

JBSA

LEGACY

WWW.JBSA.MIL

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

AUGUST 7, 2020



PHOTO BY JOHNNY SALDIVAR

Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller (right), 502d Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Wendell Snider met with a group of Airmen and civilian employees to discuss "Unconscious Bias" during the command's Tough Conversation Roundtable July 21.

JBSA members hold 'Tough Conversation' roundtable

Page 11



S.A. mayor visits JBSA -Fort Sam Houston

Page 10



12th FTW welcomes new commander

Page 17

DOD must do more to prevent sexual assault

By Terri Moon Cronk

DOD NEWS

The Defense Department must do more to prevent sexual assault and encourage reporting of such crimes, the deputy director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, or SAPRO, said on Capitol Hill.

Nate Galbreath testified July 29 before the House Armed Services Committee's military personnel subcommittee in a hearing called in the wake of Army Spc. Vanessa Guillen's death at Fort Hood, Texas. Guillen was found dead, and an investigation continues.

"Even with my 30 years investigating violent crime, supporting victims and counseling the wounded, nothing prepares one for something like this," Galbreath said. "The murder of Specialist Guillen has touched us all in some way, but no one feels the loss more than her family. I can only hope that the groundswell of support, love, compassion and even inspiration that comes

... in Vanessa's name can bring some comfort for those who loved and knew her."

In Spanish, he added that no one should suffer as Guillen's family has suffered.

Although harassment-policy criminal investigation in the military justice system falls outside his portfolio, Galbreath said, SAPRO is keenly aware of how these issues play a critical role in their work to prevent and respond to sexual assault, and to allow those who choose to make a report to do so without fear of retaliation. While more work remains, many of SAPRO's efforts have resulted in certain progress, he said.

"As many of you know, the department has two key metrics in its sexual-assault program," he told the House panel. "First [is] estimated prevalence or how often crime occurs, which is the number we want to go down. Second, the number of reports [is what] we want to go up, which means that more victims are coming forward to connect with care

and support services as well as [help] our efforts to hold offenders appropriately accountable," he explained.

Data shows that the estimated prevalence rates of sexual assault in DOD have decreased by over a third over the past 14 years, Galbreath said. "And reporting of sexual assault is four times what it was in 2006," he added.

However, DOD's most recent active-duty survey in 2018, showed an increase in the prevalence of sexual assault on women, he said. In addition, in that year, about 24 percent of women and 6 percent of men on active duty indicated experiencing behavior consistent with sexual harassment in the year before being surveyed.

Fear of retaliation complicates and degrades the department's efforts to encourage greater reporting of this conduct and to connect service members with restorative care, he emphasized.

"While not all behaviors perceived to be retaliatory by

someone constitute retaliation that is actionable, all behaviors — actionable or not — gravely undermine our efforts in this space, and are incongruent with our expectations for dignity and respect," he said.

"To be blunt, such behaviors are absolutely unacceptable and have no place in a military that is striving for greater dignity, respect and inclusion for all," Galbreath said.

In some, achieving and sustaining progress requires continuous institutional examination, reflection and evolution, he said, adding that the Defense Department acknowledges the gap between where it is now and where it desires to be.

"We are committed to working toward lasting, impactful, cultural change," he said.

SAPRO establishes policy and conducts oversight on efforts to assist victims of sexual assault, encourage greater reporting, empower survivors to recover and prevent the crime.

Military OneSource, family readiness, spouse programs remain available

From DoD News

The Defense Department's Military Community and Family Policy office is adapting how it executes its programs in an effort to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

DOD is closely monitoring the impacts of the coronavirus disease outbreak on service members, their families and their survivors, said Lee Kelley, the department's director of military community support programs.

Resources and services offered through Military

OneSource, the Military and Family Life Counseling program and the Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program will continue to serve the military community, Kelley said.

"We are working hard to provide timely and accurate updates and helpful resources for our service members and their families," said Kim Joiner, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and family policy. "Our families can feel confident about finding official information and guidance on our websites and

social media platforms. While we have made necessary changes in response to this pandemic, one thing remains the same: our commitment to serving our military community."

What's New

A dedicated section is available on Military OneSource to keep service members and their families informed about the impacts of COVID-19 on the military community. Military OneSource also offers nonmedical counseling video sessions for children and youth who may feel overwhelmed by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Military OneSource will be live on Facebook Mondays through Fridays at noon Eastern time to highlight all available resources. Also, all videos will be available for

on-demand viewing.

What's the Same

Military OneSource is available around the clock every day to help service members and their families with stress management and challenges related to COVID-19, as well as to provide nonmedical counseling and support.

People in the continental United States can call 800-342-9647 or connect through live chat. People overseas also have calling options. Military OneSource also offers specialty consultations, such as:

- ▶ Relationship support, new "MilParent" support, health and wellness coaching and more;
- ▶ Financial counseling and "MilTax" services;

PROGRAMS continues on 8

JBSA LEGACY

Joint Base San Antonio
Editorial Staff

502nd Air Base Wing
and JBSA Commander

BRIG. GEN.
CAROLINE M. MILLER

502nd ABW/JBSA
Public Affairs Director

MAJ. KIM BENDER

Editor
STEVE ELLIOTT

Staff
LORI BULTMAN
DAVID DEKUNDER
ROBERT GOETZ
SABRINA FINE
RACHEL KERSEY

TECH. SGT. AVE YOUNG
SENIOR AIRMAN SHELLEY PRUITT

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

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

Published by EN Communities a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force under exclusive written contract with the 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. Caroline M. Miller
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 jbsapublicaffairs@gmail.com using the subject line "Feedback Fridays." Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

Q. The Air Force has purchased the infrastructure for telework. The technology is there to completely move the office to the home environment including network access and office phone call forwarding.

Simply put, from home, individuals can access the network and receive calls from office numbers as an individual or as a group. For example through infrastructure such as VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) servers and Cisco applications you can receive office calls on your computer or cell phone.

However, what is lacking today is implementation. Most of these technologies are not implemented at the unit/department level. There seems to be no formal program pushing for it or any standard of implementation.

I believe we are losing productivity and talent by not implementing these modern and innovative solutions. It's also a waste of taxpayer funds because many of these technologies are already paid for by the Air Force. Additionally, implementing these technologies will increase disaster readiness and better position leaders, such as yourself, to shape the workforce in a way that can meet mission requirements.

Today some people say they "telework," but because of limited capabilities really they are just going home. Productivity is suffering. It's not telework if you only have access to a commercial network, your cell phone, and some mix of unsecured (unofficial) collaboration applications such as Google

Hangouts and Slack. This is watered-down telework.

For it to be telework you need to have access to AFNET, the office phone, and all of the applications we use such as Outlook email or can use such Cisco Jabber/Microsoft Teams. That should be the minimum standard.

It is important that we use these applications because they maintain records, integrity and transparency. These are lost when a watered down version of "telework" is used. Telework isn't a day off. You should be just as productive, if not more. If personnel are properly set up, that should be the expectation.

Today, those who are lucky get a laptop and are set up for VPN access by the 502d Communications Squadron. However, they still lack capabilities such as access to shared drives or office phones. Again all of this and more can be set up on those same laptops. Additionally, departments may not have plans or procedures which are adapted to working from home. This happens because there isn't a standard for integration.

My suggestion is to consider implementing a unit telework program which enhances readiness across all levels. This program should contain requirements/standards for implementers (IT staff) and customers in order to create a more flexible/scale-able workforce for a 21st century Air Force.

This program could require that the communications squadron implement these technologies to a standard that fully creates the office at home. This should be a standard that is based on the customer's telework requirements and the minimum standards mentioned above. I think this would go a long way to modernize the 502d ABW. However, it's not just on the 502d Communications Squadron.

Part of the program should also require leaders at the unit/department/flight level to create teleworker quotas and if needed to modify procedures/workflows for telework.

Preferably teleworking should be fully integrated and a regular part of the every office. This could include



COURTESY GRAPHIC

designating some combination of telework shifts, days or personnel. At a minimum telework capability should be drilled and practiced periodically in order to minimize any confusion when it is needed for an emergency.

In implementation there are some issues which would need to be addressed by supervisors these include fairness and oversight. There will be obstacles such as resistance to change and lack of experience by both implementer (IT staff) and customers. However, these can be overcome by adopting a software deployment model which is gradual, phased, and cyclical and is customer service-oriented for those users who aren't technical.

In conclusion, the Air Force has the technology to implement telework, but this capability is under implemented and underutilized. I think improving this capability will help retain talent while increasing productivity and unit readiness.

The current pandemic can be a catalyst for positive change in the workforce. This is an opportunity to look at how we work and identify how telework can fit in the Air Force office environment. It is an opportunity to assess workflows and procedures to identify where we can increase efficiency and morale through telework.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Good luck and welcome to San Antonio, ma'am.
A. Thank you for your question.

When this pandemic initially affected JBSA, the Air Force only had the ability to support 9,000 concurrent users via remote access using one client application.

The cyber and communications career fields did an incredible job fielding two

new client applications and expanding remote capabilities in record time — we can now support more than 400K remote users today across the Air Force!

Additionally, they fielded a Microsoft Teams capability using Commercial Virtual Remote (CVR) that allows teleworkers to collaborate from your home computers (or your work computers via the web), to remain highly productive. This includes email, Office tools, voice, and video conferencing. The Army's Network Enterprise Center offers similar capabilities.

However, one communications capability that was hit very hard across the DOD was the ability to support off-installation telephone service, including forwarding telephone calls or hosting large conference lines.

Although we have upgraded some of our JBSA legacy voice capabilities to a newer network-based voice service, it does not yet exist at all locations, and where it does exist, it is not yet at full capability and the 502d Communications Squadron is still working through technical/architectural network issues for operating remotely.

This network-based voice service works well on-installation, but we have encountered issues when it comes to supporting remote users who are no longer directly connected to the base network and now connect remotely via the Virtual Private Network, or VPN.

As telework continues to increase throughout JBSA, every organization continues to re-assess their shortfalls which we will take into account for continued planning. The communications squadron is looking into the future and has identified a need for increased network based voice service in attempt to catch-up with the JBSA demand.

The 502d Communications Squadron

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS continues on 8

Department of Defense proposes removing more than 11,000 troops from Germany

By C. Todd Lopez

DOD NEWS

The United States will bring some American service members home from their forward stationed assignments in Germany, while other service members will move to other locations in Europe to improve the commitment to NATO and the defense of Europe, Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper said, adding that the proposed changes are firmly in line with the National Defense Strategy.

The plan is for U.S. European Command to reposition 11,900 personnel who are currently stationed in Germany to other locations, Esper said during a news conference at the Pentagon July 29.

The move will reduce the number of U.S. military personnel in Germany from about 36,000 to 24,000. Repositioning could begin in weeks, he said, adding that

with 24,000 American service members, Germany would still host the highest number of U.S. troops of any nation in NATO.

About 5,600 service members being moved out of Germany will stay within Europe. They will be moved to other NATO nations, Esper said. An additional 6,400 personnel will return to the United States, though Esper said this will not mean less support of NATO allies, because instead of having permanently stationed forces in Germany, other military units will begin rotational deployments farther east on the continent in more strategic locations, such as near the Black Sea region.

“Our aim is to implement these moves as expeditiously as possible consistent with the principles I set forth from the beginning, particularly being fair to, and taking care of our service members and their families,” the secretary said.

“We could see some moves begin within weeks. Others will take longer. As anyone can see, the repositioning of our forces in Europe constitutes a major strategic and positive shift, wholly in line with the NDS and consistent with other adjustments the United States has made within NATO in previous times.”

Air Force Gen. Tod D. Wolters, commander of U.S. European Command and NATO's supreme allied commander for Europe, spelled out some of the specific movements planned for forces in Europe.

The EUCOM headquarters and the associated U.S. Special Operations Command-Europe headquarters, for example, would move from Germany to Mons, Belgium, where they would be located with Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe.

“This will improve the speed and clarity of our decision-making and promote

greater operational alignment,” Wolters said, adding that a similar relocation could happen for U.S. Africa Command headquarters and the associated U.S. Special Operations Command-Africa, though no new location has been determined.

Wolters also said EUCOM intends to reposition three brigade-sized headquarters, an air defense artillery battalion, and an engineering battalion to Belgium from Germany, as well as move two smaller support and contracting organizations to Italy. He said the 52nd Civil Engineering Squadron, an Air Force unit, could be one of the first to move. The plan is to put that unit in Italy.

EUCOM also proposes relocating an F-16 fighter squadron and elements of a fighter wing to Italy. Esper said the move will put those units closer to the Black Sea region, better enabling them to support NATO in the southeast.

“The proposal to reposition forces back to the United States ... with respect to the 2nd Cavalry Regiment, will allow those units to regain maximum U.S. at-home-station readiness and more effectively support global contingencies while still maintaining a keen focus on Europe,” Wolters said.

There are also plans to rotate forward the lead element of the Army's 5th Corps headquarters to Poland, Esper said, contingent on Warsaw signing a defense cooperation agreement. There may also be other opportunities to move additional forces into Poland and the Baltics, the general said.

“This rebalance, consistent with the NDS, will align NATO and EUCOM capabilities, better distribute forces across Europe and increase the use of rotational forces, thus bolstering our commitment to Europe,” said Air Force Gen. John E. Hyten, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

AF PME now open to pregnant, postpartum women

From Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

Pregnant and postpartum members may now attend professional military education without an exception to policy and are also exempt from the requirement to have a passing fitness assessment prior to attending.

Previous policy prevented pregnant women and women within their one-year postpartum deferment period from attending PME, creating an unintended barrier to their developmental milestones.

“Empowering women to make a decision about the right time to attend PME, especially during or after pregnancy, is

the right thing to do,” said Gwendolyn DeFilippi, assistant deputy director of Air Force manpower, personnel and services and strategic director of the Department of the Air Force Barrier Analysis Working Group. “These types of policy changes provide women the flexibility to balance family planning and career progression; they help level the playing field. We're committed to improving diversity, inclusion and belonging across the Department of the Air Force, and sometimes it's hard to know what to do. Thanks to the Women's Initiative Team and the work of the Diversity Task Force, we are able to implement meaningful changes

that will help retain women in our ranks.”

This change, in collaboration with Col. Ricky Mills, Squadron Officer School commandant at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, was introduced through the Women's Initiative Team. The WIT, which is one of six teams in the DAFBAWG, was specifically created to address barriers for women in the Department of the Air Force and has championed numerous policy changes to benefit women.

“We found some people wanted to attend PME during pregnancy but were facing obstacles to attend,” said Maj. Alea Nadeem, Women's Initiatives Team chief. “The

WIT advocated for pregnant women to work directly with their primary care manager or obstetrician to empower them to make a well-informed decision. We keep an ear to the ground and listen to what our teammates are saying. Thanks to the Air and Space Professionals who came forward and identified this as a barrier, and also for the support of Col. Mills and his team who assisted the WIT in making this important change.”

Air Force Instruction 23-2670, Total Force Development, outlines the exemption for pregnant and postpartum members. Routine obstetric care may not be available at the PME location,

so members should work with their primary care manager or obstetrician to obtain medical clearance and any required paperwork.

Whether or not a member attends PME while pregnant or within the one-year postpartum period is left up to the individual and her medical team. For those who elect to attend PME while pregnant or within their postpartum period, there is no expectation to perform a physical event or activity with which they are uncomfortable.

For more information, members should contact their chains of command or refer to AFI 36-2670, Total Force Development.

FORT SAM HOUSTON

BAMC nurses: 'It's us against COVID'

By Elaine Sanchez

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

With the recent surge in COVID-19, the beds are quickly filling in the intensive care units at Brooke Army Medical Center, a sprawling military hospital and Level I Trauma Center in the heart of San Antonio at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

Many patients are on ventilators or hooked by myriad tubes and wires to a heart-lung bypass machine as they battle a virus that has so far claimed over 145,000 lives in the U.S. alone. In the trenches beside them are the frontline healthcare workers — technicians, nurses and physicians — the last line of defense for the most critically ill patients.

"Dealing with the virus on and off duty, the (personal protective equipment), the long shifts ... to be honest, it takes a toll on the staff," said Lt. Col. Trisha Bielski, Critical Care Nursing Services chief. "I couldn't be prouder of my team and the job they've done in incredibly challenging circumstances."

Bielski oversees hundreds of critical care nurses working in BAMC's four dedicated COVID ICUs. This day, her attention is focused on 3S, an inpatient ward that's been transformed from a cardiac unit to a COVID-dedicated ICU reserved for some of the city's most critically ill patients.

Her nurses are tending to several patients on ventilators along with six patients on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or ECMO, a heart-lung bypass treatment



JAMES CAMILLOCCI

Cesar De La Vega (right) ensures Maj. Kay Bolin properly dons her personal protective equipment in an intensive care unit at Brooke Army Medical Center July 17.

for patients unresponsive to a ventilator or less invasive measures.

Over the past few weeks, BAMC has taken on additional civilian trauma patients and doubled its ECMO capacity to try to absorb some of the most critically ill community members with COVID-19 and ease the burden on other hospitals, Bielski explained.

While BAMC primarily cares for military beneficiaries, a special secretarial designee status enables the hospital to accept civilian ECMO patients and trauma patients, as part of its Level I Trauma mission, in coordination with the city.

A unit transformed

In recent months, COVID and the expanded ECMO mission have transformed 3S from a bustling inpatient ward into an equipment-laden area devoid of the chatter of family and friends. The nurses'

colorful scrubs are now concealed by gowns, their faces obscured by masks and face shields.

Technicians stand by patient doors with a clipboard, meticulously ticking off boxes on a checklist, ensuring everyone who enters or exits a room is properly donning and doffing PPE. With safety on the line, mistakes aren't an option when it comes to PPE.

"We continually train our staff on PPE wear and stress the importance of all safety measures," Bielski noted. "It takes time but it's effective and, I hope, reassuring for our staff who are understandably nervous about contracting the virus."

While beneficial to the healthcare system, the trauma and ECMO mission expansions have generated a need for additional nurses and technicians to increase BAMC's bed capacity.

In some cases, Bielski is able to borrow nursing support from the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center, which is housed in BAMC, or from outpatient clinics and other wards. However, manpower is a limited pool, particularly as deployments, humanitarian missions and community-based support requirements draw military personnel away from BAMC, which has many personnel deployed overseas and stateside.

"We've been very stretched," Bielski said. "We are constantly assessing our staffing models to ensure we can manage our patient census while ensuring the safest care."

For the nurses pulled from other work areas, it's often an adjustment to shift from a clinic to an ICU, especially one such as 3S that requires such a high level of patient care.

"One of the biggest challenges is working with a staff I have never before worked with," said Army Capt. Amanda Crow, ICU Clinical Staff Nurse and Charge Nurse. "Despite this challenge, I have been continually impressed by the professionalism and hard work of the providers and nurses I have just met. Everyone has been very supportive and helpful to one another during this trying time."

Taking down barriers

Communication is key, particularly when donning PPE for hours at a time. "It's draining to wear PPE over a 12-hour shift, but more importantly, it creates challenges in communication,

whether to your peers or with our patients," said Army Sgt. 1st Class Jeremiah Canter, Critical Care Nursing Service Noncommissioned Officer in Charge.

Face masks create a barrier of sorts between staff and patients, an unfortunate hindrance to communication in an environment where human contact is already severely limited. Aside from the staff, a BAMC-supplied tablet is often a patient's only link to the outside world and loved ones.

"It's heartbreaking that our patients who are so critically ill can't have the comfort of their family members at the bedside at this time," Bielski said.

The nurses do their best to fill the void with technology, an avenue that has proven vital for patient communication and morale. Crow recalled caring for an elderly patient battling COVID and other conditions.

With all medical interventions exhausted, the family made the difficult decision to move toward end-of-life care. Crow quickly coordinated a group video chat with the patient's spouse, children and grandchildren prior to the withdrawal of care.

"The family was able to talk to their loved one, see her face, pray for her, sing to her, and let her know how much she meant to them," Crow recalled. "It was a very moving experience, and I am grateful I was able to facilitate it."

"I would like to think that having that time with family brought her comfort in her final hours and gave her family closure," she said.

BAMC NURSES continues on 7

U.S. Army Reserve units join U.S. Army North COVID-19 operations in Texas

From U.S. Army North
Public Affairs

At the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, three U.S. Army Reserve Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces deployed as part of the Department of Defense's ongoing COVID-19 operations in Texas.

U.S. Army North, U.S. Northern Command's Joint Force Land Component Command, continues to oversee the military operation in support of federal efforts and the state.

"We are committed to assisting those in need as part of the whole-of-nation response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in support of FEMA," said Lt. Gen. Laura J. Richardson, U.S. Army North commander.

The three, 85-person U.S. Army Reserve medical task forces will support Texas hospitals in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley.

The first, a UAMTF from San Antonio, designated UAMTF 7454-1, arrived July



COURTESY PHOTO

Army Reserve Soldiers with the Army Reserve Medical Command's 7458th Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force left Nashville, Tennessee, for San Antonio to receive their mission assignments as part of the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) support to the FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency response to COVID-19. The 7458th UAMTF is composed of 85 skilled medical professionals from around the nation that are prepared to assist Americans most in need.

27. The task force split into two teams and began work July 29 supporting two hospitals, CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Corpus Christi-Shoreline in Corpus Christi and DeTar Hospital Navarro in Victoria.

Another UAMTF from

Nashville, Tennessee, arrived July 28. Designated UAMTF 7458-1, the task force will also split into two teams and begin work July 30 supporting two hospitals, Valley Baptist Medical Center-Harlingen and Harlingen Medical Center, both in Harlingen.

The third UAMTF, designated UAMTF 7452-1, from San Diego, California, also arrived July 28 and will begin work July 30 supporting DHR Health in Edinburg.

The three U.S. Army Reserve UAMTFs join three active-duty UAMTFs and five

U.S. Navy medical teams that arrived in the state earlier this month. In total, U.S. Northern Command assigned approximately 580 military medical and support personnel from the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy to support FEMA in the state of Texas.

BAMC NURSES

From page 6

The staff strives to create these personal connections on a daily basis, Canter noted. "We do the best we can to make them comfortable. We talk to them when we are bedside and try to arrange virtual chats. It really lightens their spirits at a tough time. Even when they aren't able to speak, you can see their faces light up."

Moments of comfort

For the ICU staff, these video chats spur thoughts of their own families throughout the day. At the end of a long

shift, Canter is grateful to head home to his three children visiting for the summer from Georgia. He's meticulous about changing out of his uniform in his garage before entering the house. Even as he fights exhaustion, Canter takes time to play cards or board games with his kids before he heads to bed.

"We talk about my job. They know what I do, and they aren't scared about it," he said. "They know it's a possibility I could get it and people die from it, but I tell them not to be scared. Just respect it and do the right thing and you'll be ok."

Crow's family lives in Pittsburgh, but frequent video

chats bring her comfort in the evenings.

"As with most families of healthcare providers during this time, my family does worry," she said. "Several of my immediate family members are nurses, so we are able to allay each other's fears knowing that we take any and all necessary precautions in both our personal and professional lives."

Even as she juggles staffing and critical care duties, Bielski knows she's asking a lot from her staff, and often worries she's not thanking her team enough. "My team has been living and breathing this every day for months," she said. "I'm so proud of what they do on a

daily basis. They are truly making a difference in supporting our community."

For Crow, this is exactly what she signed up for. She was inspired to become a nurse after seeing how nurses supported her father, who was ill, and her family when growing up. After joining the Army, she became even more determined to become a nurse after her older brother was injured in an IED blast while deployed and spent months recovering from a traumatic brain injury at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

"I was inspired by the care he received and wanted to pay it forward to other families."

COVID-19 or not, Crow never looked back on her decision to become a nurse.

"This is a strenuous time to be working in healthcare, and we are all facing unprecedented challenges," she said. "That being said, I am grateful to be supporting my community during these trying times. I take pride in knowing that I am taking care of members in my local community, and I hope that my efforts can make a positive impact on the care of others."

"I feel as a critical care section, we are the COVID response team," Canter added. "It's us against COVID, and we have too much at stake to lose."

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

From page 3

and Enterprise Services continue to work tirelessly to improve capabilities so we can support our teleworking workforce in being more productive when not in their on-installation work place; we appreciate your input and patience as we all work through this together.

Q. I would like to make a suggestion and very much appreciate your time and consideration. My son recently graduated tech school for security forces. I am quite impressed by how well he is doing, particularly under the circumstances.

I do, however, see a potential mental health issue with the Airmen. I think it has been very tough on them to be isolated from family. I think it is one thing to mentally be prepared for leaving your home and family for two months. It's different to prepare for leaving for 18 months. My son will be going to Turkey for his first duty station.

My suggestion is to allow these Airmen to go home for a week or two before they fly to their first duty station, especially in cases like my son who is going to a closed base

overseas. They will be in quarantine at their next base, so they will not put others at risk for COVID-19 there.

I am very thankful that the Air Force has taken such good care of my son. Thank you for your service and especially hard work during these last few months. Thanks again for your time.

A. Thank you for reaching out and providing us this suggestion. We completely understand that we are not under normal circumstances during this pandemic. Mental health concerns are something we take very seriously with our Airmen.

For this reason, we opened up basic military training to allow trainees to have a weekly call home. Additionally, Airmen generally will have the opportunity communicate with their loved ones daily at technical training.

As for taking leave and follow-on assignments, each Airmen has a unique situation and is encouraged to communicate with their chain of command directly to determine what works best for their situation.

Thank you again for your feedback and we are very pleased to hear that your son is doing well and that you are impressed with the top-notch training that is provided by our teammates at the 343rd Training Squadron.

PROGRAMS

From page 2

- » Language services, including real-time interpretation and translation services;
- » Access to resilience tools, including "CoachHub," "Moodhacker" and "Love Every Day"; and
- » Access to the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Digital Library, including many education and entertainment resources.

In addition, Spouse Education and Career Counseling coaches remain available. In the continental United States, call 800-342-9647 or connect through live chat to schedule an appointment. People overseas also have calling options.

Online SECO tools and resources remain available, including My Individual Career Plan, or MyICP, the Research Occupations Tool, the Scholarship Finder, the College Scorecard Tool, MySECO Resume Builder and more.

SECO online events and webinars are still active, including the Military Spouse Employment Partnership Partner Connect discussion and the Virtual

Military Spouse Symposium.

What's Changed

Nonmedical Counseling: While Military OneSource continues to offer nonmedical counseling by telephone and online via secure chat and video, in-person counseling may be affected or unavailable, depending on state and local policies. Families should check with their local providers to confirm availability.

Military OneSource is a DOD-funded program that is both a call center and website that provides comprehensive information, support and resources on every aspect of military life.

Service members and the immediate families of active duty, National Guard and Reserve (regardless of activation status) service members, survivors and DOD expeditionary civilians are eligible for Military OneSource.

Veterans and their immediate family members are eligible for Military OneSource up to 365 days post-separation or retirement. All services are available at no cost.

Courtesy of the Defense Department's Military Community and Family Policy office.

Fort Sam Houston ISD offers free, reduced-price meals

**From Fort Sam Houston
Independent School District**

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District has announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for students served under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.

The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential childcare institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced reduced or free lunches to children each school day. The program was established under the National School Lunch Act, signed by President Harry Truman in 1946.

The household size and income criteria will be used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits. Students from households whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Foster children who are the legal responsibility of the state agency or court are eligible for free meal benefits regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside.

Applications are available at the food service or administration office of each school or can be downloaded and printed at <http://www.fshisd.net>.

To apply for free and reduced-price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school or campus cafeteria. Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year.

The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and verification of data. Applications may be verified by the school's officials at any time during the school year. A new application must be submitted each school year.

The following is the chart of federal annual income qualifying guidelines for the free and reduced-price meal program:

Family Eligibility Income Chart

Household Size	Annual Free	Annual Reduced
1	\$15,782	\$22,459
2	\$21,398	\$30,451
3	\$27,014	\$38,443
4	\$32,630	\$46,435
5	\$38,246	\$54,427
6	\$43,862	\$62,419
7	\$49,478	\$70,411
8	\$55,094	\$78,403

For each additional family member add:
+\$5,616 +\$7,992

COURTESY GRAPHIC

For school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-priced benefits, households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, benefits (formerly the Food Stamp Program) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, known as TANF, only have to list their child's name and SNAP or TANF case number. An adult household member must sign the application.

Households that do not list a SNAP or TANF case number must list the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the last four digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application.

If the adult who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, the household member must indicate that a Social Security number is not available by writing the word "NONE", "No Number" or some

indication that the person does not have a Social Security number.

The housing allowance for military personnel living in privatized housing will be permanently excluded from income when determining household eligibility for free and reduced-price meals.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the Child Nutrition Director will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis.

Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to the superintendent at 210-368-8700, 4005 Winans Rd. San Antonio, TX 78234.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the Child Nutrition Department. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown below.

For additional information, district residents can write the Child Nutrition Department at 4005 Winans Road San Antonio, TX 78234 or call 210-368-8745.

Meals are served every school day. Students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade can prepay or purchase their meal at the cost of \$2.20 per lunch and \$0.90 per breakfast. Students in grades six through 12 can prepay or purchase their meal at the cost of \$2.45 per lunch and \$1.00 for breakfast.

An online payment system is now available for both schools at <http://www.myschoolbucks.com>. Reduced-price school meals are .30 cents for breakfast and .40 cents for lunch.

SERVICE MEMBERS SUPPORT COVID-19 OPERATIONS IN CALIFORNIA HOSPITALS

U.S. Air Force Capt. Ashley Ritchey (right), 60th Medical Group, 60th Air Mobility Wing, assigned to Task Force 46, Joint Force Land Component Command, U.S. Army North, instructs Staff Sgt. Ryan Sheldon of the California Army National Guard on proper application of medical personal protective gear at Dameron Hospital in Stockton, California, July 22. Ritchey is a registered nurse stationed at Travis Air Force Base's David Grant USAF Medical Center in Fairfield,

California. Air Force nurses have been deployed from Travis Air Force Base, California, to support Task Force 46, under the Joint Force Land Component Command, U.S. Army North, to assist with COVID-19 response efforts. U.S. Army North, through U.S. Northern Command, through U.S. Army North, remains committed to providing flexible Department of Defense support to states in need, as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency in support of the whole-of-nation COVID-19 response.



STAFF SGT. EDWARD SIGUENZA

Quadrangle caretaker retires with more than 50 years of service

By Lori A. Bultman

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In 1965, when San Antonio native Adam Quintero was only 19 years old, he volunteered to serve in the Air Force after being passed over in the draft. Little did he know that it would be the start of a federal career that would last half a century.

Quintero, who has been the caretaker of the animals who call the U.S. Army North Quadrangle home since 1976, retired July 31 after serving his country for more than 50 years.

As a teen, he would visit Fort Sam Houston and utilize the areas available for jogging and exercise. Then, when he was old enough, he waited patiently to be selected during the draft, but the call never came. He eventually volunteered for the Air Force, where he was assigned to an



JOSE A. TORRES JR.

Adam Quintero, caretaker of the animals in the U.S. Army North Quadrangle, retired with more than 50 years of service to his country July 31.

engineering unit. He spent six years on active duty, including one tour in Vietnam.

Quintero returned to San Antonio after his enlistment and began working as a civil service laboratory assistant at Brooke Army Medical Center

in July 1971. In 1976, he asked to be detailed to the headquarters commandant as part of the Quadrangle support team when the animal caretaker was transferred to another position.

His request was approved, and he has been working there

ever since, according to Jackie Davis, director of the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Museum.

“Adam knows his job, and he does it,” she said. “He has seen co-workers, supervisors, commanders, and even commands, come and go. New ones may have had opinions on how Adam should do his job, but Adam KNOWS how it must be done, and he has the overwhelming proof of experience behind him.”

The retired caretaker said he has truly enjoyed his time ensuring the deer, geese and peacocks have been well-fed and cared for. As part of his daily routine, he took care of them, called the vet when they were sick, and maintained the pond located within the area.

During an interview in 2015, Quintero said the animals are part of his family.

“When something happens to them or they’re not right, I’m

concerned,” he said. “I have to do something. I have to step in, and I’ll do everything within my means to help correct it. When they hurt, I hurt.”

The inhabitants of the Quadrangle have also garnered quite a bit of attention over the years from visitors to the area, and Quintero has enjoyed talking about them to those attending ceremonies or retirements, visiting the Fort Sam Houston Museum, and working in U.S. Army North headquarters.

“Not much has changed during my time here,” Quintero said. “The animals have always been here for the visitors to enjoy and become comfortable around. They are very lovable animals.”

Quintero now looks forward to taking it easy and spending time with his wife, but is sure he will visit the animals of the Quadrangle whenever he gets the chance.

SAN ANTONIO MAYOR VISITS JBSA-FORT SAM HOUSTON

Lt. Gen. Laura J. Richardson (right), commanding general of U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) and the Joint Force Land Component Command, presents San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg with a replica of the historic Fort Sam Houston Quadrangle during his visit to JBSA-Fort Sam Houston July 29. U.S. Army North leaders were able to update City of San Antonio officials on their day-to-day mission, as well as the response against the COVID-19 pandemic, which includes hospitals across San Antonio.



STAFF SGT. CHARLOTTE REAVIS

LACKLAND

JBSA members discuss unconscious bias during 'Tough Conversation' roundtable

By Angelina Casarez

502D AIR BASE WING

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Service members joined 502d Air Base Wing leaders to discuss unconscious bias and how bringing awareness can help mitigate bias in the military during the "Tough Conversation" roundtable at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland July 21.

Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller, 502d ABW commander, Command Chief Master Sgt. Wendell Snider and Pedro Canadal, 502nd Equal Opportunity director, met with a group of Airmen and civilian employees to discuss "Unconscious Bias" during the wing's new series, "Tough Conversation."

The discussion began with a description of unconscious bias and how it begins at a young age, how people categorize things in their minds, their perceptions and how it impacts the decision-making process.

Miller then asked for comments from the Airmen. Several discussed examples of how certain Air Force processes could show unconscious bias toward Airmen by including names and photos of candidates for awards, promotion boards, evaluations, special duty assignments and training.

"Information used in submissions can unconsciously trigger bias for reviewers," said one Airman who recommends using the Department of Defense identification number instead of personally identifiable information.

Miller agreed and reaffirmed her commitment to looking at



Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller (right), 502d Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Wendell Snider meet with a group of Airmen and civilian employees to discuss "Unconscious Bias" during the command's Tough Conversation Roundtable July 21.

internal processes across the wing to reduce unconscious bias and improve efficiencies and morale across the organization.

"That's something that we can improve upon," she said. "We don't have to wait for someone to tell us."

The discussion transitioned with another Airman who was felt like unconscious bias happens with certain Air Force Specialty Codes, or AFSCs, who are often treated as if they're less significant.

"I often hear people say 'this AFSC doesn't do real work,' but sometimes we don't realize we're making decisions on the dynamic of the team based on

our bias or perception of who works hard and who doesn't," an Airman said.

The discussion continued to flow through examples of unconscious bias that Airmen had faced or engaged in, unconsciously or consciously, and how the realization of the topic can help Airmen change that culture and shape the next generation.

"It's important to have the conversation and be a little more self-aware of what's going on around us because sometimes we don't realize what we're doing," Miller said.

Canadal reminded the group to self-evaluate; to look in the mirror and look at their

contributions to any problem. He understood that seeing actual change is important and encouraged Airmen to participate in climate surveys in order to help hold leadership accountable.

Miller asked the group, "If you were in my position, what would you do to see change?"

"I would force my squadron commanders to ask harder questions and be willing to change their perspective versus reinforcing it," one Airman said.

Another Airman recommended leaders be more present and available. "Walk around and get to know your team."

"It's important to have the conversation and be a little more self-aware of what's going on around us because sometimes we don't realize what we're doing."

Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller, 502d Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander

"It doesn't help to have an open-door policy, if there are so many levels of the chain of command hindering you from having that conversation with your leadership," said another participant.

Miller reiterated the importance of Airmen to reach out to her with ideas on improving the command and expressed her gratitude for their time and input on the topic.

"If you have ideas, send them to my email box and we will have a discussion," she said.

The "Tough Conversation" Roundtable is a newly implemented monthly series focused on important, challenging and impactful topics that affect the Air Force and DOD. This series fosters an open and candid dialogue between 502d ABW senior leaders and service members and civilians of all ranks and backgrounds.

JOHNNY SALDIVAR

AETC deputy commander completes JBSA immersion tour

By Angelina Casarez

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. Gen. William Spangenthal, Air Education and Training Command's new deputy commander, was joined by Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, and her senior enlisted advisor, Command Chief Master Sgt. Wendell Snider, along with other JBSA senior leaders, for an immersion tour at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Lackland July 24.

The tour focused on high-interest areas and highlighted Miller's commitment to the JBSA community.

"Transparency is our priority," Miller said. "My team will focus on solutions and will continue to over-communicate with leaders, mission partners, and families across JBSA."

The driving portion of the deputy commander's tour, which began at Brooke Army Medical Center and continued to JBSA-Fort Sam Houston facilities, included a briefing by Lt. Col. (Dr.) Matt Schmidt, chairman of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at BAMC.

Schmidt discussed operations at the medical center during COVID-19 and how his department has collaborated with other agencies to adjust in the rapidly-changing pandemic environment.

Throughout the driving tour, Spangenthal was briefed on the key details of each facility.

The first portion of the tour included the Center for the Intrepid, Naval Operations Support Center, Fisher Houses, the new Joint Transition Readiness Center, Warrior and Family Support Center, Okubu Barracks and Powless House.

The second portion of the



JOHNNY SALDIVAR

Maj. Gen. William Spangenthal, vice commander of Air Education and Training Command, elbow bumps Lt. Col. Damien Williams, 37th Training Group deputy commander, during an immersion tour June 24 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

windshield tour included Liberty Barracks and the 59th Training Group's dormitory and student activity center. Then, the group visited the Navy Medical Training Command barracks, ships and dorms, where they discussed the facilities and highlighted the services' cultural differences in operating dormitories.

"Joint Base San Antonio is very unique in that all branches of the U.S. military utilize our installations, and each requires a specific level of support," Miller said. "It's important that all of our sister services know our commitment to providing the services, support and infrastructure they need in order to achieve their mission."

The tour continued to JBSA-Lackland, where the group visited the Gateway Inn and Villa.

The Air Force's lodging facilities were the primary location in which quarantined evacuees from China's Hubei province, the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak, and passengers from the Grand Princess Cruise ship were housed, in collaboration with the City of San Antonio and numerous state officials.

The facilities were chosen due to their abundance of single rooms, which each has a private bathroom, and are close to high-quality medical facilities, like the Texas Center for Infectious Disease.

The JBSA-Lackland tour

continued, with visits to the 37th Training Wing's "Tent City," where Airmen await their post-Basic Military Training assignments, as well as stops at the Chaparral Fitness Center and Mesquite Dining Facility.

In the afternoon, the tour continued to the 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, where the group learned the details of how personnel provides America's future Airmen with their initial clothing issue as they arrive for Air Force Basic Military Training.

Next, they traveled to JBSA-Kelly Field, one of the Department of Defense's only joint-use airfields, where they visited the air terminal and the

"Joint Base San Antonio is very unique in that all branches of the U.S. military utilize our installations, and each requires a specific level of support. It's important that all of our sister services know our commitment to providing the services, support and infrastructure they need in order to achieve their mission."

Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander

502nd Operations Support Squadron for a briefing on the airfield's commercial missions, and its civil support of military and government aircraft, as well as industrial and international aviation. Current and planned maintenance and improvement projects were also discussed.

The tour concluded at the 502nd OSS Air Tower, where Spangenthal learned about the tower's operations and the plans to replace the Air Force's second-oldest air traffic control tower in the near future.

Spangenthal entered his current role as AETC's deputy commander in June. He is a 1992 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy and has commanded at the squadron, expeditionary group and wing levels. He is also a command pilot with more than 3,500 flying hours.

Airmen rescue family from house fire

By Rachel Kersey

502ND AIR BASE WING

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It was 7:30 p.m. July 13 when two Airmen on their way home from a gas station became unexpected heroes. What began as a normal Monday evening for the two air traffic controllers stationed at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland ended with several lives being saved.

Airman 1st Class Brian Hallock and Airman 1st Class Sebastian Flores of the 502nd Operational Support Squadron were headed home when they saw heavy smoke coming from their neighborhood.

"I initially thought it was a campfire," Hallock said. "But, as we got closer, the smoke was getting bigger and darker."

The roommates followed the smoke deeper into their southwest San Antonio neighborhood and the trail led them right to the house in danger.

"The garage door was half raised with large amounts of smoke billowing out," Flores said. "There was a red glow as the flames began to engulf the right side of the garage wall."

Worst of all, the Airmen saw nobody outside the house and they didn't know if anyone was inside.

The pair quickly got out of their car and approached the house. Flores called 911, while Hallock went to bang on the door.

Flores gave the dispatcher all of the details he could see while Hallock kept banging on the door and ringing the doorbell, getting no answer.

As Flores got closer, he noticed several barbecue grills on the left side of the garage, all connected to propane tanks. He knew that if the tanks were to get hot enough, the gas might be released and the flames would grow much bigger.

Hallock continued to bang on the door and rang the doorbell, before trying to open



JOHNNY SALDIVAR

Maj. Gen. William Spangenthal (left), vice commander of Air Education and Training Command, coins Airman 1st Class Brian Hallock (center) and Airman 1st Class Sebastian Flores, both from the 502nd Operational Support Squadron, during an immersion tour June 24 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

the door and finding it unlocked. He stepped inside and started to shout to see if anyone was in blazing home. That is when he found the occupants completely unaware of what was happening.

"I heard voices upstairs," Hallock recalled. "I told them to make sure they had everyone and run out of the house."

Outside, Flores was telling passersby to alert people in nearby homes to evacuate, in case the flames spread.

When Hallock and the residents emerged from the house, he checked to make sure everyone, including pets, was evacuated. Flores urged them all to go to the other side of the street, in case the propane tanks ignited.

When they got across the street, that's exactly what happened.

"About two minutes after we had crossed the street, two of the propane tanks had ignited, creating massive flames and further increasing the spread of the fire," Flores said. "The fire department pulled up about three minutes after the propane

had ignited and began to suppress the fire."

The fire department extinguished the fire, while Hallock and Flores stayed with the family for 20 to 30 minutes, until other family members arrived to stay with them.

In the end, the home's inhabitants were all fine, but the house was not, as there was severe ceiling and wall damage.

For their heroic service, Haddock and Flores have been nominated by their leadership for the 2020 Geico Military Service Award, which recognizes enlisted active duty, Reserve, or National Guard members from all military service branches for contributions to military or private-sector communities. The pair have also received coins from Brig. Gen. Caroline M. Miller, 502nd Air Base Wing and JBSA commander, and Maj. Gen. William A. Spangenthal, Air Education and Training Command deputy commander.

At the squadron level, Hallock and Flores were named Spartans of the Week.

They are also being nominated for a U.S. Air Force Airman's Medal.

Hallock, who has wanted to serve his country in the Air Force since he was 14, insists he didn't do anything special, and

would not call himself a hero.

"I was just glad to know that the family made it out without harm," he said. "It was just my first instinct in seeing the situation, to come up with a quick plan, and execute it."

MULTI-BASE VIRTUAL TECH EXPO SCHEDULED FOR AUG. 19

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Tech Expo was canceled for 2020.

JBSA-Lackland will join several other installations for a joint virtual tech expo from 9 a.m. to noon Central time Aug. 19.

To bring the military and the Department of Defense together with tech vendors, this became not only a virtual event but also a multi-base event, so individuals can talk with other bases as well and discuss the latest technology. This is a free and secure event.

Virtual attendees will be able to visit more than 45 booths, chat directly with companies, view featured products and programs, attend briefings, and network with personnel from several different branches, agencies, and locations.

Pre-register online at

<https://fdaexpo.com/register.php?id=299#>.

Gateway Wing hosts 24-hour walk in honor of Spc. Guillen

By Capt. Kayshel Trudell

37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 37th Training Wing hosted a 24-hour walk in honor of fallen U.S. Army Spc. Vanessa Guillen at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland July 25-26. The event was used as an opportunity to promote dialogue and unity while reiterating the Air Force's zero tolerance towards sexual misconduct and interpersonal violence.

"It's always powerful to see our people come together and rally around a cause," said Chief Master Sgt. Stefan Blazier, 37th TRW command chief. "It is needed now as much as ever, because it's the only way that pain can become purpose."

The effort was led by four women, two members of the Inter American Air Force's Academy team, Tech. Sgt. Alejandra Avila and Staff Sgt. Soleine Izquierdo, a Military Working Dog handler, Staff Sgt. Melissa Garcia and a member from Security Hill, Staff Sgt. Monique McDonald. The four IAAFA teammates, along with 24 other volunteers, organized the event which was open to all Department of Defense

ID cardholders.

"I'm extremely proud of the four ladies who made this event possible," Blazier said. "This team knew many needed something...something which showed what we stood for and to demonstrate how many want to be part of the solution. They are what leadership looks like."

More than 240 participants took walking shifts over the 24-hour period to honor Guillen, while adhering to social distancing and CDC guidelines. Members used this time to reflect on injustice, talk to their teammates about its impact, and discussed ways to move forward in a healthy way that prevents reoccurring.

Opening and closing remarks were made by members of the 37th TRW leadership team, who encouraged open communication on topics like sexual assault and other issues that impact Airmen and humanity.

A Sexual Assault Prevention and Response representative was present and available for participants to talk with and ask questions to throughout the event. This event was an opportunity for the 37th TRW



COURTESY PHOTO

Participants walk the Warhawk Fitness Center track in shifts during a 37th Training Wing hosted 24-hour walk honoring fallen U.S. Army Spc. Vanessa Guillen July 25-26.

Warhawk Family and JBSA Community to join as one voice against injustice.

To learn more about SAPR resources,

visit <https://www.afmc.af.mil/About-Us/Featured-Topics/SAPR/>.

#ReformTheCulture #WARHAWKNation

314th AW supports AETC's student pipeline

By Airman 1st Class Jayden Ford
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As the C-130J Super Hercules creeps to a halt, the aft loading door slowly opens filling the plane with rays of the bright midday sunlight. The young Airmen are motioned forward and walk hastily in a single-file line toward their new journey.

They are students on their way to their next iteration of training to become operationally capable members of the Air Force.

The 314th Airlift Wing, who is responsible for training the next generation of combat minded C-130 aviators, has recently supported Air Education and Training Command's student pipeline by transporting Airmen in training from one location to the next in order to mitigate their potential exposure to COVID-19.

"AETC is responsible for taking this nation's sons and daughters from a basic military trainee to a fully capable member of the United States Air Force," said Lt. Col. Aaron Webb, 314th Operations Group deputy commander. "Our young people need to attend training to do that, so AETC is working to provide that training while lowering the risk of transmission by using the 314th AW instead of commercial carriers because it gives them more control over



SARAYUTH PINTHONG

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Justin King (center), 314th Airlift Wing Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, and Tech. Sgt. Brandon Eckstein (left), 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, direct Special Warfare Training Wing trainees onto a C-130 aircraft July 17 at Joint Base San Antonio-Kelly Air Field.

who and what the new Airmen come in contact with."

To date, the 314th AW has flown eight missions in support of AETC's student training pipeline — transporting approximately 400 of the United States' newest Airmen.

"A strong Air Force makes our nation stronger," Webb said. "Our greatest resource is our Airmen. If we can

ensure they have the training they need to use the equipment we entrust to them, they then have the potential to blow us all away with their capability."

In addition to preserving the health of the force by minimizing potential contact with COVID-19, these flights are also seen as a dual-purposed opportunity: they afford new Airmen early exposure to operational

capabilities as well as maximize aircrew training hours by piloting essential transportation missions.

"This mission is good for both our unit and the Airmen we fly for multiple reasons," said Maj. Joseph Hunt, 34th Combat Training Squadron weapons officer and aircraft commander for the most recent student transport mission. "The young Airmen get exposure to the unique airlift capability of our Air Force, and the pilots and mission planners are practicing capabilities that are rarely exercised in the training environment."

Webb explained how operating in a pandemic will continue to present challenges for the Air Force's readiness, but said that the Airmen from the 314th AW will be there to deliver airlift capabilities whenever they are called upon.

"Personally, I'm grateful to help and I know my team is as well, but, on a broader level, I think it's part of a promise we make to those who serve with us," Webb said. "If you join our ranks, we will work to make you a part of our team. This means holding you to the high standard our nation expects. I think, just like you would any teammate, we try and protect each other. Whether we're flying together or fighting a virus together, we have your back."

SAMHS updates COVID-19 testing

From 59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

In order to sustain COVID-19 testing capability, San Antonio Military Health System will no longer test asymptomatic personnel at its drive-thru screening and testing sites.

Testing for symptomatic active duty and military beneficiaries will continue to be conducted. Officials are continually assessing this evolving situation and any updates/changes will be passed on.

As a reminder, the COVID-19 drive-thru screening and testing hours of operation are as follows:

- ▶ Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland's site, located on the ground floor of the parking garage (follow the blue cones on Wilford Hall Loop), is open from 8 a.m. to noon Monday to Saturday and closed on Sunday.
- ▶ JBSA-Randolph's site, located behind the Randolph Clinic, is open from 8 a.m. to p.m. Monday through Friday and closed Saturday and Sunday.
- ▶ Brooke Army Medical Center's site, located in the first-floor parking garage, is open Sunday to Friday from 8 a.m. to noon, and closed on Saturday.

If you are seeking general information about COVID-19 or determining if you need to be screened or tested, call the SAMHS COVID-19 Nurse Info Line at 210-581-2266 Option 6, weekdays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Info Line is for information only. If you have COVID-19 related symptoms, call CAMO at 210-916-9900 to schedule a virtual appointment with your PCM. After hours, beneficiaries should call the MHS Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273), Option 1.

As a reminder, if you are feeling sick or having any symptoms, put safety first for yourself and those around you. Stay home and call before coming in to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Continue to do your part to slow the spread of this virus: wear a face covering, wash your hands regularly, and socially distance from others, both at work and in your community. That is the best way to preserve the health of our patients and staff.

SAMHS will continue to take proactive steps, working alongside its military and community partners, to both contain the spread and mitigate the impact of the virus.



STAFF SGT. ZACHARY BUMPUS

Members of the 59th Medical Wing operate a drive through COVID-19 screening clinic at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland June 26. The drive-through clinic was reestablished as part of the protective measures implemented as Joint Base San Antonio returns to HPCON Charlie.

RANDOLPH

12th Flying Training Wing welcomes new commander

By Benjamin Faske

12TH FLYING TRAINING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Col. Scott Rowe took command of the 12th Flying Training Wing from Col. Mark Robinson during a change of command ceremony July 27, 2020, at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.

Maj. Gen. Craig Wills, 19th Air Force commander, presided over the change of command ceremony where Airmen, mission partners and civic leaders attended to show their support.

Wills opened the ceremony by honoring the 12th FTW and praising Robinson's dedication to the mission and his confidence in Rowe's leadership as the new commander.

"Col. Robinson's strategic savvy, calm and clear demeanor and thoughtful approach to solving problems are well known by this wing and the Air Force, he is a true

professional," Wills said. "Over the last two years, he has led the way on innovation and executing the mission, he's helped bring Pilot Training Next to reality and took the lessons of PTN and formed a new system called Undergraduate Pilot Training 2.5 the most significant update to our pilot training system in seven decades. He executed more than 180,000 sorties and graduated more than 5,500 aviators for our Air Force in the last two years, make no mistake these are historic accomplishments."

After his speech, Wills decorated Robinson with the Legion of Merit for his outstanding service as the wing commander and opened the floor for parting remarks.

"I'm grateful that Air Education and Training Command and 19th Air Force leaders entrusted me to command such a complex wing — 16 ops squadrons spread out



MELISSA PETERSON

Col. Mark S. Robinson (right) assumes command of the 12th Flying Training Wing during a ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph July 27. Col. Travis Willis (left), 19th Air Force vice commander, presided over the ceremony.

"I feel a tremendous sense of responsibility for ensuring that the members of the 12th FTW have the tools they need to accomplish a no-fail mission, I have a lot to learn and I am excited about the challenge, thank you."

Col. Scott Rowe, 12th Flying Training Wing commander

over four locations, each with its own unique mission set, plus three incredibly mission-demanding maintenance squadrons," Robinson said. "Commanding the men and women of the 12th FTW has been the personal and professional privilege of a lifetime. I wish nothing but the greatest success and

12TH FTW continues on 18

12th Operations Group welcomes new commander

By Benjamin Faske

12TH FLYING TRAINING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of the 12th Operations Group welcomed their new commander during a change of command ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph July 24.

Col. Robert Moschella assumed command from Col. John Ludington as Col. Mark Robinson, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, presided over the event.

"To think of how far the 12th OG has come under your leadership is almost overwhelming," Robinson

said. "The complete revamping of the pilot instructor training pipeline, the rewrite of nearly every syllabus under your command, revolutionary changes to remotely-piloted aircraft training program, expanded Introduction Fighter Fundamentals mission areas, absorption of an aerospace physiology flight, the safe-keeping of thousands of causal students, the first-ever Master Aviation Instructor cadre, Pilot Training Next, Undergraduate Pilot Training 2.5, Accelerated Path to Wings, T-7 bed-down and the list goes on and on."

Robinson went on to speak about Ludington's character as a leader.

"Through all these initiatives and programs, one thing remains constant, supremely dedicated leader focused on all the right objectives and intently passionate for his Airmen and civilians."

Robinson then presented Ludington with the Legion of Merit, earned in part by graduating more than 2,200 new instructor pilots, weapons systems officers, instructor combat systems officers, remotely piloted aircraft pilots, sensor operators, and

fighter Wingmen from the United States and its coalition air forces.

Before relinquishing command Ludington reflected on the last two years of command.

"The men and women in the 12th Operations Group — officers, enlisted Airmen, civilians, and the contractors who support us — come to work every day committed to safe, professional, and disciplined operations. These Airmen have taken on huge challenges and made it look simple. Command is an

12TH OG continues on 18



BENJAMIN FASKE

Col. Robert Moschella, 12th Operations Group commander, gives a first salute after taking command at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph July 24.

Seguin airfield maintains steady course during pandemic

By Robert Goetz

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

An airfield that was constructed about a decade after the Army Air Corps opened Randolph Field continues to serve the needs of the flying training mission at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph as it meets the challenges posed by the novel coronavirus pandemic.

Located about 25 miles east of JBSA-Randolph near Seguin, Texas, the JBSA Seguin Auxiliary Airfield — which consists of one runway, one taxiway, one ramp, a fire station and two runway supervisory units, or RSUs — is used primarily by the 12th Flying Training Wing's 560th Flying Training Squadron to train T-38 instructor pilots.

"The Randolph runways can only support so many flight operations per day and do not support uncontrolled runway supervisory unit operations," said Geren Fawver, 12th Operations Support Squadron airfield manager. "More than 200,000 tower-controlled operations were done on Randolph's two runways last year. Sending some of the 560th FTS flight operations to the Seguin airfield allows for RSU training and makes room for other pattern operations at JBSA-Randolph."

RSUs are manned by personnel from the flying training squadrons who monitor flight operations to ensure the flights, which are not controlled by air traffic controllers, are safe and have the authority to land and operate.

The Seguin airfield will soon support other components of the training



JOHNNY SALDIVAR

A T-38C Talon lands at the Joint Base San Antonio-Seguin Auxiliary Airfield.

mission with the stand up of undergraduate pilot training and its use by the 559th FTS to train new pilots.

The airfield is also used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Defense Logistics Agency as an incident support base in times of natural disasters such as Hurricane Harvey three years ago.

FEMA can use a portion of the airfield's non-usable ramps and its old runways and taxiways for disaster staging, Fawver said, but the 12th FTW can continue its mission during a natural disaster because the ISB is set up away from flight operations.

Fawver also does not anticipate any impact if disaster staging occurs during the pandemic.

"The pandemic has not really impacted FEMA's potential use of the Seguin airfield in terms of natural disasters, and I'm sure FEMA would also implement COVID-19 procedures during any operation they conducted at

the airfield," he said. "However, their operations would be totally separate from ours, so it's not a risk to our operations from a pandemic standpoint."

The impact of the pandemic at the Seguin airfield is driven by the impact at JBSA-Randolph, Fawver said.

"We've made a few adjustments since March getting us to our current operations procedures," he said. "Essentially, we have a morning crew of instructor pilots, air traffic controllers and airfield management operating the airfield. The airfield closes a little after mid-day, the morning crews leave, and we reopen the airfield about 45 minutes later with a new afternoon crew."

Weather is another consideration at the airfield, Fawver said.

"The weather has an impact on how we schedule flight operations, forcing us to adjust our hours and manning," he said. "From March through May, morning fog or clouds can limit flying, so we scheduled shorter morning hours and longer afternoon hours to maximize the better afternoon flying conditions. However, from June to the present, the morning weather is better and the afternoon heat index above 100 degrees can limit flying, so now we have longer morning flying hours and shorter afternoon hours."

Fawver said COVID-19 procedures are implemented to the maximum in either case.

"Implementing the COVID-19 procedures, and as well as the morning and afternoon flight schedules, impacts manning, and finding time for these sections to have personnel time off and

leave has been a challenge," he said.

The JBSA Fire Emergency Services personnel also play a major role at the Seguin airfield and face the same COVID-19 challenges as the 12th FTW's personnel and students.

"We typically staff the Seguin Fire Station No. 9 with four firefighters," said Robert Ashley, JBSA FES deputy chief. "These personnel will call the 560th FTS to see what their flying hours will be for the day and our personnel will ensure they are in place and ready to provide coverage for the duration of the flight operations for the day. When flying is done for the day, those firefighters are released."

The pandemic has not altered that procedure, Ashley said, but the firefighters adhere to the same procedures that personnel at the other eight JBSA fire stations follow regarding social distancing, wearing masks and sanitation measures.

The fire department has developed an extensive list of COVID-19 protocols that is constantly updated as situations dictate, he said.

One of the firefighters' challenges is maintaining physical distance, Ashley said.

"The fire station is small," he said. "Firefighters have to stagger meal and workout times so they aren't in the same small areas at the same time. It's the same issue at all the fire stations."

Ashley commended all of JBSA's firefighters for their contributions to the mission.

"All of our firefighters take pride in their job and supporting the mission and our communities as needed," he said. "They do an outstanding job."

12TH FTW

From page 17

achievement for the Mighty 12th in the future. I'll be watching you and cheering from afar, thank you."

Wills then presided over the passing of the guidon to Rowe, solidifying his confidence in him as the new commander.

"Col. Rowe has a phenomenal reputation as a leader, instructor pilot, strategist, and forward thinker," Wills said. "You will find no better leader prepared

to take on the challenges of the 12th FTW than Col. Rowe, his combat experience, strategic savvy and world-famous servant leadership will be a perfect fit here, he will truly take the wing to the next level. Congratulations on your new command, you have my full confidence and support."

As the new commander, Rowe addressed those in attendance, thanking them for their support.

"I am fortunate and honored to have the opportunity to command the 12th FTW. I am

from a small town in Mississippi and it never occurred to me something like this was possible," Rowe said. "I have been lucky to have quality mentors who gave me opportunities to prove myself, and I am grateful to them for helping put me in this position. I feel a tremendous sense of responsibility for ensuring that the members of the 12th FTW have the tools they need to accomplish a no-fail mission, I have a lot to learn and I am excited about the challenge, thank you."

12TH OG

From page 17

absolute privilege, and that's especially true when you have great squadron commanders, superintendents, supervisors, and Airmen all working together to make the mission happen."

With a final salute between Airmen and their outgoing commander, a passing of the guidon from Ludington to Moschella, and applause from the crowd, the 12th OG welcomed their new

commander.

Addressing the 12th OG for the first time, Moschella expressed his gratitude to lead the Blacksmiths.

"It is an incredible honor for me, and I feel blessed to have an opportunity to lead and care for the Airmen of the 12th Operations Group. The mission of the 12th OG is incredibly important to our Air Force, and I am dedicated to executing the Blacksmith mission while continuing to innovate the way we train our Airmen."