



WINGS SPREAD

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH

No. 19 • May 17, 2013



Idol Factor winner emerges

Page 10

INSIDE ... PERTUSSIS WATCH, P4 ... ARMED FORCES RIVER PARADE, P7 ... RHS TRACK MEMBERS AT STATE, P16

COMMENTARY

INTEGRITY FIRST

Have the courage to speak up

By Col. Daniel Higgins
2nd Bomb Wing Staff Judge Advocate

Recently, I saw a commercial depicting what appeared to be a typical business meeting. An older man, clearly the boss, said something along the lines of "So, we all agree – it's a good idea?" To which an employee responds, "I think it's a stupid idea."

In the next scene, the employee who gave his opinion is out on the street with a box of personal belongings, the implication being that he was fired for speaking his mind.

I don't recall what the commercial was trying to get me to buy, but whatever it was, I don't need it. In fact, in the Air Force, we need the opposite. It takes courage to serve in the Air Force. Yes, obviously it takes great physical courage.

All Airmen, regardless of rank or career field, can find themselves suddenly and without warning in harm's way, whether deployed to a combat zone or "safely" back at home station. Physical courage is expected; it's part of the deal we made when we volunteered to serve. And I think everyone understands that.

But there's another type of courage that Airmen need: moral courage.

Airmen need the courage to do the right thing when it might not be the easy thing. They need the courage to speak up and identify an issue or a problem when everyone else thinks things are going great.

Leaders, regardless of rank, need the courage to face their daily challenges and make the decisions necessary to

“Airmen need the courage to do the right thing when it might not be the easy thing. They need the courage to speak up and identify an issue or a problem when everyone else thinks things are going great.”

accomplish the mission. Every decision involves risk; and while effective leaders can and should mitigate that risk to the extent possible, they can't eliminate it entirely.

Leaders understand that if you make enough decisions, sooner or later you'll make one that turns out to be wrong. Effective leaders get that and they find the courage to make the decision anyway. They take in the information available to them, weigh their options, mitigate the risk where possible, but they act with confidence and persistence.

But truly effective leaders also want to hear when they are on the wrong path. In fact, I would argue that they need to hear it when they are on the wrong path. Being a good Airman requires, by definition, that you also be a good wingman – and being a good wingman means speaking up when necessary. As my Army friends would say, the time to hear I'm about to walk into a chopper blade is before I walk into the chopper blade. After-the-fact is not helpful at all.

As a leader, I value the members of my organization who are willing to

speak up with a different viewpoint. They have the courage to offer their views, understanding that they may not be popular. They may even be wrong, but they offer them up anyhow because they know it makes for a better decision.

We all bring different experiences and backgrounds to the problems we face and those different experiences influence the way we view and solve problems. Those differences are what make the Air Force such an effective organization.

There is no monopoly on good ideas; they can come from anywhere and anyone in your unit. If you are the leader, cultivate a climate of openness that encourages your subordinates to speak freely and offer alternatives and suggestions for how to better accomplish the mission. If you're a follower, speak up!

You've got to be willing to say, "I think it's a stupid idea," when it is. Be respectful of course, but it doesn't do anyone any good for you to say, "Yeah, I thought we were on the wrong path, but I didn't want to say anything." That's not courage. That's not helpful to the organization. That's not being a good wingman – or a good Airman.

ON THE COVER

Senior Airman Sherita Tisdom, San Antonio Military Medical Center emergency room medical clerk, sang her way to the grand prize and title of 2013 Idol Factor winner May 3 at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Parr Club. For a complete story on the competition, see page 10.
Courtesy photo

WINGSPREAD

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph
Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. Theresa C. Carter

JBSA/502nd Air Base Wing Commander

Todd G. White

JBSA/502nd ABW Public Affairs Director

Marilyn C. Holliday

JBSA-Randolph Public Affairs Chief

Airman 1st Class Lincoln Korver

Editor

Robert Goetz

Alex Salinas

Staff Writers

Maggie Armstrong

Graphic Designer

Wingspread Office

1150 5th Street East

Randolph AFB, Texas 78150

Phone: (210) 652-4410

Wingspread email

randolphpublicaffairs@us.af.mil

Wingspread Advertisement Office

Prime Time Military Newspapers

2203 S. Hackberry

San Antonio, Texas 78210

(210) 534-8848

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Dixon exhibit highlights AFPC headquarters rededication

By Rudy Purificato

Air Force Personnel Center historian

The recently renovated Building 499 A Wing was unveiled during a rededication ceremony at the Air Force Personnel Center May 2 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

The renovated wing, also known as Dixon Heritage Hall, evoked an emotional response from the widow of the man for whom the AFPC headquarters is named.

"It is beautifully done," Kelly Dixon said to AFPC commander Maj. Gen. Alfred Stewart as they toured the Dixon Heritage Hall exhibit in the A Wing lobby. The permanent exhibit honors the Air Force career of the late Gen. Robert J. Dixon, who is considered the "Father of Modern Air Force Personnel."

Dixon said she appreciated the work AFPC members put into the museum-quality exhibit that showcases, in chronological order, her husband's 36-year Air Force career.

A former prisoner of war, Gen-

eral Dixon was a fighter pilot during World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam War before ending his career in 1978 as the commander of Tactical Air Command. He also served as the Air Force Military Personnel Center commander, the predecessor of AFPC.

The Texas Air Museum at Stinson Field in San Antonio and JBSA-Lackland's Airman Heritage Museum augmented the Dixon Heritage Hall exhibit collection by contributing artifacts, photos, Air Force art, maps and model aircraft of some of the warplanes Dixon flew.

Following the rededication ceremony, Dixon donated historical property that comprises the bulk of the Dixon collection on display at AFPC to the Air Force.

The National Museum of the Air Force plans to accession the Dixon Collection into the Air Force historical property inventory, once AFPC's Dixon Heritage Hall exhibit is officially designated a historical holdings venue.



Photo by Joshua Rodriguez

Maj. Gen. Alfred Stewart (far right), Air Force Personnel Center commander, stands with Kelly Dixon (center), wife of the late Gen. Robert J. Dixon, during a tour of the Dixon Heritage Hall exhibit May 2 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. Distinguished guests touring the exhibit also included (from left to right) Lt. Gen. Darrell D. Jones, Manpower, Personnel and Services deputy chief of staff, and retired former AFPC commanders Maj. Gen. K.C. McClain, Gen. Billy Boles and Lt. Gen. Michael D. McGinty.

NEWS

Pertussis cases prompt alert from JBSA-Randolph health officials

By Robert Goetz

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs



Two recent confirmed and treated cases of pertussis at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Medical Clinic have prompted 359th Aerospace-Medicine Squadron Public Health Flight officials to raise awareness of the disease and to encourage people to immediately seek medical help if they have been exposed to it or exhibit the symptoms.

The cases, which occurred in April, involved elementary school students in the Judson and Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City Independent School Districts who are Department of Defense beneficiaries.

“There is no cause for alarm, but due to the progressive spread of infection, awareness has to be increased to local and neighboring schools and districts,” Senior Airman Shannon Anderson, 359th AMDS Community Health Element preventive medicine technician, said. “Our public health flight’s primary objective is to break the chain of infection. We will continue to closely monitor this situation and keep Joint Base San Antonio members informed.”

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious bacterial respiratory infection seen in all age groups, but is most dangerous for children under 1 year old, especially infants less than 6 months old, he said. It may begin with cold-like symptoms such as runny nose, low-grade fever and a mild, occasional cough that

gradually becomes more severe and may last for several weeks or even months. In some cases, deep breaths result in a “whooping” sound.

Maj. William Lujan, 359th AMDS Public Health Flight commander, said the 359th Medical Group worked with the Texas Department of State Health Services, Region 8 on the confirmed cases at the clinic.

“We work together on cases like these,” he said. “We make sure all household contacts are treated because pertussis is very contagious.”

Pertussis is spread from person to person, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. People with the infection spread it by coughing or sneezing while in close contact with others, who breathe in the pertussis bacteria.

“Anyone with a cough illness lasting two weeks or longer and/or anyone who has attacks of coughing should be evaluated for pertussis and should avoid close contact with others until evaluated by a health care provider,” Anderson said.

Capt. Michael Scannon, 359th AMDS Public Health Flight deputy commander, said medical facilities must follow a certain protocol for pertussis patients.

“When people talk to their medical provider, they should make it clear they or their children are potential pertussis cases,” he said. “We have to make sure it’s not spread to other patients.”

It’s also important that potential pertussis patients call ahead of time before visiting the clinic, Lujan said.

“The last thing you want is for them to sit in the waiting room,” he said. “We’d rather they call ahead if they believe they have pertussis. We’ll make arrangements for them to meet us in the back of the facility, provide them with a breathing mask and take them to a less populated part of the clinic.”

Vaccines are the best defense against pertussis, Lujan said.

“It’s not 100 percent, but it will make symptoms less serious in most cases,” he said.

The recommended vaccine for children, called DTaP, protects them against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis and is administered five times before the age of 7 for maximum protection, Anderson said. A booster vaccine, called Tdap, is recommended at 11 or 12 years old and at 19 years of age and older for those who didn’t get the Tdap vaccine as a preteen.

Treatment of pertussis involves a five-day course of antibiotics, he said. Patients on antibiotics should stay home and avoid contact with all persons outside of the household for those five days.

According to the CDC, more than 27,000 pertussis cases were reported in the U.S. in 2010, the most since 1959, when 40,000 cases were reported. Worldwide, there are an estimated 30-50 million cases and about 300,000 deaths per year.

The incidence of pertussis varies from year to year, but tends to peak every five years, Lujan said.

For more information, call Anderson at 652-1876.

New kind of emergency room may not be TRICARE authorized

Courtesy of TRICARE

TRICARE beneficiaries may have noticed new kinds of “emergency centers” popping up in their area.

It may seem like a tempting health care option but, free-standing emergency rooms that are not affiliated with a hospital may not be TRICARE-authorized.

If a provider – such as a free-standing ER – is not authorized, then TRICARE is prohibited from paying it “facility fees.” That can leave a beneficiary stuck with a big bill.

Beneficiaries need to “know before you go.” Check a free-standing ER’s TRICARE status – before emergency care is needed.

TRICARE defines an emergency department as an organized, hospital-based facility available 24 hours a day providing emergency services

to patients who need immediate medical attention. Emergency departments affiliated with a hospital are most likely TRICARE-authorized providers.

Beneficiaries who seek care at a free-standing ER need to ask if the facility is affiliated with a hospital-based emergency department. If it isn’t, the beneficiary will need to make a decision about getting care elsewhere or being responsible for the facility charges.

Beneficiaries can check if a provider is TRICARE-authorized by calling their regional contractor. Contact information for regional contractors is available at <http://www.tricare.mil/contactus>. All TRICARE network providers are also searchable at <http://www.tricare.mil/findaprovider>.

Learn more about emergency care under TRICARE at www.tricare.mil/emergency.

Travel office changes June 1

Beginning June 1, TRAVCO will assume commercial travel office services for Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph and JBSA-Lackland. Alamo Travel Group will ticket approved reservations for departures through June 3. TRAVCO cannot make changes to reservations ticketed by Alamo Travel Group, nor can they initiate refunds for unused tickets issued by Alamo Travel Group.

All reservations that have not been ticketed for travel commencing June 4 will be transferred to TRAVCO.

After June 1, Alamo Travel Group cannot re-issue tickets for reservation changes. Travelers who need to change reservations ticketed by Alamo Travel Group will first need to contact TRAVCO to make a new reservation and then contact Alamo Travel Group to cancel and initiate a refund on the previously ticketed reservations. Alamo Travel Group hours of operation are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and they can be reached at 593-0084. Travelers may also submit their ticket refund request via email to refunds@alamotravel.com. Requests for copies of ticket invoices may be submitted via email to receptionist@alamotravel.com. For more information, call 652-1154.

Starting June 1, the new Commercial Travel Office toll-free number will be (855) 804-4946 and the toll-free fax number will be (877) 915-1115.

Tuskegee Airmen Annual Golf Tournament

The Tuskegee Airmen Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for May 25 at the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Golf Club. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. and the tournament is in Florida scramble format. For more information, contact Oliver Nelson at 508-5387 or James Calloway at 347-6844.



SA community, military join together for America's Armed Forces River Parade

By Lori Martin
Creative Civilization

San Antonio, known as Military City, U.S.A., celebrates National Armed Forces Day with the Paseo Del Rio Association's annual America's Armed Forces River Parade at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Arneson River Theater.

The procession is a unique event, held on the world-famous San Antonio River Walk and featuring 25 professionally decorated river barges, themed according to their participants, including all branches of the military, veterans, military support groups and more.

Lt. Gen. Douglas H. Owens, vice commander of Air Education and Training Command, will act as grand marshal of the parade.

This year, members of Great Britain's Chelsea Pensioners will participate in the parade as allies unite to celebrate our armed forces community.

The parade, presented by Budweiser, is an event shared in communities throughout the country, with more than 55 cities signed on to host the syndicated broadcast, along with the Pentagon Channel,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson

Parade-goers at last year's parade were entertained by a variety of musical acts, including this trio of singers from the USO sporting World War II-vintage uniforms.

which will share the parade with its global network of Armed Forces viewers.

With four distinct military locations employing 90,000 men and women, there is no more appropriate place to host this national celebration than in San Antonio.

"For more than 200 years, the military has played a key role in creat-

ing the proud, economically vibrant San Antonio that is widely known as Military City U.S.A.," said San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro.

"Hosting the America's Armed Forces River Parade reflects the entire community's commitment to honoring the valor and sacrifices of the brave men and women who have served, or

are currently serving, in the armed forces," Castro added.

Last year, the PDRA initiated the first-ever military river parade, attracting thousands of visitors from across the state to salute and celebrate the men and women of the armed forces.

"Following the parade, a 90-year-old WWII veteran who rode on one of our barges told me that this was the single biggest honor he had been given since his return from duty," says PDRA executive director Nancy Hunt. "That is incredible to me.

"To be able to come together as a community each year and provide the men and women of our Armed Forces with a celebration to thank them for all they have given, and continue to give for our country – to me, that is what this parade, and this city, is all about," Hunt added.

The parade is free to view from the patios and balconies of River Walk businesses or from the banks of the San Antonio River Walk. Reserved seating is available for purchase at the Arneson River Theatre for \$20. To purchase tickets online, visit <http://www.thesanantonioreverwalk.com>.

JBSA-Randolph civil servant retires after 51 years

By Alex Salinas
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

After dedicating more than a half-century to the Air Force, Byron Parcenué, Air Education and Training Command Airfield Operations chief, who joined the service as an air traffic controller in 1962, will call it a career in June.

Thirty of his years were spent as an active-duty member, 20 years in airfield management as a civil servant and one year as an Air Force contractor.

During his last government position, Parcenué oversaw all of the airfield operations in AETC, which includes 11 bases and about 500 members, he said. "We are responsible for 2.2 million operations a year. To have had a great second career, it's a blessing."

Throughout the numerous positions he has claimed, it was Parcenué's active-duty stint, which included eight stateside and seven overseas assignments in locations such as Berlin, Korea and Thailand that left an indelible impact on his life.

In 1967-68, Parcenué was assigned to Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, with the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing, working under retired Brig. Gen. Robin Olds, a legendary triple ace fighter pilot.

See **CIVIL SERVANT P9**



Photo by Joshua Rodriguez

Retired Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Byron Parcenué, Air Education and Training Command Airfield Operations chief, leads a daily meeting May 7 with Master Sgt. Wade Glegg, air traffic control training and operations manager, at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

CIVIL SERVANT from P8

“Because it was during the Vietnam War, the attitude there was ‘take the fight to the enemy,’ and that’s literally what we did every day,” Parcenu said. “It was a wild, wild ride.”

An assignment to the Berlin Air Route Traffic Control Center in 1968-72, when the Berlin Wall divided socialist East Berlin from parliamentary West Berlin, gave Parcenu a renewed appreciation for freedom.

“Working in East German air space and living in an occupied city, with a wall surrounding us, was eye-opening,” he said. “The western half (of Berlin) was like a modern city and the eastern half was stricken with poverty.”

The overseas experience is “the greatest opportunity” an Airman can take, Parcenu said.

“It’s a big world and military people are lucky to see it,” he said. “If you have the chance to take an assignment or change stations abroad, take it, ask for it, go get it.”

Parcenu recalled regular interactions with men from the “Greatest Generation,” who made up much of the fighting force during his formative military years.

“When I joined in 1962, some of them had gone through World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War,” he said. “They were grisly and didn’t take guff from anyone. They were tough.

“More importantly, they taught me to be tough when I had to.”

Working for the same employer for 51 years, after all, might require some dedication and toughness; Parcenu explained how he’s handled it.

“If you learn your job and you know your job, a lot of stress can be taken out,” he said. “We all have our bad days, but handle situations without emotion and seek the best outcome.”

Advice on integrity from a former senior master sergeant still echoes in Parcenu’s head, even though it was told to him decades ago.

“The only thing you have to go on is reputation,” Parcenu said. “Wherever you go, it goes with you, too.”

When Parcenu retires in June, he will turn 70 years old. For him, it will be a “new beginning.”

Along with spending time with his wife, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, Parcenu plans on returning to golf, taking care of horses in Spring Branch, becoming more active in his Masonic Lodge and taking cooking lessons.

On the future of airfield operations, Parcenu predicted the next major technological shift to happen in 10-15 years, like what he experienced when computers changed how business ran in the operational Air Force.

“The Federal Aviation Administration and the Department of Defense are always working to create the latest technology,” he said. “We just brought in a new digital radar, and aircraft are being reequipped with GPS technology.

“The future looks promising.”



JBSA-Randolph Chapel Regular Schedule

• CATHOLIC

Wednesday and Friday

11:30 a.m. - Chapel 1

Saturday

5:30 p.m. - Chapel 1

Sunday

8:30 a.m. - Bldg. 975

11:30 a.m. - Chapel 1

Confession

Saturday

4:30-5 p.m. - Chapel 1



• PROTESTANT

Traditional

Sunday Service

8:15 a.m. - Chapel 1

Contemporary

Sunday Service

11 a.m. - Bldg. 975

Airman sings her way to become Idol Factor champion

By Alex Salinas

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

A name change, new set of rules and larger pool of contestants were ingredients that made Idol Factor – formerly Randolph Idol – a record-breaking success this year, with a cumulative audience of 1,246, smashing last year's total of 646 and surpassing 2011's then-largest attendance of 1,000.

Senior Airman Sherita Tisdom, San Antonio Military Medical Center emergency room medical clerk, sang her way to the top, taking home the grand prize of \$1,000 and the title of 2013 Idol Factor winner. She was one of 28 contestants, with the youngest being 13 years old.

The 22-year-old, who has competed in the annual competition three times and was runner-up in 2012, sang "Respect" and "I Have Nothing" by soul artists Aretha Franklin and Whitney Houston, respectively, in front of more than 300 fans during the finale May 3 at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Parr Club.

"Winning was awesome," Tisdom said. "I've always liked being a performer."

During the course of five weeks, audience members and judges combined their votes to whittle down the

number of Idol Factor hopefuls to six finalists: Alayra Zoe Maldonado, Mark Ottinger, Sharon Hardeman, Tyrone Moore, Ashley Olsen and Tisdom.

Olsen came in second place and won \$500, while Moore took third place and \$250.

"Once again, the fifth season of Idol attracted a great mix of contestants," Steve Knechtel, 902nd Force Support Squadron community programs manager and Idol Factor coordinator, said. "We had active duty and family members as well as Department of Defense civilians and retirees."

According to Knechtel, the degree of talent in the JBSA area didn't surprise him.

"I'm not amazed anymore because it's something I know we have," he said. "This program is for people to show off their abilities and refine their stage presence."

Helping the contestants improve their skills was a panel of judges, who gave sharp-eyed critiques week after week.

One of them was Jim Walker, a first-year Idol Factor judge who is a five-time winner of the Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest, performed with the Air Force Tops in Blue during their live tour debut in 1972 and was the recipient of a "Golden Roger" – the Air Force's highest

honor for entertainment – in 1982.

"Our goal was not to discourage performers, but to be honest," Walker said. "Nobody left without getting a critique; they all had things they did really well and not so well, so it was all about making them better performers."

Walker said picking difficult songs to perform in terms of vocal range was the most common mistake contestants made, which he pointed out with Tisdom's finale selections, but other factors determined the outcome.

"The story of the song and how it related to the audience was important," he said. "I am far more interested in the stage presence, microphone technique and showmanship of artists."

"At some points, we ripped into Sherita (with our critiques), but she has a great stage presence and great voice."

Tisdom, who started out singing gospel music at age 9 said her musical journey is far from finished.

"My goal is to keep getting better at my craft, and then I want to take my career to the top," she said. "A lot of artists get big in their 20s and have long, successful careers; that's what I want."



Courtesy photo

Left to right: Tyrone Moore, Ashley Olson and Senior Airman Sherita Tisdom won third, second and first place at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Idol Factor singing competition May 3 at the Randolph Parr Club.

Top Performer



Tech. Sgt. Melanie Wester is an outstanding NCO with a positive attitude. She serves as one of two NCOs providing critical support to the Air Education and Training Command command chief. Wester is a team player and continuously seeks opportunities for improvement. She is always willing to lend a hand and get the mission done. She is pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in business administration, taking an average of 18 semester hours per year. During her off-duty time, she volunteers with the Randolph 5/6, San Antonio Crisis Center and participates in 5K runs for good causes.

(Information courtesy of Master Sgt. Amanda Harness)

Photo by Joshua Rodriguez

Senior Master Sgt. Demetrice Webb (left), Air Education and Training Command Top 3 president, presents Tech. Sgt. Melanie Wester with the 2013 first quarter AETC Top 3 Outstanding Performer Award May 10.

AF Honor Guard seeking a few good men...and women

By Senior Airman Bahja Joi Jones
11th Wing Public Affairs

The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard is on a mission to find new, motivated Airmen to join their ranks and represent the excellence and precision of the Air Force.

In particular, the Honor Guard is seeking noncommissioned officers, or "lateral" recruits to balance the unit, which is currently made up of primarily junior enlisted Airmen.

"Eighty five percent of the squadron is first term Airmen," said Nelson Ashley, U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Formal Training director. "Laterals bring Air Force knowledge and experience, which is beneficial to help to mold and mentor our young Airmen."

Noncommissioned officers in the Honor Guard have a unique opportunity to lead a dynamic group of Airmen while learning all aspects of drill and ceremony and military customs and courtesies.

"While serving here, Airmen will hone skills such as attention to detail, military bearing and pride in being an Airman," said Ashley. "They will acquire traits that will help them to stand a little taller, wear the uniform a little prouder and be a model of our core values."

Just as important as gaining more NCOs to lead the Honor Guard troops, increasing the diversity in the Honor Guard is also among their priorities. Fe-

males make up approximately 20 percent of the Air Force, but less than two percent are represented in the Honor Guard.

"Diversity enhances our capabilities and gives the Air Force a greater competitive edge in air, space, and cyberspace," said Senior Master Sgt. Meshelle Dyer, Air Force Honor Guard chief enlisted manager. "The Air Force Honor Guard represents every Airman to the nation and the world. Our diversity enhances the Air Force's abilities to attract, recruit, develop, mentor and retain the best possible Airmen."

Airmen selected to be a part of the Air Force Honor Guard will complete a three or four-year controlled tour during which they have an opportunity to participate in ceremonies for the President, Secretary of Defense, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, among other national and international dignitaries. However, the duty they train for the most is also the most rewarding - to honor Airmen and their families every day during funeral services at Arlington National Cemetery.

"The Air Force Honor Guard represents the Air Force to the nation and the world," said Chief Master Sgt. Dennis Douglas, 11th Operations Group Ops Cell chief. "If you're looking for a challenge, if you're looking for an opportunity to lead, choose the Air Force Honor Guard."

For more information on how to join, visit <http://www.honorguard.af.mil/recruiting/index.asp>.

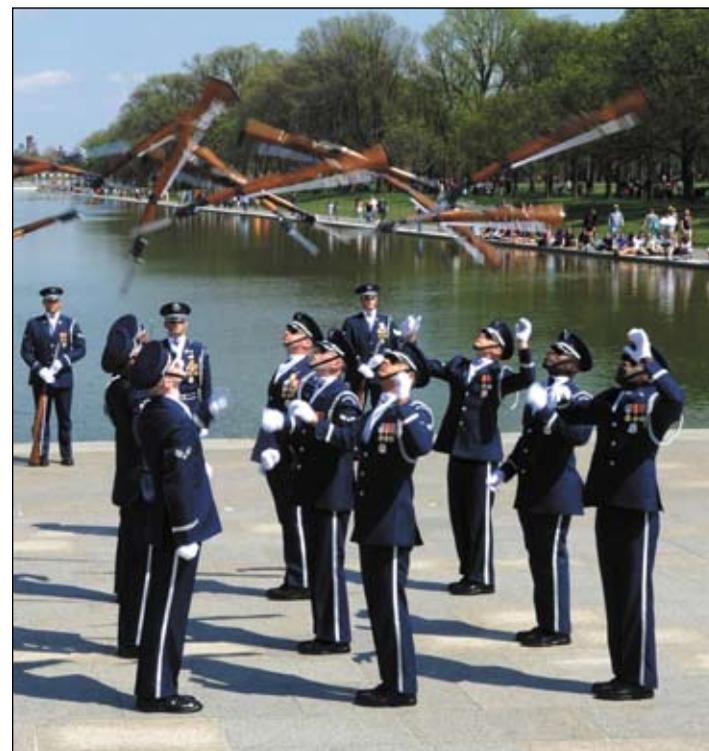


Photo by Staff Sgt. Nichelle Anderson

The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team performs during the 2013 Joint Service Drill Exhibition at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., April 13.

A&FRC course focuses on smooth transitioning for students

By Alex Salinas

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

A wide range of emotions are an unavoidable part of the moving experience for children of military members, but the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Airman and Family Readiness Center will offer a seminar 3-4 p.m. Thursday to help them make a smooth transition to a new school.

The hour-long "Challenges of Changing Schools" seminar is personalized for elementary- and middle school-aged children, but is open to any families who will be moving soon, Criselda Smith, A&FRC community readiness consultant, said.

"Most kids associated with the military have to move from location to location, changing schools each time," Smith said. "Children react differently, so it's up to parents to talk to them and ask for their feelings about the move."

The course is a timely way for parents to ac-

complish this, especially because most permanent changes of station happen during summertime, Kathleen Moree, A&FRC chief, said.

Presented by a military and family life counselor, the class includes online methods of communication.

"Luckily, technology is on our side," Smith said. "It's easier now than in the past to keep connections with friends and teachers by using resources like email or Skype."

The class also provides guidance for new students like meeting teachers, taking tours, joining school groups plus ideas about making new friends and making good grades.

A related course about conflict resolution for middle schoolers is tentatively scheduled June 20 at the A&FRC.

To sign up for "Challenges of Changing Schools" or for more information, call the A&FRC, building 693, at 652-5321.



To advertise in the Wingspread, call 534-8848.

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph News Briefs

Youth register for summer camps

JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs has numerous summer programs, clubs, camps, classes and special events for both pre-teens and teens. Registration begins Monday. For more information, call 652-3298.

Spouses class

The JBSA-Randolph Airman and Family Readiness Center is offering spouses of returning military members a pre-reintegration workshop, called Open Arms, 1-2 p.m. Tuesday. The class will cover solutions to the various challenges specific to couples and families reuniting and provide resiliency skills and resources. Seating is limited and registration is required. To register, call 652-5321 or email randolpha&frc@us.af.mil.

Financial preparedness

The JBSA-Randolph Airman and Family Readiness Center offers a financial readiness class 9-10:30 a.m. Tuesday. The class offers attendees ways to enhance their money management skills. For more information, call 652-5321.

Class prepares youth to stay home alone

The JBSA-Randolph Airman and Family Readiness Center

is hosting a class 5-6 p.m. Thursday to prepare children ages 10 and older to be left unattended in base housing for short periods of time. Topics covered include policies, safety skills and proper telephone answering techniques. Children and parents must attend this training together. To register, call 652-5321.

Survivor benefit planning

The JBSA-Randolph Airman and Family Readiness Center helps service members and spouses become familiar with the options and advantages of a survivor benefit plan 8-9:30 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday. To sign up, call 652-3633.

Annual SAPR training

The JBSA-Randolph Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office will offer 2013 annual SAPR training the first and third Wednesday of each month from 9-10 a.m. through Sept. 18. in Hangar 71, Classroom 126 of the Deployment Readiness Center. This training is mandatory for all military and civilians that supervise military members. For more information, contact Allen Blair at 652-4386 or allen.blair.2@us.af.mil.

Air Force Reserve separation briefing

Anyone interested in Palace Chase, Palace Front or are preparing to separate from active duty within the next six months should contact Tech. Sgt. Christopher Moss at christopher.moss.4@us.af.mil or 652-7532 to schedule a Palace Chase briefing or an Air Force Reserve separation briefing.

Stars and Bars dinner

The JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph Company Grade Officers' Council is hosting the inaugural JBSA Stars and Bars dining-out event at 6 p.m. May 31 at the Omni Hotel in San Antonio. This event is open to all CGOs and general officers, as well as wing commander equivalent colonels. Star and Bars is a formal dining-out event and mess dress is required.

For more information, contact Capt. Amber Ortiz at 565-0187, 1st Lt. Bryan Fagan at 565 2768, 1st Lt. Elon Brumfield at 977-2725 or 1st Lt. Donald Gruber at 925-6768.

Brief submissions

To submit a brief for publication in the Wingspread, email all information to randolphpublicaffairs@us.af.mil.

To advertise in the Wingspread, call 534-8848.

Local students submit Earth Day posters

By Steve Elliott

Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Students from throughout the Joint Base San Antonio school districts showed their concern for the Earth and its environment by creating a variety of colorful posters celebrating Earth Day, which was April 22.

The poster competition was open to grades kindergarten through 12th grade, with 42 posters turned in and four overall winners chosen in kindergarten, elementary school, middle school and high school categories.

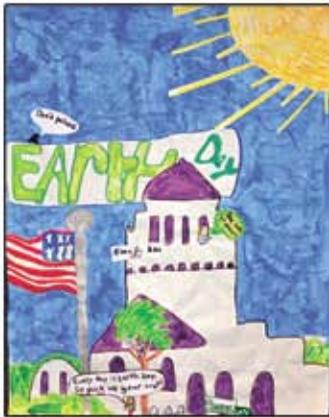
Artists were allowed to use traditional media such as oil, acrylic, tempera, watercolors and illustrations, as well as computer graphics, in their original concepts. Submissions had to represent the unique style and imagery of Earth Day and reflect the spirit of all JBSA locations.

In the kindergarten category, Maria-Sofia Lundy from Randolph Field Independent School District's Randolph Elementary School took top choice with her three-dimensional presentation titled "Take Care of My Earth."

In the elementary school category, third-grader Robyn Gleason of Randolph Elementary School took the top spot with her watercolor artwork titled "Every Day is Earth Day."

For the middle school category, sixth-grader Julia Harper from Stacey Junior/Senior High School from the Lackland ISD on JBSA-Lackland won with her crayon rendering titled "Think Twice About Littering."

In the high school category, senior Joyce D. Flores from Randolph High School took first place with a digitally created work titled "Reuse, Reduce, Recycle."



Posters from left to right:
Maria-Sofia Lundy, kindergarten,
"Take Care of My Earth"

Robyn Gleason, elementary school,
"Every Day is Earth Day"

Julia Harper, middle school,
"Think Twice About Littering"

Joyce Flores, high school,
"Reuse, Reduce, Recycle"

Courtesy photos

SPORTS - HEALTH - FITNESS

Randolph athletes compete in state track, field meet

By Robert Goetz
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Three Randolph High School track and field team members concluded their high school athletic careers on the state's biggest stage last weekend, competing in the University Interscholastic League meet last weekend in Austin.

Christian Eidenschink led the Randolph contingent with a third-place finish in the high jump, clearing 6 feet, 6 inches, just one inch shy of the gold medalist's best effort. Natasha Atkins, a four-year veteran of the Ro-Hawk girls track team who was a key member of last year's state championship squad, placed seventh in the 400-meter run, while Leo Blount, region gold medalist, finished eighth in the boys' 400 meters.

For Christian, whose senior year was his first at Randolph, the bronze medal capped a track and field "career" that started just weeks ago, after spring break. He hadn't even tried out for the team at the beginning of track season.

Boys track coach Phil Karrer said Christian was just "messing around" with the high jump when his friends saw him clear 6 feet. Karrer heard about it, saw it for himself and convinced Christian to join

the team in time to be ready for the district meet, though he did so reluctantly.

"I wanted him to compete at district," Karrer said. "He won district, then finished second at region and third in state. He only jumped at four meets."

Christian, a member of the Ro-Hawk varsity basketball team, improved with each meet, progressing from 5-10 to 6-0, 6-4 and, finally, 6-6.

"I regret I didn't try it earlier, but in the past I played baseball in the spring," he said, talking about his high jump efforts.

Karrer helped him with his technique, and the results showed. He won the district meet and placed second in region, clearing 6-4.

"That really motivated me," he said.

At the state meet, he cleared 6-6 on his third and final attempt.

"That was really exciting," Christian said. "I'm glad I had that experience."

Natasha, who had been to the state meet every year as a relay team member, competed for the first time in an individual event.

"It's a whole different experience," she said. "It's definitely more difficult. You have to have a different mindset."

Natasha competed in multiple events this year, taking first in the 100-meter run and triple jump and second in the 400 meters at the district meet. She placed first in the 400

meters at the region meet.

"She hadn't run in the quarter most of the season," girls track coach Stacy Bessire said. "Before the district meet, we talked about the best way for her to get to state and decided the quarter would be the best bet."

Bessire said Natasha, who was part of a senior-laden team last year, took on a greater leadership role this year as one of only two seniors.

"She's always been a leader, but she really stepped up this year," she said. "She's a great athlete - dedicated and self-motivated."

Leo, a two-year member of the track team who also competed in football and basketball, started his track career as a competitor in the 100 and 200 meters, but switched to the 400 last year, his first year on the Randolph team.

"I was reluctant to join track, but I'm glad I did," he said.

Leo competed on back-to-back district championship teams and qualified for the region meet in the individual 400. He won the region meet this year with a time of 50.78 and achieved his personal best time of 49.8 in this year's Ro-Hawk Relays.

He said competing in the state meet was a "great experience."

"I'll never forget it," Leo said.



Leo Blount (upper left); Christian Eidenschink (right); and Natasha Atkins (lower left); all Randolph High School seniors, competed in the Texas Track and Field State Finals last weekend. The athletes are shown here during practice at RHS.

Photos by Joshua Rodriguez

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph

Sports BRIEFS

Learn how to train for a marathon

Patrons are invited to a marathon training seminar at noon May 28 at the JBSA-Randolph Health and Wellness Center. Attendees will receive tips on how to properly train for a marathon. For more information, call 652-6271.

Bowling leagues

The JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center is taking sign-ups for three summer leagues. The United States Bowling Conference sanctioned 12-week Storm Pro Am League runs Tuesday through Aug. 6 and entitles each bowler to a Storm bowling ball of their choice. The Professional Bowling Association Experience League takes place May 29 through Aug. 14. The 12-week Coughatta Casino League runs May 23-Aug. 8 and entitles each member to a trip to the Coughatta Casino in Coughatta, La. Aug. 11-12. To sign up, call 652-6271.

Youth golf league

JBSA golf courses are starting a summer Professional Golf Association Coed Junior Golf League for youth ages 9-13. Sign up is at any of the JBSA golf courses. For JBSA-Lackland, Gateway Hills Golf course, contact Brandon Ellis at 671-2517. For JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, Salado-Del Rio Golf Course, contact Joseph Mendez at 222-9386 and for JBSA-Randolph, Randolph Oaks Golf Course, contact Troy Gann at 652-4653.