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PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN STORMY ARCHER

Members of the U.S. Coast Guard take part in the Armed Forces River Parade May 19 in San Antonio.

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12th Flying Training Wing commander promoted

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COMMENTARY

Memorial Day: A time to remember and honor those who have died in service

By Linda Oenig

502ND AIR BASE WING SAFETY OFFICE

Established by Congress in 1971 as an official federal holiday, Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America.

This late May holiday is more than just the unofficial start of summer. It is a time to honor those who gave their lives to protect and serve our country, so your Joint Base San Antonio family asks you to show your honor and respect for our fallen brothers and sisters as you kick off this unofficial start of summer.

“A strong economy and growing consumer confidence are giving Americans all the motivation they need to kick off what is expected to be a very busy summer travel season starting with a Memorial Day getaway,” said Bill Sutherland, senior vice president for AAA Travel and Publishing. “As such, we must carefully create a trip plan as we travel this holiday weekend.”

Amidst the barbecuing, summer movie outings, visiting the beach or river tubing, or just plain relaxing, we ask that as you travel to all of your destinations, remember to manage your risks and remain safety vigilant.

Pay attention to your safety gear, equipment and activities such as flotation devices, motorcycles, seatbelts, car seats, boating and yes, even your barbecue pit which has been sitting just waiting for you to grill some steaks.

If you're going to drink, do not drink and drive. Arrange for alternate travel or have a designated driver. If you operate a



COURTESY GRAPHIC

motorcycle and you are military, you must be properly licensed and wear all required personal protective equipment, or PPE, on or off the installation as required by Department of Defense Instruction 6055.4.

Many will be traveling this weekend with the same joy and travel plans as you and I; so, watch out for them and for your own family.

According to the AAA travel club, more than 41.5 million people will travel during Memorial Day weekend, which is 4.8 percent more than last year. It is expected to be the most-traveled holiday since 2005, which runs from May 24 through May 28, with Thursday and Friday expected to be the busiest days.

Travel modes will vary, so be vigilant,

well rested and plan accordingly for highway road closures or conditions. With 2 billion more people traveling this year, travel delays could triple along major roads.

Be responsible, make good risk decisions and you can prevent tragedies from occurring during your break in the action.

The 502nd Air Base Wing Safety staff challenges each of you to make “Your Personal Safety” a top priority during this long weekend but also, to take full advantage of this weekend to relax, reconnect with family and create enjoyable memories for you, your family and friends. Enjoy a safe and relaxing holiday weekend as we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving this great nation.

Summer month activities lead to risky business

502nd Air Base Wing
Public Affairs

With warmer weather on the horizon, remember to keep risk management in mind when planning your recreational activities.

Safety doesn't happen by accident.

Remember to think risk

management this Memorial Day weekend while you're away from work. If you don't think it's safe, then it probably isn't and you need to stop, re-evaluate the task, ask for help or take a break.

Risk management has principles. Those principles are: accept no unnecessary risk, make decisions at the

appropriate level, and integrate risk management into your planning. If you apply risk management in your off-duty activities as well as you do at work, you'll be sure to make it back to accomplish our mission, safe and sound.

Many mishaps can be avoided by reducing the

amount of alcohol consumed during events.

We all know what happens when someone drinks too much. We become risk-takers; so don't let your wingman, shipmate, devil dog or battle buddy down. Don't forget to have a designated driver at your Memorial Day event!

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JBSA provides strong presence at local parade

From 502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The Armed Forces River Parade along the River Walk in San Antonio is dedicated to the men and women of the United States Armed Forces, and features 26 patriotically decorated floats representing all branches of military service. The theme for 2018's event was "Military City USA," in honor of the rich military history in San Antonio as the city celebrates its tricentennial birthday. Joint Base San Antonio military ambassadors represented the services at the parade and at numerous JBSA events to foster a positive relationship between the military community and San Antonio.

Armed Forces Day is celebrated the third Saturday in May and falls during Military Appreciation Month and joins Memorial Day, Military Spouse Appreciation Day and Victory in Europe Day (V-E Day) as another May military-themed holiday.

Members of the U.S. Navy take part in the Armed Forces River Parade.

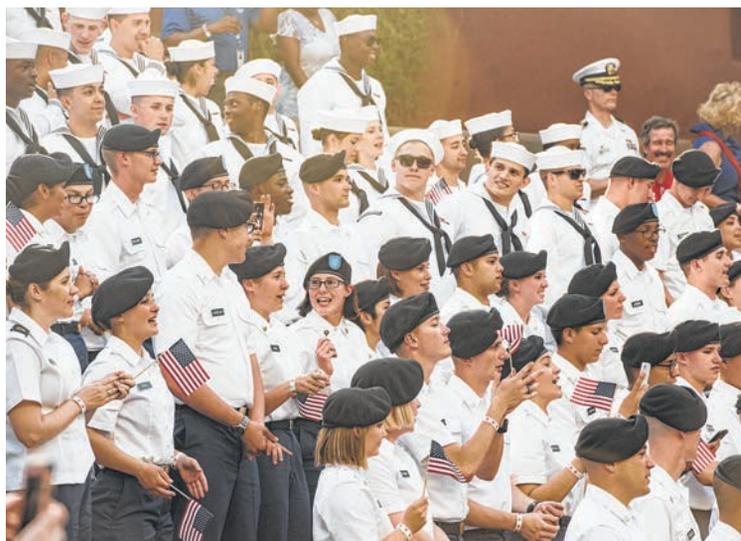


PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN STORMY ARCHER

Members of the U.S. Marine Corps take part in the Armed Forces River Parade May 19 in San Antonio.



Maj. Gen. Mark Weatherington, deputy commander of Air Education and Training Command, Chief Master Sgt. Julie Gudel, AETC command chief and their families represent the Air Force during the Armed Forces River Parade May 19 in San Antonio.



Military service members from Joint Base San Antonio watch the Armed Forces River Parade May 19.



Lt. Gen. Jeffrey S. Buchanan, U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) commander from Joint Base San Antonio -Fort Sam Houston, rides on a float representing the U.S. Army during the Armed Forces River Parade May 19 in San Antonio.

Safety paramount as hurricane season nears

By Airman 1st Class Dillon Parker

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

With hurricane season fast approaching, June 1 through Nov. 30, San Antonio residents need to be prepared for the dangers associated with the storms.

“San Antonio happens to be in a very unique spot as the aftermath from hurricanes that hit the coast usually end up here,” said Edward Meza, a 502nd Air Base Wing Safety Office occupational safety specialist. “Hurricane aftermath tends to be worse for flooding and thunderstorms, and we have a lot of low-lying areas here.”

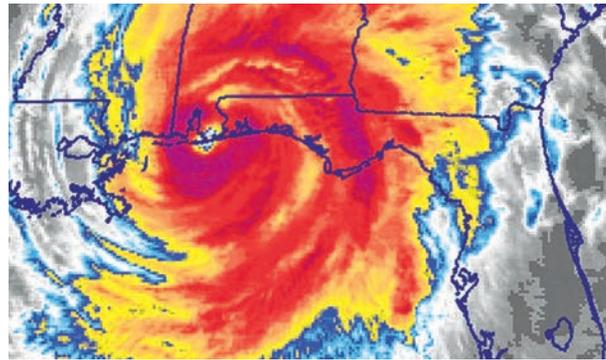
San Antonio residents in low-lying areas and flood plains need to be prepared to evacuate and keep sandbags on hand to protect themselves and property from flood damage if the threat of a hurricane is imminent, Meza added.

In addition to flooding, San Antonio can also experience many other threats from hurricanes.

“We may not get so much wind damage, but we can get damage from falling trees, hail, and lightning,” Meza said. “There’s a lot of stuff that can happen to homes and roadways here.”

Meza recommends stocking up on supplies such as food, water, flashlights and batteries, as well as a generator to be properly prepared for a hurricane.

“Supplies tend to become very scarce around here



COURTESY OF NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

and a ton of folks usually evacuate from the coast to San Antonio,” Meza said.

The most important part of safety during a hurricane is proper preparation.

“You’ve got to practice the 5 Ps; proper planning prevents poor performance,” Meza said. “If you practice the 5 Ps, you’re already way ahead of the game.”

Ready.gov provides some crucial tips to help you prepare.

Basic preparedness tips

▶▶ Put together a go-bag: disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, medications and copies of your critical information if you need to

evacuate

▶▶ If you are not in an area that is advised to evacuate and you decide to stay in your home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for several days and you are not able to leave due to flooding or blocked roads.

▶▶ Know where to go. If you are ordered to evacuate or are in a low-lying area, know the local hurricane evacuation route(s) to take and have a plan for where you can stay. Contact your local emergency management agency for more information.

Preparing your home

▶▶ Secure loose rain gutters and downspouts and clear any clogged areas or debris to prevent water damage to your property.

▶▶ Purchase a portable generator or install a generator for use during power outages. Remember to keep generators and other alternate power/heat sources outside, at least 20 feet away from windows and doors and protected from moisture; and never try to power the house wiring by plugging a generator into a wall outlet.

▶▶ Consider building a FEMA safe room or ICC 500 storm shelter designed for protection from high-winds and in locations above flooding levels.

For more information visit ready.gov’s hurricane safety page at <https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>.

FORT SAM HOUSTON

BAMC bids farewell to command team

Hospital welcomes new commander, command sergeant major in May 11 ceremony

By Lori Newman
BAMC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brooke Army Medical Center held a simultaneous change of command and change of responsibility ceremony May 11 on the hospital's ground helipad.

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Johnson relinquished command to Brig. Gen. George "Ned" Appenzeller and Command Sgt. Maj. Diamond Hough relinquished responsibility to Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Oates during the ceremony hosted by Maj. Gen. Thomas Tempel, Regional Health Command-Central commanding general.

"I can't say enough about the team here who makes this institution the pinnacle of military health care," Tempel said. "The 8,800 military members, civilians and contractors are the heart and soul of Brooke Army Medical Center."

Tempel highlighted the integrated team of Army, Navy and Air Force health care professionals who work at BAMC and the partnerships within Joint Base San Antonio and the San Antonio community. He also spoke about the accomplishments of Johnson and Hough.

"I can proudly tell you that the expertise gained through wartime trauma care is being applied to the healing of all those who arrive for care," Tempel said. "Brooke Army Medical Center's partnership with this great community and the can-do attitude of the providers and staff at this facility are a direct result of the outstanding leadership this

command team brings to Army Medicine."

Tempel also praised their spouses. "It's the love and support of Paula and Marie that has really made a difference in this organization as well," he said, thanking them for their contributions.

Johnson thanked his wife, Paula, and Hough for their support, and reminisced about the patients, staff and city leaders he met during this time at BAMC. He also thanked the BAMC, 959th Medical Group and Institute of Surgical Research staff for their support.

"Today is a bittersweet day for me," Johnson said. "It's hard to describe my feelings about leaving Brooke Army Medical Center after the past two years. Being the commander of the busiest military treatment facility within the Department of Defense has been a tremendous honor and privilege.

"Thank you all for your loyalty, your dedication to duty and country, and your tireless efforts to care for our patients and for one another," Johnson said. "You truly are a team or teams, I'm honored to have been a small part of your journey and I look forward to the continued efforts."

Johnson will take command of RHC-C later this month.

Hough said the day for him was "simply about thanking."

"The sense of pride and accomplishment, how humble I felt to serve here at BAMC; no speech I write can express it," he said, as he thanked those who helped and mentored him during his time here.

Hough addressed BAMC's

senior officers and noncommissioned officers.

"I would like to thank you because I have challenged you and you have all risen to the challenge," Hough said. "Like the true warriors you are, you excelled. You have exceeded my expectations.

"People, people, people; if you don't remember anything else, remember to be thankful for each other," Hough said. "That's what matters."

Hough's next assignment will be command sergeant major of RHC-Atlantic.

Tempel then turned to Appenzeller and Oates, welcoming them and their families to BAMC.

"Ned you are absolutely the right leader at the right time for BAMC, for this region and for military medicine," he said. "In addition to your clinical knowledge and skills, you possess all the leadership skills that are necessary to ensure BAMC continues to excel as an organization.

"Your battle buddy, Command Sgt. Maj. Oates, is going to bring a wealth of knowledge and experience about our central region," Tempel added. "His dedication and his focus on taking care of Soldiers is legendary and he's partnered perfectly with your experience.

"I have the greatest confidence in this command team and I am grateful that they have their families to support them as they assume command," Tempel said.

Appenzeller began by thanking his family for their support. He then turned his attention to the Soldiers and



ROBERT SHIELDS

Maj. Gen. Thomas Tempel (right), Regional Health Command-Central commanding general, passes the colors to incoming Brooke Army Medical Center commander Brig. Gen. George "Ned" Appenzeller (left) May 11 during a simultaneous change of command and change of responsibility ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Johnson relinquished command to Appenzeller and Command Sgt. Maj. Diamond Hough relinquished responsibility to Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Oates during the ceremony.

support personnel who participated in the ceremony, thanking them for their efforts.

He described how BAMC and Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston has changed since he was here for his residency in 1996.

"The one thing that has not changed is that this is still the friendly, caring, compassionate and wonderful community that it has always been," the new commander said. "My family and I are beyond excited to be here and we feel privileged that we are allowed to serve and be with BAMC and this Joint Base San Antonio community."

Oates spoke about his priorities, "God, family and Business."

"God is first, so I thank Him for giving me this opportunity," Oates said.

He joked about how his family grew from four to over 8,500 in a matter of the passing of the colors and highlighted the general's number one priority - readiness.

"My boss is ready, I am ready, you are ready, we are ready," Oates said. "Together our families are ready to fight our nation's wars - any conflict, any time and if the need be tonight - I'm ready."

Belize Defence Force hosts conservation policy conference

By Frederick Hoyt

U.S. ARMY SOUTH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Belize Defence Force hosted an Energy and Water Conservation Policy Subject Matter Expert Exchange in Belize City May 8-10, bringing together Soldiers from the Louisiana National Guard and aster planners from the U.S. Corps of Engineers.

U.S. Army South was the lead executive agent of this U.S. Southern Command-sponsored professionalilitary exchange.

During the week, the Belize Defence Force hosted a variety of lectures and presentations on energy, water conservation and solid waste management while participants shared ideas, lessons learned and best practices.

Belize is a nation prone to earthquakes, hurricanes and severe flooding. Service em bers from the Belize Defence Force shared their experience responding to Hurricane Earl in 2016 and the many challenges they faced.

According to Lt. Audibaldo Monima, Belize Defence Force, Coast Guard component, a reliable source of clean drinking water is always a concern when responding to natural disasters and during humanitarian assistance missions - in addition to debris clearing and waste management.

“This has given me greater knowledge when it comes to the conservation of things like energy, the

recycling of water, and the processing and managing of waste,” said Sgt. Robert Jones, from the Belize Defence Force, Land component. “This is very important for us, every day we learn something new.”

With rising energy costs and a variety of renewable technologies available, being proactive and having a solid energy and water conservation strategy in place not only reduces operational expenses, but can save money in the long term, according to Maj. Terry Vallarautto, Louisiana National Guard.

The Belize Defence Force is taking conservation easures seriously and looking for ways to make improvements, Vallarautto added.

Participants had the opportunity to apply some of the things that they learned during a site survey and facility assessment exercise of a military hospital on Price Barracks. With checklists in hand service em bers walked in and around the hospital looking for issues and areas of improvement including: lighting, insulation, caulking and water leaks.

Soldiers from the Louisiana National Guard’s Construction and Facility Management Office provided their expertise of things to look for in addition to facility management strategies.

“There are some very intelligent soldiers and officers from the Belize Defence Force that really understand energy management,” Vallarautto said. “They have the wherewith-all that it needs to take



FREDERICK HOYT

Master Sgt. Joseph Cole (center), from the U.S. Army’s Louisiana National Guard’s Construction Facility Management Office, and Belize Defence Force service members participate in a facility assessment exercise at a military hospital May 9 in Belize City.

place, and listening to them the past couple days, they want it to start tomorrow.”

A partner of choice, U.S. Army South recently teamed up with the Belize Defence Force during Beyond the Horizon 2017, a joint, humanitarian and civic assistance exercise focusing on bringing edical, dental, veterinary and eye care to rural areas of the country.

As the Army Land component of U.S. Southern Command, Army South works closely with partner nation armies and Defense Forces in Central, South America and the Caribbean to enhance security cooperation and strengthen inter-operability.

Changes to UCMJ: Military Justice Act of 2016 brings about new training sessions

By Staff Sgt. Tomora Nance
U.S. ARMY NORTH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

With the new changes to the Uniformed Code of Military Justice, the Army's Military Justice Legislation Training Team, or MJLTT, recently conducted a two-day course at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. The course was mandatory for all Army judge advocates, and military and civilian paralegals.

One of the trainers was Lt. Col. Sara Root, chief of the MJLTT, who is assigned to Office of The Judge Advocate General-criminal law division.

"The Military Justice Act of 2016, also known as MJA 16, is the most comprehensive changes to the Uniform Code of Military Justice in decades," Root said. "The act looked at each article section by section, implementing various changes throughout UCMJ."

"The training is important because these are some of the most significant changes that we've made to our military justice system since the UCMJ was implemented in the 1950s," she added.

The UCMJ is a federal law, enacted by Congress that defines the armed forces justice system. The UCMJ is comprised of 134 articles; articles 77 through 134 of the UCMJ are known as punitive articles, and if violated, can result in punishment by court-martial.

The course was open to not only Army legal personnel, but to other service members as well.

"We encourage all services to attend training, so they can get a better understanding because the act doesn't just make changes to Army proceedings and law," Root said. "It changes military law across the Department of Defense and affects everyone

in the military. The other branches are doing training as well, but the Army decided to training via MJLTT."

Former President Barack Obama signed the MJA 16 in December 2016. The act updated several crimes acknowledged by the UCMJ to include sexual offenses, credit card theft, cyber-stalking and retaliation against victims or reporters of crime.

"We are always asking changes to make our systems better," Root said. "The three big things that the changes affect are good order and discipline, victims' rights, and rights of the accused."

Another change that occurred with the act was competent jurisdiction for military courts.

"Under the new changes, military courts are now courts of competent jurisdiction which now allow military judges to rule on investigative subpoenas and warrants for electronic communication very early in the criminal investigate process," Root said. "This is very exciting because it's something that our federal counterparts can do, and now, our military judges have that authority as well."

Staff Sgt. Charles Campbell, a paralegal with Regional Health Command-Central, attended the two-day session.

"When the UCMJ first started, there wasn't any such thing as credit cards, so credit card fraud or theft was not a crime. As the environment and times change, our military law has to change with it," Campbell said. "We have to remain adaptable and flexible to any changes that make our laws better."

"The level of emphasis that has been placed on this training tells me just how serious and important this is to not only my technical



STAFF SGT. TOMORA NANCE

Lt. Col. Sara Root, chief of the Army's Military Justice Legislation Training Team, assigned to office of The Judge Advocate General criminal law division, briefs commanders and first sergeants May 5 on the changes to the Uniformed Code of Military Justice inside the Roc Drill Facility at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

knowledge, but to others' working knowledge of the changes that will occur," Campbell added.

During the training, the attendees also discussed the history and the changes to the UCMJ under the four phases.

One of the phases they discussed was Phase II, which covered the Camp Logan riots in 1917.

Following three separate courts-martial as a result of a race riot in Houston, 19 black Soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 24th United States Infantry, known as the "Buffalo Soldiers," a predominantly black unit,

were hanged without federal review or appeal.

"That was really a travesty of justice that happened after the Camp Logan riots. We need to give our Soldiers more due process," Root said. "One of the major issues regarding the sentencing of the African American Soldiers was there was minimal defense counsel assigned to represent the accused."

Phase II of the UCMJ spanned from 1913-1941. The UCMJ is currently in Phase IV of changes, which began approximately in 2012.

The training not only trained lawyers, attorneys and

paralegals, it also trained commanders and first sergeants.

"I think it's important to receive training to understand the regulation and put it into context with various examples from others attending the training," said Capt. Adam Crawford, commander of Headquarters Support Company, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, U.S. Army North (Fifth Army). "When it comes to military justice, it can be very daunting to understand because it's not only in legal jargon but it also not in context that may relate specifically to the situation you're faced with as a commander."

"It's nice to have these classes that provide you scenarios and input, so you can be informed on how laws apply to certain situations," Crawford added. "Every situation is different, but when you go through several scenarios you understand how laws apply. That's huge for making decisions when it comes to good order and discipline."

Many individuals reflected on the information gained during the training.

"For me, this training was great because this is my first command, and I have done a minimal amount of UCMJ," Crawford said.

"Understanding what's changed and how it applies is really critical for being a commander."

"The training that we received face-to-face versus in an on-line class is important because the changes are so broad, and we get instant feedback if any questions arise during the training from a subject matter expert," Campbell added.

The new changes to the UCMJ take effect Jan. 1, 2019.



Joint Base San Antonio FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

Monthly Events

June

Aquatics

The pools are open

Season pool passes for all JBSA pools are now available for purchase. Cost is \$45 for individuals, \$35 for military students and 11-14, \$85 for a family of three, \$50 for 11-14 family of three and \$10 for additional members. Daily fees are \$3 for adults and \$2 for children, 10 years and younger. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center at 210-221-4887, the JBSA-Randolph Center Pool at 210-652-5142, option 2 or the JBSA-Lackland Skylark Aquatic Center at 210-671-3780.

Patrons compete in a triathlon

Join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center for the first summer triathlon June 11, 7 a.m. The triathlon can be completed as an individual or as a relay and includes a 200-meter swim, 5-mile bike and 1-mile run. The cost is \$20 per person. Children 10 years or younger must have an adult accompany them throughout the biking and running portions. Packet pickup begins at 5:30 a.m. on race day. For more information, call 210-221-4887.

Bowling

Storm pro am leagues begin

Sign up for the Storm Pro Am Summer League at JBSA-Lackland Skylark Bowling Center. The United States Bowling Congress sanctioned league runs for 12 weeks on Tuesdays through Aug. 21. Members receive a Storm Bowling ball of their choice and free entry into the Pro Am Tournament with Storm professionals on Aug. 25. This league is open to USBC youth and adult bowlers. For more information, call 210-671-1234.

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston offers a United States Bowling Congress sanctioned Storm Pro Am League Wednesday evening league running through Aug. 22. Joining this league entitles every member to a Storm Bowling ball of their choice with drilling included and free entry into the Pro Am Tournament with Storm Professionals on Aug. 25 at JBSA-Lackland. This league is open to USBC youth and adult bowlers. Stop by the bowling center to sign up. For more information, call 210-221-3683 or 210-221-4740.

Sign up at the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center to join the United States Bowling Congress sanctioned Storm Pro Am League. The Tuesday evening league runs June 5 to Aug. 21. The Wednesday evening league runs through Aug. 22. Both leagues offer a chance to bowl with the Storm Professionals at JBSA-Lackland Aug. 25. Members receive a Storm Bowling ball with drilling included. This league is open to USBC youth and adult bowlers. For more information, call 210-652-6271.

Bowl with a DJ

Check out the cosmic bowling music and light show at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston June 2, 6-10 p.m., featuring a live DJ. For more information, call 210-221-3683 or 210-221-4740.

Father's Day brings bowling specials

The JBSA-Lackland Skylark Bowling Center welcomes all men to come in to bowl on Father's Day, June 17, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and receive free shoe rental. For more information, call 210-671-1234.

Fathers bowl for free at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Randolph Bowling Centers June 17, 1-6 p.m. This special is limited to three free games per father and does not include rental shoes. The rest of the family bowls at the special Mother's Day rate of \$2.75 per game with \$2.75 rental shoes. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center at 210-221-3683 or 210-221-4740 or the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center at 210-652-6271.

Strike Club offers bowling fun

Come party with the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center at the Strike Club every Saturday, 6-10 p.m. The Strike Club features cosmic lights combined with newly installed LED CenterPunch Deck lighting, LED lane capping and enhanced with three projection screens playing music videos. For more information, call 210-652-6271.

Clubs

Entertainment offered at the club

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club invites patrons to relax in the Lone Star Lounge or hang out on the patio with pool tables and big-screen televisions Fridays, 5-11 p.m. Entertainment is provided by DJ LJU June 1 and 22, DJ Tony Style June 8 and 29 and DJ J Rock June 15. For more information, call 210-645-7034.

Bingo fun is at the club

Join the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club for Bingo Extravaganza June 4 and 18 with \$15,000 in total jackpots, a complimentary buffet at 5 p.m. and Early Bird bingo at 6 p.m.

Birthday Bingo is held June 12, 7 p.m., at the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club. Birthday members receive one free machine and cake. This event is for Randolph Club members only and an ID card is required.

Bingo takes place at 3 p.m. every Sunday and at 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Play June 16 and 30, 3 p.m. Come to the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club in the ballroom. Admission is free to members and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, call 210-652-3056.

Fathers are celebrated

Surprise Dad with an early treat at the the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club Pre-Father's Day Buffet June 14, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$11.50 per person. The menu includes Jack Daniels barbecue brisket, fried chicken, Cajun chicken, sausage and shrimp jambalaya with rice pilaf, pulled pork sandwiches, macaroni and cheese, garlic potatoes, gravy, yams with marshmallows, green beans with ham, collard greens, soup, salad bar and assorted desserts. For more information, call 210-645-7054.

Bring fathers to the JBSA-Randolph Parr Club for Father's Day Brunch June 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brunch is open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders. Dads and granddads can enter a drawing for club gift certificates. Winning names are drawn the following day. Cost is \$25 per adult member, \$12 per members' children, 6-12 years, \$27 per adult nonmember and \$13 per nonmembers' children, 6-12 years. Children 5 years and younger eat for free. Reservations are taken for parties of eight or more guests. For more information, call 210-658-7445.

Guests fly into the Auger

Join the party at the JBSA-Randolph Parr Club Auger Inn for "old school" camaraderie, free light refreshments and great music June 15, 5 p.m. Meet neighbors, folks from other squadrons and leadership. There is no cover to join the fun. For more information, call 210-658-7445.

Fathers and daughters dance

Join the JBSA-Randolph Parr Club for the annual father and daughter dinner and dance June 16, 5-8:30 p.m. This program is for girls 2-15 years. The evening includes music, refreshments and arts and crafts. Reservations and prepayments are required. Cost for members is \$30 per couple and \$12 per additional child. Cost for nonmembers is \$40 per couple and \$15 per additional child. Children 5 years and younger are free. No coupons are accepted and no refunds are available after June 14. For more information or to make a reservation, call 210-658-7445.

Live Music is played on the patio

Join the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club on the Nite Club Patio for live music June 22, 5 p.m. The club opens at 5 p.m. and the Show Band starts at 6 p.m. For more information, call 210-652-3056.

Club appreciates members

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club hosts Customer Appreciation Night in the Fiesta Ballroom with entertainment provided by DJ LJU June 26, 5-7 p.m. The cost for members is \$12.50 and nonmembers pay \$15.50. The menu features mesquite barbecue brisket, barbecue-baked chicken, smoked sausage with peppers, Jack

Daniels barbecued ribs, macaroni and cheese, whipped potatoes, gravy, bourbon baked beans, corn on the cob, green beans, potato salad, coleslaw, tossed salad, potato bacon soup, corn bread, rolls, peach cobbler with vanilla ice cream, bread pudding and fresh fruit cups. For more information, call 210-645-7034.

June birthdays are celebrated with a buffet

The JBSA-Randolph Post Club offers a complimentary buffet every month for members with birthdays in that month. Members with June birthdays are honored June 27, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This is free for birthday members. Cost is \$10 for members without a birthday in June, \$5 for members' children, 6-12 years, \$12 for nonmembers and \$6 for nonmembers' children, 6-12 years. Children 5 years and younger eat for free. Coupons are not accepted. For more information, call 210-658-7445.

Community Programs

Community Center hosts flea market

Find bargains and treasures at the JBSA-Lackland Skylark Community Center quarterly flea market in the Skylark Bowling Center parking lot June 2, noon to 2 p.m. Sellers can rent spaces for \$10 and tables for \$5 each. Payment for space reservations and table rental must be paid in cash and in person at the Skylark Community Center. For more information, call 210-671-3191.

Voices on Vinyl is at the Harlequin

Come to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Harlequin Theatre to view "Voices on Vinyl," a musical revue that spotlights the singer-songwriter era of the 60s and 70s, June 8 to July 14. The revue features music written and performed by legendary artists like Jim Croce, Carole King, Kenny Loggins, Dan Fogelberg, Joni Mitchell, Carly Simon, Kris Kristofferson, John Denver, Cat Stevens and James Taylor. Make reservations today. Group rates are available. This show is sponsored by THE GUNN AUTOMOTIVE GROUP. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. For more information, call 210-222-9694.

Summer Jamfest held

Come to the JBSA-Lackland Amphitheater June 29, 4-10:30 p.m. for the free Summer Jamfest. Bring lawn chairs and blankets and listen to Mario Flores and the Soda Creek Band, Angel Cintron and the Azul Experience while enjoying food, beverages and interactive youth activities. For more information, call 210-652-5763.

Equestrian Center

Horseback riding lessons offered

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers horseback riding lessons for beginners and advance riders in both English and Western style riding by appointment only. Therapeutic riding lessons are also available and taught by certified instructors. Horses, saddles and tack for lessons are provided if needed. Patrons must be at least 7 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 210-224-7207.

Trail rides are for all ages

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers trail rides for patrons 7 years and older for \$30. Departures are at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays by appointment only. No experience is required. Adults must accompany children under 13 years. Riders must be at least 4 feet, 6 inches tall and weigh no more than 200 pounds. Call to make reservations. For more information, call 210-224-7207.

Pony rides available

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers parent-led pony rides Saturdays and Sundays for patrons 6 years and younger for \$10. Adults must accompany children and availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call 210-224-7207.

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Fitness

Gym hosts a weight room triathlon

Join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Central Post Gym for a Weight Room Triathlon June 1, 4:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. This timed event uses the bicep curl, bench press and the leg press for the three events. On the command "go," load the bar with weights for bicep curl and do enough repetitions so that the weight multiplied by reps equals 200 pounds. Then strip the bar and load the bar with weights for bench pressing; weight multiplied by number of reps equals 1000 pounds. Then strip the bar and load the leg press with weights; weight multiplied by number of reps equals 2000 pounds. Time stops when lifters put weights back on the rack. This is a free event and open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders. Call or see a staff member to sign up. For more information, call 210-221-3593.

Teams participate in relay run

Get a teammate and join the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center in the two-person team 10K relay run June 2, 7:30 a.m., at Heritage Park. The first team member must complete the 5K run route in order for the second member to tag off and start running the next 5K. This event is sponsored by Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. For more information, call 210-652-7265.

Bikers cycle away the calories

Participate in a spin-a-thon with two hours of indoor cycling at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center June 9, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Get those legs spinning and the heart pumping to energetic music and motivating instructors. Sign up for this free event on the day of the event. This class is open to the first 28 participants. For more information, call 210-221-1234.

World Cup pick-em challenge hosted by fitness center

Participate in the 2018 World Cup Soccer Pick-em Challenge with the Fitness Center on the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Medical and Education Training Campus. Individuals select the country to be crowned as World Cup Champion. One entry per person. Picks are due no later than 5 p.m. on June 13, no exceptions. Tie breakers are decided by the final score of the final match. For more information, call 210-808-5709.

Youth ages 18 and younger - Enter to win at front counter!



Bowl to win Mon, Weds, and Fri.
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Summer Bike Giveaway

Only at Skylark Bowling Center



JBSA-Skylark Bowling Center
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Men and women compete in lifting challenge

The Fitness Center on the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Medical and Education Training Campus hosts a 1,000- and 500-pound challenge June 16, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Men lift 1,000 pounds and women lift 500 pounds. Bench press, dead lift and squat totals are combined to calculate the total.

weight lifted. Participation in this challenge is free and all Department of Defense ID cardholders, 16 years and older, can join. Preregister at the MCTC Fitness Center no later than June 15. For more information, call 210-808-5709.

Golf

Golfers compete in a scramble

Golfers are invited to play in the monthly JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course Warrior Four-Person Scramble June 1, with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. The fee includes green fee, golf cart, prize money and a social after the round. For more information, call 210-222-9386.

Summer camp available for junior golfers

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course offers Junior Golf Camp June 11-15. Cost is \$150 and includes golf clubs for participants to keep at the end of camp. If golf clubs are not needed, cost is \$75. Camp runs Monday through Thursday, 8-10:30 a.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The first four days are devoted to lessons on chipping, putting and hitting and the final day includes pizza and a tournament. For more information, call 210-652-1653.

U.S. Open golf classic held

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course hosts a U.S. Open Golf Classic tournament June 16-17, with tee times starting at 7:30 a.m. The cost for this two-day individual stroke play event is \$30 per person plus green fee and cart fee and includes refreshments and prizes. For more information, call 210-671-3466.

Blind draw tournament leads to a winner

Participate in the JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course US Open Blind Draw Tournament June 16. This is an individual, low-net, low-gross tournament and a Professional Golfers' Association pro from the US Open is drawn for players to combine scores with. Entry fee is \$10 plus green and cart fees. For more information, call 210-652-4653.

Parents golf with children

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course holds a parent and child tournament June 17, with noon to 1 p.m. tee times. The format is a two-person scramble with lunch served before the round. The cost is \$25 for everything. For more information, call 210-652-1653.

Golf camps offered for youth

Youth, 6-14 years, can learn the game of golf in one of three sessions offered at the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course June 18 and 20, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; June 25 and 27, 8:30-11:30 a.m. or July 9-13, 8:30-9:30 a.m. The classes cover golf basics, grip, stance, swing, chipping and putting. The cost is \$100 if youth bring their own clubs or \$200 for youth with no clubs. For more information, call 210-671-3466.

Couples enjoy a scramble

Come enjoy an afternoon on the golf course with a friend, coworker or significant other June 24, 1 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course for a couples' scramble. The cost is \$30 for member teams and \$50 for

nonmember teams. Price includes green fee, cart, prize fund and a social after the round. To sign up, call 210-222-9386.

The Harlequin presents
Voices on Vinyl

June 8 - July 14

A concert-style music revue spotlighting the singer-songwriter & classic rock groups of the 1970's. **Voices on Vinyl** features music by legendary artists including Carole King, Fleetwood Mac, The Carpenters, Simon & Garfunkel, The Eagles, Kenny Loggins, Bette Midler, Creedence Clearwater Revival & James Taylor.

For information and reservations, call the Harlequin box office 210-222-9694

www.hq.com

Information, Tickets and Travel

Zip lining adventure offered

JBSA-Lackland Outdoor Recreation invites patrons to Zip Line in Helotes June 9, July 14 and Nov. 17. The cost to soar over the Texas Hill Country is \$20 per person and is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information or to reserve a spot, call 210-671-5532.

Patrons can getaway to Cancun

The JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel Leisure Travel offers a three-night, four-day getaway to Cancun July 1-4. Rates start at \$975 per person. This price includes round trip airfare, airport transfers and all-inclusive hotel accommodations. Full payment and a \$10 service fee are due at time of booking. For more information, call 210-671-7111.

Costa Rica getaway offered

The JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel Leisure Travel offers a four-night, five-day trip to Costa Rica Oct. 4-8. Travelers land at Liberia Airport and stay at the Rio Guanacaste beach resort area. Rates start at \$1,000 per person and include round trip airfare. For more information, call 210-671-7111.

Tickets for Texas attractions offered

If heading to the Houston or Corpus Christi area, stop by the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Information, Tickets and Travel office for discounted tickets to the Houston Space Center, Texas State Aquarium, U.S.S. Lexington or the Arkansas Queen Casino Boat. For more information, call 210-808-1378.

Discounted sports tickets available

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Information, Tickets and Travel office offers discounted Spurs, Rampage and Stars tickets. Discounted tickets are also available online by going to <http://spurs.com/fortsamhoustonitt> and using the discount code: FORTSAM. For more information, call 210-808-1378.

ITT is the summer fun headquarters

Before heading out this summer check with the JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets and Travel for discounted tickets prices to local area and state attractions as well as out of state attractions. ITT constantly has new tickets so check with them before buying elsewhere. ITT offers email ordering, which allows tickets to be sent by email or FedEx for anyone outside of the San Antonio area. For more information, call 210-671-3059.

Theme park tickets are available

Stop by the JBSA-Randolph Information, Tickets and Travel for discount tickets to Six Flags, SeaWorld* and Schlitterbahn. For more information, call 210-652-5142.

Military & Family Readiness

Family moviegoers enjoy an afternoon show

Beat the summer heat with a sensory friendly family showing of "LEAP!" June 4, 1-3 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center. For more information, call 210-221-2705.

Parents prepare for baby

Active duty expecting parents receive information on financial planning from conception to college, support programs offered within the community and parenting skills during the Bundles for Babies workshop June 8, 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., at the JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center. To register, call 210-652-5321.

Service members transition from boots to business

The Small Business Administration hosts a two-day entrepreneurial workshop June 12-13, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club. Review steps for evaluating business concepts, developing business plans, and resources to help access start-up capital. Registration is required. For more information, call 210-671-3722.

Workshops to help reduce financial stress held

Discuss tips to help control over spending and apply SMART goals to a budget during the Developing a Spending Plan workshop June 15 at the JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center. Review tips to help dial back the financial stress this holiday season with Saving for the Holidays June 21 at the JBSA-Lackland M&FRC. To register, call JBSA-Lackland at 210-671-3722 or JBSA-Randolph at 210-652-5321.

Job seekers prepare for a Hiring Fair

Learn ways to stand out from the crowd by attending the Hiring Fair Preparation workshop June 18, 9-11 a.m., at the JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center. Then dress to impress for the Hiring Fair June 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Arnold Hall Community. Open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders. For more information, call 210-671-3722.

Help on making relocations go smoothly offered

The JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center hosts a Smooth Move Relocation workshop June 19, 10-11 a.m., for service members, E4 and below relocating for the first time and all ranks with a permanent change of station overseas for the first time. Family members are encouraged to attend. To register, call 210-652-5321.

Confidence outside the Uniform

Review ways to translate military skills to civilian terms, tactics for salary negotiation, networking and more during the Confidence Outside the Uniform workshop June 20, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center. To register, call 210-221-2705.

Youth view deployment from a new perspective

From in-processing to equipment demonstrations, military youth, 8-12 years, participate in Operation Junior Expeditionary Team, a mock deployment experience, June 22 at the JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center. OJET is open to dependents of all military branches. Limited space is available and registration is required. Register no later June 15. For more information, call 210-671-3772 or email 802fss.f&fr@us.af.mil.

Workshop helps to understand others

Learn how to map out the strengths of an entire team, work more effectively with natural talents and embrace diversity by appreciating and tolerating the difference in others during the Four Lenses Discovery workshop June 26, 9-11:30 a.m., at the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club. Registration required, call 210-671-3722.

Outdoor Recreation

Concealed handgun license class offered

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center offers concealed handgun license classes June 9 and 23, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Successful completion of this class is required for a Texas CHL. To register for a class, visit <http://www.chlregistration.com>. Once on the website, select "register for class." Then select "Dan Willis-Leatherneck Arms." Class details are available online at <http://www.myjbsa-fss-mwr.com>. For more information, call 210-363-2332.

Archery takes on another dimension

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center hosts a 3-D archery competition June 23-24, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration is 8-10 a.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 others, 13 years and older and youth, 12 years and younger, shoot for \$5. The competition fee is \$10 for E1-E4, active duty or medically retired and \$20 per person for all others, 13 years and older. For more information, call 210-295-7577.

Range available for shooting and target practice

The Sportsman's Range at the JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center is available for shooting and target practice, weather permitting. Please call to ensure the range is open prior to coming out. The cost

to shoot is \$5 for E1-E4, active duty or medically retired, \$10 per Department of Defense ID cardholder and \$15 per non-DOD ID cardholder. DOD ID cardholders can purchase an annual pass for \$60. All DOD ID cardholders are allowed to sponsor two non-DOD ID cardholder guests. Guests must be in the same vehicle as the sponsor. For more information, call 210-295-7557 or 210-295-7529.

Annual passes help save money

Purchase an annual JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake pass for \$65 and receive access to both the Sunny and Hancock Cove sides of the park with a vehicle and boat or tailor pass, valid for one year from the date of issue. Daily entry fee without an annual pass is \$7 per visit, per vehicle. For more information, call 1-800-226-5357.

Reservations available for summer break

The JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake has facilities for rent to fit every budget and desire. Facilities range from a primitive camping experience to premium, three-bedroom cottages overlooking Canyon Lake. Pet friendly facilities are available upon request. For more information, call 1-800-226-5357 or 1-800-280-3466.

Customers enjoy fishing

The JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake offers courtesy fishing piers. Bait and tackle is available in the country store. A Texas Parks and Wildlife fishing license can be purchased at the Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake. For more information, call 1-800-280-3466.

The weather is great for being outdoors

The JBSA Outdoor Recreation locations have the equipment to enhance summer plans with sporting and camping goods for whatever plans are made. Take the family or go camping with friends with travel trailers that can sleep five to eight people. Hit the water with one of the wide array of speedboats, fishing boats and pontoon boats. For parties, barbecues and group gatherings, Outdoor Recreation has popcorn machines, chocolate fountains, champagne fountains and margarita mixers as well as sporting equipment for the more active bunch. Add more fun with bouncy castles and sumo wrestling suits. For more information, call JBSA-Fort Sam Houston ODR at 210-221-5224, JBSA-Lackland ODR at 210-925-5532 and JBSA-Randolph ODR at 210-652-5142.

Youth and Children

Dairy Month is here

Celebrate Dairy Month with the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs June 8, 25 and 27, 3 p.m., by making homemade hand-churned ice cream from Grandma's recipe. Ice cream sundaes are served. For more information, call 210-221-3502.

Fathers and Daughters dance the night away

JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs invites fathers and daughters to grab their dancing shoes and come to this special dance June 8, 7-9 p.m. The cost is \$5 per adult and child couple with a small keepsake included. Reservations are required. A minimum number of eight participants is required. For more information or to make reservations, call 210-671-2388.

Fathers and sons play ball and share doughnuts

The JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs hosts a father and son outing with doughnuts, basketball and fun to help celebrate Father's Day June 16, 11 a.m. This free breakfast is open to families with children 5 years and older. Sign up at Youth Programs no later than June 12. For more information, call 210-652-2088.

Basketball is played until midnight

Youth, 11 years and older, are invited to participate in Midnight Madness June 16, 7 p.m. to midnight, at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Center. Youth, 11-13 years, play 7-9 p.m. Youth, 14-18 years, play 9 p.m. to midnight. For more information call, 210-221-3502.

Parents offered a break

JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs offers parents a break through the Give Parents a Break or Parents' Night Out program June 23, 1-5 p.m. Children, 5 years, and in kindergarten, through 12 years, are provided snacks and entertained with activities and games. The cost is \$25 per child with a multiple-child discount or free with a GPAB referral. Late pickup is subject to \$5 for the first five minutes, then \$3 for every minute after that. A minimum number of participants is required. Call 210-671-2388 to register children 5-12 years, and to register children 6 weeks to 4 years call 210-671-3675.

Teen Summer Camp offered

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs offers summer camp for teens, 13 years and older. Camp operates daily 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$130 per camp or \$30 per day for regular days and \$50 for field trip days. Camp includes trips to the state parks, colleges, museums, Schlitterbahn, Urban Air, Rope Challenge Course and more. Youth learn culinary skills and basketball skills and paint with an attitude. Youth also perform in a camp talent show. Breakfast, lunch and a snack are offered daily. For more information, call 210-221-3502.

JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs offers summer camp for teens, 9-18 years, and runs from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Teens can register 9 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., Monday through Friday at Youth Programs, building 585. Registration continues until full. Weekly activities include swimming, field trips, learning life skills, community service projects and more. Cost is \$130 a week and includes breakfast, lunch, entry fees and supplies. For more information, call 210-652-2088.

STAY CONNECTED

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AF medical technicians take on the challenge

By Lori Newman
BAMC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The program, now called Medic UP, launched in January 2017 and is designed to increase the readiness of enlisted medical professionals by allowing them to practice the skills they need to maintain their core competencies, so they are ready if deployed downrange.

Since the program began in January 2017, 105 68W medics have achieved their silver badges and 10 have received their gold badge. In January, the Medic UP was extended to 68C licensed vocational nurses and they are making great strides to achieve their competencies as well.

The badge color helps staff members easily identify the enlisted service members' level of competency.

A black badge signifies they possess basic skills. The silver badge shows they have demonstrated all the required competencies gained through direct patient care, but they have not yet completed the skills they need to achieve through validation exercises and in the simulation lab. Once a medic completes

all their competencies they obtain a gold badge.

During the ceremony, two gold badge holders were recognized, Army Staff Sgt. Stephen Craycraft and Army Sgt. Danielle Spencer. Two 4NO's, Air Force Airman 1st Class Emoni Covington and Airman 1st Class Lemuel Topacio, received their initial black badge.

"Training opportunities have always been made available prior to deployment, but none of them provided as much depth or hands on experience as the Medic Utilization Program," Craycraft said. "Because of the effort required, earning the gold badge was a rewarding experience."

Craycraft added that since Medic UP was initiated, he has witnessed enlisted medics display more confidence in their ability to handle medical emergencies and direct patient care.

Spencer agrees, "Having the opportunity to test my skills and competencies to obtain the gold badge has allowed me to gain confidence in myself as a medical professional."

"Acquiring the gold badge is a direct reflection of the hard work that not only

I put in, but that the professionals around me put in when helping me further develop the skills in preparation for testing," Spencer said.

Covington said she's excited to be one of the first Air Force medical technicians to participate in the program.

"It will be great for professional development," she said. "It gives us the opportunity to grow in not just our military careers, but in our lives in general. It focuses on learning new skills, improving old skills, and maintaining our current skills."

Air Force Col. Stephen Donaldson, 959th Medical Group commander, praised the Medic UP.

"The Medic UP program is a phenomenal opportunity for the services in this building to work together," Donaldson said.

"The bottom line is we need every one of our medics, regardless of service, to max out their skillset, to be ready to go on a moment's notice," Donaldson said. "This program is going to help us get there, because we are actually going to be able to watch the development and hold individuals and units accountable



ROBERT SHIELDS

Airman 1st Class Emoni Covington, a medical technician, prepares an IV bag May 14 at Brooke Army Medical Center.

and work together to maximize these folks ability to practice."

To emphasize this point, Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Lorraine Hieskill, 959th Medical Group superintendent, read a recent battlefield scenario about how Army medics and Air Force technicians worked together at a hospital downrange to treat patients.

"This is important for all of us," Hieskill said. "We need to train each other like we have to save each other's lives. We are one team, one fight, it doesn't matter what uniform we wear."

Holocaust survivor shares harrowing story of survival

When the ghetto was forming, they decided to escape

By Rachel Cooper
BAMC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brooke Army Medical Center observed Days of Remembrance April 24 in the auditorium with this year's theme of "Legacy of perseverance, learning from the Holocaust," with Holocaust survivor Hanna Davidson Pankowsky shared her story of escaping Poland at 10 years old with her mother.

"I don't have words to give thanks to all of you, women and men in uniform who fought and are still fighting to give us a safe home," Pankowsky said. "My gratitude has no limits because if not for the American Army, I wouldn't be here. You liberated us and gave us the chance to live. Thank you."

Pankowsky's father and brother left to fight in World War II, leaving her mother and herself in Ludz.

When the Nazi soldiers entered Ludz, the Jews were forced to throw flowers at them. Those who didn't want to throw the flowers were shot, she said.

At first, they were allowed to go to school, she explained. Then, one day she was sitting in the classroom and smelled smoke. The class looked out of the window and saw the synagogue burning across the street. The Jews were forced to throw gasoline on the synagogue to make it burn faster.

"Those who didn't want to throw the gasoline were shot," she said.



ROBERT SHIELDS

Army Col. Traci Crawford (left), Brooke Army Medical Center deputy commander, and Master Sgt. Nancy Castaneda, present Holocaust survivor Hanna Davidson Pankowsky (center) a token of appreciation April 24 during the Holocaust Days of remembrance observance at BAMC.

They heard "the scream of hell," from people trapped in the building. The teacher tried to calm the class down but all Pankowsky could think was, "we'd be next."

Jews were forbidden to walk on the main street. She had to walk around the city to get to her house, even though it was across the street from where she was going to school.

"I told my friend, you know what? I'm going to cross the street," Pankowsky said. "I did this all my life. I didn't understand why I could

SURVIVOR continues on 29

LACKLAND

344th TRS instructor advises new Airmen

By Airman 1st Class Dillon Parker

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Narro, a 344th Training Squadron Instructor who was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross along with 23 other Airmen May 11 at Hurlbert Field, Fla., uses his experiences excelling in critical mission environments to train the next generation of special operations aircrew Airmen to do the same.

While deployed, Narro and fellow AC-130U Spooky Gunship crew members from the 4th Expeditionary Special Operations Squadron, provided over watch for 114 American and Afghan Special Operations Forces during a high-risk, daylight, armed assault in Nangahar Province, Afghanistan.

As the friendly forces pushed deeper into a valley, more than 50 insurgents executed a complex ambush utilizing higher terrain and buildings to effectively surround the friendly forces with multiple fortified positions and strongpoints.

The crew precisely employed danger-close 105mm howitzer rounds within 120 meters of friendly forces while continuously working through gun functions. When the gunship crew ran low on fuel, they coordinated the launch of another available gunship to provide backfill, but upon arrival, enemy forces began a new wave of firing. Both gunships established a formation and immediately began



COURTESY PHOTO

Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Narro, 344th Training Squadron Instructor, is awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross along with 23 other Airmen May 11 at Hurlbert Field, Fla.

engaging with four guns simultaneously.

Low on fuel and ammunition, the crew coordinated for the launch of the other available gunship to provide backfill, to allow them to refuel and rearm. As the third gunship arrived, the enemy began a new wave of firing on friendly forces. The AC-130s quickly established a gunship formation and immediately began engaging with four guns simultaneously, providing lethal effects on the insurgents. In total, the crew flew 12.3 hours in support of ground forces which led to zero friendly fatalities, 31 enemies killed in action and 28 structures destroyed.

"I remember the experience pretty well," Narro said. "The main thing I remember though was being

tired. We were all so exhausted but it's what the mission required so we just pressed on until the end."

As a 344th TRS Instructor, Narro uses this experience to impart the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful aircrew member.

"I've got to make sure these Airmen coming right out of high school understand the high expectations we put on them," Narro said. "The mission requires operations like the one we were awarded the DFC for on a regular basis."

One of Narro's students, Senior Airman Atriom Kurznetsov, affirmed some of the lessons Narro has passed onto his pupils.

"He's really focused on teaching us to pay attention to the minor details and speak up when we know something is not right," Kurznetsov said. "One of the unique parts of our job is how little rank matters up in the aircraft. We all have an important responsibility to speak up regardless of how many stripes we have."

While deployed operations are often in the spotlight, Narro said the impact of teaching at the schoolhouse can have just as much significance on the mission.

"Teaching might not have a direct impact on whether or not people live or die," Narro said. "But the Airmen that leave here have a huge responsibility and impact. It's my job to make sure they're prepared for all the challenges ahead so they can go on to complete missions and save lives."

AF Cyber Mission Force teams reach 'full operational capability'

By Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann

AIR FORCES CYBER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Air Forces Cyber announced today all Air Force Cyber Mission Force teams achieved full operational capability May 11.

The 39 total force teams, comprising more than 1,700 Airmen, civilians and contractors, were deemed sufficiently trained and fully mission-ready more than four months ahead of the Sept. 30 U.S. Cyber Command deadline.

"We've reached an enormous military cyber milestone and we're excited about what AFCYBER can deliver to our service and the joint cyber fight," said Maj. Gen. Chris Weggeman, AFCYBER commander. "Our teams are integral in

performing and achieving the common-core mission of cyberspace superiority shared across all Department of Defense services."

As the action arm of CYBERCOM, the 133-team CMF executes the command's mission to direct, synchronize and coordinate cyberspace operations in defense of the nation's interests.

The Air Force began building its contribution to the CMF in 2013, along with the Army's 41 teams, Navy's 40 teams and Marine Corps' 13 teams. The Air Force build includes 15 Air National Guard squadrons and one Air Force Reserve squadron, which provide both continuously mobilized forces as well as increased surge capacity.

This FOC milestone completes the personnel and training aspects of the

"This is the battlefield of today and our cyber forces are ready"

Maj. Gen. Chris Weggeman, AFCYBER commander

CMF build. Now the respective service commanders can focus on mission readiness of the force.

"I'm very proud of the total force team as this is an important milestone in maintaining cyber superiority," said Gen. Jay Raymond, Commander of Air Force Space Command. "All efforts now focus on continuing to improve readiness to increase warfighting lethality in support of the National

Defense Strategy."

Once manned and trained, AFCYBER assessed each Air Force team's ability to defend against and engage simulated cyber threats during themed exercises. These results were then validated by CYBERCOM to declare the team's operational capability.

To maintain each team's readiness level, many CMF Airmen will fulfill back-to-back CMF assignments as new Airmen are continually trained and added to teams.

"This is the battlefield of today and our cyber forces are ready," said Weggeman. "The need for this CMF will remain long into the future, and we will continue to evolve our cyber experts to combat the malicious cyber actors seeking to do us harm."

Air Force honors Athletes of the Year

By Steve Warns

AFIMSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. Ian Holt and Capt. Abby Hall were recently named Air Force Athletes of the Year.

Holt, combat operations division space control branch chief for the 614th Air Operations Center at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, is a cyclist and past member of the World Class Athlete Program.

“As an Airman, it has been difficult to juggle a career with increasing rank and responsibility, family and inevitable aging,” said Holt, who began cycling competitively at the U.S. Air Force Academy and who was also honored as the Air Force Male Athlete of the Year in 2009. “In many ways, being recognized as the 2017 Air Force Athlete of the Year is more special and satisfying in the twilight of my (sports) career.”

Holt’s competitive cycling career includes representing the U.S. Armed Forces Cycling Team at the 2005 Military World Championships and the U.S. at the 2016 Elite Track World Cycling Championships, where he finished 11th.

“As an Airman, I never would have had the opportunities and motivation to pursue the level of competition that I ultimately reached without the underlying theme of representing my country and the Air Force,” the major said.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Maj. Ian Holt, combat operations division space control branch chief for the 614th Air Operations Center at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., was recently named an Air Force Athlete of the Year.

Competing in an endurance sport such as cycling requires extreme dedication and time commitment, as well as significant amounts of readiness and resiliency, Holt said.

Holt’s readiness and resiliency were tested like never before during a life-threatening crash at the International Tour de Gila last year in New Mexico.

A freak accident sent Holt

hurtling off a mountain at more than 30 mph into the Gila National Forest pine trees. He suffered severe bone bruises, tore both posterior cruciate ligaments in his legs and a finger was severed to the tendon.

Despite the injuries, the major managed to climb the 30 feet up to the road to seek help. He spent three hours in the



Capt. Abby Hall, an acquisitions officer was the AIM-120 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile Program Office at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. She was named the Air Force Female Athlete of the Year.

emergency room to nurse his injuries, yet managed to make his flight home and report to his duty station the next day.

In October, he capped five months of rehabilitation with two bronze medals at the Masters Track World Championships.

“The character traits and requirements to be a great athlete are directly applicable to

military service,” Holt said. “Commitment, attention to detail, perseverance and honesty are the markers of great athletes and Airmen. The Air Force must embrace these traits and people because they have the ability to carry the service on their backs.”

Hall, an acquisitions officer

ATHLETES continues on 30

Larson Awards program brings brightest ISR Airmen together

By Lori A. Bultman

25TH AIR FORCE

Every year, 25th Air Force recognizes the best Airmen in a variety of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance career fields through the Larson Awards program.

Maj. Gen. Doyle Larson's goal in creating the awards program in 1979 was to improve the performance of the Air Force's global cryptologic mission. The program recognizes technicians from more than 20 career fields that are vital to accomplishing that mission.

"Being selected for the Larson award is truly amazing," said Master Sgt. Kevin, a 2017 gold medal recipient. "Since taking my first test as a young staff sergeant, I made it my personal goal to medal three times. I have succeeded by placing gold twice and silver once." Participants in the program are only allowed to place three times in their career.

Kevin appreciates his leadership's support for the program and credits his participation with making him a better Airman.



COURTESY PHOTO

Every year, 25th Air Force recognizes the best Airmen in a variety of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance career fields through the Larson Awards program.

"I could not have done it without the unwavering support of my leadership," he said. "The Larson program has increased my drive and motivation to succeed as an ISR professional."

Tech. Sgt. Alan, also a 2017 gold medal recipient, said the Larson Awards program is well worth

competing. As a winner, he was able to visit San Antonio and participate in Larson week events in November 2017.

"I loved my trip to San Antonio. As a cybersecurity student, it was nice to get to mingle with some business owners at the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce that actually own cyber

security businesses. I learned that they hold my (technical) school in high regard, and got some helpful tips in finding a cybersecurity job after the military," he said.

Alan also liked that the nominees were challenged during the week, and the awards were not presented until the end.

"I liked how they kept the winners secret until the last day," Alan said. "I think it helped keep everyone engaged and optimistic."

"Although some might not look forward to being put to work, I enjoyed the opportunity to work on a continuous improvement event, because I got a topic that I cared about," he said, adding that he felt like he was able to get his opinion heard by 25th Air Force leaders during the week's activities.

This year's Larson Awards first-round testing starts today, and the last day to test is June 15. The second round of testing will be held in July. For more information or to schedule your test, please contact your unit's test administrator or first sergeant.

C-5M wing stands down for safety review

By Staff Sgt. Lauren Snyder
433RD AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Reserve Citizen Airmen of the 433rd Maintenance and Operations Groups took a day off May 14 from the usual mission of “fly, fight, win” to focus on safety.

The one-day operational safety review was directed by Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein in light of recent accidents.

In a video shared with all of the Air Force, Goldfein told embers their leadership would guide discussions “to identify gaps and seams that can lead to mishaps or unsafe conditions.”

“Every one of us has a responsibility to identify, assess and mitigate risk,” Goldfein said.

Taking a day to talk about risk management together is a change of pace for the embers

who usually are busy in their sections supporting the maintenance, logistics and facilitation of all assigned C-5M Super Galaxy aircraft, and training crew members for those aircraft.

“We have to slow down, do it right, be deliberate and avoid mistakes the first time,” said Col. Charles V. Pratt, 433rd MXG commander. “We do 500 things right a day, and miracles happen on the flight line and back shops every day to make (the mission) happen. It is the one time we overlook the technical order or don’t check the forms that can cause a catastrophic event.”

The two 433rd groups planned the combined safety down-day before it became mandatory.

“That was our own initiative, that we needed to take a step back and look at what we can do better,” said Maj. Samuel P.



COURTESY PHOTO

Col. Thomas K. Smith Jr., 433rd Airlift Wing commander, answers questions from members of the 433rd Operations and Maintenance Groups during an operational safety review on May 14 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

McAnally, 433rd Airlift Wing chief of safety.

Teamwork enabling success

despite strain from the operations tempo, manning, aircraft availability, and

mission was a focus of the safety review.

“Whenever an aircraft lifts off, there are a thousand fingerprints all over it,” said Chief Master Sgt. Kaleth O. Wright. “It takes everyone working together to generate air power. We are a nation at war, and we can’t afford to lose a single Airman or aircraft due to a mishap that could have been prevented.”

With so many embers and moving parts supporting the mission of the 433rd AW, there are many opportunities for risk.

“You’re pulling off miracles every day,” said Col. Gregory P. Haynes, 433rd OG commander. “How many times can we afford to get it wrong? We have to remember to be vigilant, because we can’t afford to get it wrong once. We just have to continue to work together so we can be successful.”

RANDOLPH

Carey promoted, relinquishes 12th FTW command

The flying training wing consistently earns recognition as a top AF performer

By Randy Martin

12TH FLYING TRAINING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 12th Flying Training Wing's commander was promoted May 18 in a ceremony at the Parr Club on Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Col. Joel Carey was promoted to brigadier general. He has been in command since June 30, 2016.

"To promote somebody from colonel to one-star (general), that's a really big deal," said Lt. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, commander, Alaskan North

"If you think about any airpower that's being employed at this time across the globe within the last six months to a year and a half, it has been touched by the Airmen of the 12th Flying Training Wing in their work and in their instruction and in their development."

Brig. Gen. Joel Carey, outgoing 12th Flying Training Wing commander

American Aerospace Defense Region and Alaskan Command and 11th Air Force. Wilsbach was the presiding official for the promotion ceremony.

"It's an indication that the nation is putting immense trust and faith in that officer to carry out duties for our country that have the highest importance," Wilsbach said.

Since 2016, the 12th FTW

consistently earned recognition as a top performer in the Air Force for flying training, airmanship, stewardship and innovation.

"If you think about any airpower that's being employed at this time across the globe within the last six months to a year and a half, it has been touched by the Airmen of the 12th Flying Training Wing in their work and in their instruction and in their development," Carey said during his remarks to more than 100 guests including family members, civic leaders and fellow Airmen.

Wilsbach presented Carey the Legion of Merit as an award for his service as commander.

"I try to stay out of the way and help kick down doors where I can," Carey said. "It's the men and women of the 12th Flying Training Wing that's doing the work every single day," Carey said.

Carey relinquished command May 19 to the wing vice commander, Col. Randy Oakland, until Carey's replacement arrives later this year.

He is scheduled to deploy later this year.

For more information about the 12th Flying Training Wing, call 210-652-1272 or 210-347-6075 or visit <http://www.12ftw.af.mil/>.



JOEL MARTINEZ

Lt. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach (left), commander of Alaskan North American Aerospace Defense Command Region, Alaskan Command, U.S. Northern Command, and 11th Air Force, promotes Col. Joel Carey to the rank of brigadier general on May 18 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.



JOEL MARTINEZ

Carey receives his star from family members during the promotion ceremony. "I try to stay out of the way and help kick down doors where I can," Carey said during his remarks before about 100 guests.



COURTESY PHOTO

Carey completed his flying training mission on May 17. Friends and family members welcomed him home after the flight, in keeping with tradition for pilots who complete their tour of duty. Carey is a Baylor University alumnus and a native of Midlothian.

99th FTS preserves the memory of Maj. Ausborn

By Tech. Sgt.
Ave I. Young
502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of the 99th Flying Training Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph recently honored the memory of a fallen comrade on the seventh anniversary of his death.

On April 27, 99th FTS members gathered in the Freedom Flyer hallway of Hangar 12 to pay tribute to Maj. Jeff "Oz" Ausborn, who was killed that same day in 2011 in Kabul, Afghanistan, when a shooter opened fire at the Kabul International Airport, killing eight Airmen and one American contractor.

During the event, squadron members held a roll call for NATO Air Training Command Afghanistan, NATC-A NINE.

Lt. Col. Jason Powell, Air Education and Training Command deputy director for safety, shared his connection to that tragic day and his remembrances of Ausborn.

"I was a T-1 pilot at Columbus when I was tasked with the deployment," he said. "I had been through the 99th FTS here at Randolph and I had the opportunity

to meet Maj. Jeff Ausborn on more than one occasion. I was in the first group to arrive immediately after the attack. The squadron was still in a state of shock and everyone was trying to rebuild the trust with our trainees. I ended up in his bunk and gathered some of his items to ship home after the incident. Oz always made people around him smile and he was pleasant no matter where he was.

"Every day we walked from the NATO base past the Afghan building where this happened," Powell recalled. "I had meetings in the same room. For the longest time, the bullet holes remained in the building.

"We lost great Americans that day," he said. "I will continue to host this event as long as I can to ensure the next generation remembers the sacrifices of those who came before them. Maybe they can carry the torch."

Lt. Col. Jonathan Elza, 560th FTS commander, gave a final toast at the end of the NATC-A9 roll call.

"Let us not forget all our comrades who have paid the ultimate sacrifice and for the families they have left behind ... to



TECH. SGT. AVE I. YOUNG / 502ABW/PA

those who have gone before," he said.

Ausborn was a native of Gadsden, Alabama. He was deployed to the 438th Air Expeditionary Wing where he served as a C-27 instructor pilot to new Afghan pilots. He was a senior pilot, logging more than 2,300 hours in both airlift and trainer aircraft, to include the T-37B, T-44, C-130E, T-6A, T-1A and C-27. He is survived by his wife, Suzanna; his five children, Emily Ausborn, Eric Ausborn, Shelby Ausborn, Mitchell Maloy and Summer Maloy; and his parents, Clifford and Faye Ausborn.

Members of the 99th Flying Training Squadron line Freedom Flyer hallway in Hangar 12 during a roll call for the NATO Air Training Command Afghanistan, NATC-A NINE, April 27 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

JBSA members participate in National Police Week

Observance recognizes the service and sacrifice of law enforcement members

By Airman Shelby Pruitt

502ND AIR BASE WING

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Security forces members throughout Joint Base San Antonio participated in National Police Week with events held April 14-18 at each JBSA location.

National Police Week was established by a joint resolution of Congress in October 1962. It occurs annually during the week in which May 15 falls.

National Police Week recognizes the service and sacrifice of U.S. law enforcement members and pays special recognition to law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

“It’s a celebration of not just our career field but it’s a celebration of life for those that have passed on and paid that sacrifice or have been disabled and can no longer do what we do,” said Staff Sgt. Shawna Grocott, 902nd Security Force Squadron trainer.

“These events are designed to enforce close bonds with the public fellow peace officers and commemorate with dignity and

respect to those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our protection.” said Airman 1st Class Anson Hinson, 902nd Security Forces member.

To kick off the week-long celebration, an opening ceremony was held at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Quadrangle May 14.

On May 15 at JBSA-Lackland, a “Defender Challenge” was held, including a ruck march, fire team pushups and a shooting competition.

The observance May 16 consisted of a flag football tournament held at JBSA-Randolph.

A softball tournament and a Military Working Dog competition took place May 17. The softball tournament was held at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

At JBSA-Randolph, the MWD competition started with a mile ruck run/march and ended with an explosive search by bomb dogs.

Thursday and Friday, JBSA-Lackland held a Candlelight Vigil honoring fallen law enforcement officers as members stood watch for 24 hours.



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN SHELBY PRUITT

Staff Sgt. Jeffery Hill, 902nd Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, and his military working dog, C-Charles, run the 1-mile ruck march May 17 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph in observance of Police Week. Police Week is a week-long event that pays tribute to the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers nationwide.

“This flame and this candle is how we pay tribute to our fallen officers all over the world.” Hinson said.

Ending the celebration, a ceremony, ruck march and BBQ were held at JBSA-Camp Bullis on May 18.

In addition to these festivities, the 902nd Security Forces Squadron held a community event outside the Main Base Exchange May 17 at JBSA-Randolph. The event included K-9 demonstrations, vehicle and weapons displays, Paw Patrol appearances and a speech by the fifth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Chief Robert D. Gaylor.

“The importance of recognizing the fallen defenders for me it’s just to provide you with some perspective,” said Grocott. “Any time or day it could be you and so it’s important for us to look back and recognize that the fallen were Airmen just like us, no matter their rank ... we all have the same mission.”



Senior Airman Andrzej Jeglinski, 902nd Security Forces Squadron, takes part in a demonstration to show the effect a Taser has on the human body May 17 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Fifth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Robert D. Gaylor, speaks to attendees of National Police Week May 17 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.



SURVIVOR

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not.”

There were two Nazi soldiers who saw them with their stars on their clothes, identifying them as Jews and shouted, “Jude, Jews crossing the street!” They fired their machine guns and her friend was shot. They were forbidden to move her body from the street.

When her mother heard the ghetto was forming, she decided to escape, despite the fact that she had a 1 percent chance of survival, Pankowsky said.

They escaped by disguising themselves as Christians. A truck driver drove them out of the city and they were driven to the border where Poland was divided.

“During the war, the children, they grow up very fast,” she said.

They were dropped off in the forest and in deep snow with the river as the dividing point between East and West Poland. As they were walking they saw searchlights and heard search dogs barking. Her mother covered them in snow and they laid still.

After the searchlights disappeared and the dogs were heard in the distance they crossed the river to the Russian side of

Poland and went to a railroad station.

“Once we mixed with the general population it was easy to escape,” Pankowsky said.

Her mother had an acquaintance who lived in the Russian occupied side of Poland. The woman opened the door and there stood her father and brother.

Eventually her family was placed in a displacement camp and received food left over from the U.S. Army food supplies.

“What we had – I have to mention – was Spam,” she said. “The first day they served us, it was delicious. Well, after three times a day, day after day, week after week, today I don’t want anymore.”

Later on they obtained a visa to Mexico City and then Pankowsky came to America after getting married.

“In surviving, we defeated Hitler, he could not destroy us all. We will put the pieces of our life together to educate the children and we continue our heritage and our identity,” Pankowsky said. “Never forget this holocaust exists because so many deny this – still. You cannot deny me, because I saw it.”

The Days of Remembrance ended with a candle lighting service. Ten candles were lit and Pankowsky lit the 11th candle in remembrance of the lives lost during the Holocaust.

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO 243RD ARMY BIRTHDAY BALL IS SET FOR JUNE 9

This year’s Army Birthday Ball theme celebrates the San Antonio Tricentennial and the 300 years of military history that has shaped San Antonio.

It is through this close relationship between the local community and Joint Base San Antonio that San Antonio has become known as Military City U.S.A. For more information, visit <http://www.jbsarmybirthday.com>.

SINCE DECEMBER 2017, THE AIR FORCE HAS EXPERIENCED NUMEROUS INCIDENTS WITH NON-US MILITARY AFFILIATED PERSONS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER INSTALLATIONS.

SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING

It is the responsibility of all base personnel, uniformed and civilian, to contribute to the defense of the installation.

WWW.JBSA.MIL

ATHLETES

From page 23

was the AIM-120 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) Program Office at Eglin AFB, Florida, helped the All-Air Force women's volleyball team win its first Armed Forces championship in five years last May. She then helped the All-Armed Forces team place second in the World Military Games, the highest finish in 23 years.

"As an Airman, I share this award with my teammates," said Hall, who starred at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida, before she was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 2012. "Personally, it shows that my hard work and dedication on and off the court is paying off. Volleyball has and continues to open doors for me that I would not have known otherwise. The experience of playing for the Air Force and Armed Forces is more than I could have imagined, and I'm always thankful for the opportunity to grow and play in the sport that I love."

Hall's playing and coaching experience complemented her readiness and resiliency during the Armed Forces Tournament and the World Military Games.

Hall, normally an outside hitter, was asked by coach Nicki Holmes to play middle hitter during the Armed Forces Tournament. She not only filled that role, she thrived, as Air Force won five

straight matches to win the gold medal. "Middle hitter requires the ability to read the game," Hall said. "Thankfully, with the coaching staff's help and pulling from my own coaching experience, knowledge, and familiarity of the game I was able to fill that role."

Perhaps Air Force's most memorable match was against the U.S. Navy for the championship. Air Force led 2-0 and was down 24-12 in the third game, but reeled off 14 straight points to win the title.

Holmes approached Hall again and asked her to fill a setter role on the All-Armed Forces Team.

"He knew I could set because the previous year I was the setter for our USAFE team, but I never imagined I would be a setter at this level," Hall said. "Setter is like the quarterback of the team, so I had to be resilient and change up my leadership style to run our plays."

Hall said she learned more about herself as a volleyball player this past year than any other.

"It was frustrating, and my mental game was challenged," Hall said. "But as an Airman, when I was called, I knew my role and I was ready for the challenges."

"I come back to my duty station a better officer and leader with new tools in my belt," she added. "I think Air Force Sports is a great opportunity to continue to grow as an athlete but also as an Airman."

To learn more about the Air Force Sports program or to apply for a spot on one of the teams, visit <http://www.myairforcelife.com/Sports/>.