

# JBSA LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

APRIL 12, 2019



PHOTO BY JASON W. EDWARDS

*Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Matthew Read (left), acting Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation medical director, shares an emotional moment with former patient, Rita Ibanez, March 22 at Brooke Army Medical Center.*

**Cancer survivor shares emotional reunion with BAMC ECMO team** *Page 9*



**JBSA-Randolph celebrates 60 years of T-38 service**  
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**Lighthouse for the Blind honors JBSA worker**  
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# Army senior leaders: Don't be a bystander

By Gen. Mark A. Milley, Army Chief of Staff, and Mark T. Esper, Secretary of the Army

As members of the United States Army, each of us has an obligation to promote a climate of trust – our profession's bedrock – throughout our organization.

The way we do this is by living the Army Values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage. From the newest Soldiers in basic training to our most senior leaders, the Army Values bind us together as a profession.

While much is changing for the Army right now, our values will not. They are enduring and remain as relevant today as they were when first created. When it comes to living the Army Values, there can be no bystanders.

Across the Total Army, we continue to focus on eradicating sexual harassment and sexual assault from our ranks. We must do everything within our power to rid the Army of these crimes.

This is a readiness issue that affects our ability to accomplish our mission. Over the past several years, we have placed a high priority on our prevention efforts, and although we are on the right trajectory, we still have significant room to improve.

In all components, sexual assault reporting is increasing, which is an indication that our Soldiers trust their leaders to address the situation in a



COURTESY PHOTO

From left: Gen. Mark A. Milley, Army Chief of Staff, and Mark T. Esper, Secretary of the Army

professional manner. We all have a responsibility to look out for one another – there can be no bystanders.

Stay alert when the warning signs become present, and if you see something, ACT! Leaders and Soldiers have an ethical obligation to intervene to stop sexual harassment and sexual assault from happening. Those who do not violate the Nation's trust and the trust of their peers.

The Army will continue to improve the effectiveness of our prevention efforts moving forward. We will co-lead a Joint SHARP Conference this month, hosted by the military service academies that will bring together college and university leaders from across the country to share best practices.

As our society wrestles with this difficult problem, the Army will continue to take a leading role in developing solutions.

This starts by ensuring that the perpetrators of sexual harassment and sexual assault are held accountable and that the victims are protected without fear of retribution.

Throughout the force, we must also continue to focus on preventing suicides. Although suicides fell by 1.3 percent across the Total Army in 2018, Regular Army suicides increased by a troubling 18 percent.

Our most vulnerable population consists of our junior Soldiers. Leaders and teammates must watch attentively for indicators of suicides and inform their chain of command when they know trouble is on the horizon. Every loss of life from suicide is a tragedy that could have been prevented.

Our NCOs are the first line of defense – we expect you to know your Soldiers, visit them in the barracks, and provide

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them the care and assistance they need and deserve.

We're counting on each of you to help solve these problems. Every instance of sexual assault or suicide has a moment when someone could have intervened to change the outcome.

Have the courage to stand up and act when you see something wrong. Seize the opportunity to get your teammate help or to remove your battle buddy from the environment when warning signs become present.

We need everyone on this team to be ready to fight when called upon, which can only happen if we look out for one another.

Let us all reaffirm our commitment to our values and to one another. In doing so, we will remain the strongest army on the face of the earth.

## JBSA LEGACY

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## Joint Base San Antonio HOTLINES

- Sexual Assault Hotline  
210-808-SARC (7272)
- Domestic Abuse Hotline  
210-367-1213
- DOD Safe Helpline  
877-995-5247
- Suicide Prevention  
800-273-TALK (8255)
- Duty Chaplain  
210-221-9363

# Feedback Fridays

By Brig. Gen.

**Laura L. Lenderman**

502D AIR BASE WING AND  
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO  
COMMANDER

Feedback Fridays is a weekly forum that aims to connect the 502d Air Base Wing with members of the Joint Base San Antonio community. Questions are collected during commander's calls, town hall meetings and throughout the week.

If you have a question or concern, please send an email to [RandolphPublicAffairs@us.af.mil](mailto:RandolphPublicAffairs@us.af.mil) using the subject line "Feedback Fridays." Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

## Personnel Issues

**Q.** Is there a conference room, training room with video/Wi-Fi access, available at Joint Base San Antonio for use by mission partners? I've heard such a thing exists at JBSA-Lackland. On JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, we've reserved the Fort Sam Houston Community Center and/or the IMCOM Academy, but we're subject to be bumped.

**A.** What a great question and thank you for asking it. At one time the IMCOM Training Center (formerly the IMCOM Academy) did have Wi-Fi access, but they any longer do so.

The good news is there are video/Wi-Fi equipped meeting rooms available at the Fort Sam Houston Community Center and Golf Course, the Lackland Gateway Club, as well as the Parr and Kendrick Clubs at JBSA-Randolph that are available for use.

As these are non-appropriated fund functions, there is a fee for the room usage and, once reserved, the likelihood of being bumped is highly unlikely. Please contact any of

these facilities for assistance.

**Q.** My Primary Care Manager is at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, but my family's PCM is at JBSA-Randolph. Since they happened to be at an military treatment facility and both needed their flu shots, I advised them to go to the immunization clinic and get their shots. They were turned away and told they had to go to the MTF where their PCM is located. I was under the assumption that all MTFs were universally connected? Are we able to get a shot at the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, Capt. Jennifer Moreno Medical Clinic, Brooke Army Medical Center, or even Scott Air Force Base clinic, or do we have to go where our PCM is located?

**A.** Thank you very much for your question. Medical facilities with immunization clinics provide immunizations to beneficiaries across Joint Base San Antonio.

The Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center at JBSA-Lackland and the 359th Medical Group at JBSA-Randolph have full-service immunization clinics for all categories of beneficiaries regardless of branch of service or where the customer receives their primary care.

Brooke Army Medical Center's immunization clinic provides immunizations to all adult beneficiaries across JBSA. Unfortunately, stand-alone medical clinics across JBSA such as the Moreno Clinic, Westover Medical Home, Schertz Medical Home, etc., lack the on-site vaccine supply and staff to be able to provide walk-in immunizations to beneficiaries assigned to another clinic.

Beneficiaries are encouraged to discuss immunization status and obtain immunizations during their appointments at their respective clinic or utilize

one of the JBSA immunization clinics.

**Q.** What are the restrictions on retirees eating at dining facilities at JBSA-Camp Bullis and the Rocco dining facility at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston? I have been rejected a few times at the door of the JBSA-Camp Bullis facility as I had no CAC card and only a retiree card. It's confusing.

**A.** Thanks for the question! JBSA has a large, thriving retiree population, and we value your participation in our activities. We welcome retirees to dine with us at the JBSA-Camp Bullis and Rocco dining facilities during the traditional Thanksgiving and Christmas meals only.

Unfortunately, Department of Defense regulations restrict retirees dining in appropriated funds dining facilities at other times without specific approval by the installation commander.

That said, retirees are always welcome to dine at the Wingman Café at JBSA-Randolph, as that facility is part of the Air Force's Food Transformation efforts, which allows active duty, retirees and civilians to eat in the facility.

**Q.** Why are we required to provide our complete Social Security number and date of birth when completing the SF-182 (Request, Authorization, and Certification of Training) form? If we are uncomfortable providing our social security number, would it be possible to use our CAC number instead? If we cannot use the CAC number, are there any other options that we can use without disclosing our personal information?

**A.** Great question! All training is requested utilizing the SF-182, but Social Security numbers are not required on this form unless the training also includes payment for travel.

When a member travels for

training, he or she must be given access to the line of accounting in the Defense Travel System, or DTS. This requires the approval authority to enter social security numbers into DTS.

If there is no travel associated with the training, members can use their Department of Defense ID number instead. Birth dates, however, are never required on this form or as part of this process. For additional questions, please contact your Unit Training Manager.

## Installation & Facilities

**Q.** When will we get speed bumps, traffic signs to slow down, and additional cross walks at the 502nd Contracting Squadron parking lot at building 224 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland? There are cars always speeding past our contracting employees, contractors, and military customers as they struggle to get from our main parking lot into the rear entrance of building 224. I am surprised that nobody has been hit or injured so far. This is a real health and safety concern.

**A.** We truly appreciate your question as personnel safety is a 502nd ABW top priority. As with past pedestrian/vehicle safety issues, we will raise this concern for action at the next JBSA-Lackland traffic safety working group.

While we work that process, Civil Engineers will coordinate quick-turn mitigation efforts with 502 CONS leadership, to include verifying signage is appropriate and sufficient to alert drivers of speed limits and awareness of pedestrian walkways. During this verification, CE will also assess the need to restripe parking lot. Thank you for looking out for the safety of all personnel on JBSA!

**Q.** With rapid increase and usage of electric vehicles running on the road and

around the JBSA areas, is there any plan to implement/install EV charging stations in base parking lots, or maybe just in BX/Commissary areas? To the best of my knowledges, there other bases already have the charging stalls in the parking lots.

**A.** Thank you for your question. Our Civil Engineers are focused on providing a resilient and energy-efficient installation and culture. Typically, energy initiatives such as charging stations are installed during new construction of facilities, or as a commercially provided contracted pay-for-use service.

We are supportive of such initiatives particularly when they target community gathering lots such as the BX and Commissary, as suggested in the question. To help, CE will recommend to AAFES and DECA to consider installing electric vehicle charging stations as they make capital improvements to their facilities.

**Q.** Is there an established reason why the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Post Office does not have a "self-service" automated postal items machine available for use in their lobby?

**A.** Thank you for seeking to improve our post office! The current facility size and customer demand do not justify the purchase of a kiosk at this time.

There are significant costs associated with equipment maintenance, facility modification and the initial kiosk purchase. The USPS provides a full customer service counter during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon. We will continue to evaluate customer demand to determine if purchasing a kiosk in the future would be justified.

# Motorcycle Safety Training: what AF riders need to know

By Arthur Albert  
AIR FORCE SAFETY CENTER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Training season for motorcyclists is just around the corner, and as training gets into full swing, it may be helpful to shed some light on the Air Force's training requirements, review the proper acronyms for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation courses and dispel some misinformation.

In 2013, Air Force motorcycle training requirements went from a one-time requirement to a five-year requirement, intending to build on a rider's skill level. In a nutshell, Airmen riding through 20 years of service will be required to attend at least four training courses. Each of the courses will build on the other as shown in the below chart.

**Level I (Initial):** New rider training will only be accomplished for those members who have a motorcycle operator's permit from their home state and have no motorcycle endorsement.

**Level II (Intermediate):**

Riders entering the service with an endorsement will automatically be required to attend a Level II training course within one year. If riders are unable to safely complete this training based on instructor's recommendation, member may be directed to attend Level I training.

**Sustainment/Refresher:** The purpose of this training is to help riders advance their skills while reinforcing positive behavioral traits required to operate a motorcycle safely. Sustainment/Refresher training may be satisfied by participating in an approved structured mentorship course as outlined in Air Force Instruction 91-207, or repeating a Level II course.

Additional training may be required if a rider who currently rides a cruiser-style motorcycle decides to ride a sport-bike style motorcycle. Sport bike riders will complete a Level II sport bike training course.

What do all the Motorcycle Safety Foundation acronyms mean? In 2014, the MSF

updated their training curriculum. To distinguish between the new versions of the courses MSF at first placed a "U" after the acronym to specify it as an updated version of the course. In an effort to clear up confusion on the courses and provide a standardized way of interpreting which course the acronyms stand for, the following guidance is offered.

All of the older MSF courses will be shown with the year the course was replaced by an updated course (e.g. BRC 2013, BRC2 2013, ARC 2013, MSRC 2013, etc.). The "U" will be dropped from the updated courses and will be designated with just the acronym for the course, as this is the most current curriculum offered (e.g. BRC, BRC2, ARC, MSRC, etc.).

One thing to note, when it comes to BRC2 2013 and BRC2, only the newer version is approved for sport-bike related training because it concentrates on more advanced braking, maneuvering and behavior. Since the MSF completion card for BRC2 and BRC2 2013 are the same, the training location

using the older curriculum will annotate the card at the top with 2013. The Air Force is encouraging all in-house training programs to switch over to the new BRC/BRC2 curriculum.

One of the most frequent miscommunications the Air Force Safety Center hears is that the Air Force is getting out of the motorcycle safety training business. This simply is not the case.

In 2017, a decision was made to focus the limited training resources available on those personnel who truly have an intention to ride a motorcycle and to also turn the requirement for obtaining a license over to the states.

It is the state licensing programs that provide riders not only with the basic operations of a motorcycle, but provide a key element in the licensing - the laws.

The Air Force stands steadily behind training, focusing on the "Right training, right time, right bike." Simply put, the Air Force wants to focus training not on the basic balance and control

that the states are better equipped to provide, but concentrate Air Force-sponsored training more on the advanced skill sets and behavior our riders need to safely operate their own motorcycles on public streets and highways.

When you make the effort to at least obtain a learner's permit or endorsement from your home state, proving you understand the laws associated with riding a motorcycle and illustrating your desire to ride; that's when we step in to ensure you have the best training available to help you accomplish the task of riding safely.

For more information, email the Air Force Motorcycle Program Manager at [AFSC.SEGT@us.af.mil](mailto:AFSC.SEGT@us.af.mil).

For local information, call the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston safety office at 210-221-4576, the JBSA-Lackland safety office at 210-671-5028 or the JBSA-Randolph safety office at 210-652-1824. Other information can also be found at <http://www.jbsa.mil/Resources/Safety/>.

## Spring travel? TRICARE goes with you

### From TRICARE Communications

If you're planning a trip this spring, remember that TRICARE travels with you. Whether traveling stateside or overseas, make sure you know what to do in case you or your loved ones become sick or injured on vacation.

Learn the rules for getting care and costs associated with your TRICARE health plan, so you can make informed decisions while traveling.

A few weeks before you pack your bags, prepare by taking care of the following:

- ▶ Take care of any routine, specialty, or preventive health care appointments you may need before you travel.
- ▶ Check your information in

the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System and update it, if needed.

▶ Fill your prescriptions if you don't have enough to cover your trip. When it's time to pack, put prescription medications in your carry-on luggage.

▶ Bring important pharmacy, dental, and medical phone numbers with you. If traveling overseas, select your destination to find phone numbers. You can also download the TRICARE Contact Information Wallet Card and take it with you.

To get help or to find an urgent care provider when traveling, you can always contact your TRICARE regional contractor. When overseas, you can also call the TRICARE Overseas Program

Regional Call Center's Medical Assistance number for your location.

Most TRICARE beneficiaries can get urgent care without a referral. When possible, visit a TRICARE network provider or a TRICARE-authorized (network or non-network) urgent care center to avoid additional out-of-pocket costs. See more rules for getting stateside or overseas urgent care based on your TRICARE health plan at <https://www.tricare.mil/urgentcare/>.

You may find that the rules are different. For example, if you're a retiree enrolled in TRICARE Prime traveling overseas, you're expected to pay up front for care and file a claim later.

In an emergency, call 911 or go

to the nearest emergency care facility. If overseas, you can call the Medical Assistance number. If you're admitted to a hospital, call your TRICARE regional contractor or primary care manager within 24 hours or on the next business day after receiving emergency care. You may need to pay up front for services and file a claim to get money back. Keep your health care receipts in case you need to file a claim. If you're a stateside beneficiary and you receive care overseas, file claims with the TOP claims processor, not with your regional contractor in the U.S.

While overseas, if air evacuation is determined to be medically necessary, your costs for covered air evacuation services are based on your health plan. You may want to look at travel insurance that may cover unexpected costs,

such as air evacuation.

Maybe you don't need urgent or emergency care, but do need health advice during your travels. Use the Military Health System (MHS) Nurse Advice Line. It's available in the U.S. and countries with an established military hospital or clinic. Visit the MHS Nurse Advice Line website to chat with a nurse online or to find your location-specific number. If you travel anywhere in the U.S., Guam, or Puerto Rico, you can call 1-800-TRICARE (1-800-874-2273).

Before you travel this spring, make sure you're prepared to handle any health issues that may arise. Keep in mind that your rules for getting care depend on your health plan and travel destination. Learn more about how to get care when traveling stateside or overseas.

# AFSVA, ITT offer Airmen discount deals

By Debbie Aragon

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION  
SUPPORT CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Spring is here and many Airmen are already considering where they want to go and what they want to do over the summer months. For many, an important part of planning is the ability to find budget-friendly options.

For these options, Airmen are going to their Air Force Services Activity, or AFSVA, and installation Information, Tickets and Travel, or ITT, offices.

Year-round, the services activity is hard at work, researching, networking and coordinating to find discounted tickets and travel opportunities for Airmen, their families and other eligible members across the Air Force.

“Our Airmen work so hard and are dedicated to their missions ... it’s important that installations are able to provide them with opportunities to get away from the work environment providing them with the resiliency needed to continue doing their jobs effectively,” said Debbie Lester, AFSVA leisure travel specialist.

Lester and other members of a small team in San Antonio work directly with attraction and entertainment vendors to provide a variety of options for installations.

“Debbie and the Air Force Central Ticket Program team do an outstanding job in building Airmen and family resiliency by providing consistent and high value ITT services and products,” said Darlene Johnson, AFSVA Community and Leisure Programs Branch chief. “They’re services professionals investing in Airmen and families anywhere, anytime.”

“We find the best deals, and establish central agreements and back office accounting processes so installations don’t have to,” Lester said. “Basically, we take on a lot of the grunt work to allow our installation ITT offices more time to work directly with their patrons.”

For example, Lester and her team recently secured an agreement with Leisure Pass Group to offer deeply discounted tickets to patrons for attractions in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, New York, Boston, Philadelphia,

Washington, D.C., London, Paris, Dublin, Barcelona, Cancun and various other locations.

“AFSVA is working to get the best deals — especially with pricing — for eligible members,” said Gregory Leschishin, ITT manager at Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts. “From Busch Gardens to the San Diego Zoo to attractions in Florida ... Disney World, Disneyland and Universal Studios Orlando. Most of my patrons are amazed at the discounts we’re able to offer, thanks in large part to AFSVA.”

“They make my job as the ITT manager so much easier by always being accessible to answer questions or verify information,” Leschishin added. “They are also very prompt in generating the latest information on pricing and policies to help my clients.”

Susan Short, ITT manager at Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia, agreed.

“The staff at AFSVA is wonderful,” Short said. “I’ve been working with them for 12 years now and they have helped me in so many ways over the years ... great attitude and always helpful whenever we have a problem or

just general questions. They also keep us informed on all the latest and greatest things that our program has to offer.

“Our customers love all the discounts that we offer from local military freebies to the amazing discounts that they get for Disney or Universal Orlando,” Short said.

“Knowing that every time we fill a ticket order, bring in a new vendor or get better travel discounts, we’re impacting our Airmen and families,” Lester said. “That’s important to me.”

For more on event and travel opportunities, visit installation ITT offices.

*Editor’s Note: In addition to ITT services at installations, a new morale, welfare and recreation leisure travel service website was established recently, thanks to a joint service initiative. The site, <http://www.americanforcestravel.com>, is available to all military members, retirees, veterans, Department of Defense civilians and family members. It offers discount pricing on hotels, flights, cruises, rental cars and vacation packages.*

# United States Space Command commander nominated

From Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

The president has nominated to the Senate Gen. John W. “Jay” Raymond as the commander of United States Space Command.

If confirmed, Raymond will lead the soon-to-be established USSPACECOM, which will focus on conducting all joint space warfighting operations and ensuring the combat readiness of global forces.

Establishing USSPACECOM is a critical step that underscores the importance of the space domain and its strategic contributions to U.S. national security. The USSPACECOM establishment

will accelerate space capabilities to address the rapidly evolving threats to U.S. space systems and the importance of deterring potential adversaries from putting critical U.S. space systems at risk.

If confirmed, and upon establishment of USSPACECOM, Raymond will remain dual-hatted as Air Force Space Command commander at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

Further information on the establishment of USSPACECOM will be provided when an establishment date has been determined.



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SCOTT M. ASH

# Measles vaccine protects against potentially serious illness

From Military Health System Communications Office

In the midst of a measles outbreak in the United States, public health officials are urging parents to get their children vaccinated, and for parents to make sure they're up to date on their own vaccinations.

As of March 28, there have been 387 confirmed cases of the potentially serious illness this year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In Rockland County, New York, officials announced a temporary ban on unvaccinated people gathering in enclosed public spaces, reporting that more than 80 percent of the individuals with measles had not been vaccinated.

Measles is a highly contagious virus that lives in the nose and throat mucus of an infected person. The virus, which is spread by air when an infected person breathes, coughs, or sneezes, can remain in the air for up to two hours after the infected individual leaves.

The vaccine to protect against measles is called the MMR vaccine because it also protects against mumps and rubella. Two doses of the vaccine are recommended, said Dr. Margaret Ryan, a retired Navy captain and the medical director of the Pacific Region Vaccine Safety Hub of the Defense Health Agency's Immunization Healthcare Branch.

According to the CDC, two doses of the MMR vaccine are

about 97 percent effective in preventing measles, and one dose is about 93 percent effective.

"The MMR vaccine is a requirement for joining the service," Ryan said. "And all military family members should get the MMR vaccine along with other vaccines recommended by public health authorities such as the CDC. We strongly encourage and support protecting beneficiaries this way."

Noting that the DHA follows CDC recommendations, Ryan said children should get the first dose of the MMR vaccine at age 12 to 15 months. The second dose follows at least 28 days later, but usually between the ages of 4 and 6.

Adults who didn't receive two vaccine doses in childhood

should also get at least one dose, she said.

"Those who are uncertain of their childhood vaccination history can get a blood test to confirm they're protected, or get the MMR vaccine," Ryan said. "Generally, it's safe to get extra doses."

The MMR vaccine is especially important for those who are traveling overseas. According to the World Health Organization, while deaths from measles have decreased significantly in recent years, the illness remains common, particularly in developing countries. According to the CDC, many of the recent U.S. cases of measles have been linked to visits to Israel, Ukraine, and other countries where large outbreaks have

occurred.

People who should not get the vaccine include those who are pregnant, immune-compromised, or allergic to a component of the MMR vaccine, Ryan said. According to the CDC, allergic reactions are rare — about 1 in a million doses — and would occur anywhere from a few minutes to a few hours after the vaccination.

Coming down with measles is uncomfortable at best. The illness causes a rash and high fever. Further, approximately 30 percent of measles patients have complications including pneumonia or encephalitis, which is inflammation of the brain. Ryan said about 1 in every 500 people who contract measles dies of the infection.

# National Defense Strategy is 'undisputed driver' in budget request

By Terri Moon Cronk  
DEFENSE.GOV

The National Defense Strategy is the undisputed driver of the president's fiscal year 2020 budget request for the Defense Department, Acting Defense Secretary Patrick M. Shanahan said on Capitol Hill March 26.

Shanahan and Marine Corps Gen. Joe Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the House Armed Services Committee the \$78 billion request for the Department of Defense is justified.

"The strategy you supported last year is the same strategy we are asking you to fund this year," the secretary told committee members.

The \$78 billion military budget is critical for continuing to execute the strategy and "reflect difficult, but necessary, decisions that align finite resources with our strategic priorities," Shanahan said.

The proposed budget is the largest research, development, testing and evaluation budget in 70 years, the secretary said. It



Acting Defense Secretary Patrick M. Shanahan, center, and Marine Corps Gen. Joe Dunford, left, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testify to the House Armed Services Committee on the fiscal year 2020 national defense budget request March 26.

includes double-digit increases to U.S. investments in space and cyber, modernization of the nuclear triad and missile defense capabilities, and the largest shipbuilding request in 20 years, when adjusted for inflation, he added.

The budget request also

increases DOD's total end strength by about 7,700 service members and allows a 3.1 percent pay increase for the military, the largest in a decade, Shanahan said.

The budget request includes \$545 billion for base funding and \$164 billion for overseas

contingency operations, Shanahan said. Some \$66 billion of the OCO funding would go to direct war and enduring requirements, and \$98 billion would fund base requirements, he added.

In rounded-out numbers, \$9.2 billion will fund emergency construction, which includes about \$2 billion to rebuild facilities damaged by Hurricanes Florence and Michael. Up to \$3.6 billion will support military construction projects that will be awarded in fiscal year 2020 rather than in fiscal 2019 so DOD can resource border barrier projects under the president's emergency declaration of this year, and \$3.6 billion in case additional emergency funding is needed for the border, Shanahan said.

"Military construction on the border will not come at the expense of our people, our readiness or our modernization," the secretary said.

Shanahan told members there will be no impact on military construction projects already awarded, nor military

construction projects with fiscal year 2019 award dates. DOD is solely looking at projects with award dates after Sept. 30, 2019, he added.

Further, the secretary said, no military housing, barracks or dormitory projects will be impacted.

"I appreciate the inherent intragovernment complexities of the southwest border situation," Shanahan said. "I also want to emphasize: The funds requested for the border barrier amount to less than 1 percent of the national defense topline."

No enemy in the field has done more damage to the U.S. military's combat readiness in years past than sequestration and budgetary instability, the secretary told the House panel.

"And there is no question today: Our adversaries are not relenting," he said.

The secretary said the instability of a continuing resolution would cost DOD in three important ways. First, he said, DOD would be unable to

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From page 7

put in place new initiatives like standing up the Space Command, or accelerating the development of hypersonic capabilities and artificial intelligence.

Second, DOD's funding would be in the wrong accounts, Shanahan said, noting that DOD is requesting significant investments in research, development, test and evaluation for cyber, space and disruptive technologies, as well as in core readiness.

Third, he said, "the incremental funding under a [continuing resolution] means we lose buying power. This translates to higher costs and uncertainty for industry and the communities where we operate."

Dunford told the representatives that 17 years of continuous combat and fiscal instability have affected the military's readiness and eroded

the competitive advantage the United States enjoyed a decade or more ago.

With the help of Congress starting in 2017, the chairman added, the United States began to restore its competitive advantage.

"Recent budgets have allowed us to build readiness and invest in new capabilities while meeting current operational commitments," he said. "But we cannot reverse decades of erosion in just a few years. This year's budget submission would allow us to continue restoring our competitive advantage by improving readiness and developing capabilities to enhance our lethality."

The budget proposes investments and advanced capabilities across all domains – air, land, space, and cyberspace, he said. It also would sustain investments in the nuclear enterprise to ensure a safe, secure and effective strategic deterrent, the Defense Department's highest priority, the general said.

# JBSA releases updated off-limits list

By Mance D. Clark

502ND SECURITY FORCES GROUP

There are a handful of businesses in the local area that are off-limits to armed forces members, without exception.

According to a 502nd Air Base Wing memorandum, all 502nd ABW and Joint Base San Antonio military members, and those assigned in the Greater San Antonio area, are forbidden to enter any establishments named:

- ▶▶ Smokerz Paradize (7 locations)
- ▶▶ Planet K (6 locations)
- ▶▶ Hazel Sky Smoke Shop (5 locations)
- ▶▶ Super Nova Smoke & Vape Shop (4 locations)
- ▶▶ Lazy Daze Counter Culture (2 locations)
- ▶▶ Smoke and More Vape and Hookah Shop (2 locations)
- ▶▶ Cracker Box Palace
- ▶▶ MJM Autohaus
- ▶▶ ARS Appliance

- ▶▶ Lush Rooftop Club
- ▶▶ Mellow Monkey
- ▶▶ Ruby Spa
- ▶▶ Smoke Needs
- ▶▶ Style Smoke
- ▶▶ The Cloud Co. Smoke and Vape Shop
- ▶▶ Up N Smoke

This includes all locations in Bexar, Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina and Wilson counties.

These businesses are areas where suspicious activity has been reported that is perceived as damaging to the military mission.

These establishments were placed off-limits based on the recommendation of the JBSA Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board, after investigation by military law enforcement, coordination with civilian law enforcement, and reasonable efforts to address unacceptable practices with each establishment.

The JBSA Armed Forces

Disciplinary Control Board meets quarterly to ensure safety and security is a top military priority. The establishment of off-limits areas is a function of command used to help maintain good order and discipline, health, morale, safety and welfare of personnel assigned and/or located at JBSA and/or in the Greater San Antonio area.

The Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board reminds members that the Texas Controlled Substance Act prohibits the selling, purchase and possession of any drug paraphernalia, and San Antonio prohibits the selling of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to anyone younger than 21.

Members will soon see briefings on this off-limits information at newcomer orientation meetings, commanders calls and unit bulletin boards.

For more information, call 210-652-1357.

# FORT SAM HOUSTON

## Cancer survivor shares an emotional reunion with BAMC ECMO team

By Lori Newman  
 BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
 PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A cancer survivor recently had an emotional reunion with some of the members of an elite team of medical providers at Brooke Army Medical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston and saw the machine that helped save her life.

Rita Ibanez, a military spouse, made a routine appointment to meet her new provider after her husband, Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Scott Ibanez, was stationed at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston in 2015.

“When my husband PCS’s somewhere, I usually check in with the new doctors,” she said.

A routine blood test led to more tests and the discovery that Ibanez had stomach cancer. She underwent surgery to remove her stomach.

Due to a complication, she had to be placed on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or ECMO, a heart-lung bypass system that replaces the natural functions of the heart and lungs while treatments and natural healing of the affected organs take place.

Ibanez was on ECMO for 14 days. “When I woke up, I actually thought it was the same day as my surgery,” Ibanez said. “I don’t remember going into distress or any of that.”

Ibanez reached out to BAMC via social media because she wanted the opportunity to thank the medical professionals who cared for her and to see the machine that helped save her life.

“I really wanted to extend my appreciation because everything happened so fast and I don’t even know who worked on me or who my team was,” she said.

On March 22, Ibanez, along with her family, had the opportunity to meet up with some of the members of the ECMO team, Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Matthew Read, acting ECMO medical director; Kathryn Negaard, Extracorporeal Cardiac Life Support program manager; Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Thomas Lee; Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Jeffrey Dellavolpe; and registered nurse Roxann Naud.

After an emotional reunion with a multitude of hugs all around, Read showed them how the heart-lung bypass system circulates blood through an external artificial lung before sending it back into the patient’s bloodstream.

“We put a lot of time and hours, and our hearts and souls into this mission,” Read said. “It’s emotionally draining at times, but moments like this is what brings joy to us. It’s so timely that you are here.

“You’re part of our family from the moment we started taking care of you,” Read told Ibanez tearfully. “I wasn’t even here then, but you are part of my family now, because you survived this.”

“There are not words that can ever describe the bond we have with our patients,” Lee added. “This means so much to us.”

The adult ECMO mission began at BAMC in 2012. Today, a designated team of Army, Air Force and Navy physicians, nurses, technicians and program managers is able to provide round-the-clock care to four patients simultaneously. BAMC has the only ECMO center in the Department of Defense and remains one of the few centers with global air transportable ECMO capability.

While taking care of military beneficiaries is their primary mission, Read explained, the team also is proud to support patients from the civilian population. This ensures they are ready



PHOTOS BY JASON W. EDWARDS

Rita Ibanez hugs Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Matthew Read, acting Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation medical director, at Brooke Army Medical Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston on March 22.



Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Matthew Read, left, acting Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation medical director, demonstrates the ECMO machine for Rita Ibanez and her children at Brooke Army Medical Center March 22 at Fort Sam Houston.

to go to places as far away as Japan, South Korea, Germany, Afghanistan and Iraq to transport patients back to BAMC when needed.

In 2017, BAMC’s adult ECMO program received the Award for Excellence in Life Support from the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization. The recognition designates BAMC as a National ECMO Center of Excellence.

Today Ibanez is adjusting to a new normal, but she admits she is still dealing with the emotional trauma of it all. She said she couldn’t have done it without the support of her family and the staff at BAMC.

“The care she got from day one was incredible,” said Ibanez’ mother, Rachel Martinez. “The staff is amazing. They kept me informed about everything they were doing and how they were doing it.

“They are angels, because they did everything they could to save her life and they did,” Martinez said.

Ibanez agrees. “The team here at BAMC are angels,” Ibanez said. “They go above and beyond. I cannot say enough good things about this hospital. I love it. I’m here for my family and that’s all that matters.”

To watch the video of this reunion, visit [https://youtu.be/3\\_L7LWQiy-o](https://youtu.be/3_L7LWQiy-o).





BURRELL PARMER

*Petty Officer 2nd Class William Sanchez, right, a special warfare scout assigned to Navy Recruiting District Dallas, monitors an athlete in a pull-up challenge during the 92nd Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays at Mike A. Myers Stadium, University of Texas in Austin.*

## Navy seeks athletes at 92nd Texas Relays

**By Burrell Parmer**

NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT SAN ANTONIO  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Recruiters and Warrior Challenge Mentor Program personnel from Navy Recruiting Districts San Antonio, Dallas, and Houston attended the 92nd Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays held at the Mike A. Myers Stadium on the campus of the University of Texas in Austin March 27-30.

The meet welcomed more than 7,000

athletes in the high school, collegiate and professional ranks.

According to Petty Officer 2nd Class Dectorio Huerta, a special warfare scout assigned to Navy Recruiting District San Antonio, the Navy chose to attend Texas Relays because it believes the athletes showcase the best qualities.

“It’s important to have a presence at these types of events to seek out top quality candidates for our programs,”

**NAVY continues on 11**

# Navy Medicine Training Support Center kicks off Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society fund drive

By Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Shayla Hamilton

NAVY MEDICINE TRAINING SUPPORT CENTER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Navy Medicine Training Support Center, or NMTSC, kicked off its annual Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, or NMCRS, active-duty fund drive at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston March 1.

The annual fund drives serve as an opportunity to increase Navy and Marine Corps personnel awareness regarding the availability of financial assistance and other support services administered by the NMCRS, in addition to creating an avenue to obtain funds essential for the NMCRS to continue to provide assistance to service members.

Since 1904, the NMCRS has acted as a resource for active-duty service members and their families.

NMCRS is a nonprofit organization that offers services such as interest-free grants, budget counseling, financial education assistance, and financial assistance for food, shelter and transportation for natural disaster recovery.

Chief Petty Officer Mark Francesco, an instructor with the Biomedical Technician program at the Medical Education and Training Campus, or METC, is serving as one of NMTSC's 2019 NMCRS active-duty fund drive coordinators.

"As a leader, taking care of your



PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS SHAYLA HAMILTON

Chief Petty Officer Mark Francesco (left), an instructor with the Biomedical Technician program at the Medical Education and Training Campus at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, speaks to students of the Hospital Corpsman Basic program about the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

Sailors and their families is one of the highest priorities," Francesco said. "In order to do that, you must know your resources and educate your personnel on what resources they have available when and if the need for them arises."

NMTSC has 17 leads, or representatives, who assist in ensuring the command reaches its set goal and

contributes to the achievement of the NMCRS' 2019 financial goal of \$12.5 million.

"So far, we are a little over \$1.6 million, but the true goal lies in the contact and education of the Sailors," Francesco said. "Our one and only goal for NMTSC is 100 percent meaningful contact and education on the NMCRS."

NMCRS representatives conduct briefs for NMTSC staff members and students of the Hospital Corpsman Basic program and "C" school students at the METC. These designated staff members are responsible for ensuring contact with each member of the command, facilitating an opportunity for service members to make a voluntary donation.

"NMTSC is the quarterdeck of the Hospital Corps, producing Sailors who will be, or already are, part of the largest rate in the Navy," Francesco said. "Most of these Sailors are direct accessions from Recruit Training Command and have little exposure or knowledge of the NMCRS, so it's important that we use this fund drive and our platform as instructors, to educate them on this resource."

The NMCRS provides interest-free quick-assist loans to Sailors who may need to travel home in the event of emergencies.

"I had a Sailor who unexpectedly lost their mother," Francesco said. "They couldn't afford to get home in such short notice to say their goodbyes. If it weren't for the NMCRS, they wouldn't have been able to make it home in time for the services, but once again, the NMCRS stepped up and provided support to those in need."

The drive continues until April 15. Service members can donate on the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society website or speak to their local NMCRS representatives.

## NAVY

From page 10

Huerta said. "We get to talk with many of the athletes to include their coaches and parents regarding various career opportunities in the Navy."

The Warrior Challenge Mentor Program is part of a large Navy recruiting effort to identify and develop unique people that are in high demand to serve as technical specialists and dependable teammates.

"The program is looking for people who participate in demanding sports like swimming, lacrosse, wrestling, track

and field, and martial arts," said Petty Officer 2nd Class William Sanchez, a special warfare scout assigned to NRD Dallas. "There are a lot of athletes at this competition who are capable of joining the special warfare community."

According to Sanchez, these types of activities capitalize on sustaining fitness and require the development of mental habits that prepare people with traits that contribute to success, especially in the Navy.

In addition to hosting a pull-up challenge, attendees had the opportunity to experience some of the many Navy career fields through America's Navy's Oculus Go Virtual 360 goggles.

# Getting off on the right foot for Fiesta 2019

**By Tish Williamson**  
 U.S. ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT  
 CENTER AND SCHOOL HEALTH  
 READINESS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
 PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of Fiesta royalty and the San Antonio Fiesta Commission joined more than 1,200 Soldiers a pre-dawn, moderately paced, two-mile run at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston April 5.

The U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School Health Readiness Center of Excellence, or AMEDDC&SHRCOE, hosted the annual Viva Fiesta Fun Run.

Medical trainees and cadre assigned to the Health Readiness Center of Excellence in the 32nd Medical Brigade, the Medical Professional Training Brigade, the Non-commissioned Officers Academy, and the HRCOE's Headquarters and Support Company participated in the event.

"This run allows our Soldiers to salute those who fought at the Alamo and Battle of Jacinto, two significant military events the original Fiesta parade was created to honor," said Command Sgt. Maj. Carlisie Jones from the 32nd Medical Brigade. "We are thankful to the Fiesta Royalty and Commission for joining our Soldiers and contributing to this continued celebration of San Antonio's culture and the city's deep military ties."

Before the run, the group was entertained by Fort Sam's Own, 323d Army Band, greeted by "Torchy," the official mascot for the Fiesta Flambeau Parade Association, and heard from the commission about why this event is important. Jon Fristoe, a retired Army colonel and former commander of the 32nd Medical Brigade, admits that he didn't know much about Fiesta until he led the annual run while he was on active duty.

"After a run just like this I had breakfast with the Fiesta King and his court," Fristoe



JOSE E. RODRIGUEZ

*Soldiers assigned to the Health Readiness Center of Excellence stand at ease in formation prior to the pre-dawn 2019 Viva Fiesta Fun Run at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston April 5.*

said. "I asked him how I could get more involved with the community after I retired. He suggested I join the Fiesta Commission, so that is what I did two years later when I retired from active duty."

Now the vice president of the Fiesta San Antonio Commission, Fristoe said he was happy to get the opportunity to come back to Fort Sam Houston and talk to Soldiers about the many ways Fiesta supports San Antonio and the military.

"Only when you get out and go to Fiesta events do you understand the magnitude of it and how much value it brings to the city," he said.

Since its inception in 1891, the Fiesta Parade has evolved into San Antonio's premier cultural



JOSE E. RODRIGUEZ

*Jon Fristoe, Fiesta San Antonio Commission vice president, welcomes Soldiers in formation at MacArthur Parade Field prior to the Health Readiness Center of Excellence 2019 Viva Fiesta Fun Run at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston April 5.*

festival with an annual impact of more than \$340 million for the city, according to the commission. Every official event that takes place each April is sponsored by a non-profit or military organization; the commission doesn't receive any federal or state funding.

Fristoe believes that most people don't realize that Fiesta is a year-round event and not just the 10-day culmination at the end of the month.

"It's all accomplished through the power of volunteers," Fristoe said. "If you want to give back, it doesn't have to be financial; you can give your time. Personally, it has been really rewarding for me to be able to contribute in this way."

Though many events start this week, Fiesta 2019 is officially scheduled from April 18-28. All month there are many events tailored to the military and their families to include individual Army, Navy and Air Force Days at the Alamo; the All Veterans Memorial Service; the JBSA-Lackland Fiesta Military Parade; and the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fiesta Ceremony and Fireworks Display. For a full list of events and more information, visit <http://www.fiestasantonio.org>.



STAFF SGT. VALETA Y. SANDERS

*Fiesta Commission members walk to the start line for the two-mile Health Readiness Center of Excellence 2019 Viva Fiesta Fun Run at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston April 5.*

# BAMC Soldiers headed to 2019 DOD Warrior Games

By Robert A. Whetstone  
BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Service sports rivalries are sometimes played out on a national level, particularly in December during the annual Army vs. Navy football game. For wounded warriors, that sports rivalry takes place every year at the Department of Defense Warrior Games, hosted this year by U.S. Special Operations Command in Tampa, Florida, June 21-30.

Three Soldier-athletes from the Brooke Army Medical Center's Warrior Transition Battalion battled through the Army Trials at Fort Bliss, March 5-16, and will represent Team Army in Tampa this summer at the DOD Warrior Games.

At the BAMC quarterly awards ceremony March 26, those Soldiers were honored for their performances at the Army Trials.

Staff Sgt. Matthew Brown earned gold medals in discus and shot put; Sgt. Jorge Rodriguez won the bronze medal in rowing, three silver medals in swimming, and a gold and silver in wheelchair racing; and Spc. Kevin Holyan won silver in both seated discus and seated shot put.

A left bicep injury didn't stop Brown's competitive juices from flowing.

"My injury was a left bicep injury that I sustained while I was overseas in Iraq," he explained. "Col. Christopher Roach (BAMC orthopedic surgeon), who got an award today, was the one that did my surgery."

Roach received the "A" Proficiency Designator Award. It is the highest award that the Army medical department can bestow to recognize professional expertise, exceptional ability, and outstanding achievements in both clinical and academic medicine.

"My surgery was a bicep



PHOTOS BY ROBERT A. WHETSTONE

Spc. Kevin Holyan launches a few practice seated discus throws prior to the field event March 11 during the Army Trials at Fort Bliss.

tenodesis," Brown said. "That's where they remove the bicep tendon from one area and reattach it in another location."

The meaning behind the Army Trials and the Warrior Games reaches far beyond a healthy rivalry. It embraces adaptive reconditioning and sports and allows service members with their brothers and sisters in arms.

"For me, it breaks that mental challenge that you have about yourself," Rodriguez said. "You see other competitors and veterans and some of them are in a far worse situation than you and they are competing and cheering you on. It's a big morale booster."

Both Brown and Rodriguez found their way to adaptive reconditioning through one of their therapists.

"I learned about it from Shelby Jackson," Rodriguez said. "We would have 'sport of the month' activities, which could be wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, etc. My strengths are rowing, swimming and wheelchair racing."

"It helps you feel better about yourself," he said. "It helps you want to get out there and live, not just shrivel up and stay put in your room and kind of disconnect yourself from

society.

"I'm not going to lie, I was depressed," Rodriguez added. "I'm still fighting it. It is a huge mental healing. It is 90 percent mental and the other 10 percent is your body."

According to Brown, adaptive reconditioning was helpful because it got Soldiers out of the barracks and active again.

"Everything we did was adaptive to upper body and lower body injuries," he stated. "If you couldn't do standing field events you had the chair for seated competition. It was the same thing with air rifle, air pistol or archery. It is nice because it makes you get out of the barracks room."

"No matter what your limitations might be, you can always try and get past them and push yourself harder, and there's always a way for you to find competition that challenges you," Brown said. "There are outlets for you to search for and to train and compete and stay positive. It's motivating. Even though I was competing against certain people, they were still giving me helpful techniques. We were still helping to coach each other."

The Warrior Games were established in 2010 as a way to enhance the recovery and rehabilitation of wounded warriors and to expose them to



Staff Sgt. Matthew Brown, Brooke Army Medical Center, Warrior Transition Battalion, receives two gold medals March 26. Brown earned his medals participating in the discus and shot put events at the 2019 Army Trials.



Sgt. Jorge Rodriguez, Brooke Army Medical Center, Warrior Transition Battalion, receives one gold, four silver and one bronze medal March 26. Rodriguez earned his medals participating in rowing, track and swimming events at the 2019 Army Trials.

adaptive sports.

More than 300 wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans from the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Special Operations Command, and five partner nations to include the United Kingdom Armed Forces, Australian Defense Force, Canadian Armed Forces, Danish Defense Force and the Netherlands Defense Force will compete.

Athletes will compete in 14 events, including archery, cycling, time-trial cycling, sitting volleyball, track, field, wheelchair basketball, indoor rowing, powerlifting and, for the first time in Warrior Games history, golf, wheelchair tennis

and wheelchair rugby.

Making Team Army wasn't the main goal for Rodriguez.

"To be honest, that wasn't a top priority," he said. "I was so down. I was assigned to go to the trials, but I pulled out because everything here to me was just draining. I was told I should go by my platoon leader, and I told him I won't let you down ... and I didn't!"

Rodriguez said competing at the Army Trials just hits you.

"You know what, I want this," he said. "That was just one step. Now we're at another step where we're training to compete at a higher level. The Warrior games is not full stop. There's the Invictus Games on top of that. It's inspiring."

# Students graduate with an operational medicine mindset

By Tish Williamson

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT CENTER AND SCHOOL, HEALTH READINESS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The graduation of 169 medical officers was a first for the progressively rigorous Army Medicine Captains Career Course at the Army Medical Department Center & School, Health Readiness Center of Excellence at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston on March 8.

Each branch of the Army conducts a Captains Career Course, or CCC, of varying lengths and intensity focused on providing captains with the tactical, technical and leadership knowledge and skills needed to lead company-sized units and serve on battalion and brigade staffs.

The HRCoE CCC consists of nine weeks of intensive training that includes hands-on experiences in the Military Decision Making Process, Army, Army Health Systems and Force Health Protection doctrine; unit training management; leadership attributes; and staff officer functions.

The most recent CCC graduates,

which also included four international students from Lebanon, Malawi, Norway and the Ukraine, have the distinction of being a class of many firsts and a marked effort to increase academic and tactical rigor in the Program of Instruction.

During opening remarks, Lt. Col. Caryn Vernon, Chief of the CCC within the Medical Professional Training Brigade, reflected on the cadre's efforts to increase graduation standards and elevate the course to ensure graduates are better equipped to meet the diverse challenges that await them.

Vernon outlined how the students were the first to take a doctrine exam on the first day of class, the first to have closed-book exams, the first to present individual concept of support briefs and the first class in over two decades to conduct a field training exercise as part of the course.

"We did that to make sure that you were better when you leave here, so that the U.S. Army is getting the best Army Medicine officer that we can give them," Vernon said.

Brig. Gen. Wendy Harter, a leader in

Army Medicine who has deployed numerous times and commanded at the company, battalion, hospital and brigade level, was chosen to serve as the CCC graduation guest speaker. Harter is currently the Command Surgeon at the U.S. Army Forces Command, or FORSCOM, in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

During her remarks, she reflected on how much the Army has shifted from a cold war focus and counterinsurgency to today's requirement to be ready for multidomain operations and full spectrum warfare while sustaining the agility to adapt to and succeed in whatever unique environment the students may find themselves.

"I am certain that all of you are looking forward to moving out with all of the new knowledge, skills, inspirational ideas and insight you now have to lead medical organizations and our Soldiers and civilian teammates into the future," the general said.

Harter also challenged the graduates, most of whom are headed to FORSCOM units, to focus on medical readiness and operational medicine. She said that

Soldier lethality is the Army's focus but, "Soldiers fight because they know a medic and Army Medicine will be there on the battlefield with them."

Capt. Amanda O'Leary Kelly was the course distinguished honor graduate, earning the highest grade-point average and ranked No. 1 by both her small group leader and her peers. This honor is reserved for the best of the best in the course. Kelly, who is commander of the Headquarters and Headquarter Detachment, Public Health Command-Europe at Landstuhl, Germany, said that while she found the course challenging, she feels better prepared as she heads back to her company command.

Kelly said a good example was the doctrine exam that students took on the first day of training. The exam humbled her and highlighted knowledge gaps that had grown from high operational tempo in both MTOE and TDA units.

"Being in the course helped me center myself and immerse myself in an institutional learning domain," Kelly said. "I will return to my unit as a stronger leader."

# LACKLAND

## JBSA purchases and trains military's working dogs

By Mary Nell Sanchez  
502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The sun is coming up at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, and cars are lined up at military checkpoints waiting to get on the installation. While access cards are flashed, drivers see Staff Sgt. Kathryn Patchoski and her Belgian Malinois dog, Mia, standing guard during the busy process. Mia is one of many working dogs around the world tasked with protecting and deflecting any threats that could come up.

About 10 percent of military working dogs for the Department of Defense are bred in San Antonio; however, the rest are purchased from nearly 30 vendors stateside and overseas.

The majority of the dogs bought for the Department of Defense are German shepherds or Belgian Malinois, and they range from 1 to 3 years old.

"When it comes to MWDs, we do all of the purchasing,



SENIOR AIRMAN KRISTAL WRIGHT

Senior Airman Eliot Tremblay, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, and his MWD partner, Afra, search a car for possible explosives during an exercise in Southwest Asia on May 28.

training and shipping of MWDs to field units all over the world," said Maj. Matthew Kowalski, 341st Training Squadron commander.

To make these purchases, a team travels abroad approximately four times a year to inspect potential dogs. The teams are composed of Transportation Safety Administration

representatives, logistics personnel, 341st TRS canine handlers and veterinarians, as well as an agent from the contracting squadron.

"This last trip we looked at more than 300 dogs and brought about 130 back," Kowalski added.

The price, which includes shipping costs, ranges from \$5,500 to \$6,500 per canine,

said Jack Caniglia, 502d Contracting Squadron contracting specialist.

"The market is very competitive right now abroad and stateside," said Joseph A. Preusser, 502d CONS services infrastructure acquisitions flight chief. "We're not just competing against other government agencies, we're competing against other country governments."

One reason MWDs are so valued is because their sense of smell is five to 10 times stronger than a human's, giving them the ability to identify substances such as improvised explosive devices and drugs.

The dogs that are selected show potential for military and police work. Once fully trained, they will be used for protection, patrol work, subduing suspects and either narcotics or explosive detection.

"There is a need for the dogs," Caniglia said. "What they do in the grand scheme of things overseas and in Afghanistan, Iraq and even on

base locally is pretty neat."

Before the DOD dogs are mission-ready and sent to their assignments, the 341st TRS first provides their initial training.

The training depends on what each dog will be doing and can last upward of 18 months depending on where the dog is procured. Typically, training time is 120 training days, or about six months, before a MWD is ready to go to the field.

During that process, it's all hands on deck.

"I run the largest kennel in the Department of Defense," Kowalski said. "We have almost 1,164 kennels."

"We're doing kenneling, health care, feeding, bathing, washing, training — everything that goes into making that dog happens here at the schoolhouse, so it's a pretty awesome thing to see," Kowalski said.

Once the canines completes their initial training, they are assigned to a unit and shipped to their new base where they will receive additional training.

## Air Force hub seeks out insider threats

By Lori A. Bultman  
25TH AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"If you make a mistake, it is better to acknowledge that one small mistake than let it snowball into something more significant." This, according to Jason Barron, Air Force Insider Threat Hub deputy director for operations, is the key to safeguarding important information and resources.

As the Air Force's defense against insider threats,

identifying indicators of potential risk is the hub's primary mission, but not all indicators they detect are symptoms of espionage or intentional wrongdoing. According to Barron, most indicators are unintended exposures, or the result of policy and training gaps.

"If someone is issued a speeding ticket, it does not necessarily mean they did something to indicate they are an insider threat; it all depends

on the severity and quantity of unique indicators," Barron said. "We may look for other indicators that, when put together, could mean something more substantial — even then, the team does not act individually against indicators discovered."

According to Barron, personnel in the insider threat hub identify, aggregate, analyze and refer potential risk indicators. The teams relay their findings to other agencies

for review and possible action. Additionally, the hub has a lawyer on staff to ensure any referrals are in accordance with established policies and laws.

"We provide information we find to authorities within the Air Force. When we identify something on an individual within the Air Force who might be a risk, whether intentional or otherwise, we provide that information to a decision-maker in higher authority who is in place to determine whether an action needs to result," Barron said.

Hub personnel also receive

threat information from other sources.

"We might have a point of contact in the field who relays risk concerns to us," Barron said. "The team in the hub can look into a reported concern and determine whether there is enough to consider it a viable threat."

Workplace violence is another insider threat concern for the team.

"If someone commits a security violation but is cleared of espionage, that does not

THREATS continues on 19

# Lighthouse for the Blind honors JBSA worker

By Mary Nell Sanchez

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

One of the cashiers at the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Base Supply Center was named Employee of the Year by the San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind.

Born legally blind, Philip Myers is highly regarded by his peers and bosses.

"He doesn't let his disability get in the way of anything he tries," said Joann Jones, BSC store manager.

Myers, who hails from a military family, is one of three employees helping the JBSA-Lackland military community find what they need at the BSC. The jobs are made possible through the San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind Program and AbilityOne, a nonprofit whose mission it is to create jobs and advancement opportunities for people who are blind.

The unemployment rate is



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS DILLON PARKER

Philip Myers, 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Base Supply Center cashier, helps a customer with a pair of boots March 26 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Myers, born legally blind, will celebrate five years as a BSC employee in April.

75-80 percent nationwide for the blind, according to the American Federation for the Blind.

"These stores are another opportunity for us to do that and plug directly into the military and be part of their support element," said retired

Chief Master Sgt. Craig Recker, BSC director.

Blind workers are often employed in manufacturing, call centers, and executing service contracts, he adds.

Myers can be found in the deployment section assisting customers, who often ask for

him by name.

"The most important thing is helping out the customers," Myers said.

Myers is colorblind, seeing in only black and white, but these challenges don't slow him down. He knows where every item in the store and warehouse is, and he is ready to outfit a customer who enters the store with a list of items that could include uniforms, boots, hats, goggles, knives, flashlights and backpacks, just to name a few.

Blind cashiers are traditionally at a higher risk for making mistakes, Recker said, adding that Myers probably has a lesser return rate than a sighted person because he has the ability to shut out distractions.

There's always demand from JBSA squadrons for soap, toilet paper, paper towels and office supplies, and Myers is ready to wait on any customer that walks through the door.

"He really is an expert,"

Recker said.

While Myers' expertise may be within the walls of the BSC, his service to his customers plays a role in the success of their overall mission.

"We're supporting people that are defending our country," Recker said. "We're an extension of that mission and to be able to do both of those things; if you can't walk out of here with a smile on your face, your heart is very hard."

"I can't express how much it means to work in a place that you hire visually impaired people and you serve your military," Jones added.

Myers will travel to Washington, D.C., this month to compete for the national title.

The San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind Program operates at 15 BSC military stores at JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph, as well as centers in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

## THREATS

From page 16

mean there is not a policy issue we could address," said J.T.

Mendoza, Air Force Insider Threat Hub deputy director for strategy and integration. "While it is difficult to quantify the damage someone caused when documents or classified items are taken, an act of violence is often more damaging due to human life being involved."

When Barron and his team established the 25th Air Force Insider Threat Program in 2014, their goal was to stop technical-related insider threats before they grew into major breaches for the Air Force intelligence community.

Within the program, myriad staff members from varying backgrounds sifted through data in an attempt to locate indicators of threats and vulnerabilities. In April 2017,

Air Force officials had enough confidence in the program capabilities that it became the services interim hub until a permanent Air Force hub could be established.

"During the year we were the interim hub, we put a lot of processes into place. We built a solid foundation from internal analysis, data integration, increases in manpower and capabilities, and the implementation of reporting procedures," Barron said.

The Air Force made a decision in October to transition the organization from being the interim hub to the permanent insider threat epicenter, while the team continued to prepare for the transition and acquire more space and personnel. Significant support and coordination from local 25th Air Force and Air Staff leadership was required to achieve this milestone.

"Preparations for the

transition also included establishing the policies and documentation required to run a cooperative matrix organization," Barron said. "We more than tripled the hub staff and added coordinating representatives within each major command."

"One of the challenges we face is finding the right people and being able to train and develop them into what we believe is the right skill set," he said. "There is no specialty code within the Air Force or department at large for what we do."

The Air Force Insider Threat team encourages all Airmen, military, civilian and contractor, to contact their security office or appropriate chain of command to report potential insider threat incidents, including accidental or unintentional indicators; it could resolve potential incidents before they become legitimate threats.

## 59th MDW restructures clinic

From 59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

The 59th Medical Wing recently executed a restructure of its Family Health Clinic to create two units of focused care: active duty beneficiaries and all other beneficiaries.

This restructure comes as part of the greater U.S. Air Force's move to ensure readiness of all active duty Airmen through organizational culture changes that focus on continuous medical readiness, sustaining delivery of high quality care, and new deployment requirements.

"We are focused on taking care of our Airmen and families. Their well-being directly impacts our readiness and ability to execute the mission," said Maj. Gen. John J. DeGoes, 59th Medical Wing commander.

"We've restructured the 59th Medical Wing to align with the priorities of our senior leaders, but we did so in a way that is best for the family, which includes retirees, veterans and other beneficiaries who rely on Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center and Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph for their health care."

As of April 1, beneficiaries assigned to the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Clinic may see a shift in their primary care manager overseeing routine health care.

"This reorganization allows the 59th MDW team to ensure today's Airmen are medically ready to meet our nation's call while still allowing us to balance the care of active duty families, retirees, veterans, and other beneficiaries," DeGoes said.

# RANDOLPH

## T-38 at JBSA-Randolph endures as stellar training aircraft 60 years after maiden flight

By Robert Goetz  
502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The T-38 Talon prototype embarked on its maiden flight as the Air Force's first supersonic trainer on April 10, 1959.

Sixty years later, the sleek aircraft developed by the Northrop Corp. continues to meet the service's training needs.

Used primarily by Air Education and Training Command for undergraduate pilot and pilot instructor training, the T-38 endures because of its initial design, a thorough maintenance regimen and a sustainment program known as Pacer Classic that has been responsible for essential modifications to the aircraft.

"It had to be a great product for starters," said Lt. Col. William Borron, 560th Flying Training Squadron director of operations. "But we've had great people working on the plane for years, and that's kept it going."

"We've also had amazing updates to the jet. All avionics have been updated, and it received an engine modification. While the outside of the jet looks the same, the inside is completely different and meets the needs of today's student pilots."

The T-38 made its first appearance at Randolph Air Force Base March 17, 1961. The aircraft was met with "applause and exclamations of admiration from the hundreds of persons who witnessed its

delivery," according to the March 22 edition of the Wingspread newspaper.

On the 50th anniversary of the T-38, Lane Bourgeois, 12th Flying Training Wing historian, focused on the aircraft's development and innovations. He cited the lightweight J-85 engine, the afterburner version of an engine developed by General Electric for a drone that fit into the bomb bay of a B-36.

"Northrop realized the higher thrust-to-weight ratio of two J-85s together would be greater than the thrust-to-weight ratios of other engines," Bourgeois said. "For example, two J-85s together produced just as much thrust as one J-57 engine, but the two J-85s weighed about 500 pounds less. Lighter engines meant designers didn't need as much wing area, less wing area meant less engine thrust required to push the airplane, and so on."

Northrop designed a lightweight frame around two J-85s weighing about 10,000 pounds, which was half the weight of an F-100F and with better performance, Bourgeois noted.

Another innovation was Northrop's development of a fuselage based on the "Whitcomb theory," attributed to Richard Whitcomb, an American aeronautical engineer known for his contributions to the science of aerodynamics.

"Richard Whitcomb had calculated that necking the fuselage just before the wings



COURTESY PHOTO

An image from the base newspaper, the Wingspread, shows a photo published in 1961 of the first T-38 to arrive at Randolph Air Force Base.

reduces drag at supersonic speeds," Bourgeois said. "The next time you see a T-38 up close, take note of the tapering hourglass shape of the fuselage. That's Whitcomb's theory at work, and it helps to make the T-38 supersonic."

More than 1,100 T-38s were delivered to the Air Force before production ended in 1972; more than 500 are still in service. Now known as the T-38C, the aircraft boasts a variety of Pacer Classic modifications.

"Engine updates improved our takeoff and landing performance, and the ejection seats have been updated, giving us a larger safe-ejection envelope," Borron said, "but the most important update to the T-38 was the transition to the C-model, which improved avionics and allowed for the use of GPS. GPS is the future in terms of navigation, and it was crucial to train all future pilots to navigate utilizing GPS."

Borron called the T-38 "the toughest plane" he's ever

flown, which could be advantageous for new pilots.

"The best thing about the T-38 is, after learning to fly it well, you feel like you have the ability to fly anything in the Air Force fleet," he said.

But it is also a "great fun plane to fly," Borron said.

"It rolls faster than any plane I've ever flown and climbs great," he said. "I've flown many planes, and this one can change parameters on you faster than any of them. It is a challenge to fly, like I've said, but once you learn to fly it well, you feel like you've achieved something."

The T-38 maintains its relevance with the newest generation of Air Force pilots.

Second Lt. Kevin Yalung, 435th Fighter Training Squadron Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals student pilot, said his first exposure to the T-38 was at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

"Now I have more than 130 hours in the T-38, but I had not flown any aircraft at the academy except gliders," said

**"The best thing about the T-38 is, after learning to fly it well, you feel like you have the ability to fly anything in the Air Force fleet."**

Lt. Col. William Borron,  
560th Flying Training Squadron  
director of operations

the 2018 USAFA graduate. "At the academy, instructors would talk about the T-38 and they would do flyovers there, which was a blast."

Yalung's comments on flying the T-38 mirrored those of Borron.

"It's just a great aircraft to fly," he said. "It's a challenge, but exciting. There's a lot we can do with the new updates. It allows us to get exposure to a lot of different training types."

Even though the aircraft has been in use since before his parents were born, Yalung sees the value of the T-38.

"They train us to know so much about this airframe and its upgrades," he said. "I have a lot of trust in it. It works quite well."



# M&FRC to host event for volunteers who serve JBSA-Randolph

By Robert Goetz

502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A dedicated group of individuals who gave more than 68,000 hours of their time last year to help Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph organizations will be thanked April 12.

The Military & Family Readiness Center, located at 555 F St. West, hosts the annual JBSA-Randolph Volunteer Appreciation Event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 12. Hunt Housing and the JBSA-Randolph Chapel are providing free lunch.

“Our volunteers are so valuable to our military community and providing a free lunch is the least we can do to show our appreciation



COURTESY GRAPHIC

for all of their hard work,” said Brandy Wright, JBSA-Randolph M&FRC community readiness consultant.

Volunteers or anyone interested in becoming a

volunteer can dine in during the event or take lunch to go. Small giveaways will be provided as tokens of appreciation to volunteers.

More than 700 volunteers serve organizations such as

the JBSA-Randolph Chapel, spouses' clubs, thrift shop, 359th Medical Group, library, Retiree Activities Office, Health Promotions, Youth Programs and the M&FRC, Wright said. Last year, volunteers served for a total of 68,692 hours. Valued at \$24,96 an hour, their service was worth \$1,696,017.

“If you take a trip throughout JBSA-Randolph, you will find volunteers at the clinic handing out medications; at the thrift shop helping organize and sell items that will generate profits to be used for scholarships; at the chapel teaching a Sunday school class, cooking meals or watching children for the MOMS group; at the youth center coaching a youth baseball team; or at the

M&FRC helping a newly relocated family by allowing them to borrow items from our loan locker,” she said. “These are just a few examples of what our volunteers do on a daily basis.”

Each organization has different eligibility requirements for volunteers, Wright said, but important criteria are a “giving heart” and “a willingness to serve. “Volunteers are individuals who are selfless and love to give back to their community,” she said. “Volunteers give up their valuable time and serve multiple roles in multiple locations to provide services that improve the quality of life for our military members and their families. The support we receive from our volunteers is priceless.”

## 2019 AF Test Pilot School applications

By Kat Bailey

AIR FORCE'S PERSONNEL CENTER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Application packages for the 2019 U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School selection board are due by May 29.

The USAF TPS selection board will convene at the Air Force's Personnel Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph July 29-Aug. 2, and will consider Total Force officer and current Air Force civilian applicants to attend training as early as July 2020.

Test pilot, test combat systems officer and test remotely piloted aircraft pilot positions are open to officers, while flight test engineer positions are open to both officers and civilians. Applicants from all aircraft types and backgrounds may apply, and all applicants must have strong academic and technical experience.

The Air Force has expanded the list of eligible Air Force Specialty Codes for the experimental flight test engineer course to include officers from the 17D, Cyberspace Operations Officer, and 13S, Space Operations Officer career fields, to help support multidomain operations. Officers with a 17D or 13S core AFSC are highly encouraged to apply for TPS.

“Test pilot school ensures Air Force mission dominance by training officers

and civilians to lead and conduct full-spectrum testing and evaluation of aerospace weapons systems,” said Maj. James McDonald, AFPC assignments officer.

According to McDonald, civilian applications for flight test engineers are handled much like the military application process for test pilot positions, and specific instructions are detailed in the TPS Personnel Services Delivery Memorandum. Civilians compete directly for flight engineer spots, and the selection board considers them in the same pool as military applicants. Any Department of the Air Force civilian selected for TPS will be required to sign a mobility agreement, as well as a five-year Continued Service Agreement.

The USAF TPS trains pilots, CSOs and flight engineers to develop, test and evaluate the newest aircraft and weapons systems. Program graduates earn a Master of Science in Flight Test Engineering through Air University.

McDonald said applicants should use the new forms attached to this year's TPS PSDM on myPers or available on the TPS website at <https://www.edwards.afmil/units/usaftps>, rather than the forms posted on the Air Force e-Publishing website. Also new this year is a template for a Resume of Flying Experience.

## 'Flipping the classroom' at SOS

By Dan Hawkins

AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The sixth episode of “Developing Mach-21 Airmen,” Air Education and Training Command's podcast series, was released April 1.

In the episode, a team of experts from the Squadron Officer School at Air University talk about how they are flipping the classroom, adopting immersive training (including VR, AR and mixed reality) into the learning experience space, helping to better professionally develop Air Force captains.

Toni Scribner, a doctoral candidate who has spent a ton of time helping develop the squadron officer school curriculum, as well as Capt. Anita Sims and Casey Neville from the SOS staff, talk about the successes and challenges of adopting some of this immersive technology, as well as the thought process that goes into the process of both the adoption and integration of the new approach.

Scribner also talks about the need to think about these changes in terms of the culture and scalability in design, as well the flipping the classroom trend happening in education right now.

Sims and Neville discuss the

excitement of students as they either participated in or observed the new mixed-reality, avatar-based counseling scenario exercises that are now part of the curriculum. They also talk about why being an SOS instructor can help a young company grade officer grow professionally in ways they never imagined.

The professional development podcasts are designed to help communicate and inform Total Force Airmen across the globe on relevant, timely topics related to the recruiting, training, education and development fields, and can be listened to on the government network on the AETC website (<https://www.aetc.af.mil/News/Developing-Mach-21-Airmen-Podcast/>), or via mobile application, as well as on Apple Podcasts (iTunes). For Android or Google mobile users, the podcast can be found on their favorite third-party podcast phone application.

Future episodes are set to cover a wide range of topics and include a feature on a military training leader and resilience; what learning might look like in 2030; how a technical training student at Sheppard Air Force Base helped the 82nd Training Wing break a long-held, industrial-age paradigm regarding time as the constant; and much more.