

JBSA LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

JUNE 9, 2017



PHOTO BY SGT. SUMMER WOODE

Sgt. Drew Hesck (right), U.S. Army South, teaches a student the proper way to wear Hesck's body armor May 26 during Booker T. Washington Elementary School's Career Day.

Soldiers visit local students

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Egress team enable F-16 pilots to eject safely

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502nd LRS Airman keeps JBSA moving

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Army budget request asks for raise in Soldier pay, housing, subsistence

By C. Todd Lopez
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

If Congress approves what was asked for in the Fiscal Year 2018 defense budget request, Soldiers can expect to see a bump in their paycheck come January.

The FY18 budget request, released by the Army May 30, includes \$58.3 billion for military personal funding to support an Army of 1,018,000 Soldiers across the total force. This increase is \$2.8 billion over last year's enacted budget, and that extra money will not only pay for sustaining the additional Soldiers authorized in the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act, but will also pay for an increase in Soldier compensation.

The FY18 budget asks for a



C. TODD LOPEZ

If Congress approves what was asked for in the Fiscal Year 2018 budget request, Soldiers can expect to see a bump in their paycheck in January.

2.1 percent increase in Soldier basic pay, a 2.9 percent increase in basic allowance for housing, and a 3.4 percent increase in basic allowance for

subsistence. If enacted, those increases will go into effect Jan. 1, 2018.

Maj. Gen. Thomas A. Horlander, director of the Army

budget, provided highlights of the Army's \$137.2 billion FY18 base budget request Tuesday at the Pentagon.

"The funding levels of the recently enacted FY17 budget and this FY18 base request are consistent with the administration's goals for the U.S. Army to rebuild readiness, reverse end strength reductions and prepare for future challenges," Horlander said, adding that this year's budget request is designed to provide combatant commanders with the "best trained and ready land forces that we can generate."

A \$38.9 billion request for operation and maintenance dollars in the FY18 budget — a \$2.7 billion increase over the enacted budget last year — is

BUDGET continues on 16

Commentary: Defining pride when serving in the military

By Staff Sgt. Chip Pons
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

I am an American Airman. I am a warrior. I have answered my nation's call.

I am a wingman, a photojournalist and a husband.

I am gay.

Once, those words would never and could never have escaped my lips. I hid who I am from the world for so long and was forced to feel shame for being "different." But different is my normal, and after many years, I've learned that that is okay.

The decision to embrace who I am became a pivotal moment in my life, and equally important, in my Air Force career. Despite outward success as a high school and college athlete and projected promise as an Airman, I had long sentenced myself to a life hidden in the shadows, afraid to open myself to the possibility of true happiness.

But then I met the man who would become my husband — my forever wingman.

Alexx was everything that I couldn't be: strong, confident and secure in who he is. He is the epitome of Airmanship and,

to this day, I look to him as an example of servant leadership, undeniable loyalty and compassionate care to those he serves beside. When I met this fellow Airman, everything for me just fell into place. I no longer felt uncomfortable in my own skin, rather I felt free to be the man and Airman that I always envisioned.

My marriage is the product of the Air Force; whether or not fate exists, my husband and I would never have crossed paths if we hadn't decided to raise our right hands and enlist. Serving alongside one another has made us stronger, both individ-

ually and as a couple. It has taught us how to balance our priorities and ultimately, has redefined our concept of wingmanship.

Coming out as a gay man tested the relationships of those closest to me, yet members of my Air Force family continued their support and encouragement as if nothing had changed. The words "I'm gay" were insignificant to those around me, despite the gravity of their meaning to me. By openly accepting who I am, I felt empowered to live my life to the fullest

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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

Follow-on options available to Airmen who volunteer for extended deployment

By Kat Bailey

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Airmen, both officers and enlisted, who volunteer for an extended 365-day deployment can apply for one of two assignment options – either an advanced assignment or a two-year deferment from a permanent change of station, or PCS, if eligible.

“If an Airman signs the notification stating their intent to accept the deployment, they can provide preferences for an advanced assignment, provided they meet the time-on-station, or TOS, requirements, or apply for a return to home station with a two-year PCS deferment,” said Jeff Gatcomb, 365 Deployment policy program manager at the Air Force Personnel Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.



To qualify for an advanced assignment, Airmen must have

at least 24 months TOS as of their projected redeployment

date and have at least 36 months TOS before the PCS departure.

COURTESY GRAPHIC

Airmen are eligible for short tour credit as long as they complete at least 300 consecutive days on the extended deployment. Officers may also be eligible for joint duty assignment credit if they are working in a joint environment, Gatcomb explained.

Officers who believe their duties qualify for joint credit have a year from their return to formally apply for credit.

To volunteer for an extended deployment, enlisted Airmen should review EQUAL Plus, where positions are normally advertised for at least 10 days. Officers should contact their functional assignment team.

For more information, check on the deployment page of myP-Pers at <https://mypers.af.mil> or visit the 365-Day Extended Deployments page on the AEF Online website at <https://aef.afpc.randolph.af.mil/365.aspx>.

Air Force civilian hiring resumes after freeze lifted

By Richard Salomon

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Air Force Personnel Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph is partnering with customers with the goal of resuming normal “first-in, first-out” operations since the government-wide hiring freeze ended in early April 2017.

Based on Air Force priorities, AFPC personnel are first working all pending firm job offers where tentative offers have already been made and actions where selections have been made but no tentative job offer has been issued. They are currently working more than 12,000 requests for personnel action.

“We are continuing to work with leadership from the major and combatant commands regarding critical hires and actions already in the works at AFPC.”

Christine Armstrong, AFPC civilian sustainment and transitions programs division chief

“We are continuing to work with leadership from the major and combatant commands regarding critical hires and actions already in the works at AFPC,” said Christine Armstrong, the AFPC’s civilian sustainment and transitions programs division chief.

In addition to the lifting of the hiring freeze, an Office of Management and Budget memorandum directs each government agency to develop a re-

form plan as part of a broader effort to reform the government and reduce the size of the federal civilian workforce. As a result, Air Force leaders have been directed to scrutinize recruitment actions that are being sent to AFPC to make sure the positions accurately reflect mission needs.

To explore jobs with the Air Force civilian service, go to <http://www.afciviliancareers.com>.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Air Force Reserve recruiting military training instructors

By Staff Sgt. Heather Heiney
403RD WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Beneath the shadows of deep blue campaign hats, military training instructors march flights of Airmen down the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland bomb run during each basic military training graduation. It is the culmination of weeks spent transforming civilians into warriors.

The 433rd Training Squadron at JBSA offers Reserve Citizen Airmen the chance to experience this moment and they are currently hiring traditional reservists to fill open MTI positions.

The 433rd TRS mission is to recruit, train and maintain a cadre of MTIs who augment Air Education and Training Command. They support the 737th Training Group and seven basic training squadrons in preparing approximately 37,000 enlisted trainees each year for

“This job is really going to be what you make if it.”

**Master Sgt. Carlos Recoder, 433rd Training Squadron
MTI recruiting noncommissioned officer in charge**

military service. The 433rd TRS is unique to Air Force Reserve Command as it is the only unit of reserve MTIs.

Master Sgt. Carlos Recoder, 433rd TRS MTI recruiting noncommissioned officer in charge, recently visited the 403rd Wing to spread the word about MTI opportunities and visit with the wing's development and training flight to give them advice about what to expect during BMT.

“It's a challenging job and every day is different,” he said. “Every day you're adapting.”

Recoder also said the job is intensely rewarding because at

the end of the day, the trainees became Airmen because of the work that MTI put in.

“This job is really going to be what you make if it,” he said. “It's the way you look at life and challenges and why you put on the uniform.”

In a letter to potential MTIs, 433rd TRS Commander Lt. Col. Janette Thode wrote, “Our Reserve MTIs are every bit as extraordinary as the active duty MTIs and the MTI you remember from your days in BMT. Each MTI, active duty and Reserve, is hand-picked for this special duty assignment; an assignment that is likely to be

the most rewarding you've ever done in the Air Force. MTIs are crucial in shaping the future combat capability of our Air Force.”

Interested applicants must have the following job qualifications:

- ▶ Be a staff sergeant promotable to technical sergeant with one year time in grade or a technical sergeant or master sergeant at least four years from his or her high year tenure.
- ▶ Have a skill level commensurate with his or her pay grade
- ▶ Have 42 months of retainability as of their report no later than date
- ▶ Meet the minimum physical profile
- ▶ Project an outstanding professional military image
- ▶ Have excellent records with overall ratings of 5 or exceeds some, but not all expectations/exceeds most, if not all expectations (New Form) on the last

three enlisted performance reports. Applicants must submit their last three EPRs or a Letter of Evaluation (Air Force Form 77) from supervisors in lieu of EPRs.

- ▶ Have no record of disciplinary action or financial irresponsibility in their Air Force career
- ▶ Have a current physical training composite score 80 or better in the past 12 months and no PT failures in the past 12 months

Candidates who are selected for MTI duty will then attend a seven-and-a-half week course and have 90 days after graduation to complete the training qualifications and certification before they begin to lead their own flights of trainees.

Members interested in applying for MTI duty should request an application from the 433rd TRS recruiting team at 433trs.recruiting@us.af.mil or 210-671-2410.

SAFETY FIRST

Cell phones are stealing your sleep

By 1st Lt. Jason Kilgore
REGIONAL HEALTH COMMAND
PACIFIC

Sleep is a vital part of one's health; however, something that is used in everyday life is stealing minutes, even hours of sleep without the user's knowledge.

Mobile smart phones are commonly the last thing that most people use right before going to sleep.

There are simple nuances that app designers use to intentionally keep people awake.

"The average adult should be getting seven to nine hours of sleep a night," said Integrated Behavioral Health Consultant and Staff Psychologist, Dr. Darryl Salvador, Patient Centered Medical Home/Family Medicine Clinic, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. "If someone was to get less than five hours of sleep for 5 days or more, they will have a blood alcohol content level of 0.08 percent, which is the same as being legally drunk."

If someone gets less than four hours of sleep, it increases to 0.10, which creates a concern for safety.

With the month of June designated as National Safety Month, individuals have the opportunity to recommit themselves to becoming more cognizant of their own safety and the safety of those around them.

According to AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety's Report on crash risk and lack of sleep from December 2016:

- 37 percent of drivers report having fallen asleep behind the wheel at some point in their lives
- 11 percent report having fallen asleep behind the wheel in the past year. Drowsiness was involved in one in five fatal crashes
- Drowsy drivers are involved in an estimated 21 percent of fatal crashes, up from 16.5 percent in 2010
- After getting only 5-6 hours of sleep, crash risk increased by

"If someone was to get less than five hours of sleep for 5 days or more, they will have a blood alcohol content level of 0.08 percent, which is the same as being legally drunk."

Dr. Darryl Salvador

1.9 times compared to getting normal sleep of 7-9 hours.

In light of these statistics, the importance of sleep can't be overstated.

During sleep, both the body and brain are undergoing repair, establishing new connections between synapses, and removing plaque buildup, which has been implicated in the development of dementia and memory loss difficulties.

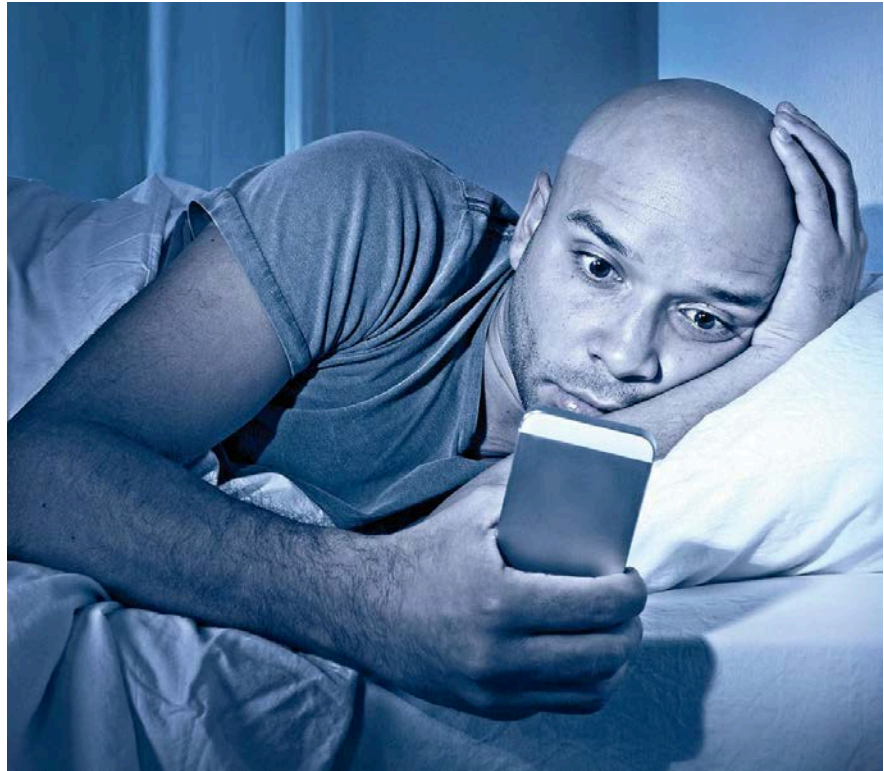
It is also storing all the events and information into memory.

The less sleep one gets, the less the brain is capable of repairing itself completely.

A major commonality that has been observed in those who complain about poor sleep is that they use their phone before bed.

"We are unknowingly allowing phones to affect our sleep. Along with stimulation from games or face book posts, our phones produce a wavelength that has the ability to keep us awake; some app designers use this to their advantage."

According to Salvador, there is a reason as to why some of the most popular social media sites use generous amounts of blue in their apps and logos. "Blue light is stimulating to the eyes and when combined with the stim-



COURTESY PHOTO

A major commonality that has been observed in those who complain about poor sleep is that they use their cell phone before bed. Scientific data also shows that the blue light from smart phones inhibits the release of melatonin, disrupting normal sleep cycles.

ulation from what one is reading or playing, it makes it very hard to fall asleep," stated Salvador.

Scientific data also shows that the blue light from smart phones inhibits the release of melatonin, disrupting normal cycles.

For example, throughout the day, a person's melatonin levels naturally increase, which causes individuals to become tired by night fall.

As sleep ensues, melatonin levels eventually decrease.

By using a phone before bed, the blue light emitted tricks the brain into thinking that it's still daylight and time to be awake.

Here are a few things that can

help create a good sleeping pattern:

- » Create a consistent sleep schedule. Go to sleep at the same time every night and wake up at the same time every morning
- » Don't consume any caffeinated products six hours before bed
- » Make sure that the room is quiet, dark and cool
- » Stay away from, or turn off all electronics at least 30 minutes before bed
- » Establish a wind down routine to calm your mind and transition to sleep.
- » Use the bed only for intimacy and sleeping
- » Disable all notifications until it's time to wake up

» Place the phone on the opposite side of the room

Patients are also encouraged to speak with their medical provider, who can assess health factors further and assist in ordering a consult for a sleep study as needed.

There are multiple ways to get assistance in getting better sleep. There is an app called "CBT-I coach." This app assists with tracking sleep and providing suggestions to increase the quality and duration of sleep.

There are plenty of factors that can affect performance and health, don't let sleep be one of them.

FORT SAM HOUSTON

AMEDDC&S Soldier hits marathon pinnacle

By Martha Waldman
AMEDDC&S

In spring 2011, Sgt. 1st Class Evelyn Pollard was bound and determined to run one mile without stopping to rest. In her wildest dreams, the focused Warrior Transition Unit squad leader at Fort Irwin, California, could not have imagined within a few short years, she would be among the prestigious Six Star Finishers of the Abbott World Marathon Majors.

Pollard serves as the executive assistant to the U.S. Army Medical Department Center & School Command Sergeant Major at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

That fateful spring, the recent company run had been less than a mile long. Yet Pollard, just off an eight-week maternity leave, could not quite make it to the end without taking a breather. Exhausted and frustrated, she promised herself, "Never again."

She had just been listening to her friend and coworker talk about training for the upcoming Army Ten-Miler. Her friend seemed to have a perpetual smile on her face, always in a good mood. Was it a runner's high, she wondered?

This combination of events turned out to be the perfect storm for Pollard. From that day forward, she ran every day, starting with just one mile a day, increasing her distance a little every week. A few months later, she and her friend smiled at each other as they crossed paths during the Army Ten-Miler. She was on a roll.

But life can come with curveballs. Pollard's first sergeant had been talking about running in the New York City Marathon. Having grown up in New York City, this particular race had a special appeal to Pollard. So she entered her name into the lottery system that determined who would participate and to her surprise and delight, she was selected.

Now stationed at the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks in Pennsylvania, Pollard trained faithfully for 15 weeks, preparing for the New York City



Sgt. 1st Class Evelyn Pollard at the Abbott World Marathon Majors was a Six Star Finisher in April.

Marathon. But Mother Nature had other ideas as the 2012 New York Marathon was canceled in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

Disappointed, but undeterred, she accepted the offer to run the following year instead.

In the meantime, she was anything but idle. She had decided back at Fort Irwin that if she could run the Army Ten-Miler, why not a 13.1-mile half-marathon. Besides, what better way to celebrate her 28th birthday weekend than on the Vegas strip with her beloved grandmother and mentor?

After succeeding in finishing the Las Vegas Rock and Roll Half Marathon without even training, she reasoned, "If 13.1, why not a full 26.2 at the San Diego Rock and Roll Marathon?"

She loved San Diego, having visited several times to take her Warrior Transition Unit Soldiers to appointments. "See, there was no need to train," she reassured herself as she breezed through the first 18 miles. After all, the number nine was her lucky number, so it would only follow that all multiples

of nine would be just as lucky.

But as she approached 20 miles, something fell apart. Maybe it was lactic acid that was making her legs feel like bricks. Maybe it was the fact that she was starving and picking up the scent of each and every hot dog and hamburger barbecuing in that San Diego park and beach. Maybe her luck had run out after the 18th mile.

She was just about ready to give up the ghost, when as luck would have it, a good-hearted guardian angel on the sidelines jumped to her rescue and talked her through her setback. She made it to the finish line, and once more, said to herself, "Never again." The next day, Pollard began marathon training in earnest.

Next on the agenda was the 17th Boston Marathon in 2013. For this race, participants could get in by raising money for a Boston charity. In honor of her multi-talented family members and passion for the arts, she chose to do volunteer work with the Boston Arts Academy, the city's first and only high school for the performing arts.

Naturally, the call for the interview came in while she was at range. But she ran out to a car with her cell phone and sailed through the interview process.

On Friday, April 12, 2013, her mother, husband, and 2-year-old son escorted her to Boston, while her father, babysitting her 5- and 6-year-old sons, watched the coverage on TV from New York.

On the Monday morning of the race, Pollard texted her family and told them to meet her at the 18th mile marker before heading up to the bleachers with their 2 p.m. passes. After her proud mom excitedly ran out onto the court to give her a big hug, then was quickly ushered off by officials, the family headed for the train that would take them to the bleachers.

About the time the train was stopped, the runners at mile 25 were stopped as well, but they had no idea why. Someone said a pipe had been broken. All phone lines were disconnected, and it was some time before the

worried family members were able to reach each other.

They only found out about the bombings and their close calls when they stopped at a restaurant for dinner and found everyone gathered around the television. Thirty days later, she found a medal hanging on her front door, along with an invitation to return the following year.

Around this time, Pollard learned about the Abbott World Marathon Majors, a series consisting of the largest and most renowned marathons in the world: Tokyo, Boston, London, Berlin, Chicago and New York City.

Determined to be a Six Star Finisher, Pollard trained for the remaining marathons, often starting her day at 3 a.m. in order to run, conduct physical training with her Soldiers, and work far into the night. She flew to Tokyo with a goal of 3 hours, 45 minutes and ran a 3:36, qualifying her for Chicago.

In order to qualify for London, she volunteered with Back on My Feet, a national organization dedicated to helping the homeless by restoring confidence, strength and self-esteem as well as offering practical training and resources.

On April 23, Pollard, accompanied by her husband, achieved her goal of becoming a Six Star Finisher, completing her sixth of the Abbott series, the Virgin Money London Marathon.

Of course, there are the obvious queries to a gifted, successful young athlete: What is your secret? What are your rituals? Do you wear lucky socks? What do you teach your Soldiers and protégés? What is your mantra?

In response, and without a moment's hesitation, Pollard chanted, "Strong mind, strong breath, strong heart, strong legs. They are all connected. When your mind is strong, you are able to control your breathing, which controls your heart, which will help to keep your legs moving."

Pollard will be moving up to ultramarathons, the first being the 55th Annual JFK 50 Mile in Washington County, Maryland, in November.

Army South partners with local elementary school

By Sgt. Summer Woode
U.S. ARMY SOUTH
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldiers from U.S. Army South at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston answered questions from students and demonstrated the use of Army equipment at Booker T. Washington Elementary School May 26 during the school's career day.

The school and AR-SOUTH are partnered through the Adopt-a-School program. Units

from JBSA-Fort Sam Houston are partnered with schools in the Northeast Independent School District, the San Antonio Independent School District and the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District.

Throughout the year, Soldiers partner with their designated school and provide mentorship to students as well as assist with career days, field trips and other activities.



PHOTOS BY SGT. SUMMER WOODE

From left: Sgt. 1st Class Nena Toomey, Command Sgt. Maj. Jon Williams and Lt. Col. Ryan Levesque from U.S. Army South present the Citizenship Award to student Maria Ross May 31 at Booker T. Washington Elementary School.



Spc. David Bryant (left) and Staff Sgt. Ashley Moore (right), Soldiers from U.S. Army South, answer questions from students at Booker T. Washington Elementary School May 26 during the school's career day.

BAMC receives vote of confidence from Joint Commission on surgical services

From BAMC Public Affairs

Brooke Army Medical Center earned a vote of confidence after a two-day Joint Commission survey aimed at assisting BAMC in improving its surgical support services.

At the exit briefing May 25, the surveyor commended the surgical and sterile processing teams for actions taken and noted several potential "best practices," with regards to the recently implemented changes, that the Joint Commission would like to review and poten-

tially share on a national level. BAMC remains dedicated to safe quality care and diligently focuses on a goal of zero defects.

"We have made progress but we still have work to do to return to normal operations and to continue our patient care and training readiness commitment to our military and San Antonio" said Brig. Gen. Jeff Johnson, BAMC commander.

"We did exceptionally well," said Air Force Col. Kimberly Pietszak, deputy to the commander for quality and safety.

"The surveyor was impressed with our stringent quality control process and our staff's dedication and competence."

The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. BAMC received a Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval for accreditation in 2015. This three-year accreditation award recognizes BAMC's dedication to continuous compliance with the Joint Commission's standards for health care quality and safety.

"We always remain in close contact with the Joint Commission and welcomed this no-notice survey of our surgical support processes," Pietszak said. "This is an opportunity for us to learn and grow."

"Not all civilian hospitals are accredited so it sets a standard for the DoD that we are transparent and we care about the quality and safety of the care we provide enough that we welcome consultants to come into this organization and tell us how we're doing," she added.

BAMC leaders continue to

take a number of steps to ensure high quality surgical care for patients. An initial step in mid-April was to temporarily reduce the number of elective surgical procedures while leaders actively evaluated staffing, equipment, space and processes to ensure the facility is ready to meet the surgical demand. Several military and civilian experts from outside the organization, to include two teams from the Army Medical Command, came in to help identify improvements on all aspects of surgical care.

USAISR researchers ensure blood supply is Zika-free

By Dr. Steven Galvan
USAISR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Researchers at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, or USAISR, at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston recently initiated a study to ensure that all blood collected at Department of Defense blood collection facilities is free from the Zika virus and are continuing to test all blood donations for the foreseeable future.

Testing for the Zika virus in donor blood began in the fall of 2016 after the Zika outbreak in Puerto Rico prompted officials from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to shut down blood collection on the island and mandated that all FDA-regulated blood collection centers in the U.S. test for Zika.

Participation in the testing for the 20 DOD collection centers around the world from Guam to Germany was mandatory and failure to comply



DR. STEVEN GALVAN

Researchers at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research recently initiated a study to ensure that all blood collected at Department of Defense blood collection facilities is free from the Zika virus.

meant that all facilities would be shut down.

According to Lt. Col. (Dr.) Andre Cap, USAISR chief of blood research, the first of the 20 facilities began testing in September 2016 and all were compliant by January 2107 in accordance with FDA's mandated schedule for testing imple-

mentation.

"We are essentially running a 20-site clinical trial," Cap said. "It was a difficult task, but it was an urgent matter to keep the facilities from getting shut down."

Shutting down DOD blood collection facilities would mean a shortage of blood to troops

deployed to austere locations and those supporting overseas contingency operations.

"The urgency of this study was to keep the facilities open," Cap added. "We coordinated this effort with the three services and the Armed Services Blood Program and we got all blood donors tested for Zika to make sure that the DOD's blood supply that goes downrange is Zika-free."

Chriselda Fedyk, USAISR blood research trial coordinator, worked with Roche Molecular Diagnostics, the developer of the blood testing process, the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Institutional Review Board, and the service blood programs to launch the study.

The trial was implemented in three phases according to Zika transmission risk: the first phase was for blood collection facilities in the southern U.S., to include Guam and Hawaii, then

the facilities in the central U.S., and the final phase in the northern portion of the country.

Testing for Zika will continue until the FDA approves a license for a testing protocol. The protocol used for testing DOD blood supplies was one of two granted by the FDA under an investigational new drug, or IND, application. The data collected from the USAISR study will go toward the licensing process for the IND. Once the license is granted, the testing protocol will end and Zika testing will become a routine part of blood safety evaluation.

"The good news is that we've had very few positive donors and we've been able to comply with the FDA mandate. Retesting the positive blood has come back negative in subsequent tests," Cap said. "It will be interesting to see what happens this year because we are getting close to the mosquito season."

UTSA students to intern with 470th MIB

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 470th Military Intelligence Brigade at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston has selected four students from the University of Texas at San Antonio to participate in a pilot internship program this summer.

The students who will be participating in the internship program are from the UTSA computer science department and will be working within the Open Source Intelligence section of the 470th MIB in day-to-day operations and software development.

Each student will work with a mentor at the brigade during the summer and will earn six college credit hours once the internship is completed. In addition, the students will be

able to list the internship on their résumés.

"This is the first time an initiative like this has been undertaken by an U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command unit," said Jim Price, 470th MIB director of counter-intelligence and human intelligence operations and internship project officer.

On May 24, Col. James Royce, 470th MIB commander, and Dr. C. Mauli Agrawal, UTSA interim provost and vice president for academic affairs, signed the agreement for the pilot program at UTSA.

Royce said the internship program will allow the brigade to tap into the knowledge and skill sets offered by the students, particularly in the areas of cyber technology and computer science.

"I think we will see at the end of the summer," Royce

said, "that what the students are able to bring into our current real world missions that we do in support of troops deployed around the world is going to improve our capability to understand and provide information for decisions for commanders and other policy makers that we're currently supporting. They'll see how their skill sets get operationalized into intelligence operations through the military for national security strategy, national military strategy objectives and in our case, primarily in the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility."

Agrawal said the pilot program will give students job experience in the field of cyber security and better prepare them for when they enter the workforce.

"We always look to connect our students with real life expe-

riences as much as possible," Agrawal said. "We are excited about that opportunity for our students and they will bring some skill sets to the military. They will bring new initiatives and new ways of doing things that perhaps others that have been in the field for a long time are not doing anymore. The more we can engage with real life practitioners, like the military and the private sector, the better it is for our students and for the employers."

The pilot program is part of UTSA's commitment to support the military in any way it can, said Agrawal.

"We are always eager to work with the military," he said. "Out of our 29,000 students, 4,000 are military-affiliated, whether they are veterans, active-duty or military family. It is a very large component of our family here. The

more we do with the military the better it is for us."

Royce said he is hoping the internship program can be offered during every term at UTSA and that it will be expanded to include students from other fields and disciplines at the college.

Price said the selection process for the internship program started in January when a panel of 470th MIB members, chaired by Lt. Col. Will Riley, 470th MIB deputy commander, interviewed eight students from the UTSA computer science department who applied for the program. Based on those interviews, the panel selected the four students.

All of the students who were interviewed were screened by the UTSA computer science department to make sure they met all the requirements set forth by the brigade.

U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Outpatient Clinic provides vital care

By Dr. Steven Galvan
USAISR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston recently received reverification status by the American Burn Association and the American College of Surgeons for its commitment to providing quality burn care to military and civilian patients.

A critical component of the verification process for a burn center is operating and maintaining an outpatient burn clinic. Even though the USAISR Burn Center has been operational since the 1940s, it wasn't until the late 1990s that the Outpatient Burn Clinic was established.

The first outpatient burn clinic was created in 1996 when Brooke Army Medical Center opened in its current location. The 40-bed burn center has 16 burn intensive care unit and 24 progressive care unit beds.

As the only burn center in the region, the USAISR Burn Center cares for patients with all sizes of burns. Prior to 1996, patients requiring extensive burn care were admitted to the PCU, and those who did not require hospitalization were discharged with follow up elsewhere.

Beginning in 1996, a small number of patients were treated in a triage room outside of the BICU. With an increase in patients requiring clinical evaluation and care, then, Maj. (Dr.) Leopoldo Cancio, chief of the Clinical Division, established a permanent burn clinic. He was assisted by Dr. Christopher Lentz, Shari French, Carolina Lopez (registered nurses), Michael Shiels, Reuben Salinas and Sgt. Karliss Kimbrough (licensed vocational nurses).

"Before we opened the outpatient clinic, burn patients were either admitted to the



DR. STEVEN GALVAN

Col. (Dr.) Booker King places the latest American Burn Association and the American College of Surgeons reverification certificate next to previous certificates at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center.

Burn Intensive Care Unit or the Progressive Care Unit, it all depended on the severity of the burn," said Kimbrough, Burn Outreach and Burn Residency/GME Program Coordinator.

"There wasn't a clinic for minor burns or outpatient care before the Burn Outpatient Clinic was established."

The clinic was moved from the BICU into a larger location at the PCU, but that move was short-lived due to infection control issues of treating in- and outpatients in the same area. The burn clinic was then moved from the PCU to the second floor of BAMC where patients were seen on Tuesdays during a four-hour timeslot.

"By 2006, the clinic had moved to the fifth floor of BAMC alongside the pain management clinic," said Wanda Segroves, burn clinic head nurse.

The staff consisted of two physician assistants, Peter Yen and Michael Chambers; Wanda Segroves (RN), Karliss Kimbrough, Juan Soltero, Gracie Turner (LVNs), Anna Rodri-

quez (medical clerk), and Sgt. 1st Class Harrison Jules, noncommissioned officer in charge.

"In conjunction with burn care, patients also received physical and occupational therapy as well as burn plastic reconstruction," Segroves added.

The following year, the clinic was relocated to the seventh floor where services were expanded to include acupuncture therapy and burn research support. The burn clinic also incorporated video conferencing that allowed physicians to coordinate care with doctors at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland as well as with University of California Los Angeles for Operation Mend.

With the utilization of video teleconferencing, the burn clinic staff treated more than 4,000 patients that year. In 2008, the clinic staff integrated telephone consultations and treated more than 6,000 patients which required the clinic to expand.

The burn clinic was moved again in 2010 to a temporary facility in the BAMC parking lot

due to the construction of the Consolidated Towers.

"This location outside the main hospital building came with many challenges," said Segroves, who became the head nurse in 2009. "The distance from BAMC limited physician support and made it difficult for patients to be re-admitted."

In 2012, the Outpatient Burn Clinic moved to its permanent location at BAMC's fourth floor of the Consolidated Tower which had four large treatment rooms and an expansion of services that included Pulse Dye laser therapy for the management of hypertrophic burn scars. The staff consisted of the director, two physician assistants, the head nurse, one triage RN, four LVNs, a uniform billing officer, a medical clerk and the NCOIC.

"This enabled us to include procedures like tissue expansion, staple and suture removal, acupuncture and laser therapy, soft tissue debridement, Recell application (spray-on skin), and negative pressure wound therapy," said Bethany Martinez,

"Before we opened the outpatient clinic, burn patients were either admitted to the Burn Intensive Care Unit or the Progressive Care Unit. There wasn't a clinic for minor burns or outpatient care before the Burn Outpatient Clinic was established."

Sgt. Karliss Kimbrough, Burn Outreach and Burn Residency/GME Program Coordinator

burn outpatient clinic RN.

With the staff and capabilities, the number of procedures performed at the clinic more than quadrupled from 2013-2016. In 2016, the clinic increased the treatment rooms to six and added CO2 laser for complex hypertrophic scarring. The staff also increased with the addition of a social worker as well as working closely with the Burn Post Anesthesia Care Unit to facilitate patients pre-operatively.

Today, the Burn Outpatient Clinic sees patients Monday through Friday and is an integral part of the Burn Center and treats more than 3,000 patients every year, providing the world-renowned care for which the Burn Center is recognized.

(Dr. Leopoldo Cancio, Karliss Kimbrough, Reuben Salinas, Michael Shiels, Wanda Segroves, Bethany Martinez, and Frank Moran also contributed to this story.)

IMCOM leaders pledge to enable employees

By R. Slade Walters

U.S. ARMY IMCOM
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A U.S. Army-wide campaign launched May 31 during a town hall meeting at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, hosted by Lt. Gen. Kenneth R. Dahl, commander of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

Officially known as the IMCOM Service Culture Initiative, the campaign represents the command's long-term commitment to providing the best possible customer service to Soldiers, families and communities.

The campaign is based on the premise that excellence in customer service is a result of how



R. SLADE WALTERS

Lt. Gen. Kenneth R. Dahl, commander of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, signs the IMCOM Leadership Pledge May 31 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

an organization treats its employees. If employees have engaged and caring leaders, feel valued and respected for the work they do, are properly trained and live the Army values, they will, in turn, pass on this positive attitude to their cus-

tomers and co-workers.

"This will take the combined effort and commitment of every IMCOM professional to be successful," Dahl said.

Underscoring the importance of the campaign and acknowledging that

IMCOM touches every Soldier and family every day, Dahl waited until he could personally address the workforce and emphasize his commitment to the campaign by unveiling it personally and publicly.

At the town hall, Dahl, along with other senior IMCOM leaders, signed the first "Leadership Pledge" surrounded by his headquarters workforce.

The pledge serves as a visible reminder to leaders that all employees deserve respect and the basic tools needed to be successful, including proper on-boarding, performance standards, training opportunities, recognition programs, empowerment and a commitment to hold one

another accountable.

"The Pledge and the principles defined signify a return to the basics — Leadership 101. The pledge serves as a reminder of the importance of these ideals and a reaffirmation that we, as leaders, have a responsibility to ensure you are successful," Dahl said.

The campaign relies on actions related to four basic focus areas to reach that goal: team member sense of belonging to their organization, leader engagement, on-boarding, and team member recognition.

"We want to establish a culture where members of the IMCOM team take pride in the organization, fully understand and live by our organiza-

tional values, feel valued and respected, and are led by engaged and caring leaders," said Matt Margotta, Program Manager for the Service Culture Initiative.

Dahl told his senior leadership while the campaign was being developed to "drive on with the things you are already doing that are working."

"We're not trying to tell you to do anything new," Dahl explained. "Follow the most basic leadership principals, and we'll reach our desired end state: an organization filled with enabled and enthusiastic employees supported by involved leaders, providing the best possible service to our Army and our nation."

Recent JBSA-Fort Sam Houston courts-martials, punishments

From the U.S. Army North Staff Judge Advocate Office

The U.S. Army North Staff Judge Advocate Office at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston completed two courts-martial recently. The results of a court-martial are not final until the clemency and/or appeals process is completed.

Cruelty and maltreatment: An Army staff sergeant was convicted by a court-martial panel of one specification of cruelty and maltreatment. The accused was sentenced to reduction to sergeant (E-5), forfeiture of \$300 for three months, restriction for 45 days and hard labor without confinement for 30 days.

False official statements and wearing unauthorized insignia, decoration, badge, ribbon, device or lapel button: An Army master sergeant (E-8) was accused of six specifications of false official state-

ments and two specifications of wearing unauthorized insignia, decorations, badges, ribbons, devices or lapel buttons. Pursuant to Army Regulation 635-200, a Chapter 10 separation was approved in lieu of court-martial. The accused was subsequently reduced to the grade of private (E-1) and received an "Other Than Honorable" discharge.

After sentencing, members can request clemency. In some cases, this can change the outcome of their case and/or sentence.

Army commanders also administered several nonjudicial punishment actions under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The punishments imposed reflect the commander's determination of an appropriate punishment after considering the circumstances of the offense and the offender's record. Officers may not be reduced in rank as a punish-

ment. A suspended punishment does not take effect unless the offender engages in additional misconduct or fails to satisfy the conditions of the suspension. The suspension period usually lasts six months unless a lesser amount is specified.

Administrative discharge may also be an option for commanders after the conclusion of an Article 15, depending on the circumstances. The following are some of the nonjudicial punishment actions that closed out in April. Decisions regarding discharge are not included.

Wrongful use of a controlled substance: An Army private (E-2) tested positive on a urinalysis for the use of cocaine. The Soldier received a reduction in grade to E-1, forfeiture of \$799 suspended, extra duty for 45 days, restriction for 30 days and an oral reprimand.

Drunken or reckless operation of vehicle, aircraft



COURTESY GRAPHIC

or vessel: An Army private (E-2) physically controlled a passenger vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration level exceeding 0.08. The Soldier received a reduction in grade to E-1, forfeiture of \$799 for 2 months suspended, extra duty for 45 days, restriction for 45 days and an oral reprimand.

Failure to obey order or regulation: An Army staff sergeant (E-6) violated a lawful general regulation by engaging in a prohibited relationship

with initial entry trainees. The staff sergeant received a reduction in grade to sergeant (E-5), forfeiture of \$1,616 for two months suspended, extra duty for 30 days and a written letter of reprimand.

Failure to obey order or regulation: An Army private (E-1) violated a lawful general regulation by engaging in a prohibited relationship with a staff sergeant. The private

CRIME continues on 12

FORT SAM HOUSTON BRIEFS

Key Spouse Training

Date/Time: June 10, 9 a.m. To 3 p.m.
Location: Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797
This training is mandatory for all newly appointed key spouses who have not been trained at another installation and highly recommended for key spouse mentors. To register, call 210-221-2705.

FRG Command Team

Date/Time: June 13, 9-11 a.m.
Location: M&FRC, building 2797
FRG Command Team training provides guidance to commanders and 1st sergeants in identifying their roles and responsibilities of the command team at all levels and the execution of the Family Readiness mission. To register, call 210-221-2418.

Savings and Investing

Date/Time: June 13, 2-3 p.m.
Location: M&FRC, building 2797
Identify strategies to help reach investment goals and review different types of saving

options. Learn about the risks and rewards of investing. To register, call 210-221-2705.

Resume Writing

Date/Time: June 14, 9-11 a.m.
Location: M&FRC, building 2797
Attendees will learn about the different resume formats and which one to use when writing a non-federal resume. Get tips on how to effectively write summary statements, employment history and more. To register, call 210-221-2418.

Research Forum

Date/Time: June 16, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: UTSA Main Campus, 1 UTSA Circle
The third annual San Antonio Military Health System and Universities Research Forum, or SURF, will showcase the latest research discoveries of trainees, faculty, staff and students from health-related disciplines. The keynote speaker is John B. Holcomb, MD, FACS. The event is free with lunch and parking provided. To register, visit research.utsa.edu/surf.

CRIME

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received forfeiture of \$799 suspended, extra duty for 15 days and an oral reprimand.

Failure to obey order or regulation: An Army specialist (E-4), without authority, failed to go at the time prescribed to an appointed place of duty on three separate occasions. The Specialist received a reduction in grade to private first class (E-3), forfeiture of \$496, extra duty for 14 days and restriction suspended.

Insubordinate conduct and drunken or reckless operation of vehicle, aircraft or vessel: An Army staff sergeant (E-6) disobeyed a lawful order from a noncommissioned officer. The Soldier also controlled a vehicle while intoxicated. The

staff sergeant received a reduction in grade to sergeant (E-5), forfeiture of \$1,616 per month for two months and extra duty for 45 days suspended.

Adultery: An Army sergeant (E-5) wrongfully had sexual intercourse with a married person who was not that person's spouse. The sergeant received a reduction in grade to specialist (E-4).

Drunken or reckless operation of vehicle, aircraft or vessel, assault and discrediting conduct: An Army specialist operated a passenger car in a reckless manner, causing injury to a law enforcement officer. The Soldier also failed to follow directions from civilian law enforcement. The specialist received a reduction in grade to E-1 and forfeiture of \$783 for two months suspended.

LACKLAND

Egress team enables F-16 pilots to eject safely

By Jeremy Gerlach

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

To disembark a stationary F-16 Fighting Falcon, a pilot needs a sturdy ladder.

To get out of one that's spiraling out of control at 10,000 feet — and live to tell about it — that pilot needs the help of Airmen like Senior Master Sgt. Aaron Hartzler, 149th Fighter Wing air crew flight equipment superintendent.

Hartzler manages the 149th FW egress team at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, a team of Airmen that keeps the egress, or ejector, systems on the wing's fleet of F-16s in top condition. "This is life and limb," Hartzler said.

"If we don't maintain our pilots' gear properly, it will kill them when they eject."

Hartzler's egress team works with both active duty and the Air National Guard F-16 pilots in training, maintain-



JEREMY GERLACH

Master Sgt. Tracy Potts (left), 149th Fighter Wing NCO in charge of air crew flight equipment, instructs two F-16 Fighting Falcon pilots on a mock fighter jet's emergency egress system.

ing each pilot's helmet, mask, and parachute harness anti-G Force suit, among other items. The egress team also trains pilots for any possible ejection scenario.

Since the F-16 is a single engine aircraft with no gliding capability, these

egress scenarios could end up being a pilot's only option of surviving an engine malfunction or other mid-air problem. The time it takes to "punch" — as pilots informally refer to the ejection sequence — varies based on the pilot's

height and weight. Smaller pilots can get out faster, Hartzler said, while taller and heavier pilots take longer to correctly strap in and situate their gear for the jump.

"At most, we'd like to have our guys out of there in 12 to 15 seconds," he noted. "But I've seen guys take 30 seconds and still get out."

The ejection process typically plays out as follows:

A pilot in trouble calls mayday and relays his location so rescue crews can extract him once on the ground. The pilot then ensures the straps connecting him to his seat are oriented correctly. After a final check that his gear is ready for the jump, he pulls a small handle between his knees. As the cockpit window detaches to make room for the pilot, an array of rockets fire under his seat, boosting him hundreds of feet out

EGRESS continues on 15

New 25th Air Force commander takes reins of ISR

By Lori A. Bultman

25TH AIR FORCE

Maj. Gen. Mary F. O'Brien took command of 25th Air Force May 31 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Maj. Gen. Bradford "B.J." Shwedo relinquished command during the ceremony, presided over by Gen. Mike Holmes, Commander of Air Combat Command.

"It's truly a great honor to take command of 25th Air Force today," O'Brien said. "I want to thank General Holmes for placing his trust and confidence in me. Sir, I look forward to serving under your command and partnering with my fellow NAF (Numbered Air Force) commanders to achieve new challenges that you set out for us."

O'Brien is not new to the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance enterprise.

"Even though I've never been sta-



LORI A. BULTMAN

Maj. Gen. Mary F. O'Brien (right) takes command of 25th Air Force from Gen. Mike Holmes, Commander of Air Combat Command, May 31 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

tioned here at the Headquarters, this is my fifth time serving with the men and women of 25th Air Force. Over the past 15 years, I've had the opportunity to witness firsthand your incredible accomplishments," O'Brien said.

"I am very well aware that I'm standing on the shoulders of giants by following my former commanders ... Under

their combined leadership, I've dedicated the majority of my career to providing ISR to our joint warfighters in all domains and also taking care of the Airmen, and their families, who perform these critical missions around the world every day," she said.

O'Brien is ready to tackle the job ahead.

"I pledge to continue the work of the servant leaders who came before me and accept their offers of continued mentorship," O'Brien said.

O'Brien thanked her family for their dedication.

"None of this would even be possible without the love and support of my family," she said.

O'Brien is a 1989 graduate of the Air Force Academy, and prior to this assignment, she was director of intelligence, U.S. Cyber Command, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. In this position, she served as the principal intelligence ad-

viser to the commander of U.S. Cyber Command.

She served in a variety of intelligence command and staff assignments. Her commands include the 22nd Intelligence Squadron, Fort Meade, Maryland; 691st Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group, Royal Air Force Menwith Hill, United Kingdom; and 70th ISR Wing. She also served in staff positions on the Joint Staff, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force Legislative Liaison, Headquarters U.S. Air Force and Air Force Space Command.

O'Brien previously deployed to Afghanistan as the Deputy Director of Intelligence where she led United States, NATO, and International Security Assistance Force ISR operations, human intelligence, counter-intelligence and intelligence support requirements within the Operation Enduring Freedom Combined Joint Operations Area-Afghanistan.

JBSA-Lackland officer gets promoted downrange

From 502nd Air Base Wing
Public Affairs

Being deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, didn't mean a Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland financial officer couldn't get a ceremony when he pinned on the rank of captain.

Capt. Andrew Calloway, financial services flight commander for the 502nd Comptroller Squadron, pinned on his captain's bars far from home May 29 while deployed to the 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Group as the group's executive officer.

Calloway provides support for more than 550 F-16 maintainers at the 455th EMG who work 12- to 14-hour shifts around the clock, ensuring the effective application of airpower across the area of responsibility.



COURTESY PHOTO

Capt. Andrew Calloway (right), 502nd Comptroller Squadron financial services flight commander, pinned on his captain's bars far from home May 29 while deployed to the 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Group at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan.

LACKLAND BRIEFS

Rifle competition

Date: June 12
Location: Medina Firing Range, JBSA-Lackland Training Annex
This rifle EEIC match is open to any military member who is in uniform and has their military identification card. There are 300 slots open, so entry is first come, first serve. To sign up, send an email with name, rank, government email address, cell phone number, base and unit to 37trss.rangecontrol2@us.af.mil by June 12.

Car Seats 101

Date/Time: June 13, 9-11 a.m.
Location: Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, 9th floor, classroom C&D
Attendees will learn about the safety of child

car seats, if it fits the car and child, and more. After completing the class, eligible (E-5 and below) participants will receive a certificate for a free car seat.

Employment workshop

Date/Time: June 14 & July 19, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Military & Family Readiness Center, building 1249
Attendees will review the federal employment process, resume writing techniques, interviewing skills, and how to dress for success. For more information, call 210-671-3722.

Technology Expo

Date/Time: June 14, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Location: Gateway club
This free event is for Department of Defense and contract personnel and features multiple

exhibitors in technology-related career fields. For more information, call 660-624-0869.

Caregiver support group

Date/Time: June 16 & July 21, 9-11 a.m.
Location: 7206, Carswell Ave.
Caregivers can build a support network, share experiences and information. For more details, call 210-292-5989.

Home buyer's seminar

Date/Time: June 20, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Location: Pyramid Chapel, building 1528
You are invited to a Home Buyer's Seminar at JBSA-Lackland. Find out the secrets of being a "smart shopper." Find out about special loan programs for the first-time buyer. Please RSVP: at 210-375-5149 or 210-375-5148.

Career technical training

Date/Time: July 17-18, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: M&FRC, building 1249
Participants will learn about civilian careers that require a license or certificate, identify schools and accredited institutions, financial aid, VA benefits, apprenticeships and more. For more information, call 210-671-3722.

Parent, educator survey

The Joint Base San Antonio School Liaison Offices are asking for feedback through a short survey for parents and educators of school-age children, ages 4-18. The survey will be used to better serve the JBSA community and help local school districts, private/parochial schools and homeschool programs. The survey will be available through June 2 at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CVYW2ZK>.

Key Spouses have significant impact on Airmen, families

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Hyatt

70TH ISRW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

(Editor's note: Some last names are omitted for security reasons)

During times of need, Key Spouses can provide support and guidance to Airmen and their families. Just recently, two service members from the 544th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group, Detachment 5, Chantilly, Va., found out just how important Key Spouses can be.

The two youngest members of Detachment 5 recently suffered deaths in their families. During those families' time of need, one of their unit's Key Spouses, Maureen, provided them with

communication support via phone, computer and text messaging. She also helped deliver food to the families and provided the spouses with transportation to hospital appointments.

Maureen, wife of Master Sgt. Jeffrey, 544th ISRG, Detachment 5, appreciates what military families do for each other and has been a Key Spouse since January 2017.

"I did what military spouses do for each other," she said. "People outside the military don't realize the number of hours that military families spend serving others selflessly, with little recognition."

At the same time she was assisting these two families, she

was also leading the development of a "welcome package" for new arrivals to the detachment, which included solutions to the challenges families might face with new schools and establishing medical care for both the Airmen and their dependents.

In early March 2017, Maureen, a New York-native, organized the efforts of detachment families, Airmen and colleagues to provide six weeks of a kind of 'meals-on-wheels' for the family of a detachment Airman who underwent a critical neurosurgery, said Maj. Hallie Herrera, 544th ISRG, Det. 5 commander.

Maureen's contributions as a Key Spouse have allowed the

544th ISRG, Det. 5, commander to focus on command and mission needs.

"Maureen's efforts have truly supported both the needs of the detachment, and me, as the commander," said Herrera. "As far as making a difference for the Air Force, I see her contributions as critical for the resiliency of my Airmen's families, so that they can focus on their own resilience and our missions."

Another effort Maureen is passionate about is "Heart on a Mission." Through that program, she has learned that families and spouses can serve together and support each other, while also maintaining their own individual identities.

"We are not just military spouses — we are teachers, nurses, mothers and executives," Maureen said.

Through the Key Spouses and Heart on a Mission, Maureen strives to help military spouses fulfill their essential "need to belong" so they can better support the readiness and resilience of their service member.

"I am continually in awe of the grit I see in military families," Maureen said. "I really want to share my experiences with other spouses to help ease their transition. We (spouses) sometimes feel as though we are on an island, or we are hesitant to ask for help. I want us to feel connected."

EGRESS

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into the sky. In less than a second, the pilot has blasted out of his cockpit, and depending on the elevation, the entire seat enters free fall. Finally, the pilot separates from his seat, opens his parachute canopy and descends to the ground.

Even if these egress mechanics run perfectly, the biggest variable of the egress sequence can be the pilot himself. Pilots run the risk of breaking their back and neck if they aren't seated correctly during ejection, Hartzler said.

"You ever stuck your face out the window of a moving car, maybe going 40 mph?" Hartzler asked. "Imagine being shoved out of your cockpit going ten times faster than that. If you aren't seated 'at attention' with your body loose, back straight, lined up properly, that force will snap your body."

Lt. Col. Louis Davenport, 182nd Fighter Squadron assistant flight commander, can attest to this experience firsthand. Davenport known around the wing by his call sign, "Doc," has the most recent egress experience in his

squadron.

During a training mission at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Houston, in 2009, Davenport was flying alongside five other F-16s on a simulated bombing mission. Holding in a racetrack pattern at 15,000 feet and headed eastward, the group began dropping to 1,000 feet to deliver payload to a target location in Louisiana.

Everything was going routinely until part of Davenport's cockpit exploded.

"There was this loud pop, then a deafening silence, then all the warning lights and sirens came on," Davenport recalled. "One of the other pilots saw a fire on my jet that was so big, he thought my afterburners were turned on."

After exhausting every other option to save the plane, Davenport pulled the plane up to 4,000 feet, slowed down to about 200 MPH, and punched out.

"Once you pull that handle, everything happens so quickly that you can't appreciate it on a conscious level," Davenport said. "The first thing you feel after leaving the cockpit is just this incredible force. It presses down on your chest, but you have just enough time to think 'man, this is uncomfortable'

and then it's over. That's how fast it hits you."

Still in shock, Davenport made sure his parachute canopy had opened cleanly when he came across a strange sight.

"I was able to see my aircraft without me inside, shooting fire out the back of it, spiraling down toward the ground," Davenport said. "It took about 12 seconds to crash and turn into this huge fireball. It left a crater in the ground."

Without the work of egress crews, Davenport might have been part of that crater.

"These guys are unsung heroes," Davenport said. "You don't really think about their equipment working until it works when your life is on the line."

Master Sgt. Tracy Potts, 149th FW air crew flight equipment NCOIC, helps pilots like Davenport stay prepared for a possible ejection.

Potts, who runs a daily egress class at 149th FW headquarters, covers all emergency egress procedures for the F-16, from strapping in to punching out.

"These pilots are training for this all the time," Potts said. "They're going through all these procedures every single day so all we're doing is re-

freshing muscle memory."

Potts' class takes place in a small, high-walled room with whiteboards and flight equipment neatly hung on the walls. The room's centerpiece — a life-size, exact replica of an F-16 cockpit — provides many of Potts' trainees with their only non-live chance to get a hands-on feel for the ejection procedure before they actually take to the skies.

"For some of our flyers who've never been in an F-16 before, they can be excited or scared," Potts said. "That can mean being single-minded, where guys are just thinking about how fun it's going to be to fly. But what we're reinforcing is that flying comes with risks. Most pilots who eject survive, but some don't. For those who might be in those tougher situations, we want to give them a fighting chance."

While Hartzler has overseen countless safe ejections, the "tougher situations" stick with him the most.

"In the Air Force, you need to be meticulous with the small details," he said. "With our job, a helmet and mask that aren't maintained properly could lead to a pilot going hypoxic in the aircraft. That means he might suffocate before he even gets a

chance to eject. Little things like that might not be an immediate problem, but they will set off a chain of events that leads to a catastrophic failure."

For Hartzler, the egress job might be full of small parts and pieces, but it has a huge impact on the 149th FW.

"I see these guys leave every day," Hartzler said. "All I care about is seeing them come back, give you a high-five, and have them say, 'let's fly again tomorrow.'"

With Airmen like Hartzler, Potts and the rest of the 149th FW egress team working non-stop to give pilots a safe landing in the event of an emergency, it's much easier for Davenport to climb back into his cockpit each week.

"I would be lying if I wasn't nervous the first time I flew after I ejected," said Davenport, who took to the skies just 12 days after that crash in Louisiana. "But now, climbing up the ladder, those nerves are all gone."

"If anything," he added, "the fact that the egress system worked that day has actually been a positive thing. It hits home for me that the work these (egress) crews do saved my life, and could save my life again."

BUDGET

From page 2

designed to “resource a more balanced readiness across the force,” Horlander said.

That includes funding for 19 combat training center rotations for both the regular Army and the National Guard, as well as funding for increased home station training that will focus on both decisive action and counter-insurgency operations.

That O&M budget for the regular Army also provides funding for equipment sustainment, with an increase in depot maintenance “to help bring our equipment to a greater level of repair, and by enhancing Army prepositioned stocks that will improve global responsive capabilities,” Horlander said.

The recent release of the “Strategic Portfolio Analysis and Review,” or SPAR, spelled out the top Army priorities in modernization. From that review, the Army has documented to top-level areas on which to focus limited modernization dollars. Chief among those areas are air and missile defense, long-range fires and filling a munitions shortfall.

All three of those priorities are adequately addressed in the FY18 budget proposal, where \$26.8 billion has been requested for procurement, as well as research, development, testing and evaluation, or RDT&E.

In that RDA budget, procurement dollars requested actually decreased from last year, while the requested amount for research has increased, Horlander said, “to enable the Army to retain our advantage

“It represents a balance between the size of the force, current readiness requirements, and the necessary investment in modernization to ensure our Army remains the premier ground force of the future, capable of protecting the national security interests of our country.”

Maj. Gen. Thomas A. Horlander, director of the Army budget

against advanced adversaries and to address a broader range of potential threats.”

Within the procurement dollars, he said, air and missile defense, as well as long-range fires, represent “the most urgent and pressing capability needs. Given the possibility of confronting a force with substantial anti-access and area-denial capabilities, the Army needs to advance its short-range air defense and long-range fires capabilities.”

In keeping with that priority, he said, the FY18 budget funds procurement and installation of 131 Patriot Missile modification kits, as well as investment in Avenger surface-to-air missile system support.

For long-range fires, Horlander explained that the FY18 budget supports a 10-year service life extension of 121 currently expired Army Tactical Missile Systems, pro-

curement of 6,000 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems, and continued enhancement for 93 Patriot Missile systems with the Missile Segment Enhancement program, which increases altitude and range of the rockets.

As part of the Strategic Portfolio Analysis and Review, the Army identified a munitions shortfall as one of the top three priorities it hopes to address. Horlander said the FY18 budget request “will help ensure the availability of critical munitions for the combatant commands.”

Inside that request, he said, the Army asks for funding to buy 88,000 unguided Hydra 70 rockets, as well as 480 M982 Excalibur guided bombs for war reserve inventory replenishment. The budget also asks for funding to support modernization of the Army’s ammunition industrial facilities, including a multi-year effort to improve the Holston Army Ammunition Plant in Tennessee.

On the ground, the Army aims to improve mobility, lethality, and protection for its brigade combat teams. The FY18 budget request supports combat vehicle modernization for the Abrams, Stryker, Bradley and Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle, as well as the Howitzer fleet. Horlander said the Army plans to procure 42 of the AMPV systems within the FY18 budget request, as well as purchase active protection systems for Abrams tanks within Europe-based BCTs.

Aviation, which makes up the largest portion of the FY18 procurement request at about \$4.2 billion, asks for funding for 50 remanufactured AH-64 Apache aircraft, 13 new Apaches, as well

as funding for 48 UH-60M Black Hawk aircraft and six CH-47 Chinooks.

The \$9.4 billion in RDT&E funding, he said, aims to “put technologically advanced equipment and more lethal weaponry in the hands of Soldiers sooner,” Horlander said.

Focus in that portion is on continued development of air and missile defense, long-range precision fires, and weapons and munitions technologies, he explained. The Army is planning on investing in the Stinger Product Improvement Program as well as the Patriot Product Improvement Program.

The Army is “investing RDT&E funds to increase range, volume of fire, and precision and guidance of our cannon and missile systems and to further enable precision fires in a GPS-denied environment,” he said.

Operations in GPS-denied environments are also a priority, Horlander stated, as RDT&E has a focus on development of assured position navigation timing – which will allow for navigation even if adversaries deny use of GPS systems.

Overall, the Army’s FY18 budget request, supports a “vast complexity of requirements needed to restore and rebuild America’s Army for today’s and tomorrow’s missions,” Horlander explained. “It represents a balance between the size of the force, current readiness requirements, and the necessary investment in modernization to ensure our Army remains the premier ground force of the future, capable of protecting the national security interests of our country.”

RANDOLPH

502nd LRS Airman keeps JBSA moving

From 502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Airman Ethan McFarland, 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron logistics planner, is a wing deployment coordinator for Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Randolph.

As a deployment coordinator, he deploys personnel and cargo to places all around the world.

"LRS moves JBSA; we do everything. If someone or something needs to get somewhere, we get it there," said McFarland, who is a native of Santa Clarita, California.

His office has handled 119 taskings for deployments from Jan. 1, 2017, until the present.

McFarland's primary job is to be a liaison between the installation deployment readiness center and the unit deployment managers.

The IDRC is a focal point for all deployment execution operations and the UDM is the main organizer who ensures the deployer is successful down-



COURTESY PHOTO

Airman Ethan McFarland, 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron logistics planner, is a wing deployment coordinator for Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Randolph.

range.

"I speak with the deployer's UDM and we figure out what

kind of training is necessary, such as self-aid buddy care or Combat Arms Training and

Maintenance," he said.

Once deployers return from deployment, they again see McFarland to receive the reintegration checklist.

"It is always good to see deployers come back safely," said McFarland. "Most times when people come back from deployment, they are happy to see their families and are just simply glad to be back."

Another facet of McFarland's job is to assist the Army with passenger and cargo movements at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, JBSA-Lackland's Kelly Field Annex and JBSA-Camp Bullis.

"He has played a vital role in the deployment control center's last two Army movements where he worked with vehicle operations to ensure cargo and personnel movements went according to schedule," said Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Lawrence, 502nd LRS NCO in charge of plans and integration.

About three weeks ago, McFarland took part in his second Army movement.

"We had an exercise where we had to ship out another Army unit," said McFarland. "We went down to JBSA-Camp Bullis at 6:30 a.m. and made sure they were good to go."

McFarland said he enjoys being a part of the Army movements.

"I find that assisting with these movements is fun. You see new things. You see the bigger picture of everything, and I think that is very fascinating," he continued.

He was also surprised with the opportunity to work side-by-side with the Army.

"I wasn't expecting to work with the Army," McFarland said. "I thought it was just going to be all Air Force personnel. Right off the bat I was told the joint environment is very different. There are many other factors you have to deal with at a joint base. There's not just one base, there are three to partner with. So far I have really enjoyed it. I love the joint base

AIRMAN continues on 18

British Soccer Camp returns to Youth Programs' summer schedule

By Robert Goetz
502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Challenger Sports' British Soccer Camp will return to Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph for the fourth year as one of Youth Programs' specialty camps this summer.

Registration is underway for all six weeklong specialty camps, which will begin with the Cheer/Hip Hop Camp from July 10-14 and conclude with the Missoula, Montana, Children's

Theatre Camp from Aug. 14-19. "There's a space limit for all our camps, but we also have a waiting list in case someone withdraws from one of the camps," said Andrea Black, JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs director of programs.

Austin-based Challenger Sports' British Soccer Camp, which is offered during the summer throughout the United States and Canada, features an international coaching staff. Coaches at last year's camp at JBSA-Randolph came from

England and Ireland.

"The coaches will help kids work on their passing, dribbling, shooting and other skills," Black said. "Not only will the kids develop their skills, they'll also build their confidence while having a lot of fun."

The soccer camp is one of Youth Programs' most popular camps, she said.

"The kids love it," Black said. "The coaches also give them role models to look up to."

Open to students ages 6-16,

the camp will run from 8:30-11:30 a.m. July 31-Aug. 4. Participants will receive a ball and a shirt.

The other camps are Cheer/Hip Hop for ages 5-16, 1-3 p.m. July 10-14; Camp Eureka Science Camp for ages 6-12, 1:30-4:30 p.m. July 18-21; Grossology Science Camp for ages 6-12, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Aug. 1-4; Art Camp for ages 9-12, 1-4 p.m. Aug. 7-11; and the Missoula Children's Theatre Camp for ages 5-18, Aug. 14-19.

The science camps are pre-

sented by the Mad Science Group, which offers hands-on science experiences for children around the world.

The summer camps provide educational opportunities and social interaction, Black said.

"The students are learning new skills and making friends instead of staying at home," she said.

To register for the specialty camps, come by Youth Programs, building 585. For more information about the camps and camp fees, call 652-2088.

Beyond the gates: serving those who serve

By Ashley Palacios
502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of national and international police departments attended resiliency training May 24-26 led by the Airman Leadership School cadre at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

The training, attended by graduates of the FBI National Academy and representatives of the Texas Department of Public Safety, is the same resiliency training active duty, guard, reserve and civilian Air Force members receive annually.

Senior Master Sgt. John Chacon, JBSA-Lackland ALS commandant, says he and the ALS cadre welcomed this opportunity to partner with the FBINA and Texas DPS to teach prevention.

"This collaboration shows how important resiliency is in any career field and now we get to take the Air Force model outside the gates and serve those who serve," Chacon said. "We're helping others to build a resilient mindset so they're ready when the tough times come."

Lt. Melvin Allick, Texas Department of Public Safety Recruiting Service and member of the FBI National Academy Associates' Officers Safety and



STAFF SGT. MARISSA GARNER

Senior Master Sgt. John Chacon, Airman Leadership School commandant, instructs graduates of the FBI National Academy and representatives of the Texas Department of Public Safety in resiliency training May 24 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Wellness committee, is a former Air Force pararescue Airman who medically retired as a staff sergeant in 2006. He, along with his Texas DPS colleague Lacy Wolff, also a member of the OSW committee, are responsible for initiating this partnership with the Air Force.

Allick stated that research indicates the law enforcement community leads the nation in divorce, substance abuse and suicide. And the FBINAA and Texas DPS are working toward the goal of preventing, not reacting to, these statistics.

"Typically in the law enforcement community, we don't talk about these things, but I'm unlocking the door for others,"

Allick continued. "It's my way of living the pararescue motto 'so that others may live.'"

Echoing the Air Force's holistic approach of including families in resilience training, the attendees plan to host their own regional training sessions open to families.

"We're all in this fight together," Allick said.

Wolff believes it's because the Air Force is leading the way in fusing mental health and physical fitness that makes its resiliency model the best fit to accomplish their goal of prevention.

"The military always seems to be a few steps ahead of the law enforcement community

and they certainly were in regards to resiliency," Wolff said. "The Air Force's model of resiliency is easy to replicate, simple and, yet, very practical."

Retired Col. Randy Richert was instrumental in developing the Air Force's Comprehensive Airman Fitness model in 2010 and those in his unit were among the first master resiliency trainers. Today, Richert serves on the OSW committee to enrich the lives of police officers and their families.

"We want to help the law enforcement community understand the components of stress, how to handle stress and then destigmatize the stress they face," said Richert. "If you allow the stigma to continue, people will shy away from seeking help. We want to make sure people understand stress is normal and not a sign of weakness. If you hurt your leg, we put you in a cast and change your duties until you're healed, but if you have a mental health issue, you could be fired and stigmatized."

Chacon agreed on the need for more emphasis on mental safety, not just physical safety.

"Airmen and law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day," said Chacon. "They give us body armor, and resiliency is that armor for our minds."

AIRMAN

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concept."

McFarland's supervisor said he is a great asset to the Air

Force.

"Airman McFarland is doing great things in and out of the work center," said Lawrence.

McFarland finds motivation and inspiration to keep putting his best foot forward by reflecting

back to his family and how he was raised.

"My family has always supported me and had my back, and they continually tell me to always do my best," said McFarland.

However, his source of motivation does not stop there.

"My supervisors also are a source of motivation," said McFarland. "They are always preaching, do your best. I do not want to let them down."

RANDOLPH BRIEFS

Stress & Time Management

Date/Time: June 9, noon-2 p.m.
Location: Health Promotions
Open to those who want to learn time management techniques. To register, call 210-652-2448.

Bundles for Babies

Date/Time: June 9, 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Location: Military & Family Readiness Center, building 693
Active duty expecting parents assigned to JBSA-Randolph are encouraged to attend. Information is provided on financial planning, support programs offered within the community, and parenting skills. To register, call 210-652-5321.

Transition Goals, Plans, Success

Date/Time: June 12-16, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Location: M&FRC, building 693
This is a mandatory 5-day workshop for all service members separating from the military and is facilitated by the Department of Labor, Veterans Administration and M&FRC. Prerequisite: Pre-Separation Counseling. To register, call 210-652-5321.

Key Spouse refresher

Date/Time: June 13, 9-10 a.m.
Location: M&FRC, building 693
Open to Key Spouses and Key Spouse Mentors who have completed the mandatory initial training course at their previous location and would like a review of the program and local resources. To register, call 210-652-5321.

Children of Divorce

Date/Time: Every Tuesday, 1-3 p.m.
Location: Health Promotions
This course meets Texas court mandated requirements.

Master emotions

Date/Time: Every Tuesday, 11 a.m. - noon
Location: Health Promotions
Attendees learn to cope with anger in healthy and productive ways. To register, call 210-652-2448.

COMMENTARY

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for the first time.

A friend and colleague of mine once said, and I couldn't agree more with her words, "Who I love is so essential to why I serve and so irrelevant to how I serve. There are a lot of great reasons to join the military, but ultimately, we join for the people we love and the country we love."

I share this quote as a

reminder that we, as members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, have loved ones we have vowed to protect just like our fellow Airmen. We have fears and insecurities, hopes and dreams just like they do. We are a community that thrives upon inclusivity and openness. And while I am a gay man, I am proud to say that I identify first and foremost as an Airman.

June's LGBT Pride

month celebrations are relatively new to us as an Air Force, but the importance of its message should resonate with every Airman.

To me, Pride goes far beyond sexual orientation or identification — it speaks to the resilience and inclusiveness of our force. It is about self-acceptance and living your life as authentically as you can, because as Airmen, we are charged with embodying excellence in all we do. We are

charged with living a life of integrity first. In order to do that, we must be open to being our truest selves and brave enough to share our once perceived vulnerabilities with the world. Most importantly, we are charged with courageously putting the service of others before ourselves.

Like all Airmen, I have faced my share of obstacles, both personally and professionally. I have met those along the way who were less than supportive

of the military opening up to the LGBT community; however, with the addition of new diversity and inclusion policies, the Air Force is now more accepting than it ever has been for my husband and me. While it could have been easy for us to live with fear and insecurities, being part of something bigger than ourselves is such a monumental realization. It is an honor to put on the same uniform worn by the strongest and bravest individuals in our

country, and I do so every day with appreciation for their sacrifice and commitment to excellence, integrity and service.

As a member of a married, dual-military, gay couple, I can speak for both my husband and myself when I say I am proud to serve my country alongside the great men and women of the Air Force who have allowed and emboldened us to do so in the only way we know how — with pride.