

# JBSA LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

OCTOBER 12, 2018



PHOTO BY JASON W. EDWARDS

Members of the San Antonio Spurs take on injured service members in a friendly game of wheelchair basketball Oct. 1 at Brooke Army Medical Center's Center for the Intrepid, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

## Spurs take on injured warriors at Center for the Intrepid

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COMMENTARY

# Preventing suicide – starting with myself

By Glenn S. Robertson  
90TH MISSILE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

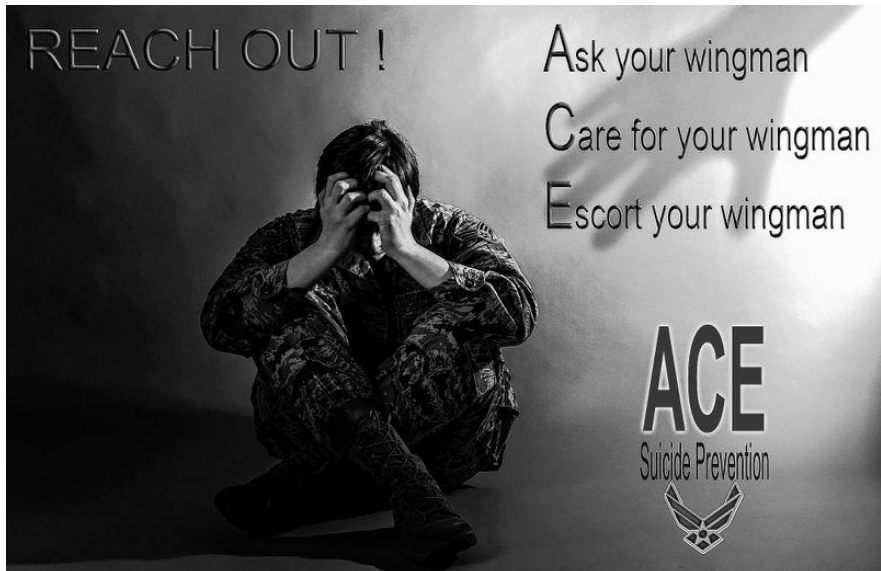
Other days, and even on good ones, the thought creeps up out of nowhere — an insidious sense of doubt. Of worthlessness and a sense of purposelessness that whispers in my ear and tells me that I will never accomplish the goals I have set for myself. The thoughts that make me ask why I shouldn't just call it quits and end the sadness that plagues me.

I am just one of nearly a quarter of the population who has suffered with this illness for most of my life. Just like all of them, depression is present nearly every day of every year. If this sounds familiar to you, you are not alone. There are millions in this country who know the daily struggle of depression.

But I do not and I will not allow this disease to define me — and I ask anyone reading this who might be going through hard times to do the same. Maybe your situation is different.

Maybe Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder haunts you, and the things you've seen and experienced make you never want to open your eyes again. Maybe the stress of your job or your life seems to be too much to bear and you can't see any end in sight. Overwhelming anxiety. Brain injury. The effects of substance abuse. So many different mental troubles can lead to suicidal ideation, which can complicate finding a solution for an individual thinking about hurting themselves.

Whatever personal



COURTESY GRAPHIC

challenge you're fighting with, please do everything you can to remind yourself that life is worth living. It's a challenge and often even a struggle, absolutely.

But, no matter what you're struggling through, there are people who care about you with the resources available to help guide you through the darkness.

Whether it's an anonymous phone call to a hotline, a visit to a chaplain or a whole host of options in between, there are people — real people — out there who want to bring you back from the brink and help you realize that life is too precious to turn your back on.

I have lost three people I considered friends — including one as close to me as a brother

— to suicide. I will never forget the day I received the message that he died. It has stuck with me for 11 years now, a dull ache of loss for a friend torn away too soon.

I ask myself if there was more I could have done to keep him from this end. He, and each of the others, left holes in those left behind when they died, and they are missed terribly by many people every day, even 11 years later.

For those of you who have made it this far and cannot relate to anything written above, I have a request for you as well. Go to <https://www.af.mil/Suicide-Prevention/> and read about some of the programs and other resources available.

If you see someone who's

clearly not themselves, struggling with some unseen torture, ask them how they're doing. Ask them to get coffee or grab lunch. Sometimes all it takes to support someone in this situation is just being there. Or you can go a few steps further and learn the signs. Sign up for A.S.I.S.T. training through the chaplain's office or take a similar program that will help you notice warning signs before they become tragedies.

September is officially Suicide Prevention Month, but there is no timeline on reaching out to someone in need and you can learn how to be more aware of the subtle signs shown by those at risk twelve months a year. You may be the one to save a life.

## JBSA LEGACY

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**Joint Base San Antonio**  
**HOTLINES**

- **Sexual Assault Hotline**  
210-808-SARC (7272)
- **DOD Safe Helpline**  
877-995-5247

- **Domestic Abuse Hotline**  
210-367-1213
- **Suicide Prevention**  
800-273-TALK (8255)
- **Duty Chaplain**  
210-221-9363



# Feedback Fridays

By Brig. Gen. Laura Lenderman

COMMANDER, 502ND AIR BASE WING  
AND JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

Feedback Fridays is a weekly forum that aims to connect the 502d Air Base Wing with members of the Joint Base San Antonio community. Questions are collected during commander's calls, town hall meetings, and throughout the week.

If you have a question or concern, please send an email to [RandolphPublicAffairs@us.af.mil](mailto:RandolphPublicAffairs@us.af.mil) using the subject line "Feedback Fridays".

Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

## Personnel Issues

**Q.** Are there any talks about active duty members residing off-base being able to enroll their children in the school on-base?

**A.** Thank you for bringing your concern to our attention as educational opportunities for military dependents are of top priority to leadership. Members that reside off the installation may apply at each installation school for the Non-Resident Transfer Program. In approving transfers, the superintendent considers availability of space, availability of instructional and support staff, the student's disciplinary history, attendance, grades, and any potential adverse effect on resident students. If approved for a waiver, parents should be prepared to provide transportation to and from school. All NRT students must reapply each year and meet district eligibility criteria. Each installation school district sets their own registration window as to when they will open the NRT application for the upcoming school year. Below are the links on the district websites that refer to the guidelines and local district school board policy. District eligibility criteria is set at the local level by the School Board of Trustees. However, if you need additional guidance, please contact JBSA School Liaison Offices; JBSA-Randolph at 210-652-5321, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-221-2214/2256, and JBSA-Lackland at 210-671-8388.

► **Lackland ISD:** [http://www.lackland.isd.net/community/non-resident\\_transfers/non-resident\\_transfers\\_general\\_information](http://www.lackland.isd.net/community/non-resident_transfers/non-resident_transfers_general_information)

► **Fort Sam Houston ISD:** [https://www.fshisd.net/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=1007264&type](https://www.fshisd.net/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1007264&type)

=d&pREC\_ID=583838

► **Randolph Field ISD:** [https://rfisd.edlioschool.com/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=766937&type=d&pREC\\_ID=1170354](https://rfisd.edlioschool.com/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=766937&type=d&pREC_ID=1170354)

**Q.** When is the Defense Travel System going to be fixed? There are voucher system errors, invalid Lead Defense Travel Administrator phone numbers, and invalid email addresses posted.

**A.** Thank you so much for your question! We want to ensure our personnel know who to contact when they have DTS questions. The 502d ABW has a LDITA within the 502d CPTS who helps the unit Organizational Defense Travel Administrator with questions and system issues. The ODTAs provide needed assistance directly to the customers and help remedy system errors. There is frequent turnover in personnel who act as ODTAs and keeping this contact information current in DTS can be challenging. If you do not know your unit ODTA, please email [502cps.fmf.jbsadts@us.af.mil](mailto:502cps.fmf.jbsadts@us.af.mil) or call 210-671-9322, and the 502d CPTS will work with your organization to update the ODTA contact information in DTS. For customers comfortable with navigating self-help sites, the following are great resources to obtain further assistance:

► Live Chat through DTS if you scroll down past travel documents and DoD Travel News at the following link: <https://dtsproweb.defensetravel.osd.mil/dts-app/pubsite/dashboard>

► DTS system announcements at the following link: <https://www.defense.travel.dod.mil/Passport/bin/Passport.html>

## Installation & Facilities

**Q.** Are there plans to provide the 502d Security Forces Squadron with office, storage, and training areas that would meet normal USAF standards?

**A.** Fantastic question ... yes! There are a number of efforts underway to improve the capability, capacity, and quality of 502d SFS work spaces. Here are a few examples. The 502d SFG and 502d CEG have partnered to remodel Building 2244 with a two-phase project to better meet Base Defense Operations Center mission requirements. Additionally, Building 2250 is starting a remodel and roof replacement in early February 2019. Finally, squadron and group leaders are working with the 502d CEG to find additional training space through the



installation space utilization process.

**Q.** Will you consider opening the Selfridge and Luke gates on the training side of JBSA-Lackland during lunch hours?

**A.** Unfortunately, Security Forces at JBSA-Lackland do not currently have enough manpower to open the Luke and Selfridge West gates for additional periods. We've maximized our manpower to open both gates during morning and afternoon rush, Mondays through Wednesdays, and a full 12 hours on Thursdays and Fridays. Opening either gate for additional time would mean reducing time at other gates or reducing patrol and response capabilities. While the current gate hours represent the most effective balance of Mission Partner and customer priorities, we recognize they are not a perfect fit for everyone. Your feedback is invaluable; we will continue to look for opportunities to support our partners and customers with our limited resources.

## Miscellaneous

**Q.** How big is Joint Base San Antonio?

**A.** JBSA is comprised of four primary locations: Fort Sam Houston, Camp Bullis, Randolph Air Force Base and Lackland Air Force Base. JBSA expands across a total of 11 geographically separated parcels of land consisting of 46,539 acres, and 35 million square feet in facilities that support over 266 mission partners. JBSA has almost 80,000 military and civilian personnel that accomplish training, flying, medical, cyber, intelligence, and installation mission support each day, and provide support to more than 560,000 active duty, guard, reserve, students, civilians,

retirees, veterans, and dependents throughout San Antonio and the Southern Texas region. JBSA contributes over \$30 billion in economic impact to the State of Texas and \$13 billion to the local economy in San Antonio. So, you could say we're pretty big!

**Q.** How does the latest DOD funding bill signed by the President impact JBSA?

**A.** On Sept. 28, 2018, President Donald Trump signed HR6157, the DOD and Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill, fully funding the DOD for Fiscal Year 2019! This is the first time in over a decade we've started the FY with an appropriation law in effect instead of a continuing resolution. This is great news because it allows the 502d ABW to aggressively spend down our actual budget and saves the wing countless man hours in repeat finance and contract actions each time a CR is extended. While the 502d ABW works through initial distribution, estimated to occur in December, please lean forward and take care of mission requirements. We've advised wing senior leaders to use FY 2018's budget as a guidepost.

The bill fully funds facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization across the enterprise enabling the estimated 502d ABWs FY 2019 initial distribution to be roughly the same as FY 2018 giving our wing the buying power it needs. It also authorized a 1.9 percent civilian and 2.6 percent military pay raise. Moreover, the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act specifically authorized \$25 million in military construction funds for the Basic Military Training Recruit Dormitory #6 at JBSA-Lackland. We are looking forward to a financially healthy FY 2019!

# October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

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

Do you know someone who has been affected by breast cancer? For most individuals, the answer is yes. The risk factor in the U.S. for breast cancer is 1 in 8 for every woman, and it is the second most common type of cancer in women.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, during which the annual campaign to raise awareness of risks, treatment, screening and the value of early detection takes place.

"At Joint Base San Antonio, we use Breast Cancer Awareness Month as a way to allow patients the opportunity to get screenings they may not otherwise have and to offer them information," said Tech. Sgt. Leona Rodriguez, JBSA-Randolph radiology clinic noncommissioned officer in charge. "People can go to Google and by the time they're done, they may not have the most accurate or best information. We want to provide them with better tools and recourses so they can have the knowledge they need."

In 2018, it is estimated that more than 300,000



GRAPHIC BY TONY ERVIN

women will be diagnosed with breast cancer.

Despite the risk factors, most women survive breast cancer if it's detected and treated during early stages.

"Early detection is huge," Rodriguez said. "About 30

percent of breast cancer is in the upper outer quadrant, which is very close to your lymphatic area. Basically, if you have breast cancer, it wants to grow so it's going to hook onto a blood vessel system in order to grow or metastasize.

"What we want to do is catch it in a much earlier stage so maybe the patient won't have to get a mastectomy or lumpectomy. They may only have to get some radiation or chemotherapy treatment. The earlier it's detected the less procedures or treatment you'd have to go through."

In support of the month, JBSA-Randolph will host a 5K fun run and 9K race 8 a.m. Oct. 13 at Heritage Park.

To raise continuous awareness throughout the month, medical facilities at all three Joint Base San Antonio locations will offer walk-in mammograms. Walk-in times at each location are:

- JBSA-Randolph clinic: Every Friday
- JBSA-Lackland/Wilford Hall: Oct. 5 and 19, 7 a.m.-3 p.m.
- JBSA-Fort Sam/Brooke Army Medical Center: Oct. 26, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

# Finger on the Pulse: All about calling 911

Dispatchers handle nearly 200 emergency calls every year

By Airman Shelby Pruitt  
502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

During recent incidents, how to call 911 from a military installation has caused confusion for many people.

"We want to eliminate the confusion," said Richard Campos, a Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph fire inspector. "Some people try to dial out 99 before calling 911, when that is not the case. You can call 911 from any cellphone or base phone and reach emergency services."

When 911 is dialed, the call is directed to San Antonio 911 dispatchers. When callers inform the dispatchers that the emergency is located on a military installation, those dispatchers will immediately transfer the call to the dispatchers at the appropriate base.



AIRMAN SHELBY PRUITT

"In the near future, hopefully one day we'll have our own tower where the signal can go straight to our dispatchers on base, but until then, this is the route we go," Campos said.

JBSA-Randolph's dispatchers and Fire Department work closely to ensure the base population can get through to them and

receive the response they need.

Campos described Humberto Sarabia Jr., lead dispatcher for the 502nd Civil Engineer Group/Fire Department and his crew, as the "fingers on the pulse."

"Any emergency goes through them first, and they're the ones that send out the appropriate emergency

crews," Campos said.

Calling 911 is strictly for emergencies. Incidents such as fires, crimes, medical emergencies, crashes with injuries, gas leaks, suspicious activities and facility alarms ringing all justify dialing 911.

People should not call 911 for answers to questions, for power outages, to test phones, to teach children about 911 or other similar situations.

Knowing what information to give to the dispatcher is critical for responders. When calling about an emergency, dispatchers are looking for the nature of the emergency, a specific address, the caller's name and phone number, and the gender of the victim, if there is one. Having a point of contact waiting to greet the responders on arrival is just as important for their mission.

"It is also important to tell the dispatcher that you are at Randolph Air Force Base, so it can be transferred here as fast as possible," Sarabia said.

After the dispatchers have received all the information

needed, they notify the fire station for responders to make their way to the scene.

"Emergency responders take, from the moment the call is received to the actual dispatch, under three minutes to respond," Campos said.

When on the phone with 911 dispatchers, staying calm and collected is vital for information to get routed quickly and for responders to effectively do their jobs. It's imperative to be patient with the dispatchers when they ask questions as these questions are necessary for providing adequate help to the caller.

With nearly 200 911 emergency calls on base per year, Sarabia and his dispatchers are always ready, 24/7, to help.

"The last thing you want in an emergency is to hear the 'beep-beep-beep' of a busy dial tone," Campos said.

For non-emergencies and administration questions, the JBSA-Randolph Fire Department can be reached at 210-652-6915/6916.



# FORT SAM HOUSTON

## WWII aircrew vet honored posthumously

By Jose Rodriguez

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL CENTER AND  
SCHOOL, HEALTH READINESS CENTER  
OF EXCELLENCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In a ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston on Oct. 2, the surviving family members of Bobby Joe Younger, a World War II bombardier killed in action in 1944, were presented with Younger's military awards, posthumously received from the Department of the Army.

Younger, the youngest of three brothers and two sisters, graduated from McKinney High School in McKinney, Texas, enrolled at Texas A&M University and then enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Force in June 1944.

The United States Army Air Forces was the premier aerial warfare service for the Army during and immediately after World War II. At the time of his enlistment, Younger's two eldest brothers and father were already in the service, supporting the war effort.

Younger was quickly promoted to staff sergeant while assigned as a bombardier in his first duty assignment. Within five months of his enlistment, at the age of 19, Younger would be killed in action Nov. 2, 1944, while serving as the bombardier of a B-17 Flying Fortress when it was shot down over Germany.

On Younger's 13th mission with the 91st Bomber Group, 8th Army Air Force, his plane, with a crew of nine, was critically damaged. Witnesses reported seeing the B-17 burst into flames and plummet toward the ground, crashing just southwest of the town of



JOSE E. RODRIGUEZ

From left, Bubba Brice, Frances Younger, John F. Younger Jr., Charles M. Younger, "Chica" Younger and Galeana Younger stand with a portrait of Bobby Joe Younger, a World War II bombardier killed in action in 1944. Family members were presented with Younger's military awards posthumously received from the Department of the Army.

Barby. Three of the nine crew members survived and were captured; the rest were presumed missing.

In 1951, the American Graves Registration Command concluded that the remaining unaccounted for crew members perished in the crash. The exact location of their remains were unknown until three of the crew, Tech. Sgt. John F. Brady, Staff Sgt. Robert O. Shoemaker and Younger, were able to be recovered and individually identified through DNA analysis, forensic identification and circumstantial evidence in 2017.

The recovered remains that could not be individually identified represented the entire long-lost crew, to include Tech. Sgt. Allen A. Chandler and 1st Lt. John H. Liekhuis. The entire crew was honored with a joint ceremony and full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on June 27.

Maj. Gen. Patrick D. Sargent, an aviator and the commanding general of the

U.S. Army Medical Center and School, Health Readiness Center of Excellence, or AMEDDC&S HRCOE, hosted the ceremony in the headquarters' building Hall of Honor at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

"I can tell you that, from just the brief time that I spent with the family, it is a great honor for us here at the AMEDDCS HRCOE to be a part of such a great ceremony," Sargent said.

Flanked by Medal of Honor recipients on one side and a Warrior Memorial on the other, Sargent added, "It is appropriate that we are standing in the presence of such greatness and I will tell you that this story of this young man who gave his last full measure for, as the wall says, 'uncommon valor beyond the call of duty' is impactful."

In addition to a good conduct medal, campaign medals and the Air Medal with oak leaf cluster for serving honorably in sustained bomber combat operations over

Germany and German-occupied countries, Sargent presented the family with the Purple Heart on behalf of the Secretary of the Army for Younger's wounds received in action resulting in his death.

The awards were presented exactly one month short of the 74th anniversary of the combat mission in which Younger lost his life.

Three of Younger's nephews, John F. Younger Jr., Charles M. Younger and Bubba Brice, along with several other family members, were present to accept the awards on the entire family's behalf. They spoke of the pain that their family endured not knowing if Younger had lived or died in the crash.

Many in the family wrote letters and did research to find answers over the years; Younger's father and at least one of the sisters even traveled to Germany looking for their lost loved one.

Bubba Brice, son of the

sister who was closest to Younger in age, recalled how surprised and emotional he felt when he got the call that the recovery operation, which began in 2015, had finally been successful. He wept at the thought of how happy his mother, the other siblings and Younger's parents would have been to know that he was finally coming home.

"After all of those years, you all never gave up," Brice said. "We are so blessed that you brought closure to us. We are all just so happy and we can't thank you enough."

In addition to the veteran's marker that now stands in the crew's honor at Arlington National Cemetery bearing the name "Bobby J. Younger" and various other tributes in McKinney, the final commemoration of this life of service will take place at Ridgeview Memorial Park in Allen, Texas. Younger's remains will finally be laid to rest between his mother and father, as his family had hoped all of these years.

Though Younger's name is permanently inscribed in the "Courts of the Missing" Memorial at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, according to the American Battle Monuments Commission, he is now listed as "recovered." The Department of Defense will place a rosette next to his name on the Honolulu memorial when Younger is ultimately at rest in a known gravesite.

"It is a testament that over 70 years later, we are able to come together in this way, to honor this hero and his family," Sargent said. "This is truly our mantra, to never leave a fallen comrade."

# USAISR welcomes new enlisted leader

**By Dr. Steven Galvan**

U.S. ARMY INSTITUTE OF  
SURGICAL RESEARCH  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The newest U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, or USAISR, first sergeant took responsibility of the Headquarters and Headquarters Command Company during a change of responsibility ceremony Sept. 28 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

First Sgt. Brittney D. Graham took responsibility of the company from 1st Sgt. Kenneth M. Carey, who departs to Fort Rucker, Alabama, to be the senior enlisted advisor at the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory.

“First Sergeant Graham, Capt. Bryant (Capt. Cleveland Bryant, USAISR HHC Company commander) and I have worked hard over the last 24 months to hand over a good company to you with a solid foundation,” he said. “We’ve done that. You have a good foundation. Now, it’s time for you to



DR. STEVEN GALVAN

*First Sgt. Brittney Graham (left) takes the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, Headquarters and Headquarters Company guidon from Capt. Cleveland Bryant Jr., USAISR company commander, during a change of responsibility ceremony Sept. 28 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.*

build the house.”

Graham steps into her new role after having served as the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Dental and Craniofacial Trauma Research Directorate at the Institute and said she was looking forward to improving combat casualty care.

“I’m excited and humbled,” Graham said. “I want to have a positive influence on the staff as a key leader within the organization, and I want to leave the organization

better than it is.”

Graham joined the Army in 2003 and attended advanced initial training to become a dental specialist after completing Army Basic Combat Training.

“The reason that I joined the Army was because my oldest brother told me that I couldn’t do it,” she said. “My mom always told me to not ever let anyone tell me what I can’t do and to never be afraid to go after what I want in life, so I did it.”

# Spurs take on injured warriors at the Center for the Intrepid

**By Lori Newman**  
BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL  
CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The San Antonio Spurs basketball team visited the Center for the Intrepid at Brooke Army Medical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Oct. 1. This gave the crop of new players the opportunity to tour the state-of-the-art rehabilitation facility and engage in a competitive game of wheelchair basketball with a group of injured service members.

Spurs Head Coach Gregg Popovich brought the players and coaches to the CFI for a couple of reasons.

"It's always good for anyone to understand that there are people who have it a lot worse off than they do," Popovich said. "So they understand how fortunate and how lucky they are to have the bodies that they do and to be able to move around with both legs and both arms and not be burned."

Popovich said the other reason they visit



JASON W. EDWARDS

*Members of the San Antonio Spurs take on injured service members in a friendly game of wheelchair basketball Oct. 1 at Brooke Army Medical Center's Center for the Intrepid, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.*

the CFI is to "show respect" for what the service members have sacrificed.

"Being here, seeing the facility and how the people operate ... it's an eye-opener for them to see what actually goes on in the real world," the coach said.

Spurs players rotated on and off the court as they played a game of three-on-three with the wounded warriors. Even though no official score was kept, it was clear the warriors maintained the upper hand throughout the game as the other players and bystanders cheered them on.

Spurs shooting guard Lonnie Walker IV seemed to enjoy the friendly competition.

"That was fun," the rookie said, as the sweat poured off him after leaving the court.

Spurs forward Rudy Gay watched the game from the bleachers along with other team members.

"This is cool to see," Gay said. "Obviously we deal with injuries and rehab, but not to this scale. It's cool to see how the scientists and doctors get people back up, so they can try to live as much of a normal life as possible."

Brig. Gen. George Appenzeller, BAMC commanding general, and BAMC Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Oates thanked the Spurs for coming.

"We appreciate you guys coming out to see what we do and go through on a daily basis," Oates said. "You guys are who our kids look up to, who we look up to as we go about our day. Some of our children aspire to be like you and we just appreciate you."

Oates wished them luck on their upcoming season and asked that they bring back a championship to San Antonio soon.



# USAISR Burn Center nurses compete in 'Dressing Wars'

By Dr. Steven Galvan

U.S. ARMY INSTITUTE OF SURGICAL RESEARCH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Nurses at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston have a unique mission and require specialized training. The nurses who work at the Burn Intensive Care Unit, or BICU, the Department of Defense's sole burn center, care for patients with the highest acuity level in the DOD. To help ensure all nurses at the BICU provide consistent and uniform wound care within established standards, they attend annual skills validation sessions as well as quarterly staff development days. "Staff development day is necessary to disseminate new and updated information to the staff and ensure we are all

providing the best, evidence based care that we can to our patient population," said Alexandra "Alex" Helms, BICU preceptor coordinator. "Not only do the nurses receive specialized training in small groups, but they are also given a day to relax away from the stressful environment of bedside care and have a little fun, and are given the opportunity to ask questions in a safe environment with their peers." During the most recent staff development day, Sept. 14, the BICU staff participated in a competition dubbed "Dressing Wars." The staff was divided into teams to perform specific simulated wound care techniques on a staff member from their group. "The dressing was then judged based on sterile technique, use of resources and



DR. STEVEN GALVAN

The nurses at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center Intensive Care Unit were divided into teams to perform specific simulated wound care techniques on a staff member from their group during a staff development day Sept. 14 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

time management, aesthetics, functionality and accuracy of dressing compared to orders," said Brent Sabatino, assistant civilian nurse officer in charge of the Outpatient Burn Clinic. The judges for this activity included a wound care expert, critical care physician, rehab therapist, BICU officer in charge and wound care clinical nursing specialist. "The ability of the dressings to stay on during physical

therapy range of motion exercises as well as walking were all part of the 'functionality' judging," Sabatino added. "This judging was done by the rehab unit staff." "Staff development day was developed as an eight-hour training day away from the bedside to complete team building and morale boosting activities while also disseminating new or updated

information on unit happenings," Helms said. "The teams were strategically built to merge night shift, day shift, brand-new employees versus well-seasoned employees, military, civilian, contract, licensed vocational nurses and registered nurses." "This was a fun way of making a skills training seem like a competition amongst peers but with feedback given to the group, not aimed at specific staff members," Sabatino said. Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Peters, BICU noncommissioned officer in charge, agreed that staff development days promote team building and unit cohesion between the leadership and the staff. "It is a chance to break down barriers and get to know each other in a different setting away from patient care," Peters said. "We utilize this time to come together as an entire team and reinforce our mission statement and unit goals, so we all stay focused in the same direction." "Overall, the staff really seemed to enjoy staff development day and we received a lot of feedback for future session suggestions and ways to improve," Helms added.

# Military community learns about career, job opportunities

By Steve Elliott

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Several hundred transitioning service members, retirees and their families found plenty of career and job opportunities and made connections with employers at the Hiring Heroes Career Fair at the Sam Houston Community Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston on Sept. 19. More than 70 employers, from the private to the governmental sector, were present to showcase their employment opportunities, as well as scout America's best talent. The event was designed to inform and energize service members, spouses and veterans transition planning and connect them with potential employers. The Transition Assistance Program at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston put on the career fair and provides counseling and job assistance to service members who are preparing to leave the military. The Hiring Heroes Career Fair is held twice a year, in March and September, at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. The first Hiring Heroes Career Fair was held at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston 13 years ago. This event was



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS DILLON PARKER

Employers meet with military members during the Hiring Heroes Career Fair at the Sam Houston Community Center Sept. 19 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

the 26th of its kind to be held at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston since 2005. The four-hour fair offered job seekers the chance to submit their resume with the possibility that some employers will conduct on-the-spot interviews at the fair.

"If you're here representing a company and you're looking for talent, look no further," said Col. Samuel L. Fiol, commander, 502nd Force Support Group to the employers present. "You're going to meet highly qualified individuals with critical job-related skills, outstanding competencies and exceptional qualities. "On top of this, they bring leadership, decisiveness and real-world experience. They learn how to make difficult decisions in adverse situations," Fiol added. "That's what the men and women you met today can bring to your teams." According to Candace Hillard, Transition Assistance Program transition services manager, some of those interviews could lead to job offers for transitioning service members and military family members. Out of the 600 job seekers who attended the last Hiring Heroes Career Fair in March, 41 were offered jobs on the spot, Hillard said. Hillard said transitioning service members and military members have characteristics and skills such as reliability, flexibility, a hard work ethic, knowledge and loyalty that employers are seeking. "I think the skill set our military population brings to the table is very valuable," she said.



# LACKLAND

## Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center Urgent Care levels up; ER reopens

By Daniel J. Calderón

59TH MEDICAL WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 59th Medical Wing's Urgent Care Clinic transitioned to a Family Emergency Center Oct. 1 at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center on Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

The FEC will provide 24-hour emergency care to all TRICARE beneficiaries in the San Antonio area who would have been previously transferred to local facilities.

"This is part of our mission of further integrating into the health care system in San Antonio while taking care of more health care needs for our beneficiary population," said

Maj. Gen. John J. DeGoes, 59th MDW commander. "In partnership with Brooke Army Medical Center, which is level one trauma, our new family emergency center will be equivalent of a level four emergency room and will offer increased services and care to patients on this side of town."

Previously, nearly 50 percent of patients were sent to a higher level of care facilities from the UCC. With the capabilities of the FEC, about 5 percent of patients are expected to need transfer.

"The Family Emergency Center is staffed 24/7 by an emergency physician along



DANIEL J. CALDERÓN

59th Medical Wing personnel cut the ribbon Oct. 1 to open the Family Emergency Center at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center on Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. The FEC will provide 24-hour emergency care to all TRICARE beneficiaries in the San Antonio area who would have been previously transferred to local facilities.

ER OPENS continues on 15

## Security Forces Academy adds leadership training course



TECH. SGT. RICHARDO ALONSO

Security Forces Academy students participate in combat arms training at the firing range Sept. 19 at Joint Base San Antonio-Medina Annex.

By Mary Nell Sanchez

502ND AIR BASE WING

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In development for more than a year, the Security Forces Academy at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland is now shifting into leadership-focused training, bringing both officers and enlisted students together.

For the first time in the course's history, 22 officers and 94 enlisted students will jointly tackle most of the course's objectives, which include learning law enforcement basics to hands-on training in the field.

"How can we develop our officers and make them better

leaders early on in their career," asked Master Sgt. Michael DiCicco, 343rd Training Squadron non-commissioned officer in charge of the Security Forces officer course.

Officers will train for 70 days while enlisted Airmen are taught for 65 days.

"When we bring both officer and enlisted students together, we put them in leadership positions so the officers, at a very young age, can start developing their leadership traits," DiCicco said. "They need to get these skills now."

Enlisted Airmen need to learn that to become a leader,

COURSE continues on 13

# 59th MDW hosts health fair, free screenings

By Daniel J. Calderón

59TH MEDICAL WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 59th Medical Wing is hosting a series of breast cancer awareness events during the month of October at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

A Breast Cancer Health Awareness Fair will be held on Oct. 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the C and D wings of WHASC. Personnel will be distributing information pamphlets, pink ribbons, and answer questions.

In addition, the wing will conduct routine walk-in mammogram screening on Oct. 19 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Women's Health Clinic.

"These events are a great way to raise public awareness about the fight against breast cancer," said Maria O'Berry, a mammographer in the Women's Health Clinic. "We like to emphasize during Breast

Cancer Awareness Month that women should be getting their yearly screening mammogram and should be doing regular self-breast exams."

In order to be seen at the walk-in screening, patients must be at least 40 years old, TRICARE eligible, have no symptoms at the time of their screening, have been seen by their PCMs within the last 24 months and their last mammogram must be more than 12 months old.

There is no referral necessary if the patient's primary care provider is within the JBSA system. However, if the PCM is from outside the JBSA system, or any civilian provider, the patient must have a script, or referral, from that provider.

"Just because you come in doesn't mean you have a problem," explained Tech. Sgt. Leona Rodriguez,



DANIEL J. CALDERON

Maria O'Berry, a mammographer in the Women's Health Clinic at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, prepares a "phantom breast" to calibrate the imaging equipment.

HEALTH FAIR continues on 15

## COURSE

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they need to know how to follow first, DiCicco added. Through this connection, DiCicco believes both officer and enlisted Airmen will better appreciate each other's roles during the course.

"It's a tough course, not just physically," DiCicco said. "It's mentally draining because there's so much that we're asking of 17-year old to 37-year olds."

The course objective is razor focused.

"That is the mission here; making students [more lethal defenders]," he added.

Course graduates will serve on military installations worldwide, as well as in combat missions. Before that happens, the basics about law, authority, government, history and use of force are taught.

Airmen just graduating from basic military training



TECH. SGT. RICHARDO ALONSO

Security Forces Academy students perform physical training exercises Sept. 18 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

must now learn community relations skills and how to talk to people in different situations. Afterwards, there are combative labs. Students learn handcuffing techniques, searching, less than lethal techniques, hand-to-hand

combat, and how to use a baton.

"We put them through a lot of physical training," said Tech. Sgt. Adam Bearor, 343rd Training Squadron Security Forces instructor.

A new part of this course is

exposure to pepper spray. Students are contaminated out in the field and decontaminated in tents after the exercise.

"For the Airmen, it's a brand new thing," Bearor said, adding they dispense the pepper spray early in the course to instill confidence in the students for the rest of the road to graduation. "It's a real test of what they can handle."

At JBSA-Camp Bullis, students learn how to dismantle patrols, conduct convoy operations, land navigations, dismounting and night side training. Once they return to JBSA-Lackland, there's still more to learn.

Students spend time at JBSA-Medina Annex for more intense training, which includes responding to alarm activations.

Students learn basic policing and security skills and are trained to use M-4 and M-9 weapons. The course assessment period begins

upon completion of these lessons.

"Everything that they learned from dot one to dot 62; we put them out there," Bearor said. "And we start doing flight level exercises so we can see how they apply what they've learned throughout the whole course."

Evaluation of each student's success is continual.

"They're confident in what they're doing," Bearor added. "They've done everything so much that when you see them perform, perform, perform without having 'what do I do now?'— that's when the instructors think they'll be good Defenders."

"By providing more confident, ready-to-go Defenders, it's just going to make that integrated defense so much better," Bearor said.

Approximately 4,500 students are trained each year at Security Forces Academy. Graduation for the leadership training course is Oct. 31.



## ER OPENS

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with primary care support providers,” said Col. Robert Bogart, 59th Medical Operations Group commander. “Our expanded capabilities include pediatric and geriatric care, full-time ancillary services with pharmacy, lab radiology support, and a wide variety of procedural interventions.”

To improve patient-centered care, the UCC developed new processes that reduced patient wait times by more than 50 percent in the past six months and the FEC will continue those efficiencies.

“Patients will be triages based on their acuity, meaning emergent patients will be immediately seen,” Bogart said. “During

daytime hours, a fast-track service facilitates quick processing of patients with lower level medical needs.”

On average, the acute care flight sees 90-100 patients each day. Providers in the FEC will now be able to support patients of all ages, providing more in-house treatment than the UCC.

“If the workup doesn’t involve the requirement to admit the patient to a hospital, then we can treat accordingly and discharge them with a follow up appointment with one of our Primary Care Managers,” said Maj. Melissa Runge, Acute Care Flight commander. “We still will not have inpatient services, but we’ll be able to take care of a wide variety of medical problems that we weren’t able support as

an urgent care.”

In order to prepare for the transition, the acute care flight has increased its staffing with emergency medicine physicians as well as ER-trained nurses. All staff members received additional training to increase capabilities to support the medical issues patients will bring in.

“We have done an extensive amount of training to prepare to become an emergency room,” Runge said.

“Our goal is to provide high quality, safe, patient centered care in a timely fashion,” Bogart said. “The best place for routine and acute health care is your primary care team, however, if you require an outpatient ER, Wilford Hall’s Family Emergency Center is your ER.”

## HEALTH FAIR

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Mammography Course supervisor. “However, if you do have an issue arise, you have a much better chance reducing the possibilities of a full mastectomy or a bunch of chemotherapy.”

The screening exams are supplemental to patients engaging in regular self-care.

“We are now pushing a lot more information toward just looking at your breasts, not just feeling your breasts but looking at them,” Rodriguez said. “Patients need to make sure their breasts look the size they would normally look, nipples aren’t going inverted, their skin isn’t thickening, or for red areas that look flaky or has an elevated temperature. It’s an

overall wellness check for your breasts, instead of focusing only on the palpitation feeling of a breast exam.”

Breast cancer awareness is not just for women because men can also be at risk.

“Eighty percent of men were not aware they could get breast cancer,” Rodriguez said. “They also have a lot of the same risk factors as women do with family history. There is a link with hormonal levels, and as always, there are environmental factors.”

Among the environmental factors is an individual’s alcohol consumption, amount of physical exercise and eating habits. O’Berry said Gynecomastia is a common male breast disorder. It is characterized by a growth of cells right behind the nipple. The condition can

cause men to have more breast tissue than what they normally have, and it can be treated if diagnosed in a timely manner.

In order to get their diagnosis, all WHASC patients – men and women – who come in for mammograms have access to the 3D imagers in the Mammography Clinic.

“It’s a fantastic, futuristic technology that we are blessed to have here,” Rodriguez said. “With this technology, we can gain a much better understanding of what’s going on with the breast tissue. So, if a patient does get called back, we know we are looking at something specific.”

“We like to provide our patients with information because the more they have, the more empowered they are over what they choose to do,” Rodriguez said.

# RANDOLPH

## Aerospace Ground Equipment vital to 12th FTW



SEAN M. WORRELL

Jonathan Beres, 12th Flying Training Wing aerospace ground equipment mechanic, checks the oil levels on an aircraft New Generation Heater during routine maintenance Aug. 28 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

**By 2nd Lt. Austen Jarboe**  
502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soon after arriving at a new aircraft maintenance squadron, fresh technical training graduates are tasked with the most important direction of their young careers. "We need to go to work, so go grab the keys to the airplane."

Some time later, an exasperated Airman returns to a shop rolling with laughter, waiting to let them in on one of oldest jokes on the flight line.

Although Air Force assets do not require a "key" to start, they do rely on powered and nonpowered ground support provided by the Aerospace Ground Equipment, or AGE, shop at the beginning and end

of every sortie. One of the most important AGE shops in the Air Force is at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph within the 12th Maintenance Group, or MXG, directly supporting the student and instructor pilots of the 12th Flying Training Wing. Without dedicated maintenance on the equipment providing vital electricity, hydraulic pressure and air pressure to the T-6, T-38, and T-1 trainers, the 12th FTW could not fulfill its mission as the "Source of America's Airpower." "Day to day, we fully maintain over 700 pieces of equipment, supporting the T-38, T-6, and T-1 aircraft," said

12TH FTW continues on 17

## Air Force pilots talk teamwork, trust

**By Senior Airman Stormy Archer**  
502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of the University of Texas San Antonio women's basketball team visited Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Sept. 25.

The visit gave the team a chance to talk to Airmen about the importance of teamwork and commitment.

"I thought it was important for our team to see commitment and teamwork at the highest level," said Kristen Holt, UTSA women's basketball team head coach. "The men and women of our military put their lives on

the line every day and their team has to function under trust. I hope our team understands that it is not the most talented person or team that wins but the team that is committed to a common goal, and that selflessness has to be at the core of achieving that goal. Playing for one another. Fighting for one another."

Maj. Gen. Patrick Doherty, 19th Air Force commander, spoke to the players before their tour of the 560th Flying Training Squadron at JBSA-Randolph, and told the team that the quality he values most in Airmen is hustle, and someone who does not have the

PILOTS continues on 17



SENIOR AIRMAN STORMY ARCHER

Lt. Col. Matt Strohmeyer (right), 560th Flying Training Squadron commander, conducts a tour of the squadron for members of the University of Texas San Antonio Women's Basketball Team Sept. 25 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.



## 12TH FTW

From page 16

Mark Cogar, AGE mechanic and support office manager. “We have a 96 percent in-commission rate on a regular basis throughout the year.”

Previously, this responsibility was met by 50 active duty personnel, but today a team of 25 Department of Defense civilians ensures the equipment is ready to support daily 12th FTW training sorties.

“In my opinion, the equipment is maintained very well, the mechanics do a great job at what they do,” Cogar said.

In addition to direct support at JBSA-Randolph, the 12th MXG AGE shop also maintains equipment at five separate, forward operating bases in South Texas and the Gulf Coast. A small pool of AGE is on standby in Austin, Victoria, Fort Hood and Houston, Texas, as well as Lake Charles, Louisiana, to enable sortie production from more austere locations.

An interesting partnership exists at Ellington Field in Houston, where the U.S. Air Force shares the ramp with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's, or NASA, fleet of T-38

aircraft.

The 12th MXG's AGE personnel also support the transit alert program, tasked with assisting any aircraft on the ramp passing through the area or on temporary assignment to the base.

Notables include transient fighter aircraft, NASA science and transport missions and recently Pavhawk helicopters full of Air Force pararescuemen flying in support of Hurricane Harvey relief efforts.

The AGE shop has even shared hangar space with foreign partners to enable the coalition training mission.

“Singapore did some training here for months, some of their pilot training here with Apache helicopters, and we accommodated them in Hangar 16 for a while,” said Joe Holley, powered support equipment work leader.

The 12th MXG AGE shop is one of the most important units on the base, standing in support of every other activity performed on the T-6, T-38, and T-1 flight lines.

“We're spread out, east, west, south ramp,” Holley said.

When you look up and see a 12th FTW aircraft in the skies of South Texas, hard-working personnel of JBSA-Randolph's 12th MXG put it there.

## PILOTS

From page 16

capacity to give up.

“No matter what the situation or score is, these individuals are always the same principled character that has the highest standard of excellence,” Doherty said. “That quality is so incredibly valuable.”

During their visit the players and coaches got an up-close view of how the Air Force trains pilots and about the history and heritage of flying training at JBSA-Randolph.

“My visit to Randolph was amazing,” said sophomore Karrinton Donald, UTSA women's basketball player. “After the session with Gen. Doherty, I loved how there were so many similarities between the teamwork aspect of being in the Air Force and being on a basketball team.”

Senior Kourtney Kekec said the visit was enriching.

“Their team goals and ‘all-for-one’ mentality is something all great sports teams have, and it was nice to have the principle reinforced with something far bigger than athletics,” Kekec said.

Meeting with members of the

community and talking about what Airmen do every day helps strengthen the partnership between JBSA and San Antonio.

“San Antonio and its surrounding communities have always been huge supporters of the Air Force and the military, in general,” Doherty said. “That comes with an inherent trust between the community leaders and the military leaders that we will always work together to improve the well-being of our citizens and Airmen.

“While the team was visiting, they asked about how trust is developed between team members,” the general said. “There are two kinds of trust: inherent and earned. In the military, we all inherently trust one another because we all signed the same dotted line to serve together. Our reasons may be different, but this establishes a baseline from which we build upon.

“Then, through experience, training, and even combat, our relationships are developed and our trust becomes stronger. This is the earned trust; because this person next to me has stood shoulder to shoulder with me through the same experiences, I trust them more ... at times, with my life,” Doherty added.