



WINGSPREAD

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH

No. 8 • FEBRUARY 28, 2014



Living legend visits JB SA

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COMMENTARY

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

Did you notice the difference?

By Lt. Col. Lonnie Hammack
21st Mission Support Group deputy commander

As I contemplated this article and the fact that it would be published during February, which is African American History Month, I thought at first that perhaps I'm not the best candidate to write this.

After all, I'm not African-American or any other ethnic minority.

Upon further reflection, I decided that some of the experiences I had growing up may be applicable.

The area of the country I'm from was very late in ending racial segregation. Even though my home county in Georgia was nearly equally divided between Caucasians and African-Americans, the only black person I knew until I was 8 years old was a lady that worked for my grandfather.

The entire society around me was segregated. My elementary school was all white and the black elementary school was on the other side of town.

Before I started third grade, my father tried to explain desegregation to my siblings and me. I didn't really understand what was happening. I wasn't happy though because most of my cousins and friends had enrolled in neighboring counties and I would no longer see them at school.

The first day in Mrs. Mays' class was rough. Desegregation had arrived, I didn't know many people and this one black kid kept picking on me. He called me names (racial slurs) I had never

heard before. I didn't know what those names meant, but I could tell he wasn't being nice.

After school was over, we went outside and lined up for the bus. The same boy got in line behind me and continued to pick on me. I'd had enough by that time. I turned around and shoved him as hard as I could. He fell down, then quickly got back up, ready to fight. Before we could get started, Mrs. Mays broke it up and administered some much needed discipline (the old fashioned kind).

The boy's name was Wayne Whiting and we became best friends shortly after sharing that experience. We were inseparable for many years, although we drifted apart a bit in high school. He retired from the Army several years ago and I lost contact with him, but I think of him often.

Why do I tell this story? Because none of us are born with prejudices, racial or otherwise.

Wayne didn't know what to expect from me and I didn't know what to expect from him. Maybe he'd had some negative experiences from other white people. I don't know what he thought about me, but he figured out pretty quickly that the only real difference between us was the color of our skin and that didn't really matter to two 8-year-old boys full of energy and mischief. We had many great adventures together after that (and received a number of paddlings for those adventures).

One of the things I've enjoyed most about my Air Force career is the zero tolerance we have for racial discrimination. It's very different from the racially tense atmosphere I grew up in. Once, early in my career, I was visiting home and met with another black classmate who had also joined the Air Force.

We talked about the Air Force and after a while I asked him, "Did you notice the difference?"

He said, "Yes, definitely."

I didn't have to explain to him the context of what I meant. The difference in racial tolerance between what we were experiencing in the Air Force versus what we had experienced growing up in southwest Georgia was evident.

Does this mean the Air Force has no further work to do in the area of racial reconciliation? No, sadly it is an area in which we must always remain diligent.

We bring in people from many different backgrounds and cultures. Some come in with social prejudices that are not compatible with our core values. We must continue to educate our Airmen on the meaning of racial equality and equal opportunity and we must never tolerate deviance from the standard we have set.

Our Air Force is much more diverse than when I joined it 30 years ago. I enjoy talking with Airmen from many different cultures. We have so much we can learn from one another. I hope all of you will take the time this month to look around and celebrate our Air Force diversity.

ON THE COVER

Col. Mark Camerer, 37th training Wing Commander, and former Tuskegee Airman Dr. Granville Goggs (right) address attendees of the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland African American Heritage Committee dinner Feb. 19 at the Fisher House at JBSA-Lackland. The Tuskegee Airmen were the first group of U.S. armed forces African-American aviators organized during World War II.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Marissa Tucker

WINGSPREAD

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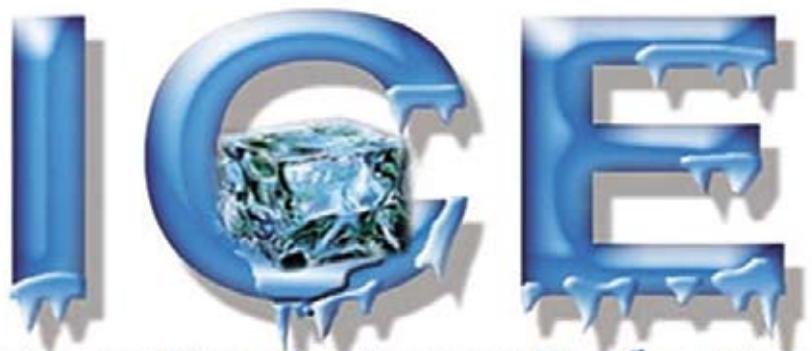
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One of the best things about ICE is that people can let service providers know when they do a great job, not just for poor service. It takes 5 minutes or less to submit a comment at <http://ice.disa.mil>.

Interactive Customer Evaluation

Two San Antonio residents to receive Medal of Honor

The White House has announced 24 new Medal of Honor recipients today. Two of the three living recipients reside in the San Antonio area.

Retired Master Sgt. Jose Rodela and former Sgt. Santiago Erevia have been selected to receive the Medal of Honor during a ceremony scheduled for March 18 at the White House.

Rodela was born in Corpus Christi, Texas, in 1937 and entered the U.S. Army at the age of 17.

Rodela is receiving the nation's highest military honor for his heroic actions in 1969 while serving in Vietnam as a sergeant first class. He was assigned to Detachment B-36, Company A, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces serving as an advisor, trainer and commander for a company of Cambodian troops.

When his company came under an intense barrage of mortar, rocket and machine gun fire, Rodela ignored the enemy fire, and immediately began placing his men into defensive positions to prevent an enemy assault which might overrun the entire battalion.

Rodela repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire and began to move from position to position, suppressing fire and assisting wounded men, when he was wounded in the back and head by rocket shrapnel while recovering a wounded comrade.

Alone, Rodela assaulted and knocked out the rocket position. After successfully returning to the battalion's perimeter, he continued to command his company, despite painful wounds, throughout eighteen hours of continuous



Master Sgt. Jose Rodela



Sgt. Santiago Erevia

contact with enemy fire, until he was evacuated.

Erevia is receiving the nation's highest military honor for his heroic actions in 1969 while serving in Vietnam as a specialist in the infantry. Born in Nordheim, Texas, he volunteered to join the U.S. Army in San Antonio when he was 22 years old.

While serving as a radio-telephone operator with Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), during a search and clear mission near Tam Ky City in the Republic of Vietnam after his platoon had penetrated an enemy defensive perimeter, Erevia was delegated to remain behind and care for the wounded while the rest of the platoon pushed on against the adversary.

As Erevia began administering first aid to the battle

casualties, his position came under heavy fire from a line of enemy bunkers to his left front.

Without hesitation, Erevia crawled from one wounded man to another gathering weapons and ammunition. Now armed with two M-16 rifles and several hand grenades, he then rose to his feet and charged directly into the fire of the hostile gun emplacement, discharging suppressive fire on the enemy as he ran.

Once he neared the first bunker, Erevia edged his way up to the emplacement under intense fire from the other bunkers and unleashed a grenade on its defender. He then maneuvered to the second and third bunkers employing the same tactics and destroyed both fortifications and their occupants with well-placed grenades.

With his supply of hand grenades now exhausted, Erevia fought his way to the final bunker, running and firing both rifles simultaneously, and killed the fortification's defender with point-blank fire.

Having single-handedly destroyed four enemy bunkers and their occupants, Erevia then returned to the soldiers charged to his care and resumed treating their injuries.

Both men have previously received the Distinguished Service Cross for their actions; however, after a thorough review, President Barack Obama has decided their actions merit an upgrade to the Medal of Honor.

For more information on the other Medal of Honor nominees, visit <http://www.army.mil/medalofhonor/valor24/index.html>.

(Source: U.S. Army North Public Affairs)

NEWS

Basura Bash cleans up

Emily Snyder, 502nd Civil Engineer Squadron project manager at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, paddles her kayak to fish out trash along the banks of Salado Creek Saturday during the Basura Bash at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. The Basura Bash is an annual event organized to retrieve trash along the Salado Creek area in San Antonio.

Photo by Steve Elliot



FSH National Cemetery to strictly enforce floral policy

By Steve Elliott

Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Effective Saturday, the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery at 1520 Harry Wurzbach Road will more strictly enforce the existing National Cemetery Administration floral regulations and policies. This is being done to ensure the cemetery maintains a national shrine appearance and to display dignity and respect to those who are interred there, according to cemetery officials.

“Over the past few years, the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery has tolerated items being placed in the cemetery, particularly on gravesites and headstones that were not authorized according to NCA’s long-standing policy and regulations on floral arrangements,” said cemetery director H. “Dan” Daniel Phillips.

“Fewer employees also lessened the cemetery’s ability to respond to unauthorized items violating NCA’s floral arrangement policy such as pinwheels, balloons, potted plants, candles, statues, shepherd’s hook and stuffed animals, for example.”

To ensure that all veterans and their family members receive proper dignity and respect, cemetery leadership and staff will actively ensure all gravesites and headstones comply with NCA policies and established guidelines, the director added.

“We are requesting that families adhere strictly to all posted policies and remain understanding regarding displaying proper respect for all veterans and family members interred there.”

The floral policy includes the following rules:

- Fresh cut flowers are permitted on graves year round.

Flowers may be removed to facilitate cemetery operations such as lawn mowing and grounds maintenance.

- Flower pick-up dates are posted on “Next Flower Pick-Up” signs posted at cemetery entrances. During flower pick-up dates, all floral items will be removed from graves. Persons who placed floral items on graves may recover those items from their loved one’s gravesites prior to the scheduled pick-up dates.

- Artificial flowers may be placed on graves throughout the year, but may be removed as soon as they become faded and unsightly.

- Items not permitted on gravesite will be removed from graves to be held in a centralized area on cemetery grounds and will be held for one month prior to disposal. The cemetery staff will assist families in retrieval of the tributes when requested.

- Flowers delivered by a florist must have all wrapping paper removed and no other packing materials may be left at the gravesite.

- The cemetery director reserves the right to remove and destroy without notice, anything left on graves that violates the intent of these regulations, offends the sensibilities of the public, or the dignity of this cemetery, is an eyesore or threat to the safety of the public or cemetery personnel.

- Plantings or potted plants will not be permitted on graves at any time.

- Christmas wreaths or grave blankets are permitted on graves during the Christmas season from Dec. 1 until Jan. 20 of each year. Grave floral blankets may not be larger than 2 feet by 3 feet. Cemetery trees, shrubs and/or any other plants may not be decorated with any orna-

ments of any kind at any time.

- To preserve the dignity of the cemetery, items placed on graves must be floral in nature. Commemorative items, balloons, pinwheels, glass items, votive or vigil lights, candles, statues, shepherd’s hook and stuffed animals are not permitted.

- Floral items and other types of decorations or objects may not be attached to headstones, markers or niches at any time.

- Plastic or metal vases are only permitted on graves. Cemetery supplied vases are federal property and are not allowed to be removed from the cemetery. Plastic vases are located in receptacles throughout the cemetery and should be returned to the receptacles when no longer needed.

- Glass or easily breakable objects of any kind are not permitted in the cemetery and will be immediately removed.

- Headstones are federal property. Altering or marking by paint, marker, lipstick or any other means is considered vandalism and may be subject to penalty as defined in Title 38 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.218 “Security and Law Enforcement at VA Facilities.”

- Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery assumes no responsibility for items left on gravesites. Due to the open nature of the grounds, we cannot guarantee against theft, vandalism or the effects of nature.

- Anyone caught removing items from gravesites not their own will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

For more information, call the cemetery office at 820-3891.

AF announces change to reduction in force board schedule

By Rose Richeson

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

Air Force leaders announced a change Feb. 20 to the officer reduction in force board, or RIF, originally scheduled to convene June 16 at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Air Force officials are adjusting the timing of the board until later in calendar year 2014 due to legal limitations governing RIF boards. The delay is necessary for the Air Force to meet required force management reductions but prevents Airmen from having to meet multiple boards in a short time span. The remaining officer and enlisted force management boards have not changed as there are no legal limitations impacting the timing of those boards.

The delay moves the RIF board into October with separations effective no later than April 30, 2015.

"When we initially announced these force management programs in December, we knew the dynamic nature of the programs would result in some changes," said Lt. Gen. Sam Cox, the deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. "While the change is necessary to ensure we operate within the law, it was equally important for us to keep our word and minimize the impact on Airmen."

Changes to the scheduled RIF board date will result in changes to the eligible population. Some

"When we initially announced these force management programs in December, we knew the dynamic nature of the programs would result in some changes. While the change is necessary to ensure we operate within the law, it was equally important for us to keep our word and minimize the impact on Airmen."

Lt. Gen. Sam Cox

Deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services

officers initially eligible to meet the June board will no longer be eligible as adjustments are made to year groups. Likewise, some officers who were not initially RIF eligible could now be eligible.

In keeping with previous policy, all eligible officers will still receive at least six months' notice prior to meeting the board. Specific details are being finalized and further guidance will be published by AFPC officials in the coming weeks.

Because the vast majority of officers remain eligible regardless of the board date, the voluntary separation pay, or VSP, application window will re-

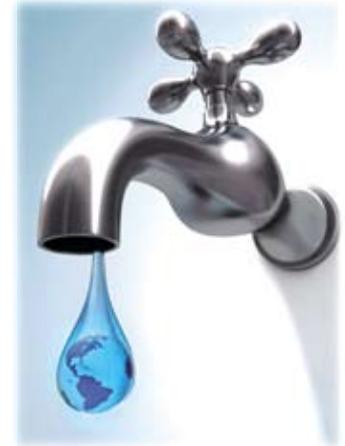
main open to all officers in an overage Air Force Specialty Code or year group as indicated on the force management matrices.

Officers who have already submitted a VSP application in anticipation of being eligible for the June RIF, will have the option to withdraw their application if they are no longer eligible. The officer temporary early retirement authority application window remains unchanged.

For more information on force management, force shaping, reduction in force and other personnel programs, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>.

Water Conservation Tips

- Do not use hot water when cold water will do. Water and energy can be saved by washing hands with soap and cold water. Hot water should be added only when hands are especially dirty.
- When brushing teeth, turn the water off until it is time to rinse.
- When shaving, fill the sink with hot water instead of letting it run continuously.
- Install faucet aerators to reduce water consumption.
- Install a low-flow shower head that limits the flow from the shower to less than three gallons per minute.



(Source: 502nd Civil Engineer Squadron)

Straight Talk Line

Call the local Straight Talk lines for current, automated information during a natural disaster, crisis or emergency.

JBSA-Randolph: 652-7469;

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston: 466-4630;

JBSA-Lackland: 671-6397.

DOD announces 'pro-gear' policy change

By Joel Fortner

Air Force Public Affairs Agency

Air Force officials recently announced changes to the Department of Defense's policy on transporting member's professional books, papers and equipment, or PBP&E, shipped in household goods during permanent change of station moves.

Known as "pro-gear," the new PBP&E policy impacts orders issued on or after May 1.

At that time, PBP&E will be limited to a maximum of 2,000 pounds, and will include items in a member's possession needed for the performance of official duties at the next assignment. Accord-

ing to Michael Topolosky, Air Force Personal Property Policy chief, these include instruments, tools, and equipment peculiar to technicians, mechanics, medical professionals, musicians and members of the professions; and specialized clothing such as diving suits, astronauts' suits, flying suits and helmets, band uniforms, chaplains' vestments, and other specialized apparel not normal or usual uniform or clothing.

He also said, it excludes other items of a professional nature that will not be necessary at the next duty station, such as textbooks from schools and personal books, even if used as part of a previous professional reading program, and some previ-

ously allowed categories such as personal computer equipment, memorabilia and table service.

The new policy does include a grandfather clause to allow anyone stationed overseas who transported more than 2,000 pounds of PBP&E before the change to return the same PBP&E amount to the continental U.S.

For more information, see Joint Federal Travel Regulation change 327 and Joint Travel Regulation change 581, dated March 1.

For more information, contact the Personal Property Processing Office at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland at 671-2821; at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 221-1605; and at JBSA-Randolph at 652-1848.

JBSA Sexual Assault Prevention, Response

To report a sexual assault, call the 24/7 Joint Base San Antonio Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Hotline at 808-7272 or the Department of Defense Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247.

Airmen can 'chat' live via myPers for personnel support

By Janis El Shabazz
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

Air Force Personnel officials have implemented a live chat capability on the myPers website to allow real-time communication between Airmen and personnel specialists.

Launched in 2012, myPers represents a shift from primarily face-to-face personnel interaction to a process that enables Airmen to handle their personnel transactions on demand and 24/7, from a military or personal computer using a common access card or login identification and password. In 2013, AFPC added the chat feature to ensure the tools available to Airmen keep pace with emerging commercial technologies.

MyPers provides direct online access to reliable, integrated, secure information and answers, enhancing an Airman's ability to monitor and manage personnel information, said 2nd Lt. Zachary Newman, the AFPC Transitions Branch support officer.

"The chat feature gives Airmen a fast and convenient way to get answers directly from subject matter experts on specific questions that may not be available on the website," he said.

The chat feature comes up automatically when members search for key topics like retirement, separation or retraining. Force management is not a topic that generates a chat but Airmen can ask about related questions during a retirements or separations chat. For example a service member applying for retirement or separation will be able to chat with a customer service representative about their application or ask a specific question on force management and get a real time response through chat or be directed to the proper reference by the customer service representative.

Following the session, the Total Force Service Center, or TFSC, emails a chat transcript to the member for his or her records. Records of a member's previous chats are also available on the myPers website. Chat hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. CST.

While myPers information is constantly refreshed to ensure Airmen have the most up to date information at their fingertips, the chat feature is a true example of a just-in-time to help Airmen through the current heightened force management activity, Newman said.

"We want to ensure Airmen always know where they can find the most current information," he said. "This is especially important in this climate of transformation. We do everything possible to ease the stress that is inherent whenever major policy changes occur. MyPers offers answers to questions covering a vast array of Air Force personnel issues, such as separations, base-of-preference, and the latest news on the upcoming force management programs."

The site recognizes users as officers, enlisted, civilians, reserveists or guardsmen, and provides customized access to personnel information and links to the most commonly used applications. Air-



men can also find information on processing requests and timelines on the site.

"The myPers website should be the first stop for Airmen seeking access to personnel information services," Newman said. "However, if they find they need further assistance they can call the (TFSC) to speak to a customer service representative. The TFSC centralizes processes and access for most military and civilian personnel services and center phone staff can answer whatever questions an Airman might have on personnel topics."

To contact the TFSC, call 565-0102, DSN 665-0102 or toll free at 800-525-0102. Airmen can also select the contact us link to email questions to the TFSC.

"We are constantly seeking new ways to better serve our Airmen," Newman said. "The myPers website with its multitude of topics and information gives Airmen efficient and timely tools to access and manage their personnel information anytime and anywhere they might be."

For more information about general personnel issues or the latest force management news, visit myPers.

DOD to mandate documentation for lost, stolen CAC cards

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.
American Forces Press Service

Later this year, the Defense Department will begin fully enforcing a previously optional policy regarding the reissuance of lost or stolen common access cards, a defense official said here today.

Sam Yousef, a program manager for identity and benefits policy at the Defense Human Resources Activity, discussed an update to the current CAC issuance policy during an interview with American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel.

"Beginning in late March (or) early April of this year, we are going to begin fully enforcing current common access card policy, which will require individuals to bring support-

ing documentation if they have had their ID cards lost or stolen," he said. "If you have your card lost or stolen, you should work with your local security office or the individual sponsoring you for that ID card."

People requesting a replacement card will need to produce a document on component or agency letterhead that explains that the card has been lost or stolen, he added. Yousef noted the document should be signed, and individuals must bring it with them to have a new card issued.

"If the card has been stolen they may also bring in the police report that accounts for that," he added. "This will not only get the department in full compliance with our policy, but it will also create better accountability for individuals who

have had their cards lost or stolen."

Though this has been a part of the current policy, Yousef noted, it was not mandated at CAC card-issuing locations.

"Previously, in the last couple of years, we have actually updated the system to capture this documentation on an optional basis," he said. "So what will happen in late March (or) early April is it will be required as part of that reissuance to bring supporting documentation with you."

The supporting documentation will be scanned and stored in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, he added.

This will affect all common access card-eligible individuals, both military and civilian, Yousef said.

In addition to being an additional security precaution, Yousef said this measure will help to prevent people from replacing their cards just as a matter of personal convenience.

"It creates better awareness with our local security offices (and) our individuals that are sponsoring our contractors for common access cards," he said. "So this way, they have full oversight if someone is losing multiple ID cards."

Following the update in requirements this spring, Yousef emphasized, it will be important for people to ensure they bring this documentation with them to have a card reissued, noting that most ID card-issuing sites already have been requiring it for quite some time.



Joint Base San Antonio FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

Monthly Events

March

Arts & Crafts

Save with custom frame special

The JBSA-Lackland Arts & Crafts Center offers a custom frame special saving patrons 30 percent off select frames March 4-14. Frame experts assist patrons in choosing the right materials to best showcase artwork, photographs or mementos. Additionally, custom framing at Arts & Crafts has significant savings compared to off-base competitors. For more information, call 671-2515.

Discounted craft supplies on sale

Find great deals on past holiday supplies marked half-off at the JBSA-Lackland Arts & Crafts Center while they last. St. Patrick's Day and Easter themed supplies are in stock for \$1 each. For more information, call 671-2515.

Auto Hobby

Auto Hobby Shop offers Texas vehicle safety inspections

The JBSA-Lackland Auto Hobby Shop performs Texas vehicle safety inspections for \$14.50 pass or fail. For more information, call 671-3549.

Vehicle air conditioning service offered

The JBSA-Lackland Auto Hobby Shop services vehicle air conditioning systems just in time for hotter weather. Take advantage of rates starting at \$40 for this service. For more information, call 671-3549.

Bowling

Patrons enjoy spring break bowling

The JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center offers reduced rates to patrons March 10-13 and 17-20, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$2.25 per person with \$2.35 shoe rental. For more information, call 652-6271.

Skylark Bowling Center offers bowling special

The JBSA-Lackland Bowling Center offers youth, ages 16 and younger, bowling for \$1 a game March 10-14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., while lanes are available. For more information, call 671-1234.

Patrons win money while bowling

The JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center's "Colorama" takes place March 14, 7:30 p.m. Patrons win money while bowling when they strike on the posted combination of colored pins. The entry fee is \$15 per person with optional side pots available. For more information, call 652-6271.

Patrons take part in St. Patrick's Day tournament

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center celebrates St. Patrick's Day with a "9 Pin, No-Tap Sweeper" March 15 at 1 p.m. The format of the tournament is five games of nine pin no-tap across five pairs of lanes, with bowlers moving one lane to the right after each game. The entry fee is \$30 with \$10 going to lineage and \$20 to the prize fund. For more information, call 221-3683.

There's a summer league for everyone

Ladies only, senior citizens, Christian Fellowship, youth and couples team leagues are to be found at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center. Summer leagues run May 19 through Aug. 11. Leagues play at various times, Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 221-4740.

Patrons enjoy great deals at the bowling center

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center offers \$1 games and shoe rentals Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy "Red Pin" bowling every Wednesday and Friday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 221-3683.

Sunday bowling fun for the entire family

Families get a bowling lane for one hour, a large pizza, sodas and bowling shoes for \$45. This special takes place every Sunday, noon to 5 p.m., at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. For more information, call 221-3683.

Bowling offers new snack items

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center has some new tasty snacks such as fried ravioli and fried pickles. The cost of these snacks is \$4.50 each. For more information, call 221-4740.

Clubs

Gateway Club celebrates St. Patrick's Day with lunch

JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club invites patrons to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a special buffet lunch March 14, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feast on entrees such as corned beef and fried cabbage, sheppard's pie, grilled stuffed pork chops, sides, dessert and much more. The cost is \$9.95 per person. For more information, call 645-7034.

Club offers St. Patrick's Day party

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club features a St. Patrick's Day party in the Lonestar Lounge March 14, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. DeeJay Doggin' Dave Productions plays music all night. Patrons are encouraged to wear green and enjoy beverage specials, dancing, a dancing contest, food and fun. For more information, call 645-7034.

Gil's Pub offers discounts for St. Patrick's Day

The JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club celebrates St. Patrick's Day with discounts March 17, during regular business hours. Patrons wearing green get \$1 off any food item on the Gil's Pub menu. For more information, call 652-3056.

Ladies enjoy happy hour

The JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club offers ladies a night of music, pampering and drink specials every Thursday, 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 652-3056.

Community Programs

Shoppers find bargains at flea market

The JBSA-Skylark Community Centers hosts their quarterly flea market March 1, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Warhawk Fitness Center parking lot. Enjoy bargains, music and concessions. For more information, call 671-3191.

Horseback riding lessons available for youth

The Exceptional Family Member Program invites families to take part in this special camp at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center. The camp offers eight horseback riding sessions March 10-13. Participants are also eligible to compete in the Special Olympics competition March 14. Space is limited so parents need to enroll their youth as soon as possible. For more information, call 221-2962.

Patrons enjoy bargains

The JBSA-Randolph Community Services Mall hosts a Bargain Warehouse March 12, 8-9 a.m. for E1-E6 and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for all other DOD ID cardholders. Only checks and cash are accepted as payment. A limited number of people are allowed in the building at one time so come prepared to stand in line. Patrons are encouraged to bring an umbrella, a coat and some water to ensure comfort. For more information, call 652-5142, option 2.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre presents "Doo-Wop City"

The Harlequin Dinner Theater on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston presents the hit musical, "Doo-Wop City." This musical revue features more than 60 hits from the 50's and 60's and runs March 20 through May 3. For reservations, call 222-9694.

Performing arts group showcases musical theater

JBSA-Lackland Performing Arts Group presents "Fat Cat's Variety Show" at Arnold Hall Community Center March 21, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Talented members from LPAG entertain guests with an evening of 70's themed music performances, games and fun. Patrons are invited to dress up in their best 70's attire for a chance to win prizes for best

costume and for correctly answering genre trivia questions. For more information, call 671-2619.

Gamers invited to Xbox tournament

JBSA-Lackland Arnold Hall Community Center hosts a Halo Four Xbox tournament March 28, 6-8:30 p.m. The practice session begins at 5 p.m. Prizes are awarded to top scoring players and complimentary refreshments are provided. This free event is open to gamers ages 16 and older. Patrons younger than 16 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. For more information, call 671-2619.

Price matching framing saves patrons money

The JBSA-Randolph Community Services Mall offers framing at discounted rates. Expert framers are available to help pick out that perfect custom frame for any special occasion such as sports awards, special achievements or graduations. In addition, the Community Services Mall will match any off-base price on a comparable custom framing job and customers pay no sales tax. For more information, call 652-5142.

Fitness and Sports

Patrons enjoy a biking event

The JBSA-Randolph Fitness Center hosts the Randolph Challengers 15-Mile Bike Ride March 1, 7:30 a.m., at Eberle Park. Bikers of all ages are encouraged to get in the saddle and enjoy a ride in the beautiful Texas spring weather. For more information, call 652-7263.



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FORCE

Free classes offered during sports week

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fitness Center on the Medical Education and Training Campus hosts a "Sports Week," March 11-13. Zumba®, circuit training, spin class and agility training are a few of the activities offered. For more information, call 808-5709.

Kelly Fitness Center calls for tug-of-war teams

Teams are encouraged to sign up for the JBSA-Lackland Kelly Fitness Center tug-of-war contest March 14 at noon. Teams consist of five-member teams with at least one female. For more information, call 925-4848.

Teams compete in basketball tournament

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center hosts a 3-on-3 basketball tournament March 14, 9 a.m. 3-on-3 basketball rules apply and the team roster must consist of at least three players with one alternate. There is a 32-team limit and the registration deadline is March 14. The cost is \$15 per team. For more information, call 221-1234.

Runners celebrate St. Patrick's Day

JBSA-Randolph Fitness Center invites all patrons to celebrate St. Patrick's Day by running or walking a 5K at Eberle Park March 17, 7:30 a.m. For more information, call 652-7263.

Patrons take part in Madness in March

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fitness Center on the Medical Education and Training Campus hosts a "Madness in March" bracket contest. Stop by the front desk starting March 17 to pick up the NCAA college basketball bracket. Brackets are due back by 9 a.m. March 20. The individual who selects the most correct games wins a \$50 gift card. For more information, call 808-5709.

Patrons learn boxing techniques

JBSA-Lackland Chaparral Fitness Center offers a beginner boxing class to patrons ages 13 and older on Mondays and Tuesdays, 6 p.m. The cost to participate is \$50 a month which covers instruction twice a week. For more information, call 671-2401.

Gateway Fitness Center conducts free class

Patrons get a fast-paced calorie burn and strengthen muscles in the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Fitness Center's intense circuit training course offered Monday and Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to noon. This lunchtime class challenges participants using weights, kettle bells and cardio. For more information, call 671-1348.

Patrons take part in AquaBike

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center conducts AquaBike March 8 at 9 a.m. Participants get a chance to show off their biking and swimming skills, while pushing their body to the limit. For more information, call 221-1234.

Indoor cycling class available

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fitness Center on the Medical Education and Training Campus offers a high-impact indoor cycling class Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class is free, but seating is limited. For more information, call 808-5709.

Golf

Golfers invited to scramble

Golfers are invited to play in the monthly "Warrior Four-Person Scramble" March 7, with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start time, at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course. The cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. The cost for the scramble includes 18 holes of golf, green fees, golf cart, dinner, gift certificates for the winners of the longest drive and the closest to the pin and for first, second and third place. For more information, call 222-9386.

Golfers celebrate spring

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course hosts a spring golf tournament March 15. The tee times are 7-9 a.m. and the entry fee is \$10, plus green fees and cart rental. For more information, call 652-4570.

Gateway Hills golfers play for cup

JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course marks 2014 as the inaugural year of the Gateway Cup tournament series. Each month, Gateway Hills hosts a special tournament giving golfers the opportunity to earn and accumulate points tallied at the end of the year to determine a Gateway Cup champion. Some tournaments are worth double points. For more information, call 671-3466.

Golfers improve swing

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course offers golfers the opportunity to improve their game and lower their scores. Golfers can make appointments with Brian Cannon or Charles Bishop for golf lessons. For more information, call 652-4653.

Golf course available for special events

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course offers special event packages for retirements, promotions, weddings and sports outings. For more information, call 652-4852.

Information, Tickets and Travel

Find magical discounts for Sherwood Forest Faire

JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel offers discounted tickets to the Sherwood Forest Faire located in McDade, Texas, running through March 30. The whimsical faire takes patrons back to days of jousting and sword fighting with sights, old-time food and shopping for crafts from more than 130 different artisans. For more information, call 671-7111.

Disney on Ice discounts at Information, Tickets and Travel

JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel offers discounted tickets with no TicketMaster fees to the Disney on Ice performances scheduled for April 9-13. Patrons are

encouraged to take advantage of discounts early for the best selection in seating. Lower-level seating prices start at \$15. Seat prices are based on availability. For more information, call 671-3133.

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6:30-11 P.M.

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HD Flat Screen TV, tablet, e-reader, camera, \$100 AAFES gift card, \$100 SPA Gift card, \$125 Wash Tub gift cards, Keurig Single Cup Personal Brewer, Sunday Brunches, two nights at JBSA Recreation Park at Canyon Lake, free ski boat rental, a \$50 gift card to Air City Bar and Grill and much more!

Presented by Gunn Automotive Group and 502d Force Support Squadron.

Call 652-4864 to make your reservation starting March 4.

Open to all DOD ID cardholders. Reservations/prepayments are required and refunds will not be issued after 4 p.m. on March 19.

For more details visit Randolphfss.com

Information, Tickets and Travel offers trips to casino

The JBSA-Randolph Information, Tickets and Travel offers several trips to the Grand Casino Coshatta in Kinder, La., throughout the year. Remaining trips are scheduled for May 13-14 and July 15-16. Each trip includes round-trip motor coach transportation, hotel accommodations, a voucher for \$23 from the casino and tour guide. The bus departs at 7:30 a.m. and returns at approximately 9:30 p.m. the next day. Cost is \$60 for double occupancy or \$120 for single occupancy. Sign-up deadline is two weeks prior to trip date and payment is required at sign up. For more information, call 652-5142, option 1.

Explore Ireland on a nine-day group tour

JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel gives patrons the opportunity to explore Ireland with a nine-day group tour June 11-20. Travel to the cities of Dublin, Belfast, Sligo, Ennis, Killarney and Tramore with rates starting at \$2,500 per person. Airfare is included and additional discounts are available. For more information, call 671-7111.

Sail the seas on a Caribbean group cruise

JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel offers a seven-day western Caribbean group cruise aboard Royal Caribbean Oct. 5-12. Travel from Galveston to Roatan,

Honduras, Belize City and Cozumel. Rates start at \$543 per person for inside cabins, \$983 per person for ocean view cabins and \$1,009 per person for balcony cabins. Third and fourth passenger rates are also available. Gratuities are not included. For more information, call 671-7111.

Discount tickets offered to customers

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Ticket Office located in the Sam Houston Event Center sells discount tickets. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 808-1378.

Library

Patrons invited to celebrate Dr. Seuss

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library hosts a birthday celebration in honor of Dr. Seuss March 1, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Come out to hear some of the favorite stories like "Green Eggs and Ham" and the "Cat in the Hat". Dress as your favorite Dr. Seuss character and be ready to participate in games and activities. For more information, call 221-4702.

Anti-bullying presentation offered

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library teaches youth the importance of anti-bullying March 4 at 9 a.m. This presentation will help youth understand what is and is not bullying and how to protect, avoid and move beyond the experience. For more information, call 221-4702.

Story time entertains and teaches

The JBSA-Randolph Library offers a story time at 10 a.m. every Wednesday. It is a great opportunity for children to listen to wonderful stories and participate in a simple craft. Story time also allows children to interact with other young children and to start building social skills. Story time themes and dates are March 5, Pigs; March 12, St. Patrick's Day; March 19, Healthy Eating and March 26, Oceans. For more information, call 652-5578 or 652-2617.

Story time is a hit with preschoolers

Stories, crafts and songs are all part of the weekly story time March 6, 13, 20 and 27, 10 a.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library. For more information, call 221-4702.

Patrons enjoy spring break at the library

The JBSA-Randolph Library hosts Beach Week March 10-14. Patrons who are unable to make it to the beach can stop by the library for craft stations, beach-themed displays throughout the library and special evening story times March 13, 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 652-5578 or 652-2617.

Patrons enjoy gaming

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library hosts its gaming day March 14, 2:30-5:30 p.m. Gamers can choose from Xbox, Wii, PS3 and classic board games. For more information, call 221-4702.

Military & Family Readiness Center

Patrons learn interviewing skills

The JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center offers an interviewing skills workshop March 6, 10 a.m. to noon. This workshop offers tips on preparing for job interviews, how to research prospective employers, how to answer questions and how to dress. For more information, call 652-5321.

Hearts Apart support group recipe swap

Hearts Apart hosts a St. Patrick's Day recipe swap March 11, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center. Attendees are encouraged to bring their favorite recipe that contains the color green to share with everyone. All the items brought to the event can be sampled by attendees. For more information, call 221-0946 or 221-9079.

Families invited to free movie

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Exceptional Family Member Program and Family Life Program offers a free movie at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center March 12, 1-3 p.m. The featured movie is "The Crood". Free snacks and beverages are also available. Attendees are welcome to bring their own lawn chairs, bean bags, blankets and pillows. To register, call 221-2962.

Patrons learn budget basics

The JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center offers budgeting basics March 18, 2-3:30 p.m. This budget

JBSA-FORT SAM HOUSTON
COWBOYS
FOR HEROES
March 29 • 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Presented by Gunn Automotive Group and 502d Force Support Squadron

This event features authentic "Cowboy" cooking on 1800's-style chuck wagons, live horseback riding performances, mutton-busting, live musical entertainment, pony rides, petting zoo and much more. The fun takes place at the Equestrian Center, is free and is open to all DOD ID cardholders. For more information, call 221-1718.

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basics class helps attendees create a flexible spending plan, identify where their money is going and how to save for long term goals. For more information, call 652-5321.

Learn about a technical training career track

The JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center offers a class for patrons interested in pursuing a technical career March 18-19, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This class is designed to assist participants in defining technical career goals, identify required credentials and find career technical training opportunities. For more information, call 652-5321.

Child safety seats inspected

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fire Department inspects children's safety seats March 20, 1-3 p.m., for recalls, functionality and proper installation. Registration is required and children must be present for proper weight and height measurements. For more information, call 221-0349 or 221-2418.

Patrons learn to communicate with kids

The JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center teaches parents how to communicate with kids March 21, 3-4 p.m. Participants learn basic principles of effective parent/child communication, how to help children deal with their feelings and how to communicate during a conflict. For more information, call 652-5321.

Spouses take part in resiliency training

Pre-deployment resiliency training takes place March 26, 1-3 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center. This training is especially helpful for those families getting ready for a deployment. For more information, call 221-0946.

Financial readiness is important for everyone

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center offers service members and their families' classes to help them face uncertain financial times. Available classes include: credit and debt management, budgeting, saving and investing, consumer awareness and more. Registration is required for all classes. For information on dates and times or to register, call 221-2380 or 221-2418.

Outdoor Recreation

Rent park pavilions and covered picnic areas for half price

During March the JBSA Recreation Park at Canyon Lake rents the large pavilions or covered picnic areas for half price. The covered picnic areas are great for a family or small group outing (20-25 occupants), while the pavilions can accommodate large reunions (40-50 occupants) or unit and company functions. For more information, call 830-964-3576.

Patrons enjoy half-price fishing boats

The JBSA Recreation Park at Canyon Lake offers patrons a great deal on fishing boats during March. Bring a favorite fishing pole or purchase equipment from the park store during business hours and rent a fishing boat at half price. A live bait machine is available to purchase live minnows, worms, catfish dough bait or chicken livers. A boater's safety course

is required to operate the rented boats. Patrons can complete this course at Guest Reception at the lake for \$2 per person. Allow at least 90 minutes to review the video and take the test. For more information, call 830-964-3576.

Wide variety of equipment for rent

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Outdoor Recreation Center has equipment rentals for everyone's needs. Camping, trailer and towing, water fun, sports and biking, barbecue and party equipment for around the house and garden; ORC has it all. Additionally, ORC has a recreational vehicle storage area and Lemon Lot. For more information, call 221-5224/5225.

Archery Range open for shooting

The Archery Range at JBSA-Camp Bullis is open Thursday through Monday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. They have targets which range from 10-60 yards and the cost is \$3 for a daily pass or \$20 for an annual pass. They also offer a 3-D archery competition every fourth weekend of the month. The cost is \$10 for the fun shoot and \$15 for the competition shoot. For more information, call 295-7577.

Youth Programs

Lock-ins entertain preteens

The JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs hosts a lock-in for preteens, ages 9 to 12 years old March 7, 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. The cost for the lock-in is \$30 per person and includes lots of fun, games and a snack. Registration must be completed no later than March 5. For more information, call 671-2388.

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs hosts a lock-in March 8, 9 p.m. to 7 a.m., at the Middle School Teen Center. The cost is \$10 per person. For more information, call 221-3630.

Youth challenged in chess tournament

The JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs hosts a youth chess round-robin tournament March 8, 11 a.m. Awards are given to first, second and third place in each age category, 6-8 years, 9-12 years, 13-15 years and 16-18 years. The cost is \$10 per person. Deadline to sign up for this tournament is March 5. To sign up or for more information, call 652-3298.

Youth invited to participate without a membership

The JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs offers patrons a chance to participate in clubs, activities or open recreation without paying membership March 9-15. Youth can check out the preteen game room, the Teen Zone, attend a club meeting or join in activities (doesn't include instructional classes, league sports or School Age care programs). Stop by for a monthly calendar of Youth Programs or check out <http://www.randolphfss.com> to see what is offered these weeks. For those interested in joining, membership is \$36 per year. For more information, call 652-3298.

Teens invited to visit Texas A&M

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Middle School Teen Center offers teens a trip to Texas A&M and a tour of the campus March 10. The bus departs at 8 a.m. This event is open to all teens affiliated with JBSA. For more information or to sign up, call 221-3630.

Parents get a night off

JBSA-Randolph Child Development Program offer "Give Parents a Break" March 15, 1-6 p.m. The fee is \$20 per child. Fees may be waived with a "Give Parents a Break" referral. Advance registration is required. For more information, call 652-5321.

JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs and Lackland Child Development Program hold "Give Parents a Break/Parents' Night Out" offering child care March 22, 1-5 p.m. The fee is \$15 per child. Fees may be waived with a "Give Parents a Break" referral. For more information, call 671-2388 for Youth Programs or 671-1072 for the Lackland CDP.

Youth Programs promotes Kick Butts Day

JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs invites youth to participate in National Kick Butts Day March 19, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Activities at the event raise awareness regarding problems associated with tobacco, encouraging youth to be tobacco-free and urging strong action to protect youth from tobacco. For more information, call 671-2388.

Open forum for teens to talk

This open forum is geared towards teens discussing relevant topics with staff. The event discussion is March 19, 5-6 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Middle School Teen Center. For more information, call 221-3630.

Youth have fun at skate night

Middle school and high school age youth enjoy music, fun and roller skating at skate night March 21, 6-8 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Middle Teen Center. For more information, call 221-3630.

Youth Programs hosts family camp out

Joint Base San Antonio families are invited to a Youth Programs camp out at Canyon Lake March 29. The cost to attend is \$35 per family, which covers one car admission into the camp grounds, a campsite and tent. Register no later than March 26. For more information, call 671-2388.



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Pet ownership involves proper care, responsibility

By Robert Goetz

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

For several weeks during the recent holiday season, a young light-colored dog roamed the area near the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center, so terrified of the many people who attempted to befriend her that she repeatedly withdrew from them.

But they persisted in their efforts to gain the confidence of the elusive canine some called "Baby Girl," feeding her daily to build her strength.

Finally, on Jan. 15, Air Force spouses Leah Smith and Astrid Wisser, who had been feeding Baby Girl, managed to capture the skittish pooch at the tennis courts and took her to the JBSA-Randolph Veterinary Clinic, where she was shampooed, spayed and treated for fleas and a hookworm infection.

Baby Girl's story had a happy ending with her adoption that same day by Col. Ramona Dolson, Air Force Selection Board Secretariat chief, who gave her the name Bebe, but the canine's plight during her weeks of abandonment underscores the importance of responsible pet ownership.

"Bebe has been adopted and has a good home," Diane Butler, JBSA-Randolph Housing Element chief, said. "We just need to get the word out that people need to take care of their animals and that the JBSA-Randolph community comes together to help animals in need when their owners are neglectful."

Butler said nobody knows if Bebe wandered onto JBSA-Randolph, was dumped here, escaped from a residence here or was simply abandoned by a military member, but it's important for pet owners here to follow the requirements of Randolph Family Housing's pet policy so their animals don't suffer as Bebe did.

Some of those rules are to keep pets on a leash at all times when outside the fenced area of the home and to keep them inside the home or behind an approved fenced area in the backyard if unattended, not tethered outside the home.

Pets are limited to two per household and are subject to breed and size restrictions, and proof of vaccinations, chipping and registration at the JBSA-Randolph Veterinary Clinic must be submitted to family housing within five days. In addition, existing residents are required to notify family housing within 30 days of acquiring a pet.

Responsible pet ownership also involves proper care.

"Pets require the right foods, exercise and proper shelter," Stephanie Geren, JBSA-Randolph Veterinary Clinic technician, said. "They should be kept clean and their nails should be trimmed. Flea control and heartworm prevention measures are also important."

An overlooked aspect of pet care is proper socialization with people and other animals, she said.

Bebe is now going through a socialization period of her own, but Butler said the canine began her adjustment quickly.

"The first night I took her home she was very passive, but I kept talking to her. The next day, we just bonded. Now she follows me around at home and she's learning that people are nice."

Col. Ramona Dolson

Air Force Selection Board Secretariat chief



Photo by Joel Martinez/photo illustration by Maggie Armstrong

Air Force Col. Ramona Dolson, Air Force Personnel Center chief selection board secretariat, and her dog Bebe pose for a photo Feb. 7 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

"After she was taken to the veterinary clinic, she stayed with me the rest of the day," she said. "That evening, Colonel Dolson came and took her home and she was already coming around. The next day she was a different dog."

Dolson, one of the occupants of building 977 who was feeding Bebe on a regular basis, also saw a huge difference in her new dog's behavior.

"The first night I took her home she was very passive, but I kept talking to her. The next day, we just bonded. Now she follows me around at home and she's learning that people are nice."

Bebe, a mixed-breed dog with German shepherd and husky features, is also adapting nicely to her new environment.

"She would not go outside by herself for a few days," Dolson said. "Now she'll go outside and play and run around like a crazy dog."

Dolson believes her pet was abused at one time.

"If I moved fast with a hand motion or got a broom,

she'd hightail it," she said.

Bebe, who Dolson described as "sweet," now has "a mommy who loves her," Butler said.

But she also receives plenty of love during the day when Dolson is at work.

Bebe spends weekdays with Smith and her dog, Ginger, at JBSA-Randolph housing and is occasionally visited by Wisser, who joins Smith in walking her, Butler said.

"Bebe is definitely coming around as a result of the attention she gets," she said.

Butler mentioned two other recent incidents – a Jack Russell terrier that escaped from his yard and another dog that was shot with a pellet gun – that draw attention to pet ownership.

"When these things happen on base, it upsets me to no end," she said. "It's very disheartening. I hold military folks to a higher standard."

"There are rules for taking care of animals, and it's just common decency," Butler said.

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph News Briefs

JBSA-Randolph tax center open

The Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph tax center hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 652-1040.

Flag folding presentation ends for individual retirement ceremonies

According to Air Force Pamphlet 34-1202, Guide to Protocol, dated Jan. 10, 2013, Chapter 14 paragraph 14.3, flag folding presentations are no longer a part of the sequence of events for individual retirement ceremonies. Effective April 1, the Joint Base San Antonio Honor Guard will only present the retirement flag during retirement ceremonies. All military funeral honors take precedence over retirement and public ceremonies. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Nidia Hodge, JBSA Honor Guard superintendent, at 487-2396 or nidia.hodge@us.af.mil.

502nd FSS hosts sealed-bid sale

The Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Youth Program will sponsor a sealed-bid sale for a 1989 Parker event trailer. The trailer is located in the parking lot between Ebbets Field and Wrigley Field at JBSA-Randolph. New tires and upgrades will be required. The bid starts at \$3,000 and ends March 31. For more information, to view the interior or to set up a date and time, contact Danielle Kline at 652-2088.

Motorcycle safety instructor classes

The Air Force Safety Office has contracted with Cape Fox Professional Services to host a Motorcycle Safety Foundation class for mid-March at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland to train volunteer military motorcycle instructors.

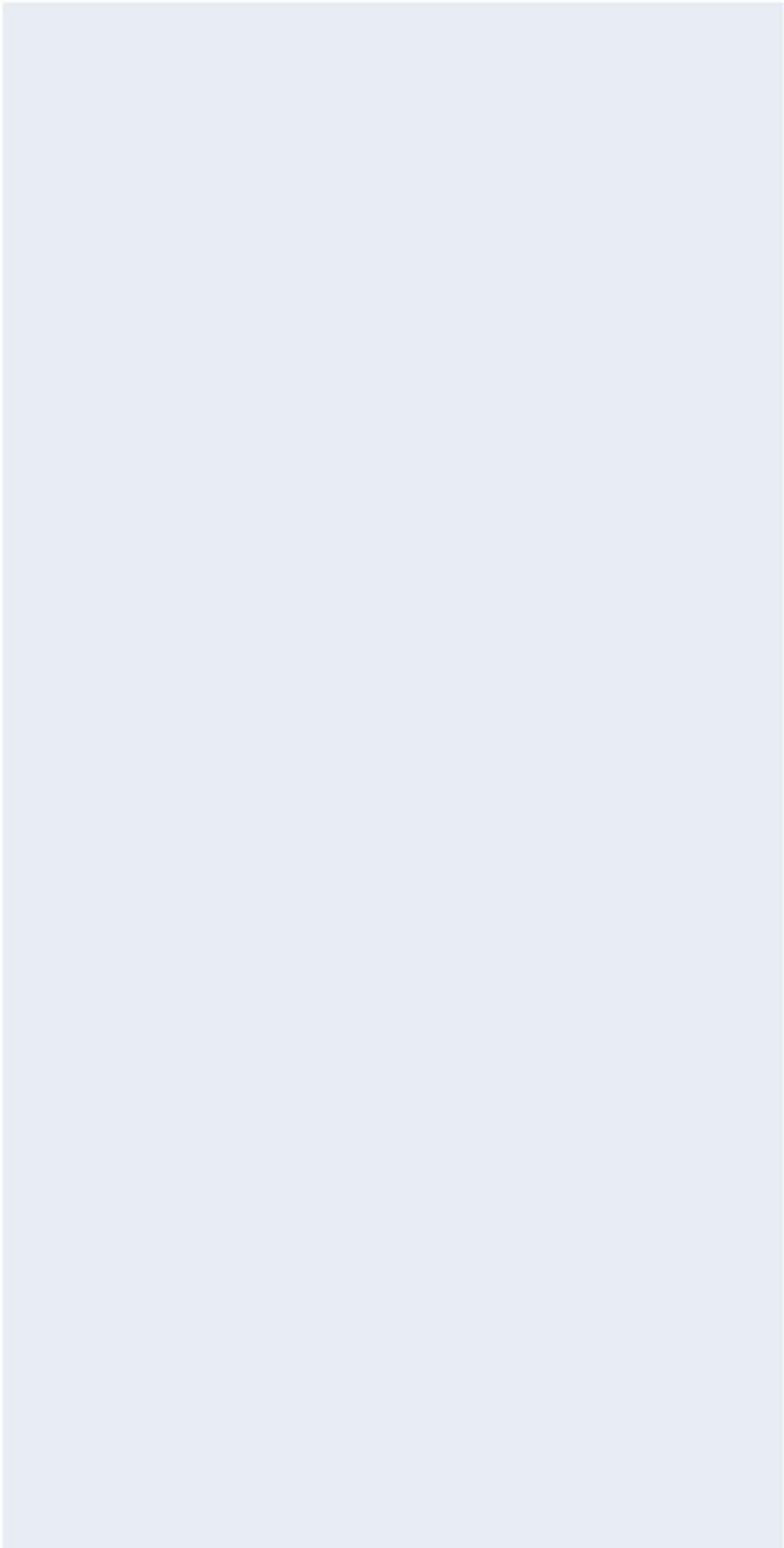
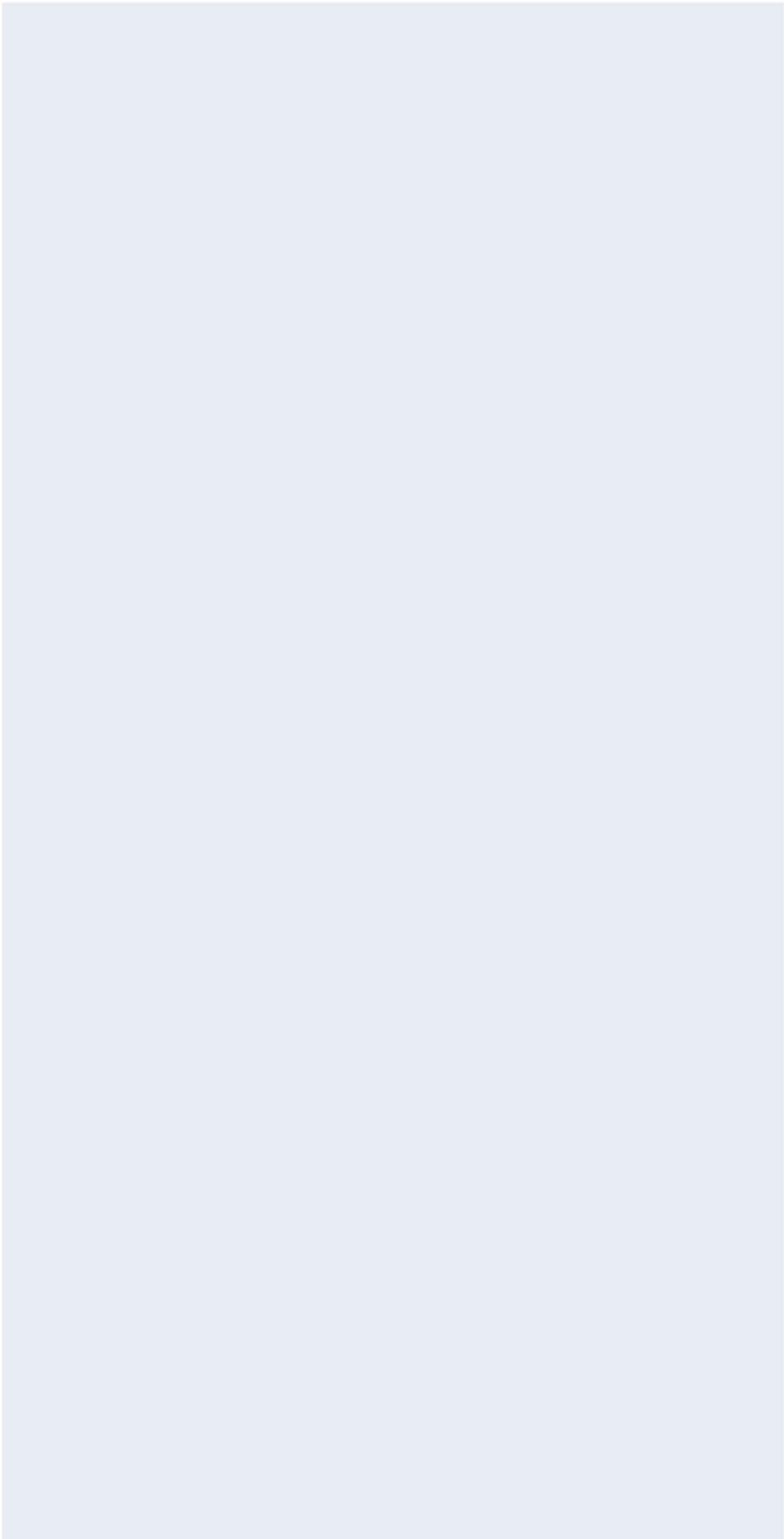
The eight-day Rider-Coach preparation class will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with additional time on the Lackland riding range, March 17-26 in building 7065 at JBSA-Lackland. Prospective Rider-Coach candidates must be a licensed motorcyclist who currently rides frequently and has several years of varied riding experience and good communication skills. Candidates must also provide current driving record and a commander or supervisor's approval to attend the course. Graduates must teach a minimum of four basic Rider-Course classes per year.

For more information, contact Bill James, JBSA traffic safety manager, at 671-6274.

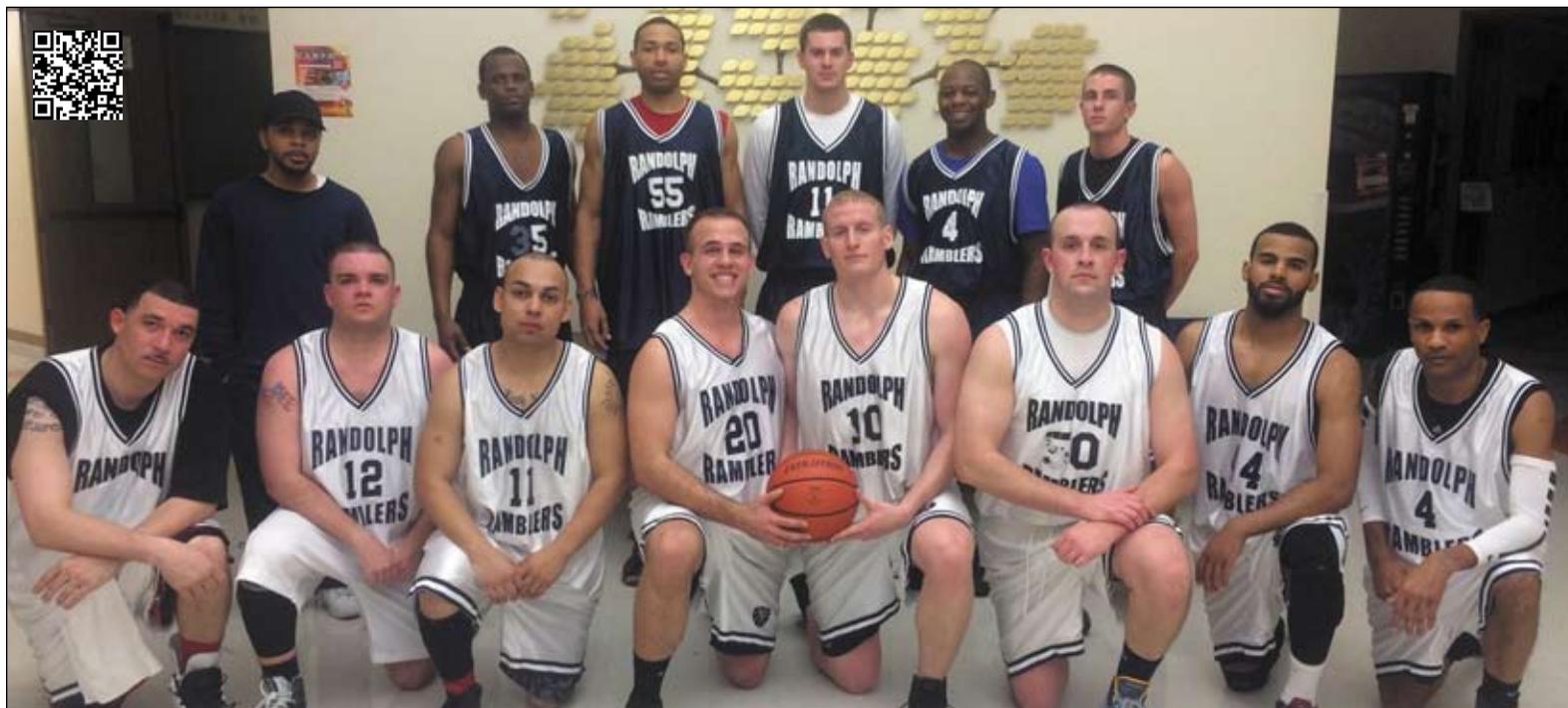
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SPORTS - HEALTH - FITNESS



Courtesy photo

Members of the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Ramblers varsity basketball team pose for a team photo Feb. 18 at Saint George Maronite Parish Church, San Antonio. The 2013-2014 JBSA-Randolph Ramblers are 9-9 with eight games remaining in their season.

Ramblers on the 'up-and-up' with 9-9 record

By Alex Salinas
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

At 9-9, the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Ramblers have improved upon last year's installation-level basketball team by two wins with eight games remaining, but second-year head coach Frank Berry wants to forget the past.

"Last year we finished 7-15," he said. "Before that, Randolph teams had losing seasons for about five years. Now, we're doing things differently and going in the right direction."

This year's 18-man roster is young and athletic, enabling the team to take more fast-break openings and keep on defense throughout the duration of the games.

Berry said having scorers like Sean Clinton, who averages 22 points a game, helps.

He also expressed pride in having all but three active-duty players.

"Our strength as a team is how we can hold everyone accountable at any given time," Staff Sgt. Michael Gunter, Ramblers point guard, said. "The fact we respect one another as men is key on and off the court."

Three wins came against college-level teams, including Our Lady of the Lake University, Northwest Vista College and Southwest

Texas Junior College.

"We've faced some good teams this season, but the real competition is ourselves," 2nd Lt. Willie Whitley, Rambler's shooting guard, said. "We're working on improving on team defense and making better decisions."

The Ramblers, who net about 85 points a game, lost several by five points or less.

"Not having consistent games every week hampers this season a bit," Berry said. "At JBSA locations, the home team has to pay for referees (due to a limited Department of Defense budget), and sometimes not enough players show up."

"That's why our team also plays in a city league to have the consistency of weekly games and to preserve our chemistry."

Despite the pay-to-play system, Berry said his group is determined to fight all the way to the end.

"By keeping it simple - setting good screens, finding open shots, passing the ball down low to our big men - we're moving away from selfish, one-on-one play and changing the culture and climate of Randolph basketball," he said.

If not, players get an earful from their coach and each other.

"As a captain, I try to hold each player

accountable," Gunter said. "During games or practices, I usually pull players to the side to talk if a correction needs to be made."

However, Gunter said communication within a team is a two-way street. If players need to pull him aside, he is more than willing to talk.

Changing the culture and climate hasn't been all fun and games, however. When it comes to his squad, Berry doesn't want to be the only one to forget the past. He wants everyone else to forget, too.

An incident earlier this season involved a person refusing to move away from the basketball court the Ramblers reserved for practice, which Berry said was a sign of disrespect toward his team.

After a brief shouting match, Berry got his team on the floor and practice began.

"I wasn't having it then and I'm not having it now," he said. "We're not who we were before. We're on the up-and-up; we're winning."

With a .500 record, Berry said the Ramblers are right where they need to be and expecting more wins.

Their next tournament is set for Saturday and Sunday at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

"We're ready to compete," Berry said. "We should be right in the mix."

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph *Sports* BRIEFS

Youth sports registration

Registration for JBSA-Randolph's spring sports takes place through today. All youth must have a current physical, immunizations and an online sports registration form on file. The cost is \$45 per child for T-ball, ages 5-6 coed (must be age 5 by March 15); coach pitch, ages 7-8; baseball and softball, ages 9-18. For more information, call 652-3298.

Biking event

The JBSA-Randolph Fitness Center hosts the Randolph Challengers 15-Mile Bike Ride 7:30 a.m. Saturday at Eberle Park. Bikers of all ages are encouraged to participate. For more information, call 652-7263.

St. Patrick's Day run

JBSA-Randolph Fitness Center invites all patrons to celebrate St. Patrick's Day by running or walking a 5K at Eberle Park March 17, 7:30 a.m. For more information, call 652-7263.

Golf tournament

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course hosts a spring golf tournament March 15. The tee times are 7-9 a.m. and the entry fee is \$10, plus green fees and cart rental. For more information, call 652-4570.

Archery Range open

The Archery Range at JBSA-Camp Bullis is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Monday. Targets, which range from 10-60 yards, cost \$3 a day or \$20 annually. A 3-D archery competition is also offered every fourth weekend of the month. For more information, call 295-7577.

Dispute resolutions to bring positive change to workplace discord

By Lakreisha L. Johnson

Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Alternative Dispute Resolution Program Manager

When dealing with stress and/or various emotions in the workplace, it can become difficult to be objective. The Alternative Dispute Resolution program was implemented to assist employees and managers in a conflict with a safe, neutral forum where individuals can comfortably discuss their issues rather than have a third party impose a decision.

This style of mediation allows the parties to construct their own remedies. All supervisors and employees have options when considering filing a complaint such a formal complaint or the ADR option. While no process is 100 percent guaranteed, there are some benefits to choosing mediation over the formal process.

For employees, one factor that makes ADR a more favorable option is the length of time complaints take to process through the system. The ADR office surveyed some of the clients (due to confidentiality, their names have been redacted) that have used the program, and many preferred

this method over the formal process.

“Time constraints; I know by experience that the traditional process can take six months to two years, by then situations have changed and bitterness and resentment has settled in,” said one employee who partook in alternative dispute resolution.

Participants also noted that mediation also gives the person a chance to resolve issues at the lowest level, while providing an impartial third party to help keep things on track. Mediators can also assist individuals understand what the other party is saying or what they may be offering as well as options each part may not have thought about.

For Supervisors, when an employee has a problem, the supervisor has a problem and conflict in the workplace can hinder the mission. Anyone can find themselves in a conflict with someone in the workplace. The issue can be as minor as someone having their lunch eaten, or as serious as a violent exchange. Regardless of how large or small, it is critical to know there is a process available to work through problems.

“No individual likes to go into any setting, ADR or litigation, and have their decision processes challenged,” said a work center supervisor who took part in mediation. “The Lackland ADR Program Office has made the process straightforward and painless. Their mediators are fair, open minded and well versed in getting both parties talking.”

By impacting individuals, the ADR process impacts organizations. Maintaining a productive work environment in which disputes are avoided or settled quickly and at the lowest possible organizational level is essential. Mediation can positively affect relationships by allowing the parties an opportunity to mend relationships through open and honest communication.

Not all complaints will be settled, regardless of what process is chosen, but a benefit to mediation provides the opportunity to be heard in an uninterrupted atmosphere. For questions about the ADR process, contact Lakreisha Johnson at 671-4284 or visit the office at building 2484 in Room 138N.

For more information, call JBSA-Randolph Equal Opportunity Office at 652-3749.