truly start to pay it back through mentoring, especially on the NCO to SNCO transition.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

The Air Force recently selected 6,176 technical sergeants for promotion to the rank of master sergeant and more importantly, the grade of senior NCO, or SNCO. As a brand-new SNCO, you may have wondered “What now?”

This amazing achievement

signals a shift in focus from technical expertise to organizational competence.

Technical skills made you successful as an NCO and provided a great foundation for success as a SNCO, but it is no coincidence that two different events follow the promotion

release results — the Master Sergeant Release Social and the Senior NCO Induction Ceremony.

Continued success is marked by your ability to perform, not just as a master sergeant, but as a SNCO leading and managing teams at all levels, inside or outside your comfort zone and independent of your duty position.

In 2004, Capt. Raymond M. Powell told “The Master Sergeant Watershed” story in Air & Space Power Journal of a highly-successful “Tech. Sgt. Smith,” who received a Stripes For Exceptional Performers promotion and was one of the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year, who became miserable and would retire from active duty within one year of making master sergeant. What happened?

At the organizational level,

WHAT NOW? continues on 3

Authentic NCOs are honest with themselves and their people

By Maj. Fred B. Pugh and Sgt. Maj. Robert G. Thompson

RESERVE OFFICERS’ TRAINING CORPS, COLUMBUS COLLEGE

From time to time the concept of “authenticity” emerges in any review of literature, especially since it was first used by Andrew Halpin in 1966.

Authentic or genuine behavior is closely associated with an open-climate organization. In an open-climate organization, a leader’s behavior is purposeful and real, while, as Halpin suggests, in a closed-climate organization behavior tends to be determined by role and appears almost ritualistic.

Research indicates leader authenticity involves three

aspects of behavior:

- ▶▶ Accepting responsibility for one’s actions, outcomes and mistakes.
- ▶▶ Being non-manipulative of subordinates.
- ▶▶ Demonstrating an expression of self over role.

Military and civilian research indicates that supervisors report greater satisfaction from their work when they are able to help their subordinates solve problems encountered in the work environment. Unfortunately, for whatever reason — inspection, training, details, etc. — they don’t often

experience the real lift that comes from helping their subordinates.

The conditions that hamper NCOs in their work make it all the more imperative that you, the NCO, improve the quality of interaction with your Soldiers.

For some time, the practice of supervision has focused on ways of observing, reporting and interpreting behavior of subordinates. This analytical approach to supervision represents only half the reality of being a supervisor. The whole includes the internal world — the feeling as well as the facts — of those you supervise.

By now, most of us have experienced an Army leadership

course or two and probably a textbook or a civilian course on leadership. We’ve learned techniques and, while useful, these acquired skills overlook an important dimension of the NCO-subordinate relationship: namely, the feelings you experience as an NCO. This is the key to authenticity.

It has been our good fortune to receive an education in the application of behavioral principles to organizations. We’ve seen improvements in the quality of personal and organizational relationships. How? By being more authentic — and this is accomplished by becoming more aware of and responsive to your own needs.

By need we mean your ability to interact with your environment. Your internal mechanism lets you know what you need at a given moment. At

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JBSA LEGACY

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WHAT NOW?

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your ability to lead within and across teams will be directly impacted by other people's perception of you as a leader.

If a gap exists between your self-perception and the organizational perception, you must:

1. Detect the gap.
 2. Take action to close it.
- You detect the gap by aggressively seeking feedback on a continual basis up and

down the chain. You take action to close it by listening to the feedback and being humble enough to acknowledge room for self-improvement.

Resist the natural instinct to reject or refute feedback and listen as if the other person is right. This will allow you to achieve high levels of mission effectiveness when leading within and across teams.

Just as important, new SNCOs must be comfortable operating outside their comfort zone. For some this comes naturally, but not in all cases,

especially if your success as an NCO was mostly based on strong performance in your primary field of expertise.

As a SNCO, the biggest opportunities for success will often come by connecting outside of your comfort zone. For an introvert, this might require deliberate thought on how to actively engage your peers and external stakeholders to achieve positive outcomes.

And while position power may seem to be the obvious answer, very rarely will you obtain it, and even if you do,

you will not have full control over those people needed to ensure mission success.

A broader horizon for thought and action is also required as a SNCO. Use of shaping and influencing actions that directly link to commander intent will produce the desired end state, but rarely can this take place in a day or two. It's a long term process, driven by deliberate thought and sustained action.

When you master this proactive-based mode of operation, opportunities

materialize in unexpected and positive ways, and you begin to emulate that high-performing SNCO, ready to take our Air Force teams and mission to the next level.

Now is the time to reflect on the past journey and the path ahead, and to introspectively ask, "What Now?"

Thanks to Chief Master Sgt. Philip Eckenrod, 37th Training Wing, and Chief Master Sgt. Jon Kristof, 326th Training Squadron, for their editorial reviews.

AUTHENTIC

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times you will have to manipulate the environment to get what you need. But sometimes things don't go too well.

You aren't able to satisfy your needs. A major contributor to this is the "shoulds" that pull you here and there. There aren't enough hours or days to do everything. If you are normal, you do one thing and feel guilty because you didn't do another. We believe the successful NCO is an authentic NCO who does not adopt a particular style or pattern of behavior.

So how do you acquire authenticity?

Authentic interaction between two people is characterized by a quality called contact. For contact to occur, each individual must establish and maintain contact with his or her personal feelings, needs and wants, and be willing to make these known.

When contact exists, you'll know it right away. There will be liveliness, excitement, and presentness. Lack of contact is evident when the topic of conversation is other people or past and future events.

NCOs are aware that others don't welcome direct criticism of their duty performance, yet they feel a sense of duty to inform others of their obvious flaws.

Often, the NCO avoids this by any number of methods, and,

call them what you may, the outcome will be the same: The subordinate will fail to understand exactly what you are criticizing. You also run the risk that your subordinates will be confused about how concerned they really ought to be with the problem and whether they are supposed to correct it.

There are no hard and fast rules governing exchanges between the NCO and the subordinate. The important thing to realize is that they will be more effective if they are authentic.

A first step in becoming aware of your authentic feelings, needs and wants is to recognize the "shoulds" that prevent real contact. The following list is offered to help you develop authentic contact. It's adapted from Stanley Herman and Michael Korenchik:

Identify and list the most important "shoulds" about your duty.

Describe what you would do if you could follow your natural inclinations, if you did not have that "should."

Decide, as honestly as you can, where each of the "shoulds" originates, whether from your own superordinate, in service, textbooks, regulations, or even parents. Ask yourself to what extent each "should" is a real constraint, and to what extent it is self-imposed. Ask yourself, also, what specifically would happen if you failed to observe that "should."

This strategy for identifying



Three NCOs, acting on behalf of NCOs of the past, present and future, light three candles. The red candle represents valor, the white honor and integrity, and the blue vigilance.

MEGHAN PORTILLO

your "shoulds" and your "wants" only begins to establish contact with others.

Authentic contact requires constant attention. You must always be aware of your inner feelings and the external environment, which includes the feelings of others as well as objective facts.

Think about contact by asking yourself three questions: What am I doing right now? What am I feeling right now? What do I really want right now from this situation?

As long as contact is maintained, the NCO should be prepared to accept responsibility for what he or she says, including the risk of offending or angering others.

This does not mean running roughshod over the feelings of others or discarding empathy.

As an NCO you can be more authentic if you clearly identify and successfully satisfy your personal needs and wants with respect to others.

You can accomplish this by increasing your awareness of what is happening "right now" both internally and externally, and then acting in an honest way that gets you what you want or need for that situation, and encouraging others to do the same.

An analysis of an authentic NCO can be found in Field Manual 22-100, Factors of Leadership and Leadership Principles (now FM 6-22,

Leader Development). The main factor is communication as it applies to the authentic NCO. Several important principles apply to this factor:

- Know yourself and seek improvement.
- Seek responsibility; take responsibility for your actions; know your Soldiers.
- Look out for their well-being, just to name a few.

Whatever concept or technique used should help you gain access to Soldiers' motivation, dedication and competence.

As an NCO, you must know who you are, what you know and what you can do, so that you can be a better leader - one your Soldiers will always follow.

Soccer players wanted for upcoming tournament

From 502nd Air Base Wing
Public Affairs

The Joint Base San Antonio varsity soccer team will be holding tryouts next month for the upcoming Defender's Cup National Military Soccer Tournament.

The team is open to all active duty, Reserve, government civilians and dependents with any affiliation to JBSA. The team is open to all services and all genders. The best 24 best players will be selected, regardless of service, gender, etc., to field the best team possible.

Tryouts will be held over four days at all three main JBSA military installations: Brooke Army Medical Center (adjacent to JBSA-Fort Sam Houston), JBSA-Randolph and JBSA-Lackland.

The first tryout is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. July 12 at BAMC's Freedom Park. The next is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. July 13 at the JBSA-Lackland Warhawk Fitness Center.

The third tryout is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. July 19 at BAMC, while the final tryout is 9-11 a.m. July 21 at the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center.

Players are expected to attend as many tryout days as possible to maximize exposure. This team will compete in the Defender's Cup, the nation's premier military soccer tournament, over Labor Day Weekend (Aug. 21 through Sept. 4). Select players will then be invited to continue with the team in the fall on our team in the San Antonio Soccer Association Premier Division.

As above, tryouts are open to all men & women, active duty/Guard/DOD civilian/DOD contractors/dependents. Don't worry if you have a demanding work schedule as we try to accommodate most schedules/shift work.

Call 703-517-4120 to sign up or for more information.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Lone Star warriors hone joint skills across JBSA

By Col. Kjäll Gopaul

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AIR FORCE PERSONNEL
OPERATIONS ACTIVITY

In a dramatic demonstration of joint, total force teaming, more than 200 San Antonio-based service members pushed the exercise envelope as part of Operation Lone Star Vigilance, moving 16 tons of vital relief supplies by helicopter, answering seven time-sensitive calls for medical evacuation, and extracting six downed aircrews caught behind enemy lines.

Spearheaded by Company C, 2nd Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment, of the Texas Army National Guard at Martindale Army Airfield, Airmen and Soldiers from the Reserve, active duty and National Guard flawlessly executed two weeks of high-octane planning and training that sharpened their warfighting skills to a razor-sharp edge.

With integrated support from the 433rd Airlift Wing's two aerial port squadrons, Air Force Personnel Operations Activity, AFLCMC/HH, and 502nd Security Forces Group, the multi-service missions saw the successful completion of aerial reconnaissance, sling loading of cargo, MEDEVAC hoists, personnel recovery and the simultaneous operation of multiple helicopter landing zones.

The aerial reconnaissance mission June 9 provided the planning team with a vital operational perspective of the key training sites at Joint Base San Antonio -Camp Bullis for the scheduled events.

The second mission of sling loading on June 10 saw the movement of 32,000 pounds of cargo by helicopter at JBSA-Camp Bullis. The scenario had a team of aerial porters receive air-dropped relief supplies, then re-rig the humanitarian aid for the Soldiers' pin point emplacement in an otherwise inaccessible location.

In an orchestrated display of military precision, the Guardsmen from C/2-149 Aviation deftly piloted the five-ton UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters above the Reservists from the 433rd Airlift Wing. Combining their training with nerves of steel, the ground team nimbly hooked each load of cargo to the steadily flown aircraft and witnessed its departure from the landing zone.

The air mission commander, Chief Warrant Officer 2 John Thresher, C/2-149 Aviation instructor-pilot, offering the aviator's perspective, said



AIRMAN SHELBY PRUITT

Soldiers from Texas Army National Guard Company C, 2-149 Aviation, speak to Col. Kjäll Gopaul, mission pathfinder and Air Force Personnel Operations Agency deputy director, June 15 during a personnel recovery mission during Operation Lone Star Vigilance at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis.

the added realism of training with the Airmen was invaluable.

"At home-station training, we may have to simulate external unit actions," Thresher said. "With a live hook-up team under the aircraft, it increases the stress level. This keeps you focused on the task while highlighting the importance of maintaining your situational awareness."

Thresher elaborated that the realism and numerous iterations enhance his unit's ability to support the state of Texas for Hurricane Harvey-like rescues, ferrying water buckets for firefighting, or responding to flash floods.

The third mission of hoist medical evacuation saw seven iterations as an active-duty pathfinder team called in 9-line MEDEVAC requests to the awaiting MEDEVAC helicopters to rescue personnel from the top of Butte Hill on JBSA-Camp Bullis.

Army Sgt. Shannon Baumann, C/2-149 Aviation crew chief, described the scenario: "For this exercise, we would pick up a medic from the ground, circle around and then lower the medic by hoist down to the top of the hill. The medic would then triage two patients, having one hoist up with the Sked (litter basket), and then hoist the live patient with the Strop (rescue chair). In these live situations, you rely on your training to pay attention so you don't get

distracted."

Operation Lone Star Vigilance's capstone event on June 15 was a personnel recovery mission on JBSA-Camp Bullis, in which Soldiers of C/2-149 Aviation conducted dismounted movement from a downed aircraft, through dense woods, to a link-up point behind contested lines.

Airmen from JBSA's 502nd SFG role-played as opportunistic allies, authenticating a challenge and password with the downed aircrew, providing a temporary "hide site," and facilitating the extraction of 36 Soldiers and an embedded combat cameraman by helicopter.

Tech. Sgt. Hector Santiago, Senior Airman Bradley Morgan and Senior

Airman Joshua Reeves from the 502nd SFG all noted that the exercise scenario was definitely a change from their normal activities.

"It was good that we were able to help the aircrews train on their tasks," Reeves said. "I'd like to attend Air Assault School; and establishing a landing zone, working around the Black Hawks and flying were beneficial in honing my tactical skills as a defender."

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Blake Arrington, aviation mission survivability officer and personnel recovery officer, Company C, 2-149 Aviation, explained the importance of the field exercise.

"The PR training is very important, since our aircrews don't practice this as often as other tasks," Arrington said. "The planning challenge is to create a sense of realism for the isolated Soldiers, especially their reaction to the enemy as they find themselves with PR equipment that they carry often, and now must actually put to use."

Chief Master Sgt. Mark Foreman, incoming 26th APS chief enlisted manager, underscored the strategic value of Operation Lone Star Vigilance for his unit.

"Internally, the missions allowed both of the wing's aerial port squadrons to train together on less-frequently exercised tasks," Foreman said. "Every opportunity for multi-service interaction in a field environment is good for our junior service members to help them understand the larger joint operating arena, and how they fit within it. Strengthening our inter service relationships and seamlessly integrating the Guard, Reserve, and active-duty components demonstrates how incredibly capable our military is."

FORT SAM HOUSTON

JBSA, S.A. partner for trail system at FSH

New and expanded equestrian facilities are also part of the plan

By **Steve Elliott**
502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A partnership between the city of San Antonio and Joint Base San Antonio will bring new hiking and biking trails through a portion of Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

Seeing these initiatives mature from infancy to a full-blown project between a city and military location demonstrates teamwork and provides a mutual benefit for city and military.

There are still some additional steps needed to finalize the initiative and there is a future vision to build a new horse barn, paddocks and this partnership shows how tenacity and patience leads to a beneficial outcome.

The Howard W. Peak Greenway Trail System, which includes Salado Creek, is an expanding system of paved multi-use trails funded with sales tax funds approved by San Antonio voters. The Salado Creek Greenway, recently designated a "National Recreation Trail" by the Department of the Interior, is currently divided into two long segments north and south of JBSA-Fort Sam Houston that will soon be connected into one, very long continuous trail, thanks to the partnership between the City of San Antonio, or CoSA, and JBSA.

The long-term goal of the trail is to encircle San Antonio in multi-use linear parks, linking the Leon Creek Greenway, Salado Creek Greenway, Medina River

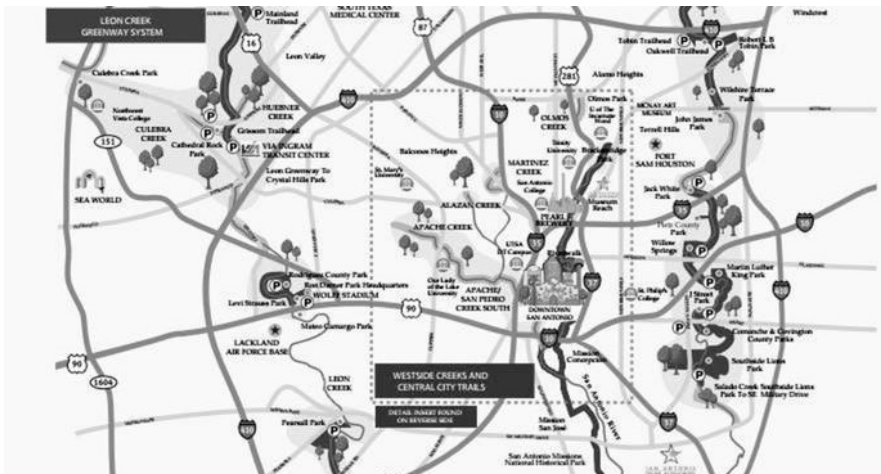
Greenway and trails along tributary creeks such as those on the west side which flow into the San Antonio River.

The initiative began in 1998 when former Mayor Howard W. Peak, along with City Council and community members, started to form the idea of building hike and bike trails in flood zones along city-owned creeks. Peak made it his mission to re-establish the historic importance of the creeks, reconnect San Antonio to its waterways and utilize the shared space to forge bonds between communities.

In 1999, the program plan was developed and the CoSA initiated a sales tax strategy to fund it, which was approved by San Antonio voters in 2000. The initial funding was continued by subsequent elections, using 1/8 cent from local sales tax revenue to develop the trails. Current funding is being used to expand the trail system and to enhance the existing trails.

With a mission to enhance the quality of life for San Antonio residents and visitors and preserve the natural land along the creeks, the Howard W. Peak Greenway Trail System winds through natural landscapes along many of San Antonio's waterways, including Salado Creek, Leon Creek, Medina River, Apache Creek, Alazan Creek, Martinez Creek, San Pedro Creek, Zarzamora Creek, Huesta Creek and Culebra Creek.

It currently includes over 65 miles of trail and more than 40 trailheads and neighborhood connections. Approximately 1,480 acres of property along



COURTESY GRAPHIC

A partnership between the City of San Antonio and Joint Base San Antonio will bring new hiking and biking trails through a portion of Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

San Antonio creekways have been acquired for the program since its inception.

In 2008, the City's Parks and Recreation Department first expressed interest in constructing part of the trail through JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, to connect the Salado Greenway Trails running to the north and south of the base.

Since that time, the CoSA and JBSA have worked together to troubleshoot project concerns related to security, fencing and relocating the equestrian facilities that lie in the trail's path.

On May 31, the paperwork finalizing the partnership began, with the execution of a "gift letter" signed by the CoSA and former Joint Base San Antonio commander, Brig. Gen. Heather Pringle, which

documents the city's intent to perform demolition of the equestrian facilities to the benefit of JBSA.

"This will be a great benefit to the people of San Antonio," said Brandon Ross, with the City's Park and Recreation Department. "Our coordinated efforts will allow for a major connection to be made between two very long pieces of trail, connecting parks and neighborhoods north of the base to those south of the base."

As for the equestrian facilities, "It's a win-win situation for the city and for us – and the horses as well," said Serafina de los Santos, 502nd Force Support Group Executive Director. "Currently proposed, the horses get 30 to 40 new paddocks and service members

get the use of a brand-new trail for hiking and biking."

"It is a 'young system' named for the mayor who proposed the idea and has already reduced trash and contaminants going into creeks and rivers, and made San Antonians healthier," Ross said in an April 2015 San Antonio Express-News article.

"We've preserved quite a lot of natural habitat. The creeks were largely forsaken and often targets for illegal dumping," Ross added. "We've got people saying they've lost weight using the trails system. It's restorative from a recreational standpoint. It's also a great opportunity to get outdoors."

People can keep up with the progress of the city's trail system and other parks at <http://www.saparksandrec.com>.

BAMC deputy commander named Army Nurse of the Year

By Rachel Cooper
BAMC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brooke Army Medical Center's deputy commanding officer has been named the Army Nurse of the Year by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Army Col. Traci Crawford recently received the 2017 Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee Award during the national defense night ceremony of the DAR Continental Congress in Washington, D.C. The award is given annually to an Army nurse with outstanding qualifications and achievements.

"I'm honored and deeply touched by this award," Crawford said. "Being an Army nurse has enabled me to care for military service members, retirees and their families in many capacities throughout my career. It's been incredibly rewarding."

"I'm honored and deeply touched by this award. Being an Army nurse has enabled me to care for military service members, retirees and their families in many capacities throughout my career. It's been incredibly rewarding."

Army Col. Traci Crawford, Brooke Army Medical Center deputy commanding officer

The nomination details Crawford's extensive contributions to military medicine. "Col. Crawford has made significant, long-lasting contributions to the Department of Defense, the Army and Army Medicine by distinguishing herself with exceptionally meritorious service in multiple positions of increasing responsibility throughout a career spanning

30 years of commissioned service.

"Her innovation, consummate professionalism, expert leadership, and strategic thought have solidified Brooke Army Medical Center as the Army's premier platform for wartime medical readiness training," the nomination continued.

The nomination also highlights Crawford's multidisciplinary work to



ROBERT SHIELDS

Army Col. Traci Crawford, Brooke Army Medical Center deputy commanding officer, received the 2017 Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee Award during the national defense night ceremony of the DAR Continental Congress in Washington, D.C. The award is given annually to an Army nurse with outstanding qualifications and achievements.

improve patient safety and her efforts to educate and develop future Nurse Corps professionals.

Colonel Crawford's contributions "are both significant and lasting," the nomination said. "The magnitude of her impact on military medicine will be felt for generations. She is a strong advocate for innovative change, including ensuring

practice at the top level of training and licensure."

The Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee Award is presented annually by the Daughters of the American Revolution to an Army Nurse who demonstrates outstanding qualifications and achievements. The award is named in honor of McGee, a respected American physician who founded the Army Nurse Corps in 1901.

USAISR Burn Flight Team deploys to Guatemala

By Dr. Steven Galvan

U.S. ARMY INSTITUTE OF SURGICAL RESEARCH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center Burn Flight Team, or BFT, deployed to Guatemala June 6 to transport six critically injured pediatric burn patients to the Shriners' Hospital for Children in Galveston.

The BFT departed from Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston with a burn/trauma surgeon, a burn intensivist, five critical care nurses, a respiratory therapist and a forward operations non-commissioned officer. The team flew from San Antonio to Guatemala and on to Galveston on a C-17 aircraft from the Mississippi Air National

Guard's 172nd Airlift Wing.

Maj. (Dr.) Julie Rizzo, USAISR Burn Center burn/trauma surgeon and officer-in-charge of the Burn Flight Team, was very proud of the team's mission outcome.

"I brought the 'A' team and they did an amazing job," Rizzo said. "I am extremely proud of the team's mission success; it was flawless and the patients were ready for any surgical procedures necessary."

The patients transported to Galveston were all children needing specialized treatment and the teamwork between the Army and Air Force ensured the patients' safe transport from

Guatemala to the U.S.

"The mission was challenging for a number of reasons," Rizzo added. "But we knew what we had to do and we focused on that and we safely brought the patients to where they can receive the best medical care."

Dr. Leopoldo "Lee" Cancio, USAISR Burn Center Director and a retired Army colonel, is a former member of the Burn Flight Team and knows the team's capabilities and was not surprised of the successful mission.

"Every member of this team has the expertise, training and qualifications to ensure the patients are taken care of as soon as we get to them," he said. "I am very proud of our Burn Flight Team, not only for this

"I brought the 'A' team and they did an amazing job. I am extremely proud of the team's mission success; it was flawless and the patients were ready for any surgical procedures necessary."

Maj. (Dr.) Julie Rizzo, USAISR Burn Center burn/trauma surgeon and officer-in-charge of the Burn Flight Team

mission's success, but for every mission it is deployed to, because every mission is important. It takes the best qualified members of our Burn Center to make sure we get the patients to their destinations safely and as quickly as possible."

The BFT was augmented by an Air Force Critical Care Air Transport Team stationed in

San Antonio.

"I was very impressed with the Burn Flight Team and the work that they did during this mission," said Air Force Capt. Andrea Perez, CCATT member and a pediatric nurse at Brooke Army Medical Center. "They were very organized and proficient. It was great to work with them."

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502nd SFS ramps up patrols to reduce thefts

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Responding to a string of break-ins and thefts at residential units at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, the 502nd Security Forces Squadron is increasing patrols and instituting measures to prevent further break-ins and thefts from occurring.

During a four-month span, from February to May, four break-ins were reported among the seven housing locations at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, according to Lt. Steven Dews, 502nd SFS police supervisor.

Dews said the break-ins occurred in the personal sheds attached to garages, which are unattached to the residential homes. Items that were stolen during the break-ins include a

toolbox set and two bicycles.

The number of residential unit break-ins and thefts at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston this year has already surpassed the total number of residential thefts and break-ins reported at the base in 2017, which was two.

To help prevent further break-ins and thefts, Dews said 502nd SFS will be ramping up its foot patrols in targeted areas. Those patrols will identify unsecure areas and items at residential units that will be marked with a sticker.

He said security forces members will bring up the areas and items they found unsecure to the attention of residents and Lincoln Housing staff members.

Dews said there are measures residents can take to prevent break-ins and thefts at housing units.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

“One, as soon as they get home or at the end of their workday, ensure that all of their items that are left unsecured are secured,” he said. “Two, if they have items that are of value, take pictures of them for inventory, to

include serial numbers and descriptions of those items. Keep that for your records in case something does happen.”

Any photos of items and serial numbers will be of great help to investigators in case the items are stolen or go

missing, Dews said.

In addition, Dews said residents should notify their neighbors if they are going out of town to keep a watch over their home. If residents see or notice anything suspicious, contact 502nd SFS at 210-221-2244 or 210-221-2583 (CLUE).

In addition, 24 bicycles have been stolen at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston since Jan. 1. To make it possible for housing residents to register their bicycles, Dews said he will be going door-to-door to each housing area every weekend with registration forms and stickers. He also plans to visit every dormitory to give service members and students the opportunity to register their bicycles with security forces.

For information on registering bicycles at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, contact Dews at 210-221-2570.

BURN TEAM

From page 7

A parent of one of the burn patients, who wished to remain anonymous, was grateful for the mission and impressed with the team's capabilities.

"It's amazing how well-equipped the plane is to assist children," said the parent. "They cared a lot for every patient."

Since 1954, the USAISR Burn Center has deployed Army Burn Flight Teams throughout the world to provide specialized burn care and to transport burn casualties to military and civilian medical treatment facilities in the U.S.

Most recently, the Burn Flight Teams have transported several hundred of the most critically ill combat casualties from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Team members maintain proficiency by working daily in the Burn Center's Intensive Care Unit, and by monthly flight team training exercises.



MASTER SGT. KEYONNA FENNELL

U.S. Army Capt. Argelia Felix-Camacho, Brooke Army Medical Center Burn Team registered nurse, consoles a patient during a humanitarian mission from Guatemala to Galveston June 6. An aeromedical evacuation crew from BAMC at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, provided en route medical treatment to the six injured children during the air Mobility Command flight to Galveston. The children were taken to the Shriners Hospital for Children for further care.

SAUSHEC ceremony honors graduating residents, fellows

By Lori Newman
BAMC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium graduation ceremony was held June 7 at the Lila Cockrell Theatre in downtown San Antonio.

The ceremony honored 47 fellows and 149 residents from 34 graduate medical education programs and 37 graduates from 11 graduate allied health care education programs.

“Today’s graduation ceremony truly is a reflection of our current military health system with graduates and leadership representing each of the armed services as well as the Public Health Service and civilians,” said Dr. Woodson Scott Jones, dean of SAUSHEC.

SAUSHEC is the organization responsible for military graduate medical education and graduate allied health education in San Antonio with two major training sites at Brooke Army Medical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston and the 59th Medical Wing at JBSA-Lackland.

The keynote speaker for the event was Vice Adm. Raquel Bono, director of the Defense Health Agency.

Bono congratulated the graduates on their accomplishment and honored their family members for their support during their training.

“You have completed this arduous, rigorous process to gain a certain level of credibility,” she said. “That is a large part of what we are celebrating here, your significant accomplishment in completing your various programs.”

Bono provided advice to the graduates as they move forward into their new responsibilities.

“Always challenge conventional wisdom,” she said. “Things change at a very rapid pace especially in a health care



PHOTOS BY DANIEL CALDERON

Air Force Maj. Gen. Bart O. Iddins (left), former 59th Medical Wing commander, and Army Brig. Gen. George Appenzeller (right), Brooke Army Medical Center commander, present keynote speaker Vice Adm. Raquel Bono, director of the Defense Health Agency, with a US Navy Bicentennial Bronze medal during the San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium graduation ceremony held June 7 in San Antonio.

world. In order for you to be at the top of your game, and give your patients the kind of care they deserve, you need to always be willing to challenge conventional wisdom.”

She reminded them to be authentic, be themselves.

“Today’s graduation ceremony truly is a reflection of our current military health system with graduates and leadership representing each of the armed services as well as the Public Health Service and civilians.”

Dr. Woodson Scott Jones, dean of San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium

“Your patients can tell when you’re not being authentic,” Bono said. “This is an important responsibility as a care provider, because you will walk into many patient rooms and without even knowing you, your patients will automatically trust you.”

Bono also encouraged them to continue to learn.

“Be very discerning about what you see and what you hear moving forward,” she said. “Don’t be quick to jump upon what everyone else is talking about.”

“Being a leader is all about making change happen,” Bono said. “As leaders, continue to embrace change and help us develop a health care system that our patients so richly deserve. You represent our hope for the future.”

Along with the graduation certificates, six Commander’s Awards for Research and five Merit Awards were also presented.

Army Maj. Tyson Sjulín, pulmonary/critical care fellow, received the Commander’s Award for Fellow Clinical Research.



Air Force Maj. Wassem Juakiem (center), gastroenterology fellow, receives the Commander’s Award for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety during the San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium graduation ceremony June 7. Air Force Maj. Gen. Bart O. Iddins (left), former 59th Medical Wing commander and Army Brig. Gen. George Appenzeller, Brooke Army Medical Center commander, congratulate Juakiem.



Army Maj. Tyson Sjulín (center), pulmonary/critical care fellow, receives the Commander’s Award for Fellow Clinical Research during the San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium graduation ceremony June 7 in San Antonio. Also pictured are Air Force Maj. Gen. Bart O. Iddins (left), former 59th Medical Wing commander and Army Brig. Gen. George Appenzeller (right), Brooke Army Medical Center commander.

“This represents the hard work of the entire research team and especially (Air Force) Col. (Richard) Strilka,” Sjulín said. “This award further motivates our team to continue to advance medicine with further prospective randomized clinical research.”

Air Force Maj. Wassem Juakiem, gastroenterology fellow, received the Commander’s Award for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety.

“I’m proud to be recognized for the hard work and accomplishments,” Juakiem said. “I am very proud of the education I have received at SAUSHEC.”

Juakiem said he couldn’t have done it without the support of his wife Noha.

“I remembered all the extra hours spent away from my family, all the patient interactions and procedures, it really solidified that sense of accomplishment,” he said.

Brig. Gen. Laura Lenderman tours JBSA-FSH facilities

By Steve Elliott

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brig. Gen. Laura L. Lenderman, commander, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio, took a JBSA-Fort Sam Houston immersion tour June 15, stopping at select locations to walk through facilities and talk to the people who work there.

Accompanied by other members of wing leadership and representatives from a number of JBSA organizations, the general stopped at the Youth Center, Slagel Dining Facility, Academic Support Building, Student Activity Center, Vehicle Maintenance Facility, Jimmy Brought Center, Guardmount Room and Armory, Dial Central Office, Manpower/Personnel Flight and the Military & Family Readiness Center.

Lenderman took command of the 502nd ABW and JBSA June 6 in a change of command ceremony, replacing Brig. Gen. Heather L. Pringle.



MICHAEL WATKINS

Brig. Gen. Laura L. Lenderman (left), 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, talks with Jeanne Warren, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Director, during a stop at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Center June 15. Warren has been at the youth center for almost 30 years and has served numerous generations of JBSA-Fort Sam Houston families.

U.S. ARMY NORTH CELEBRATES ARMY'S 243TH BIRTHDAY



JOSHUA FORD

U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) commanding general, Lt. Gen. Jeffrey S. Buchanan (left), issues the Oath of Enlistment to 10 recruits on the Army's Birthday in front of The Alamo on June 14. Buchanan, the enlistees, and the U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion San Antonio marked the Army's 243rd Birthday with a small ceremony at the historic site. Buchanan also led soldiers and Army civilians on a run in observance of the celebration.



SGT. 1ST CLASS SHELMAN SPEMCKER

Soldiers render salutes in formation as the flag is raised June 14 before celebrating the Army's 243rd birthday with a run at Fort Sam Houston. Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan, commanding general, U.S. Army North (Fifth Army), presided over the events celebrating the Army's birthday with soldiers, Army civilians and families.



Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Ed Martin, (second from left), and Brandon Alvarez, a 2018 graduate of East Central H.S., grasp the saber as they prepare to cut the Army Birthday cake in front of the Alamo on June 14. The U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion San Antonio marked the Army's 243rd Birthday with a small ceremony at the historic site. In keeping with tradition, the oldest Army veteran present, Martin, and the youngest Army soldier, Ramirez, made the first cut in the cake. Alvarez took the Oath of Enlistment during the ceremony and is slated to depart for basic training later this year. The 17-year-old enlisted as a Human Resource Specialist. Also pictured are Army Lt. Gen. Jeffrey S. Buchanan (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Alberto Delgado (right), the U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) command team.

SGT. MAJ. DEAN WELCH

LACKLAND

GeoBase system provides utility maps for Department of Defense personnel

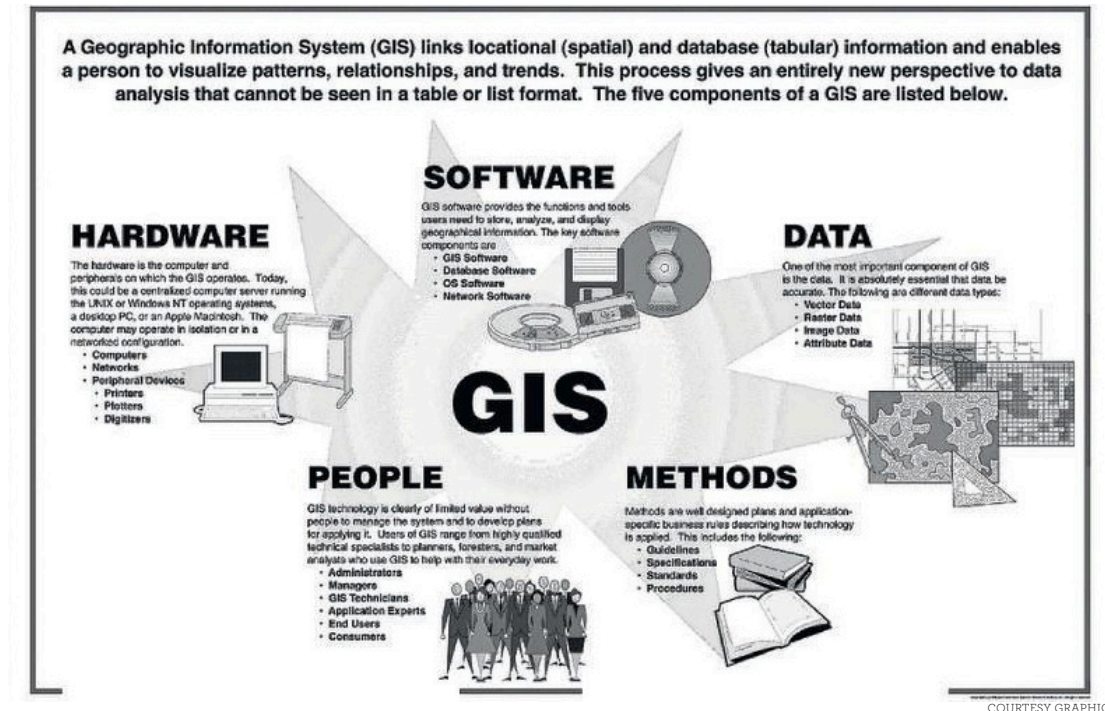
By Airman 1st Class Dillon Parker
502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

While many people utilize Geographic Information Systems, or GIS, every day, few are aware that military bases also have GIS with countless applications available for Department of Defense personnel.

"GeoBase can basically act as the military equivalent of the map apps a lot of people have on their phones that utilize a GIS," said Vance Hoyt, 502nd Civil Engineering Squadron geospatial information systems specialist. "If you plug a building number or military office into your phone, it doesn't know where it's located. This system gives you that capability to map to a location on a base. It's especially useful for newcomers; all the information about where everything is located on base is right there in this system."

"To request a special map with personalized information all you have to do is go to the map viewer and submit a request and CE will work on it. For example, if you have an event coming up and you need to map emergency routes or parking locations, all you have to do is go on there and submit a request for it."

Michael Arzate, 502nd Installation Support Group execution support GeoBase section chief



GeoBase provides an all-inclusive map with much more detailed information than just building locations and navigation, added Michael Arzate, 502nd Installation Support Group execution support GeoBase section chief.

GeoBase provides detailed information about facilities such as, open work orders, who the facility manager is, floor plans and where individual units are located.

"The applications are endless," Arzate said. "It's not just a CE function, personnel can utilize it for training missions, emergency management,

entry control points and airfield ops. You can even make personalized maps by drawing on the system."

The GeoBase map viewer including utility systems maps, property information maps and more is available to all common access card users.

"To request a special map with personalized information all you have to do is go to the map viewer and submit a request and CE will work on it," Arzate said. "For example, if you have an event coming up and you need to map emergency routes or parking locations, all you have to do is go on there and submit a request for it."

While the system already contains a great deal of information, it is a living document, Hoyt added.

"We're constantly seeing information to add," Hoyt said. "There's a million things on Randolph alone that can be added. We just need people to tell us what kinds of information and maps they need so we can prioritize and utilize the system to its full potential."

The GIS can be accessed by common access card users at: <https://jbsa.eis.aetd.af.mil/502isg/502cen/CENM/CENMT>.

For more information, contact the JBAS GeoBase section at 210-652-1231 or 210-652-4160.

25th AF History Office recognized for preserving ISR's past

An additional exhibit honors the Gen. Doyle E. Larson Awards

By Lori A. Bultman
25TH AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Preserving history is important to those who lived it as well as those who follow in their footsteps, and the 25th Air Force History Office was recently recognized by the Air Force for its extraordinary efforts in documenting the past.

“We aim to make history operationally relevant,” said Gabriel Marshall, 25th Air Force Historian. “Highlighting and learning from the past illuminates the future.”

Every year, the U.S. Air Force History and Museums Program honors its field historians with various awards for excellence in periodic history and heritage programs.

The team of historians at the 25th were selected for two honors — the 2017 Dennis F. Casey Award for Excellence in Periodic History, Numbered Air Force or Center category, and an Air Force Heritage Award. The Heritage Award recognizes the achievements of program personnel and their efforts to foster a better understanding of and appreciation for the Air Force, its history and accomplishments.

“I have an incredible team,” said Harold Myers, director of History and Research at 25th Air Force. “This team includes a great deal of experience in Air Force Intelligence and has a superb interest in telling the nearly 70-year-old 25th Air Force story.”

During 2017, History Office staff members gave more than 50 tours of the Casey Heritage Center, a public museum located at the NAF headquarters. Myers was the chief historian of the Air



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Intelligence Agency from 1995 to 2007, the predecessor name of the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency, which is now 25th Air Force.

“Our Heritage Center tours give historians Gabriel Marshall and BJ Jones the opportunity to shine in presentations to military and civilian visitors to the center and to the public in general,” Myers said. “They put on a great, entertaining show.”

“We work very hard to present interesting and relevant history products to the organization’s personnel and special visitors,” said Jones. “The addition of the Japanese Purple Analog encryption/decryption device to our Heritage Center last year made our unique collection of machines even more exceptional, as it is the only location where visitors can see the German Enigma, American Sigaba, Soviet Fialka and Purple Analog together in

one room.”

Army cryptanalysts built the American-made Purple, known to code-breakers simply as “Purple,” to decode Japanese diplomatic messages during World War II. The machine on display is one of three components that was used to decrypt messages sent between Japan and its embassies around the world, Jones said.

An additional exhibit, located in Building 2007 at the headquarters, honors the Gen. Doyle E. Larson Awards and includes representative artifacts and photos of award winners.

The Larson Awards began in 1980 as the Comfy Olympics, and was created to officially recognize the sacrifice and dedication of enlisted Airmen in the Electronic Security Command’s core intelligence career fields. The Comfy Olympics grew from competitors in five career fields to more than a dozen

specialties. With this expansion, the program name evolved into Prism Olympics in 1992, Sensor Olympics in 1994, and was finally named Maj. Gen. Doyle E. Larson Awards, after its founder, in 2009. The current competition has 20 career field categories.

Another project the History Office has taken on is modernizing and identifying the contents of its 1,600-linear feet of Top Secret Sensitive Compartmented Information archive. Their efforts have uncovered and digitized nearly 900,000 photos of enterprise activities from 1948 through 2017. Many of the photos have been declassified and are in the latest edition of the office’s annual journal. There are plans to complete three of these unit-level journals.

It was the total team effort that earned the 2017 Air Force level awards for the office.

During 2017, the NAF historians responded to more than 650 external inquiries,

which consumed in excess of 340 hours in labor for response, and an additional 600 internal inquiries that historian John Williamson answered. His research and responses provided input to key NAF policies, Myers said.

While the program’s accolades were well received, each of the documentarians was reluctant to take credit for the achievement.

“I’m just a lesser part of an extremely talented team of competitive and hard-driving historians,” Marshall said. “We always strive to do the best we can to support the best ISR professionals the world has ever seen — 25th Air Force and its units around the globe.”

Note: All 25th Air Force History Office publications are available for download on the 25th Air Force website: <http://www.25af.af.mil/About-Us/History/>. A limited number of printed copies are available in the Heritage Center.

59 MDW nurse receives BAMC award

By Staff Sgt.
William Blankenship

59TH MEDICAL WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. David F. Bradley, Jr., a perioperative clinical nurse specialist assigned to the 59th Medical Wing, was the recipient of Brooke Army Medical Center's 2018 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse of the Year Award at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland May 7.

The annual award is presented to the nominee who has made a significant impact on the San Antonio military medical mission.

"I couldn't have made any impact without my team around me," Bradley said. "We have worked diligently over the past year to improve long-term processes that will both amplify our patient care and also conserve valuable funding. Being recognized is nice, the validation aspect and all, but really the team as a whole being acknowledged publicly is the greatest win."

Bradley's submission competed against approximately 200 other outstanding performers and stood out to a panel of



STAFF SGT. WILLIAM BLANKENSHIP

Maj. David Bradley, Jr., a perioperative clinical nurse specialist assigned to the 59th Medical Wing, received Brooke Army Medical Center's 2018 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse of the Year Award, May 7 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. The annual award is presented to the nominee who has made a significant impact on the San Antonio military medical mission.

military officers, enlisted members and civilian medical professionals.

"Maj. Bradley has a good heart and truly cares about advancing military health care for our patients," said Lt. Col. Raul Flores, chief of San Antonio Military Health System

Surgical Services Integration and Bradley's supervisor since 2013. "I nominated him because I think he has become a leader in military health care through research and collaborating with other professionals to make sure we, as a team, advance our practice. The thing that stands out about Maj. Bradley is his ability to make things happen. I have no doubt that he will continue to do good for our community."

As clinical nurse specialists, Bradley's team assesses processes to identify areas of improvement for patients through evidence-based practices suitable for long term solutions. Their mission is critical for sustained success for the 59 MDW, who prides itself in finding new ways to enhance the patient experience through process improvement and innovation.

"What we do for both our organization and for our patients is important," he said. "I want to help the next generation prepare to collaborate and innovate to set the medical teams up for success and give patients the most current treatment options available."

RANDOLPH

EOD fitness assessment under revision

Each study goes through a five-step process

By Senior Airman Gwendalyn Smith
502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Air Force Exercise Science Unit located at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph is currently studying the Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Air Liaison Officer Tactical Air Control Party career field's Physical Fitness Assessment for possible changes.

The exercise science unit's primary mission is to study Tier 2 PFA career fields and determine if changes are needed within the unique career fields.

"The Tier 2 career fields reach out and we undergo studies on their fitness evaluation," said Capt. Benjamin Welch, Exercise Science Unit executive officer. "Because these jobs are so physically demanding we want to ensure everyone within them are capable of day-to-day operations within deployed environments."

Each study goes through a five-step process, but how long the process takes is unique to each career and the manning available.

"We're always limited on personnel, so the time it takes for this process to go start to finish really does vary," said Welch. "Once we have all our slots filled, continuity will improve and we can hopefully finish a study within a couple of years."

EOD has been the primary focus of the unit as of recent months. Testing for EOD began about a year ago and is currently in phase two.

To enhance the capabilities of the exercise science unit the 502nd Civil Engineer Squadron is constructing a new building where PFA studies can be more efficiently conducted.

"Right now, we are in a very small facility," said Welch. "It's a laboratory that basically is a gym with specific equipment that we use for testing and a small area for staff offices. In the new building we're going to become about triple the size of what we have currently."



PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN GWENDALYN SMITH

An Explosive Ordnance Disposal member takes part in a fitness study June 5 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

We'll have the space to study more career fields at one time and build up our staff."

The building will include an office area to accommodate more staff members, a laboratory with necessary equipment and a thermal chamber to better simulate deployed environments.

An Explosive Ordnance Disposal member takes part in a fitness study June 5 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. The Air Force Exercise Science Unit located at JBSA-Randolph has the primary mission of studying fitness requirements within the Tier 2 physical fitness assessment career fields.



502nd CPTS recognized as AF's top comptroller squadron

By Senior Airman Stormy Archer

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 502nd Comptroller Squadron was recognized as the Air Force's top comptroller squadron for 2017 and received the Maj. Gen. Alfred K. Flowers Comptroller Organization of the Year Award during a ceremony May 30, 2017, in Denver, Colorado.

With more than 130 members, the 502nd CPTS is one of the largest comptroller squadrons in the Department of Defense, and serves more than 266 mission partners across JBSA including the Air Force basic military training mission, Air Education and Training Command and the Air Force Personnel Center.

"Winning this award is awesome," said Lt. Col. Jessi Schaefer, 502nd CPTS commander. "JBSA is a big place and I think every single squadron in the 502nd Air Base Wing has a big mission. For the comptroller squadron, we knew that we needed to become more efficient, not just for necessity of mission, but also the necessity of our people."

One of the biggest undertakings accomplished by the 502nd CPTS was the automation of multiple processes,



COURTESY PHOTO

The 502nd Comptroller Squadron is the Air Force's top comptroller squadron for 2017 and is the recipient of the Maj. Gen. Alfred K. Flowers Comptroller Organization of the Year Award.

allowing mission partners the ability to view their accounting database on demand with a push of a button.

"Since we service more than 266 mission partners, we have to make sure that we are properly documenting all of the services and support we give," Schaefer said. "Doing so allows those

mission partners to reimburse us when appropriate, maximizing the resources for the wing."

Another improvement they made was in financial operations concerning new accessions and building of pay records for new Airmen coming to basic military training. By changing

procedures from manual inputs to an automated process, they were able to save thousands of man power hours with the press of a button.

"How we managed our resources is something we focused on a lot last year," Schaefer said. "Whether it was money, people or manpower we wanted to make sure we were using our people the best way possible, and that we were giving them the resources they needed."

Chief Master Sgt. Carl Greene, 502nd CPTS superintendent, attributed their success to the close, face-to-face relationships the organization has built with its mission partners.

"I use the phrase 'kicking boxes'," Greene said. "When we go out to see our mission partners we get a better understanding of what their needs are so we can better customize how we help them. You need to understand what you are supporting, and you can understand the impact you are making by seeing how critical something is in person."

"If all we ever do is sit at our desk and look at requests for funding or accounting documents, we don't get a true understanding of what it is that these documents represent. There is a great synergy that is created when you put a face to a name."

AIR FORCE RECRUITING SERVICE WELCOMES NEW COMMANDER

Maj. Gen. Mark Weatherington (left), deputy commander of Air Education and Training Command, presents the unit guidon to Brig.

Gen. Jeannie Leavitt during the Air Force Recruiting Service assumption of command ceremony June 15 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. The Air Force Recruiting Service is headquartered at JBSA-Randolph and is a key component of AETC. AFRS is comprised of three groups and 27 squadrons that include 24 enlisted accession recruiting squadrons and three health professions recruiting squadrons.



JOEL MARTINEZ

Firefighters participate in vehicle rescue course

By Airman Shelby Pruitt

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Firefighters across Joint Base San Antonio participated in the National Fire Prevention Association 1006 VEHICLE RESCUE Train-the-Trainer program June 6-8, at Camp Talon on JBSA-Randolph.

Ron Moore, a firefighter in Prosper created this course through a company called RESQUE-1 LLC, to pass along his knowledge in vehicle extrication.

"It's 24-hour duration, over a three-day period, vehicle rescue train-the-trainer class," Moore said. "What they're able to do now, with the bases all participating, is standardize the

training and allow all the training in vehicle rescue to be consistent and valid because it addresses the national standards."

The phrase "train-the-trainer" means that a select group of firefighters from each installation were chosen to complete this training, then take that knowledge back to their own installations to train their co-workers.

"The 12 hand-picked individuals were given electronic media and skills training so they can go back to their bases and conduct base-level, department-level or company-level extrication training that meets National Fire Protection Association technical rescue standards

1006," Moore said.

Besides the train-the-trainer concept, this training was considered special because of the new techniques taught and the course instructor himself.

"Our instructor is probably the foremost expert in auto extrication and fire service in the United States," said Staff Sgt. Zachary Edwards, 902nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter.

Different and newer scenarios, other than the usual textbook taught ones, were provided for the firefighters to simulate. In this specific instance, a fuselage was donated to practice on, which Moore said he personally does not provide for the course.

As vehicles are becoming more and more up to date with technology, there are far more hazards for a firefighter to be aware of when performing vehicle extrication.

"Usually when we do auto extrication, we do a very standard, basic thing; usually with an older car on all tires," Edwards said. "But with the advances in technology, those cars aren't what we are probably going to find on the road today. He's teaching and putting us in scenarios where



PHOTOS BY SHELBY PRUITT

902nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters work together during a vehicle extrication exercise June 8 at Camp Talon, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.



Jesus Rico (left) and Esteban Perez, 902nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters, train using the Jaws of Life.



902nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters learn how to properly stabilize an overturned vehicle. The firefighters took part in a three-day training course learning advanced techniques for vehicle extrication rescue.

we basically have to neutralize those hazards in a modern vehicle, while using an older vehicle model."

The firefighters participating in the class were grateful to have had the chance to receive this training.

"It's a great class, we are getting to do a lot of hands-on stuff and learning how to use tools differently than we would have used regularly on a job," said Jacob Mathie, 902nd CES firefighter. "Ron's a guru, he knows a lot of stuff we did not

know and he's bringing us up to his level."

Not only were the firefighters glad to have been taught these new techniques, the trainer, Ron Moore, is just as proud to have taught them.

"Now they have the ability to take what I gave them, customize it and bring it back to make it work for them," Moore said. "It charges your battery when you know that what you're teaching in a training mode can actually make a difference."