



WINGSPREAD



Joint Base San Antonio Randolph's 35 foot tall holiday tree is located in Randolph's Washington Circle in front of the iconic landmark, the Taj Mahal.

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JBSA LEGACY

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COMING January 13th 2017!!!

San Antonio youth, ISR Wingmen honor veterans together Page 11

Navy assists with Colombian army visit to S.A. Page 8

Competition tests Army medics from across nation Page 4

Coming in 2017

The new Joint Base San Antonio publication will be the JBSA Legacy. See page 4 for further details.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Parsons

Military training leaders care for Airmen, page 3



FSS schedule of events, pages 7-10



Photo by Senior Airman Chip Pons

Life after loss, page 12

From the Joint Base San Antonio
Judge Advocate General

The Joint Base San Antonio Judge Advocate General completed three Air Force courts-martial during the month of October. The results of a court-martial are not final until the clemency and/or appeals process is completed.

All courts-martial are open to the public and a list of upcoming courts-martial can be found at the United States Air Force Judge Advocate Generals website at <http://www.afjag.af.mil/About-Us/Docket>.

• **U.S. v Staff Sgt. KP, 35th Intelligence Squadron, JBSA-Lackland:** KP was tried by a special court-martial consisting of a military judge sitting alone from Oct. 4-7 at JBSA-Lackland. The military judge found Staff Sgt. KP guilty of two specifications of assault in violation of Article 128 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice and one specification of child endangerment in violation of Article 134, UCMJ.

The military judge sentenced Staff Sgt. KP to 45 days hard labor without confinement and a reduction to E-4.

• **U.S. v Senior Airman GS, 59th Medical Support Squadron, JBSA Lackland:** GS was tried by special court-martial consisting of a military judge sitting alone Oct. 18 at JBSA-Lackland. Pursuant to his own pleas, GS was found guilty of two specifications of disobeying a lawful order in violation of Article 92, UCMJ, as well as one specification of wrongful use of marijuana and one specification of wrongful use of cocaine, both in violation of Article 112a, UCMJ. The military judge sentenced GS to 14 days confinement, a reduction to E-1 and a bad conduct discharge.

• **U.S. v Staff Sgt. TPE, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, JBSA-Randolph:** TPE was tried by a special court-martial consisting of a military judge sitting alone Oct. 25 at JBSA-Randolph. Pursuant to his own pleas, TPE was found guilty of one specification of wrongful appropriation in violation of Article 121, UCMJ, and three specifications of assault, in violation of Article 128, UCMJ. The military judge sentenced TPE to 4 months confinement, a reduction to E-1 and a bad conduct discharge.

During the month of October and November, JBSA Air Force commanders administered 41 non-judicial punishment actions under Article 15 of the UCMJ.

The punishments imposed reflect the commander's determination of an appropriate punishment after considering the circumstances of the offense and the offender's record. Officers may not be reduced in rank as a punishment. A suspended punishment does not take effect unless the offender engages in additional misconduct or fails to satisfy the conditions of the suspension. The suspension period usually lasts for six months unless a lesser amount is specified.

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

Assault consummated by battery, simple assault: A second lieutenant struck another person with his hands and then followed that person around with an unloaded firearm. The member's punishment consisted of forfeiture of \$1,200 pay for two months and a reprimand. On appeal, the member's forfeiture of \$1,200 per month for one month.

Failure to go, violate other general order: A technical sergeant, without authority, failed to go at the time prescribed to her appointed place of duty. Additionally, she failed to use LeaveWeb as required to absent herself from her place of duty. The member received a suspended reduction to the grade of E-5 and a reprimand.

Dereliction of duty, willful: An airman first class in technical training consumed alcohol while on charge of quarters duty and attempted to give an alcoholic beverage to another airman under the age of 21. The member received a suspended reduction to the grade of airman, restriction to base for 30 days, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

Conspiracy to commit larceny: An airman first class in technical training was apprehended by security forces at the Base Exchange for conspiracy to commit larceny after being observed in the BX working with another person to place a pair of headphones in a backpack. The member received a reduction in grade to airman basic (suspended below airman) and a reprimand.

Dereliction of duty, willful: An airman basic in technical training was caught with testing material written on his hand while taking a block test. The member received 20 days restriction to base, suspended forfeiture of \$724 pay per month for one month and a reprimand.

Adultery, violate other general order: A senior airman, while still married, was involved in an unprofessional, adulterous relationship with an officer in her unit. The member also violated a no-contact order by continuing to communicate with the officer after being ordered not to. The member received a reduction in grade to E-3 and a reprimand.

Larceny, suffering military property: An airman first class stole medical supplies from a military treatment facility and conducted a minor surgical procedure on himself. After the member performed the procedure, he discarded the medical waste in an unauthorized trash receptacle. The member received a suspended reduction in grade to E-2 and a reprimand.

False official statement: A staff sergeant altered a previous official physical training score sheet to make it look like a current status. The member then presented the altered score sheet to the unit fitness program manager as a current fitness score sheet. The member received a reduction in grade to E-4 and a reprimand.

Going from Place of Duty: An airman basic in basic training failed to report to a mandatory detail as required, then departed from the installation by jumping a perimeter fence. He was later apprehended at a local motel. The member received forfeiture of \$724 pay per month for one month and a reprimand.

WINGSPREAD

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph

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The deadline for submissions is noon Wednesday the week prior to publication. All submissions can be emailed to randolphpublicaffairs@us.af.mil.



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MTLs, instructors don't 'leave an Airman behind' during holiday season

By Airman 1st Class Lauren Parsons
502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Kelli Jackson and Staff Sgt. Derius Jackson know their job as military training leaders, or MTLs, is critical to the development of the Air Force's newest Airmen.

Sporting a blue aiguillette, or rope, as an identifier, MTLs across the Air Force are charged with helping new Airmen transition to the operational Air Force after graduating from basic military training. This includes giving the technical training students the tools they need to become efficient at their job and teaching them about the resources available on base that can help with life outside of work.

K. Jackson, 558th Flying Training Squadron superintendent and MTL, learned early on that her role can sometimes take a different form that reaches far beyond the scope of acclimating Airmen to the operational Air Force, especially during the holidays.

There was a particular Airman that came through the Basic Sensor Operator Course over the Thanksgiving holiday in 2013, when K. Jackson had just started as an MTL.

The Airman was very close to her mother and had some problems going on at home, which she sought guidance from K. Jackson about. At the end of the student's training, her mother was unable to come to graduation, and like any good supervisor, K. Jackson asked if there was anything she could do to help.

"She said, 'No, the only thing I need you to do is stand in my mother's place and pin my wings on me for her,'" K. Jackson recalled.

"That kind of brought me – not in front of her – to tears, because I never knew our Airmen looked at us like that, as these parent figures or these big brother, big sister, type figures. That's stuck with me ever since."

While K. Jackson now has a few years as an MTL under her belt, D. Jackson just arrived to the 558th FTS in July. He said he's already been able to see the impact he can have on Airmen as a mentor.

"An Airman was coming in to his job not really knowing what he was getting in to, so it was hard for him those first two weeks," D. Jackson, 558th FTS assistant flight chief and MTL, said. "It took a lot of mentoring between me, the instructors and the chaplain to get him focused on what was at hand – the big picture."

"He left me a note on my board, and he thanked me for being patient with him and sitting down and mentoring him," D. Jackson continued. "It's those moments for me, seeing the growth and being able to communicate to the Airmen."

The MTLs also know that for a lot of the Airmen who attend BSOC during the winter, this is their first time away from family during the holidays.

"We make it our business to try to send them home," K. Jackson said. "See your family, see your friends, go back to your own neighborhood and be that Air Force ambassador, and then come back reenergized and ready to go."

But for Airmen unable to make it home, some-



Photos by Airman 1st Class Lauren Parsons

Master Sgt. Kelli Jackson (center), 558th Flying Training Squadron military training leader and superintendent speaks with basic sensor operator technical training Airmen Dec. 14 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

"We make it our business to try to send them home. See your family, see your friends, go back to your own neighborhood and be that Air Force ambassador, and then come back reenergized and ready to go."

Master Sgt. Kelli Jackson

558th Flying Training Squadron superintendent and military training leader

times this means going the extra mile to ensure they aren't stuck alone in their dorms on Thanksgiving or Christmas.

For Tech. Sgt. Joseph Eckman, 558th FTS BSOC flight chief, that meant welcoming a couple of Airmen into his own home for Thanksgiving.

"Master Sergeant Jackson sent out an email looking or people willing to support some of our students over Thanksgiving," Eckman said. "I remember what it was like to be a brand new Airman in the Air Force and wanted to do everything I possibly could to alleviate them missing their families over the holiday."

Just as the MTLs job is to continue the foundations set in BMT – principles like, "I will never leave an Airman behind," from the Airman's Creed – K. Jackson said they will continue to operate with that same concept in mind: "leave no Airman behind in the dorms during the holidays."





JBSA to move to consolidated newspaper

The Joint Base San Antonio newspapers will have a new look in 2017! Starting with the first edition of the new year on Jan. 13, the "JBSA Legacy" will be the sole weekly newspaper for JBSA, consolidating the Fort Sam Houston News Leader, the Lackland Talespinner and the Randolph Wingspread into one joint base publication.

The new look newspaper will cover news across all of our JBSA operating locations, serving the entire joint base population and bringing JBSA in compliance with Department of Defense regulations. The paper will continue to be published on Fridays and will be delivered to the same distribution locations on each installation as before.

This change will allow us to shift more attention in our command information arena from newspaper deadlines to our digital platforms, resulting in more timely news on the JBSA website (www.jbsa.mil) and our JBSA social media platforms on Facebook (Joint-BaseSanAntonio) and Twitter (@JBSA_Official).

Please feel free to contact us with any questions at 210-808-1087 (FSH), 210-671-2908 (Lackland) or 210-652-4410 (Randolph).

What you need to know about drones and small, unmanned aircraft

By Robert Pittman

502nd Air Base Wing Operations

Drone technologies have advanced to the point where they are safe and affordable to own and will likely find their way into many homes over the holidays.

These systems can be a lot of fun for people of all ages and appear to be here to stay. But before you fly, there are some important things to know about operating drones, also known as small unmanned aircraft systems, or SUAS, at 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio locations.

Regardless of the purpose for domestic use, protecting privacy, civil rights and civil liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and the laws of the United States will not be compromised. So before you make that purchase here are some important things you need to know about operating drones/SUAS on JBSA.

Small unmanned aircraft systems are defined by the Federal Aviation Administration, or FAA, as small unmanned aircraft weighing from .55 pounds to no more than 55 pounds, including everything that is onboard or otherwise attached to the aircraft and can be flown without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft.

Below are some general and specific requirements that



Photo courtesy Smithsonian Museum

There are some important things to know about operating drones, also known as small unmanned aircraft systems, at 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio locations.

drone owner/operators need to know in order to stay on the right side of the law.

Drone operators should be aware the FAA and federal law requires them to register SUAS registry. Users are subject to civil and criminal penalties if they do not register at <http://www.faa.gov/uas>.

Registration will significantly reduce the likelihood of injury to humans, prevent human suffering, and mitigate property damage. In addition, drones may endanger equipment on the ground and can lead to a security infraction and/or other mishaps.

Drone owners also need to provide a copy of registration paperwork to the 502nd Air Base Wing Operations Office by calling 808-0698 or 221-9561 for tracking purposes.

Information for the 502nd ABW/JBSA SUAS program, including guidance and registration, is located at the 502nd ABW SharePoint site at <https://jbsa.eis.aetc.af.mil/502abw/xp/jb35/default.aspx>.

Other specific SUAS requirements include:

- Drones must not be operated during hours of darkness.

- SUAS equipped with a camera or sensor require the operator comply with FAA guidelines, installation photography guidelines (hobby/recreational) or intelligence oversight requirements (official), as applicable.

- No unofficial SUAS will be operated when the JBSA property is in Force Protection Condition Charlie or Delta.

- All hobby/recreational drone operators shall comply with Section 336 of Public Law 112 95. As of the date of this article, the FAA requirements include the following:

- (1) Take offs, landings, and operation of hobby/recreational SUAS from 502nd ABW/JBSA lands or waters are not permitted unless the operator (with associated SUAS) has notified, and has been granted specific flight operation from the installation's airfield operations flight chief/commander, or AO chief, where the operation is to take place.

See DRONES P12

Safety remains paramount during holiday travel

By Jeremy Gerlach
502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

This December, thousands of military service members, Department of Defense personnel, civilian contractors and families will head home by plane, train, automobile or bus – many traveling across state lines on a tight budget and tight timeline. With so much emotion and stress riding on the holiday season, it's easy to overlook simple safety issues such as locking your car, protecting your valuables and staying alert.

Worry not, because the Joint Base San Antonio Safety Office and security forces personnel are here to help. Officials from both offices have compiled some tips to help keep travelers on the right path.

“Safety all starts with having a plan,” said Travis Kilpack, 502nd Air Base Wing Safety Office specialist. “Whether we are talking about drivers using a road map or having emergency accommodations at a hotel if your flight gets canceled, planning ahead can help you anticipate, avoid and adapt to stress.”

Taking to the skies: airline travel

- Check luggage regulations in advance

to see what is or isn't allowed on your flight. Some airlines don't allow firearms, a common item for some military members, in carry-on luggage, while other airlines won't let you take a dog or cat on board. Even seemingly harmless items like lithium-ion rechargeable batteries for flashlights or toys aren't allowed on most commercial airlines

- If you aren't in a rush, consider accepting airline compensation for overbooked flights. Most airlines overbook flights in anticipation of last-minute cancellations that could cut into their profits. The downside to this comes when every passenger actually shows up. If this happens, airlines will ask for volunteers to “bump” off the flight – and will typically compensate these passengers in the form of hotel accommodations and a rescheduled flight.

- Keep your cool in the Travel Safety Administration security line. Delays in security lines can seem endless, but that's nothing compared to the consequences of instigating an argument with a TSA officer. Stay calm and always follow instructions, no matter how frustrating they may be.

Hitting the open road: car travel

- Check your cell phone coverage map and data plan for gaps along your route. Personnel driving through areas such as the southwest will frequently encounter patches of long road isolated from cell service and GPS mapping ability. Bring a backup paper map of your travel route in case you hit one of these dead spots.

- Drowsiness is just as dangerous as driving drunk. Don't overestimate the amount of driving you can do in a day. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration puts the maximum safe amount of driving per day at 16 hours. Plan your travel schedule accordingly.

- No movies or visual media in the front seat. That episode of “Game of Thrones” will be still waiting for you at a rest stop.

- Check your vehicle systems in advance. Finding a local auto repair shop you trust at home or around base can be tough enough. If you need a tire or spark plug replaced, do it before leaving.

Fare well: bus travel

- Keep an eye on your belongings. A major advantage to bus travel, besides the cheap cost compared to car trips, is the

ability to sleep during the journey. Make sure your carry-on luggage is properly stored by your seat, preferably under your feet, so you don't wake up to find your stuff missing. Beyond that, passengers can consider temporarily disembarking at each stop the bus makes, just to keep an eye on any luggage they have stored underneath the bus as other passengers go through those compartments.

- Don't miss your stop. Find out how long the trip to your stop is projected to take, and set an alarm for well in advance of your stop. Many major bus lines service several major cities on each run, so overly drowsy passengers might wake up hundreds of miles from home.

Regardless of the mode of transportation, a well-planned journey that anticipates potential stressors during the holiday season is invaluable, Kilpack said.

“As service members, we're skilled at staying adaptable, even if plans come undone,” Kilpack noted. “That's typically because we have backup plans to fall back on. If you stay alert, and come prepared, you're coming home safely. That's all there is to it.”



Joint Base San Antonio

FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

Monthly Events

January

Bowling

New Year's Day Bowling Special

Come out to the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center to celebrate New Year's Day Jan. 1, 1-8 p.m., for the special bowling rate of \$2.50 per game, per person with \$2.75 shoe rental. For more information, call 652-6271.

Bowling Center honors Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Celebrate the holiday weekend Jan. 14-16, during normal business hours, at the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center. Bowl for the special rate of \$2.50 per game, per person. This promotion does not include cosmic bowling. Rental shoes are \$2.50. For more information, call 652-6271.

Bowlers play unlimited games

The JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center offers a Leagues Gone to Vegas Special Jan. 18-19, 5-8 p.m. Enjoy unlimited bowling for \$15 per person. Shoe rental is not included. For more information, call 652-6271.

Skylark Bowling Center

Stay active but get out of the cold at the JBSA-Lackland Skylark Bowling Center. Tuesdays Bowl three games for \$5, including shoe rental. Wednesdays are hump days so come by for a quick game. Bowling and shoes are \$1 each all day. For more information, call 671-1234.

Clubs

Club offers a variety of musical entertainment

Join the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club for entertainment throughout January. Kick off the beginning of the month Jan. 6, 5-8 p.m., in the Maverick Lounge featuring Doggin' Dave Productions. Enjoy bar food, cold drinks, good friends and good music. Sing or just enjoy the entertainment Jan. 7 and 21, 8 p.m. to midnight, with DJ Dee Dee at Karaoke Night in the Lone Star Lounge. DJs spin favorite tunes at Variety Night, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m., in the Lone Star Lounge. DJs include DJ LJU Jan. 4 and 27, DJ Tony Style Jan. 13 and DJ J Rock Jan. 20. For more information, call 645-7034.

January birthdays are celebrated with a buffet

The JBSA-Randolph Parr Club offers a complimentary buffet every month for members with birthdays in that month. Members with January birthdays are honored Jan. 17. The buffet includes salad, two vegetables, two starches, two entrées, soup and birthday cake. This is free for birthday members. Cost is \$12.95 for members without a birthday in January, \$6.95 for members' children, 6-12 years, \$13.95 for nonmembers and \$7.95 for nonmembers' children, 6-12 years. Children 5 years and younger eat for free. For more information, call 652-4864.

Chef serves dinner specials at the Club

The chef at the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club creates a special evening dining experience in the Mesquite dining room, 5-8 p.m., with menus for all. Cost is \$16.95 for members and \$18.95 for nonmembers. The menu for Jan. 20 features 16 oz. blackened prime rib, baked potato, asparagus spears with red peppers, salad and dessert. Jan. 13 feast on Texas T-bone topped with sautéed mushrooms, seasoned steak fries, roasted corn on the cob, salad and dessert. Guests are treated to a special Surf and Turf dinner Jan. 27 with lobster tail, bacon-wrapped filet mignon, shrimp linguini, roasted asparagus spears, salad and dessert. The price is \$25 for members and \$27 nonmembers. For more information, call 645-7034.

Entertainment is provided in the Sky Lounge

Stop by the Sky Lounge in the JBSA-Randolph Parr Club for musical entertainment provided by the Tobias Band Jan. 6 and Bimbo and Borderline Jan. 20, 6:30-10:30 p.m. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres 5-6 p.m. Admission is \$3 for members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information, call 658-7445.

Customers are guests of honor

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club hosts Customer Appreciation Night in the Fiesta Ballroom. Entertainment is provided by Doggin' Dave Productions Jan. 25, 5-8 p.m. Cost is \$10.50 for members and \$12.50 for nonmembers and the menu features a build your own salad bar, crème of asparagus soup, roast beef with burgundy au jus, boneless chicken breast stuffed with crème cheese, mushrooms and chives topped with a champagne sauce, baked tilapia topped with lemon dill, mixed wild rice, parsley red potatoes, steamed broccoli spears, California blend vegetables, freshly baked rolls, fresh fruit cups, chocolate cake and lemon cake. For more information, call 645-7034.

Friday finally arrives

Close out the month during Final Friday Jan. 27 in the Maverick Lounge at the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club. Music is provided by Doggin' Dave Productions. Relax and hang out on the patio or play pool after a month of hard work and deadlines. For more information, call 645-7034.

Community Programs

Harlequin Theater

Stop by the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Harlequin Theater Jan. 13 to Feb. 25 to see "Deathtrap" written by Ira Levin, Sidney, successful writer of Broadway thrillers, is struggling to overcome a dry spell which has resulted in a string of failures and a shortage of funds. Make reservations today. Group rates available. For more information, call 222-9694.

Equestrian Center

Horseback riding lessons offered

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers horseback riding lessons for beginners and advanced riders in both English and Western-style riding. Therapeutic riding lessons are also available and taught by certified instructors. Horses, saddles and tack for lessons will be provided if needed. Patrons must be at least seven years old. The cost is \$60 per hour for a private lesson, \$175 for five group lessons, \$225 for five semi-private lessons and \$250 for five private lessons. For more information, call 224-7207.

Trail Rides for all ages

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers trail rides for patrons ages seven and older cost is \$30. Departures at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays by appointment only. No experience required adults must accompany children under the age of 13. Riders must be at least 4'6" tall and weigh no more than 200 pounds. For more information, call 224-7207.

Pony rides

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers parent-led pony rides Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., for patrons six and younger for \$10. Adults must accompany their children and availability is on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, call 224-7207.

Fitness

A new program is offered for the new year

Join the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center in the New Year, New Program activity Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, during normal business hours. This is a self-monitored program and the goal is to run or walk 70 miles, attend 24 group aerobic classes and bike 36 miles. Program cards can be picked up at the front desk to track progress. This event is sponsored by Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. Fitness Center events are open to all valid Department of Defense ID cardholders. For more information, call 652-7263.

Resolutions begin with a run

Celebrate the first day of the new year with the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center at Heritage Park Jan. 1, 8 a.m., with a 5K run or walk. This event is sponsored by Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. Fitness Center events are open to all valid Department of Defense ID cardholders. For more information, call 652-7263.

Strength training class teaches the basics

Learn the proper way to lift and get stronger during the beginner strength training class at the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center Jan. 13, 11:30 a.m. This course is free and is located in room 128. This event is sponsored by Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. Fitness Center events are open to all valid Department of Defense ID cardholders. For more information, call 652-7263.

METC Fitness Center Spin-A-Thon

Join JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jan. 14, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for 2 exhilarating hours of indoor cycling. This event is free and open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders ages 16 and older. Pre-registration is required by no later than January 11 at the Medical Education Training Campus Fitness Center. Seating is limited to the first 25 participants. For more information, call 808-5713.

Fit for duty 5K fun run/walk

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston hosts 5k fun run or walk Jan. 21, 8 a.m. Come out to enjoy this fun run/walk and bring a friend. This free event is open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders. For more information, call 221-1234.

1000 or 500 Pound Challenge

Join JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fitness Center Jan. 21. Men and women will lift 1000 and 500 pounds respectively in a bench press, dead lift and squat challenge. This free event will be held at the Fitness Center on the Medical Education Training Campus and is open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders ages 16 and older. Pre-register at the METC Fitness Center. For more information, call 808-5713.

Frosty 5K Fun Run or Walk

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fitness Center hosts the Frosty 5K Jan. 28, 7 a.m. Patrons don't let the cool weather keep them trapped indoors. Stick to New Year's fit and healthy resolutions and join the fitness center for the first 5k of 2017. This frozen event is free and no pre-registration required. Sign in at 6:30 a.m. Stay afterwards for hot chocolate and prize giveaways. Meet up at the Medical Education Training Campus Fitness Center. Open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders and their dependents. For more information, call 808-5713.

Spin-A-Thon

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fitness Center host a Spin-A-Thon Jan. 28, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Invite a buddy and get hearts pumping during this non-stop indoor cycling class. This event is free and open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders. For more information, call 221-1234.

Get fit in 2017

Set fitness goals and start the new year off right by visiting one of the JBSA-Lackland six fitness centers and getting a free equipment tour. Trained staff members can familiarize guest with the equipment and answer questions. Aerobics classes are also available at all locations. Schedules are posted in each facility or print one to keep at www.myjbsa-fss-mwr.com/Lackland/Fitness or <http://>

www.myjbsa-fss-mwr.com/Lackland/Fitness. Call any of the fitness centers to get started to a new and better you. For more information, call 671-4525.



KENDRICK CLUB
FOOTBALL SPECIALS

- WILD CARD GAMES
JANUARY 7 & 8
- DIVISIONAL ROUND
JANUARY 14 & 15
- AFC & NFC
CHAMPIONSHIPS
JANUARY 22
- Bud Light
\$5 Pitchers
\$10 Buckets
- Football Menu
Food Items Available

Fitness at your convenience

Looking for a trainer or a fitness class? Look no further, try Fitness on Demand virtual trainer at JBSA-Lackland's Kelly Fitness Center is the perfect solution for busy schedules with classes to fit every need any time. Have fun while working out with kick-boxing to yoga, to dance and cycling courses all at the patrons convenience with access to the top trainers and classes. For more information, call 925-4848.

Beaverfit Gym Box

Did you know the JBSA-Lackland Medina Fitness Center now has a Beaverfit Gym Box? Take your workout outside with this unique trainer box. The BeaverFit Gym Box is portable and versatile, enabling multi-modality training in confined spaces and expeditionary environments. It can be assembled in less than five minutes with no tools. For more information, call 671-4525 or speak to any of the staff.

Golf

One-Person Scramble

The Fort Sam Houston Golf Course hosts One-Person Scramble Jan. 1, 8 a.m. This is a chance for golfers to hit an extra shot and see how low they can shoot. The cost is \$30 for members and \$45 for nonmembers. Price includes green fee, cart, prize fund and social after event. For more information, call the Pro Shop at 222-9386.

Golfers compete in a scramble

Golfers are invited to play in the monthly JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course Warrior Four-Person Scramble Jan. 6 with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$25 for members, \$35 for nonmembers and includes 18 holes of golf, green fees, golf cart, dinner and gift certificates for the winners of longest drive and closest to the pin. The first-, second- and third-place winners also receive gift certificates. For more information, call 222-9386.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is celebrated with golf

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course hosts a Martin Luther King Jr. tournament Jan. 16, with 7-9 a.m. tee times. This is an individual low-net, low-gross tournament and entry fee is \$10 plus green fee and cart rental. For more information, call 652-4653.

MLK Shoot Out

Sign up for the MLK Shootout at JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course, Jan. 16. The cost for this individual stroke play event is \$20 per player with morning tee times. Cost does not include green fees and golf cart. Deadline to sign up is Jan 12. For more information, call 671-3466.

Thursday Steak Nights

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course hosts Thursday Steak Nights. Take a break from the kitchen on Thursday and dine at the Green Side Grill. Dinner is served from 4-7 p.m. or until the steaks run out. Make reservations before noon on Thursday and pay \$15 or after noon on Thursday and pay \$17. The meal includes steak, potato, vegetable, dinner roll, dessert and a fountain drink. For more information, call 671-2006.



Joint Base San Antonio
Ready! Set!
Snow Fest! **FREE!**

Jan. 20
4:30-7:30 p.m.
Lackland Amphitheater
Slip & slide through the icy slopes of Texas!

Families and friends join together in a flurry of family fun. The FREE event includes two snow slides, a large snow play area, a climbing mountain, an interactive inflatables course, a bouncy house and entertainment by OMG Sounds. Refreshments available for purchase.

Sponsored by   

JBSA Community Programs
www.myjbsa-fs-mwr.com
For more information, call 652-5763

FORCE

Breakfast and Lunch served

The Green side Grill and Snack Bar at JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course is serving up breakfast and lunch choices to satisfy anyones appetite. Breakfast is served 6:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 6:30-11 a.m. Sundays. Daily lunch specials are served until 2 p.m. and include the following: Taco plates on Tuesdays, meatball hoagies Wednesday, chicken fried steak Thursdays, giant baked potato Fridays and an Appetizer Plate on Saturday. For more information, call 671-2006.

Information, Tickets and Travel

Monster Jam

JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel has Monster Jam tickets on sale now for the Jan. 21, 7 p.m. and Jan. 22, 2 p.m. shows at the Alamodome. Prices range from \$17 to \$107 and include a pair of ear plugs with each ticket purchased, while supplies last. Ages 2 and older must have a ticket. Prices subject to change without notice. For more information, call 671-3059.

Get Ready To Rumble

A limited number of discount tickets are available at JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel for Royal Rumble, Jan. 29, 6:15 p.m., at the Alamodome. Lower level seats are \$130, club level are \$50, and upper level are \$35. For more information, call 671-3059.

The rodeo is right around the corner

The JBSA-Randolph Information, Tickets and Travel office, located in the Community Services Mall, receives tickets for the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo®. This rodeo has grown to be one of the largest and most prestigious single events in San Antonio with animals and agriculture, family entertainment, food, live music, shopping, special events, youth activities and a Texas wildlife exposition. The 2017 rodeo dates are Feb. 9-26. For more information, call 652-5142.

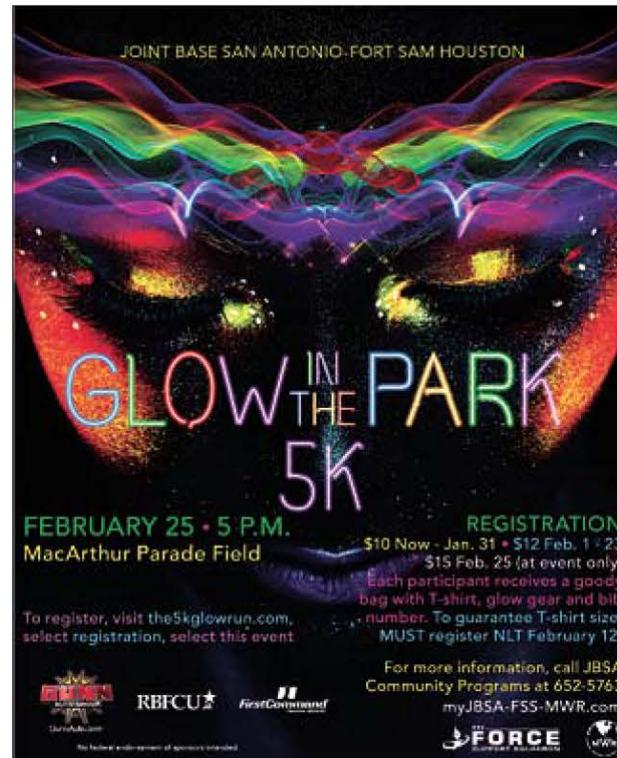
Valentines Getaway

JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel offers a romantic Valentine's Day getaway to Napa and Sonoma, CA, Feb. 13-16, 2017. The package includes airfare from San Antonio to San Francisco and accommodations at the Doubletree by Hilton Sonoma Wine Country. A rental car is available to drive from the airport to Sonoma. Rates start at \$1,500 total for two adults. Final payment is due at booking. For more information, call 671-7111.

Disney offers Discounts to Military

Patrons can purchase tickets from all of the JBSA Information, Tickets and Travel locations. Disney is once again providing the Military Salute Tickets to eligible service members and have extended special admission tickets for active-duty military and retirees to Jan. 1 through Dec. 19 which means tickets must be used by Dec. 19. The number of tickets that can be purchased is six per military member or retiree ID card. The military member/retiree must accompany their party at the gate to activate the tickets. New this year to the DisneyWorld® Salute tickets is a five day ticket. Cost for the four day ticket range from

\$207 to \$244. The 5-day range from \$222 to \$259 each price is per person. ITT also carries Disneyland® three-day park hopper admission tickets for \$155 and Disney has added a four-day hopper for \$180. Both parks have blackout dates so please inquire about the dates prior to purchase. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston ITT at 808-1378 and the JBSA-Randolph ITT at 652-5142.



Say Goodbye to All TicketMaster® Outlets

In October, TicketMaster® closed all nationwide retail outlets, to include the JBSA Information, Tickets and Travel offices. The access to concerts, sporting events, theatrical performances are now sold only through TicketMaster®.

ITT has been planning for this change and has been working in advance with some of the vendors to find ways to continue to be able to offer some of these events without having access to a TicketMaster® system. ITT has made lots of progress and will continue on their quest. ITT currently, has access and availability to discount tickets without expensive service fees, to all Spurs games, FC Soccer, WNBA Stars and Rampage games. Almost all of the "Broadway Series" events and will continue to have select seasonal special events such as Monster Jam, Alamo Bowl, Globetrotters, Disney On Ice, Ringling Bros. circus events and many prime events and shows for the entire family. In addition, ITT normally receives discounted special event tickets before they go on sale to the public. ITT will continue to add discounted events. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston ITT at 808-1378 and the JBSA-Randolph ITT at 652-5142.

Local attractions are open daily

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Information, Tickets and Travel and the JBSA-Randolph ITT have tickets to local attractions, open daily. Purchase discounted tickets to the San Antonio Zoo, Natural Bridge Caverns and more. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston ITT at 808-1378 and the JBSA-Randolph ITT at 652-5142.

Military & Family Readiness

Mandatory financial training for first duty officers

Second lieutenants, first lieutenants, and captains assigned to their first permanent duty station must attend a mandatory financial training to review all aspects of finances to include pay, entitlements, insurance, Thrift Savings Plan, and more at JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center, Jan. 11, 9 a.m. to noon or JBSA-Randolph M&FRC Jan. 17, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, call JBSA-Lackland at 671-3722 or JBSA-Randolph at 652-5321.

Workshop helps nominate volunteers for awards

Review the new nomination form for the 2017 Volunteer of the Year Award, or VOYA, and learn how to write a winning nomination packet, Jan. 11, 1-3 p.m., and Jan. 18, 9-11 a.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center. Nominations submitted on forms from previous years will not be accepted. All nominations for the VOYA and Volunteer Excellence Award, or VEA, must be submitted no later than Feb. 24. For more information, call 221-2705.

Volunteers encourage youth

Mentors spend time with young people encouraging positive choices. Patrons interested in becoming a mentor must complete the Mentor Training, Jan. 12, noon to 1:30 p.m., at the JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center. For more information, call JBSA-Randolph M&FRC at 652-5321.

Military spouses learn about employment resources

Military spouses review various resources available to them that assist with gaining federal employment Jan. 17, 9 a.m. to noon, during the "Road Map to your Career-Employment Symposium". Representatives from civilian personnel, Texas Workforce Commission, private industries, volunteer services and other community partners will be on site to discuss spousal preference, services offered, and resume review. This workshop is held at the JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center. For more information, call 671-3722.

New spouses acclimate to military lifestyles

Spouses new to the military learn about the mission, lifestyle, protocol and available programs during Heart Link, a spouse orientation workshop, Jan. 18, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center and Jan. 20, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the JBSA-Randolph M&FRC. For more information, call the JBSA-Lackland M&FRC at 671-3722 or the JBSA-Randolph M&FRC at 652-5321.

Patrons learn more ways to save money

Discuss the basics of traditional couponing, mobile applications, military discounts, rebates and more during the Couponing in the 21st Century workshop, Jan. 19, 9-11 a.m. at the JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center. For more information, call 671-3722.

Key Spouse attend Initial Training

Learn about the Key Spouse program Jan. 19, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center. This is mandatory for all newly appointed Key Spouses and highly recommended for Key Spouse mentors. All military spouses interested in learning about the program or volunteering are welcome to attend. Registration is required. For more information, call 652-5321.

Couples learn to work finances together

Participants attend a Thinking Money Lunch and Learn workshop for couples to explore ways behavioral biases affect financial decisions, how too many choices can be paralyzing and how a good nudge can help achieve goals, Jan. 20, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center. Lunch is provided, registration required. For more information, call 221-2418.

Ombudsman training for Navy families

Basic training is required for all command ombudsman and open to service members and their families. The two-day workshop is slated for Feb. 6-7, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and registration is due by Jan. 31 to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center. For more information, call 221-2418.

Outdoor Recreation

Concealed handgun license class offered

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center provides concealed handgun license classes Jan. 7 and 21, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Successful completion of this class is required for a Texas CHL. Cost is \$65. Students must be 21 years and older or active-duty military 18 years and older to participate. This program is for Department of Defense ID cardholders only. For more information, call 363-2332.

Archery takes on another dimension

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center hosts a three-dimensional archery competition Jan. 28-29, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration is 8-10 a.m. and the course must be completed by 1 p.m. The Fun Shoot registration is 8-11 a.m. Fun shoot cost is \$5 for E1-E4, active duty or medically retired, \$15 per person for all other ages 13 and older and youth 12 and younger shoot for \$5. The competition fee is \$15 for E1-E4, active duty or medically retired and \$20 per person for all other ages 13 and older. For more information, call 295-7577.

Rodeo Camper Special

Rodeo season is just around the corner. Avoid expensive hotel bills and rent a camper instead. JBSA-Lackland Outdoor Recreation has a selection of camper trailers, utility and horse trailers to accommodate your rodeo needs. For more information, call 925-5533 or 925-5532.

Boats rented for half price.

The JBSA-Lackland Equipment Rental offers half-priced weekend boat rentals now through the end of February. Prices vary depending on size and type. Weekend checkout begins Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and ends Monday, 3 p.m. For more information, call 925-9112.

Youth and Children

Middle School Teen New Year's Party

Youth ages 11-18 are invited to celebrate the New Year Jan. 6, 7-10 p.m., with JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs. Join Youth Programs for food, music, dancing and fun activities for everyone. For more information, call 221-3630.

Youth dance into the new year

Youth bring dancing shoes to the JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs Jan. 6, 6-9 p.m., and dance the night away with friends. Cost is \$3 for members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information, call 652-3298.

Basketball Opening Day

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston W. Ed Parker Youth Center hosts basketball opening day. The first basketball games of the season played Jan. 7. Games begin at 9 a.m. and are played in buildings. 1630, 1705 and 2515. For more information, call Youth Sports 221-3502.

Trip to the Movies

Join JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs for a trip to the movies Jan. 7, 1-5:30 p.m. The trip is for youth ages 10-13. The cost is \$1 plus money for snacks. Sign up in advance by Jan. 5. Space is limited to 13 youth. Registration and permission slips required. For more information, call 221-3502.

St. Phillips College Trip

College Trip hosted by JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs. Youth ages 14-18 are invited to tour St. Phillips College and get a feel for college life on campus Jan 12, 5-8 p.m. Youth learn about the school's programs and how they operate. For more information, call 221-3630.

Cookies, Cocoa and Conversation

#Girlstrong Event Parents and boys and girls, ages 9 to 18, are invited to come join a free #Girlstrong event at the JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs Jan. 12 for an informative video presentation of "Chosen" as well as some good conversations with a speaker. Let's get both our young ladies and gentleman informed in a safe and comfortable setting to bring awareness of certain negative situations that may arise. Register by Jan. 6. For more information, call 671-2388.

Give Parents a Break/Parents' Night Out

The JBSA-Lackland Youth Center gives parents a break through the Give Parents a Break/Parents' Night Out program Jan. 20, 6:30-10:30 p.m. Parents are worry free to enjoy themselves as the children, ages 5 and in kindergarten to 12, are provided snacks and entertained with activities and games. The cost is \$25 per child with a multiple child discount or free with Give Parents a Break referral. Late pickup is subject

to \$5 for first five minutes then \$3 for every minute after that. Minimum number of participants is required. For more information, call 671-2388.

First Steps Spring Soccer Registration

Register children ages 3-5 for the JBSA-Lackland Youth Sports First Steps Spring Soccer instructional program Jan. 30 to Feb. 3. First Steps teaches the basic fundamentals of soccer in harmony with the gross motor movements of pre-school and early school age children. In addition, parents are required to participate as an extension of the instructor so that the element of fear is eliminated. Register Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. A current physical and immunization record are required at the time of registration. The cost of the program is \$35 for six weeks of one hour instruction. For more information, call 671-2388.

Preschool Enrichment Program

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Child Development Program is offering a Part Day Enrichment Program in building 1705, School Age Programs. If you are interested in enrolling your preschool child, 3-5 years of age, in a setting where their cognitive, social, emotional, physical and language development needs can be met, please consider the JBSA PDE Program. This is a first-come first-served program; only 24 at each site. Registration has started and is open until filled. Weekly fees are based on total family income. Registration takes place at Parent Central, building 2797, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 221-4871.

Congressional Award Program – Go For the Gold

JBSA-Youth Programs act as points of contact for the Congressional Award Program. Youth 14-23 years old sign up for the Congressional Award Program. Youth set goals in personal development, voluntary public service, physical fitness and expeditions/explorations. Once youth reach the bronze, silver or gold Medal level, they earn an award that is presented by a member of Congress. For more information, call the JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs 652-3298, call the JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs 671-2388, the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs 221-3502.

STAY CONNECTED

Stay current on Joint Base San Antonio 502d Force Support Squadron events, specials and daily activities.

<http://www.myjbsa-fss-mwr.com>



MOVIE LISTINGS

JBSA-Randolph Fleenor Theater Schedule

Friday, Dec. 23

7 p.m.

Rogue One : A Star Wars Story (PG-13)

Saturday, Dec. 24

3 p.m.

“Almost Christmas (PG-13)

Friday, Dec. 30

7 p.m.

Fantastic Beasts ... (PG-13)

Saturday, Dec. 31

3 p.m. – Fantastic Beasts ... (PG-13)

7 p.m. – Allied (R)

Sunday, Jan. 1

3 p.m.

Arrival (PG-13)

Friday, Jan. 6

7 p.m.

The Edge Of Seventeen (R)

Saturday, Jan. 7

3 p.m. – Arrival (PG-13)

7 p.m. – Bad Santa 2 (R)

Sunday, Jan. 8

3 p.m.

Rules Don't Apply (PG-13)

Holiday physical activity and walking tips

During the holidays, shopping is on everyone's to-do list. This holiday, what better way to encourage community members to be more physically active than to go walking and what better place to walk than the mall? Start a mall-walking program this holiday season. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health have walking programs already in place. The NIH program is Go4Life and the CDC walking programs are every Body Walk!, America Walks and Mall Walking. These programs will also be included in the Air Force Instruction 40-101 Toolkit for Healthy Weight and Physical Activity.

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph News Briefs

Businesses designated off limits

All 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio military members are forbidden to enter any establishments named Cracker Box Palace, Planet K, Players Club of San Antonio, MJM Autohaus or VIP Spa. This includes all locations in Bexar, Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina and Wilson counties. These businesses are per-

ceived as damaging to the military mission. For more information, call 652-5727.

Flu shots now available

Flu vaccinations are now available at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Clinic. Walk-ins are welcome Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, please call 652-3279.

Life after loss: One Air Force family's journey to recovery

By Senior Airman Chip Pons

Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Nine months ago, Air Force Lt. Col. Melchizedek "Kato" Martinez, a career tactical communications officer, was welcomed home from another combat deployment, a constant in the Martinez family. His wife, Gail, along with their four children, had planned a family retreat to their second home, the one place that, no matter what was going on within their family, would center them – Disney World.

With bags packed, the family of six made their way to the Brussels Airport in Zaventem, Belgium, en route to the happiest place on earth, and anxiously waited in line to check-in for their flight to Florida.

That's when the first bomb detonated.

On the morning of March 22, 2016, 32 victims tragically lost their lives and dozens more were injured during three simultaneous terrorist attacks, two at the Brussels Airport and a third at the Maelbeek Metro Station.

For Martinez and his family, it forever changed the course of their lives.

In the moments after the explosion, time seemed to slow as a badly injured Martinez assessed the state of terror in which he and his family found themselves. According to Martinez, there was only one sound that filled the airport that moment – the blood-curdling screams of his oldest daughter, 18-year-old Kianni.

As his prior-enlisted medic training kicked in, Martinez, who had suffered the brunt of the blast, desperately searched for his family amidst the bodies and gore. When he found his wife and saw the stillness of her body, he knew instantly he had lost his soulmate, his best friend and everything went dark.

"After first responders removed us from the terminal, I felt myself bleeding out. I knew my body was going into shock, but I was ready to die," Martinez said. "I didn't know if my son and two youngest daughters were alive; I genuinely believed they had been vaporized by the blast. I only knew for certain that I had lost my wife, and I had given in to death. I wanted to go quietly into the night because I had failed my wife and my family – I just wanted to let go."

In the midst of the chaos, first responders began placing victims and casualties next to one another. Placed between her deceased mother and her bleeding father was a severely injured Kianni, who now faced the very real possibility of losing both parents.

"I remember holding both of their hands," Kianni said. "My father, who had always been so strong and protective, began squeezing my hand less and less, and I felt myself losing him."

In and out of consciousness, Martinez remembers hearing the frantic pleas of his daughter.

"When I thought I had succumbed to the pain, all I could hear was Kianni screaming 'don't you leave me, too,'" a tearful Martinez said. "And it was then that I knew my fight wasn't over."

The surviving members of the Martinez family remained separated for hours, each receiving individual treatment for their injuries. Eventually, the children and

Martinez were all stabilized as patients in the same Brussels hospital.

Second- and third-degree burns, a fractured heel, shrapnel wounds, a concussion, hearing loss and a left-foot laceration challenged Martinez's road to physical recovery, but the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and a devastating heartache left him at a crossroads.

"I'd be lying if I didn't say that this ordeal didn't make me want to end it all," Martinez stated. "Gail and I were married for nearly 22 years. She was everything I could have asked for and more in a partner, and without her I struggled to find the will to live. For almost 18 years, Gail had been both mom and dad to our children; she nurtured and raised them in a way I never could and feared I would be unable to."

As he struggled daily to move forward, Martinez said he stands in awe of his children and the resiliency they display every day.

"We were all in such agonizing pain, physically and emotionally; but I never want my children to forget the pain of that day and the moments after because it will continue to make them stronger," Martinez said. "We all had to, and continue to be, rebuilt from the inside out."

The Martinez family was treated at the Brussels Army General Hospital in the first month after the attack then transported back to the United States at the Shriners Hospitals for Children in Galveston, Texas. There, the family began a number of grueling rehabilitative procedures.

"We underwent a series of painful skin-graft surgeries, as well as repairs to our perforated ear drums," Martinez recounts. "For us, post-attack was simply a phase of recovery; a period of rebuilding."

Kianni has the longest and most grueling road to physical recovery, but continues to face every setback and meet every personal milestone with an unmatched determination. She considers her 18 years of essential guidance from her mother as vital preparation for clearing the next obstacle in her path – passing the Air Force physical fitness assessment.

"Being an Air Force child meant constant moving, separation from our father, and the challenges of making and then saying goodbye to friends," Kianni said. "But my constant was home and that has always been wherever my mom was."

"She instilled in each of us the importance of an education," she continued. "She taught us to be strong, and pushed us to excel and to work toward our goals no matter what. I always envisioned earning a college scholarship on my own merit, so I put in the work early and began taking college level courses as soon as I could."

Kianni remembers times when she was bullied in school for placing such an emphasis on her studies at a young age, but followed her mother's advice to continue pursuing her goals.

When the day came that Kianni was awarded a full Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship, the first person she wanted to tell was her mother.

"After my injuries, the first thing I thought about when

I was told there was a chance my leg couldn't be saved was how was I going to continue?" Kianni said. "How was I going to fulfill the promise I made to my mom?"

While considering her options, Kianni received some encouraging news from her growing Air Force family.

"Air Force senior leaders told me to focus solely on my recovery," Kianni said. "They assured me my scholarship would be waiting for me after I healed and could put more focus on passing my physical requirements."

On her long road to recovery, Kianni has learned to be more attuned to her body's needs than ever before.

"You have to have patience with your body and with your recovery," she said. "I was in a position where I was having back-to-back surgeries, and I had to realize that, while this may be yet another setback, it would only make me stronger."

As Kianni prepares to become the next Airman in the Martinez family, her next goal seems tailor made for both her intellect and her legacy.

"I want to study computer science with a focus in robotics and artificial intelligence," Kianni proudly said. "Once I graduate, I am going to join the Air Force and serve as a cyber communications officer."

Having spent 26 years in service putting his life on the line for his country, Martinez felt certain that there was a distinct possibility he would be the one to go first. Jokingly, Martinez and Gail made a promise to each other early in their marriage that provided both of them comfort when the possibility of losing one another became a reality.

"We always promised each other that we would haunt one another," Martinez said solemnly. "For the longest time after I lost my wife, I struggled because I thought she broke her promise."

Hanging in the entryway of the Martinez household is a prominent reminder of his hope: a silent wind chime.

"I wanted that physical manifestation of Gail," he stated while fighting back tears. "I wanted her to slam doors, knock over tables, ring the chimes – something. I desperately needed to hear or see something from her to know that everything was going to be okay. And when nothing happened, I thought she had broken her promise."

"But I realized just recently that it wasn't a promise she could possibly break," he continued. "I do still see her – in the faces of our children and when I look in the mirror. I am surrounded by photos of our family in the home we created. All of the help and kindness we've received as a family is all because of her; from the wonderful people at Building Homes for Heroes to the staff at the Center for the Intrepid, they've made me realize how blind I've been for the last couple of months."

Through struggling with the loss of his wife and searching for a sense of normalcy, Martinez has learned the true impact and magnitude of Air Force spouses.

"In all the time Gail and I were married, I never once realized how much she did in order for me to do what I love," Martinez said. "For the first time, I am now being a parent to four children who have been raised by an incredibly strong woman who did everything."

See RECOVERY P13

Hanukkah: Being a light in the darkness

By Ashley Palacios

502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Hanukkah, which is celebrated this year from sundown Saturday to sundown Jan. 1, is known as the Festival of Lights. It is a time when Jews around the world celebrate the miracle of the Maccabees, the leaders of the Jewish rebel army, defeating the Syrian-Greek Empire and finding only enough pure oil to burn for one day in the holy temple.

Miraculously, the oil burned for eight days. Thus, the eight days of Hanukkah were established as a festival of thanksgiving, where one candle on the menorah is lit the first night and an additional one is lit each night afterwards.

"In the Jewish tradition, a 'festival' represents the annual return of the same spiritual force that resulted in the original miracle being commemorated," Capt. Alan Kahan, 502nd Air Base Wing chaplain at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland said. "Just as the Maccabees triumphed against all odds in their war against the Greeks, we too, can overcome our individual physical and spiritual challenges. It is our opportunity to become a beacon of light to the entire world."

The menorah, an eight-branched candleholder, is often displayed in the window of homes so passersby's can see and share in the light of Hanukkah. In the same way, Kahan believes Airmen are meant to be a light in difficult seasons of life and to remind each other that even in the darkest times, light can be found.

Celebrating Hanukkah is important both personally and as an Airman for Kahan.

"I decided to join the military as a chaplain when I was in high school," Kahan said. "I was motivated by the desire to give back and to support those who defend the constitution. My grandparents and great-grandparents



Courtesy photo

Capt. (chaplain) Alan Kahan (standing), 502nd Air Base Wing Jewish chaplain, speaks to the congregation Dec. 13, 2015.

were persecuted and murdered because of their faith but I grew up in a country that puts freedom of religion on its front banner. I wanted to give back and be part of ensuring that my children and their children would have that opportunity as well."

For those reasons, Kahan does what he can to ensure Airmen have the opportunity to celebrate Hanukkah and rekindle their faith.

Since becoming a spiritual leader for the Jewish community in the military, Kahan's focus has shifted towards reaching out and facilitating the opportunity for others

to worship in their own way.

"When I was in civilian ministry, people would come to the synagogue to worship and celebrate," Kahan said. "As a military chaplain I now have the opportunity to go out to them. Whether it's by moving to different duty stations or by deploying and going overseas, it's about giving the Airmen what they need."

One of the needs Kahan sees in the military is a sense of belonging and community. Hanukkah is a family-orientated holiday but Kahan understands serving in the military means Airmen typically don't get to be with their families for the holidays.

"My goal for them is they should feel like this is their family lighting the menorah," Kahan said. "They should feel that connection to family. They shouldn't feel alone or left out, even if they don't have their blood family here they should know they have a family at the Chapel that's welcomed them in to celebrate with fresh latkes, or potato pancakes, and menorahs for them to light."

Kahan believes it's important for Airmen of all religious backgrounds to celebrate the traditions of their faith.

"Unity does not mean uniformity," Kahan said. "Everyone's religion, faith and traditions are unique and everyone should have the right and ability to celebrate their holidays as it relates to them."

Kahan also encouraged Airmen to celebrate and carry on the traditions of their faith in order to stay connected with their roots.

"People tried to destroy us and our faith, but we were able to withstand and overcome that challenge and it's amazing," Kahan said. "When you're performing the commandment of lighting the menorah, the age-old custom and tradition that speaks to who we are, you're tapping into that spiritual persona of triumphing over our challenges and overcoming our fears. Only then can we become a beacon of light in the darkness."

DRONES from P5

Base operations will be used to contact a particular installation AO chief. If permitted, operations are limited to Department of Defense identification card holders and will only take place at the AO chief's granted locations. Only by exception will an AO chief authorize SUAS flight operations take place outside of Sunday daylight hours, when the installation's airfield is not active. Public affairs will be leveraged to ensure community awareness of local policies and changes thereto.

RECOVERY from P12

"I would deploy or go TDY with no-notice and my wife just accepted that as normal," he continued. "She never complained or let our situation hinder her from giving everything to our children every day. All of the amazing qualities of my children come from her - I will take no credit for that."

Plagued with reliving the scenario that changed his life forever, Martinez struggles to this day with acceptance of what happened, and of his newfound role.

(2) Fly below 400 feet above ground level and remain clear of surrounding obstacles

(3) Keep the aircraft within visual line of sight at all times

(4) Remain well clear of and do not interfere with manned aircraft

(5) When flown within five miles of any airfield/airport, the operator of model aircraft provides the airport operator and the airport air traffic control tower with prior notice of the operation, and will give way to any manned aircraft operations. Model operations are highly recommended by the FAA to

remain below 400 feet.

(6) Do not fly near people or stadiums

(7) Applies to drones weighing from .55 to 55 pounds

People living in the local JBSA community are subject to the local rules regarding the use of these systems. It is recommended to contact local community leaders to learn about local restrictions in a particular area.

For those residing in a JBSA housing area, the use of these systems will be governed by the guidelines outlined by the JBSA installation commander.

"Why am I the one here?" Martinez asked. "Why was it her and not me? She made taking care of our children her mission; despite how lost I am now and might always be without her, it's mine now... I can't fail her again."

"Now, my oldest daughter is trying to learn how to walk again," he continued. "My son is trying to get back into sports and reclaim the active life he once had. My youngest daughters are finally back in school and participating in extracurricular activities; we are all just trying to live again."

Thrust into a role foreign to him, Martinez's world now revolves around his children, while he searches for ways each day to honor his late wife.

"The only way I can truly honor Gail is to fulfill the promise I made to her when we were younger," he said. "To make sure that these beautiful children continue on the path she paved for them and to be the human beings they were always meant to be - the ones she always saw them as."

"We are strong," he continued. "We are resilient because we are an Air Force family."