



TALESPINNER

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TEXAS • Vol. 71 No. 15 • April 18, 2014



Fiesta royalty visits BMT graduates



Photos by Josh Rodriguez

San Antonio's Fiesta royalty visited Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland and took part in the graduation parade for basic military trainees April 11. (From left to right, top photo) Fiesta President Jack Hebbon, King Antonio XCII De Miller and El Rey Feo LXVI Jimmy Green observed the parade and were each presented with the 37th Training Wing's Fiesta medal in a ceremony conducted by Col. Mark Camerer, 37th TRW commander. The Texas Cavaliers (bottom left) and other Fiesta royalty also attended the graduation.

Military consumer complaints resolved in timely fashion

By E. Stephanie Hebert

Legal Assistance Attorney, 502nd Installation Support Group, Judge Advocate

Before the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau was founded in 2010, consumers and military members had no federal agency for support when it came to consumer finance issues.

With the establishment of the CFPB, consumers and military members have an avenue to file complaints on financial issues. If a service member, veteran, their family member or a consumer believes they have been treated unfairly or unlawfully about consumer credit by a credit card company, bank, credit union, mortgage company, credit bureau, payday lender, title lender or debt collector, the CFPB can provide support.

The CFPB is the only federal agency that dedicates its operations solely to consumer finance issues. Fortunately for the military community, the Office of Service Member Affairs was created within the CFPB to better educate military consumers, monitor their complaints and ensure the complaints are addressed in a timely fashion.

Since it began accepting complaints in

2011, the OSA has received more than 14,000 complaints from military consumers. The complaint process has resulted in more than \$1 million being returned to military consumers.

Holly Petraeus, OSA assistant director and wife of retired Army Gen. David Petraeus, said "those who serve, or have served, our country should not have to worry about falling victim to unfair, deceptive or abusive financial practices" when she issued her second complaint report that was published last month.

The report can be found at http://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201403_cfpb_snapshot-report_complaints-received-service-members.pdf.

Here's how the CFPB complaint process works:

Once a complaint is made regarding an abusive, unlawful or deceptive financial service or product, the CFPB/OSA forwards the complaint to the alleged offender for review and response. Any response received by the CFPB is shared with the service member and the service member may reply and supplement his claim as needed.

By acting as the middle man, the OSA is able to monitor military complaints as well

as gather data about unlawful business practices directed at the military community. At any time during the complaint process, the service member may discuss the status of the complaint with OSA personnel.

If the claim has merit but cannot be resolved, the OSA may initiate its own investigation and use its enforcement authority to ensure that the complaint is settled on behalf of the service member. It may also refer a complaint to a more appropriate federal agency if need be.

If considering filing a consumer complaint through the CFPB, visit their website at <http://www.consumerfinance.gov/complaint> or call 855-411-2372 to educate yourself about the federal laws that protect your consumer and military rights. Complaints can be filed online, via telephone, fax or mail.

To discuss the validity of a potential complaint with one of our attorneys prior to filing a complaint with the CFPB, stop by the 502nd ISG/JA Legal Assistance Office in building 2484, room 134, to visit with an attorney during our walk-in hours (8:30-9:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday), or call 671-3362 to schedule an appointment with an attorney.

Military sexual assault victims can have their own attorney

By Navy Lt. Candice Albright

Navy Victims' Legal Counsel

The month of April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, not just within the United States military, but nationwide.

A lesser-known fact is we, as a nation, just wrapped up the National Crime Victims' Rights Week from April 6-12. It promotes awareness of victims' rights at the national level. Just as state and federal victims of crimes have rights, so do victims of crime in the military.

The rights of military crime victims are derived from multiple authorities, and most recently, some of those rights were codified in the Uniform Code of Military Justice under the new Article 6b. In addition to the

newly codified UCMJ rights for crime victims, Congress also mandated the military to establish the Special Victims' Counsel for the purpose of providing legal assistance to eligible sexual assault victims.

But, this service is not entirely new. The U.S. Air Force first established their SVC program just more than a year ago, and the other branches of the military quickly followed suit.

As of today, every branch of the military service has established a special victims' counsel program, which is also known as Victims' Legal Counsel in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps.

By providing legal advice, representation and – as appropriate – advocacy for eligible sexual assault victims, the military SVCs

compliment the care and support already provided to sexual assault victims by the military services' Sexual Assault Prevention and Response programs, or Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention program, as it is known in the Army. In some cases, SVCs also assist eligible victims receiving services from the military services' Family Advocacy Programs.

Under new Section 1044e of Title 10 of the United States Code, the relationship between a military SVC and an eligible victim is an attorney-client relationship.

A military SVC can help an eligible sexual assault victim understand the military justice process, understand his or her rights

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Lackland
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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 502nd Air Base Wing. All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are U.S. Air Force photos.

Deadline for story submissions is noon Wednesday the week prior to publication.

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News in Brief

Compiled by Mike Joseph, JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

FRIDAY

502ND FSG AWARDS CEREMONY

The 502nd Force Support Group first quarter awards ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. Friday at the Arnold Hall Community Center.

For Airmen who require transportation from a current duty location, call 671-9158 or 671-2045.

BAH RECERTIFICATION BRIEFING

A mass briefing for Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Airmen on the service-wide basic allowance for housing entitlements recertification process is from 8 a.m. to noon Friday at Mitchell Hall, building 2300.

The Air Force recently started the recertification process mandating that every Airman provide their servicing finance office with documentation for all dependents by Dec. 31.

The recertification is part of Air Force audit readiness for 2015 as required by the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act. The one-time process allows the Air Force to validate the \$5.4 billion spent annually on BAH entitlements and also ensures the money spent on BAH is fully auditable.

For information, call 652-1851 or email finance.callcenter@us.af.mil. The finance office at JBSA-Lackland is located in building 5616, Suite 1; on JBSA-Randolph, the finance office is in building 399, Suite 2; and on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, the finance office is in building 4196.

The finance offices are open to walk-in customers Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointments are not required.

APRIL 25

WAR DOG MEMORIAL DEDICATION

An informal dedication for the Nemo War Dog Heroes Memorial is at 1 p.m. April 25 at the U. S. Air Force Security Forces Museum. The museum is located at the corner of Carswell Avenue and Femoyer Street on the basic training side of JBSA-Lackland.

Completed in late 2005 at the then 37th Security Forces Squadron kennel compound, the Nemo War Dog Heroes Memorial was moved to outside the Security Forces Museum last summer.

The move was facilitated by the projected relocation of the 802nd Security Forces Squadron MWD kennels to the Medina Training Annex.

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT

JBSA Public Health Flight provides preemptive measures to fight mosquito-borne disease

By Tech Sgt. Carrie Powell
NCOIC, Community Health
and Master Sgt. Michael Warren
NCOIC, Public Health Flight
and Maj. William Lujan
Public Health Flight Commander

Every year during the peak mosquito season of April through October, Public Health receives routine complaints about mosquitoes disturbing housing residents across Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Although we had no significant issues with West Nile Virus during last year's mosquito season, WNV was a major issue in Texas during July/August 2012 and affected many areas throughout JBSA. Remaining vigilant and proactive in reducing mosquito populations should be on the front of everyone's mind to help ensure WNV

is not an issue once more.

Mosquitoes only fly a short distance from their breeding sites to feed, so identifying these sites and eliminating them is vital to controlling mosquito populations in your area. A small amount of water (even a thimble full) containing any organic matter is all that's required for the female mosquitoes to lay eggs and reproduce.

Chemical methods for mosquito control, such as fogging, are only considered when mosquito populations are unmanageable through the "environment friendly" methods stated above and when an actual threat of disease transmission exists. PH is currently working to detect any large number mosquito populations, as well as any mosquito-borne diseases present in mosquitoes trapped throughout JBSA. Base residents should realize

that fogging is not very effective (only 16 percent per Armed Forces Pest Management Board) and provides only a short-term solution, which is also quite costly in manpower and chemical expenses.

Once again, to control mosquitoes, we need your help. Inspect outdoor yard areas and eliminate potential breeding sites. Do not allow water to stagnate in old tires, flowerpots, trash containers, swimming pools, birdbaths, pet bowls, etc...

This is the safest and most effective means of mosquito control. If you have any questions or desire more information, please feel free to contact your Pest Management experts at 652-4299 or JBSA-Randolph Public Health office at 652-1876 or JBSA-Lackland Public Health office at 671-9621.

Eradicate mosquitoes

What can you do to help reduce mosquito populations in your area?

- Remove all potential breeding sources
- Change out stagnant water in pet bowls and birdbaths at least every 3-4 days
- Remove, dump residue water from items in your yards or drill drain holes in anything you have in your yard that may hold water, i.e., kid's backyard play toys
- Dump residue water from flowerpot overflow dishes every 3-4 days
- Check trees for holes that could hold water. Fill holes with tree sealant or sand
- Clean roof gutters routinely and ensure they are hung properly to drain roof water well away for your home to avoid pooling, which stops breeding sites
- When watering lawns or gardens, don't use excessive amounts of water that can result in areas of pooling
- Adjust conservatively your water control valves/timers to eliminate water puddles and lush growth of vegetation

What is West Nile Virus infection?

"West Nile Virus" is a flavivirus commonly found in Africa, West Asia, and the Middle East. It is closely related to



Mosquitoes only fly a short distance from their breeding sites to feed, so identifying these sites and eliminating them is vital to controlling mosquito populations in your area.

St. Louis encephalitis virus found in the United States. WNV is spread by mosquitoes that, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, are more prevalent during the summer and into the fall. WNV has been found throughout Texas and much of the continental United States each year since 2002.

How do people get infected with WNV?

People get WNV from the bite of infected mosquitoes. Most mosquito bites occur during the dusk and dawn hours. A mosquito is infected by biting a bird that carries the virus. WNV is not spread by person-to-person contact, or directly from birds to humans.

What are the symptoms of WNV?

Symptoms generally occur 3-15 days

following the bite from an infected mosquito. Nearly 80 percent of patients bitten by WNV-infected mosquitoes will have no symptoms. 20 percent of patients may develop flu-like symptoms, ranging from a slight fever, headache, rash, and swollen glands to the rapid onset of severe headache, high fever, stiff neck, disorientation, muscle weakness, coma and in rare instances, death. About one percent may develop more severe symptoms of meningitis, encephalitis or paralysis.

Can animals be infected with WNV?

Yes. However, the only domestic animals that appear to be harmfully affected by WNV are equines, such as horses. Wild birds can also develop severe symptoms and die.

How can you reduce your chances of being bitten/potentially infected with WNV?

- Stay indoors when mosquitoes are most active. This is normally at dusk and at dawn.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants whenever you are outdoors.
- Use insect repellent products with no more than 35 percent DEET for adults and less than 10 percent for children.
- If you leave your house windows open, make sure they have screens.

Iddins takes command of 59th Medical Wing

By Staff Sgt. Chelsea Browning
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Bart Iddins took charge of the 59th Medical Wing during a change of command ceremony April 10 at the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center.

Iddins replaces a retiring Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Byron Hepburn, who led the 59th MDW through its integration with Army medical services as part of the new San Antonio Military Health System.

Gen. Robin Rand, commander of the Air Education and Training Command, presided over the event, which took place near the medical facility's main entrance.

"It's always a pleasure to be among these 6,000 professionals who are such a tremendous asset to our Air Force and to our nation," Rand said. "Few Airmen have served with more distinction than those from the 59th Medical Wing."

As commander, Iddins is responsible for the Air Force's largest medical wing, composed of seven groups with

a staff of more than 6,000 military, civilian, and contract employees. Iddins will also serve as deputy market manager of the San Antonio Military Health System, an integrated U.S. Air Force and Army medical team dedicated to serving the nearly 240,000 beneficiaries at the nine medical treatment facilities in the San Antonio metropolitan area.

"To the 240,000 beneficiaries served by this military health system - your mission is our mission, your hardship is our hardship," Iddins said. "We will always be there for you. Not simply to meet your expectations, but to exceed them."

Iddins is no stranger to Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland; he was assigned to what was then Wilford Hall Medical Center for a transitional internship from June 1991 to July 1992. He returned in July 1997 as a dermatology resident, then again in September 2006 as the 59 MDW's vice commander.

A chief flight surgeon with more than 1,250 flight hours, Iddins comes



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Iinuma

Gen. Robin Rand (left) commander of Air Education and Training Command, presents the unit guidon to Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Bart Iddins, center, as Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Byron Hepburn looks on during the 59th Medical Wing's change of command ceremony April 10 at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center.

to San Antonio following an assignment as the Command Surgeon, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill. As AMC's senior medical officer, he was responsible for es-

tablishing, coordinating and sustaining a health care system for 429,000 beneficiaries; and for organizing, training and equipping AMC medical forces for contingency operations.

Alamo wing command chief retires after 32 years of service

By Capt. Philip Cortez
433rd Airlift Wing

The 433rd Airlift Wing Command Chief Master Sgt. Emil Garza celebrated more than 30 years of service during his retirement ceremony April 5 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Brig. Gen. Kenneth Lewis, Deputy Director for Partnership Strategy on the Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., presided over the ceremony.

“Chief Garza worked hard day in and day out for the Airmen of the 433rd,” Lewis said. “His positive impact on thousands of Airman as a mentor and role model will never be forgotten.”

Garza began his military career as a Security Forces Airman (active-duty) June 13, 1978. He later served in various technical and supervisory roles within the security forces career field. He has been mobilized three times during his career to include a tour of duty to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 2002.

“I am truly grateful for having the privilege to be a mentor to many airmen throughout my service in the Air Force,” said Garza. “I’m going out with a strong sense that the Airmen in our Wing are stronger and ready for any situation in the world.”

Garza was joined at the ceremony by his wife Velma, his three children and numerous friends and the family.

“I am also looking forward to spending more time



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Patterson

Air Force Brig. Gen. Kenneth Lewis, Jr., Deputy Director for Partnership Strategy on the Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., presents the Certificate of Retirement to Command Chief Master Sgt. Emil Garza during a retirement ceremony April 5 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Garza retired from the Air Force Reserve after more than 30 years of service.

with my family and traveling the world with my wife Velma,” stated Garza. “I was able to see many places, such as Europe, in the world through the Air Force, and I want my wife to go with me to those places now.”

Although Garza is retiring from the Reserve, he doesn’t plan to slow down. The next steps for Garza will include an increase in responsibility in his civilian career with the Texas Department of Criminal

Justice. He is seeking to become a warden in the TDCJ system and hopes to do so soon. He currently serves as an assistant regional director for TDCJ-Region 4, which is responsible for 17 units and more than 25,000 offenders.

“I’m not intending on slowing down in terms of my civilian career, and my goals will hopefully be fulfilled in the near future,” he said.

One of Garza’s proudest achievements is the mentorship role he has provided to hundreds of Airmen throughout his career. He listed three points of advice for new and current Airmen in today’s force and hopes all Airmen become mentors at one time in their career.

“I would say it is important for an Airman to stay focused on the demands, requirements and possibilities in their careers,” stated the former command chief. “It is also important that an Airman uses all of the rapidly evolving technology to strengthen their knowledge base and also keep a positive attitude each day of their lives.”

Garza stated the one trait he observed each day while at the 433rd AW was that each member and unit delivered and took on obstacles and overcame them regularly. He is proud to call them members of his extended family.

“Thank you for the love and support that I have received from each member of the 433rd,” Garza said. “It’s been a great ride.”

AETC award winner says it's not about him

By Leslie Finstein
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

There may only be one name on the award but when asked, Air Education and Training Command's Airfield Operations Officer of the Year will say that it's really about everyone else.

"I just sat behind the desk; these people did all the work," said Capt. Ryan Nichols, formerly the airfield operations flight commander for the 502nd Operations Support Squadron on Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland's Kelly Field Annex.

Nichols now serves as the executive officer for Col. William Eger, 502nd Installation Support Group commander.

Nichols says his award is for Airmen like Senior Airman Joseph Shafner and Staff Sgt. Benjamin Minard who supervise air traffic on the flight lines and all the Airmen studying furiously for their career development courses so that they, too, can sit in the tower.

It's for the NCOs and senior NCOs like Tech. Sgt. Jacelyn Duvall, Master Sgts. Roland Thomas and Justin Tischler. They supervise the training and support the unit's development and operations.

Away from the tower and down on the flight line, that award is for the airfield management team manning the desks and walking the flight lines. Civilians like Donna Campos, Cathy Long, Ed Peery, Preston Young and Preston Wall bring continuity to the team that cannot be



Photo by Airman 1st Class Krystal Jeffers

Capt. Ryan Nichols (left) observes as Staff Sgt. Benjamin Minard checks the monitors March 28 in the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland's Kelly Field Annex air traffic control tower.

replaced, said Nichols.

It's also for Airmen deployed to the 502nd OSS, like Senior Airman Courtney Hott, that allow the team here to keep up 24/7 operations.

"We support 31,000 operations per year that come in here day in and day out and the Airmen are doing all of

that. It's amazing to me that we have 18-year-olds that come in here and are controlling traffic, giving planes a safe place to park and meeting all of our criteria. We put a lot of responsibility on them," Nichols said. "The civilians here are amazing, too; we couldn't do any of it without their knowledge and expertise.

"I may get credit (referring to the first line of his awards package) for all of their awards and hard work but they earned those awards on their own. It's not because of anything that I've done."

But this time it is Nichols' name on the award and according to Lt. Col. Corwin Pauly, 502nd OSS commander, it is truly well deserved.

"Knowing what Ryan's flight did (in 2013) and how that represents what he did and how he led and mentored, that's the reason I put him in for it," Pauly said.

Nichols arrived at the 502nd OSS from Travis Air Force Base, Calif. in March 2012 and by his and his commander's account, it's been a busy time here ever since.

Kelly Field is a unique airfield in that there are no active-duty flying missions, but other operations require that the airfield maintains support 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Through U.S. Northern Command, the Drug Enforcement Agency keeps a plane permanently deployed here and the OSS supported all of their 844 missions last year. The base also serves as the military's Midwest medical hub. Wounded warriors coming

back from overseas are flown straight in to JBSA-Lackland (or transferred here) anytime to receive care at the San Antonio Military Medical Center.

"A normal [operations] support squadron is perhaps busier than this but the variety of operations here is pretty impressive. We're not a 'Sleepy Hollow.' We could have airplanes coming in anytime," Pauly said.

In fact, the 502nd OSS operates the only 24/7 airfield in AETC.

The 502nd OSS mission partners include the Air Force Reserve 433rd Airlift Wing, the Texas Air National Guard 149th Fighter Wing, 313th Flight Test Squadron, Port San Antonio, Defense Courier Service, U.S. Transportation Command and the 342nd Training Squadron's parachute operations.

Nichols and the 502nd OSS also support the 80 civilian businesses that make up Port San Antonio, which generated \$4.2 billion in commerce last year.

According to his award package, Nichols led a multi-function team for JBSA, creating new airfield procedures that bolstered the partnership between the base and Port San Antonio, which saved the Air Force \$1 million.

While supporting all of these missions, Nichols contended with a constrained manning environment and found a solution.

After an 18-month shortage, Nichols fixed the problem by working

See NICHOLS Page 16

Consumer bill paying services terminated for military allotments

By E. Stephanie Hebert
Legal Assistance Attorney, 502nd ISG/JA

The Military Assistance Company, the largest processor of military allotments set up to pay for electronics, car notes and furniture bills, terminated its bill payment services April 1.

The termination of service does not apply to privatized housing allotments; it only applies to the discretionary allotment being transferred from a service member's military pay to a creditor for monthly installments or other

consumer goods.

According to the Military Assistance Company, all service members were given notice for the termination of service. However, procedures have been established for members who did not receive the notice or who have not taken action to set up alternative bill paying methods.

Any service member who has an allotment being paid to Citizens Union Bank of Shelbyville for a consumer debt should contact the Military Assistance Company at 1-800-765-2110 or online at <https://www.allotment.net> to ensure

that all allotted funds have been returned to their regular paycheck.

Service members using the allotment for consumer goods should also go to the Defense Finance and Accounting Services website at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> to turn off the allotment. In addition, service members must contact each affected creditor and make alternative payment arrangements for April and all future monthly payments.

The Military Assistance Company intends to return the allotted funds to service members. Members need to watch

for the possible increase in pay, and should set up payment arrangements with creditors. Members who fail to do so will be charged a "locator" fee, a "dormant" fee and a "write off" fee by MAC. Creditors will also charge late fees, penalties, and higher interest for payments not received on time.

For assistance by a legal professional in this process, call 671-3362 to schedule an appointment with an attorney. Walk-in legal assistance is also available Monday through Thursday, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

JBSA-Lackland 5/6 adds new programs for Airmen



Photo by Staff Sgt. Marissa Tucker

The Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland 5/6 group held a Speed Mentoring session April 11 for junior enlisted Airmen to provide helpful information about the Air Force and to support the noncommissioned officer's duty to mentor younger Airmen. The JBSA-Lackland 5/6 is a professional organization comprised of Airmen in the grades of E-5 and E-6 who are devoted to self-improvement and development of both themselves and the junior enlisted tier.

By Mike Joseph
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

An enlisted Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland professional organization is raising its bar to develop NCOs and create professional enhancement opportunities for Airmen.

To reach its objective, JBSA-Lackland 5/6, an association of Air Force staff sergeants (E-5s) and technical sergeants (E-6s), has set its sights on being the top enlisted group.

"Our goal is to be the premier professional organization for the enlisted at JBSA-Lackland," said Staff Sgt. Mark Velasquez, who became JBSA-Lackland 5/6 president in February. "We strive to develop our peers, our staff sergeants and technical sergeants, both professionally and personally. By making us better NCOs, we become better leaders."

Other officers in the organization include Tech. Sgt. Christopher Dion, vice president; Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Teets, treasurer; Staff Sgt. Laura Kluga, secretary; Tech. Sgt. Jewell Hicks, professional development; and Tech. Sgt. Michael Pendleton, public affairs.

Velasquez said the group will continue to have retired command chief master sergeants and current chief master sergeants speak at meetings about professional development in different career fields.

JBSA-Lackland 5/6 will also con-

tinue sponsoring the staff and technical sergeant socials when promotions are announced.

"That's something we're known for that we do every year," Velasquez said. "It's a time to celebrate those people who have made the monumental step from senior airman to staff sergeant and from staff sergeant to technical sergeant."

In addition to providing guidance and recognizing NCOs, Velasquez said current programs and ones in development are being emphasized to help develop young Airmen.

"Our No. 1 responsibility as NCOs is to take care of the Airmen underneath us," he said. "There are so many opportunities for NCOs in professional development. However, after basic military training and technical school training, Airmen do not get any professional enhancement until they go to Airman Leadership School, which can be in excess of three years before they attend."

One of the programs the group uses to enhance Airmen is speed mentoring. Sessions are held quarterly and touch on various real life topics such as feedbacks and communication, enlisted performance reports, whole person concept, off-duty education, Community College of the Air Force, tuition assistance, promotion testing, cross training, special duty assignments, deployments, and leadership.

The latest speed mentoring session,

held April 11, emphasized "bouncing back."

"They heard experiences from NCOs who have had some hiccups in their career like an Article 15 (non-judicial punishment)," Velasquez said. "By those NCOs sharing their experiences and how they were able to bounce back, it gives Airmen some inspiration and hope that they can turn themselves around even though they might not have the cleanest of records."

Other programs on the horizon include a breakfast club, a professional military education bootcamp, a professional development newsletter, a leadership symposium and volunteer opportunities.

The breakfast club would feature a quarterly guest speaker to address Airmen regardless of rank on professional development topics. Lectures would be applicable to current issues Airmen encounter.

PME bootcamp would be a monthly 30-minute mentoring and leadership session for Airmen during lunch. The

sessions would also be an opportunity for 5/6 members to develop their skills as leaders.

The tentative leadership symposium would be held annually and open to all JBSA military members regardless of rank or branch of service. The event would be a day-long schedule featuring leadership lessons, personal mentorship moments, guest speaker panels and team-building exercises focused on developing a stronger joint service bond.

"5/6 is a great organization for NCOs to become better leaders, an opportunity for them to enhance their skills and knowledge," Velasquez said. "I've heard it said that iron sharpens iron. We have to help each other to better ourselves."

JBSA-Lackland 5/6 meets every first and third Wednesday of the month at the United States Air Force Security Forces Museum on the basic training side of Lackland. For additional information on 5/6, email jbsa.lackland.56@us.af.mil.

AIR FORCE ASSISTANCE FUND STILL OPEN FOR DONATIONS

Photo by Olivia Mendoza

1st Lt. Amy Torres, Joint Base San Antonio Installation Project Officer for the Air Force Assistance Fund, hand delivers the 2014 AF AF donation form April 9 to Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, 502nd Air Base Wing and JBSA commander. The annual Air Force Assistance Fund campaign for Joint Base San Antonio, which has the theme of "Commitment to Caring," runs through May 2 and supports four charities that are dedicated to caring for Airmen from induction through retirement and beyond. The four charities are the Air Force Aid Society, Gen. and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation, the Air Force Village and the Air Force Enlisted Village. These organizations help Air Force people with aid in an emergency, with educational needs or to have a secure retirement home for widows or widowers of Air Force members in need of financial assistance. These charities are not a part of the Combined Federal Campaign lineup. The combined goal for JBSA this year is \$363,000.



JBSA conducts environmental compliance check

By Brian Smith
JBSA Environmental System
Coordinator

Approximately 25 environmental, safety and medical personnel will put on their inspector hats to evaluate Joint Base San Antonio's Environmental Management System, stewardship and compliance processes Monday through April 25. This week aligns with Earth Week across the Air Force.

These inspectors will evaluate JBSA's multiple locations and facilities to ensure environmental compliance and adherence to its Environmental Management System, a system that incorporates mission needs and environmental regulations. These types of inspections provide JBSA an opportunity to learn where shortcomings are and repair them.

The inspection team will be assisted by a number of JBSA's unit environmental coordinators. The UECs are assigned by their commanders and have the additional responsibility of ensur-

ing their own unit stays compliant with the 14 environmental programs covered by Air Force Instructions; which include air emissions, hazardous materials, water quality, solid waste, natural resources and pesticides, among others. Units across JBSA, especially those with operations having environmental impact, will benefit directly in this assessment.

By conducting an internal Environmental Management System self-inspection, JBSA wins in two ways: JBSA postures itself to be less susceptible to notices of violation from state environmental regulators and the Environmental Protection Agency, and this self-inspection will help JBSA prepare for its August 2014 unit effectiveness inspection. A violation can carry a fine as high as \$25,000 per day, per violation and employees found guilty of criminal acts may face other punishments.

For more information on this inspection, contact 671-5320.

Connect With Us!

JBSA-LACKLAND ON THE SOCIAL NETWORKING SCENE



Follow us on Facebook at:
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Go to our website at: www.jbsa.af.mil
and look for social media.



Follow us on Twitter at:
<http://twitter.com/JBSALackland>



E-mail us at: Lackland.jbsa@gmail.com

VICTIMS from Page 2

as a crime victim under the UCMJ and the Department of Defense's Victim and Witness Assistance Program, advocate for those rights and interests and, when appropriate, appear in a military court on behalf of the victim.

While there are some differences in eligibility across the military services, active duty service members, adult dependents and Reservists assaulted while on active duty are eligible for SVC or VLC services, regardless of whether the eligible victim files a restricted or unrestricted report of sexual assault.

To determine eligibility, learn about crime victims' rights or to receive more information about the SVC or VLC program, victims of sexual assault are encouraged to contact their local SARC or assigned Victim Advocate for a referral to their nearest SVC or VLC office.

Victims can also call any one of the area SVC or VLC offices directly. It is never too early or late in the military justice

process to seek the assistance of a military SVC.

Simply speaking with a military SVC does not mean a victim of a sexual assault must file an unrestricted report or participate in the military justice process. All communications between a SVC and eligible victims are confidential.

Members of the Navy and their dependents who are victims of a sexual assault can contact the Navy VLC office at 808-8978, located in the SAPR or SHARP office on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. Air Force members and their dependents who are victims should call the Air Force SVC office at 671-4748/4740, located on JBSA-Lackland. For Army members and their dependents, call the Army SVC office at 295-9496 and 221-2282, located on JBSA-Fort

Sam Houston.

The Marine Corps VLC Organization has multiple offices co-located with existing legal services support offices, to include at Camp Pendleton, Camp Lejeune, Okinawa, Japan and Quantico, Virginia. Members of the Marine Corps and their dependents who are victims of a sexual assault can contact their nearest legal services support office for referral to the closest VLC. In addition, victims of crimes other than sexual assault may be eligible for Marine Corps VLCO services.

(Editor's note: Lt. Candice Albright is a member of the Navy's Judge Advocate General's Corps and works with the Joint Base San Antonio SAPR programs and the Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention Program Office at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.)

Jumping in

PJs leave their imprint at Civil Air Patrol conference

By Mike Joseph and Airman Justine K. Rho
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Two instructors from the 342nd Training Squadron spread the word about Air Force Pararescue by addressing Civil Air Patrol members at the group's annual state conference Saturday in the NASA Houston Conference Center.

Tech Sgts. Joshua Andrada and Keith Aussant, 342nd TRS Pararescue indoctrination course instructors based at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland where Airmen enter the PJ pipeline, made two presentations to more than 250 CAP members, cadets and retirees in attendance at the conference. The state conference was held in conjunction with the six-state (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana) CAP Southwest Region conference.

"There was a large turnout for the conference (257 people)," said Andrada. "I was impressed by the commitment of the Civil Air Patrol members. Many of the CAP squadron commanders, deputy commanders and wing commanders are volunteers who are retired Air Force members.

"We hope to establish more continuity with this great organization for future endeavors," Andrada said.

The opportunity to address the conference and set up a static display by Air Force recruiters came after a



Photo by Maj. Johanna Augustine, Civil Air Patrol
Tech. Sgt. Keith Aussant (left) and Tech. Sgt. Joshua Andrada made presentations about Air Force Pararescue to Civil Air Patrol members and cadets from six states Saturday.

January Pararescue career field tour at the 342nd TRS that Andrada gave Maj. Ric Walters, CAP Group IV commander, his wife and two grandchildren, ages 9 and 6.

Walters was so impressed by the mission and tour that he contacted Master Sgt. Joe Carpenter, 342nd TRS Pararescue indoctrination course commandant, about the PJs making

presentations at the conference.

"(We) thoroughly enjoyed the entire visit," Walters told Carpenter in an email. "I remain in awe of you guys (PJs). More (people) should have that same sense of awe when they encounter a PJ.

"My purpose is to motivate all of us to excel in all we do, and to provide Air Force Special Operations

Command and PJs with a new set of supporters," Walters added.

CAP is a non-profit organization built by citizen volunteers. It is the official auxiliary unit of the Air Force, and is headquartered at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. The CAP mission is to support America's communities with emergency response, diverse aviation and ground services, youth development, and promotion of air, space and cyber power.

CAP also supports aerospace education, emergency services (search and rescue, disaster response and homeland security), and cadet programs (after school and school squadrons). It is modeled after the Air Force's organizational structure.

Andrada made his morning presentation to CAP leadership and officers while Aussant spoke to the cadets, who can apply to attend a PJ orientation course taught at Kirtland AFB, N.M.

Both sergeants spent the majority of the day at the static display answering questions about life as a Pararescueman, which at under 500 Airmen is one of the smallest career fields in the Air Force.

"Sergeant Andrada and I are mentors and we enjoy developing the next generation of our team," said Aussant. "When this opportunity came up, I realized I could make a differ-

See CAP Page 16

Civil Air Patrol by the numbers

1948 The year Congress permanently established the Civil Air Patrol as the auxiliary of the newly created Air Force.

3 Primary missions for CAP: aerospace education, cadet programs and emergency services.

16 Steps in the cadet program for ages 12 to 21 about aerospace education, leadership training, physical fitness and moral leadership.

85 Percentage of all federal inland search and rescue missions flown by CAP at the direction of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center.

64,000 CAP members who are provided with year-round professional development training opportunities.

75 Average number of lives saved each year through CAP search and rescue efforts.

1,500 CAP units nationwide. Most units are not co-located with an active duty, Guard or Reserve installation.

1986 Year CAP joined the "War on Drugs" by congressional authorization to help stem the flow of drugs into and within the United States.

12-80 Age range for CAP members.

JBSA Pharmacy information available online

By Leslie Finstein
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

San Antonio military medical care beneficiaries have a new online home for prescription information.

Information on Joint Base San Antonio pharmacies for all Air Force and Army pharmacy locations is found online at <http://www.jbsa.af.mil/library/jbsamedicalservices/jbsapharmacy/index.asp>.

The site provides pharmacy services along with locations, hours and points of contact for all pharmacies on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph and reflects on-going efforts to improve how healthcare is delivered to military members, dependents and retirees in the San Antonio area.

"This is a win-win for our patients and efficiency in the San Antonio market," said Col. Kyle Campbell, Brooke Army Medical Center commander. "If you go to the website, you can easily find, for example, all the pharmacies around the city in order to select the one that is most convenient for you."

Oct. 1, 2013, San Antonio was established as one of six Enhanced Multi Service Markets by the new Defense Health Agency. EMSMs are designed to promote collaboration and efficiency in the delivery of health care

services to regional beneficiaries.

Among the many goals of EMSMs is to promote wider use of military treatment facilities by all eligible users because the high cost to the Department of Defense for the use of off-base facilities.

Pharmacy is one targeted area where the DHA wants to see more use of military treatment facilities.

"DHA has tasked the San Antonio Military Health System to recapture \$49.3 million in retail pharmacy expenditures over the next five years," said Col. Markus Gmehlin, 59th Clinical Support Group commander.

"Retail pharmacy prescriptions cost the DOD 17 percent more than scripts filled in the [military treatment facilities] or mail-order pharmacy and more than 36 percent of the [San Antonio] region's prescriptions are filled in retail pharmacies," Gmehlin continued.

The Air Force and Army pharmacy communities at JBSA came together to standardize procedures in an effort to meet this recapture goal. The website shows this combined effort.

The site provides all beneficiaries with access to key pharmacy information such as how to order refills, transfer prescriptions, submit prescriptions via fax and safely dispose of medicines. A section on patient

education section provides links to information about how to safely use, store and travel with different types of medications.

For those new to JBSA, a map of the San Antonio area provides a general guide for where to find the various pharmacy locations.

"We developed the site to consolidate and centralize pharmacy information for patients to ensure that they know all of the pharmacy resources available to them," said Maj. Michele Sampayan, 959th Clinical Support Squadron, pharmacy resident.

Patients seeking information about medicines in stock at JBSA pharmacies and looking for the proper forms and authorizations will find them on the formulary and important links page. Also found on this page are links to RelayHealth, MiCare, TRICARE, TRICARE Online and the ICE system for customer feedback.

"We want our patients to know that we [pharmacy services] are making a concerted effort to ensure that the pharmaceutical care they receive is consistent across JBSA," said Maj. Justin Lusk, JBSA-Randolph pharmacy flight commander. "We are constantly striving to make our processes more efficient to enhance patient health."

The website is just one piece of

the larger consolidation effort and reflects work that is ongoing in the San Antonio Military Health System.

"[The Army and Air Force] have also just consolidated our medication formularies, which are the drugs stocked in the pharmacies, to ensure that the same drugs are available to all beneficiaries at all locations," Gmehlin said.

"We have also stood up a single pharmacy operations center phone number (210-292-9995, select option 3) for beneficiaries to call if they would like to have their prescriptions transferred from retail pharmacy back into the [military treatment facilities]."

Another initiative to improve accessibility for patients is an expanding partnership with the Veterans Administration that provides for refill pickups for all beneficiaries at the North Central Federal Clinic.

"Our goal is to provide not only a single one-stop shop for all pharmacy information online but also to provide all San Antonio Military Medical Health System beneficiaries with efficient and standardized care across JBSA," Gmehlin said.

To visit the JBSA pharmacy website, head to <http://www.jbsa.af.mil/library/jbsamedicalservices/jbsapharmacy/index.asp>.

Born dead

AF medical excellence leads Airman back to where her life began

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Carwile
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

What would you do to repay someone for saving your life? How far would you go?

Col. Katherine Rearden, 59th Medical Wing Clinical Research Division chief, answers that question every day of her life.

"If I was going to be born dead anywhere, I thank God it was here in San Antonio at Lackland Air Force Base," she said.

This is not a simple statement to make, or to understand, at first. To truly appreciate her story, you have to start at the beginning, with

her parents.

Rearden's father, Anthony Palmere, joined the Air Force in 1952 at the age of 19. He was a pharmacy technician at Kelly AFB, now known as Port San Antonio, adjacent to Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Her mother, Beatrice Groves, joined the Air Force through the Women in the Air Force program, and was assigned as a personnelist at Kelly.

Rearden recounts her father's version of how he met her mother while playing basketball. "The story goes that it was my father's best game he ever played," says Rearden, "because every time he hit a basket, this tall redhead stood in the back and he

could see her legs."

After only a few months of dating, Palmere and Groves were married at the Kelly AFB chapel. Shortly after, Rearden's mother was surprised to discover she was pregnant. Not having planned on a child so soon, she successfully hid her pregnancy for five months.

The pregnancy was finally discovered during a random urine screening, and she was discharged that week. At the time, pregnant women were involuntary discharged from military service.

A few months later, Katherine Palmere (Rearden) was born on Lackland at the 3700th USAF Hospital,

a precursor to Wilford Hall Medical Center and what is today known as the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center.

Born with no respiration or heart rate, Rearden needed to be revived.

The medical team resuscitated her in minutes. While medics were pleased to tell Beatrice her daughter had survived, they were concerned Rearden would have brain damage because of how long she was deprived of oxygen. Doctors also discovered Rearden was born with hip dysplasia, and they warned she would be unable to walk correctly if

BMT HONORS

Congratulations to the following 68 Airmen for being honor graduates among the 689 Air Force basic military trainees who graduated today:

320th Training Squadron*-Flight 248*

Joseph Albert
Luciano Arana
Timothy McDonell
Ryan Schakel
Tayler R. Williams

321st Training Squadron*-Flight 249*

Jonathan Chambers
Victor De La Rosa
Daniel Eudy
Brandon Fletcher
James Schmeits
Timothy Sherman
-Flight 250
Kelley Alianiello
Tracy Collins
Kayla Gallagher
Zhane Herrera

Mary Ostler
Savaliolefilemu Siko

322nd Training Squadron*-Flight 255*

Zachary Preszler
Garrett Roby
James Taylor
Eddie Vargas
Angel Vasquez
Philip Waltz
-Flight 256
Nicholas Evans
Cannen Hodgson
John Hutchinson
Emmanuel Perez
Tyler Rapp
Jason Sutton
Christian Willis

323rd Training Squadron*-Flight 257*

Bradly Deubel
-Flight 258
Colton Bowling
Harvey Finch
Antoine Mendes

Matthew Strzelecki
Jordon Waller

326th Training Squadron*-Flight 253*

Dylan Gann
Caleb Underhill
-Flight 254
Alyssa Caselli

331st Training Squadron*-Flight 251*

Daniel Bateman
Austin Harder
Nathan Johnson
Benjamin Leonard
Royce Myren
Nicholas Ostrowski
Thomas Przybylek
Isiah Robertson
Brandon Wickman
-Flight 252
Shawn Bigger
Skyler Halliburton
Zackary Ormsbee
Edgar Rodriguez
Cody Usher

-Flight 259

Jesse Audet
Cody Caron
Christopher Clement
Aleron Guerrero
Daniel Healy
Ryan Moore
Tyler Moura
Sergio Ochoa-Avila
Cody Platt
Kristofer Provencal
Miles Trachy
-Flight 260
Rebekah Crosswhite
Alexis Martin
Katelyn Nesler
Christine Odom

Top BMT Airman

Tracy Collins
321st TRS, Flight 250

Most Physically Fit

-Male Airman
Derek Pease
320th TRS, Flight 247
James Schmeits

321st TRS, Flight 249
Ryan Jackson
320th TRS, Flight 248
-Female Airmen
Courtney Leclair
331st TRS, Flight 260
Lauren Reeb
321st TRS, Flight 250
Julia Wagner
331st TRS, Flight 260
-Male Flights
331st TRS, Flight 251
320th TRS, Flight 248
323rd TRS, Flight 258
-Female Flights
331st TRS, Flight 260
321st TRS, Flight 250
326th TRS, Flight 254

Top Academic Flights

321st TRS, Flight 249
331st TRS, Flight 251
322nd TRS, Flight 256
331st TRS, Flight 259
331st TRS, Flight 252
326th TRS, Flight 253
323rd TRS, Flight 258

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not properly treated.

There were very few treatment options available at that time, but the Air Force Medical Service found a physiatrist to help. The doctor was able to construct a saddle block brace, which was a relatively new experimental treatment.

Rearden wore the brace off and on for two years. The brace forced her femurs into place and allowed her body to finish developing the hip sockets. It may have taken longer for her to walk, but she finished her first timed Air Force 1.5-mile run in 11:20.

Worried she would lag behind other children cognitively, Rearden's parents actively engaged her with early learning activities. Eventually, they realized developmental delays were not an issue for the child.

The example her parents set, along with the gift of life from the AFMS, led Rearden to work for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. With a master's degree in social work and degrees in psychology and life science, she worked tirelessly for veterans and their dependents.

While working for the VA, she developed a strong appreciation for the military population. Her goal was to care for veterans. "That was how I wanted to pay back my country for what they had done for me," she said.

At about the same time, she'd fallen in love with a coworker who happened to be a veteran himself, retired Master Sgt. Tom Rearden. His devotion and values mirrored that of her parents, who she viewed as true heroes.

When an Air Force recruiter came to the VA, she capitalized on the opportunity to serve in the same way the heroes in her life had done.

Upon entering the service, she discovered her parents and husband were not the only heroes - the Air

Force was purposefully developing heroes through its core values and a strong heritage.

"That's what we do in the Air Force. We produce Airmen. We produce leaders - men and women like my parents and my husband," Rearden said.

She explained that while she has a special place in her heart for the Air Force, service members of all the branches are among the most honorable people she's ever met.

"I remember my family taking trips to Dover (AFB, Del.) when I was young," Rearden said. "We would watch the planes come in, and I would stand next to my parents as we all rendered our salutes. We watched precious cargo come off those planes, draped with the American flag."

After 20 years of service, Rearden was presented with the opportunity she'd been waiting for. With the selection for colonel pending, she had a choice - be stationed either in Washington, D.C., or in San Antonio. She chose San Antonio as a way to be closer to her children, and return to where her parents met and her life began.

In the 1990s, at her first duty station, Sheppard AFB, Texas, she was competitively selected to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology, six years ahead of her peers. Today, Rearden is a behavioral scientist, having earned a doctorate in social welfare.

Recounting a family joke, "Imagine who she would have been if she had (been born alive)," Rearden quipped, "If I was going to be born dead, I'm glad it was in San Antonio and at Lackland. Seriously, the medical services here are phenomenal."

With her life coming full circle, Rearden reflects, "I've lived a rich and fulfilling life thanks to the medical professionals who saved my life. Now, I help build the medics who will save lives for generations to come."

EASTER HOLY WEEK SERVICES

—Catholic

All services at Freedom Chapel

• Friday

Community's Via Crucis, 11:30 a.m.

Veneration of the Cross, 3 p.m.

• Saturday

Easter Vigil Rites, Easter Mass, 8 p.m.

• Sunday

Easter Community Mass, 11 a.m.

—Protestant

• Sunday

Sunrise Easter Service, Basic Military

Training Parade Field, 7 a.m., followed by breakfast at Mitchell Hall, 8 a.m.

Easter egg hunt, Freedom Chapel

Contemporary and Gospel services during children's church

LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by Mike Joseph, JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

WEDNESDAY

ENLISTED ASSOCIATION MEETING

Chapter 80 of the Enlisted Association meets at 1 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Gateway Club. Call 658-2344 for information.

THURSDAY

COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT FOCUS GROUPS

The Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services will conduct focus groups on sexual harassment and culture in the armed services at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Thursday and April 25.

Air Force personnel, male and female, enlisted or officer, interested in participating in a 90-minute focus group can call 671-3722.

For additional information on DACOWITS, visit <http://dacowits.defense.gov>.

APRIL 25

AAPIHA LUMPYA FRY FUNDRAISER

A lumpia fry fundraiser by the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Asian-American Pacific Islander Heritage Association is from 11 a.m.

to 1 p.m. at the Balfour Beatty Communities housing office, 2254 Brian McElroy Drive.

Tickets are \$6 for six lumpia or \$10 for one dozen, limit two dozen per customer. Presales are available through the close of business Tuesday and must be picked up by noon April 25 to maintain priority status.

For additional information, call 671-2272.

APRIL 26

JBSA SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCE FAIR

The Joint Base San Antonio Special Needs Resource Fair and Fun Day event will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 26 at Morgan's Wonderland, 5523 David Edwards Drive.

The event is open to JBSA Exceptional Family Member Program participants and immediate military family members. EFMP families will have the opportunity to learn about support agencies and programs, both military and civilian, that are available in the San Antonio area.

APRIL 30

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Air Force Military Athlete of the Year are due

April 30 to the Air Force Personnel Center.

The program allows the Air Force to recognize outstanding male and female athletes and highlight their athletic performance and accomplishments throughout the last year.

Nomination packets can be picked up at installation fitness centers. Each installation is limited to one male and one female candidate.

For additional information, visit <http://www.USAFsports.com> or email sports@myairforcelife.com.

MAY 6-7

TOTAL FORCE SUPERVISOR'S COURSE

A two-day facilitator-led supervisory workshop for civilian leads/supervisors who supervise military members and military members who supervise civilians is May 6-7 at Arnold Hall Community Center. The workshop begins at 8 a.m. each day.

The course provides civilian leads, new supervisors and seasoned supervisors four additional soft skills courses: Supervising Others, Mentoring and Coaching, Influencing and Leadership and Middle Management. In addition, there will be face-to-face interaction with numerous agencies who work hand-in-hand

with supervisors.

For additional information, contact Master Sgt. Tracette Abney or Quency Henson via email. Army email address recipients must contact Abney or Henson.

MAY 8

DLI INTERNATIONAL FEST

The Defense Language Institute English Language Center will hold its third annual International Festival from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 8 in the Gateway Club at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

DLI students will display cultural artifacts, traditions and dress, geography and also answer questions about their country.

In addition, information about the DLI AMIGO (American Members of International Goodwill to Others) sponsor program will be available.

For additional information, call 671-2818.

INFORMATIONAL

INTUITIVE EATING RESEARCH STUDY

Participants are needed for a 10-week intuitive eating research study in person or as an online program.

The study will focus on intuitive eating: a new way of looking

at weight, health and why we eat. Participants will receive nutrition advice and education, a free nutrition assessment and use an innovative activity monitor to improve fitness.

To participate, candidates must be enrolled in TRICARE, be 18 years of age or older, have a Body Mass Index of 25 or greater, Internet access, a text-capable phone, and plan to be in the San Antonio area for nine months.

For information, call 221-7780.

LANCE P. SIJAN AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Air Force Personnel Center will accept nominations for the 2014 Lance P. Sijan U.S. Air Force Leadership Award will be accepted through Aug. 29.

The Sijan award recognizes the accomplishments of officers and enlisted members who have demonstrated the highest quality of leadership in the performance of their duties and their personal lives. Nominees will be rated on their scope of responsibility, professional leadership, leadership image and community involvement between July 1, 2013 and June 30.

For information, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>.

CHAPEL SERVICES

—PROTESTANT

- Freedom Chapel – building 1528 Ê
Contemporary Service Sun. 9:30 a.m.
Religious Education Sun. 11 a.m.
Gospel Service Sun. 12:30 p.m.
Spanish Service Sun. 3 p.m.
AWANA Wed. 6 p.m.
- Gateway Chapel – building 6300 Ê
Liturgical Service Sun. 11 a.m.

—DENOMINATIONAL

- BMT Reception Center – building 7246 Ê
Church of Christ Sun. 7:30 a.m.
- Gateway Chapel – building 6300 Ê
Seventh-day Adventist Sat. 12:30 p.m.
- Education Classroom – building 5200 Room 108
Christian Science Sun. 7:30 a.m.

—PENTECOSTAL RE

- Gateway Chapel – building 6300 Ê
Pentecostal RE Sun. 2:30 p.m.

—ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

- Gateway Chapel – building 6300 Ê
Divine Liturgy Sun. 8 a.m.

—WICCA

- BMT Reception Center – building 7246
Military Open Circle Sun. 12:30 p.m.
- Freedom Chapel – building 1528
Military Open Circle First Tues. 6 p.m.

—REFUGE STUDENT CENTER

- building 9122 (Tech Training & TDY Students)
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Thursday 6 – 8 p.m.
Friday 6 – 11 p.m.
Saturday Noon to 9 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

—THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

- Gateway Chapel – building 6300 Ê
Religious Education Tues. 6:30 p.m.
LDS Institute Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
LDS Service Sun. 1 p.m.

—JEWISH

- Gateway Chapel – building 6300 Ê
Sabbath & Kiddush Fri. 4:30 p.m.
Religious Education Sun. 1:30 p.m.

—ROMAN CATHOLIC

- Freedom Chapel – building 1528 Ê
Religious Education Sun. 9 a.m.
Reconciliation Sun. 10 a.m.
Mass Sun. 11 a.m.
Sun. 5 p.m.
Reconciliation Sun. 4:15 p.m.
- Gateway Chapel – building 6300 Ê
Daily Mass Mon., Tues. and Thurs. 11:30 a.m.

Note: Reconciliation(s) may be scheduled by appointment

—ISLAMIC

- Global Ministry Center – building 7452
Jummah Prayer Fri. 12:45 – 1:15 p.m.
Religious Education Sun. 9 a.m.

OTHER FAITH GROUPS

- BMT Reception Center – building 7246
—Buddhist Sun. 10 a.m.
- Gateway Chapel – building 6300 Ê
—Eckankar
First, third and fifth Saturdays 12:30 p.m.
- Baha'i
First, third and fifth Saturdays 11 a.m.

For more details, contact
Freedom Chapel - 671-4208 • Gateway Chapel - 671-2911

JBSA-LACKLAND

Air Force Aid Society	671-3722
Airman & Family Readiness Center	671-3722
Airman's Attic	671-1780
American Red Cross	844-4225
Base Post Office	671-1058
Bowling Center	671-2271
DEERS	800-538-9552
Exceptional Family Member Program	671-3722
Family Child Care	671-3376
Legal Office	671-3362
Library	671-3610
Medical Appointment Line	916-9900
MPF ID Cards	671-6006
Outdoor Recreation	925-5532
TRICARE Info	800-444-5445
Thrifty Shop	671-3608

Enlisted Spouses' Club	http://www.lacklandesc.org
Force Support Squadron	http://www.lacklandfss.com
Lackland ISD	http://www.lacklandisd.net
Officers' Spouses' Club	http://www.lacklandosc.org
JBSA Public website	http://www.jbsa.af.mil
My Air Force Life	http://www.MyAirForcelife.com

Fiesta in Blue: Artistically bolstering community relations

By Airman 1st Class Kenna Jackson
JBSA-Randolph Public Affairs

It's April again in Military City USA and the air is ripe with excitement for the annual Fiesta San Antonio. However, the locals aren't the only ones prepping for this celebration. Fiesta in Blue, an ensemble from the U.S. Air Force Band of the West, is also practicing for its 7 p.m. performances Tuesday and Wednesday at Edgewood Theatre.

"In addition to our normal rehearsal schedule, we devote many hours practicing musical styles to appeal to a wide audience, which ensures our performances will be excellent," Staff Sgt. Blair Raker, music director and trombonist, said.

Fiesta in Blue has contributed to the vibrancy of Fiesta San Antonio for more than 20 years, inspiring participants to don colorful clothing, consume a variety of foods from diverse cultures and listen to various forms of entertainment.

"We represent the military community in the San Antonio area," Raker



Photo by Benjamin Faske

Tech Sgt. Amy Moran, United States Air Force Band of the West trumpeter, practices April 9 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland for the upcoming Fiesta in Blue concert.

said. "Along with providing entertainment, our mission is to help the city celebrate its great musical and cultural diversity and bolster community relations."

With 19 artists, ranging from airman first class to master sergeants, Fiesta in Blue is an accumulation of inspirations, musical passions and propelling ambitions to achieve one

goal - to be amazing on- and off- stage.

"Our performances help shape the community's image of the Air Force, making 'excellence in all we do' our biggest focus," Master Sgt. Eric Frank, NCO in charge of the Band of the West's Dimensions in Blue ensemble, said.

Upholding the Air Force's image is just one of the challenges the artists must face while on stage, he said. Another challenge is acting as their own "roadies," which means they deal with the technical aspect of assembling the stage, from audio and lighting to unloading and reloading heavy equipment.

"It's hard to always be your best and make smooth theme changes, but, luckily, we have some of the best and highly experienced musicians," Frank said.

Raker also said challenges are made easier because of the good relationships each performer has with one another and their will to work hard on improvements if something isn't right.

See **BAND** Page 17

Military Concert Schedules

AIR FORCE BAND OF THE WEST

Saturday	Freedom Brass – Investiture of King Antonio XCII – 6-8 p.m. Gateway Brass – Opening Ceremony of Fiesta De Los Reyes at Market Square – 11 a.m. to noon
Monday	Sky Country – Pre-parade music – IBC Center for Texas Cavaliers 6-11 p.m. Top Flight – Texas Cavaliers River Parade – 6-11 p.m.
Tuesday	Dimensions In Blue – Fiesta in Blue – Edgewood Theatre – 7 p.m.
Wednesday	Dimensions In Blue – Fiesta in Blue, hosted by Brig. Gen. John P. Horner and Col. James H. Chevallier – Edgewood Theatre – 7 p.m. Gateway Brass – Coronation of the Queen – 6:45-10 p.m. Top Flight – Fiesta Fantasias – The Park Rocks – Hemisfair Park – 7 p.m.
Thursday	Sky Country – Fiesta Fantasias – The Park Rocks – Hemisfair Park – 7 p.m.
April 25-26	Ceremonial Marching Band – Fiesta Parades
April 27	Brass in Blue – All Veterans Memorial – 12:45 p.m.

MARINE CORPS BAND NEW ORLEANS

- Monday Brass Band on the Boat – River Parade – 6 p.m. (Brass Band on the boat)	- April 25 Field Band – Battle of Flowers Parade – 4 p.m.
- Thursday Concert Band Alamo Performance The Alamo – 4 p.m.	- April 26 Field Band – Fiesta Flambeau Parade – 7:15 p.m.

<https://www.facebook.com/marinecorpsbandneworleans>
<http://www.marforres.marines.mil/GeneralSpecialStaff/MarineCorpsBandNOLA.aspx>

JBSA privately-owned firearms policy 'provides accountability'

By Alex Salinas
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

All people arriving at any Joint Base San Antonio location with firearms – including airsoft guns, rifles and shotguns – must inform the gate guard, even if they have a concealed handgun license.

This comes directly from a policy established by Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, 502nd Air Base Wing and JBSA commander, last September concerning the handling, possession, storage and transportation of privately owned firearms and ammunition.

"This policy enhances the safety of JBSA by ensuring that everyone is aware of their responsibilities in regard to privately owned weapons and that everyone understands the need for protecting firearms to prevent unauthorized access," Ed Doss, 502nd Security Forces and Logistics Support Group Joint Security Staff section lead, said.

Individuals who aren't JBSA residents will be told to proceed directly to the security forces armories at JBSA-Randolph and JBSA-Lackland or the Base Defense Operations Center at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston to store their firearms, regardless of their duration of stay.

Military members residing in barracks, dormitories, unaccompanied quarters, transient quarters, privatized lodging, guest houses or in vehicles – excluding recreational vehicles used as a home positioned in an appropriate family camp – will also deposit firearms in their local armory and register them.

People living in on-installation military or privatized quarters may store firearms in their residences only after their weapons are registered. Air Force Form 1314 (Firearms Registration) and DD Form 2760 (Qualification to Possess Firearms or Ammunition) are the registration forms required for residents, who are given three business days from

the date of weapons purchase or move-in to submit the paperwork to the armory.

Other than the armory, the forms can be found at base housing offices or locations such as base exchanges, "whose cooperation makes registering firearms simple," Bob Vickers, 902nd Security Forces Squadron Plans and Programs Branch chief, said.

Weapons being transported to and from family housing or the armory must not have a projectile in the chamber, cylinder or have a loaded projectile container such as a clip or magazine inserted, according to the policy.

They are to be placed out of arms' reach, unloaded, with ammunition separate from the firearm. People transporting firearms must go straight to their destination without any additional stops. Firearms cannot be transported on motorcycles, bicycles or any other two- or three-wheeled vehicles.

The only people permitted to carry

firearms on JBSA locations are civilians, federal police and investigative agency members on official business.

"There's no excuse not to adhere to the commander's policy," Vickers said. "It provides accountability for everyone who enters JBSA."

For more information or questions concerning the privately owned weapons policy, call the JBSA-Randolph Security Forces Armory at 652-4365 during duty hours and the Base Defense Operations Center at 652-5700 during non-duty hours.

For JBSA-Lackland, call Security Forces Pass and Registration at 671-9162 during duty hours and the Base Defense Operations Center at 671-2017 during non-duty hours.

For JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Camp Bullis, call Security Forces Pass and Registration at 221-0213 during duty hours and the Base Defense Operations Center at 221-2222 during non-duty hours.

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with AETC to get Airmen deployed to the 502nd OSS, where they received training in airfield management and air traffic control. As a result, the base got the bodies they needed to support 24/7 operations, eliminating the shortage and ensuring consistent support for all missions.

In addition to all his work here in San Antonio, Nichols also led airfield operations overseas during his four-month deployment. He had just returned from overseas when he

learned about the award.

Pauly asked Nichols' wife to read the citation aloud off his BlackBerry while at Nichols' welcome home dinner in front of his family and friends.

The win wasn't the only thing that made this homecoming exciting. His wife gave birth to the couple's second child Jan. 6 while Nichols was still overseas, so his first day back was also the first time he met his youngest son.

"There were too many people around, I couldn't cry. I was almost there but I just came back from de-

ployment, I'm supposed to be a warrior," Nichols said with a laugh.

When Nichols looks over his list of accolades and accomplishments, he shakes his head a little because in his mind he's just the guy behind the desk. He's not the one out there on the flight line or up in the tower.

"I look at this stuff (the accomplishments on his awards package) and think 'this isn't me.' You can take anything out of this and attribute it to my team not anything that I've done," Nichols said.

However according to his com-

mander, these accolades display just what kind of Airman and leader Nichols is.

"He's got a very good head on his shoulders as far as his decision-making goes and he's driven, very driven," Pauly said. "He's goal oriented and not afraid to make hard decisions when necessary. He's got a very bright future."

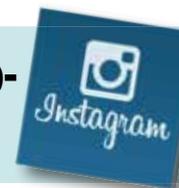
Nichols was the only winner from the functional areas for the 502nd OSS this year and will compete at the Air Force level.

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ence in these young adults' lives. I wanted to show possible future students about the PJ brotherhood and tell our mission."

"Because of the chance encounter with Maj. Walters, we reached a lot of people," Andrada said. "From our perspective and for the future, we need to cultivate every possible opportunity to tell the Air Force story."

Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland is on



Share your JBSA-Lackland photos by tagging us @JBASALackland

Straight Talk Line

For current, automated information during a natural disaster, crisis or emergency, call your local Straight Talk line.

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston:	JBSA-Lackland:	JBSA-Randolph:
466-4630	671-6397	652-7469

JBSA Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

JBSA SEXUAL ASSAULT HOTLINE • 808-SARC (7272)
DOD SAFE HELPLINE • (877) 995-5247
JBSA CRISIS HOTLINE • 367-1213
JBSA DUTY CHAPLAIN • 365-6420



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

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"We are much like an extended family and get along wonderfully," Raker said.

Some of the songs people will hear at the Fiesta concerts include: "Funky Cha-Cha," "Latin Dance," "Bluesette," "La Negra," "Peanut Vendor," "Rhythm of Our World," "Perfidia," "Libertango," "Love for Sale," "Sandunga," "One Mint Julep," "El Rancho Grande," "Guadalajara," "America the Beautiful" and, Frank's personal favorite, "Have You Met Miss Jones."

"I'm most excited about performing 'Have You Met Miss Jones', because it was arranged specifically for our group by our musical director, Staff Sgt. Ryan Leatherman," Frank said.

According to Racker, the song is normally a swing jazz standard, but after some changes the song has higher energy and intensity than the original version, which is perfect for celebrating San Antonio diversity.

"Music is a conversation that specializes in shifting moods and bringing



Photo by Benjamin Faske

United States Air Force Band of the West members practice April 9 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland for their upcoming Fiesta in Blue concert.

people closer together. It's hard and stressful, and at times we spend more

time with each other than with own families, but we have great personal- ties, talent, professionalism and we all love our job," Frank said.

Coach walks away proud of Warhawks performance in 2014 tournaments

By Jose T. Garza III
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

The Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Warhawks' head coach is proud of his team despite its fourth place finish at the National Military Basketball Tournament.

Kenneth Plummer said the team played extremely well in spite of some players missing games during the double elimination tourney, which was won by the Fort Sill, Okla. team Sunday, that saw nine teams compete.

The Warhawks lost their first game to Fort Sill and slid down to the losers' bracket, where they defeated Offut Air Force Base, Okla. and JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. They were finally eliminated by Fort Carson, Colo.

"The players played hard and with tremendous effort," Plummer said.

The head coach attributed the loss

to Fort Carson's defensive ball pressure in the second half.

"At that point, we were not playing to win, we were playing not to lose," he explained. "Everything gets tight because you don't want to make any mistakes."

Before the national military tourney, the Warhawks won three out of four tournaments this year, which is an improvement compared to last season. The team did not win any tournaments in 2013.

"The team made a complete turnaround this season," Plummer said. "Everybody bought in to a 'team first' concept."

The coach revealed it was his last season coaching the team because he will be moving to Robins AFB, Ga. in June. He hopes he started a foundation for the Warhawks to build on and succeed for years to come.

"I would love to be here another year and continue the Warhawks development as a winning team," Plummer said. "We sparked an interest for people to want to play for the team. If you have success in something and people see it, they gravitate toward it."

"Hopefully, people have looked at what we have achieved, and want to help turn the Warhawks into a powerhouse in basketball for years to come."

Fire Safety is Everyone's Business

Car Fire Safety

Cars can catch fire for many reasons. Mechanical or electrical issues are the most common causes and a car can also catch fire as the result of a bad crash. If you see smoke or flames or smell burning rubber or plastic, respond immediately.

What to do if your car is on fire

- ONCE you are stopped, TURN OFF the engine.
- GET everyone out of the car. Never return to a burning car for anything.
- MOVE everyone at least 100 feet from the burning car and well away from traffic.
- CALL 911

How to prevent a car fire

- Have your car serviced regularly by a professionally trained mechanic. If you spot leaks, your car is not running properly. A well-maintained car is less likely to have a fire.
- If you must transport gasoline, transport only a small amount in a certified gas can that is sealed.

Keep a window open for ventilation.

- Gas cans and propane cylinders should never be transported in the passenger compartment.
- Car where flammables, such as grass, are touching the catalytic converter.
- Avoid an accident.

Know the danger signs

- Cracked or loose wiring or electrical problems, including a fuse that blows more than once.
- Oil or fluid leaks.
- Oil cap not secured.
- Rapid changes in fuel or fluid level, or engine temperature.
- Most car fires are flammable. Heat and electrical sparks plus leaking fluid are all it takes to start a car fire.

FACT

Most crashes do NOT result in fire. In the event of any crash, call 911. If there is no sign of fire, wait for emergency assistance to help any injured individuals out of the car.

Reference NFPA Safety Tip Sheet www.nfpa.org/education