

JBSA LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

NOVEMBER 8, 2019



PHOTO BY BURRELL PARKER

Sailors assigned to Navy Recruiting District San Antonio visited the New Braunfels home of Isaac Juarez, 7, who has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. From left are Senior Chief Petty Officer Israel Flores; Petty Officer 1st Class Harold Dayse; Jacki Jacob of New Braunfels; Cmdr. Nicholas Gamiz and Petty Officer 1st Class Chance Tahah.

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AF transitions all U.S. military treatment facilities to DHA

From Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

This October, U.S.-based Air Force military treatment facilities transferred administration and management to the Defense Health Agency.

Congress directed this transfer in the fiscal year 2017 National Defense Authorization Act. Establishing an integrated Military Health System will standardize health care delivery and business operations across all military treatment facilities.

“DHA will have responsibility for the administration and management of military treatment facilities operations related to delivering the health care benefit,” said Lt. Gen. Dorothy Hogg, Air Force Surgeon General. “The Air Force Medical Service retains our readiness mission, ensuring Airmen are fit to carry out their mission, and



COURTESY GRAPHIC

delivering deployable medical assets to meet combatant commander requirements.”

The Air Force is working closely with DHA to ensure a smooth handoff. The impact to patients and those working at military treatment facilities should be minimal. Patients will continue to receive the same high-quality Trusted Care.

U.S. military treatment facilities operated by the Army and Navy also transferred to

DHA.

“The Air Force is fully committed to the vision of an integrated system of military health, and making that process as seamless as possible,” Hogg said.

The Air Force will maintain a direct support relationship with DHA to manage day-to-day operations during the transition. Direct support will continue until DHA meets specific conditions-based criteria showing they can

manage military treatment facilities on their own.

“This is all about the patient,” said Lt. Gen. Ronald J. Place, DHA director. “It’s about harvesting decades of best practices from across the Army, Navy and Air Force—along with what we can learn from the civilian community — to build a global standard with one focus: make our system better to improve health outcomes that matter to our patients.”

The transition of military treatment facilities to DHA is one of many significant transformation efforts underway in the Air Force Medical Service and across the Military Health System.

“These transformation activities provide us an opportunity to really shape the future of the Air Force Medical Service,” Hogg said. “Our core mission continues to be paramount — providing exceptional, high-quality trusted care and improving the readiness of our Airmen.”

What is the Combined Federal Campaign?

By Ken Robinson
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

If you’ve been in the military or worked for the government for a while, you’ve heard about the Combined Federal Campaign. Every year, unit representatives go to work in support of the CFC to help ensure its success.

But what is the Combined Federal Campaign?

The CFC is a method for federal employees, military and civilian, to donate to qualifying charities. The Combined Federal Campaign is a 58-year federal workplace giving tradition that has raised more than \$8.3 billion for charitable organizations.

The funds raised each fall through the campaign help neighbors in need around the corner, across the nation and throughout the world. Through the contributions of civilian and military federal employees, the campaign continues to make a difference by generating more than \$93 million in 2018 for the thousands of participating local, national, and international charities.

People can choose a specific charity or contribute to a general fund where their dollars will be distributed amongst all charities. The charities focus on supporting communities in areas such as veteran issues, health care, and research,

education, homelessness, animal shelters, religion and more.

All contributions made through the CFC are tax-deductible. Contributors can choose to make donations through a payroll deduction or a one-time donation. Payroll deduction pledges or one time contributions can be made online or by filling out the paper pledge form. The preferred online payroll deduction method is through myPay.

There is a minimum donation of \$1 per pay period for payroll deductions. While that doesn’t seem like much, every donation helps.

The 2019 campaign officially

kicked off Oct. 1 and will run through Jan. 12, 2020. In addition to pledging money, federal employees can pledge volunteer service hours to participating nonprofit organizations.

Joint Base San Antonio has identified volunteers to meet with every unit and directorate to ensure the success of this year’s campaign. These unit representatives will be distributing material, educating and collecting pledges.

For more information, see a unit CFC coordinator, contact the respective installation CFC program manager or visit <https://www.opm.gov/combined-federal-campaign/>.

JBSA LEGACY

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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 using the subject line "Feedback Fridays." Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

Personnel Issues

Q. I experienced a problem with the JBSA-Lackland Security Forces Center at building 1030, extension 2018. When I asked to speak to a shift supervisor, I was told there was no one to speak to and that I was calling an emergency line and the call needed to be disconnected.

I insisted on talking to a supervisor, and the individual on the line told me if I wanted to file a complaint, I would have to drive to building 1030 and do it in person.

I called the base information line and followed the prompts for Security Forces non-emergency line. It directed my call to ext. 2018, which is the number I originally called. When I told them I followed the prompt, it fell on deaf ears.

The whole incident was handled poorly and unprofessionally and I never got a name or number to call. I retired from the Air Force after 20 years as Security Policeman and I am less than impressed with this encounter with today's Security Policemen.

Since I was not provided a forum to voice my concerns, I figured you all can relay this info to the JBSA-Lackland Security Forces command staff.

A. Thank you very much for bringing this to my attention. I sincerely apologize for how your situation was handled. There is no excuse for unprofessionalism as Team JBSA and especially its Defenders pride themselves on discipline and professionalism.

The number 210-671-2018 is the correct number to reach JBSA-Lackland's Base Defense Operations Center, and your

complaint should have been received.

Depending on the type of incident you were trying to report, one of the following four responses should have occurred:

- 1. For emergencies, patrols would be dispatched to assist/intervene;
- 2. If not an emergency and patrols are available, a patrol would be sent to your location to assist you in the complaint process;
- 3. If not an emergency and patrols are busy, you will be asked to come in and make the complaint in person;
- 4. If not an emergency or time sensitive, we will take note of the complaint and handle it appropriately when time permits.

Regardless of the type of complaint, you should have been treated with respect. Our Security Forces commanders will remind their Defenders of this process and I welcome you to contact the 802d Security Forces Squadron Operations Superintendent, Senior Master Sgt. Clayton Greenwell at 210-671-7309, to bring full closure to your situation.

Installation & Facilities

Q. I wanted to bring to your attention an important concern that my wife and I encountered on our very first visit to JBSA-Randolph and believe corrective action is needed.

My wife and I just relocated from Hawaii in order to retire in the San Antonio area; both of us are retired Army Officers — my wife, a lieutenant colonel, and myself, a colonel.

My intent on visiting your Air Force Base was to attend the base Toastmasters International Chapter meeting; however, around 11:35 a.m., we were delayed due to the Security Forces Airman at the gate confiscating my wife's retired ID card.

The Airman that confiscated the card did not provide any solution other than to say that my wife's ID card was "terminated," and handed us a piece of paper without any instructions on a next step.

We were then passed to a Department of Defense police officer, who moved us out of the entry lane to an area to the right, and again, offered no solution to this seizure of a perfectly operating Retiree ID Card. I say "perfectly operating" because while in Hawaii, we frequented every military base on a regular basis to work, shop, visit, or relax.

My retiree ID Card worked at all military installations, but my wife's worked on all except for Hickam Airfield. As a retired senior officer, I was

appalled at the way my wife was treated, and requested a solution set from the DOD Police Officer.

Accordingly, I traveled to your 902nd Security Forces Squadron, where a very helpful master sergeant and captain offered us their apologies for the problem and explained where we needed to go on base to correct the ID card glitch.

The ID Card team was extremely helpful and apologetic, and they commented that my wife's incident was the third one today. My wife is pleased to have a new ID card, and even more pleased to leave a base where we both felt that the rules of military courtesy had been suspended.

I am well acquainted with the necessity of security, but this issue gives me cause to bring this forward.

A. Thank you for your comment and you have my sincerest apologies for your inconvenience. I know many times retired member identification cards will say they have an "indefinite" expiration; however, in certain instances, a new identification card must be reissued.

Many times, these identification cards must be renewed because the card is an older type that is not compatible with the Defense Biometric Identification System, or DBIDS, that the Department of Defense employs to vet individuals who enter installations.

Another cause is the appearance of the member's social security number; the newly issued cards no longer show the member's social, and when an older card is found, the member must replace it in order to maintain security of the member's identification.

Although unfortunate circumstances brought you to our ID card team, I'm so happy to hear that they were more than accommodating for you and your wife, and that you got to walk away with new and improved ID cards!

Please continue to visit JBSA, and provide your feedback as this is what helps us become a better community and installation for everyone in Military City USA!

Q. On a Saturday afternoon, I attempted to enter JBSA-Randolph in a Yellow Cab. The driver had a DBIDS card from JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and I had my CAC. The Security Forces still hesitated to let me enter because the cab driver's DBIDS card was from JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

Finally after assuring the Security Forces that the cab would only be on base for about 10 minutes, the cab was allowed to enter. If the Visitor's Center had been open, we would probably have been sent there.

In spite of all the information from Feedback Fridays, I still don't understand this fear of cab drivers. Doesn't a DBIDS indicate an acceptable level of security? How do delivery people get on base? If a resident of base housing wants to take a cab to a party where there will be drinking, why can't they call a cab whose driver has a DBIDS card and then notify the Lindsey Gate that a cab is coming at a certain time?

A. Thank you very much for this great question and for setting the example of enjoying a good time responsibly!

Today, "Yellow Cab & Towne Car" is the only company contracted and sponsored by JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, meaning their vetted drivers may pick up and drop off JBSA-Fort Sam Houston families seamlessly (just ensure to tell Yellow Cab to send a driver with the "JBSA-Fort Sam Houston DBIDS credential" for both the pick-up and drop-off).

Unfortunately, this convenience doesn't fully apply to JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph families. Yellow Cab drivers with drivers who possess the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston DBIDS credential are considered background-checked but still require an authorized credential holder (e.g., CAC) in the vehicle or a valid sponsor has a request for pick-up.

This means that base residents may likely have to meet their driver at the gate or VCC for pick-up but the ride home will match the convenience of JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

Fortunately, the conversation has been initiated to look into the Uber/Lyft/Yellow Cab capabilities on all three JBSA installations, so be on the lookout! I appreciate your patience and understanding with this option and will keep you and the JBSA community informed of any steps to improve this level of service.

Q. Many people have shifts that start at 6 a.m., so why do the gates wait until 6 a.m. to open? Would it be possible to open the gates other than just the main gate at 5:45 a.m. to allow people to make it to their offices by the start of their shift?

A. Thank you for question on gate hours, as gate operations and traffic flow are a top priority for our Defenders.

The biggest factors determining a gate's accessibility and hours are traffic volume and available manpower to assign to gates. We've looked at opening at 5:30 and 5:45 a.m. in the past and concluded that peak morning volume

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

From page 3

begins after 6 a.m.

So to open some gates earlier comes at the cost of opening other gates later or not opening at all. By having at least one 24-hour gate at all installations, everyone with a 6 a.m. shift start has the opportunity to report on-time.

While that may be inconvenient to some, it provides a balance of security to availability for all gates given the number of Defenders we have. As traffic volumes and our manpower pool change over time, we will adjust gate hours and accessibility to maintain that balance.

Thank you for your feedback, and please continue to submit your concerns so our Defenders can stay in the know and better serve our JBSA community. **Q.** There is no working water fountain at the Rambler running track complex on JBSA-Randolph. I have tried both water fountains numerous times when I have been doing PT and needed to rehydrate. This is very dangerous to not have drinking water available from the fountains. When can we get this fixed? **A.** Thank you for bringing this issue to our attention and we apologize for the inconvenience. The great news is that

our Civil Engineers have diagnosed the problem, which was a broken pipe that runs under the road and feeds the drinking fountains. CE has scheduled to do the repair next week barring any competing priorities. Thank you again and we hope to have this service restored shortly.

Q. Can you talk about the impact about the 1604 and Rocket Lane, Bexar County planned expansion outside of base?

A. Thank you for your question and interest in development around JBSA. We have been in discussions with Texas Department of Transportation, or TxDOT, on their proposed improvement project for approximately six miles of Loop 1604, from FM-78 to I-10E, which includes the section adjacent to JBSA-Randolph.

The purpose of this project is to expand and upgrade the existing four-lane divided highway and associated infrastructure. The proposed effort targets improving traffic flow and safety along the Loop 1604 corridor and intersecting cross-streets. Part of this project would require real estate actions and at this time there have been no official decisions made. Once an agreement is reached, information will be shared with the public regarding any impacts.

Q. I noticed the other day that the lighting on the street next to the Warhawk gym on JBSA-Lackland is inadequate. People crossing the street from the Gateway Inn side are very hard to see if they are wearing dark workout clothing. I can see an unfortunate accident happening as this is a busy street in the morning.

A. Thank you for identifying this issue so we can get it addressed to improve safety for fitness center users. Our CE team discovered that approximately half of the existing lighting was out due to a faulty underground circuit. This has already been repaired and existing lighting has been restored.

CE also assessed that existing lighting may not be adequate for patrons who walk from the nearby visiting officer quarters, and as such have already engaged with CPS Energy, who now maintains base lighting for JBSA, so they will be conducting a lighting survey to help develop potential solutions.

We are looking at funding lighting improvement projects across all JBSA locations, and will consider this area for resourcing this fiscal year. Thank you for your feedback!

Q. My son is a resident in building 2, 344th Training Squadron. He has been

in several different dorms in between Basic Military Training and waiting for his tech school to start.

He moved with his squadron recently to his final dorm and has voiced concerns about the mold that is present in his current living environment.

Can you please advise if these particular dorms referenced above have been inspected? Have they been previously remediated for mold and it has resurfaced, or have these dorms not been treated yet?

A. Thank you for bringing this to our attention. As many know, we had a mold problem at JBSA earlier this summer. Since then, we've incorporated commercial and local Civil Engineering efforts to remediate any mold or mildew concerns in our dorms, to include both of the 344th TRS dorms.

In addition, weekly dorm inspections were put in place to ensure any new mold is found and removed before it has an opportunity to become established. However, if your son has any facility concerns, we encourage him to engage with his Military Training Leader or Technical Training Instructor immediately so we can send in our CE teams to investigate and resolve the

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS continues on 18

Veterans Day events abound in Military City USA

By Robert Goetz
502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

More than 100 years have passed since an armistice unofficially ended World War I, a conflict of a scale unlike any other in recorded history.

What quickly became known as “the war to end all wars” had its hostilities cease between the Allied nations and Germany on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.

In 1919, commemoration of that cease-fire proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson still resonates throughout the United States with events that pay tribute to everyone who served honorably.

The 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, known as Veterans Day since 1954, will be observed in the San Antonio area with activities ranging from a drill team competition and parade to a band concert



ISMAEL ORTEGA

Members from the Air Force Band of the West march and perform in the Veterans Day parade in San Antonio Nov. 10, 2018.

and naturalization ceremony.

The U.S. Military Veterans Parade Association begins a day's worth of events at Alamo Plaza Nov. 9 in downtown San Antonio with a Junior ROTC drill team competition at 8:30

a.m. A wreath ceremony honoring veterans living and dead follows at 10 a.m. and the association's 20th anniversary Veterans Parade steps off at noon beginning on Avenue E. The association will also stage a

festival from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Milam Park that will celebrate veterans.

The U.S. Air Force Band of the West Concert Band's “Salute to Veterans” is set for 3-5 p.m. Nov. 9 at the Edgewood Theatre of Performing Arts, 402 Lance St. Free and open to the public, the program honors the 75th anniversary of D-Day and the nation's World War II heroes.

Veterans Day at the Alamo, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 11, will feature firing demonstrations, living history, and free tours and giveaways for all veterans and current military members.

Brig. Gen. Laura L. Lenderman, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, will be the keynote speaker for the city of Schertz Veterans Day Memorial Ceremony from 9-10 a.m. Nov. 11 at Veterans Memorial Plaza, 512 Schertz Parkway.

The Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony will be 9:30-11 a.m. Nov. 11. The event includes a musical prelude and a naturalization ceremony for those military members becoming U.S. citizens.

Brig. Gen. James Moore, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Installation Management Command chief of staff, will speak during the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers Veterans Day Commemorative Ceremony from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Nov. 11 at the San Antonio National Cemetery, 517 Paso Hondo St. The ceremony will also feature the reading of a memorial list, military honors and taps, and a benediction.

The Buffalo Soldiers preserve the memory of the former slaves, freedmen and black Civil War veterans whose Army regiments were charged with restoring order in the West after the Civil War.

Remembering the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers on Veterans Day

By Trooper T. Wayne Austin
SOUTH TEXAS BUFFALO SOLDIERS
ASSOCIATION INC.

This Veterans Day, our nation pauses to acknowledge those who served in our armed forces and to give thanks to those brave Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Most of these men and women were just ordinary citizens who simply answered the call to duty. There is one group of servicemen whom historians have traditionally overlooked. This group of unsung heroes began their journey as a direct result of legislation enacted by the 39th U.S. Congress on July 28, 1866.

That legislation established six new military regiments containing all black enlisted men commanded by white officers.

The regiments were the 9th and 10th Cavalry, and the 38th,

39th, 40th, and 41st Infantry regiments, which in 1869 were consolidated into the 24th and 25th infantry units.

This marked the first time in America's history that African Americans were allowed to serve as regular members of the federal peacetime military.

While this decision was not a popular one at that time, it paved the way for men like Lt. Henry O. Flipper, the first black man to graduate from West Point, and Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the Tuskegee Airmen, and even Gen. Colin Powell, the first black chairman of the Joint Chiefs, as well as so many others.

These unsung American heroes went on and served this nation with the highest degrees of honor, dedication and courage. Twenty-three were awarded the Medal of Honor, even while they were

being denied basic human rights.

Their courage, dedication and discipline were second to none. They were given the name “Buffalo Soldiers” by their Native American foes probably due in part to their superb fighting skills, courage and physical attributes being reminiscent of the sacred buffalo.

The 10th Cavalry Regiment was the first unit called Buffalo Soldiers and even adopted the image on their regimental crest. The term Buffalo Soldiers soon became synonymous with every black soldier on the western frontier.

The Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers are dedicated to educating the general public through media and educational systems about the history of the Buffalo Soldiers and Black Indian Scouts.



STEVE ELLIOTT

Members of the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers march into the San Antonio National Cemetery Nov. 11, 2018, for the annual Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers Commemorative Ceremony.

FORT SAM HOUSTON

“It was a highlight of my time in the Navy to honor Isaac in this way. Isaac is truly a remarkable young man, and it is my honor to now call him a shipmate and wish him ‘Fair Winds and Following Seas.’ ”

Commander Nicholas Gamiz, Navy Recruiting District San Antonio commanding officer



BURRELL FARMER

Cmdr. Nicholas Gamiz, Navy Recruiting District San Antonio commanding officer, presents an Honorary Sailor Certificate to Isaac Juarez during a visit by NRD Sailors at Isaac's New Braunfels home.

Navy RD SA brings cheer to special child

By Burrell Parmer

NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC AFFAIRS

To bring some happiness to a local child, Sailors assigned to Navy Recruiting District San Antonio at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston visited the New Braunfels home of Isaac Juarez, 7, who has been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

The NRD SA was initially contacted by Jacki Jacob, a Navy

mom, informing Navy Recruiting Station New Braunfels of Juarez's condition.

“Isaac and his mom had traveled to St. Jude's Children's Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, for a last-ditch effort in treatment,” Jacob said. “They returned to New Braunfels when the last MRI showed that it didn't work and that the cancer had spread.”

Learning of Juarez's condition, the NRD SA, led by

commanding officer Cmdr. Nicholas Gamiz, presented Juarez with an Honorary Sailor Certificate along with an “America's Navy” ball cap, “Forged by The Sea” T-shirt, a Navy Fiesta medal, and a copy of the U.S. Constitution.

“It was a highlight of my time in the Navy to honor Isaac in this way,” Gamiz said. “Isaac is truly a remarkable young man, and it is my honor to now call him a shipmate and wish him

‘Fair Winds and Following Seas.’ ”

According to Isaac's mother, Elida De Luna, her son was first diagnosed with brain cancer when he was 3 years old.

“This was amazing for the Navy to visit with Isaac and to cheer him up,” De Luna said. “This made Isaac feel so special. My family is grateful to the Navy and to the community who have been providing us with support.”

“It is humbling to know that the men and women of NRD San Antonio are dedicated to being an integral and profound part of their community,” Gamiz said.

NRD San Antonio's area of responsibility includes more than 34 Navy recruiting stations and Navy officer recruiting stations spread throughout 144,000 square miles of Central and South Texas territory.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
FORT SAM HOUSTON ISD’S
STATE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING**

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 11 a.m. Nov 21, 2019 at the Professional Development Center at 1908 Winans Road, San Antonio, Texas. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District's rating of “A” for “Superior Achievement” on the state's financial accountability system.



LT. COL. ANGELA KING-SWEIGART

U.S. Army Sgt. Brandi Tipton decontaminates U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Aaron Foscoe during the Pennsylvania National Guard's 3rd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team evaluation exercise Oct. 24 at the Steam Town National Historic Park, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

ARNORTH evaluates ANG Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team

By Lt. Col. Angela King-Sweigart

JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS,
PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL GUARD

Evaluators from U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston observed the Pennsylvania National Guard's 3rd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team Oct. 25, checking on its ability to identify nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological contaminants, advise on response measures and assist with requests for support during notional training scenarios set at Clark Summit State Hospital and Steam Town National Historic Park.

At Clark Summit State Hospital, the notional scenario involved a biological threat.

The team had to respond to an attack that used the cholera organism. At the Steam Town National Historic Park location, a suspicious box truck was notionally making individuals ill and was found to contain radiological contaminants. The team was expected to respond quickly and identify the causes and also to take precautions to not spread the contaminants. Both scenarios used all components of the team.

"Our team is a 22-person full-time unit and everyone is AGR. It is comprised of 18 Army and 4 Air Force personnel. We have a bunch of different sections. You have your command section, you have your operations section, logistics, decontamination, medical, analytical and our survey section," said U.S. Army

Maj. Frank Brown, commander of the unit.

Army North command representative Jay B. Norris was on hand to evaluate the unit.

"Our team evaluates 54 of the 57 teams located nationwide," he said. "U.S. Army North evaluates at events like this and also provides additional training to the teams to support the commander and provide best practices. Today's training is going well."

The 3rd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team is a unique unit in the Pennsylvania National Guard. All its members are highly trained, full-time, and on call with an advance team that can respond in 90 minutes, according to U.S. Army Brig. Gen. David Wood, director of

the Pennsylvania National Guard's joint staff. It is one of 57 National Guard Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams located throughout the U.S. with about one team in each state.

"The CST team is a critical part of our domestic response," Wood said. "They continue to be on call. We've received calls that are scheduled and unscheduled. They can be utilized by the local community as well as the state national level. The team responds to more than 20 events annually."

Members of the team are dedicated professionals.

"The National Guard is my home. This is the greatest job I've ever had and I'll probably stay with it until I retire," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Jacob Derivan, the 3rd Weapons of

Mass Destruction deputy commander and science officer.

Assisting with the exercise were members of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, county of Lackawanna, U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Army North and the 5th Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team out of Illinois.

The Pennsylvania Guard is one of the most deployed National Guards in the nation and headquartered at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania.

In addition to its federal mission, the Pennsylvania National Guard works with its state agency, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, U.S. Northern Command and dozens of federal, state and local agencies.

Area retirees get special treatment at JBSA's BAMC

By Robert A. Whetstone
BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Joint Base San Antonio gave a segment of the community some special treatment during its annual Retiree Appreciation Day, hosted by Brooke Army Medical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Oct. 19.

Hundreds of retired service members and their families participated in the event that included information booths and services such as skin checks, walk-in mammograms, walk-in ID card services, and TRICARE information. Retirees were able to order prescription glasses and flu shots were administered to beneficiaries 65 years and older.

Brig. Gen. Laura L. Lenderman, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, opened the event with a brief history of when Americans learned the value and appreciation of service members and their families.

"More than 48 million Americans have served in our military since 1776," Lenderman said. "In 1818, Congress passed legislation identifying requirements to qualify as a military retiree. In 1865, Abraham Lincoln made a promise in his second inaugural address when he said that America would 'care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan.' Your loyalty to serve our nation is awe inspiring, and we owe you that same promise."



ROBERT WHETSTONE
U.S. Air Force Capt. Derrick Wells (right), executive officer, Department of Medicine, Brooke Army Medical Center, hands out information brochures to patrons Oct. 19 during Joint Base San Antonio's Military Retiree Appreciation Day, hosted by BAMC.

"It takes months to prepare and set aside a day to put on an event like Retiree Appreciation Day," said Joe Silvas Jr., Joint Base San Antonio retirement service officer, who headed the planning and execution efforts for Retiree Appreciation Day. "We've actually been in the planning stages since June to make sure every effort and every agency, internal and external are invited and get an opportunity to give back to our retired community and our family members."

"It's a joint effort between the 502nd and the Brooke Army Medical Center staff," Silvas added. "We did whatever we needed to do to make it a spectacular day."

To Angel Benavides, an Army veteran of 22 years, Retiree Appreciation Day has a simple and profound meaning.

"Just what it says, they (community) appreciate us," Benavides said. "I hear a lot of people now, when I wear my hat (9th Infantry Division veteran) tell me, thank you for your service."

When Benavides returned from Vietnam back in 1969, he remembered the reception was cold and degrading.

"It's better, and it's changed quite a bit for those who serve," he said. "I feel appreciated."

Brig. Gen. Wendy Harter, BAMC commanding general, also addressed the crowd before the start of Retiree Appreciation Day.

"I want you to know that we hold you in great esteem on more than just one day of the year," Harter said. "We honor our retirees and veterans every day."

Benavides reflected on the reason why he and 48 million others served the country.

"It's not because I was becoming a millionaire at \$68 a month basic pay back in 1963," he said.

Benavides sees the military sort of like a family business. His brother served in Vietnam, and his stepfather fought in Korea and Vietnam as well.

"I'd like to thank the family members of our retirees as well," Harter said. "Your selflessness gave our retirees the strength and stability to be able to do their jobs, knowing they had the love and support of their families."

Five MEDCoE NCOs inducted into Sergeant Audie Murphy Club

By Jose E. Rodriguez
U.S. ARMY MEDICAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Five soldiers from the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston were inducted into the Sergeant Major of the Army Leon L. Autreve Chapter of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, or SMAVA SAMC, at a ceremony at the Fort Sam Houston Post Theater Oct. 30, 2019.

Command Sgt. Maj. Alberto Delgado, U.S. Army North Command Sergeant Major, was the guest speaker.

Inducted were Staff Sgt. Alexander Bach, Staff Sgt. Kacie Kennedy, Staff Sgt. Charles Mays Jr., Staff Sgt. Brandy Ritch and Staff Sgt. Jazmi Swingler.

Swingler, a drill instructor assigned to the Medical Professional Training Brigade, received a special surprise as her father, retired Sergeant Maj. Arthur Swingler, himself a member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, presented her with the ribbon he received when inducted into the SAMC in 1999.

"In seeking membership into the

prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, NCOs like the ones we will induct today vowed to go the extra mile in ensuring their Soldiers have the knowledge, experience," Delgado said. "Throughout my career, I've met a host of exceptional NCOs, from every walk of life, from every military specialty, who have sought to become the very best leaders they can be. These NCOs have exemplified leadership characterized by personal concern for the needs, training, development and welfare of Soldiers and concern for Families."

Induction into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is an arduous process, consisting of a recommendation by the Soldier's noncommissioned officer chain of command to participate in the rigorous board examination process. Only the absolute best Soldiers are recommended and inducted. The club recognizes noncommissioned officers who set the highest standards of leadership, excellence and exemplify the characteristics of Sgt. Audie Murphy.

When a soldier is inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, he or she



JOSE E. RODRIGUEZ

Command Sgt. Maj. Alberto Delgado (far left), U.S. Army North Command Sergeant Major, gathers with the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club inductees (from left) Staff Sgt. Jazmi I. Swingler, Staff Sgt. Brandy M. Ritch, Staff Sgt. Charles E. Mays Jr., Staff Sgt. Kacie M. Kennedy and Staff Sgt. Alexander H. Bach, and Sergeant Maj. James Musnicki, U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence Directorate of Training and Academic Affairs Sergeant Major.

is given a medallion, which is approximately 2 inches in diameter. The medallion is suspended by a broad powder-blue ribbon representing the traditional color of the infantry. The medallion is worn around the neck on the outside of the Class A, or dress blue uniform, for official functions such as military balls or Sergeant Audie

Murphy Club meetings.

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston's Sergeant Audie Murphy Club was established in 2000, when Command Sgt. Adolph M. Arista Jr. directed the formation of a local chapter. In 2002, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston's Sergeant Audie Murphy Club was redesignated the SMA Van Autreve Chapter.

Class prepares Soldiers for new Army Combat Fitness Test

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Approximately 50 servicemembers learned about the standards for the Army's newest fitness test and the proper techniques for preparing and training for it during a class held at the Vogel Resiliency Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Oct. 31.

The Army Combat Fitness Test Fitness Leaders Class included classroom instruction at the VRC and hands-on demonstrations at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston running track for Army physical trainers and master fitness trainers who lead and conduct physical training for their units.

The class was a collaborative effort between the Army Wellness Center at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, the U.S. Army-Baylor University Doctoral in Physical Therapy Program at Brooke Army Medical Center and the BAMC clinical health psychology department.

In October 2020, the Army Combat Fitness Test will replace the current Army Physical Fitness Test as the one Army servicemembers will need to meet the requirements of to pass each year.

Patrice Hickey, Army Wellness Center director, said the Army Combat Fitness Test will test servicemembers on six exercises and skills they will need to utilize in a combat setting, compared to the Army Physical Fitness Test, which tested servicemembers on general fitness standards such as muscle and



DAVID DEKUNDER

Staff Sgt. Jose Lopez, 470th Military Intelligence Brigade mechanic shop foreman, prepares to throw a 10-pound ball overheard as part of his training for the Army Combat Fitness Test Fitness Leaders Class at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Oct. 31.

aerobic endurance.

"The idea is to really emphasize to them the training concepts that are going to help them do well," Hickey said. "We have all of these units that are really kind of focused on preparing themselves to go from years and years and years of training to do a run, pushups and setups," Hickey said. "And then all of sudden being introduced to six combat types of assessments that are really going to require a lot more speed, power, agility, components of fitness that we haven't necessarily emphasized before."

Providing class instruction were interns in the U.S. Army-Baylor

University Doctoral in Physical Therapy Program.

Maj. Jon Umlauf, U.S. Army-Baylor University Doctoral in Physical Therapy Program internship director, said class instructors provided the proper techniques for unit physical fitness leaders and master fitness leaders to train servicemembers to get ready for the test. The interns conducted the physical training at the running track.

"What we are doing here is a hands-on demonstration of the Army Combat Fitness Test," Umlauf said.

The six exercises servicemembers will need to perform to pass the Army Combat Fitness Test are the three rep max deadlift, throwing a 10-pound ball overhead, a pushup that involves dropping to the ground and extending the arms out to the side, sprint drag carry, leg tuck and a timed 2-mile run.

Umlauf said the Army Combat Fitness Test will change the way the Army is going to test the physical fitness and readiness of service members to perform in a combat or deployed setting.

"It's a big change to how we've trained and prepared Soldiers," he said. "We want to make sure that everyone that's going to be organizing and running physical training feels comfortable. We want to get them familiar with the tests, but we also want them to be prepared to train their units. That's really what this class was about was how do we make sure they know

the resources that are available in the hospital and in the community, and then also how do they prepare a fitness and training schedule for the units and how they are supposed to execute this."

Over the past year, BAMC was a pilot site in which the practice version of the Army Combat Fitness Test was conducted. Within the next year, Umlauf said, all Army units will be required to take two practice versions of the test before it is expected to become mandatory in October 2020.

Hickey said the class also covered information on resources provided by the Army Wellness Center, including injury prevention. The BAMC clinical health psychology department included information on behavioral aspects of performance because it could affect how a servicemember does on the test.

The idea for the first ever Army Combat Fitness Test Fitness Leaders Class came from the Health and Wellness Working Group, which is part of the Commander's Ready and Resilient Council at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. The council consists of unit commanders at the post.

Hickey is a member of the Health and Wellness Working Group. She explained the purpose of the group's work.

"Our efforts as far as a community standpoint is to really try to engage with what active-duty servicemembers are going to need to perform well on this new test," Hickey said.

U.S. ARMY INSTITUTE OF SURGICAL RESEARCH SOLDIERS CONDUCT ARMY WARRIOR TRAINING

Staff Sgt. Rachel Hammill (center) and Cpl. Christopher Olverson prepare a wounded Soldier for medical evacuation as Sgt. Claudia Napier, lane noncommissioned officer in charge, observes and evaluates the assigned task.

The U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston conducted Army Warrior Training at Salado Creek Training site at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Oct. 23-24. During the two-day training, USAISR Soldiers performed numerous tasks in training lanes that included evaluating a casualty, applying a Combat Application Tourniquet, performing first aid for burns, and movement of a casualty, among other tasks. The training supports the Army's basic mission to train and prepare Soldiers, leaders, and units to fight and win in combat.



STEVEN GALVAN

LACKLAND

“Today, as the 559th MDS joins the 559th MDG, we merge our missions of direct support to Air Education Training Command, by our operational alignment with the 37th Training Wing and 12th Flying Training Wing. We’ve built great opportunity for synergy, and operational excellence both in ensuring medical ready Airmen and ready medical Airmen to renew the force for increasing lethality.”

Col. Rebecca Blackwell, 559th MDG commander

59th Medical Wing integrates missions, strengthens operational medical readiness

From 59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

The 59th Medical Wing activated the 559th Medical Squadron in a redesignation ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Oct. 30, after deactivating the 359th Medical Group.

The squadron will continue the mission of providing comprehensive health services for nearly 25,000 eligible beneficiaries in the greater San Antonio area.

This mission realignment allows the 559th MDG to absorb the administrative responsibilities and operation of the squadron, streamlining efficiencies and improving patient access to care and services.

“The health care delivery and medical readiness mission at JBASA-Randolph is not changing,” said Maj. Gen. John J. DeGoes, 59th MDW commander. “The 59th MDW is adapting to provide even better service to this important mission in line with the priorities of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and the National Defense Strategy. Namely, to

improve mission effectiveness and lethality through enhanced medical readiness. By aligning the Randolph medics under the 559th MDG, we will consolidate all wing operational medical assets under one medical group, enhancing both effectiveness and efficiency.”

Medics assigned to the JBASA-Randolph Clinic have been delivering world class health care since 1931.

Comprised of more than 300 staff members, the 559th MDS provides comprehensive medical and dental care, aerospace physiology training, disaster response, health promotion and occupational/public health services to nearly 30 mission partners at JBASA-Randolph.

“Today, as the 559th MDS joins the 559th MDG, we merge our missions of direct support to Air Education Training Command, by our operational alignment with the 37th Training Wing and 12th Flying Training Wing,” said Col. Rebecca Blackwell, 559th MDG commander. “We’ve built great opportunity for synergy, and operational excellence both in ensuring medical ready Airmen and ready medical Airmen to



STAFF SGT. AMANDA STANFORD

Col. Rebecca Blackwell (left), 559th Medical Group commander, hands the guidon to Lt. Col. Jeffrey Autrey, 559th Medical Squadron commander, during the 559th Medical Squadron redesignation ceremony Oct. 30 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

renew the force for increasing lethality.”

The 559th MDG provides care to active-duty military members

and dependents, as well as basic military trainees, technical training students, and students from around the world studying

at the Defense Language Institute English Language Center and Inter-American Air Forces Academy.

AFIMSC seeks submissions for second annual Innovation Rodeo

By Steve Warns

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION SUPPORT CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center kicked off its second annual Innovation Rodeo with a call-for-topics campaign Nov. 1.

The campaign, open through Dec. 15, gives military and civilian members of mission support groups worldwide a chance to win part of \$1 million in funding and resources to implement their ideas.

“We know our Airmen have ideas that can potentially transform the Air Force,” said Marc Vandever, AFIMSC chief innovation officer. “We want to help them bring those ideas to life.”

The competition calls for Airmen to submit their ideas through the online Ideascale platform at <https://usaf.ideascale.gov.com/a/ideas/recent/campaigns/100>.

Airmen with the top eight ideas will come to San Antonio in February to learn from leading innovators and convince a board of senior Air Force installation and mission support leaders that their idea is the best during the AFIMSC Innovation Rodeo on Feb. 7.

Last year, eight finalists were chosen among 122 submissions and 2,000 online votes to compete in the inaugural AFIMSC Innovation Rodeo, where competitors with the top three ideas split \$650,000 to get their ideas to prototype via AFWERX and technology accelerators.



AFIMSC
Innovation
Office



Call for Topics Innovation Campaign

Nov. 1 - Dec. 15, 2019

COURTESY GRAPHIC

Additional support from the Small Business Innovation Research Program and other sources increased the support to the winners to more than \$5 million, according to Patricia Marshall, a project manager with the AFIMSC Innovation Office.

“The 2019 Innovation Rodeo has been very successful,” Marshall said. “The winning submission

for a crowdsourced mobile application went from idea to the iOS App store in 155 days. Additionally, machine learning and artificial intelligence drone roof inspections received \$3 million in additional SBIR funding.”

For more information about AFIMSC’s Innovation Rodeo, visit <https://www.afimsc.af.mil/innovation>.

INTER-AMERICAN AIR FORCES ACADEMY STUDENTS TOUR RESERVE C-5M

Tech. Sgt. Joshua Green, center, 356th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, describes the 433rd Airlift Wing's C-5M Super Galaxy's cargo carrying capabilities to Inter-American Air Forces Academy students Oct. 30 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Twenty-nine students and faculty members from the Inter-American Air Forces Academy toured the Air Force Reserve Command's C-5M Super Galaxy belonging to the 433rd AW. The group included officer and enlisted maintenance and aircrew members. These tours provide an opportunity for the students to see aircraft in person and learn more about these weapons systems.

"I'm extremely happy to be here," said Colombian army Maj. Rubén Llamas, aircraft maintenance officer. "This helps me to visualize in real life everything the instructors are teaching in the simulator." The academy provides military education and training to personnel from other partner nations.



MASTER SGT. KRISTIAN CARTER

RANDOLPH

Total Force Initiative creates 147th OG/Det. 1 at 558th FTS

By Airman 1st Class Shelby Pruitt
502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A congressional mandate for increased total force integration authorized the 147th Attack Wing of the Texas Air National Guard to stand up a small Air Education and Training Command Undergraduate Remotely Piloted Aircraft Training, or URT, detachment.

Being the sole source for all U.S. Air Force and U.S. Marine Corps Undergraduate Remotely Piloted Aircraft, or RPA, pilot and sensor operator training, the 558th Flying Training Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, was the answer.

The 558th FTS graduates 24 students every three weeks through the RPA Instrument Qualification Course and RPA Fundamentals Course for pilots and Basic Sensor Operator Course for Sensor operators.

Providing support is the purpose of 147th Operations Group Det. 1 at the 558th FTS.

“Our mission is to support the operation of the 558th FTS by providing formal military instruction and mentoring to produce the world’s greatest remotely piloted aircraft pilot and sensor operator warriors,” said Lt. Col. Jason Green, 147th Operations Group/ Det. 1 commander. “But, uniquely, we also provide onsite mentorship and support for Air National Guard pilot and sensor operator students.”

The 558th FTS welcomed the 147th OG/Det. 1 with open arms.

“The 147th Detachment is instrumental to the 558th FTS meeting production requirements. Just like the RPA community, where the Guard and Reserve are such a critical part of the effectiveness of combat capabilities, it is exactly the same at the undergraduate

level of training,” said Lt. Col. Eric Bissonette, 558th Flying Training Squadron commander. “Our Guard teammates are building pilots and sensors that will be able to immediately contribute to mission execution across all RPA platforms.”

“Our detachment provides highly experienced, current and qualified MQ-9 combat aviators to teach alongside the undergrad RPA instructor team here at the 558 FTS. Our full time Air National Guard instructors will infuse undergrad RPA training curriculum and instruction with knowledge of the latest MQ-9 combat tactics, techniques and procedures and operational software and hardware changes.”

Lt. Col. Jason Green, 147th Operations Group/ Det. 1 commander

Because 147 OG/Det. 1 instructors will maintain their MQ-9 combat mission-ready qualifications at their home wing at Ellington Joint Reserve Base in Houston, they will raise the collective RPA experience level and relevance of the URT and BSOC cadre.

“Our detachment provides highly



BEN FASKE

Lt. Col. Jason Green, right, Texas Air National Guard 147th Operation Group Detachment 1 commander, greets Texas state Rep. Dan Flynn at the 558th Flying Training Squadron July 9 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

experienced, current and qualified MQ-9 combat aviators to teach alongside the undergrad RPA instructor team here at the 558 FTS,” Green said. “Our full time Air National Guard instructors will infuse undergrad RPA training curriculum and instruction with knowledge of the latest MQ-9 combat tactics, techniques, and procedures and operational software and hardware changes.”

In addition to providing deeper training, having the 147th OG/Det 1 at the 558th FTS assists with meeting the steadily increasing instructor manning requirements because now the USAF can tap into the pool of experienced Air National Guard pilots and sensor operators

For Air National Guard students training at the 558th FTS, the detachment offers a unique opportunity.

“Guard pilots and sensor operator students attending training are now afforded the choice for face-to-face interaction and mentorship with Air National Guard instructors — an opportunity they have not had up until

now,” Green said.

Developing a seamless embed, the 147th OG Texas Air National Guardsmen are dual-hatted with specific detachment responsibilities, as well as filling active-duty 558th FTS operational and leadership positions.

“There’s everything to gain and nothing to lose in this situation,” said Staff Sgt. James Jeffers, BSOC instructor, 12th OG. “Continuity is a huge part in any operation, and it’s just one of the many things the 147th OG, Det. 1, will provide us. Not only will it help our manning here in the schoolhouse, it will add a different scope for us as community to open doors where they’ve never been opened before.”

“We are fortunate to have such a unique partnership that allows students and instructors to know the true total force nature of the community from day one,” said Bissonette. “We look forward to working alongside the 147th OG for years to come, building the next generation of warfighters.”

The 147th OG/Det. 1 will reach full operational capability on April 1, 2020.

Reserve Citizen Airmen visit Corpus Christi, welcome new pilot

By Debbie Gildea

412TH TEST WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

At about 3 feet tall, Alessandra “Ale” Alaniz might be the shortest pilot ever, but what she lacks in stature, she makes up for in charisma.

Ale, a Driscoll Children’s Hospital patient in Corpus Christi, celebrated the Air Force’s birthday this year with some special Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, visitors. On hand to welcome her to the pilot corps were 96th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilots Maj. Wade Dahlgren and Lt. Col. Doug Hayes, who flew to Corpus Sept. 18 with 86th Flying Training Squadron regular Air Force teammates Capt. Anthony Giebelhaus and Capt. Roland Kern.

Ale is the 100th child selected to participate in the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Pilot for A Day program.

A former Naval Air Station Corpus Christi instructor pilot, Dahlgren was a Pilot For A Day coordinator when assigned at NAS

Corpus Christi, so when the opportunity presented itself to celebrate another youngster’s initiation into the program, he and Hayes were all in.

The Laughlin Air Force Base teams kicked off Ale’s special day with a T-1 Jayhawk two-ship flyover, and then escorted her and her family on a tour of the Jayhawk, presented her with pilot accouterments (hat and morale shirt courtesy of the 96th FTS booster club), and joined her and her family on a tour of the pilot training facilities.

The ability to bring such visible joy to children with serious medical conditions through the Pilot for a Day program has been a motivator for the 96th FTS aviators. So much so, in fact, that they are working to implement the program at Laughlin.

“We’re working hard with some old buddies that are in leadership positions at NAS Corpus Christi to make sure we stay involved,” Dahlgren said. “The kids love it and the smiles you get last a lifetime.”



DEBBIE GILDEA

96th Flying Training Squadron T-1 Jayhawk Reserve instructor pilots Maj. Wade Dahlgren and Lt. Col. Doug Hayes, pilots on the right, and 86th Flying Training Squadron regular Air Force teammates Capt. Anthony Giebelhaus and Capt. Roland Kern, pilots on the left, gather with Alessandra “Ale” Alaniz, the 100th child selected for the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Pilot for a Day honors, and Ale’s family.

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

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issue. Your son's wellbeing is our primary concern.

Miscellaneous

Q. I have a number of recommendations I'd like to make that I think would help improve the Gateway Club at JBSA-Lackland, to include reducing prices, further opening membership, more events, and selling merchandise. Would you consider making any of these changes?

A. I appreciate your feedback on how to improve our Gateway Club! Our outstanding club manager relies on input from club members like you to ensure her team is meeting the food, beverage, and hospitality needs of our JBSA-Lackland military community.

That said, all Air Force clubs are MWR Category C activities that unfortunately receive minimal Appropriated Fund support. Based on these guidelines, the clubs are required to be financially self-sustaining and must achieve pre-established performance standards.

In order to meet these standards, the manager must employ sound business practices and weigh the cost-benefit analysis of all programs offered. In regards to our membership fees, our JBSA club members pay monthly dues based on their military rank or civilian grade. This ensures that dues are affordable for all Airmen, regardless of their income.

The clubs currently offer a wide variety of benefits to members which include: 10 percent off food/beverage for personnel event, \$1 discount lunch/dinner/breakfast buffet, \$2 discount when attending special events, \$12 in monthly coupons, no room fees for catered events, check cashing privileges, quarterly member appreciation dinners, discounts on Special Events, Mother's Say/Easter/Thanksgiving, Holiday Meals to Go Program, \$10 birthday coupon, reciprocal privileges at other Air Force clubs, special occasion drawings for Members Only, and an assortment of entertainment options such as: Variety Night, Friday Nights 5-10 p.m., Special Parties (Halloween, Fiscal New Year, etc.) , live bands, DJs , etc.

The clubs send bi-monthly calendars to all members showing upcoming events and including discount coupons. Club events are also advertised on the JBSA Today website, 502 FSS Facebook Page, marquees, and weekly emails. Our

staff also attends newcomer's orientation, and many other special events to tell the community about the many benefits and programs at the club.

Additionally, we have invested \$2 million in the past few years to significantly upgrade the club ... making it one of the best venues in the Air Force to relax, recharge, socialize, and enhance resiliency. I hope to see you soon at the club!

Q. Will there be a future presence of armed security forces at large events such as CC/Director Calls? What is the security threat for large scale events at JBSA?

Unfortunately, I think the presence of security is a necessity these days and should be mandatory at all large events.

A. Thank you for asking the most important question: safety and welfare of the JBSA community and family!

At this time, there is no plan to provide any additional armed Security Forces at large events such as Commander's Call. Large-scale events in and around JBSA are evaluated and assigned a risk value based on any known threat and identified vulnerabilities.

Your local Security Forces Squadron is responsible for mitigating known vulnerabilities to lower the risk to a manageable level and thus ensuring personnel feel safe in their environment. Events like the Commander's Calls happen on the military installation which already provides a higher level of security for access.

Your safety is paramount to us, so if there is a life-threatening issue, call 911. If you see suspicious behavior, call AFOSI Eagle Eyes at JBSA-Lackland at 210-672-4000, at JBSA-Randolph at 210-625-1400, or at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-925-0787 and report it.

If a security concern is reported off-installation in another jurisdiction, JBSA is connected to a Threat Information Fusion Cell, which shares local law enforcement reports, notifications, and tips with your local Defenders. Remember, you are a sensor — if you see something say something! **Q.** What is the policy for riding electric scooters/bikes on base? Some of us walk on base to get to our workplace and at times some gates close due to unforeseen circumstances and we are forced to walk to a farther gate. Thank you.

A. Thank you for inquiry concerning electric scooters and bikes on base. Electric and gas-powered skateboards, scooters and golf carts that have a

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

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platform for riders to stand on are not permitted on installation streets or sidewalks at this time.

All persons who ride a bicycle, tricycle or other human powered vehicle, including motorized bicycles, on an Air Force installation roadway, will wear highly visible outer garment containing reflective material during hours of darkness and reduced visibility and wear a properly fastened approved bicycle helmet.

All bicycles will be equipped with front-facing, pedal, side and a rear-facing reflectors consistent with local or state requirements. For additional information, reference AFI 91-201, Air Force Traffic Safety Program.

Q. Is it possible to change/add a policy to allow military members who have a license to carry to have a firearm securely stored in their vehicle? I have been to other installations that allow this privilege (MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, etc.). I'm not concerned about on-base safety or anything, but the moment you drive out the gate you are at risk for any number of circumstances that could threaten one's safety.

San Antonio is full of gang-related activity, as well as general road rage incidents. I think allowing licensed members to bring a weapon in their car would be a great Quality of Life improvement for those who have demonstrated the proper safety and maturity to be a licensed handgun carrier.

Additionally, I remember seeing a policy from the Air Force Chief of Staff that mentioned at the top AF level having weapons on base is allowed, but delegated to the installation commanders.

Residents on base are allowed to securely store weapons in their residence. In Texas, your vehicle is considered an extension of your home and you don't even need a license to carry a concealed weapon in a vehicle.

Maybe a better description of my request would be to transport a firearm in a vehicle in a non-firing condition, ammo in one compartment and weapon in another.

A. Thank you for your concern. Security is a top priority, and as the Installation Commander, I am carefully considering this matter. Restricting firearms carry to our Security Forces gives our Defenders an important advantage over anyone who means us harm, and provides confidence

to our diverse population that they can move freely and safely while on-base.

However, I've asked our Security Forces Group to develop options which could allow limited LEOSA arming on-base. Due to the unique construct of JBSA and its vast amount of mission partners and sister service residents, this is not a simple issue to resolve and not one that should be decided by only one command.

It is incumbent that we also address this issue with our sister service commanders to ensure their opinions and concerns are weighed into my ultimate decision. I will be sure to share any updates if the current policy preventing concealed carry of a privately owned firearm is changed.

Q. I have recently been told JBSA-Lackland Recycling Center will no longer accept shredded paper. Is this true? If so, that is extremely disconcerting when the overall impact is considered. Is there no alternative besides filling up dumpsters and landfills with a product that is ideal for recycling?

A. Thank you for your question regarding recycling. In 2017, China, the major importer of global recyclables, established stringent standards which drastically limited the amount of contamination permissible in their recycling imports.

These strict standards went into effect in March 2018 and led to a serious worldwide downturn in recyclable prices, causing programs around the globe to change their recycling strategies.

One such change is that shredded paper now must be of a certain size cut in order to be recyclable. The JBSA Qualified Recycling Program, or QRP, uses a commercial shredder that shreds the paper to the appropriate size; however, when our customers use non-commercial shredders such as those in their offices and homes, the paper becomes like confetti, which can't be baled.

In the current recyclable commodity climate, buyers will only pay for shredded paper that is baled. As a result, the JBSA QRP is now asking its customers not to do their own shredding, but instead, to allow the JBSA recycling team to shred their paper with our commercial shredder. This will keep the shredded paper out of the landfill. The properly shredded paper can be baled and sold, resulting in revenue which can be used to pay the QRP operating costs.

For any further questions, please contact Alvin Brown from the CE Environmental Management office at 210-652-4668.