

# JBSA LEGACY

WWW.JBSA.MIL

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

DECEMBER 20, 2019



Petty Officer 2nd Class Angelica Brown (left), community service coordinator assigned to Navy Recruiting District San Antonio, joined by NRD-SA's assistant command career counselor, Petty Officer 1st Class Kamitria Delaney, reads to a first-grade class at Dorie Miller Elementary School during the school's annual Pearl Harbor and Dorie Miller Remembrance Program.

## NRD-SA Sailors visit school to teach about Pearl Harbor

Page 10



## Trees for Troops brings Christmas to JBSA

Page 19



## WW II nurse turns 100, recalls war experiences

Page 9

# Air Force Secretary: Time to move forward with Space Force

By C. Todd Lopez  
DEFENSE.GOV

A lack of understanding by Americans of the importance of space is hurting the effort to establish the Space Force, the secretary of the Air Force said Dec. 7.

"Communication, navigation, information: everything is dependent upon space, but people don't recognize that," Barbara Barrett said at the Ronald Reagan National Defense Forum, in Simi Valley, California. "There isn't a constituency for space — even though almost everyone uses space before their first cup of coffee in the morning."

The Space Force is expected to be a separate service under the Department of the Air Force.

Barrett said she believes most Americans remain largely unaware of the extent to which they depend on space in their daily lives. Water and power systems, for instance, depend on space technology, as do things such as ATMs and gas pumps.

"I'll bet fewer than 10 percent of the American public recognizes that since 2011, the only way American astronauts can get to our \$100 billion investment, 225 miles up at the International Space Station ... is by buying a seat from the Russians," Barrett said.

"We are dependent upon others for much of our space access. And that's just not the position that America should be in or want to be in," she said.

For decades, Barrett said, the U.S. has led the way in space. Though it is still a leader, losing that edge has become a real risk, she said. And the secretary said the nature of the space environment has changed, making the U.S. vulnerable.

"Our capability in space was predominantly built at a time



*Air Force Secretary Barbara Barrett discusses establishment of a Space Force at the Ronald Reagan National Defense Forum, in Simi Valley, Calif., Dec. 7.*

when we thought space was a benign environment," Barrett said.

"In 2007, the Chinese demonstrated their ability to take satellites — their own satellite in that case — out of the skies," she said. "So we know we are now vulnerable. So the assets upon which we depend are now vulnerable."

The U.S., Barrett said, has more to lose than any other nation from malicious activity in space. This makes a space force even more critical.

"Our way of life is more dependent upon space than any other nation," she said. "It is important for America to get on the case of space. And we have got to be able to deter derogatory action in space, and if deterrence doesn't work, we need to be prepared to be something other than a victim with our space assets. So where

we are ahead, but that lead is shrinking, and our vulnerability and our dependence is greater than anyone else. It is time for us to move forward with a space force."

Barrett said the new Space Force would be responsible for defending assets in space — to protect defense and commerce systems already there, for instance — but also responsible for creating and using space assets to enable forces on Earth.

"We have to be able to defend what we have there that we count on," she said. "We need to build, put things in space that can themselves be defended. We need to then be able to use space as an enabler for our war fighters in other domains. So we need to be able to have free access to space for ourselves and others — benevolent others."

While the Air Force became

"Our way of life is more dependent upon space than any other nation," she said. "It is important for America to get on the case of space. And we have got to be able to deter derogatory action in space, and if deterrence doesn't work, we need to be prepared to be something other than a victim with our space assets."

**Barbara Barrett, Secretary of the Air Force**

an independent service in 1947, its lineage traces directly back to the Army's Aeronautical Division, which was established in 1907. In a similar fashion, the Space Force is expected to be largely carved out of the Air Force. It's been more than 100 years since the United States military has created a new service in the way it now hopes to build the Space Force.

"This will be a ... talent-driven, technologically-based entity," Barrett said. "We'll get a lot of help and a lot of input on how to do it. But we're putting the A-team on it and we're working to build the very best system. There will be a lot of contested elements as we go through the process. But I think what you can rely upon is that there are people looking at this that are doing it with a lot of thought and a lot of attention."

## JBSA LEGACY

**Joint Base San Antonio  
Editorial Staff**

**502nd Air Base Wing  
and JBSA Commander**  
BRIG. GEN.  
LAURA L. LENDERMAN

**502nd ABW/JBSA  
Public Affairs Director**  
MAJ. KIM BENDER

**502nd ABW/JBSA  
Chief of Command  
Information**  
JET FABARA

**Editor**  
STEVE ELLIOTT

### Staff

2ND LT. CHRISTIAN EBERHARDT

MASTER SGT. TYRONA LAWSON

TECH. SGT. AVE YOUNG

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS SHELLEY PRUITT

DAVID DEKUNDER

ROBERT GOETZ

SABRINA FINE

ALLISON MILLER

LORI BULTMAN

**JBSA LEGACY  
ADVERTISEMENT OFFICE**  
EN COMMUNITIES  
P.O. BOX 2171  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78297  
210-250-2052

This Department of Defense newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the DoD. Contents of the JBSA Legacy are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the DoD, or the U.S. Air Force.

Published by EN Communities a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force under exclusive written contract with the 502d Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the 502d Air Base Wing Public Affairs Office.

Everything advertised in this publication will be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any non-merit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

# Feedback Fridays

**Brig. Gen. Laura Lenderman**

502D AIR BASE WING AND

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO COMMANDER

## Personnel Issues

**Q.** My flight's ATAAPS is all messed up. I can't see my employees to certify their time. Someone is certifying my employees without my knowledge, or knowledge of their hours worked. Can we get ATAAPS fixed so we properly obligate government funds?

**A.** Thank you very much for your question. Hopefully, the following information can resolve your concern. The certifier and employee will need to be assigned to the same roster within ATAAPS to allow a certifier the ability view and certify Time and Attendance. If a certifier is unable to see an employee, then the employee will need to be moved under the same roster. This can be accomplished by submitting an ATAAPS Employee Processing Worksheet to update the employees Roster. The completed documentation will need to be sent to the 502 ABW Civilian Pay Office at 502CPTS.FMF.CivilianPay@us.af.mil. Mr. Noe Ferrel is our assigned action officer, so please feel free reach out to him for any assistance you may need.

## Installation & Facilities

**Q.** Randolph needs more street lights. At 0430 the base is in almost total darkness. Even the Taj is dark. This creates a dangerous situation for joggers, bicyclists, motorcyclists, and motorists. It's difficult to see both people and potholes in the dark. On a foggy day, it is even harder to follow the road. Saving energy is important but has to be balanced with safety & security. The cops can't protect us if they can't see the criminals.

**A.** Thank you for sharing your concerns—safety and security across JBSA is a top priority. Our CE team is in the process of repairing broken street lights, as well as reviewing light levels across the installation. They're also working closely with our privatized utility partner, CPS Energy, to coordinate resources to correct the light levels in order to meet code compliance. Additionally, we will look into the potential energy savings to determine how we can improve our installation lighting, possibly through LED technology.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

**Q.** Are there any future plans to build a gym that includes an indoor track on Lackland AFB?

**A.** Thank you very much for your question. I appreciate your interest in future Lackland fitness center improvements. Our CE planning team shared that the Lackland West District Plan identifies the need for a "New Super Fitness Center" which would include an outdoor track and field as well as an indoor track. The "New Super Fitness Center" proposal will be centrally located, and would replace/consolidate the outdated fitness facilities that are currently on Lackland. The proposal is still in the early planning stages and the requirements need to be further developed. Ultimately, this project is dependent on future MILCON funding. We will continue to plan and posture to

ensure we're ready for future MILCON dollars!

**Q.** The existing tennis court on H street on Randolph are in need of repair, and this would be a great time to reconfigure them into a Pickle Ball court and move the practice wall from H street to the courts on C street. Pickle ball is a paddleball sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and table tennis. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn. If converting tennis courts, four pickle ball courts can fit in the same area at dimensions of 30 feet by 60 feet. The court shall be a rectangle 20 feet wide (6.10 m) and 44 feet long (13.41 m) for both singles and doubles matches.

**A.** You are absolutely right! The tennis courts on H Street are in need of repair. Our 502 FSS team is working closely

with our Civil Engineering team, and identifying all of the requirements so that we are prepared when funding becomes available to make the repairs. In the meantime, the courts on C Street are in good shape, and I encourage all tennis players to utilize those courts. Pickle Ball sounds like a great game, and our 502 FSS team will look into the best way to convert a tennis court on C Street to support it!

**Q.** Who is responsible for the Lower Seguin Road that leads to the commercial back gate at Randolph? The large vehicles have made the road horrible to drive on and you can see that Converse repaired and stopped at their city limit. Is it Schertz or the base or a combination of both for repair?

**A.** The City of Schertz is responsible

**FEEDBACK FRIDAYS continues on 4**

# Are you sad or are you SAD?

By Airman 1st Class  
Jennifer Gonzales

86TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It's that time of year again, when the warm summer fades into autumn chills and frosty winters. The skies become grayer and the sun barely shines. For some, autumn and winter are welcome breaks from the summer heat; but for others, the change in seasons may cause dread.

Some individuals suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder, also referred to as Depressive Disorder, with the seasonal pattern. As the name suggests, it's a form of depression that occurs during the seasonal change, particularly after summer until spring.

SAD occurs more often in northern regions, such as Europe and Canada.

"People living in locations close to the equator experience very low rates of seasonal depression due to their exposure to consistent sunlight year-round," said U.S. Air Force Capt. Abigail Wolfe, 86th Medical Group licensed clinical psychologist. "Daylight hours become significantly shorter in the winter months and SAD appears to be linked to diminishing daylight."

Melatonin, a sleep-related hormone, and circadian rhythm can be disrupted by the sudden change in sunlight exposure. Serotonin, a chemical in the brain that affects mood, is thought to play a role in SAD. Lack of sunlight can cause a drop in this chemical, which may trigger depression.

"The decrease in sunlight may disrupt the body's internal clock,



COURTESY GRAPHIC

reduce the levels of feel-good neurochemicals—such as serotonin—and disrupt the hormones that regulate sleep patterns and overall mood states," Wolfe said.

Symptoms may be similar to other types of depression such as feelings of hopelessness, despair, apathy, lack of motivation, wanting to oversleep, anxiety, and lethargy. Similar to a physical injury, the disorder should be treated and cared for properly, but it's important to note the symptoms can be on a spectrum.

"For those mildly impacted, basic interventions such as maintaining a regular sleep and exercise schedule

may prove effective," Wolfe said. "The use of light therapy employing a SAD lamp that emits at least 10,000 lux has proven to be an effective way to deal with this condition, and symptoms that come with it."

People on a mild level of seasonal pattern depression may benefit from taking Vitamin D supplements, exercising regularly, maintaining a good sleep schedule, and eating nutritious foods.

For severe symptoms such as suicidal thoughts or behavior, anxiety, eating disorders, alcohol dependency, or substance abuse, it's a good idea to seek professional help.

"People with more severe symptoms of depression may require a higher level of care including talk therapy and medication," Wolfe said.

No one is ever alone in their internal battles, even if it might feel like it. SAD is common and there's no shame in experiencing it. In the U.S. alone, SAD is estimated to affect 10 million people, which means 1 in 30 people suffer from it. Just because it's not visible doesn't mean it's not real.

"The important takeaway point is: resources are available to help people struggling with symptoms of seasonal depression through the dreary winter months," Wolfe said.

## FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

From page 3

for maintaining those roads, and their area of responsibility is from FM 1518 to Converse City limits. For that road in particular, our biggest challenge right now is funding. The city updates their Pavement Condition Index (PCI) every few years, which provides a score/rating for all of the city's streets. The next update is in the next year or so, and those scores will help in developing the road capital improvements program. Other factors that impact the repair plan include the amount of traffic on the road, whether new development is likely to occur that

might impact the road, economies of scale/efficiencies in contracting repairs, and balancing different areas of the city. The city is looking at more funding to be available in the next 3-4 years; however, they will stay focused and vigilant in the routine maintenance of the roads - potholes, cracksealing, etc. We are grateful that Schertz works hand-in-hand with our team to improve the roads supporting JBSA.

### Miscellaneous

**Q.** Why does JBSA-Fort Sam Houston have such successful Saturdays community events (which is awesome), and JBSA-Lackland seems to only have "ok" events on Fridays with far less attendance than Fort Sam Houston

Saturday events?

**A.** Thank you very much for sharing your question about large community programs held on JBSA-Lackland. After many years of Saturday events held on Lackland with low participation, we determined that many members who don't live on Lackland were not returning for Saturday events resulting in events that were not well attended. The past few years, larger community events held on Friday night were more successful as many people came by after work prior to departing for the day, whether it was just dropping in for one hour or staying for the whole event. That said, it's likely time for us to reconsider what day we hold large community events on

Lackland. The 502 FSS will reevaluate and research the types of events/programs offered, and when they are hosted. As far as advertising goes, we do our best to use every marketing mechanism at our disposal to get the word out about all of our events on JBSA. We post flyers, signs, and posters at as many facilities as possible, send emails across the installation (i.e., bi-monthly eCIFs), and are active on social media and our JBSA website ([www.jbsa.mil](http://www.jbsa.mil)). If you have specific inputs or feedback on what events you'd like to see hosted on Saturdays at Lackland, please reach out to our 502 FSS Deputy Director, Ms. Karen Rudolph at [Karen.rudolph@us.af.mil](mailto:Karen.rudolph@us.af.mil).

# Leadership tackles housing issues at JBSA Town Halls

By Sabrina Fine and Brian Lepley  
502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brig. Gen. Laura Lenderman, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio Commander, hosted two town halls last week at JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph to discuss ongoing military housing initiatives and hear feedback from JBSA residents.

The health and safety of JBSA residents is a top priority for Brig. Gen. Lenderman, and she expressed her continued commitment to addressing housing concerns and finding resolutions at both installations.

Earlier this year, 502nd ABW leadership conducted a Military Housing Review which resulted in more than 500 responses from JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph residents. JBSA leadership then conducted 110 in-home health and wellness visits, and hosted six town halls.

Based on resident feedback and Air Force guidance, JBSA leadership is implementing the following initiatives over the last few months:

- ▶ Increased oversight and inspections to include 100 percent new-occupancy inspections prior to new residents moving into home and 10 percent no-notice inspections by senior leaders prior to resident acceptance
- ▶ Housing Resident Councils
- ▶ Legal assistance to residents and assisted in the dispute resolution process
- ▶ New system to track health and safety issues
- ▶ Monthly compliance checklists
- ▶ Quarterly Commander's evaluations
- ▶ Validating 100 percent of emergency work orders
- ▶ Reviewing work orders for trends and persistent problems
- ▶ Contacting residents who scored their maintenance repairs 3.5 or below out of a 5-point scale on Privatized Housing "Satisfacts" program which captures satisfaction ratings of residents

## JBSA-Lackland Housing Town Hall

Twenty-one housing residents attended the Dec. 10 JBSA-Lackland town hall, and nine residents detailed concerns and problems with pest infestation, structural

problems, mold and open sewage in their yards.

"We are here to address your concerns and advocate for better quality of housing in an open, transparent environment," Gen. Lenderman said.

Richard Trevino, 502d Civil Engineering Group Director, briefed on JBSA-Lackland housing sustainment projects that had been completed: neighborhood demolitions, roof replacements, floor replacements from carpet to hardwood, and other infrastructure improvements.

Some projects underway are HVAC replacements, exterior paint and fascia replacements, and additional hard-surface flooring and roofing installation.

The residents were vocal about their concerns with Balfour Beatty Community, or BBC, contractors, the company that manages and maintains JBSA-Lackland's 885 housing units.

"Since I've been here, my chain of command has been very supportive. It's the privatized housing company that's been our problem," said Staff Sgt. John Roellchen, 37th Training Support Squadron. "We hear senior leadership say they're doing what they can, we see Congress engaged. There's just been a disconnect between that and what's happening at our level."

The day after the JBSA-Lackland town hall, 802d Civil Engineering Squadron employees accompanied BBC representatives to each of the housing units that voiced concerns.

"It's important that residents share their housing issues with us because if we don't know, we can't help fix them," said Joe Hockaday, 802d Civil Engineering Squadron Director. "We appreciate all of the feedback. We want to make things better."

## JBSA-Randolph Housing Town Hall

Nineteen housing residents attended the Dec. 12 JBSA-Randolph town hall, and nine residents raised concerns about plumbing problems, inadequate repairs, and suggestions for possible resolutions.

"Please let us know your concerns, what is not getting done, and we will follow up to ensure the privatized housing owners are accountable and providing safe and healthy living conditions for JBSA

families," Gen. Lenderman expressed.

Hockaday discussed the establishment of the Housing Resident Council.

"Resident Councils are comprised of people who live in your neighborhoods," Hockaday. "We are providing them with training to ensure they are able to advocate for our residents. They are another resource that can help address resident concerns and resolve issues with the privatized owners."

Four of the Housing Resident Council members introduced themselves, and their areas of responsibility were displayed on the presentation screen.

Hockaday encouraged residents to fill out the "Satisfacts" survey after a work order is completed.

"If you're dissatisfied with the work that was performed, please ensure you document a low score," Hockaday added. "Every work order with a 3.5 rating or less will result in our military housing office following up with a call to the residents and the addressing the issue with the privatized owner."

For those issues that are not resolved, the dispute resolution process encourages residents to call their privatized housing Community Directors for immediate issues. The next call would be to the installation Housing Management Office, and then Hunt Housing's Promise Helpline.

Hunt Military Community, responsible for managing and maintaining 317 JBSA-Randolph housing units, has hired new directors and managerial staff, and adopted a new work order system. The company also recently began a pilot program to identify specific moisture issues in homes and lessen humidity levels in order to combat mold outbreaks.

"The people up here, we care ... we want you to live in a healthy and safe environment," Gen. Lenderman said. "We are committed to improving military housing across JBSA."

Gen. Lenderman ended each town hall by thanking residents for their continued cooperation, participation, and patience.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please send them through Gen. Lenderman's Feedback Friday program at [Randolphpublicaffairs@us.af.mil](mailto:Randolphpublicaffairs@us.af.mil) and use the subject line "Feedback Fridays."

## Tips for safe online shopping

### From Staff Reports

CYBERSECURITY & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY

The holiday season is a prime time for hackers, scammers and online thieves. To defend against these attacks, here are a few simple steps to take:

### Check your devices

- ▶ Before making an online purchase, make sure the device you're using is up-to-date. Running the latest software or firmware helps ensure the manufacturers are still supporting it and providing the latest vulnerability patches.
- ▶ Ensure your accounts have strong passwords and use multi-factor authentication, if available.
- ▶ Check the devices' privacy and security settings to understand how your information is used and stored.

### Only shop through trusted sources

- ▶ Make sure you're interacting with a reputable, established vendor before providing your information.
- ▶ Check that website URLs begin with "https" and a closed padlock icon.
- ▶ Don't connect to unsecure, public Wi-Fi.
- ▶ Delete suspicious emails.
- ▶ Never provide your password or information in response to an unsolicited email.

### Use safe methods for purchases

- ▶ Check the website's privacy policy before transmitting your information to understand how it will be used and stored.
- ▶ If you can, use a credit card instead of a debit card as there are laws to limit your liability for fraudulent credit card charges.
- ▶ Check your bank statements frequently for fraudulent charges.

# Keep the holiday season joyous, not dangerous

By Ricardo Campos  
JBSA FIRE EMERGENCY  
SERVICES

The holiday season can be the most joyous of times, but it can also be deadly.

Approximately 400 fires occur annually involving Christmas trees according to the National Fire Protection Association, or NFPA, resulting in more than a dozen deaths and injuries and more than \$10 million in property loss and damage. Short-circuiting tree lights are cited as the leading cause.

Joint Base San Antonio Fire Emergency Services offers these safety tips for choosing and preparing Christmas trees for decoration that will minimize the risk of fire and injuries.

## Picking the tree

» Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

## Placing the tree

- » Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2 inches from the base of the trunk.
- » Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- » Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- » Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

## Lighting the tree

- » Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- » Replace any string of lights with worn or



COURTESY PHOTO

*According to the National Fire Protection Association, approximately 400 fires occur annually involving Christmas trees, resulting in more than a dozen deaths and injuries and more than \$10 million in property loss and damage. Short-circuiting tree lights are cited as the leading cause of these fires.*

broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.

- » Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- » Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

## After Christmas

- » Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.
- » Check with your local community to find a recycling program.
- » Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

## Fast facts

» Nearly one of every three home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.

- » Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- » A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly one in every four of the fires.

As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly!

For more information about tree safety, visit the NFPA website at <http://www.nfpa.org/education> or contact the Fire Prevention Offices at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-221-2727, at JBSA-Lackland at 210-671-2921 or at JBSA-Randolph at 210-652-6915.

# FORT SAM HOUSTON

## SA's electromagnetic defense partners strategize

By Lori A. Bultman

502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Government, military, industry, research, and academia have created a collaborative pilot project known as San Antonio Electromagnetic Defense, or SA-EMD, as part of the JBSA Electromagnetic Defense Initiative, or JBSA-EDI.

The purpose of the collaboration is to create resiliency across JBSA and San Antonio against a potentially catastrophic electromagnetic pulse or other events that could cause a long-term regional power outage and to assist in meeting the requirements of Presidential Executive Order 13865, "Coordinating National Resilience to Electromagnetic Pulses."

Electromagnetic pulses can result from solar events or from man-made nuclear or pulse-power devices.

A nuclear EMP has the potential for the greatest effect because of its broadband nature and large area of coverage, according to the Department of Energy. It has the potential to disrupt, damage, or destroy a wide variety of electrical and electronic equipment, making it a viable threat to nationwide electrical grids, thus a threat to national security and public safety.

A nuclear EMP affecting the San Antonio area could also greatly impact military operations, which is why Brig. Gen. Laura L. Lenderman, 502nd Air Base Wing and JBSA commander, adopted the pilot project. Her intent for SA-EMD is to ensure JBSA will continue operations in the event of an



LORI A. BULTMAN

*Lt. Col. Eddie K. Stamper (center), Joint Base San Antonio-Electromagnetic Defense Initiative project officer, speaks with J.O. McFalls, McFalls Associates LLC, and Klaus Weiswurm, Innovation Technology Machinery chairman and an appointee to the U.S. Air Force Civic Leader Program, before the quarterly San Antonio Electromagnetic Defense meeting at Southwest Research Center Nov. 18.*

EMP, a cyber attack or even a physical attack on the region's power infrastructure.

To meet that objective, members of the project's four working groups, Grid Resiliency, 5G Implementation, Planning for Long Term Regional Power Outage, and Domestic Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations, meet regularly to discuss and evaluate the potential effects and consequences of an EMP on critical assets, including infrastructure (electric, gas, water/water) and telecommunications, which are of important to JBSA and its 80,000 military and civilian members, as well as the nearly 138,000 students trained here annually.

The groundwork for the

Alamo Region's resiliency model is well underway, Lt. Col. Eddie K. "Thumper" Stamper, JBSA-Electromagnetic Defense Initiative project officer, said at the group's quarterly meeting Nov. 18.

"Members of the working groups are creating and testing capabilities to ensure the 11 military installations in the area have hardened utility infrastructures to protect them from the effects of an EMP, or can recover quickly after an event takes place," he said.

The SA-EMD currently has 200 subject matter experts from more than 60 organizations and is open to anyone with an interest in participating in one of the working groups.

"Trusted partnerships are creating considerable promise

in advancing research in emerging EMP resilient technologies including 5G, data science, automation and secure resilient manufacturing," said Guy Walsh, executive director for University of Texas at San Antonio's National Security Collaboration Center, or NSCC, and a member of several SA-EMD working groups.

"The NSCC at UTSA builds success by creating a continuous collaborative ecosystem among government and industry partners like CPS Energy and leading urban research institutions," Walsh said. "UTSA and Southwest Texas Research Institute, in collaboration with other research institutions around the country, are achieving new heights by partnering with

federal, state and city government agencies to define, measure and achieve national security goals and help secure the energy grid."

As the SA-EMD working groups continue to build their model for success, participants also ensure their proposals are ones that can be replicated across the Department of Defense, have the goal of deterring enemies from using EMP as a weapon, and, as 5th-Generation cellular networks are developed, ensure risks and opportunities are integrated with commercial plans," Stamper said.

"SA-EMD will continue adding partners, while steering toward normalization of JBSA's Electromagnetic Defense by 2022, and ensuring sustainability of military operations by staying one step ahead of the nation's adversaries, Stamper added.

"We are ahead of everyone else on this effort," he said at the meeting, reminding attendees that an EMP does not have to be detrimental to operations. "It is not a crisis when you are prepared."

Lenderman agrees and appreciates the community's efforts to protect JBSA.

"There has been great collaboration between the military, industry, academia, and of course, this incredible community," Lenderman said of the SA-EMD, adding that the synergy in San Antonio is unlike any other.

"Last year, our community learned about electromagnetic pulse and its related consequences," Lenderman said. "Today, our team is leading the national effort to develop solutions to mitigate it."

# World War II nurse turns 100, recalls war experiences

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Before she marked her 100th birthday Nov. 20, Freda Haworth Coate recalled the time she was called upon to serve her country in World War II.

It was the spring of 1943 and Coate was working as a young nurse at the Soldiers Home, the Veterans Administration medical facility in Danville, Ill. One day the chief nurse of the facility, who was a nurse in World War I, came up to Coate and a group of nurses and asked them a question.

"The chief nurse came to me and she said, 'What are you young people doing here? You need to get into the war,'" said Coate, who resides in Leander.

Coate, age 23, joined the U.S. Army Nurse Corps on May 23, 1943, and would serve for over two years as a nurse in the South Pacific, advancing to the rank of first lieutenant.

Born Nov. 20, 1919, in Union Corner, a small community in eastern Illinois near the Indiana border, Coate became a registered nurse in 1941 after earning her nursing degree at the Lakeview Hospital School of Nursing in Danville, Ill. She stayed at Lakeview Hospital until 1942 before going to work at the Soldiers Home.

When she joined the service, Coate received her orders to go to Camp McCoy in Sparta, Wis., taking a train from Danville to get to the installation. While at Camp McCoy, she learned she would be shipped overseas but didn't know the location of her duty station because it was confidential.

From Camp McCoy, Coate and 11 other nurses boarded a train for Camp Stoneman, Calif., which the Army utilized as a staging area for troops headed to the Pacific Theater of Operations during World War II. The nurses rode in a Pullman car attached to a series of troop trains, taking them 12 days to get to Camp Stoneman.

When the nurses finally arrived at Camp Stoneman, they were processed and ready to embark on their overseas mission. In the middle of the night, the nurses were led to a river and put on a yacht, owned by movie star Robert Taylor, to take them to the ship that would transport them overseas.

At that time there were no lights turned on because of a blackout that was put into effect over concerns the Japanese would bomb the West Coast. Because of this blackout, the nurses had



COURTESY PHOTO

*Freda Haworth Coate, front row, right, holds the Army Nurse Corps Association coin given to her by Lt. Col. Karen Santiago, back row, left, and Lt. Col. Teresa Shiels, both with the 228 Combat Support Hospital in San Antonio.*

While she was on that ship, Coate, the nurses and the crew heard the news that the Japanese had surrendered and that the war was over. Coate said when word got out that the war had ended, weapons on the ship were fired in celebration. She said she was exhilarated and glad when she heard the news that the war had ended.

Coate was discharged from the Army in January 1946. When she returned to Danville, Ill., Coate went back to working at the VA hospital. She and Stephen, who served as a Navy signalman during the war, reconnected and started dating again after Stephen came back to Danville. The couple married on June 22, 1946.

Freda and Stephen Coate were married for 31 years when he passed away in 1977. They had two children.

Coate retired from the VA and nursing in 1982.

Coate said she liked being part of the nursing profession because of the people she cared for.

"The rewarding part was caring for patients and getting them better," Coate said.

For her service in World War II, Coate was awarded the Victory Medal and Meritorious Unit Badge.

Her daughter, Alice Hathaway, said serving in the Army Nurse Corps is a source of pride for her mother.

"She's proud of her service," Hathaway said.

Coate was active in the veterans' community in Danville by becoming the first female member of Jewel Whyte Veterans of Foreign War Post 728. She is also a life member of the Vermilion County War Museum, also located in Danville.

On Nov. 20, a birthday celebration for Coate was held at the assisted living center she lives at in Leander. Attending the celebration were family and friends and several guests, including Lt. Col. Karen Santiago, 228th Combat Support Hospital Alpha Company assistant chief nurse, and Lt. Col. Teresa Shiels, 228th Combat Support Hospital Bravo Company assistant chief nurse, both from San Antonio.

Shiels and Santiago presented Coate with a coin from the Army Nurse Corps Association, a nonprofit organizations that supports the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. Also, Coate received a letter from Brig. Gen. Jack Davis, U.S. Army Nurse Corps chief, who wished her a happy birthday.

to proceed to the ship by holding hands and walking in a single file to board and get to their cabins.

The nurses were at sea for 17 days before they disembarked at Brisbane, Australia, on July 13. Coate said when the nurses first spotted land for the first time in 17 days, they all rushed to see it. With so many nurses standing one side of the ship, this caused a problem in that that side of the ship had too much weight on it, causing the captain to tell the nurses to go back to their cabins.

Once the nurses disembarked in Brisbane, Coate was assigned temporary duty at the 100th General Hospital. She cared for sick American troops, including those with ear, nose and throat ailments, before they were sent into combat, and patients who were combat casualties.

During her service in Australia, Coate's accommodations was a tent with a stove in the middle of it that was shared by six nurses.

Coate worked in the hospital in Brisbane for six months before she was transferred to New Guinea in December 1943. There, she was assigned to the 117th General Hospital working in the malaria ward.

She served at the hospital in Brisbane for six months until she was transferred to the 117th General Hospital on New Guinea in December 1943. Coate was

assigned to the malaria ward at the hospital.

In New Guinea, Coate had to care for sick troops in a hospital that was built through a series of huts by combat engineers. Since there were no air conditioning, it would get pretty hot inside the hospital. She describes the conditions at the hospital as pretty austere and rough.

While working at the hospital in New Guinea, Coate helped care for troops who participated and were injured in the Battle of Iwo Jima, which occurred approximately 3,000 miles away from New Guinea between February-March 1945. A lot of the troops, who had symptoms of battle fatigue, arrived in the middle of the night. There were so many troops coming from Iwo Jima that the hospital had open a new ward for them.

In addition, one of the patients she met at the hospital in New Guinea was the high school classmate of Stephen Coate, who she had dated before the war.

In July 1945, the 117th General Hospital in New Guinea was closed as the number of troops coming to the hospital dwindled due to the fighting being farther away from New Guinea as American forces advanced towards Japan. Coate was transferred to Manila, Philippines, and was there for only one month before she boarded a ship that took her back to the U.S.

# NRD-SA Sailors visit local school for Pearl Harbor program

By Burrell Parmer

NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In remembrance of those who fought and lost their lives on Dec. 7, 1941, students and faculty from Dorie Miller Elementary School in San Antonio hosted their annual Pearl Harbor and Dorie Miller Remembrance Program.

In attendance were members of the community, including veterans, Rotarians and Sailors assigned to Navy Recruiting District San Antonio.

"The program was absolutely amazing," said Stephanie Jones, an education systems analyst with the school. "The American Heroes Club did an outstanding job during their presentations and the students demonstrated their respect throughout the program."

"It was awesome to have Sailors visit the school, especially in uniform. It was very powerful," said Jones, a

Navy veteran.

Near the conclusion of the program, attendees witnessed a balloon release to honor veterans, especially the school's namesake, Dorie Miller, who was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

After the program, the Sailors visited with kindergarten and first-grade students and read to them.

"It was a pleasure to represent the Navy during the program," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Angelica Brown, the community service coordinator assigned to NRD San Antonio. "I also think it's important that the students be educated regarding the attack on Pearl Harbor and the importance of their namesake, Dorie Miller."

NRD San Antonio's area of responsibility includes more than 34 Navy Recruiting Stations and Navy Officer Recruiting Stations throughout 144,000 square miles.



BURRELL PARMER

*Petty Officer 2nd Class Angelica Brown (left), community service coordinator assigned to Navy Recruiting District San Antonio, joined by NRD-SA's assistant command career counselor, Petty Officer 1st Class Kamitria Delaney, reads to a first-grade class at Dorie Miller Elementary School during the school's annual Pearl Harbor and Dorie Miller Remembrance Program.*



# Joint Base San Antonio FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

## Monthly Events

## January

### Aquatics

#### The pool is open year round

Come out to the JBASA-Lackland Skylark Pool for lap swimming Monday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Tuesday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to enjoy free lap swimming.

Monday-Friday from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday from 1-5 p.m. the JBASA-Lackland Skylark Pool's doors are open for open swim. The cost to swim is \$3 per person and \$2 per person for children younger than 10. For more information, call Skylark Pool at 210-671-3780.

The JBASA-Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center remains open for lap swimming all year. Swim all year with the heated water in the cooler months Monday-Friday 5-8:30 a.m. for lap swimming and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. for adult lap swimming. The pool is close for weekends and holidays. For more information call 210-221-4887.

### Bowling

#### Families enjoy bowling together

Come out to the JBASA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center Jan. 2 during normal operating hours and get one lane for two hours of unlimited bowling, a large one topping pizza and shoe rental for up to six people for just \$50. For more information, call 210-221-4740.

#### Party under the lights

Get the party started at the JBASA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center Jan. 4 from 5-10 p.m. at Glow Bowling with a live DJ playing chart-topping hit music. The cost is \$3.75 per person, per game. For more information, call 210-221-4740.

#### Bowling Centers honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Come out to the JBASA-Randolph Bowling Center Jan. 18-19 during normal business hours to celebrate the Martin Luther King, Jr holiday weekend. The special bowling rate is \$2.75 (excluding Strike Club) per game, per person with \$3 shoe rental. For more information, call 210-652-6271.

#### Patrons take advantage of a bowling special

The JBASA-Randolph Bowling Center offers a "Leagues Gone to Vegas" Special Jan. 21-23, 5-8 p.m. Take advantage of the "bowl one game and get one game free" special costing \$2.75 per game, per person, shoe rental not included. For more information, call 210-652-6271.

### Canyon Lake

#### Boats rentals are half priced

Patrons can rent any boat at the JBASA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake in January and February for half

price. The price includes all required safety equipment such as life vests but does not include fuel. The rentals are on a reservation only basis during the off-season. Now is your chance to take advantage of a less crowded lake and save money. Patrons must have taken the Boater's Safety Course through the State of Texas, at the JBASA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake or at any Outdoor Recreation offices on any of the three primary JBASA locations. Email jbsamarinasuper@gmail.com for reservations, or call 210-601-7768 for more information.

#### Patrons camp out for less

Start the New Year at the JBASA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake and rent one of the bunkhouses or bungalows for half price. The cost is \$12.50 for the bunkhouse or \$22.50 for the bungalows per night during the month of January. Enjoy the cool crisp air at the lake during the day and at night bask in the warmth of this cozy one room bunkhouse or bungalow. During the month of February, patrons can rent one of our lofts for just \$35. Check out our park during non-peak times and enjoy the tranquility of the beautiful lake and the soothing sounds of birds singing throughout the park. You can also fish on the lake all day or rent a boat and just tour the lake. For reservation, call 830-964-3576.

#### Cottages rented at discount rates

For January and February only, cottages cost \$70 per night and Premium Cottages cost \$95 per night at the JBASA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake. Take advantage of these great rates for any upcoming gatherings. Each cottage has plenty of room for all, with three bedrooms (sleeps eight) and a fully equipped kitchen for family meals. Enjoy the views from the lookouts, burn off some calories on the trails, have a movie night in the living room, the possibilities are endless. These units fill up fast, so call 830-964-3576 to make a reservation.

### Clubs

#### Brunch is offered at the club

The JBASA-Randolph Parr Club hosts Sunday Brunch Jan. 12, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$23 for members, \$25 for nonmembers, \$12 for members' children, 6-12 years, \$15 for nonmembers' children, 6-12 years, and free for children 5 years and younger. Brunch consists of breakfast items, lunch items, action stations, salad and seafood station and assorted desserts. For more information, call 210-658-7445.

#### Bingo fun is at the club

Join the JBASA-Randolph Kendrick Club for Bingo Extravaganza Jan. 13 and 28 with \$15,000 in total jackpots, a complimentary buffet at 5 p.m. and Early Bird bingo at 6 p.m.

Birthday Bingo is held Jan. 14, 7 p.m., at the JBASA-Randolph Kendrick Club. Birthday members receive one free machine and cake. This event is for Randolph Club members only and an ID card is required.

Bingo takes place every Sunday at 3 p.m. and Monday-Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom (Early Bird at 6 p.m.). Admission is free for members and nonmembers pay \$10. Members have the chance to win the full jackpot and nonmembers can win a half jackpot. Don't forget to play every Tuesday and Wednesday to qualify for the monthly member prize giveaways. For more information, call 210-652-3056.

#### January birthdays are celebrated with a buffet

Celebrate your January birthday with us at the JBASA-Randolph Parr Club for a complimentary lunch buffet on Jan. 15 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The buffet offers salad, two vegetables, two starches, two entrees and soup. There is no cost for the birthday member. The cost is \$12 for adult guests and \$6 for their children 6-12 years old. Club members that are not celebrating are invited as well and the cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for their children 6-12 and kids five and younger eat free. Coupons are not accepted. For more information, call 210-658-7445.

#### Guests fly into the Auger

Come to the JBASA-Parr Club Jan. 17 at 5 p.m. Join the party at the Auger Inn for "old school" camaraderie, free light refreshments and great music. Meet your neighbors, folks from other squadrons and leadership. No cover to join the fun. For more information, call 210-658-7445.

#### Customers are appreciated

The JBASA-Lackland Gateway Club hosts Customer Appreciation Night Jan. 28 from 5-7 p.m. Entertainment is provided by DJ LJU. The price is \$12.50 for members and \$15.50 for nonmembers. For more information, call 210-645-7034.

### Community Programs

#### Customers enjoy a performance

The JBASA-Fort Sam Houston award winning Harlequin Theater presents "The Unexpected Guest" Jan. 17 through Feb. 15. This Agatha Christie mystery weaves its way through a tangled web of lies that reveals family secrets and chilling motives as the ghosts of a past wrong begins to emerge.

Cost for military is \$20, Civilians \$22 and students \$18. These shows are sponsored by THE GUNN AUTOMOTIVE GROUP. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. Make your reservations today. Group rates available and shows are open to the public. To make reservations and for more information on the

# JBSA FSS

show, season tickets, Flex Passes and children's tickets, call 210-222-9694.

## Winter comes to south Texas

JBSA-Lackland invites everyone to come out for Snow Fest held Jan. 24 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Slip and slide through the icy slopes of the JBSA-Lackland Amphitheater. This free event includes three snow slides, crafts, games and music with refreshments available for purchase. This event is sponsored by THE GUNN AUTOMOTIVE GROUP. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. For more information, call Community Programs at 210-652-5763.

## Equestrian Center

### Patrons learn the art of horseback riding

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers riding lessons by appointment, no experience required. The Equestrian Center offers horseback riding lessons for beginners and advanced riders in both English and Western style riding. Therapeutic riding lessons are also available and taught by certified instructors. Horses, saddles, helmets and tack for lessons are provided. Patrons must be at least seven years old. The price is \$40 for group lessons, \$50 for semi-private lessons and \$60 for a private lesson. Lessons are available most days of the week and in the evenings. For more information and to schedule a lesson, call 210-224-7202.

### Trail rides offered

Come to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center and schedule a trail ride. No experience is required, and times are available every Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. Trail rides are available for patrons age 7 and older for \$30. Adults must accompany children under the age of 13. Riders must be at least 4 feet, 6 inches tall and weigh no more than 200 pounds. Weekday trail rides, group rides and team-building rides are available during the week by appointment for \$40. To make reservations, call 210-224-7207.

### Children go on pony rides

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers parent led pony rides Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pony rides are \$10 for children age six and younger. Adults must accompany their children and availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information or to coordinate weekday appointments, parties or special events, call 210-224-7207.

## Fitness

### A new program is offered for the new year

It is time for a new program at the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center. You have a whole year to complete this self-monitored program, from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 during normal operating hours. Pick up your "New Year, New Program" card from the staff and start running/walking the 70 miles, attending the 24 group aerobic classes and biking the 36 miles. Participants will receive a T-shirt once they complete the required activities and distances. This event is sponsored by Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit

Union. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. For more information, call 210-652-7263.

### Resolutions begin with a run

The JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center invites everyone to celebrate the first day of the brand new year at Heritage Park at 8 a.m. on Jan. 1 for a 5K run/walk. This is a super way to start the new year while also getting some fun physical activity outside in the fresh air. This event is sponsored by Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. For more information, call 210-652-7263.

### Patrons compete in a basketball competition

Bring a group of friends or co-workers to the JBSA-Lackland Chaparral Fitness Center Jan. 6 at 11:30 a.m. and show off your skills in this free single elimination Knockout Basketball contest. Sign up deadline is Jan. 3. For more information, call 210-671-2401.

### Strength training class teaches the basics

Come to the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center to learn proper lifting techniques, how to improve your workouts and the benefits of weight training for overall fitness and health, in this free class on Jan. 10 at 11:30 a.m. in exercise room 128. Everyone needs to know the proper way of lifting and getting stronger. This class is perfect for individuals who would like to start a strength training routine or just want to know more about strength training. This event is sponsored by Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. For more information, call 210-652-7263.

### Start the year off with a 5K fun run

Start to shed the holiday pounds with the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center Jan. 18, 8 a.m., at the Fit for Duty 5K Fun Run. Meet directly behind the fitness center, bldg. 320, on Reynolds Road. This event is free and open to all DOD ID cardholders, family and guest. Leashed pets are also welcome. For more information, call 210-221-1234.

### Volleyball Tournament held

Build a team and join the JBSA-Lackland Gillum Fitness Center for a sand volleyball tournament Jan. 24 from 3-5 p.m. Teams can have six or more people. This is a free double-elimination tournament that goes to 25 using rally scoring. Deadline to sign up is noon on Jan. 23. For more information, please call the Gillum Fitness Center at 210-977-2353.

### Patrons tackle a two hour spin class

Join the JBSA Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center Jan. 25, 9:30 a.m. for a two hour Spin-A-Thon. Participants focus on endurance and strength through intervals of high intensity and recovery on a stationary exercise bicycle. This is a free event and open to all DOD ID cardholders. Seating is limited to the first 25 participants. For more information, call 210-221-1234.

### Patrons get a jumpstart on fitness goals

Get a jumpstart on your fitness goals by participating in the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston METC Fitness Center daily fitness challenges during January and February. Stop by the METC Fitness Center to pick up a tracking card. Each day has a different challenge for participants to complete. The

three people that complete the most challenges wins a prize. This challenge is free and open to all DOD ID cardholders ages 16 and older. For more information, call 210-808-5709.

#### Taekwondo classes offered

Come to the JBSA-Lackland Chapparral Fitness Center Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. for taekwondo classes. Whether a beginner, intermediate, or advanced, this class has something to offer. Taekwondo is one of the most systematic and scientific Korean traditional martial arts, that teaches more than self-defense and fighting skills. It is a discipline that shows ways of enhancing our spirit and life through training our body and mind. This class is good for age 6 and older. The cost is \$25 for one month of classes or \$40 for a family up to three. For more information, call 210-671-2401.

#### Customers stay in shape with several classes

Head out to any of the JBSA-Lackland Fitness Centers and take advantage of the several instructional classes offered throughout the week.

Join the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Fitness Center Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:30 to noon for high intensity interval training classes. And on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Core training classes. Train your core and improve your strength during these free classes. For more information, call the Gateway staff at 210-671-1348.

Join the JBSA-Lackland Kelly Fitness Center for Warrior Yoga held on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11 a.m. Warrior Yoga is a free class geared towards improvements in students' breathing, vitality/energy, mood, strength, flexibility, balance, focus and pain management. It is all about developing health, wellness and resilience. If possible, arrive by 10:50 a.m. Mats are provided, but customer may bring their own yoga mat. For more information, call 210-925-4848.

The JBSA-Lackland Kelly Fitness Center offers Wellbeats; the premier on-demand fitness provider Monday-Friday from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Instructional classes include TKO Kickboxing, Cycling, Yoga/Pilates, Spinning and an extensive list of other fitness classes. For more information, call 210-925-4848.

The JBSA-Lackland Medina Fitness Center hosts the Alpha Warrior Competition every second Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Test your strength, endurance, speed and balance. Fastest overall time wins. To register, email April Evert at april.evert@us.af.mil, call 210-671-4477 or register in person at Medina Fitness Center. There is no deadline to enter. Come in anytime from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to give it a try. Staff will document your score. The following day the winner will be notified, given a prize and their picture placed on the wall. For more information, call 210-671-4477.

## Golf

#### Golfers compete in a scramble

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course Warrior Golf Scramble is held Jan. 3, 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. The fee includes green fee, golf cart, prize money, and social after the round. For more information, call 210-222-9386.

#### Golfers compete in an individual Tournament

Come to the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course Jan. 12 at 8:30 a.m. for this individual stroke play tournament. Individuals play a modified golf course within the 18-holes of golf. Flights are determined by the number of entries with payouts for gross and net scores. Entry fee is \$20 per person and the deadline to sign-up is Jan. 9. Fee does not include green fee and cart fee. For reservations, or more information, call 210-671-2006.

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston  
Golf Course

# Women want — to Play

Ladies, join us for  
our free Saturday  
Golf Clinics!




- Learn to swing, putt and drive with one of our golf pros!
- Great way to improve your game or find out if golf is for you
- Begins Jan. 11 • 10:15 a.m. - 11 a.m.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course  
Bldg. 2900 • (210) 222-9386

#### Martin Luther King Junior Day is celebrated with golf

The JBSA Fort Sam Houston Golf Course is conducting a SWEEPS competition on federal holidays during 2020. The first of these events is Jan. 18 for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. Any player having a tee time between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon on a federal holiday is eligible to participate. The entry fee is \$5 per two person team and you can partner with as many players as you want for an additional \$5. For more information, call 210-222-9386.

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course hosts a Martin Luther King Junior tournament Jan. 20, 7-9 a.m. tee times. This is a two person "Big Six" event. Six holes are best ball, six holes are a scramble, and six holes are modified alternate shot. The cost is \$20 per person plus cart and green fee. Net and Gross will be paid out. The team handicap is the lower of the two handicaps. To sign up or for more information, stop by the Pro Shop or call 210-652-4653.

#### Information, Tickets and Travel

##### Customers attend Monster Jam

Head over to the JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets, and Travel office to get your tickets for Monster Jam.

Monster Jam comes to San Antonio Jan. 18-19. Prices are \$29, \$39, \$49 and \$84. For more information, call 210-671-3059.

#### Patrons travel to Las Vegas

Head over to the JBSA-Lackland Information, Tickets, and Travel office to sign up for a 3 night 4 day trip to Las Vegas Jan. 20-23. Travel from: San Antonio to Las Vegas and includes round-trip airfare, airport transfers and hotel accommodations. Rates start at: \$400 per person in January and \$565 per person in February. Payment: Full payment and \$10 service fee are due at time of booking. For more information, call 210-671-7111.

#### Disney\* offers discounts to military

Patrons can purchase tickets from all of the JBSA Information, Tickets and Travel locations. Disney\* is once again providing the Military Salute Tickets to eligible service members Jan. 1-Dec. 18. The number of tickets that can be purchased is six per military member or retiree ID card. The military member or retiree must accompany their party at the gate to activate the tickets. These are special order tickets and taken up to 1-14 days for delivery. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston ITT at 210-808-1378, the JBSA-Lackland ITT at 210-671-3059 or the JBSA-Randolph ITT at 210-652-5142.

#### Casino trips are scheduled all year long

Come to the JBSA-Randolph Information, Tickets and Travel office to sign up for a trip to the Coshatta Casino in Kinder Louisiana. The package includes motor coach transportation from JBSA-Randolph, friendly service from the bus driver and our tour guides, hotel accommodations, continental breakfast and a \$23 casino voucher. The cost is \$130 single occupancy or \$65 per person for double occupancy per tour. The 2020 tour dates are Jan. 21-22, March 17-18, May 12-13 and Nov. 17-18. To sign up, visit us at the Community Services Mall, bldg. 895 or for more information call 210-652-5142 option 1.

The JBSA-Randolph Information, Tickets and Travel office invites you to take a turn-around tour to the Kickapoo Casino, the biggest casino in Texas. Trip includes round trip motor coach transportation, friendly service from the bus driver and tour guides and a \$15 casino voucher. Dates for 2020 are on Feb. 9, April 19, June 14, Aug. 9, Oct. 18 and Dec. 13. The cost per tour is \$35 per person. To sign up visit us at the Community Services Mall, bldg. 895, or for more information, call 210-652-5142 option 1.

## Military & Family Readiness

#### Participants get familiar with Thrift Savings Plan

Military & Family Readiness hosts a Thrift Savings Plan workshop to teach participants how the saving plan works and how to use it, Jan. 9, 2-3:30 p.m., at JBSA-Lackland Arnold Hall Community Center. To register, call 210-652-5321.

#### Workshop helps nominate volunteers for awards

Review award criteria for the JBSA Volunteer Awards Ceremony and learn how to submit a nomination package during the JBSA Volunteer Awards Nomination Writing

Workshop, Jan. 15, 9-10 a.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center; Jan. 16, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the JBSA-Lackland M&FRC; and Jan. 17, 9-10 a.m., at the JBSA-Randolph M&FRC. Nomination packages are accepted through Feb. 21. To register, call JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-221-2705, JBSA-Lackland at 210-671-3722, or JBSA-Randolph at 210-652-5321.

#### Workshop helps prepare for divorce

Those contemplating or currently going through a divorce are encouraged to attend the What to Expect When Expecting A Divorce workshop, Jan. 21, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, to review the legal, financial and emotional aspects of divorce. To register, call 210-221-2705.

#### Assistance with Tax Preparation

Participants review tax laws, discuss tax brackets, credits, exemptions, special tax situations for active-duty military and where to find free support, Jan. 21, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center. To register, call 210-652-5321.

#### Leaders improve teaching skills

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center hosts a professional development course, Instructor Training Course, Jan. 28-29, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., to improve platform skills, teaching methods, and more. Registration is required, call 210-221-2705.

#### Caring for an aging family members

The Bexar County Agency on Aging co-hosts Role Reversal: Caring for Those who Cared for You seminar, Jan. 28, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at the JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center, to discuss available resources that may help with caring for an aging parent, both long-distance and locally. To reserve a seat, call 210-671-3722.

#### Parents prepare for baby

Active-duty expecting parents receive information on financial planning from conception to college, support programs offered within the community and parenting skills during the Bundles for Babies workshop, Jan. 31, 8:30 a.m. to noon, at the JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center. To register, call 210-652-5321.

#### Survey helps plan spouse conference

In preparation of the next Military Spouse Conference, emBOLDen, slated for May 1-2, the Military & Family Readiness Center needs your input. Military spouses are encouraged to take a quick five question survey to help identify your interests, please visit [www.surveymonkey.com/r/ztx66zr](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ztx66zr).

#### Outdoor Recreation

##### Concealed handgun license class offered

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center, bldg. 6215, provides License to Carry classes Jan. 11 and 25, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Successful completion

of this class is required to apply for a Texas CHL. To register, go to: <http://www.chlregistration.com> and select "Register for Class" and then select "Dan Willis - Leatherneck Arms." Class details are available on-line at <http://www.jbsatoday.com>. For more information, call 210-295-7577.

##### Archery takes on another dimension

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center hosts a 3-D archery competition Jan. 25-26. Competition registration is 8-10 a.m. and Fun Shoot registration is 8-11 a.m. The Fun Shoot cost is \$5 for E1-E4, active duty or medically retired, \$15 per person for all others ages 13 and older and youth ages 12 and younger shoot for \$5. The competition fee is \$10 for E1-E4, active duty or medically retired. For more information, call 210-295-7577.

##### Boater's safety class offered

The JBSA-Randolph Community Services Mall encourages you to take advantage of all the great boating available at JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake. However, boater's safety certification is required for all rentals of boats at the park. Outdoor Recreation in the Community Services Mall (building. 895) offers the classes Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for only \$2 per person. Please allow at least two hours to complete this course. Call 652-5142, option 2 for more information.

##### Patrons rent out the park

Be sure to consider Eberle Park when planning your next family gathering or office party. You can rent each pavilion for \$35, the grill and serving house for \$20 each and all the facilities for only \$50. Head to Outdoor Recreation, in the Community Services Mall, bldg. 895 to reserve Eberle Park or call 210-652-5142 option 2 for more information.

##### Equipment rental for any occasion

Come to the JBSA-Randolph Community Services Mall and see what items are available to rent for that special occasion. Patrons can rent your tables, chairs, canopies, ice chests, and water jugs for those birthday parties, or family reunions picnics What about extra guests coming for that special get together? Equipment Checkout has the extra items you may need to make their stay comfortable. Customers can also rent roll-a-way beds with mattress, aluminum cots, and sleeping bags for great prices. Visit the Community Services Mall, bldg. 895, or call them at 210-652-5142, option 2 for more information

#### Youth and Children

##### Youth basketball season begins

Starting Jan. 11 at 9 a.m. the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston W. Ed Parker Youth Center basketball games begin. Games are played in bldg. 1630, 1705 and 2515. For more information, call the Youth Sports office at 210-221-5519.

##### Youth participate for free

Celebrate recreation and fun and participate at JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs for free Jan. 13-17. There is no membership needed to participate in clubs, activities, and open rec for ages 9-18 during these weeks. Does not

include instructional classes, league sports, and School Age Programs. Stop by for a monthly calendar of Youth Programs to see what's offered these weeks. If youth want to become members the cost is \$40 per year. Stop by Youth Programs, building 585, to check out everything offered. For more information, call 210-652-3298.

##### Basketball is played all night

All are invited to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston W. Ed Parker Youth Center Jan. 18 from 4p.m. to midnight to enjoy snacks, music, basketball and lots of fun. Ages 9-10 play from 4-6 p.m., ages 11-12 play from 6-9 p.m. and ages 13-18 play from 9 p.m. to midnight. For more information, call 210-221-3502.

##### Parents are offered a break

Youth Programs can give parents that much needed break through the GPAB or PNO Programs. Cost is \$25 per child with a sibling discount or free with a Give Parents a Break referral. The last day to register is the Wednesday prior to the event. See below for more details.

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston hosts Parents Night Out on Jan. 18, from 1-5 p.m. These events take place at the CDC Annex, bldg. 1720, for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old and at the School Age Program, bldg. 1703, for children (Pre-K) 5 to 12 years of age. To sign up, call CDC Annex 210-221-3835 Main CDC 210-221-5139 or 210-221-5151 for the School Age Program.

JBSA-Lackland hosts Give Parents a Break/Parents Night Out Jan. 24 from 6:30-10:30 p.m. For reservations for youth ages 5-12, call 210-671-2388 and for infants/children ages 6 weeks to 4 years, call 210-671-2366.

JBSA-Randolph hosts Give Parents a Break/Parents Night Out Jan. 18 from 1-5 p.m. To register children ages 3-12, call 210-652-3298 and for ages 6 weeks to 2 years, call 210-652-1140.

##### Teens take a trip to Main Event

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Patch/Chaffee Youth Center (YP2) is hosting a trip to Main Event Jan. 25 from noon to 4 p.m. for youth ages 10 and older. The cost of the trip is \$5. Youth must be an active open recreation member of either of the JBSA-Fort Sam Youth Programs to participate. Open recreation memberships are free but requires registration and a copy of youth's current immunizations. For more information, call 210-221-3630.

## STAY CONNECTED

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

<https://www.jbsatoday.com>



# Local Sailors from NMETLC honor Pearl Harbor survivor



PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS DAVID KOLMEL

Rear Adm. Tina Davidson, commander of Navy Medicine Education, Training and Logistics Command, speaks with William "Bill" St. John about his experience during the attack on Pearl Harbor during a visit to Poet's Walk Dec. 6 in San Antonio.

By Petty Officer 1st Class David Kolmel

NAVY MEDICINE EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LOGISTICS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In commemoration of the 78th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Sailors from the Navy Medicine Education, Training and Logistics Command at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, led by Rear Adm. Tina Davidson, attended a Dec. 6 ceremony honoring one of the survivors at Poet's Walk, a Spring Hills Memory Care Community.

The honoree, William "Bill" St. John, served as a radioman first class during the attack and worked as a radar operator at Kaneohe Naval Air Station, now known as Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

"It was an honor to get a chance to visit Mr. St. John and the other veterans at Poet's Walk," Davidson said. "Visiting St. John and the other vets gives us a chance to thank them for their service and talk to them about their service to better understand their stories."

Master Chief Petty Officer John "J.T." Renn, NMETLC's Operations Directorate senior enlisted leader and a

submariner who was stationed at Pearl Harbor, spoke with St. John about how the Navy and Hawaii honor the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

"It was an amazing experience talking to St. John," Renn said. "We talked about the buildings he worked in and I told him how those buildings are still standing and there are still bullet holes in the buildings from attack. To see his eyes light up from knowing that they are still honoring the experience he went through was a once in a lifetime experience."

St. John told the Sailors of how he left the radar station after a midnight shift that ended at 7:30 a.m., just 25 minutes before the attack on Pearl Harbor began. He also told them how thankful he was to make it out of there safely.

The attack on Pearl Harbor lasted 90 minutes and resulted in the loss of 2,403 lives with 1,143 wounded.

St. John is one of two Pearl Harbor survivors living in the San Antonio area.

## Eagle Eyes program urges people to say something if they see something

From 502nd Air Base Wing  
Public Affairs

Have you ever noticed something that just didn't look right, but weren't sure what to do?

In an effort to highlight the importance of reporting suspicious behavior, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and security forces officials across the Air Force are urging all base personnel to remember: "If You See Something, Say Something."

If you "see something" that you know shouldn't be there, or someone's behavior doesn't seem quite right or is troubling, then "say something." This type of reporting is part of an integrated base defense program called the AFOSI Eagle Eyes program.

The Eagle Eyes program is an Air Force anti-terrorism initiative that enlists the eyes and ears of all Air Force members in the war on terrorism. Eagle Eyes teaches all military members about typical activities terrorists engage in to plan their attacks.

Armed with this information, anyone

can recognize elements of potential terror-planning when they see them. The Eagle Eyes program provides a network of local 24-hour phone numbers to call whenever a suspicious activity is observed.

"Our number one priority is the safety and welfare of our service members, their families and our local communities," said Col. Jeff Carter, 502nd Security Forces Group commander. "Every Joint Base San Antonio service member, civilian, family member, and visitor — as well as every citizen in our local communities — can be that set of eyes and ears who first discovers something that could threaten the security of our installation, our neighborhoods and our nation. If you see something ... say something."

To report suspicious activity, contact your local installation security forces. To help you describe specifically what you have seen, use the acronym SALUTE:

- **Size:** How many people?
- **Activity:** What was the individual(s) doing?
- **Location:** Where did it occur?

► **Uniform:** What was the individual(s) wearing?

► **Time:** When did you see it?

► **Equipment:** Were they driving a car or carrying equipment?

To report suspicious behavior, base residents are asked to call 210-671-9465 at JBSA-Lackland, and 210-295-0594 at JBSA-Randolph and JBSA-Fort Sam Houston during duty hours. After hours, call the Base Defense Operations Centers at 210-221-2244, 210-671-2018, or 210-652-5700. If there is an emergency, dial 911.

According to the AFOSI Eagle Eyes program, categories of suspicious behavior include:

► **Surveillance:** People standing around observing activities or people looking through binoculars and taking notes, drawing maps or taking pictures.

► **Elicitation:** Attempts to gain information about military operations, capabilities, or people.

► **Tests of security:** A person grabs the base fence and shakes it to see how long it takes for police to respond. A driver approaches the front gate (without ID or a car sticker) and

pretends to be lost or to have taken a wrong turn just to learn the procedures of how he or she is dealt with and how far into the gate he or she can get before being turned around. A person places a "smoke bomb" near the fence or throws it over the fence to learn how quickly police respond, and what effect it has on front gate operations.

► **Acquiring supplies:** This includes noticing the movement or acquisition of any of the tools terrorists use, such as fake IDs, guns, ammunition, military uniforms, explosives, detonators or timers.

► **Suspicious people who don't belong:** This is hard to define, but people know what looks right and what doesn't. If a person just doesn't seem like he or she belongs, there's probably a reason.

► **Dry run:** People moving around from place to place without any apparent purpose.

► **Deploying assets:** People and supplies getting into position to commit the act.

For more information on the AFOSI Eagle Eyes program, visit <http://www.osi.af.mil/Home/Eagle-Eyes/>.

# LACKLAND

## Band of sisters reunite, rekindle 40-year bond

By Sarayuth Pinthong

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Basic military training, or BMT, trainees are provided different skills that can help them throughout their military careers. Some skills come from materials found in textbooks. A few develop the ability to connect within a BMT flight. It was because of this connection that Susan Whaley and her band of sisters were able to reunite after 40 years.

### 1979

About 40 women prepared to begin a life different from what they had known. They were alone as they boarded a bus that would take them to their new home, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, known as “The Gateway to the Air Force.”

“We were all ushered on a bus and brought to Lackland,” said Whaley, 3707th Squadron, Flight W039 dorm chief of 1979. “We were given something to eat, told to go to sleep and told we would wake up at 5 a.m.”

The women came from different places. Home may have been a small town in the middle of nowhere or a large city. Although home was different for all the women, the same thought may have crossed their minds: “What have I done?”

“It was terrifying when I arrived,” Whaley said. “What was I thinking?”

Whaley was a single mother and decided to leave her daughter with her parents to secure a job, income and benefits — a better life. Some expectations of women were to get married and have babies at that time. Not all the women had the same idea.

“I grew up on a ranch in North East Texas as a tomboy-cowgirl,” Crystal McKnight-Mitchell said. “I knew the world was out there and not where I was living. The Air Force allowed me to explore different possibilities for my life.”

Whaley was selected as dorm chief of her flight with no idea what that meant. She would soon find out all the title demanded. Responsibilities like directing her flight, learning commands, ensuring that all tasks were completed promptly, and accountability of her entire flight were just a few of the things she was required and expected to accomplish.

“I was not just in BMT,” Whaley said. “These women were under may care around the clock until we graduated.”

And just like that, the women of W039 became “my girls.”

### The ‘I’ in team

During that time, their male training instructor,



SARAYUTH PINTHONG

*The women of flight W039, 3707th Squadron, of 1979 shed tears of joy after receiving a coin, Oct. 18 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.*

Staff Sgt. Paul Panamarenko, couldn’t be in the dorm after 5 p.m. or on the weekends. The flight became very connected with one another with each lesson they experienced.

At first, it was chaos. Some lessons learned during their moments together involved disagreements. However, the flight was able to learn from their experiences and started working as a team. Despite their differences, the women of W039 became like a well-oiled machine.

“We all got along and truly wanted the best for each other,” Olivia Champ-Taylor said. “It was hard, very hard. Learning to work as one was difficult. But once we understood why, it became easier.”

Flight W039 began to function as one, relying on the other to get the job done.

“I learned to put my ego in my back pocket and think beyond the individual, namely myself,” McKnight-Mitchell said.

She was able to grasp the concept that some Airmen still have trouble understanding.

“I learned to think of the group, teamwork and the ‘we’ instead, of the ‘me.’ ”

### Best of the best

Things did get easier. But it had nothing to do with them being females in a male-dominated force. For them, basic training was just as strict and tough as it was for the males. It was life-changing. In 1979, flight W039 was the first female flight their male instructor had at that time. The year prior, single women who were mothers were allowed to join without being married. It was a time of change in the military.

“We had to prove we were as capable as the male flights,” McKnight-Mitchell said. “There was no preferential treatment, and we worked our butts off.

Our instructor took a group of individuals and made them a cohesive unit of Airmen, the best — Honor Flight!”

Honor Flight is not made up of one person. At the start of basic training, a flight consists of about 50 individuals going in 50 different directions. To be called Honor Flight, you must be the best of the best, individuals functioning as a unit.

Together, the women of W039 accomplished and proved much more than receiving the title of Honor Flight. They revealed to themselves that they were capable of much more.

“Basic training was an experience that I will never forget, nor regret,” Roxann McDade said. “I found out that I was a survivor, a winner and a responsible, strong, young woman. I discovered the me.”

### Back home

Now, 40 years later, the women of W039 meet for the first time since they graduated. Out of the 44 Airmen of 1979, only 13 were able to return to the home they shared for six weeks.

Since graduating from BMT, Whaley had the desire to stay in touch with her sisters.

“I tried,” Whaley said. “There were no personal computers or social media back in 1979. I started to lose touch with so many of them.”

Whaley sent Christmas cards at first. Unfortunately, her band of sisters traveled further apart into their military careers, and finding them appeared a loss. In 2015, she was finally able to locate some of her Airmen with the help of social media.

Whaley connected with people who ended up being the sons, daughters, friends or even the grandkids of some of the women from the flight. In 2019, she was able to begin the preparation for their 40th reunion, back to where it all began.

“Reconnecting after all these years is simply amazing,” Fannie McLean said. “Words cannot express how crazy it is. I assumed that we would never run into each other again after basic training.”

### Warrior ethos

Because she was a Wingman, leader and a warrior, Whaley’s drive to never leave an Airman behind allowed 13 Airmen of 1979 to stand shoulder to shoulder once again.

“I think they’ll always be my girls,” Whaley said. “They were given to me as my girls. And I’m very grateful for that.”

She will not falter.

“I’m still looking, and I’ll keep looking until I find them all,” she said.

And she will not fail.

# JBSA Proud Week Winter Cleanup takes place Jan. 6-10

By Senior Airman Dillon Parker  
502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Joint Base San Antonio Proud Week Winter Cleanup is scheduled from Jan. 6-10 to enhance the appearance and beautification of JBSA and its facilities, conduct environmental maintenance on the installation and promote a clean work environment.

The JBSA cleanups are scheduled from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. each day.

This is a JBSA-wide mission; the 502nd Air Base Wing and the 502nd Civil Engineer Squadron are requesting all military, Department of Defense civilians and family members residing on JBSA to participate in the event and assume areas of responsibility based on location.

Mission partners are encouraged to organize a team of volunteers to pick up and properly dispose of trash, debris and clutter in their respective areas.

Items to look for are trash, old pallets, junk furniture, tree branches, old cones and other unsightly items.

All military personnel participating

in the Proud Week Winter Cleanup Operation will wear either a reflective vest or the reflective belt used during physical training. Eye and ear protection as well as gloves must be worn by all military personnel operating mowing equipment.

Members can contact their local U-Fix-It facility for outdoor cleaning supplies, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, 210-221-3837, JBSA-Lackland, 210-671-2055, JBSA-Randolph, 210-652-2242.

Organizations are asked to help ensure adequate safety and cleanup supplies are available for JBSA Proud Week. Once trash bags are filled, individuals can deposit them in one of the designated dumpsters in their area. Dumpsters will be available for green waste and regular trash.

If you have questions or need assistance for the removal and transportation of bulky items call the civil engineer heavy repair line at 210-671-3015 or the civil engineer energy management control system desk 210-671-2288/2289.



COURTESY PHOTO

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph rake leaves at the Air Education and Training Command headquarters building during JBSA Proud Week Oct. 7, 2015, at JBSA-Randolph.



SENIOR AIRMAN DILLON PARKER

Library visitors interact with the Therapy Animals of San Antonio at the first Animals for Airmen event of the season, designed to promote mental health awareness, Nov. 23 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

## Therapy animals help Airmen cope

By Allison Miller  
502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Therapy Animals of San Antonio will visit the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Library for the Animals for Airmen event designed to promote mental health awareness 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Dec. 21.

Many Airmen are not able to travel home for the holidays making it a stressful time, and Animals for Airmen can provide a relaxing, quiet environment for them to visit with therapy animals.

"It is my hope that by bringing these animals in, we are providing an opportunity for connection during a time when the service member may feel forlorn or homesick," said Nikkie Sierra, supervisory librarian at the JBSA-Lackland Library. "Providing a sense of community is what the library is about."

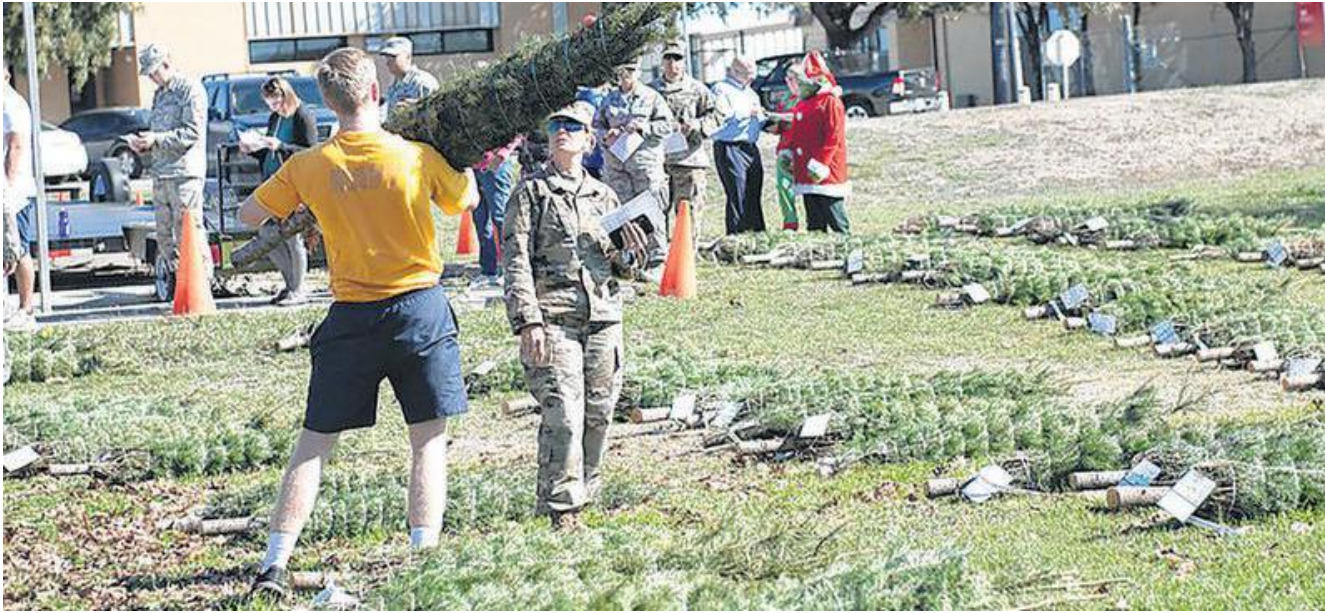
The stresses of the holidays and the shorter days are common causes of increased mental health issues, and therapy animals are proven to reduce some of the effects. Therapy Animals of San Antonio is an all-volunteer group organization whose mission is to bring people and animals together for healing, according to its website.

The idea for Animals for Airmen stems from another library event called Paws to Read, a children's literacy program that also partnered with Therapy Animals of San Antonio.

"Our intent was to provide this program (Paws to Read) for kids who were struggling with reading. To our surprise, we had another huge demographic benefit from the dogs being in the library — the Airmen," said Diana Lisenbee, supervisory librarian at the JBSA-Randolph Library. "As soon as the Therapy Dogs (Animals) of San Antonio came into the building, we had more than 20 Airmen literally come running to pet them."

Lisenbee worked with the Military and Family Readiness Services and the Military Life Counselors to prepare the events. They created a display about coping and provided mental health information on topics such as stress management and dealing with depression. More than 300 Airmen attended last year's events during the holiday season, some of them staying the entire length of the 3 hour program.

"In addition to doing the Animals for Airmen program, we have a game room, virtual reality headsets, escape rooms, art nights and more as a way of providing free activities to the Airmen and their families," Sierra said.



Service members select live Christmas trees during the Trees for Troops event, an annual Christmas tree giveaway program, Dec. 6 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

ANDREW PATTERSON

## Trees for Troops brings Christmas cheer to JBSA members

By Senior Airman Dillon Parker  
502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Outdoor Recreation distributed 400 live Christmas trees Dec. 6 at JBSA-Lackland to service members and their families as part of Trees for Troops, an annual Christmas tree giveaway program.

The free Christmas trees were given out first-come, first-serve, and tree

distribution began at noon, with spouses of deployed military members being served first. Active duty, guard and reserve military members had the opportunity to pick up trees next, while the final time slot was opened to all DOD ID card holders.

"When I got word they were having Trees for Troops, I made sure to come get in line to get a tree for my family," said Staff Sgt. Ruby Rivera, a 149th Security Forces Squadron Airman. "Me

and my four girls really look forward to decorating the tree today as a family."

The trees are donated by tree farmers nationwide, and the giveaway is made possible through two major corporate sponsors. Several individuals and tree farms from about 20 states have donated trees to the program, allowing them to give out a grand total of 225,319 free trees over the past 15 years.

"Christmas starts with a Christmas

tree," said Marvin Hill, a corporate coordinator for the tree delivery. "We're proud to be able to show our service members, their families and the veterans in the community how much we really appreciate the sacrifices they make."

Over the next few weeks, Trees for Troops hopes to deliver 18,000 free trees to more than 74 DOD installations across the country and abroad in all branches of the military.

## The Holidays - The Most Wonderful (& Wasteful) Time of the Year!

From 802nd Civil Engineer Squadron

The holiday season is the most wonderful time of the year, full of decorating, giving, feasting and good cheer, but it occurs at a high cost, not only to our bank accounts but also to our environment by depleting our natural resources and filling our landfills.

Between Thanksgiving and New

Year's Day, Americans increase their solid waste by an estimated 25 percent. According to the Environmental Protection Agency and TakeCareofTexas.org, the extra waste amounts to 25 million tons of garbage, or about one million extra tons per week.

Statistics from Stanford University

show that if every family reused just two feet of holiday ribbon, the 38,000 miles of ribbon saved could tie a bow around the entire planet. If every American family wrapped just three presents in reused materials, it could save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields. The 2.65 billion Christmas cards sold each year in the U.S. could fill a football field 10 stories high. If we each sent one card less, we'd save 50,000 cubic yards of paper.

As we enjoy this holiday season, we need to always be mindful of our impact on the environment. While celebrating and gift-giving, we must remember to look for ways to reduce waste, recycle and save energy.



COURTESY GRAPHIC /

# Alamo Wing takes part in Texas National Guard response evaluation exercise

National Guard unit trains to respond to domestic disasters, work with other civilian, federal agencies

By Tech. Sgt. Agustin Salazar  
149TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of the 149th Fighter Wing were part of the Texas National Guard's 6th CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package Task Force which took part in a response evaluation exercise Dec. 4-8 in Round Rock, Texas.

The Texas National Guard's 6th CERFP (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-Yield Explosives Enhanced Response Force Package) Task Force includes the 149th Medical Group's Det. 1 and the Fatality Search and Recovery Team from the 149th Fighter Wing, an Air National Guard unit headquartered at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

This task force comprises both Air and Army National Guardsmen who may be called upon to assist first responders within FEMA region 6, which includes Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Lt. Col. Joseph McDaniel, chief medical officer assigned to the detachment, supervised the team's efforts during the exercise.

"The purpose of this evaluation is to certify that we meet standards for hurricane response and all that entails as it pertains to disaster preparedness" McDaniel said. "This particular



TECH. SGT. AGUSTIN SALAZAR

*Capt. Gabriela Torres, Capt. Denise Rodriguez and Capt. Araceli Vazquez, trauma nurses assigned to the 149th Medical Group's Det. 1, simulate providing medical treatment to a role player during the Texas National Guard's 6th CERFP Task Force, which includes the 149th Fatality Search and Recovery Team, participated in a response evaluation exercise Dec. 7 in Round Rock.*

exercise simulates a disaster caused by an explosion where patients are exposed to chemical, nuclear and biological warfare."

Task force Leaders conduct these responses at least three times a year, which is foundational to their training since members may be asked to support during these types of large-scale emergencies. The "C" in "CERFP" stands for CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear), which is an integral part of their "ERFP" (enhanced response force package).

Capt. Jesse Hernandez, a 149th MDG medical plans and operations officer,

oversaw the joint task force's planning and integrated operations.

"This exercise highlights the 149th's ability to perform and manage multiple missions," Hernandez said. "It validates to the governor that the 149th Fighter Wing is a very important wing to the state of Texas."

The team had the opportunity during Harvey to showcase the importance of their response efforts.

"During Hurricane Harvey, we were pulled out as an a la carte response team," Hernandez said. "We were used as a primary emergency room for a week and a half until they were able to get their power and water running."

Leaders note that another benefit of this task force is the multi-layer perspectives it includes. The various members who comprise this packages are as diversified as the various job roles they hold within the task force. Some, for example, may hold military jobs that are vastly different from their assigned responsibilities within CERF-P. This military diversity does not always include their additional civilian experience many members have as an added perspective.

"These teams — it's their passion," said Master Sgt. Kristin Bovinet, an observer, coach and trainer for the National Guard Bureau's Joint Surgeon General's office, as she evaluated the task force during the exercise. "For some of them, it is not their primary duty, she added. "There are many who hold other career fields yet they are still managing to come out here and complete their duties."

Responding to domestic operations and natural disasters while integrating with other federal and civilian agencies is a major part of what a state's National Guard does for the nation's defense, a point not lost on Hernandez.

"Every single component in the CERF-P brings a certain flavor that other components might not be able to provide," he said. "The joint capability brings a more robust capability to the civilian agencies so that we can integrate and have a unified response to any event."

"All the teams come together, and they make it work because they know deep down that lives depend on it," Bovinet added.

# RANDOLPH

## 560th FTS hosts 'Pilot for a Day' at JBSA-Randolph

By Airman 1st Class  
Shelby Pruitt

502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Four-year-old Jack Faught, got a taste of the 'Chargin' Cheetah' pilot life Dec. 12 when he participated in Joint Base San Antonio's "Pilot for a Day" program with the 560th Flying Training Squadron.

Created in 1994, Pilot for a Day, supports children with lifelong disabilities, providing them a once-in-a-lifetime experience in the life of a U.S. Air Force pilot.

During the day, participants are accompanied through various units on base packed with personalized pilot experiences.

"We consider Jack's experience as Pilot for a Day to be a wonderful privilege," said Austin Fraught, Jack's father. "We appreciated the many customized details that were prepared for Jack, such as the special breakfast, flight suit with name patch, his name being put on a plane and the pilot-signed lithograph. Everyone made Jack feel extra special, from staff expecting our arrival in various buildings to a pilot saying hello to him when we were in the tower."

Jack was diagnosed at one-month-old with cystic fibrosis, or CF, a genetic disease that causes persistent lung infections and limits the ability to breathe over time. CF also impacts other organs,

including reproductive organs, pancreas, and digestive organs.

Although his parents say Jack is the epitome of a good patient with his reoccurring appointments and medications, 2019 hasn't been too kind to him.

"He has been hospitalized four times, and underwent one surgery," Austin recalls. "Having him healthy now and getting to experience the Pilot for a Day program was a bright spot in what has otherwise been a rough year."

Jack and Austin, along with Jack's mother, Kyra, and his little brother, Brooks, happen to live directly within JBSA-Randolph's flight landing path.

Because of the moderate traffic of T-38 Talon aircraft passing over their home, Jack had developed an excitement to see the pilots travel to and from base.

"I liked it!" exclaimed Jack.

His favorite part about the trip was not only being issued his very own flight suit and getting to reveal his name printed on a T-38, but also "flying the fake airplane" in the 560th Flying Training Squadron T-38 training simulator.

Kyra added, "It was such an amazing day. We can't adequately put into words how grateful we are for the opportunity! There were so many details that made this day extremely special."

The family expressed with gratitude that this experience is one they will fondly remember for the rest of their lives.



KYRA FAUGHT



TECH. SGT. AVE YOUNG

From left: Maj Matt Baan, 560th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot; Jack Faught, Pilot for a Day; and Maj. Sean Shay, 99th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, stand next to a T-1A Jayhawk during a tour Dec. 12 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Jack Faught participated in Joint Base San Antonio's Pilot for a Day program Dec. 12 at JBSA-Randolph.

# Orientation session kicks off new year for Exceptional Family Member Program

By Robert Goetz

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

An orientation session for Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph newcomers whose family members have special needs will launch a year filled with workshops and special activities for them through the location's Exceptional Family Member Program.

During the session, set for noon-1:30 p.m. Jan. 13 at the Military & Family Readiness Center, 555 F St. West, attendees will learn about the roles of the program's three arms — family support, assignments and medical — and how those components can help their families.

The orientation follows the mandatory newcomers' briefing for all newly assigned military and civilian personnel, said Mike Bell, JBSA-Randolph EFMP coordinator.

"I brief them on the family support side of the EFMP," he said. "It lets our members see who we are and where we're at. My role is to provide them with the resources and referrals they need."

The assignments component, which

considers the medical and educational needs of the family during the assignment process, is also covered during the session.

Yulonda Gilbert, EFMP special needs coordinator, addresses the program's medical component.

"I talk about criteria for enrollment in the EFMP and how Q-codes impact the member, then transition into how to disenroll and have the Q-code removed," she said, referring to the Air Force assignment limitation code that indicates an active-duty member has at least one dependent eligible for the program. "I then discuss the options each member has when their travel is not recommended and I wrap up with a question-and-answer period."

Gilbert also discusses what happens when an active-duty member whose family is part of the EFMP receives a permanent change of station to a new duty location.

"The goal of the EFMP medical arm is to do our best to determine if the family's medical and/or educational needs can be met at the gaining base," she said. "The information provided about the gaining location's services is

simply to help the service member make the best decision they can with regard to their family and career."

In addition to the EFMP orientation sessions scheduled throughout the year, the program will present parent support group workshops that address topics requested by the families themselves for the second year in a row, Bell said.

Two popular workshops from last year will return in 2020 — Medicaid on Jan. 23 and financial planning on March 29 — while the remaining workshops are still under consideration, he said.

With the support of Military OneSource, the workshops will again be webcast for EFMP members who are not able to attend the sessions at the M&FRC, Bell said.

"The webcasts were a huge success last year," he said. "They let people who can't get out of their house be a part of it. Military members can also watch the presentations from their desk."

The EFMP team also hopes to offer special family outings in 2020, such as a movie, bowling, picnic and visit to SeaWorld.

Senior Master Sgt. Jeremy Field, Air

Force Personnel Center Inspector General Office superintendent, said he and his family — which includes his two sons who qualify for the EFMP — have benefited from the special events and last year's workshops.

"The special events allowed my family to enjoy all those activities in a sensory-friendly and nonjudgmental environment," he said. "In the financial planning workshops, my wife and I were able to set up a special needs will and trust."

Field's advice for young families just joining the program is to start with the EFMP coordinator at the M&FRC.

"From there they will be given the guidance and support needed to ensure their family's special needs are fully met," he said. "At the time when my 18-month and 5-year-old boys were diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, it was very difficult for my wife and I to see any hope for a better future. However, after learning about and participating in the awesome EFMP support events and services over the last few years, my wife and I now have hope for a better future for both of my boys and family as a whole."