

JBSA

LEGACY

WWW.JBSA.MIL

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

FEBRUARY 28, 2020



PHOTO BY ANDREW C. PATTERSON

Tactical Air Control Party Airmen complete a Field Training Exercise at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis. Jul. 11, 2019.

Air Force changes path of entry for enlisted special warfare operators

Page 16



CENTERS FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND PREVENTION

First quarantine group at JBSA-Lackland released

Page 14



433rd AW displays C-5M Super Galaxy at air show

Page 14

Volunteer advocates empower victims to become survivors

By Lori A. Bultman

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sexual assault is a traumatic experience that no one should ever have to fall victim to, but when it does occur, it is important that victims have the support and services they need to transition from victim to survivor.

One of the readily available support options for victims of sexual assault at Joint Base San Antonio are Volunteer Victim Advocates. These dedicated, trained volunteers are available to meet with victims 24/7 and can provide support until full-time Sexual Assault Prevention and Response personnel become available.

Master Sgt. Devon Simmons, a member of the 531st Intelligence Squadron, currently assigned to the JB SA SAPR office, decided to become a volunteer victim advocate years ago after an incident at a previous duty station.

"I received a call one night from a very close friend who said she had just been assaulted by an associate," Simmons said. "My biggest concern at the time was, 'Are you safe? Are you away from him?' It literally happened minutes before she called me and I was the first person she called when this tragic event took place. That was when I decided that the SAPR program was something I wanted to get involved in.

"I hate to say that the experience was a shining moment for me, but it made me feel like I had a purpose," Simmons said. "Not that the uniform didn't mean I had a purpose, but this was different. For me to have an impact on an immediate basis, it meant a lot that she felt comfortable enough to come to me for help at that exact moment."

"This is a program I really, really believe in. When someone is reaching out, they are taking that initial step, they are trying to take control back."

Master Sgt. Devon Simmons, 531st Intelligence Squadron member assigned to the JB SA SAPR office

Eventually, Simmons was transferred to San Antonio where he immediately signed up for classes to become a volunteer victim advocate. Then, in November 2019, he was allowed by his unit to work for the SAPR program full time.

"This is a program I really, really believe in," Simmons said. "When someone is reaching out, they are taking that initial step, they are trying to take control back. They have made the conscious decision, whether it is contacting the program, going to the doctor, or talking to a friend with no actual plans of using SAPR services, they have made the conscious decision that they are going to go from being a victim to being a survivor."

In many cases, a victim of sexual assault may be hesitant to seek assistance, which can delay recovery according to a local military sexual assault survivor, now an Air Force veteran.

"I was a new Airman, so there was this sense of total isolation, being removed from family and friends," the young veteran said. "Having a victim advocate can make or break how an individual is able to process and overcome."

The advocate who assisted this young Airman encouraged her to seek assistance, which was greatly needed.

"To have that glimpse of compassion from the victim advocate was really the first time I wasn't taking the blame on myself," she said. "I had

almost resigned to a state of, this is how life is now. Even late in the game, this was someone to was able to help me reframe what was going on, someone to encourage me to go see mental health, someone to encourage me to seek medical treatment. She made a huge difference in my life. My only regret is that I didn't find someone like that sooner."

Having someone there to listen and support a victim through recovery can bridge the gap when trying to transition to survivor.

"I don't say it lightly when I say a victim advocate can be the difference between life and death for some people. Not everyone, but for some," she said. "It is a big responsibility, helping people who are so vulnerable and cannot advocate for themselves.

"Being strong looks different sometimes. Being strong is sometimes seeking help and advocating for yourself, and finding someone who will help you advocate. Sometimes you don't have the strength to be everything you need to be on your own, and if you find yourself in that position, the strong thing to do is to find someone that can help you carry that burden.

"Volunteer victim advocates have the ability, training and heart to help lift that load, and it's a heavy load," the veteran said. "I am so thankful for the people who step in and bridge that gap. I needed a lot more

help than just the victim advocate, but she was the catalyst that set me in the direction to find the help I needed. You don't have to be the answer, but standing up like a road sign pointing someone in the right direction sure is helpful."

Simmons agrees that helping victims find their voice and the strength to regain control is imperative to recovery.

"There is no greater strength than taking that control back," Simmons said. "I make sure I let every victim I meet with know that it took an immense amount of courage to say, 'I am not going to just be a victim. I am going to turn this around, and I am going to be a survivor.'"

Those interested in becoming a Volunteer Victim Advocate can contact their supervisor and their local SAPR offices at JB SA-Fort Sam Houston, 210-808-8990; JB SA-Lackland, 210-671-7272; JB SA-Randolph, 210-652-4386.

Applicants accepted and trained will be committed to the program for one year, and should take the commitment seriously. The next training session will be held March 23-27.

"I received a call the second day I was on duty," Simmons said. "When the phone rings, that person needs you and you need to be available. You don't have to be the best; you are going to be nervous. Don't be afraid to make a mistake. Just be there, have compassion for that person and realize what it took for them to take control again and call."

Victims of sexual assault who need immediate support may call the local 24-hour SAPR crisis hotline at 210-808-7272, or go to the DOD Safe Helpline website for anonymous, confidential support at <https://safehelpline.org/>.

JB SA LEGACY

Joint Base San Antonio
Editorial Staff

502nd Air Base Wing
and JB SA Commander
BRIG. GEN.
LAURA L. LENDERMAN

502nd ABW/JB SA
Public Affairs Director
MAJ. KIM BENDER

502nd ABW/JB SA
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

JB SA 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 JB SA 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 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the 502nd 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

By Brig. Gen. Laura L. Lenderman
502D AIR BASE WING AND JOINT BASE SAN
ANTONIO COMMANDER

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

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

Personnel Issues

Q. We are an EFMP family that has received respite care for the past 5 years. As of 1 October 2019, the Air Force Services Center took over the program, and since that transition, our family has encountered multiple issues with communication, getting new providers and accessing this benefit. Previously, we averaged over 30 hours of care a month, but in the last two months we've barely gotten 10 hours. We also used to have one contact person who responded promptly to establishing care requests for new providers and all other questions. Now, communication is sporadic and the Force Support Squadron is seemingly unable to answer our questions and they refer us to Air Force Services Center. There were 2 webinars in September, but there was little advance notice and they were not recorded.

We are also concerned that there are no written policies for parents or providers to refer to, and no forms have been provided with instructions on what to do in the event of an emergency, information about our child's diagnoses, permission to transport in the event of an emergency, etc. Base-level personnel continually refer us to Services Center but those at Services Center do not respond. Considering this involves EFMP minor children with varying medical and developmental needs, it would be in the best interest to have written policies clearly available to parents, providers and base-level personnel to ensure our children are protected. JBSA is an EFMP-expedited base, meaning there is likely a higher concentration of families needing respite services. We count on respite services for

our quality of life, family readiness and our own mental health. The quality of the program is not where it was just a few months ago and we are one of the families that have been affected by the transition.

A. I appreciate you bringing these concerns to my attention and I will ensure they are shared with the leadership of the AF Service Center responsible for administering the AF Respite Care Program. Assistance within the 502 ABW is available from the 502 FSS (Family Child Care Coordinators) and 802 FSS (EFMP Coordinators) for families who are Q-coded and enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program, as long as they have completed

the respite care enrollment paperwork and submitted it to the AF Service Center (AFSVC) for action. I've also asked the 502 FSS to coordinate with AFSVC for better guidance and improved communication with parents and providers who rely on and provide this much needed support to our military families. Please see below for specific POCs for our FCC Coordinators. Thank you for your feedback!

FCC Coordinators contacts are:

- JBSA Lackland/Medina - linda.salazar@us.af.mil or 210-671-3376
- JBSA FSH/Randolph - jeanie.m.smith.civ@mail.mil or 210-221-3820

► The contact for AFSVC is

AFFCCSystem.Admin-02@us.af.mil

Installation & Facilities

Q. On a previous Feedback Friday, there was an item about the traffic lights at the Harry Wurzbach East gate at JBSA Fort Sam Houston. I have some concerns about the traffic light regarding the residential area nearby. There are times when residents are leaving the property and have a green light, yet individuals run their corresponding red light and/or block the exit. There are over 400 residents at the Towers, 150 employees and a 60-bed medical facility next door. Even at the two exits that are not

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS continues on 4



COURTESY GRAPHIC

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

From page 3

controlled by the lights, it is hard to get out because of individuals speeding going and coming from Fort Sam Houston. Can something be done about this safety hazard?

A. Thank you for letting me know about this situation. Although the Fort Sam Houston Security Forces do not have jurisdiction over that intersection, as it is outside of the JBSA property line, we will coordinate with the San Antonio Police Department to report this issue. If you continue to see unsafe situations, please call SAPD at 210-207-7273 to report any other traffic violations. From there, our Security Forces team can continue to work with the SAPD to help resolve this hazardous situation. Thank you for reaching out!

Q. Can you please shed light on why the 502 SFS leadership suddenly removed the drinking water (dispensers and jugs) from the ECPs at Ft Sam Houston? Our military and civilian Security Forces members rely on that water throughout the shifts. Employees showed up for work last week and had no water to drink during their 9 hour shift. As it stands right now, the only feedback we've been given by operations is that they "aren't allowed to pay for water." Per OSHA, employers are supposed to provide potable drinking water to all employees. I understand OSHA states that an employer does not have to provide bottled water if potable drinking water is available; however, a quick search online indicates the levels of lead in the Ft Sam Houston water were elevated (2018), and using the water fountain seems risky.

Can you please elaborate on why the water was suddenly removed, and why the change in working conditions was put in place without coordination with the union and without informing the employees?

A. Thank you very much for your question. The 502 SFS recently learned they did not meet the necessary requirements to legally purchase water and had to remove the water until the required documentation was obtained. They've diligently worked to obtain this authorization to deliver water to the gates without an approved drinking fountain. In accordance with Air Force Instruction 65-601 V1, Budgeting and Funding Guidance for Various Appropriations, Section 4.58, bottled water cannot be purchased for facilities with potable drinking water unless the

following is determined: 1. The public water supply is unsafe for drinking; 2. A temporary facility has no drinking water within a reasonable distance; and 3. There is no water fit for drinking purposes. Per the Environmental Health Section of the Department of Preventive Medicine, the water sample analysis from all gates was in regulatory compliance, but the location of the water source posed a public health concern. Therefore, they recently authorized the 502 SFS purchase of bottled water with their appropriated funds for gates without an approved drinking fountain, and the water jugs have now resumed delivery to the gates. Overall, the 502 SFS is tracking the situation and are actively working towards a more permanent solution.

Q. Has there ever been a thought to have a gate designated just for the visitors attending the BMT festivities on Thursdays and Fridays?

A. Thank you for your question on optimizing the traffic flow for our BMT friends and families. We've researched this possibility in the past and found it actually hinders overall traffic flow for two reasons: 1. There are pockets of time where there is little to no BMT traffic; and 2. It's not enforceable, as statistics have shown that anyone who sees a gate opening will go for it. What we've recommended instead is staggering duty-reporting times, enabling permanent party personnel to plan around increased traffic on Thursdays and Fridays. Another option would be to take different gates rather than the ones closest to place of duty. For example, while entering the Selfridge gates may be less efficient, it's traditionally less saturated and may overall save on commute time, even if one works closest to the Luke gates.

Q. Why do service members need to have a club card for a military on-base club system in San Antonio, Texas that doesn't do anything substantial during joint service Soldiers' off-duty days, Fridays, Saturdays or on holidays? The Lackland AFB old club management a few years ago would be there greeting people and helping the staff serve drinks and have awesome themed events weekly and throughout the year. The club was packed weekly to 1:00am from 2002 to 2015. What happened?

A. Thank you for your feedback on our JBSA Club Program. Membership is not required to use our JBSA Clubs; however, I encourage all those eligible to join for all of the benefits that membership provides, to include: \$10 birthday certificate for lunch buffet,

2-month calendar mail-out with coupons, Customer Appreciation Night, \$1 lunch discount program, Sunday breakfast buffet, \$2 discount on special events, special event drawings for members, 10% discount on catered events, reciprocal privileges with other Air Force Clubs, free admission to special events throughout the year, a chance to win \$10,000 Bingo jackpot at the Kendrick Club, and waiver of room fees for personal events.

Although non-members are not entitled to these benefits, they are welcome to use our clubs to eat, socialize and hold events. The Gateway Club does host a variety night every Friday in the Lone Star Lounge, with a DJ playing a variety of music and will continue to implement new programs into the calendar. Please check out JBSA Today website and magazine, 502 FSS Facebook, marquee and subscribe to FSS weekly emails to stay informed of all the happenings at the Gateway, Parr, and Kendrick Clubs as well as the Fort Sam Houston Community Center. I'm proud of all the programs and services offered by our clubs and hope to see you there soon!

Miscellaneous

Q. I periodically meet contractors at the Visitors Centers to sign them in for site visits, meetings, etc. Lackland is the Gateway to the Air Force, yet the sign-in process is very antiquated. We send contractors' personal information ahead of time for passes and they still wait up to 2 hours for their passes. The hospital has a great automated sign-in processes and status updates as opposed to the Visitors Center paper sign-in sheets. Additionally, the waiting area is small so on Thursdays and Fridays; there are sometimes over 30 people standing outside waiting to be called, but there is no speaker system. Those people go back and forth waiting to see if their name was called inside and hoping they weren't missed. It is a shame that we promote innovation when the process to sign in to the "Gateway to the Air Force" is far from modern. Is there a plan to upgrade from this paper process?

A. Thank you for your feedback! I have good news...we're in the design phase for a modernized visitor center at the Luke East 24-hour gate, planned for construction in 2023. The use of technology such as internal and external speakers, automated sign-in kiosks, and status update screens are being considered. I greatly appreciate your continued patience with the current set-up and, in the meantime, our

Defenders will look to see where they can execute small upgrades and increase efficiencies.

Q. Why doesn't Lackland AFB have Snowfest 2021 near the holidays since we do not get snow here in SATX, or a day or 2 after the Tree Lighting event on base?

A. Thank you for your question. Snowfest is intended to be a "winter" celebration, and not geared towards a specific holiday. It's a great opportunity for all JBSA families to enjoy some cold weather activities that Texans normally miss out on. We avoid hosting this event during the holidays due to increased holiday parties within organizations throughout JBSA, and to ensure everyone gets some well-deserved family time! We believe the largest population of people are able to attend the event and enjoy the "winter fun" when we aren't competing with all of the other holiday parties, events and family time. Thank you again for your feedback!

Q. I work in a squadron with a relatively high percentage of civilians over 50 years of age. As such, I initiated an effort to procure some Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to place throughout our building. I started this effort two months ago and it took six weeks to get all the necessary info and proper documents prepared I submitted all the paperwork the 59th MDW a few weeks ago. I checked this morning, and our squadron is still awaiting final approval from the 59 MDW. Assuming we get approval, we will still need to purchase, take delivery, have the 59th MDW log and calibrate the AEDs, and coordinate for and complete on-line and hands-on training. This may take several more weeks (or months). Is there a better way to streamline the procurement and training process?

A. Thank you for being patient and taking the correct steps in attempting to obtain the AED for your facility. AED procurement is a multi-step process that requires some time to come to fruition. The standard process starts with Commanders establishing a PAD (Public Access Defibrillator) Unit Site Coordinator, who are authorized to process the risk assessment needed for an AED. The Risk Assessment has a step by step process that, once completed, can be approved by the 59 MDW for procurement and purchase. If you have questions on the current status of your AED request and inquiries regarding training, please contact our PAD Program Coordinators in the 502 ABW XP/5 office at usaf.jbsa.502-abw.mbx.502-abw-xp-workflow@mail.mil.

FORT SAM HOUSTON

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Firefighting women aim to protect, inspire others

By Lori A. Bultman
502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Firefighting can be a tough profession. Long days, hard work, strenuous conditions and dangerous situations; it might be an impossible challenge for some, but several women at Joint Base San Antonio have risen through the ranks to become some of the best fire emergency responders in the area.

Firefighter Cheyenne Opiana

When Cheyenne Opiana went to career day at her middle school in O'ahu, Hawaii, little did she know it would set her on a path to achieving more than she ever imagined.

"When I was in the seventh grade, I saw my first female firefighter. She was all in blue; she was so professional looking. It was the only girl I had ever seen in a fire uniform," Opiana said. "I thought to myself, 'I didn't know we could do that.' It really made me think about what I wanted to be when I grew up."

Opiana, who felt the need to be connected to the community at an early age, thought firefighting was the opportunity she needed to do just that.

"What really drew me to be a firefighter was seeing the firefighters that day; it was like a family. I yearned for that, the family atmosphere," Opiana said. "That is what the fire department is to me, another family."

Her path to becoming a firefighter was not an easy one. The young teen was put into the foster system during her sophomore year of high school

and was bounced between shelters in O'ahu.

One day at a shelter, Opiana said she heard that one of the case workers was looking for kids who knew they could be more than what we were. So, she buckled down and worked hard to get the attention of that case worker.

"I got straight A's; I played six different sports," she said.

The case worker eventually took the teen into her home and motivated her to attain her goals.

"She is the one that encouraged me to enter the military," Opiana said. "My sister, who was in a Reserve Officer Training Program, also encouraged me."

During her junior year of high school, while still debating on whether to join the military or become a firefighter, Opiana suddenly found the push she needed to make the decision.

"I was in my English class when the towers came down on 9/11. I saw the firefighters go into the towers, and that was the second calling to me to do more research on how to become a firefighter and be in the military at the same time."

After meeting with an Air Force recruiter, the young high school graduate was disheartened when he said there were no firefighting jobs available, but, to her surprise, he called her the next morning to let her know there was a firefighting job available.

"I remember crying when the recruiter called and told me there was a firefighter opening," she said. "Getting that job was a huge accomplishment for me."

Opiana completed her enlistment in the Air Force, and



Opiana

spent two years in the Army before joining the JBSA Fire Emergency Services team. She has completed her Associate's Degree in Environmental Emergency Services and is working on her bachelor's degree. Opiana was recognized as the JBSA Firefighter of the Year in 2019.

After serving her country as a firefighter for 13 years, Opiana's advice to anyone who might want to pursue a career in firefighting is to see themselves as any other firefighter.

"Your ability to succeed is really dependent on your character and your attitude, and how you see yourself. I see myself as any other firefighter, and I love to share my love for this field," she said. "I like to say, I live, eat and breathe fire."

Lead Firefighter Rayna Dempsey

Rayna Dempsey, lead firefighter at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Station 4, decided on a career in firefighting early in life. She has been a firefighter since enlisting in the Air Force in 1992, and continued serving



Dempsey

her country as a civilian firefighter at JBSA after her initial enlistment.

"When I was a kid, I lived in New Jersey, and there was a fire station right down the street from my grandparent's house. When they got a call, and they got a lot, my parents had a picture window in the front of the house, and I would watch and wave at them as they came flying down the street.

"As I got older, and we had moved to a small Ohio town, again, with a fire station nearby, I decided to go visit," Dempsey said. After seeing how the firefighters had such a big impact on people's lives, Dempsey decided this was the career for her.

"When someone calls the fire department, or 911, they are probably having the worst day of their life. Then, we show up and it is satisfying to be able to make a positive difference," she said.

Dempsey said her family supports her career choice, even though they might not understand it completely.

"My mom is in a state of

denial about what I do," Dempsey said with a smile. "She would prefer to believe I sit behind a desk, but I love this job."

A testament to Dempsey's skill and dedication to helping others was her recent recognition in the Air Force FES (Fire Emergency Services) Quarterly, published by the Pentagon.

On Nov. 12, 2019, Dempsey, her station chief and a fellow firefighter responded to a call regarding an unresponsive wounded warrior in his dormitory. The team was able to regain a pulse and breathing in the patient and, after a paramedic administered medication, their continued life-saving efforts stabilized the patient.

"We will do whatever we need to do," Dempsey said humbly. "We don't quit until the job is done. Sometimes, just holding a patient's hand reassures them that someone is there for them, and they are going to be alright."

Her advice to young ladies who think firefighting, or any other nontraditional career, might be right for them, is to go for it.

"You do you," she said. "Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do this, because you can do this. If there is someone telling me I can't do something, that is straight up motivation for me to prove them wrong."

As Dempsey rounds out her career, she looks forward to seeing future women firefighters follow in her footsteps.

"I feel fortunate that I have been able to pave the way," she said proudly.

AMC, IMCOM want all installations ‘Number One Choice’

By Joshua Ford

U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When U.S. Army Installation Management Command became a subordinate command to U.S. Army Materiel Command in March 2019, AMC nearly doubled its size, bringing in more than 75 installations and growing its workforce to more than 190,000 Soldiers and civilians.

This expanded the four-star command's mission focus to include delivering critical base support and quality of life services that enable readiness on Army installations around the globe.

Nearly one year after this merger, Gen. Gus Perna, commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, visited San Antonio for his third quarterly update with IMCOM leadership at the command's headquarters at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Feb. 18.

All the topics discussed pointed at making all Army installations a place every Soldier and family would want to live and work.

"It's our job to determine what it's going to take to make every installation a Soldier's and family's number one choice," Perna said. "If we operationalize this as our mindset, it will be the key that keeps our Soldiers in our Army. We need to lead this change."

Since the last quarterly update in November, IMCOM has continued to improve quality of life for Soldiers and families in four priority areas: housing, child care, PCS moves and spouse employment.



JOSHUA FORD

Gen. Gus Perna, left, commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, presents a coin to Kentaye Clay, U.S. Army Installation Management Command IT specialist, Feb. 18 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston in recognition of Clay's work across the enterprise during Operation Quantum Wizard.

IMCOM and AMC are also leading the integration and development of an Army-wide facilities investment strategy that focuses on quality of life through 2030, applies funding to installations in support of modernization, and aligns responsibility, authority and resources to execute Army priorities.

The strategy will fix all barracks (permanent party,

training and transient training), child development and youth centers on all installations and improve power projection at seven locations.

"We're setting new standards in execution with these initiatives. It's about innovation and expanding the realm of possibilities," Perna said.

Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram, who took command of IMCOM in January, told Perna and the other assembled leaders that IMCOM is doing these things to rebuild trust.

"IMCOM is working these problems hard now in order to move us out of the tactical quicksand and into deep operations where we can really make positive strategic impacts that will sustain the trust we are rebuilding now," Gabram said.

In full agreement, Perna added that "garrison commanders need to focus on the things that will gain trust with our customers."

Gabram emphasized to the group the "power of the patch." This refers to the AMC patch, symbolizing the 190,000 teammates across the globe all working together to solve Army problems.

IMCOM and other commands within AMC are driving to the same end state, where every installation has the infrastructure, services, quality of life, training areas and power projection capabilities to make it a Soldier and their Family's number one choice to live.

"This is new muscle memory, and if we get it right, we can do anything," Perna said, regarding the work IMCOM is doing to improve quality of life for Soldiers and families. "Press!"

BAMC marks 100th hip preservation surgery for adult hip dysplasia

By Lori Newman

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brooke Army Medical Center orthopedic surgery recently celebrated a milestone, completing the 100th hip preservation surgery for adult hip dysplasia.

The procedure, called periacetabular osteotomy, or PAO, involves cutting the pelvis around the hip joint and shifting it into a better position to support the stresses of walking. After the hip is repositioned, it is held in place with screws until the bone heals. After the bone heals, the screws can be removed, but this is not usually necessary.

"PAO is only performed at

select medical centers throughout the United States because of the complexity of the procedure and the advanced training required," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Matthew Schmitz, chief of the young adult hip preservation service at BAMC. "Young adult hip preservation is a relatively new service in orthopedic surgery, focusing on surgical techniques to correct anatomic problems of the hip joint in active patients to delay or potentially eliminate the need for hip replacement."

Schmitz started the Department of Defense's sole Young Adult Hip Preservation Service at BAMC in 2012. As the only high-volume PAO center within the Department

of Defense and South Texas, BAMC has become a referral center for beneficiaries with dysplasia requiring surgical treatment with 50 of the PAOs being performed in the last two years.

"Adult hip dysplasia is being more commonly recognized as one of the primary reasons for a young person's hip to fail and cause significant pain, disability, and early arthritis," Schmitz said. "If caught early in childhood, dysplasia can be treated with non-surgical means, but once a person has entered their teenage years, the only surgical treatment is PAO."

Schmitz says he is committed to hip preservation and studying the outcomes of



COURTESY PHOTO

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Matthew Schmitz (holding cake), chief of the young adult hip preservation service at Brooke Army Medical Center, and U.S. Air Force Col. Patrick Osborn (in uniform), deputy commander for surgical services, gather for a photo with members of the orthopedic surgical team Feb. 3. The team celebrated their 100th periacetabular osteotomy, a hip preservation surgery for adult hip dysplasia.

these procedures. His work has been highlighted with his acceptance into the Academic Network of Conservational Hip Outcomes Research and with a recent publication in

the Journal of American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons titled "Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip in Adolescents and Young Adults."

BAMC Fisher House hosts its first ever gender reveal party

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Aashis Luitel and his wife, Bivasha Saroj, celebrate during a gender reveal party Jan. 31 at the Fisher House at Brooke Army Medical Center.



COURTESY PHOTO

By Daniel J. Calderón

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brooke Army Medical Center's Fisher House at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston hosted its first gender reveal party Jan. 31 for a Sailor and his wife.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Aashis Luitel and his wife, Bivasha Saroj, have been staying at the Fisher House since late 2018. The Fisher House serves as a home away from home for the families of ill or injured patients receiving treatment at BAMC.

The couple is getting ready to have their first baby later this year. Fisher House manager Inge Godfrey said the residents talked to her about having a party for the young couple.

"Here at the Fisher House, we're a family," she said. The residents all got together and decided they wanted to have a gender reveal party here for them and so I wanted them to have the support of the Fisher House."

Godfrey and residents bought a cake, decorations and some snacks for everyone at the Fisher House and prepared for the "big day."

"I say 'why not' have a gender reveal party here," said Kamni Delbarba, another resident at the Fisher House whose son is a patient at BAMC. "This is a home away from home for us all. I can't even describe in words all the good the Fisher House has done for us."

Godfrey said the celebration is in line with the overall mission of the Fisher House.

"We take care of our residents. We make sure they know they are safe and loved here," she said.

The new parents both said they would be happy with whatever came of the impending revelation. When Luitel and his wife popped the balloon, blue confetti sprayed over the attendees to indicate their first child is going to be a boy.

"This is great," he said. "I want to thank the Fisher House staff and residents for all they've done for us."

COMMODORE, NAVY RECRUITING REGION WEST VISITS NRD SAN ANTONIO

Capt. Anthony Bayungan, the commodore of Navy Recruiting Region West, Navy Recruiting Command in San Diego, conducts training with officer recruiters assigned to Navy Recruiting District San Antonio at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. Bayungan visited several recruiting stations in the area, which included the Navy's Virtual Reality Experience, the "Nimitz," currently displayed at the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo.



BURRELL FARMER

LACKLAND

AFIMSC holds worldwide finance conference

By Ed Shannon

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND
MISSION SUPPORT CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

More than 300 military and civilian financial managers from Air Force installations around the world gathered during Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center's third annual Air Force Financial Operations Conference Feb. 11-13.

AFIMSC's Financial Operations Division is responsible for the execution and oversight of 77 comptroller units at installations across the Air Force.

"The best part of the conference to me is the cross talk among the people who make policy at Air Force level, higher headquarters and financial managers at the installations," said Master Sgt. Sedelia Cordero, the financial operations flight chief at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. "Normally, we hear things secondhand or through an email that we have to decipher. You can't top hearing the actual conversations happen and to get clarification on the emails straight from the mouths of the people who sent them."

After last year's event focused on hands-on training, conference planners adjusted this year to promote more two-way dialogue.

Conference attendees received updates of new tools designed to streamline processes and enrich support to finance customers. The Air Force expects to complete development this year of the Air Force Integrated Personnel and Pay System, or AFIPPS, which is a modernized human resources system that will integrate personnel and pay



ED SHANNON

Approximately 300 military and civilian financial managers from Air Force installations around the world participated in Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center's third annual Air Force Financial Operations conference Feb. 11-13 in San Antonio.

processes for Airmen across the total force.

AFIMSC launched the Due-Out Tool in December and unveiled the RM Portal last month. The Due-Out Tool simplifies management of AFIMSC Resources Directorate tasks to installation comptroller squadrons. The RM Portal is a one-stop shop that contains up-to-date guidance, links to training and instant communication features for financial operations offices Air Force-wide.

"We've had a lot of policy changes in the past year, and we

don't know all of the impacts on the field," said Linda Alcalá, AFIMSC financial operations chief, "so it was important for us to establish at this conference strong two-way communication opportunities and foster the development of great ideas that can turn into solutions."

Cordero expressed excitement with her career field's focus on technology and expects the benefits to be greater than what are initially imagined.

"Streamlining processes is one thing FM (financial manager) Airmen have wanted

for many years," she said. "It's exciting to see our career field take advantage of those technological advances so we can provide the world class customer service our Airmen deserve."

Robinson supports advancements in technology and encouraged Air Force finance leaders to continue to take a calculated approach when employing it.

"While technology and innovation are good, a lot of times they can be implemented at the expense of efficiency," he said. "We don't want to leverage

"The best part of the conference to me is the cross talk among the people who make policy at Air Force level, higher headquarters and financial managers at the installations."

Master Sgt. Sedelia Cordero, financial operations flight chief at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware

technology to the degree that the experience and concept knowledge are lost because we're relying so much on the technology."

The conference featured panels with leadership from AFIMSC, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, and the Air Force Accounting and Finance Office. Several financial career field chief master sergeants also shared leadership and career field insights throughout the week.

"There may seem to be a lot of distance between senior leadership and the people who are the boots on the ground," said Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Robinson, noncommissioned officer in charge of the 633rd Comptroller Squadron Financial Operations Flight at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. "The worldwide conference gave our senior leadership the opportunity to close that distance."



Joint Base San Antonio FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

Monthly Events

March

Aquatics

The pool is open year round

Patrons are invited to the JBSA-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.

Open swim is also offered Monday-Friday from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday from 1-5 p.m. 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.

Lifeguard classes held

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center holds an American Red Cross Lifeguarding class open to all people age 15 or older March 7, 8, 14 and 15 and March 28, 29 and April 4-5, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Successful completion of this three-day course gives the participant a Certification in American Red Cross Lifeguarding, CPR for the Professional Rescuer, First Aid and Automated External Defibrillator valid for two years at any facility worldwide that accepts Red Cross Lifeguarding. Prerequisites are required. The class is limited to 10 people. For more information or to register, email charles.d.waugh.naf@mail.mil or call 210-221-4887.

Patrons take a water safety class

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center holds a Water Safety Instruction class March 9-13, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Participants learn how to teach swimming lessons using the Red Cross Learn to Swim Program, Parent and Child Aquatic, Preschool Aquatics and Adult and Fitness Swimming and covers techniques of each stroke and teaching strategies for effective swim lesson classes. The cost of the class is \$160 and is not limited to DoD ID card holders. Prospective employees age 16 or older are authorized to attend this class. Lifeguard certification is not required for class attendance, but it is required for employment. The pre-test is to swim 25 yards of front crawl, back crawl, breaststroke, sidestroke and 15 yards of butterfly at the Red Cross Level 4 or better. For more information or to register, email charles.d.waugh.naf@mail.mil or call 210-221-4887.

Arts and Crafts

Framing offers a spring sale

The JBSA-Randolph Frame Shop, located in the Community Services Mall, building 895, offers 25 percent off select frames March 1-31. An experienced framer helps design the perfect artwork for the home or office. Estimates can not be provided over the phone. For more information, call 210-652-5142, option 3.

Bowling

Patrons party under the lights

Get the party started at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center at Party Under the Lights March 7 and 21, 5-10 p.m. with high tempo pop music, bowling and a glowing light show. The cost is \$3.75 per person, per game. For more information, call 210-221-4740.

Spring Break Bowling Specials

Make plans to visit the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center March 9-12 from 1-4 p.m. to play at the reduced bowling rate of \$2.75 per person, per game and \$3 shoe rental. As an added bonus, everyone in the party receives a BOGO (Bowl One Game/Get One Game Free) coupon for a future Saturday Strike Club visit. For more information, call 210-652-6271.

Keep the kids entertained no matter what the weather with the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center's Cosmic Spring Break Bowling, held March 9-13, 2-5 p.m. Cost of games are \$2.85 each plus shoe rental. For more information, call 210-221-4740.

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the JBSA-Lackland Skylark Bowling Center March 17 from 6-10 p.m. and find your pot o' gold. The cost is \$10 per person and covers unlimited bowling and shoe rental, there will be prizes awarded throughout the night for those with the luck o' the Irish. Wear green outer garments for additional chances to win. The bar lounge will be open all night. For more information, call 210-671-1234.

Unit parties held at the bowling center

The JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center has every Friday afternoon starting at 2 p.m. available for your functions and bowling outings. Contact the Bowling Center for reservations and pricing at 210-652-6271.

9-Pin no tap monthly tournament held

The JBSA-Lackland Skylark Bowling center invites you to come out every third Saturday of every month for a 9-pin no tap tournament. Knock down nine pins and be credited with a strike. Join us for this fun, monthly tournament. Entry fee for Skylark bowlers is \$25 and \$30 for all others. Register before the day of the tournament and save \$5. Cash prizes for men and women are paid immediately following the event. Bowl five of eight monthly events (September-April) and qualify for the May Super Tourney. Check-in begins at 3 p.m. For more information, call 210-671-1234.

Bowlers party every Saturday

Come party with the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center, every Saturday from 6-10 p.m. with the Strike Club.

Featuring cosmic lights combined with LED center punch deck lighting, LED lane capping and three 118" projection screens playing "Mom Approved" music videos. Select your preferred exciting option for bowling. Option 1, Traditional Bowling: Bowl for \$15 per hour, per lane for up to 6 players or \$3.75 per game, per person (does not include rental shoes) Option 2, BES X Games Bowling: Bowl for \$20 per hour, per lane for up to 6 players (does not include rental shoes) Option 3, HyperBowling: Bowl for \$25 per hour, per lane for up to 6 players (does not include rental shoes). For more information, call 210-652-6271.

Canyon Lake

Fishing Tournament held

Enjoy the first day of spring, March 21 at the JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Youth 16 and younger can participate in a bank-fishing tournament at Hancock Cove. Bring a pole and join the fun. Various prizes will be given. In addition, parents will have an opportunity to participate in a Parent Tournament but adults must have a fishing license. The cost for this tournament is \$5 per person. For more information, call 830-964-3576.

Patrons save money with an annual pass

Purchase an annual pass for JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake for only \$75. Passes gets you into both the Sunny Side and the Hancock Cove side of the park. Otherwise, the daily entry fee for the park is \$10 per visit, per vehicle. Annual passes include a vehicle and boat/trailer pass and are valid for one year from date of issue. For more information, call 830-964-3576.

Clubs

Bingo fun is at the club

Bingo at the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club takes place Monday through Thursday, 7 p.m. and Sundays, 3 p.m., in the ballroom. Admission is free to members and \$10 for nonmembers. Play Tuesdays and Wednesdays to qualify for the monthly club member prize giveaways.

Join the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club for Bingo Extravaganza March 2 and 16 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 March 10, 7 p.m., at the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club. Birthday members receive one free machine and cake. This event is for Randolph Club members only and a DoD ID card is required. For more information, call 210-652-3056.

JBSA FSS

March birthdays are celebrated with a buffet

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

Brunch is offered at the club

The JBSA-Randolph Parr Club hosts Sunday Brunch March 15, 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.

Guests fly into the Auger

Join the party at the JBSA-Randolph Parr Club Auger Inn for "old school" camaraderie, free light refreshments and great music March 20, 5 p.m. Meet neighbors, folks from other squadrons and leadership. There is no cover to join the fun. For more information, call 210-658-7445.

Community Programs

The Harlequin Theatre puts on a show

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston award winning Harlequin Theater presents "Rock and Roll Heaven" March 6 to April 11, 8 p.m. Celebrate music by icons gone before their time, but whose legacies live on through their music. This music revue includes songs by Elvis, Janis Joplin, Whitney Houston, John Lennon, Freddie Mercury, Michael Jackson, Buddy Holly, Amy Winehouse and other unforgettable legends.

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

Seasonal wreaths are created

Spring is in the air, welcome in the new season with a new wreath to don your front door. Join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Sam Houston Community Center March 9 at 6 p.m. where our instructor will teach you how to create a masterpiece to brighten your home for St. Patrick's Day, Easter or the spring season. The cost is \$40 and includes all materials needed. Adult beverages will be available for purchase. Please RSVP by March 4 at 210-808-6263.

Adults learn to dance

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Sam Houston Community Center hosts adult dance lessons Mar 12 and 26, 6-8 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person or \$15

per couple. A variety of dance styles will be taught in a 2 hour class format. A bar will be open to purchase drinks and reservations are required no later than three days in advance. For more information or to make reservations, call 210-808-6262 or 210-808-6263.

UNITE PROGRAM
Why **UNITE?**

- To increase camaraderie
- To promote interaction
- To foster fun or relaxation
- To reinforce team values
- Provide team-building

Your EVENT OUR Money

JBSAUNITE

jbsatoday.com/events/unite

Ladies enjoy the night out

Girls just want to have fun and we are here to make it happen at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Sam Houston Community Center. Stop by March 21, 6-10 p.m. for a night of spa treats. From mini facials to massages, beauty demonstrations, samples of natural soap and lotions, nails, purse organizers and more. Bring you girl friends and enjoy this evening of shopping, relaxation, adult beverages, giveaways and more. Please RSVP by March 4 at 210-808-6263.

Equestrian Center

Children go on pony rides

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers parent-led pony rides on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for patrons ages 6 and younger, for \$10. Adults must accompany their children and availability is on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call 210-224-7207.

Fitness

Runners and walkers celebrate Saint Patrick's Day

Set your sights for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow at the St. Patrick's Day 5K. Dress up in your finest Irish attire and head over to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Medical Education Training Center Fitness Center

March 4, 9 a.m., for the St. Patrick's 5K Run and Walk. Prizes are awarded for top male and female finishers and the best St. Patrick's Day costume. Open to all DoD ID card holders 16 years and older. Meet at the Aquatic Center by 8:30 a.m. For more information, call 210-808-5709.

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center and a great Spring 5K run/walk held March 14 at 7:30 a.m. at Heritage Park. For more information, call 210-652-7263.

Bikers are issued a challenge

The JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center encourages bikers of all ages a to get in the saddle at Heritage Park March 7 at 7:30 a.m. and enjoy a 15-mile bike ride in the beautiful Texas spring weather. For more information, call 210-652-7263.

Bench press competition held

Head out to the JBSA-Lackland Gilham Fitness Center March 13 from 8-11 a.m. for an opportunity to out-lift the competition. Each participant has three attempts. All rules will be given when you arrive for the vent. No sign up is needed in this is a free event. For more information, please call 210-977-2352.

**JBSA LACKLAND
SKYLARK COMMUNITY CENTER**

**FLEA
MARKET**

MARCH 7 FROM 8 A.M. TO NOON
**SKYLARK BOWLING CENTER
PARKING LOT**

Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated

Get a jump start on the St. Patty's Day celebrations with the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Come out to the St. Patty's Zumba® Fest March 14, 9:30 a.m. Enjoy two hours of heart pumping dance steps and fun. Don't forget to come dressed to the nines in all your Irish garb. This event is free and

open to active duty military, DoD, retirees and their families. For more information, call 210-221-1234.

March madness takes over the fitness center

Compete in the Men's NCAA March Madness Bracket Contest at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Medical Education Training Center Fitness Center March 15 to April 6. All brackets must be submitted by March 13. One bracket per person for DoD ID card holders 16 and older. Prizes are awarded to the first, second and third place brackets. The breakers will be determined by guessing the final score of the National Championship Game. For more information, call 210-808-5709.

Taekwondo classes offered

Head out to the JBSA-Lackland Chapparral Fitness Center Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. for a Taekwondo class. Whether a beginner, intermediate, or advanced, come give this class a try. 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 enhances 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.

Patrons train for the battle rig circuit

The JBSA-Lackland Medina Fitness Center hosts the Alpha Warrior Battle Rig Circuit. Alpha Warrior is a state-of-the-art obstacle course specifically designed to test every aspect of ability, the strength of every muscle group, mental fortitude and your body's ability to keep going. Registration is required and the classes are by appointment only. Email aprill.evert@us.af.mil or call 210-671-4477 to book your free battle rig circuit training on our Alpha Warrior Rig.

Golf

Patrons compete in a scramble

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course Warrior Golf Scramble is held March 6, 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.

St. Patrick's Day celebrated with a tournament

If you're feeling the luck of the Irish, join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course for the St. Patrick's Tournament March 15, 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers and includes cart, fee, prize fund and social after play. For more information, call 210-222-9386.

Golfers compete to win a tournament

Come out and enjoy the second JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course Monthly Men's Golf Tournament and JBSA Ryder Cup Qualifier March 21, 8 a.m. Entry fee is \$25 plus applicable fees. The tournament is open to everyone that has a Golf Handicap and Information Network® (GHIN) Handicap. Lunch is provided after the round and prizes are awarded for the top finishers.

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Ryder Cup Team competes in a Ryder Cup format in October 2020

against JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph Ryder Cup teams. For questions or to enter, call 210-222-9386.

Couples take part in a scramble

Join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course March 22, at 12:30 p.m., to enjoy golf with a friend, spouse or significant other. The cost is \$30 for members and \$50 for nonmembers and includes fee, cart prize fund and social after play. Sign-up in the Pro Shop or call 210-222-9386.



Golfers compete in a scramble

JBSA-Randolph Golf Course invites everyone to participate in the Spring Randolph Dual held March 28-29, a two-person event with day one being a scramble and day two being a shamble. Both days are pre-flighted based on Golf Handicap and Information Network® (GHIN) handicaps. Lunch is served after the first round Saturday, and a drawing is conducted Saturday during play where golfers have a chance to win golf merchandise. Participants who place in this tournament receive a gift card that can be used in the pro shop for golf merchandise. If the pro shop does not have a desired item, it can be ordered. Cost is \$90 for members and \$125 for nonmembers. This price includes green fees, cart fees, lunch on Saturday, a prize drawing, a goody bag and gift cards for teams that place. For more information, call 210-652-4653.

Golf swing lessons offered

Enjoy the game more and cut a few strokes off the final score. Call the JBSA-Randolph Golf Course and make an appointment with our PGA Teaching Pro Charles Bishop and Teaching Pro Brian Cannon. The clubs may get bigger, the balls may fly longer, but with the help of our pros

your game will also get better. For more information or to make an appointment, call 210-652-4653.

Information, Tickets and Travel

Kinder Casino trips available

Travel to the Coshatta Casino Resort in Kinder, La., with JBSA-Randolph Information, Tickets and Travel. 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 remaining 2020 tour dates are 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.

Patrons attend Disney® on Ice

The Disney® on Ice Road Trip Adventure comes to San Antonio April 30 - May 3 at the Alamodome. Tickets are on sale now at the JBSA-Randolph Community Services Mall Prices range from \$22 - \$59. Prices and availability are subject to change. For information, please give us a call at 210-652-5142, option 1.

European guided vacation offered

The JBSA-Lackland Leisure Travel office offers a 9 night, 10 day trip to Europe June 7-15. Travel to London, Paris, Lucerne, Florence and Rome. Rates start at \$4,500 per person, and includes airfare. Payment requires a \$200 non-refundable land only deposit per person and a \$10 service fee per booking due. If airfare is purchased via Trafalgar, a \$300 non-refundable air deposit is required at time of booking. Final payment is due April 7. For more information on any trip, call 210-671-7111 or email: info@jbsatravel.com.

Military & Family Readiness

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 March 6, 8:15 a.m. to noon at the JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center or March 27, 8:30 a.m. to noon at the JBSA-Randolph M&FRC. To register, call JBSA-Lackland 210-671-3722 or JBSA-Randolph 210-652-5321.

Participants discover home buying strategies

Explore home buying strategies, March 12 from 2-4 p.m. at JBSA-Lackland Arnold Hall Community Center. To register, call 210-671-3722.

Guided tour of Fort Sam Houston

Reserve a seat for Trails and Tales, a guided tour of JBSA-Fort Sam Houston March 13, 8-11 a.m. to learn about the installation's rich history. Due to limited seating, registration is required. Call 210-221-2705.

Workshop helps military spouses find a career

The JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center hosts a Military Spouse Professional Development workshop March 17, 9 a.m. to noon, to help spouses find

a career that best fits their interests and traits. To register, call 210-671-3722.

Participants improve interviewing skills

Participants review topics like appropriate attire, networking, salary negotiation, and the importance of social media during the Interviewing Skills class, March 20, 9-10:30 a.m. at the JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center. Call 210-652-5321 to register.

PCS preparation seminar offered

Patrons E1-E4 PCS'ing for the first time and all ranks PCS'ing OCONUS for the first time attend the mandatory Plan My Move-Smooth Move Relocation training slated for March 24, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club. To register, call 210-671-3722.

Assistance with Tax Preparation

Review the tax laws, income brackets, filing basics, and more during a Tax Preparation class, March 24, 1-3 p.m. at the JBSA-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center. Information on free tax resources and special tax situations for active-duty military will also be provided. To register, call 210-651-5321.

Savvy planning helps prepare for retirement

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center hosts a Social Security and You, March 26, 9-11:30 a.m. to review implemented changes to Social Security and how it may affect your retirement. To register, call 210-221-2705.

Class guides Exceptional Family Members

Participants gain a better understanding of what an Exceptional Family Member is, how to enroll, where to find support and more March 26, 2-4 p.m. at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center. To register, call 210-221-2705.

Registration begins for Military Spouse Conference

Register now for the Military Spouse Conference, embOLDen, May 1-2, by calling the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center at 210-221-2705. The event features multiple conference sessions, workshops and networking opportunities for JBSA military spouses.

Outdoor Recreation

Concealed handgun license class offered

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center, bldg. 6215, provides License to Carry classes March 7 and 21, from 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>.

Archery takes on a new dimension

The Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center hosts a 3-D archery competition March 28 and 29. 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.

Youth and Children

Youth enjoy Comic Con

The annual Comic Con is back at JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs March 6 from 7-9 p.m. The cost is \$3 with Youth Programs card \$5 for those without their card. Come dressed in your favorite character. The event includes photo opportunities for participants and light refreshments. For more information, call 210-671-2388.

Youth skate the night away

Come and skate the night away March 6, 5-7 p.m., at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Patch-Chaffee Youth Center (YP2) for a free family event. Skates are provided, if needed, by the Youth Center. For more information, call 210-221-3630.

Youth sports registration open now

Registration for First Steps T-Ball is held at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston W. Ed Parker Youth Center and the Patch/Chaffee Youth Center through March 6 for children ages 3-4. The cost is \$40 per child. All youth must submit a copy of their immunization record (including current flu vaccine) and current annual physical at the time of registration. Skill building begins March 23. For more information or to sign up, call 210-221-5519.

Registration for Youth T-Ball and Baseball is held through March 6 at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston W. Ed Parker Youth Center and Patch/Chaffee Youth Center for children ages 5-13. The cost is \$55 per child. Practice begins March 23. All youth must submit a copy of their immunization record (including current flu vaccine) and current annual physical at the time of registration. For more information, call 210-221-5519.

Youth participate for free

There is no membership needed at the JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs March 9-13 to participate in clubs, activities and open recreation for age 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 this week. For more information, call 210-652-3298.

Parents given a much needed break

JBSA Youth Programs can give parents that much needed break through the give parents a break or parents night out 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.

JBSA-Lackland hosts Give Parents a Break/Parents Night Out March 20 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-Fort Sam Houston Parents Night Out is held on March 21 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 at 210-221-3835, Main CDC 210-221-5139

or 210-221-5151 for the School Age Program.

JBSA-Randolph holds Give Parents a Break/Parents Night Out March 21 from 1-5 p.m. To register children ages 5 (in kindergarten)-12, call 210-652-3298, for ages 3-5, call 210-652-4946 and for ages 6 weeks to 2 years, call 210-652-1140.

Children learn the fundamentals

JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs invites all children, ages 3-5, to come learn the fundamentals of baseball in a non-game/team format. First step teaches the fundamentals of baseball in harmony with the gross motor movements of preschool and early school-age children. Registration runs March 23 to April 3. Parents are required to participate in the learning sessions as an extension of the instructor. A current immunization record to include a current flu vaccine is required at time of registration. The cost is \$35 per child. For more information, call 210-671-2388.

Youth go to summer camp

Summer Camp registration opens March 16 for all three JBSA locations. Spaces will be offered starting March 30. Summer Camp is available for children, ages 5-12 and children must have completed pre-K or Kindergarten. Fees are based on total family income. Summer camp includes meals, great learning and fun activities in and around the centers. Parents can request care at www.militarychildcare.com. Once the offer is made, parents need to contact the appropriate Youth Programs office to secure their reservation. For more information, call JBSA-Fort Sam Houston School Age Care, Bldg. 1702, 210-221-5151. JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs; Bldg. 8420; 210-671-2388 JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs; Bldg. 585; 210-652-2088.

Teens set and achieve goals

Teens ages 14-23 are encouraged to apply for the Congressional Award program, a United States Congress award for young Americans. With this challenge teens set goals in four program areas: Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness and Expedition/Exploration. Youth will learn about themselves, setting and achieving personal goals and the ability to plan and organize along with learning about responsibility, and trust. For more information on the Congressional Award program, contact the Watkins Terrace Youth Programs YPI, at 210-221-3502, Patch/Chaffee Patch/Chaffee Youth Programs YP2 at 210-221-3630, Randolph Youth Programs 210-652-3298, Lackland Youth Programs 210-671-2388.

STAY CONNECTED

Stay current on

Joint Base San Antonio

502d Force Support Squadron

events, specials and daily activities.

<https://www.jbsatoday.com>



JBSA-Lackland M&FRC hosts voting workshop

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Service members, their families and Department of Defense civilians will learn about the processes and guidelines for exercising their right to vote at the Voting Assistance Workshop from 9-11 a.m. March 17 at Arnold Hall, building 5506, 1560 Stewart Street, at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

The workshop is hosted by the JBSA-Lackland Military & Family Readiness Center and is being facilitated by Brian Griffiths, Federal Voting Assistance Program senior program analyst from Washington, D.C.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program, or FVAP, is a voter assistance and education program established by the Department of Defense to ensure that service members, their family members and U.S. citizens overseas are aware of their right to vote and have the

tools and resources to do so.

Tracy Bramlett, JBSA-Lackland installation voting assistance officer, said the workshop is open to any service member, whether active duty or reserve, military family members, DOD civilians and voting assistance officers from all JBSA locations and anyone else who is interested in and wants to learn about the voting process as provided by FVAP.

Workshop attendees will also learn about the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, the federal law that extends absentee voting rights to servicemembers, their eligible family members and overseas citizens.

"The purpose of the workshop is to make sure people understand and exercise their right to vote under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act no matter where they're stationed," Bramlett said.

In addition, the workshop will include interactive, hands-on training on resources

and tools available for voting assistance officers that can help them in providing assistance to service members and their families and DOD civilians to ensure their right to vote. This includes the types of forms that service members, military family members or DOD civilians must fill out that will allow them to cast an absentee ballot and online resources that educate voters about voting.

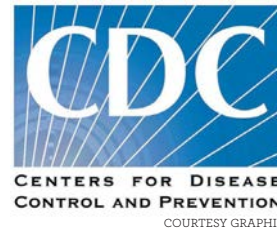
A representative from the Bexar County Elections Office will be at the workshop to discuss voting trends the county election office has noticed from active-duty members, military family members and voters affiliated with the military in previous elections.

The workshop meets all certification guidelines for voting assistance officers.

Deadline to register for the workshop is March 11. To register and for more information, call 210-671-3722/23 or email lackland.vote@us.af.mil.

First quarantine group at JBSA-Lackland released

From Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



On Feb. 20, 90 people who returned from Wuhan, China, via a State Department -chartered flight completed their 14-day quarantine at Joint Base San

Antonio-Lackland. One person who traveled to JBSA-Lackland via the State Department-chartered flight is confirmed to have COVID-19 and remains under care at a local hospital. All of the other individuals have been

medically cleared and CDC officials have lifted their quarantine orders.

It is important to know that those being released from quarantine pose no health risk to the surrounding community, or to the communities they will be returning to.

Of the 144 passengers from the Diamond Princess cruise

ship who were brought to JBSA-Lackland, the majority are expected to have their quarantine lifted on March 2, pending medical clearance.

CDC extends its thanks to these individuals for their cooperation and patience during their quarantine and wish them well as they return to home, work, and school. CDC also thanks the men and women at JBSA-Lackland and their families for their graciousness while hosting these guests.

433rd Airlift Wing displays C-5M Super Galaxy at Laredo Air Show

By Tech. Sgt. Iram Carmona

433RD AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 433rd Airlift Wing's C-5M Super Galaxy out of Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland was part of the 22nd annual Stars and Stripes Air Show during the 123rd Washington's Birthday Celebration in Laredo, Texas, Feb. 16.

The air show brought in new and returning spectators to come and view up-close different aircraft from various parts of the world and vehicles from the military and from various police departments to include multiple vendors and sponsors.

The C-5M was on display and opened for attendees to look in it and outside of it. Along with getting an up-close look, the aircraft also provided

many photo opportunities for new and returning attendees.

"I believe having the C-5M Super Galaxy at this event allows the public to see the aircraft inside and out while also meeting the team," said Tech. Sgt. Christopher Arthur, 317th Recruiting Squadron Air Force Recruiter.

Before the flight demonstrations began, an opening ceremony was held, where the Washington Birthday Celebration Association council thanked various guests, sponsors, and founders.

Lt. Col. John E. Sebesta, 68th Airlift Squadron pilot, who was this year's grand marshal, was presented with a plaque and a WBCA honorary leather jacket for his role as the official 2020 Stars and Stripes Air

Show Marshal.

In addition to being grand marshal for this year's airshow, Sebesta was kept busy by participating in several other airshow events: He officiated a re-enlistment for a 433rd AW member, whose hometown is Laredo. He also performed a swearing-in for Air Force recruiters for recruits bound for Air Force Basic Military Training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

"Mike Marasco and the WBCA were awesome hosts, and I can't think of anything better than to bring a Texas C-5M to the kind folks of Laredo," Sebesta said.

The WBCA Stars & Stripes Air Show is a part of an annual event that commemorates Washington's Birthday that takes place in Laredo.



TECH. SGT. IRAM CARMONA

A 433rd Airlift Wing C-5M Super Galaxy was one of the aircraft on display Feb. 16 during the Stars and Stripes Air Show in Laredo, Texas.

AFIMSC engineer honored with Bronze Star Medal

By Armando Perez

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND
MISSION SUPPORT CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. Gen. Tom Wilcox, Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center commander awarded the Bronze Star Medal to Capt. Shane Lockridge Feb. 13.

Capt. Shane Lockridge is the chief of military construction requirements for the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, a subordinate unit of AFIMSC. He received the award for his performance as the director of operations and engineer adviser for Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Kandahar, Afghanistan, from March 2018 to February 2019.

The Bronze Star is awarded to those who demonstrate heroic or meritorious achievement for service in a combat zone in connection with military operations against an armed enemy.

"It's important for everybody in this center to know that this is what our folks do when they deploy each and every day ... going out there, taking the fight to the enemy and taking care of our folks while doing it," Wilcox said. "Capt. Lockridge, it is an honor to be standing

with you."

What makes the captain's accomplishments even more impressive is he volunteered for the tour, which was also his first deployment. He gives credit and appreciation to the team he led.

"I had the honor of leading a team of 126 personnel tasked to bolster the capabilities of the Afghan Air Force's engineering, security forces, logistics and communications squadrons," Lockridge said. "Without their support and mentorship, I would have never been able to accomplish anything worth this honor."

He and his team were assigned to the 738th Air Expeditionary Advisory Group, composed of more than 85 coalition members, including partners from the U.S., Lithuania, Latvia, Ukraine and Belgium. The group assists, trains and advises the Kandahar Air Wing in order to provide support to coalition counterinsurgency operations. Advisers mentor their Afghan counterparts across a range of functions including flight operations, aircraft maintenance, intelligence, logistics, personnel management, communications and base defense.



CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL

Maj. Gen. Tom Wilcox (left), Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center commander, awards the Bronze Star to Capt. Shane Lockridge during a commander's call Feb. 13.

His squadron commander during his deployment, Maj. Kristina Sawtelle of the 443rd Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron, recalled the environment they were in and the work Lockridge performed.

"Our base was a significant target for attacks as it was a strategic base for the U.S. military, NATO and the Afghan National Army and Air Force," Sawtelle said. "There were countless nights that were spent in bunkers with incoming sirens going off. Capt. Lockridge was asked to serve in two major roles during his deployment as lead engineering air advisor with one of the largest portfolios in Southern Afghanistan and the director of operations for the largest and most diverse air advisor squadron in the 738th."

She emphasized that the level of work he performed further signified the level of

achievement he demonstrated throughout his deployment.

"While exposed to significant threat streams to include rocket attacks, mortars and insider-threats, and the train, advise, assist mission put Capt. Lockridge shoulder-to-shoulder with our Afghan partners," Sawtelle said. "His construction portfolio was extremely dynamic; however, one of his major projects was a multimillion-dollar Kandahar airfield renovation. The construction would allow for the successful build of the Afghan Air Force's light attack, armed aircraft. The operating environment came with significant risk that was mitigated through continuous tactics, training and procedures exercises, live-fire drills and security assessments."

As the only engineering officer in the 738th AEAG, he

was also in charge of project development, funds procurement and construction execution of 12 projects worth \$57 million. These projects included construction and renovation to assist in growing the Afghan Air Force mission by standing up the first Afghan UH-60 squadron 18 months ahead of schedule. In addition to bolstering the capabilities of the Afghan Air Force, Lockridge also participated in providing security and force protection to the entire 738th AEAG.

"We endured multiple rocket attacks," Lockridge said. "We were in constant exposure for possible green-on-blue insider attacks, and we were able to perform 135 outside-the-wire missions, which were done at a time when we were facing opposing forces there at Kandahar Airfield."

The airfield renovation was a significant accomplishment for Lockridge and his team. Enabling the beddown not only established the first-ever Afghan Air Force Blackhawk squadron ahead of schedule, but increased Afghan Air Force combat capabilities to progress toward operational independence.

"The challenges and adversity our engineers overcame during this project were tremendous and I was truly proud to be a member of the team," he said. "I was part of something bigger than myself and am honored every day to work with some of the greatest people this world has ever seen."

RANDOLPH

AF changes path of entry for enlisted special warfare operators

By Dan Hawkins

AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

To better afford enlisted recruits the time and opportunity to find the path of their greatest calling, the Air Force has created a single path of entry into the special warfare recruiting and initial training pipeline.

The Special Warfare Operator Enlistment Vectoring program will officially commence in early April of this year with a new Air Force Specialty Code for accessions and the first shipment of special warfare candidates to the service's basic military training.

"On initial entry into the Air Force, the 9T500 AFSC will be the only path for new Airmen to pursue a career into the Combat Control, Pararescue, Tactical Air Control Party or Special Reconnaissance career fields," said Lt. Col. Joseph Lopez, chief of the special warfare division at Air Education and Training Command headquarters.

"This change allows candidates to make a more informed career decision, prior to being vectored, after months of education, training, development and mentorship, to see what career field might be the best fit for them. The program also enhances the Air Force's ability to assign Airmen a permanent AFSC in an equitable way across the special warfare community after a thorough 'whole-person' evaluation has been conducted on every candidate going through the accessions and initial phase of training."

Every day, special warfare Airmen deploy around the world to project American military power through global access, rescue friendly forces through personnel recovery operations and to destroy the enemy through precision strikes.

The SWOE-V program centers on a

"coach-develop-mentor" mindset that begins in the pre-accession phase where recruiting development teams identify potential special warfare operators and begin the process to prepare them for the rigors of the special warfare training pipeline and, later, their designated career field.

"The typical special warfare scouting, recruiting and development process for a candidate from pre-accessioning to shipping to BMT takes from four to six months," said Lt. Col. Heath Kerns, commander of the 330th Recruiting Squadron, which specializes in special warfare and combat support recruiting. "During pre-accessioning with help from our developers, candidates begin a 21-day 'Pass the PAST' workout program developed to help them pass the Physical Abilities Stamina Test, while at the same time being educated on special warfare components, missions and specialties and the SWOE vector process."

Another key element to the SWOE-V program will be the baselining of enlistment standards for recruits.

"Having a standardized baseline of enlistment standards will eliminate confusion amongst potential recruits, as well as opens up a larger pool of candidates during the recruiting process who might be eligible for and interested in a career in special warfare," Kerns said.

After a potential candidate passes the PAST, a test that represents the minimum physical fitness entrance standards for enlisted special warfare career fields, they compete for selection and receive a developer recommendation before contracting and shipping to BMT at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, as a SWOE candidate, Kerns said.

During BMT, SWOE candidates will master curriculum that includes the Air



KEMBERLY GROUE

Special Warfare trainees from the 352nd Special Warfare Training Squadron participate in a physical training session at the Triangle Pool on Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, Aug. 9, 2019.

Force mission and vision, core values, drill and ceremony, history and priorities, field training and joint warfare like every other trainee, but undergo additional training to prepare them for the Special Warfare Prep Course.

"While assigned to their special warfare BMT flights, candidates conduct additional physical training and continue their education about all things special warfare related, including components, missions and specialties and the SWOE vectoring process," Lopez said.

SWOE's BMT performance evaluation data is collected throughout training to be included as part of the vectoring process once trainees enter the Special Warfare Prep course, administered by officials at the Special Warfare Training Wing, also at JBSA-Lackland.

"Along with the performance data from BMT, data from the Special Warfare prep course, and a SWOE's career preference, candidates are vectored to either the Special Tactics and Guardian Angel, or the Tactical Air Control Party, courses of initial entry," Lopez said.

Selection for a specific special

warfare Air Force Specialty Code is heavily based on a candidate's performance, which drives a competitive model early on, even before shipping to BMT, thus helping shape individual's drive, determination and strengths, intended to create trust and team cohesion among candidates, Lopez said.

"Nothing is given; Airmen must earn their spot in their chosen career field and fight for it," Lopez said.

From this point in the pipeline, SWOE candidates are split into one of two paths: the four-week Special Tactics and Guardian Angel course of initial entry or the TACP initial course of entry.

"After successful completion of the ST/GA initial course of entry, candidates will be assigned into the combat controller, pararescue or special reconnaissance AFSC based on their continued performance during training and their preference," Lopez said. "After successful completion of that course, candidates continue along their respective AFSC-specific training pipelines."

Those who enter the TACP course of initial entry and successfully complete it will continue along in the remainder of the TACP training pipeline, said Lopez.

AF award recognizes excellence of JBSA-Randolph physical therapist

By Robert Goetz
502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jason Wheeler, a member of the 559th Medical Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, set his sights on a career in the health care profession when he was in his teens.

After spending many hours as a patient in physical therapy clinics for treatment of sports injuries throughout high school and college, he narrowed his choice.

"My motivation to become a physical therapist started in college after talking to a classmate about my third knee surgery," he said. "He helped me get a job at a clinic to make sure I liked working with patients, and I really felt like it was something I would love to do with a career in health care."

Nearly five years into his career as physical therapist for the 559th MDS Diagnostics and Therapeutics Flight — following 10 years in the civilian sector — Wheeler's dedication to his profession has earned him recognition as the Air Force Medical Service's Biomedical Clinician Civilian of the Year.

It's an honor that is richly deserved, said his flight chief, Master Sgt. Jeremiah Taylor.

"It is a huge accomplishment and one that he definitely worked hard for and deserves," he said. "I am very proud to say that I have worked with him."

Taylor called Wheeler "a very knowledgeable physical therapist who has passion for what he does every day."

"He cares about the care that he provides to patients and communicates very well," Taylor said. "He is also a great leader who elevates the level of care provided by others who work around him."

Wheeler said he was "shocked" when he learned about the AFMS award.

"It's a tremendous honor," he said. "But all the bullet points were from things I do with my co-workers, so it's really a team



The Air Force Medical Service recognized Jason Wheeler, 559th Medical Squadron Diagnostics and Therapeutics Flight physical therapist, as its Biomedical Clinician Civilian of the Year for 2019.

effort."

After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in exercise science at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, and a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Wheeler started his career in the civilian sector, but it wasn't until he came to JBSA-Randolph in 2015 that he found a more flexible facility where he could truly expand his skills.

Wheeler said he can order imaging without asking a primary care manager; refer patients directly to orthopedics, pain management or neurosurgery instead of making them wait or go back to their PCM; and treat patients without being bound to the single body

part for which they received a referral.

"Most important to me is the fact that active-duty service members have direct access to refer themselves to physical therapy without a consult from their PCM or other specialist, which eliminates any delay in getting them back to work and back to the fight," he said.

JBSA-Randolph is special to Wheeler for other reasons as well.

"I have met many people who will be lifelong friends during my time here and also from visiting my wife (Maj. Sarah Wheeler) when she was flight commander of the dental clinic," he said. "My children are taken care of at the pediatrics clinic and I have been a patient across the hall at flight

medicine, so I have experienced JBSA-Randolph as a provider, patient and parent."

Wheeler's professional development also accelerated when he worked at a civilian clinic, Promotion Physical Therapy in San Antonio, prior to joining the staff at the JBSA-Randolph clinic.

"They utilize the most up-to-date evidence-based guidelines for practice and my career wouldn't be anything like it is now had I not worked for them," he said.

After starting work at the Randolph clinic, Wheeler completed his training at Promotion PT clinics to become a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists.

"I was able to practice my

skills on patients at Randolph with constant feedback and critique from my mentor, Dr. Autumn Martens," he said. "My flight commander, Maj. Joanna Borawski, worked with my schedule to allow me time during the week to spend time at Promotion PT."

The Promotion PT owners allowed him to complete his fellowship training through their company even though he was no longer employed by them, Wheeler said.

"I can honestly say that any patient who has been happy with the care they received from myself and my team at Randolph should thank Promotion Physical Therapy because without them, I wouldn't have the knowledge or skills to provide the unique specialized care that we are known for at JBSA-Randolph," he said.

In addition to his skills as a physical therapist, Wheeler brings other traits to his job, Taylor said. Among them are his work ethic and his rapport with people.

"Dr. Wheeler doesn't limit himself to a solid schedule every day," he said. "If a patient really needs care, he goes out of his way to see them. It doesn't matter if it is earlier in the morning, his lunch time or later in the day. He has all the qualities of a great leader."

Wheeler always listens to his patients' situation, then takes time to educate them on ways to get better, Taylor said.

"He then goes the extra mile by always being available when patients need to ask a question or their condition changes and they are just worried," he said.

Wheeler also ensures that pilots and security forces members are able to meet their mission requirements, Taylor said.

Dr. Wheeler was able to find ways to treat these populations at times their units would allow with minimal time away from their work centers," he said. "He has been a huge blessing to the JBSA-Randolph clinic."

SABRINA FINE

AETC COMMANDER SWEARS IN NEWEST AIR FORCE ENLISTEES AT DAYTONA 500



DAN HAWKINS

U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Brad Webb (center left), commander of Air Education and Training Command, salutes during the national anthem before the start of the Daytona 500 in Florida, Feb. 16. With a crowd estimated to be around 100,000 looking on, 30 of the Air Force's newest Total Force enlistees were ceremoniously sworn into the service prior to the race. Webb also noted the opportunity to experience the Air Force Recruiting Service's "Shadow Strike," which is a 4D immersive experience that allows participants to experience what it is like to be part of a special missions operation, calling it "amazing" while thanking AFRRS professionals for their work.