The origins of tying yellow ribbons to a tree, or of a young lady tying a yellow ribbon in her hair, is hard to identify. Many believe it originated during the Civil War, while others argue that its origins lie further back in history to before medieval times (Yellow Ribbon History). Its use in support of military efforts are seen throughout history and regardless of its origins, the yellow ribbon has maintained its meaning over time because of its symbolism. The concept of a young lady tying a ribbon in her hair dates back to the American Civil War. If a woman was engaged or wished to marry a man who had gone away to war, she would let the world know she was not available for courting by wearing a ribbon in her hair as a sign of her waiting and remembrance of her beloved (YellowRibbonAmerica.com). The color yellow symbolizes never forgetting, like a yellow rose on the grave of a fallen soldier. The ribbon represents a will to not let go, a bond tying together the two parties: ribbons tie together objects and hold them close together. That is the symbolism behind using a yellow ribbon as a sign of remembrance.

On May 18, the VSC invites the campus to join in our celebration of Armed Forces Day as we host the annual Yellow Ribbon Campaign. We encourage students and staff to come out and help decorate the trees across campus with yellow ribbons while watching the spectacular Golden Knights as they parachute on to the campus.

The U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team are Army Soldiers first, but they also have a unique history and creed that sets them apart. In 1959, 19 Airborne Soldiers from various military units formed the Strategic Army Command Parachute Team. Brig. Gen. Joseph Stilwell Jr. gathered the Soldiers with the intent of competing in the relatively new sport of skydiving. By 1962, the team earned the nickname the "Golden Knights." "Golden" signified the gold medals the team had won while "Knights" alluded to the team’s ambition to conquer the skies. Since then, the Golden Knights have conducted more than 16,000 shows in 50 states and 48 countries, reaching an average of 60,000 people per show. ("Golden Knights History and Creed." Goarmy.com. Web. 27 Apr. 2016).
Welcome Our Student Assistants

Jason Greene  
U.S. Coast Guard Reservist

Although this is only my first year at CSUSB, I am currently a junior studying Criminal Justice. I spent two and a half years as a music major in Texas before joining the Coast Guard. I was active duty for ten and a half years, and I am still a reservist drilling at Port Security Unit (PSU) 312 in San Francisco. Even though I was trained as a Damage Controlman, I spent half my career doing law enforcement. I am one of only two Coast Guardsmen attending CSUSB. After graduation, I want to get another federal law enforcement job, either with the U.S. Marshall Service or DEA. I have a wife and two kids who live about four hours away in Bishop, Calif. I spend my weeks going to class and studying, and I go home on the weekends to be with my family. Together, we enjoy taking trips into the mountains, camping, hiking, fishing, and swimming.

William Lewis  
AFROTC Cadet

My name is William Lewis, but most folks call me Will. I am currently studying Criminal Justice here at California State University, San Bernardino and participating in the Air Force ROTC program. I’m currently working at the Veterans Success Center as a student assistant so feel free to ask me for help and I’ll give you a hand. If you need assistance in the CJ program feel free to ask me for assistance and I can help you find the answer. I look forward to graduating next year in the spring, but until then I’m glad that I was brought on to the great team here at the VSC, the work experience is invaluable and extremely rewarding.

Army Veteran Brandon Ignatowski Named Outstanding Undergraduate Student

U.S. Army veteran and CSUSB student Brandon Ignatowski has been named the Department of Health Science and Human Ecology’s Outstanding Undergraduate Student for 2015 - 2016 in the College of Natural Sciences.

Students were selected based on the following 3 criteria:

- Senior class standing with all graduation requirements completed. Nominees must have at least five quarters’ attendance as a full-time student at the University.
- Academic achievement of 3.5 (minimum) CSUSB grade point average and 3.0 (minimum) GPA in all college work and demonstrated academic excellence.
- Demonstration of service and leadership in campus and/or community organizations and activities.

Congrats Brandon on this prestigious honor!
The Ever-growing VSC Brig. Gen. Robinson Risner Chapter of Silver Wings was recently established here at the CSUSB campus. Silver Wings was founded in 1952 as Angel Flight at the University of Omaha. The organization is open to all CSUSB students and military. Silver Wings is dedicated to developing strong civilian leaders, engage in community service projects, promote military among members, and having a partnership with Arnold Air Society in order to understand aerospace power.

My educational journey started many years ago in the Community College of the Air Force. I joined the USAF after high school and I served for six years. I was an electronics technician attached to the 92nd Bombardment Wing based at Fairchild Air Force Base outside of Spokane, Wash. There we supported B-52 missions. I was also attached to the 728th Tactical Control Squadron, stationed at Eglin Air Base near Pensacola, Fla. Our unit there rotated every 180 days or so to Saudi Arabia supporting AWAC missions.

The Air Force experience was one of the best things that could have happened to someone from a poor and culturally isolated community in Detroit. It gave me the opportunity to see other parts of the country and meet and interact with many other different types of people that I never met growing up.

If interested in more information please contact silverwings.csusb@gmail.com.
May 25, 2016

Cal State San Bernardino

Please join the Veterans Success Center and the Student Veterans Organization in honoring our fallen service members.

Ceremony

Time: 9 a.m.
Location: John M. Pius Library Lawn
5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, Ca 92407

Memorial Day Community Service

Time: Noon - 3:15 p.m.
Location: Medal of Honor Memorial
Riverside, National Cemetery
22495 Riverside Van Buren Blvd, CA 92518

- A bus will be provided for the first 50 students, pre-registration is required. The bus will arrive at 11:30 a.m. at the main entrance on University Parkway, in front of the CSUSB flag poles.

- To RSVP for this event, please call (909) 537-5195 or email jespinoza@csusb.edu.

- For disability accommodations call (909) 537-5195 (72 hour notice required)

Graduating Student Veterans, Order Your Graduation Stole Today

Call the Veterans Success Center at (909) 537-7196 or e-mail Jaime Espinoza at jespinoza@csusb.edu to receive your free graduation stole.

Make sure to include your full name, email address, phone number, and branch of service.

The Veterans Gradation Celebration will be held on June 10, 2016 at 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
in the Obershaw Dining Room.
Dinner will be provided.

If you have a GPA of 3.0 or higher you qualify for the S.A.L.U.T.E. Honor Society. Applications are available at the VSC or contact Jaime Espinoza at (909) 537-7196 or e-mail at jespinoza@csusb.edu.
What Are Your Spring Goals?

James McGuire  
U.S. Army Reserves

For the spring quarter, I have many goals such as trying to raise my GPA and pursue new career opportunities. I have already begun trying to make connections with people who could potentially help me with career and academic opportunities. By doing so I feel confident that I will succeed in my short term as well as long term goals. I know now that by meeting new people and getting out of my comfort zone will assist me in achieving my goals. This spring quarter is giving me the chance to get more than just on track, but helping me to succeed overall.

Darlene Muñoz  
U.S. Army Reserves & AROTC Cadet

This quarter I’d like to concentrate on my academics and ROTC, and continue to excel in both of them. I was selected for the ROTC scholarship so it is good to not have to worry much about finances and concentrate entirely on building my future. I’d also like to keep getting fitter and fitter, which will keep me feeling good physically and mentally. I look forward to taking some much needed small breaks as well and want to spend quality time with my family and friends. I’m excited for a productive spring quarter and finishing the academic year strong.

Hanaa Al-Zoubi  
U.S. Air Force Officer Candidate

My name is Hanaa Al-Zoubi and I am a fourth year Health Care Management major. My goals for Spring 2016 are: to qualify for Air Force Officer Training School (OTS); achieve a 4.0 for Spring along with every quarter until Spring 2017 when I graduate; and to provide the best for the two clubs I am an officer in (Silver Wings and Eta Sigma Gamma). One goal I accomplished this quarter is running in the Los Angeles Tough Mudder and completing the 10-mile obstacle course in a timely manner.

Demetrick Heard  
U.S. Marine Corps Officer Candidate

First, I would like to congratulate myself on being selected for a class in the United States Marine Corps OCC course. It’s the ultimate privilege and honor to be chosen among thousands of applicants and I feel grateful. What I plan to do to prepare myself is to ensure I’m physically in shape for the Marine Corps’ standards. In addition, I’m also studying general knowledge compiled from my OSO and from thorough research that’ll help my preparation academically. Lastly, I’m also spending time with family and friends and working so I can keep busy till I ship in the fall.