A PUBLICATION OF THE 502nd AIR BASE WING

LACKLAND TALESPINNER

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TEXAS • Vol. 72 No. 22 • JUNE 5, 2015

Photos by Joshua Rodriguez

Master Sgt. Kevin Pendleton, a 320th Training Squadron military training instructor, explains proper marching techniques to new trainees during their first day of Air Force Basic Military Training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland May 20.

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Are you MAD or SAD?

By Master Sgt. Henry D. Strozier
92nd Security Forces Squadron

There are two distinct types of Airmen who serve: those who are here to make a difference (MAD) and those who are selfish and distracting (SAD).

Each of us was equipped to be MAD once we graduated initial military training and our various technical training schools; we had the basic skills in our respective career fields to be successful Airmen.

We were ready to take on any challenge placed before us.

Unfortunately, many of us can think of someone who didn't make it to their first duty station for committing one or more selfish acts. I call those individuals SAD Airmen. Unfortunately, SAD Airmen can be found in any stage of an individual's military career

SAD Airmen distract us from our daily Air Force mission. They distract us from taking care of the other 90 percent of Airmen and their families. They diminish our resources and steal our joy.

As a first sergeant, I've heard it said many times from various Airmen, "Why are we getting the same briefing again and again? Deal with those who get in trouble and let us go our merry way."

Yes, that would be easy to do until the next safety violation, alcohol-related incident, domestic disturbance or sexual assault takes place.

Courtesy photo

"First Sergeant, he is a good guy, a true Wingman, our best technician. He just made a mistake."

Let's be clear: there is a huge difference in making a mistake and committing a crime.

More often, SAD Airmen already know their poor judgment or criminal activity could lead to disciplinary actions.

Furthermore, I would venture to say the majority of SAD Airmen once thought, "That will never happen to me."

So, what makes great Airmen become SAD? For different reasons, they lost sight of the reason why they joined the Air Force. They lost that great accomplishment they had when they walked across the parade ground.

Their lapse in judgment caused them to forget they are Airmen at all times, not just during duty hours.

They lost sight of our basic Air Force Core Values: Integrity first, Service before self, and Excellence in all we do.

Yes, most of them can recite the Core Values without hesitation, but the importance of these values did not resonate enough for them to uphold military standards.

Time and time again, we look at supervisors as the root cause of SAD Airmen. However, just as each of us independently raised our hand as we recited our oath of enlistment, we must take personal responsibility for our own actions.

Let's reflect on what it means to be a MAD Airman.

You took an oath to protect and defend our American freedom and agreed to live by a set of military rules and standards. You are part of a great brotherhood that has stood the test of time from MAD Airmen like Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, the first Air Force Chief of Staff, and Chief Master Sgt. Paul Airy, the first Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force, to Senior Airman Dustin Temple, who recently received the Air Force Cross for valor while saving 38 lives during a battle in Afghanistan in 2014.

MAD Airmen embody our Core Values and live by our Airman's Creed. They have respect for authority, themselves and others at all times.

MAD Airmen fully embrace our higher standards 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year.

MAD Airmen understand that being a Wingman is more than a cliché. MAD Airmen do not accept the minimum, but strive for the best at all times.

MAD Airmen are always looking for ways to improve themselves, their families, friendships, work centers and local communities. MAD Airmen choose to be MAD Airmen at all times!

So I ask you, "Are you MAD or SAD?"

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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.

News in Brief

AIR FORCE PHASES IN EMPLOYEES' INJURY, ILLNESS COMPENSATION PORTAL

The Air Force, in conjunction with other Defense Department services, is phasing in the use of the Employees' Compensation Operations and Management Portal, which is intended to eventually replace the current system used to file injury and illness compensation claims.

ECOMP is a free, Web-based portal for electronic filing of key Federal Employee Compensation Act claim forms managed by the Department of Labor. DOD officials have selected ECOMP for electronic processing of compensation claims, said Annette Castro, assigned to the Air Force Personnel Center Civilian Future Operations Branch.

Several installations were selected for the initial implementation phase, which were conducted March 30-April 30, to include: Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, JBSA-Lackland, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and Goodfellow and Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. Information gathered during that phase will enable AFPC Civilian Force Integration Directorate teams to guide civilian Airmen during upcoming implementation phases.

Using ECOMP, employees will be able to report a workplace incident and file a claim for compensation from their home computer without the need to use a common access card. Users can track the exact status of any form or document submitted via ECOMP and can electronically upload and submit documents directly to DOL case files. Additionally, once an employee submits a claim for benefits, the supervisor will receive an email notification that a pending claim is ready for review.

ECOMP will also shorten the time employees must wait for a claim number. Once a claim is submitted and validated by AFPC, employees will normally get their claim number within 20 minutes.

Base officials, including civilian personnel sections, will be notified when their installations are scheduled for implementation, Castro said. Until a base is phased into ECOMP, employees will continue to use the current process to submit a claim.

Additional information about ECOMP and the current process is available on the myPers website under "injury compensation."

For additional information about other personnel issues go to myPers at https://mypers.af.mil.

Programs provide opportunities for internships, jobs

Courtesy photo

By Janis El Shabazz
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

Recent college graduates interested in federal employment can take advantage of current open recruiting for the Recent Graduates Program as well as three other programs offered by the Office of Personnel Management to make becoming a federal employee easier.

The Recent Graduates Program, the Air Force Summer Internship Program, the Internship Program and the reinvigorated Presidential Management Fellows Program are developmental programs collectively known as the Pathways Program.

Recent Graduates Program: This program offers careers positions in the civil service for individuals who graduated in the last two years from a qualifying educational institution with an associate's, bachelor's or master's degree; professional, doctorate, vocational or technical degree or certificate. Program selectees receive developmental experiences in the federal government, guided career planning, professional development and competitive opportunities for career advancement.

To be eligible, applicants must apply within two years of completing a degree or earning a certificate, with the exception of veterans who have up to six years after degree or certificate completion to apply. For more information about federal employment information for veterans, go to OPM's Feds Hire Vets website at https://fedshirevets.gov.

"The federal government benefits from a diverse workforce that includes students and recent graduates," said Susan Long, Air Force Personnel Center Civilian Force Integration Directorate. The Pathways Program lessens the complexity of the rules governing recruiting and hiring for entry-level jobs to promote employment opportunities for students and recent graduates."

The other Pathways recruit programs are:

Summer Internship Program: The Pathways' Summer Internship Program provides the flexibility to appoint students to jobs that may or may not be related to the student's academic field. These appointments may be extended in one year increments as needed for as long as the intern meets the definition of student. The Summer Internship Program does not offer life insurance or retirement benefits, but it does offer vacation and sick time, and paid holidays.

Recruitment is currently underway for this program. The closing date for announcements is July 31 and the program ends Sept. 25. Participation in the program varies from base to base.

Internship Program: This program is for current students. The program provides students in high schools, colleges, trade schools and other qualifying educational institutions with paid opportunities to work in federal agencies and explore federal careers while completing their education.

Presidential Management Fellows Program: For more than three decades, the PMF program has been the federal government's premier leadership development program for advanced degree candidates. Executive Order 13562, "Recruiting and Hiring Students and Recent Graduates," expanded the eligibility window for applicants, making it more "student friendly" by aligning it with academic calendars and allowing those who have received a qualifying advanced degree within the preceding two years to participate.

"Pathways Programs have significantly improved our recruiting efforts by offering clear paths to federal internships for students from high school through postgraduate school and to careers for recent graduates," Long said. "These programs provide meaningful training and career development opportunities for individuals who are at the beginning of their federal service. The Pathways Programs have proven to be a great success placing more than 700 students and recent graduates during fiscal year 2014."

Announcements for all programs will be posted at https://usajobs.gov.

Additional information about the Pathways Programs can be found at on myPers at https://mypers.af.mil.

WINGMAN DAY ACROSS JBSA PROMOTES RESILIENCE

Photos by Johnny Saldivar
(From top left) Chief Master Sgt. Katie McCool, 802nd Security Forces Squadron superintendent, Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, and Tech Sgt. Angela Blane, master resiliency instructor, brief during Wingman Resiliency Day May 29 at the Bob Hope Theater. The day served as an opportunity to discuss comprehensive Airmen fitness and to participate in morale events throughout the day.

JBSA cyclists celebrate Memorial Day with local veterans

By Jose T. Garza III
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Members of Joint Base San Antonio pedaled 27 miles through the Texas Hill Country to spend Memorial Day with military veterans and thank them for their service.

The Air Force Cycling Team's Texas chapter rode from Comfort City Park to the Kerrville Veteran's Affairs Hospital May 25.

"I love the pride they have in their service and how much they enjoyed it," said Master Sgt. Amanda Fitzpatrick, 59th Medical Support Group first sergeant, who is in her second year on the team. "There's nothing better than seeing the world at 14 to 18 miles an hour, being there in the moment and hearing the veterans' stories about their sacrifices."

Chief Master Sgt. Maurice James, 59th Medical Wing command chief, said it was an "absolute honor" to participate in the ride and pay tribute to "those who sacrificed so much for our nation." He has been a member of the team since 2013.

Courtesy photo

Members of the Air Force Cycling Team Texas chapter participated in a 27-mile group ride to the Kerrville Veterans Affairs Hospital to thank veterans for their service May 25.

"It is really special to be able to offer them a small token of our appreciation and let them know they are not forgotten," James said. "Their contributions truly paved the way for where we are now as a Department of Defense and as a nation. I am very humbled and grateful for their service and sacrifices."

An illness prevented Joann Pinto, 59th Medical Logistics Readiness Squadron Facilities Management director, from riding with the team, but that did not stop her from participating. She drove the support and gear vehicle, containing food, water and equipment for cyclists who become fatigued or encounter mechanical issues along the way.

"It truly warmed my heart to have this experience and camaraderie with my fellow Air Force Cycling Team members," Pinto said.

The three cyclists agreed their visit gave them a sense of fulfillment.

"Each day, we should live life to the fullest because one day it could be any one of us staying at a hospital like this," Fitzpatrick said. "Visiting them makes me realize I need to take advantage of the opportunity to hear their stories and live life to the fullest so I can tell stories of my own one day."

"Learning to take notice of those who serve in our midst and thanking them for the sacrifices they've made for our country is well within my ability, and I hope to never forget to be thankful," Pinto added.

James said visiting the veterans made him realize how special it is "to serve in the greatest military in the world."

"They inspire me to want to serve at an even higher level and be the absolute best at whatever I am being asked to do," he said. "Visiting them makes me realize that the baton has been passed from their generation to ours."

"We have a tremendous responsibility to continue the legacy they have forged in blood, sweat and tears in defending this country and making the world a better place," he added.

The Air Force Cycling Team's next ride is the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride across Iowa July 19-25.

Echo Company teaches English to potential Army trainees

By Army 1st Sgt. Kevin Bowens and
Air Force Senior Airman Krystal Jeffers
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Echo Company under the Defense Language Institute English Language Center, or DLIELC, is a unit at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland that most Soldiers may not be familiar with. Although it's not widely known, the unit has an important and challenging mission that differs from anything else in the Army.

This unit allows Army recruits, who would otherwise be disqualified for military service, due to their poor English comprehension, an opportunity to improve their skills in the language and become Soldiers.

Without this program, recruits who are not proficient in English, but are great candidates, would not be able to enlist. By recruiting non-native English speakers for military service, the Army gains valuable assets because the Soldiers already possess a second language.

All potential recruits must score a minimum of 40 points and less than 75 points on an English Comprehension Level test to qualify for this U.S. Army program.

Recruits are the placed in DLIELC's self-paced General English Program for a maximum of 24 weeks. To graduate, they must maintain an average score of 70 or better on the weekly book quizzes and achieve a 75 or higher on the ECL test twice.

On average, recruits graduate after 12 weeks. During that time, in addition to learning English, they will receive military training in preparation for Basic Combat Training.

Before arriving at JBSA-Lackland, the recruits are sent to Fort Sill, Okla. where they in-process into the military, are issued uniforms and equipment, receive medical exams and shots and receive dental and eye exams. They will also complete their will and in process into the TRICARE system.

A recruit's first week starts with a reception and integration period where they receive a history of DLIELC and are introduced to the Echo Company personnel, who are referred to as cadre. Also, they are given their first tasks, like rolling socks, marching or making their bunks to military standards. With the explanation of the tasks, the recruits are also informed of the corrective training and actions that occur if tasks are failed to be completed in the prescribe manner.

"The correction will correlate to what they are doing," said Army Staff Sgt. Iris Autrey, Echo Company drill sergeant. "If they are falling asleep in class then they might do five push-ups to wake them up and then stand at parade rest. If we are teaching them drill and ceremony and they keep getting it wrong, then we will slow it down, go step by step and take our time going through it with the recruit."

English lessons begin the second week, starting with an introduction to the classes and a second ECL test. If they score 65 or higher on the initial test and a minimum of 75 on the second one, the recruit will graduate Thursday and ship out Friday to BCT. Otherwise, the ECL test is then taken on a monthly basis until the minimum score of 75 is achieved.

Courtesy photo
Members of Echo Company cadre are pictured in front of the Alamo during a cultural immersion trip. The drill sergeants are responsible for helping students of Echo Company successfully pass their English language courses.

Once accomplished, the test is taken a second time the following week to confirm their comprehension. Those who drop out may attempt the program a second time after a six-month waiting period.

The mornings start with formation at 4:45 a.m. where they recite the Soldier's Creed and sing the Army Song before performing physical training. Afterwards, there are barracks and in-ranks inspections followed by breakfast.

School is Monday thru Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Friday 7:30 a.m. to noon.

"The teachers explained things perfectly," said Pvt. Albert Hepburn, a DLIELC recruit who scored a 70 on the initial ECL and 96 on the second.

"In two days I learned a lot," added Pvt. Fernadez Edjardo, DLIELC recruit. "The classes helped me and I scored a 96 (on the second ECL) because of it."

After school, they attend mandatory study hall in the Echo Company English Learning Center, followed by BCT preparation training, which includes classes on Equal Opportunity, suicide prevention, sexual assault and prevention, and other similar topics.

"We make it exactly like it will be at basic training, which is an advantage to our recruits." Autrey said. "When they get to basic training, they are put into leadership positions because they already know discipline, how to march, call cadence, make their bunks and what the Army values mean."

Weekends consist of more military training on Saturday, such as land navigation, self-aid and buddy care, basic rifle marksmanship, and drill and ceremonies, while Sunday is reserved for spiritual/personal time and barracks maintenance. Books are allowed, but they must be in English with the exception of religious materials, which may be in the recruit's native language.

Echo Company has about 200 to 250 students annually and 40 to 50 day-to-day; approximately 85 percent are male and 15 percent female. The majority are U.S citizens from Puerto Rico, like Edjardo and Hepburn.

In addition, the unit also consists of legal U.S. residents from Korea, China, Turkey, Russia and other countries.

The cadres face many challenges and obstacles that other units may never experience due to the language barriers and cultural differences from having recruits from many parts of the world.

The drill sergeants take an active role in their English training and expose them to the American culture, which helps transitioning non-English speaking civilians to Soldiers. Because drill sergeants are responsible for the military training and day-to-day accountability of these recruits, they must ensure that the recruits understand the orders or instructions being given.

"We overcome the language barrier by talking a lot slower and having them repeat back what we just said to ensure that they understand," Autrey said. "We also show them what we want done or get another Soldier who speaks their native language to translate."

The recruits appreciate the drill sergeants' efforts as well as the program.

"This program and all these people here help us learn," Hepburn said, adding that he enjoyed the program

"There is a lot of support from the people here, even from the other Soldiers," Edjardo added. "They are supporting us all the time. I had a problem with '-ing' and the other guys here taught me that. The drill sergeants too give us a lot of support."

Courtesy photo
U.S. Army recruits from Echo Company, a unit within the Defense Language Institute at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, complete their daily computer-based language training. Upon completion of their English learning and comprehension program, they will move on to Army Basic Training.

Cultural exposure is done through Equal Opportunity classes and trips to historical and educational locations like the Army Medical Department Museum at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and the Alamo.

Even with these unique challenges and obstacles, Echo Company has proudly maintained a 95 percent pass rate. Success isn't just a result of the cadres' efforts though; part is because of the determination of each recruit.

"The recruits who come to us really want this," Autrey said. "The main reason why a lot of them join the military is to make better lives for their families. They really get into the studies and are always asking us questions trying to better themselves. They are determined to pass and that motivates me to find different avenues to better assist them in obtaining their goals."

For more information about Echo Company and the English program, contact a local Army recruiter.

59th MDW construction update: Building the future of military medicine

Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla

Construction continues on the new Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Construction continues on the new Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, as phases two and three near completion.

What has been done to date? Phase 1 is 100 percent complete: Constructed a new energy plant, utility vault, 1000-plus car parking garage and the first wing of the new facility. The parking garage officially opened April 30, 2013 and the construction of Wing A, the central energy plant and the utility vault were completed Oct. 19, 2013.

Phase 2 is 99 percent complete: All construction in Phase 2 is complete. The contractor is performing test and balance (heating, ventilation and air conditioning calibration) and commissioning actions. A new diagnostic, surgical, therapeutic service center and associated support spaces will be provided during this phase.

Phase 3 is 91 percent complete : All major construction efforts for Wing D of the 59th Medical Wing's new WHASC have been delivered under Phase 3. Ceiling and wall work are ongoing in areas J, K, L and M. Construction of the exterior dining plaza and landscaping featuring native vegetation are also in progress.

A new specialty care, medical logistics support center and command/support center will be delivered under Phase 3.

What is happening next? Phase 2: Medical equipment and casework installations are ongoing. Continuing efforts also include refinement of selected architectural and engineering elements.

Phase 3: Site work is continuous; tablet walls are nearing completion and antiterrorism/force protection walls and roads are being constructed. MRI magnets were scheduled for delivery in April. Other efforts include refinement of selected architectural and engineering elements.

Phase 4: This phase will demolish the existing WHASC facility and the existing energy plant, along with identified outlying buildings. New surface parking will be constructed and the site will be restored to accommodate access to the 59th Medical Wing's new Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center.

From 59th Medical Group Public Affairs.

Courtesy graphic

Program volunteers provide free rides to stop drunk driving

By David DeKunder
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Joint Base San Antonio volunteers are offering a safe alternative to making it home alive after having a few drinks in the local area.

The volunteers are part of the Armed Forces Against Drunk Driving program. The program provides designated drivers, who are on call Fridays and Saturdays from 10 p.m. to 2:15 a.m., to pick up JBSA military members and their family members who are unable to drive home. AFADD volunteers will drive active-duty members from JBSA-Lackland, JBSA-Randolph and JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

Active-duty members who need a volunteer designated driver should call the AFADD hotline at 210-710-7171 and be prepared to provide their name, phone number, location, number of people to be picked up and a drop-off location.

Military members and their family members have the option to have a volunteer drive their vehicle to their residence, as long as the vehicle is insured, Tech Sgt. Shane Kinman, AFADD president, said. Once the volunteer is given permission by the service member or family member to drive their vehicle, another designated driver will follow until the military member or family member is dropped off at home.

Drunk driving continues to be a serious safety issue in the U.S. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 30 people in the U.S. are killed in vehicle crashes involving a drunk driver, which is one death every 51 minutes.

"There's no greater service you can provide to them than to potentially save their life, or somebody else's life, or career, than giving them a ride," Kinman said. "I would rather show up and help somebody outside of work than have to have contact with them after they have made a poor decision."

Kinman said the rides are confidential. AFADD does not report any military members picked up through the program.

An average of eight volunteer drivers per night are on call each night, Kinman said. He said those volunteers have been impacted or touched in one way or another by the consequences of drunk driving.

"You are hard-pressed not to find somebody that hasn't been affected by a drunk driver," Kinman said. "Many of the volunteers have stories about friends or family members that have been injured or killed, or in other ways affected by drunk drivers."

Military members, Department of Defense civilians or contractors who want to become a volunteer designated driver can call the AFADD hotline during the week, or contact afadd.jbsa@gmail.com or afadd.jbsa@us.af.mil, or go on the JBSA AFADD Facebook page to volunteer.

Department of Defense looks to eliminate stigma for seeking mental health care

By Terri Moon Cronk
DOD News, Defense Media Activity

The Department of Defense wants service members to know there's no stigma in seeking mental health care, a DOD Health Affairs official said May 26 in Washington, D.C.

"We want troops and their families to know DOD has great emphasis on gaining access to mental health care, reducing barriers, and following where the research goes to provide them the best possible care," said Navy Capt. (Dr.) Michael J. Colston, psychiatrist and director of mental health policy, health services policy and oversight.

May was National Mental Health Awareness Month, said Colston, who noted that anxiety and depression are extremely common mental health issues.

He also related how the department has sought to improve service members' access to mental health care.

The White House, DOD leadership and partnering agencies such as the Veterans Affairs Department and Health and Human Services have for years battled to reduce the stigma of seeking mental health care, and their efforts are paying off, Colston said.

"Stigma reduction is something you need to work on every day," he noted. "We work with our partners every week, thinking of ways we can enhance access to care and to make psychological, mental health and substance abuse care are totally on par with other forms of medical care."

Mental health care access is "everywhere," Colston said. Service members and their families can talk to a primary care physician or go to a specialty care clinic. And mental health professionals are embedded during deployments, he added.

As a psychiatrist deployed to Kuwait, Colston said he worked with psychiatric nurses, a psychologist, social workers and psychiatric technicians.

"We've got easy access to care, no matter where you are," he said.

During more than a decade of conflict, DOD has quadrupled its number of mental health professionals to help active duty and transitioning service members and their families, Colston said.

Today, some 25 percent of active duty troops seek mental health care the year before they leave the service, he said.

And we are ready to help folks transition" back to civilian life, he added.

The DOD is very focused on getting good, evidence-based mental care assistance help troops in need by any possible portal, Colston said.

Program offers museum visits to service members, families

By Shannon Collins
DDD News, Defense Media Activity

Through Labor Day, service members and their families can visit more than 2,000 museums in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and American Samoa courtesy of collaboration among the Blue Star Museums, the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families and the Defense Department.

Ellyn Dunford, wife of Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., commandant of the Marine Corps, hosted the first Blue Star Museums event in San Diego six years ago. She said visiting museums can have long-range affects.

"Museums celebrate tolerance and freedom, teach respect for cultural differences, facilitate a sense of individual and collective identity and power through knowledge, nurture and understanding of our connections to the world and each other," she said. "Military families spread messages throughout the world as they change duty stations as they move, and they eventually leave the military and go back to our communities and bring with them that wealth of knowledge and experience."

Jane Chu, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, said the Blue Star Museums program has something for everyone.

"Parents of young children tell us that they go to museums to learn new things and have family time together," she said. "Blue Star Museums helps them do both; by helping military families learn about the cultural resources in their communities and offering a fun, high-quality experience that's budget friendly, as well as family friendly. We're proud to help connect museums to military communities nationwide."

For Blue Star Families CEO Kathy Roth-Douquet, wife of retired Marine Corps Col. Greg Douquet, the Blue Star Museums program holds a special place in her heart.

"In 2010, when this program began, we had gotten a one week's notice that my husband was going to go to Afghanistan for a year, so he packed his bag, shaved his head and went off. It was a tough year for all of us," she said. "Going to museums enhances resilience. It's a nice, free activity in a beautiful setting that uplifts you, and you're also being told you're important. When you go into the museum, the folks behind the counter say, 'We're so glad you're here. Welcome, this is yours for the summer. It's free because we appreciate what you do.'"

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve, from Memorial Day, May 25, 2015 through Labor Day, September 7, 2015.

Douquet said she and her children – Sophie, 17, and Charley, 13 – have been to 27 Blue Star Museums and plan to visit more with her husband.

The free admission program is available to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card, a DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card, which includes active duty U.S. military, National Guard, reserve, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and up to five family members.

Some special or limited-time museum exhibits may not be included in this free admission program. For questions on particular exhibits or museums, contact the museum directly. To find participating museums and plan a trip, visit the Blue Star Museums website at http://www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

In Texas, there are more than 100 museums participating in the program, including the Blue Star Contemporary Art Museum, Briscoe Western Art Museum, Casa Navarro State Historic Site, San Antonio Museum of Art, Villa Finale: Museum and Gardens and Institute of Texas Cultures in San Antonio; the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg; the Heritage Museum of the Texas Hill Country in Canyon Lake; and The Museum of Western Art in Kerrville.

From sun up to lights out – A day in the life at the 320th TRS

Photos by Joshua Rodriguez

Master Sgt. Pauline Hunter, a 320th Training Squadron military training instructor, informs a trainee on how to properly address a military training instructor.

Master Sgt. Pauline Hunter, a 320th TRS military training instructor, shows a flight of new trainees how to properly march in formation May 20.

Master Sgt. Kevin Pendleton a 320th TRS military training instructor, instructs new trainees where to stand at the basic military training haircutting facility May 20.

Master Sgt. Pauline Hunter, a 320th TRS military training instructor, instructs trainees on proper saluting procedures May 20.

Master Sergeants Larry Lacour and Pauline Hunter, both 320th TRS military training instructors, discuss the training schedule of the day for a new flight of trainees May 20.

By Senior Airman Lynsie Nichols
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

The morning is silent, but there's a sense of anticipation in the air as military training instructors from the 320th Training Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio- Lackland prepare to meet their new batch of trainees.

Finally, the wait is over as a bus driver pulls up with new Air Force recruits and opens the door of the bus — it's go time.

"Get off the bus! Move it! Move it!" a military training instructor yelled in the direction of the recruits.

It is in this moment that a trainee ponders what they've gotten themselves into. It is also in this moment that the MTIs smile to themselves because they know they are going to change this person's life for the better and mold them into a sharp and disciplined Airman.

"We're replenishing today's Air Force. It's monumental changing these trainees into Airmen," said Master Sgt. Kevin Pendleton, 320th TRS MTI. "These civilians are committing themselves to something bigger than what they've been doing. They are giving themselves to a bigger picture."

From the moment the trainees arrive that first day of zero week until lights out, their schedule is jam packed. They are quickly escorted upstairs to their dorms where they are given a briefing about what to expect, taught their reporting statements and assigned beds.

"We like to give them a bigger picture of what is going to be in store for them," Pendleton said.

After the initial briefing, the trainees are told to report downstairs and form up for breakfast.

Their MTI walks up and down the rows of trainees correcting their form, strongly encouraging them to stand up straight, stop moving around and cup their hands properly.

Upon satisfaction, the MTI calls upon a volunteer to be the chow runner. This trainee enters the dining facility and notifies instructors at the instructors' table that his flight is ready to enter the dining facility

One trainee shot up his hand in the air and volunteered — a choice he quickly learned to regret when realizing the job entails walking past several MTIs near the infamous "snake pit," the table where all of the instructors are seated for lunch.

"Sir, Trainee Jones reports as ordered, Flight 369 is prepared to enter from the West side," the newly appointed chow runner reports.

"Where are they going, trainee? You never told me, I have no idea where they are going!," said the MTI.

"Sir, Trainee Jones reports as ordered, Flight 369 is prepared to enter the dining facility from the West Side," the chow runner reports again.

"Bring them in," said the MTI.

The chow runner quickly returns to his flight to let them know they may enter one element at a time.

Inside the chow hall, controlled chaos ensues. Trainees nervously grab their trays and utensils, keeping their heads down and both hands on their tray while side-stepping down the line —only speaking to either accept or decline food from the servers. Waiting around the corner are several MTIs who ensure customs and courtesies are properly upheld by the trainees.

Once a trainee has their tray he or she must then navigate to their proper table, but not before answering a few questions from the ever-curious MTIs awaiting him or her at the end of the line.

After breakfast, they are off to the next location. Because of the demanding schedules, MTIs must ensure timeliness in the trainees from day one, a lesson they hope will stay with them throughout their career.

"Trying to get a flight of 52 to 60 individuals with different personalities and trying to get everyone on the same page in a timely manner is one of the hardest things," Pendleton said.

As an career aircraft armament systems specialist, Pendleton said his previous Air Force experiences prepared him to be an MTI. Working with intricate systems, aircrews relied on him to ensure their safety in carrying out the mission.

"Everything has attention to detail in the job I had and it has helped me motivate the trainees to pay attention to detail," he said. "The attention to detail they have for the tasks we have them do will prepare them for the Air Force."

Next, trainees line up shoulder to shoulder, nervously awaiting their fate in the barber's chair. Quickly, they are called up and just as quickly sent back outside to wait for the rest of their flight members.

Once the entire flight has matching buzz cuts, it is time to march back to the squadron and form up for lunch. During this time, Master Sgt. Pauline Hunter, 320th TRS MTI, arrives to relieve Pendleton and take on the late afternoon and evening portions of flight processing.

After lunch, the flight is formed up and ready to march to clothing issue where they will receive their uniforms. Suddenly, out of nowhere, the sky opens up and rain pours down.

"Potential for lightning within five nautical miles," a voice blares from speakers throughout the building.

Potential is not something that slows this flight down. Hunter instructs them to put their rain parkas on and prepare to face

See LIFE Page 15

ICE
Interactive Customer Evaluation

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 five minutes or less to submit a comment at http://ice.disa.mil.

Swindell Award goes to the 27th Intelligence Squadron

By Marge McGlinn
480th Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing

The 27th Intelligence Squadron has been selected to receive the Chief Master Sgt. James C. Swindell award for having the best communications and information systems operation in the 25th Air Force during the period Sept. 1, 2013 to Aug. 31, 2014.

Winning the award comes as no surprise to the 27th IS commander.

"I knew from the day I took command of the 27th Intelligence Squadron that no other squadron does more to synchronize and empower the Global Integrated ISR than we do," said Lt. Col. Angela Giddings, 27th IS commander.

The unit is tasked with providing global command and control of, and networking capabilities for the Air Force Distributed Common Ground System in support of coalition and joint forces. The Air Force DCGS is the Air Force's primary intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance collection, processing, exploitation, analysis and dissemination system.

Accomplishments in the award nomination include: the unit supported 47,000 missions across seven areas of operation, produced 2,000 global processing, exploitation and dissemination tasking orders from 1,200 source documents and allocated 379,000 hours of full-motion video and 445,000 high-altitude imagery targets for exploitation support.

"Our (approximately) 180 military and civilian personnel bring order to chaos every day – 24/7/365 – by providing global tasking and network operations to our world-wide enterprise," Giddings said.

The nomination also covered the complexity of the 27th IS mission, how it developed, tested, and implemented a web-based DCGS scheduling system that enabled shared global situational awareness of processing, exploitation and dissemination tasking changes within minutes, while improving tasking accuracy by 50 percent. The unit also piloted a $10 million enterprise services upgrade to enable improved system security while maintaining system accessibility for intelligence analysts worldwide.

In addition to having a complex mission, the 27th IS tracked global weight-of-effort daily to ensure the enterprise met the priorities established by Joint Force Component Commander-ISR, dynamically adjusting tasking and data flow to maintain balance and mission execution, through 2,500 network system maintenance events.

"The military, civilian, and contractor personnel of the 27th IS are some of the most committed intel and cyber warriors I have ever known," Giddings said. "They bring amazing ingenuity and determination to every single duty shift, doing whatever it takes to get the right tasking and information to the person who needs it in order to ensure mission success."

Giddings also said the unit is meeting the 25th Air Force vision to be the preeminent integrated ISR and operations enterprise -- delivering decision advantage to the right person at the right time across the range of military operations.

"In a very tangible way, 27th IS Airmen are the ones behind the scenes delivering the information that brings decision advantage to the right person at the right time all over the world," she said. "I am honored to be a part of their team and proud of the way their efforts help to keep our nation secure every single day."

Col. Tim Haugh, 480th Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing commander, offered his congratulations to the squadron on their selection as the Swindell award winner.

"Thanks to every supervisor, flight commander, first sergeant, chief and commander who leads, challenges and recognizes our outstanding Airmen every day," Haugh said. "It is a privilege to be on your team!"

The Swindell award was established in 1974, in honor of the late chief, who was recognized as the most professional communicator assigned to the U.S. Air Force Security Service, the original organization of the present-day Air Force ISR Agency.

Swindell, who was promoted to the highest enlisted rank at 31 years of age and with just 13 years in service, was instrumental in obtaining the first long-haul, secure, on-line circuits for the USAFSS in the early 1950s.

He was the prime architect behind the eventual merger of critical communications and automatic digital network trunking; considered major milestones in paving the way for the present communications capabilities of the agency.

EOD master, senior master sergeants added to CSRB list

By Debbie Gildea
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

Explosive ordnance disposal master and senior master sergeants may now be eligible for a critical skills retention bonus.

In an effort to meet mission requirements and retain senior-level experienced Airmen in critically undermanned specialties, EOD has been added to the CSRB list effective in May.

EOD master and senior master sergeants who have at least 20 years of service, but no more than 22 years of service, will be offered the bonus. Master sergeants will automatically get a high year tenure waiver upon reenlisting under the retention program.

Master sergeants who accept CSRB at 20 years or more will have their HYT adjusted to 25 years, the maximum allowed under the CSRB program.

Depending on the individual situation, bonuses could be between $30,000 and $75,000 total, payable in a lump sum or periodic installments. Eligible Airmen who reenlisted on or after the May 13 effective date are eligible for the retention bonus.

Additional information, including eligibility criteria, is available on myPers at https://mypers.af.mil .

Be Responsible!
Seat Belts Save Lives! Buckle Up And Wear Yours!

Local Briefs

TUESDAY

READ TO THE RHYTHM THIS SUMMER AT THE JBSA-LACKLAND LIBRARY

The Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland libraries are hosting the "Read to the Rhythm" 2015 Summer Reading Program. The JBSA-Lackland Library will host story time sessions and free activities at 10 a.m. each Tuesday through August to support and encourage a love of reading for all. Register now to win prizes for reaching reading goal.
Call 671-2878 for more details.

JUNE 12

L.E.A.D. COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP

The Robert D. Gaylor NCO Academy Leaders of Enlisted Airman Development Council is offering a $250 scholarship to the qualifying Airman who writes the best essay. Applicants must be enlisted members or a family member of an enlisted member of Joint Base San Antonio seeking degrees from higher learning institutions. Essays can be submitted through June 12. The scholarship will be awarded near the end of June. Call 671-3766.

JUNE 17

BUNDLES FOR BABIES

Bundles for Babies will be held from 1-4 p.m. at the Military and Family Readiness Center. The program includes valuable information for active duty expecting parents and expecting spouses of active duty members. The class offers a finance piece that focuses on budgeting for the new baby from conception to college years and a chance to find out what support programs are available on base and in the community. Participants will also receive free gifts courtesy of the Air Force Aid Society. Members must sign up to attend. Call 671-3722 for additional information.

JUNE 25

EFMP-THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT WORKSHOP & SUPPORT GROUP

Members of the Exceptional Family Member Program and others are invited to an EFMP workshop and support group from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland CAMP facility in building 3850. Technology is an excellent tool to help differentiate instruction and improve communication.

Explore accessibility features and apps for mobile devices. Learn new ideas, tips, and tricks for using technology effectively with children. An EFPM support group session will follow the workshop. Call 671-7322 to sign up.

INFORMATIONAL

CAR SEAT CLINIC

Family Advocacy is partnering with SafeKids USA to provide a child safety seat clinic at the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Fire Station, located at 1910 Kenly Ave., building 2325, June 25 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Safety seat check ups, installation education, and recall checks are included.

Only military ID cardholders are eligible and child must be a dependent. New car seats are provided only if current seat is outdated or on the recall list.

Children must be present and under 4 feet 9 inches or 100 pounds. Only one seat will be replaced per child. Registration is required; no walk-ins.

Provide the following information: child's name and age, weight and height, number of children and make and model of vehicle. To register, call 292-5967.

JBSA FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM CARE LINE

Assistance is available to those in need of services related to the prevention of family maltreatment in the community.

To report incidents of spouse or child abuse and to coordinate an emergency response for victims of domestic violence, call 292-5967. This line is monitored 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

DINING FACILITIES PRICE CHANGE

The below rates apply to dining facilities not using the a la carte pricing system: Slagel, Rocco, B5107, B5105, Medical Readiness DFAC and all BMT facilities.

Breakfast – $3.45
Lunch – $5.55
Dinner – $4.85

In addition, Meals-Ready-to-Eat and flight meals are priced at $5.55 each. For details on dining facilities to include hours, contact information and address, visit http://www.jbsa.af.mil/library/diningfacilities.asp.

DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIM ADVOCATE PROGRAM

Crisis intervention and support services to domestic abuse victims, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you or someone you know has experienced domestic violence, help and support is available at 367-1213.

CAR CARE AVAILABLE FOR SPOUSES

The JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center gives spouses of deployed members free vouchers for a free basic oil change and vehicle safety inspection at the Auto Hobby Shop. Call 671-3549 for additional information.

SHAPE UP WITH FREE WORKOUT CLASSES

The JBSA-Lackland Gillum Fitness Center offers high-energy cardio programs to get gym enthusiasts in great shape. The total body toning classes Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., target strength and cardiovascular fitness.

The stand-up fighter workout Tuesday and Thursday offers a combination of mixed martial arts, basic boxing, Muay Thai and ground defense boxing techniques focusing on cardiovascular aerobics and stress relief. These classes are free. For additional information, call 977-2353 or 977-2354

CHAPEL SERVICES

—PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICES

Freedom Chapel – Building 1528

Contemporary Service	Sun.	9:30 a.m.
Religious Education	Sun.	11:00 a.m.
Gospel Service	Sun.	12:30 p.m.
Spanish Service	Sun.	3:00 p.m.

LITURGICAL SERVICE
Airman Memorial Chapel – Building 5432
Sun. 8:00 a.m

CHURCH OF CHRIST
New BMT Reception Center – Building 6330
Sun. 7:30 a.m. (Rm. 175)

SEVENTH - DAY ADVENTIST
Gateway Chapel – Building 6300
Sat. 12:30 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
New BMT Reception Center – Building 6330
Sun. 7:30 a.m. (Rm. 112)

—ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN
Airmen Memorial Chapel – Building 5432
Sun. 9:30 a.m.

—WICCA
New BMT Reception Center – Building 6330
Sun. 9:00 – 11:00 (Auditorium)
Freedom Chapel – Building 1528
Wicca Open Circle 1st Tues. 6 – 7 p.m.

—REFUGE STUDENT CENTER
Building 9122 (Tech Training & TDY Students)

Wednesday	6 – 8 p.m.
Thursday	6 – 8 p.m.
Friday	6 – 11 p.m.
Saturday	12 – 9 p.m.
Sunday	11 – 5 p.m.

—JEWISH
Airmen Memorial Chapel – Building 5432

Sabbath & Kiddush	Fri.	4:30 p.m.
Religious Education	Sun.	1:30 p.m.

—ROMAN CATHOLIC
Freedom Chapel – Building 1528

Religious Education	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Mass Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Sun.	11:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	Sat.	4:00 – 4:45 p.m.
Daily Mass	Mon., Tues. & Thur.	11:30 a.m.

Note: Reconciliation(s) may be scheduled by appointment

—ISLAMIC
Global Ministry Center – Building 7452
Jumu'ah Prayer Fri. 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

—BUDDIST
New BMT Reception Center – Building 6330
Sun. 10 a.m. (Rm. 175)

—ECKANKAR
Gateway Chapel – Building 6300
1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturdays 12:30 p.m.

—BAHA'I
Gateway Chapel – Building 6300
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sun. 11:00 a.m.

—THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Gateway Chapel – Building 6300

Religious Education	Tues.	6:30 p.m.
LDS Institute	Thurs.	6:30 p.m.
LDS Service	Sun.	1:00 p.m.

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

KEY FAMILY SUPPORT RESOURCES

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
Thrift 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

Nurse Advice Line provides medical expertise, peace of mind

For Air Force Capt. Stephanie Raps, Easter weekend went from fun excursion to ordeal in a matter of hours. That's how long it took for her two small children to become ill as her own sinus infection worsened.

"We were nine hours from home, traveling in rural Ohio, and I knew we were at least two hours away from the nearest military treatment facility at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base," she said.

Raps, a nurse herself, had already contacted the Nurse Advice Line (1-800-TRICARE, option 1). Resources there provided guidance on all three "patients" and told her to call back if she needed additional help. When seven-month-old Leah's ear infection worsened to include a high fever and fluid oozing from the ear, Raps knew she had to take further action.

"I was worried it was a rupture, as was the nurse on the phone and they got me to the appointment center, which set me up with a pre-authorization at a civilian clinic within six hours," she said. "It was reassuring to talk to another nurse professional who I know was giving good advice."

Such reassurance makes NAL especially valuable to military personnel and their families. Nurses follow a strict protocol and walk callers through a series of questions to help determine the level of care needed. Options include visiting the emergency room right away, waiting for a regular appointment or taking care of the issue at home.

For safety reasons, the patient – even if it's a child – must be present when calling the Nurse Advice Line.

Courtesy photo

"It ensures the patients receive the right care at the right time from the right provider," said Jeannine Leonard, clinical coordinator for the TRICARE Prime clinic in Chesapeake and Virginia Beach, Va. "It gives our patients a place they can call 24 hours a day and get the advice they need for their concerns. In addition, NAL helps our clinic manage its access to care, ensuring patients are seen according to protocols."

Tamika Nelson, a retired Army sergeant with 22 years of service, faced that very issue. When a urinary tract infection became too much to bear, she got in her car to face the possibility of gridlock in Washington, D.C. trying to reach her regular military clinic at Fort. Belvoir, Va. But then she remembered what a friend told her about NAL and made a quick call.

"The nurse was very helpful," said Nelson. "She said while I did need to be seen within the next eight hours, I didn't have to drive all the way to Fort Belvoir. She sent a referral to an acute care clinic just around the corner from where I live, and I was seen, got my prescription and was back home in about an hour and half. It was the best thing ever!"

Nelson was referred to an urgent care clinic because she was beyond the 30-minute drive time specified in access-to-care guidelines.

In addition to being an extra health care resource, NAL increases patient safety, especially as the patient is handed off from one care provider to another. To further ensure a safe patient experience, military Medical Treatment Facility Patient Centered Medical Home team members can access live NAL information so they are aware of their patients' situation and can provide follow-up, if needed.

"Anytime you move from one level of care or one facility to another, your patient is at risk," said Sherry Herrera, who oversees military clinical operations for the Colorado Springs, Colo. area.

TRICARE beneficiaries enrolled at her military treatment facility call NAL more than 1,700 times each month.

"The information gathered over the phone is available electronically to the military treatment facilities, enhancing patient safety because there is a much greater chance that the caller's primary care manager will have access to those records when the patient needs follow-up care," Herrera added.

Depending on call volume, some beneficiaries might experience a delay when they call, but NAL is working to address this issue. Even with potential delays, callers agree telephone wait times are shorter than those in an emergency room.

When a military treatment facility is close enough and can offer the acute care or emergency room services needed, callers are directed to that facility, even if they prefer to visit a civilian urgent care clinic. This ensures primary care managers know about the visit and have access to care records.

For Raps, the advice line provided a triple win: It addressed her daughter's potentially serious ear problem, saved mother and children from hours of waiting in an emergency room and allowed the weekend road trip to proceed.

"Easter was saved," she said. "We were able to enjoy more time with our family. And I had peace of mind."

The Nurse Advice Line is available at no cost to TRICARE beneficiaries in the Continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call 1-800-TRICARE and choose option 1.

(Source: http://www.Health.mil)

LACKLAND GATEWAY THEATER SCHEDULE

FRIDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

Friday
- **6 p.m.** The Age of Adaline (PG-13)

Saturday
- Noon The Age of Adaline (PG-13)
- 3 p.m. The Avengers: Age of Ultron (PG-13)
- 6 p.m. Furious 7 (PG-13)

Sunday
- Noon The Avengers: Age of Ultron (PG-13)
- 3 p.m. The Age of Adaline (PG-13)

Thursday
- 4 p.m. The Age of Adaline (PG-13)

Movie Line: 671-3985 or View schedules at:
https://www.shopmyexchange.com/reel-time-theatres/

Program Note
Locate the *Day of the Week* and *Read* across for specific show times.
We have one movie screen, one movie per show time.
Doors open 30 *minutes* prior to each show time.

Fraud, Waste or Abuse

Report suspicious activity concerning fraud, waste or abuse and employee or management misconduct.

Report suspected FWA to your local inspector general, the 502nd Air Base Wing IG or the DOD FWA Hotline.

502 ABW/IG FWA Hotline 808-1000, http://www.jbsa.af.mil/fwa.asp

DOD Hotline 800-424-9098, http://www.dodig.mil/hotline

LIFE from Page 11

the heavy rains. Thirty minutes later, they arrive at clothing issue.

Hunter has her flight form up.

"Who needs running shoes?" she asked.

A few trainees raise their hands and she has them step outside the flight and form two separate lines.

Already exhausted from what likely feels like the longest day ever, two trainees, who appear to be falling asleep, miss Hunter's instructions to follow Pendleton across the street to the shoe store.

"Excuse me! Do you need running shoes?" she asked.

"Yes ma'am," they replied in unison.

"Then get over there with the rest of your flight and get them," she said.

It is at this moment they realize their mistake in letting their group leave without them as they quickly hurry to catch up.

While the remainder of the flight waits for them to return, Hunter instructs everyone to pull out study material.

Hunter has been in the Air Force for more than 17 years and volunteered to be an MTI.

"I've been a senior NCO for three years and I think that everything I've dealt with, as far as leadership, has prepared me to be an MTI," Hunter said.

But Hunter said she still faces challenges.

"The hardest thing is finding the balance between work and home," she said. "Finding time for my family and dedicating my time sufficiently to the trainees is a challenge."

Once the flight members return from purchasing running shoes and rejoin other flight members they are ushered in through the doors of clothing issue, handed a green duffle bag and told to grab two of everything in their size bin.

Immediately following, the trainees are told to enter a room where they receive a body scan that determines the size of uniform to be issued. After receiving uniforms, trainees are fitted for boots.

During the entire process, the trainees are moving quickly, packing their duplicate items along with their civilian clothes in their bags.

The flight now has matching uniforms and is one step closer to looking like future Airmen.

The sun comes out for the flight's return to the dormitory.

Once at the squadron, they're instructed to bring their items upstairs, leave them on their beds and report back downstairs to march next door to the mini mall to purchase essential items.

The trainees have approximately 45 minutes to navigate the tiny store and collect all the items on a list they had received earlier that morning. Throughout the store, there are many temptations for the new trainees, from candy to electronics — items that are off limits.

"The main thing I want to teach my flight is discipline and integrity," Hunter said. "If you can do the right thing when no one is looking, then you'll be good to go."

After their quick trip to the mini mall, the flight is headed back to their squadron for dinner.

Dinner is a much quieter, more relaxed tempo for these trainees that have been on the go all day. Once they are finished, they are sent back to their dorms where they learn how to properly put away their uniform items and change into their physical fitness uniforms for the evening.

Pendleton feels that being an MTI is an extremely rewarding job.

"Seeing civilians turned into Airmen and watching that change is pretty rewarding," he said. "It is changing my life to see what I help put into the Air Force, these are individuals I would like to be next to when I go back to the operational field."

"This experience has changed me because I see a different perspective of how an Airman starts off," Hunter said. "I have a deep respect for their courage and know that they don't know a lot about the Air Force when they come here and we get to teach them."

The mission of the 320th Training Squadron is to provide world-class military leadership and training necessary to transform recruits into highly motivated Airmen possessing the foundational warrior attitudes, knowledge, skills and abilities to sustain the world's greatest Air Force.

Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland is on Instagram

Share your JBSA-Lackland photos with us by tagging us @ JBSALackland

Phantom Warriors bring home National Military Basketball Title

The Fort Hood Phantom Warriors hoist the National Military Varsity Basketball Tournament trophy after defeating the Hurlburt Field Commandos, 89-78 in the tournament final May 24 at the Chaparral Fitness Center. Fort Hood, who are also the Central United States Military Basketball Conference Champions, defeated Fort Gordon, Ga., Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland and Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. en route to advancing to the finals.

Story and photo by Jose T. Garza III
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

The Fort Hood Phantom Warriors secured the National Military Varsity Basketball Championship with an 89-78 victory over the Hurlburt Field Commandos at the Chaparral Fitness Center on Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland May 24.

The team capped off its first season in more than a decade with a victory chant derived from the beginning of the hip hop song "Donk" by clapping and yelling "Yep."

The team also claimed the Central United States Military Basketball Conference Championship and the Martin Luther King Basketball Championship.

Capt. Michael Meyers, the Phantom Warriors' coach, moved to Fort Hood from Daegu, South Korea in the fall of 2014. Meyers said he called up the Fort Hood sports office about restarting the program shortly after his arrival.

Meyers successfully lead Daegu's basketball team to multiple championships during his tenure there.

After starting tryouts in September, he said his team immediately bought into his coaching style.

"They believed in a system, in which we emphasized physical conditioning, mental execution and reactive basketball," said Meyers, Headquarters, and Headquarters Company, 4th Sustainment Brigade Battalion S3. "When you believe in a philosophy, everything is a lot easier."

Following this system helped the Phantom Warriors defeat Fort Gordon, Ga., the JBSA-Lackland Warhawks and Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., en route to the finals.

The team also used their physical conditioning to score 14 unanswered points in the middle of the second half, after the Commandos fought back from a 48-37 halftime deficit to narrow the score to 56-51.

The run was commanded by a layup from point guard Pfc. Darnell Jackson, who won the tournament's Most Valuable Player award and led the team in scoring with 17 points.

"Our team is loaded with guards, and we have three or four big guys who can control the paint," said Jackson, a pharmacy specialist at Fort Hood's Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center. "When we have four or five guards who can come off the bench and score, no opponent can run with us."

Meyers credits the team's medical training staff for keeping them in peak physical condition throughout the tournament.

"Our conditioning is what allowed us to run away from teams during this tournament," he said.

Meyers said the Phantom Warriors stuck to playing "Fort Hood basketball" during the Commandos' run.

"Fort Hood basketball is up-tempo and smart basketball, which is really fast with a lot of 3s being shot," he said. "There was no need to stop playing that way."

Senior Airman Tommy Busby Jr. sunk in consecutive 3-pointers to cut the Commandos' deficit to 14 at 70-56. Airman 1st Class Kalyn Meeks later hit a 3-pointer of his own with 4:30 left to cut the deficit to 11 at 77-66.

"Fort Hood got a lot of opportunities that I felt, if we took them away we would have been able to make the game tighter," said Coach Dexter Mitchell, 1st Special Operations Wing community support coordinator. "Regardless, I am still happy with my team's performance, and couldn't have asked them to do more than they could have today. They have nothing to hang their heads about.

Upcoming

CO-ED OBSTACLE COURSE

The Gillum Fitness Center hosts a free obstacle course at 7 a.m. June 15. The two-person teams will be comprised of one male and one female. The obstacle course includes a one-mile ride on a spin bike, pushups, situps, tire flips, burpees, two-person wheel barrow and concludes with an Army crawl. Call 977-2353.

BOWLING WITH DAD

The Skylark Bowling Center offers free shoe rentals for fathers from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 21. For more information, call 671-1234.

Scoreboard

SOFTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE

NL WEST	W	L
1. NTTC	2	0
2. 502nd OSS	3	1
3. 717th MI Bn	1	1
4. 624th OC	2	2
5. 502nd FSG	1	2
6. 59th MLRS	0	3
NL CENTRAL	**W**	**L**
1. 802nd SFS - Blue Team	1	0
2. 343rd TRS	4	1
3. 341st TRS	1	2
4. 502nd CONS	1	2
5. 37th TRSS	0	2
NL EAST	**W**	**L**
1. 453rd EWS	2	0
2. AFLCMC	3	0
3. 149th FW	1	1
4. 502nd LRS	1	1
5. 688th CW	1	2
6. CGCU-TX	0	4

AMERICAN LEAGUE

AL EAST	W	L
1. 737th TRG	2	0
2. 802nd SFS-White	5	0
3. NIOC	2	1
4. 369th RCG	2	2
5. 92nd IOS	1	2
AL WEST	**W**	**L**
1. DISA	4	1
2. 35th IS	2	1
3. IAAFA	1	1
4. 33rd NWS	2	3
5. Lady Warhawks	2	3
6. 433rd AMXS	0	5
AL CENTRAL	**W**	**L**
1. 543rd ISRG	3	0
2. 502nd CEF	2	1
3. 690th COG	2	1
4. 559th MDG	1	3
5. 668th ALIS	1	5
6. 543rd SPTS	0	3

25th AF earns base intramural volleyball title for third season

The 25th Air Force volleyball team pose together after winning the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Intramural Volleyball Championship May 27 at the Chaparral Fitness Center. The team defeated the Cryptologic and Cyber Systems Division 25-17, 25-1 to win its third consecutive title.

Story and photo by Jose T. Garza III
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

The 25th Air Force assistant coach John Tanaka felt vindicated following his team's 25-17, 25-21 Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Intramural Championship victory over Cryptologic and Cyber Systems Division May 27 at the Chaparral Fitness Center.

With various units, Tanaka has played against his fellow Security Hill neighbors since the 1980s and remembered cracking under the pressure at times against them.

Despite his shortcomings against CCSD, he looked forward to competing against his colleagues.

"It was a lot of fun," Tanaka said. "Playing against common foes has a calming effect because when you're playing someone you know there is not that much pressure playing a good opponent as it is playing one you're not familiar with."

This year, the CCSD cracked under the pressure early, committing more turnovers than they had kills. The team had 13 errors to 11 kills.

The loss of Mark Harris, who had five kills, to an Achilles tendon rupture midway through also disrupted the CCSD's offense.

"The loss of a major skilled player like Mark took the wind out of our sails without a doubt," said Bill Archer, CCSD facility manager.

With the score at 21-23 for the 25th AF, the team scored its last two points off two CCSD errors.

Carlos Murray and Tanaka each totaled two kills in the set for the 25th.

The 25th defeated 33rd Network Warfare Squadron and 543rd Support Squadron en route to reach the finals and earning their third consecutive base intramural championship. The team also won the title in 2012 and 2013.

The intramural volleyball league was shut down in 2014 due to budget cuts.

"It is a great feeling, and it goes to show the great teamwork we put in," Murray said. "We told each other we needed to have fun and relax because we have been in this position before and know how to play this game."