

# JBSA

# LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

DECEMBER 18, 2020



SARAYUTH PINTHONG

Secretary of the Air Force Barbara M. Barrett bumps elbows with Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond, United States Space Force chief of space operations, at the basic military training graduation Dec. 10 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

## U.S. Space Force makes history at Basic Military Training

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## COVID surge spurs readiness at BAMC

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## U.S. Space Force recruiting efforts gain new leader

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# Air Force moves physical fitness assessments to April 2021

## This move by AF officials also removes waist measurement from composite score permanently

By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

The Department of the Air Force announced physical fitness assessments will now resume April 2021 and will no longer include the waist measurement component.

To ensure social distancing practices remain in place during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and to give Airmen and Space Professionals time to prepare, testing was delayed from October to January and is now further delayed to April.

While the waist measurement is permanently removed from the assessment, height and weight measurements will resume October 2021.

“We trust that our Airmen understand the standard of good physical health practices and we are all finding innovative ways to stay fit,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr. “We also trust that leaders will take the appropriate steps to keep their Airmen safe while making every effort to provide fitness options during the pandemic.”

Fitness assessment cells, fitness center staff, physical training leaders and members performing fitness assessments will adhere to

physical distancing protocols and other local precautions as determined by installation commanders once assessments resume.

Commanders may delay official fitness assessments beyond April 2021 if necessary, based on the recommendation of local public health officials, the continuation of closed fitness centers and extended state-wide restriction of movement and gatherings.

Space Professionals will adhere to the physical fitness policy of the Department of the Air Force.

Airmen and Space Professionals may determine their next fitness assessment due date by visiting the Official Physical Assessment Due Date Matrix on myPers which has been updated and is now available. Fitness assessment due dates will primarily depend on the date and score of the last official test.

“Originally, we hoped to resume testing by January 2021,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass. “However, based on the number of cases nationwide, the right thing to do is focus on keeping our Airmen and their families safe. Delaying and reevaluating the PT test is the best option for our people.”



KEMBERLY GROUE

*Air Force Basic Military Training trainee Chris-Ann Wilmoth, 37th Training Wing Det. 5, Flight 564, participates in a physical training session at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, July 1. To continue minimizing close contact among personnel during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and ensure units and personnel are fully ready to resume, physical fitness testing has been delayed from October to January 2021. Testing in January will proceed without obtaining waist, height and weight measurements.*

The test will still consist of a 1.5-mile run, 1 minute of pushups and 1 minute of situps. However, the composite score will be calculated with full points for the waist measurement portion until system changes can be made.

Department leaders are also looking to reevaluate certain testing criteria moving forward.

“Along with removing the waist measurement, we are also exploring alternative

strength and cardio components to our current Air Force fitness assessment,” Brown said. “We believe these potential test structure changes will impact Airmen in a positive way and help with a holistic approach to health and fitness standards.”

For more information, Airmen and Space Professionals should contact their fitness assessment cells and visit the COVID-19 Fitness Guidance page on myPers.

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  
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ROBERT GOETZ  
RACHEL KERSEY  
AIRMAN 1ST CLASS  
TYLER MCQUISTON  
SABRINA FINE

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

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## Joint Base San Antonio HOTLINES

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

# Feedback Fridays

**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](mailto:jbsapublicaffairs@gmail.com) using the subject line "Feedback Fridays." Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

**Q. I and many of my coworkers are trying to understand why JBSA-Fort Sam Houston has 13 gates open (some 24/7) and JBSA-Randolph (four gates) can't open the East Gate.**

The East Gate accommodates the entire east flight line operations and maintenance teams. It accommodates traffic from Schertz, Cibolo, New Braunfels and Seguin.

Having this gate closed is causing enormous delays at the Main Gate. In some cases it forces drivers to go all the way around the base to the South Gate, causing work reporting delays. It also increases pollution with all the idling vehicles.

Finally, it forces all the normal East Gate traffic to enter the Main Gate and work their way around base housing to get to the East flight line.

**COVID-19 is not an excuse. Operations and maintenance at JBSA-Randolph have been hard at work this entire time. We'd just like some support getting our personnel to work more effectively. Thank you for your time and consideration.**

**A.** Thank you for your suggestions about the JBSA-Randolph gates. Gate availability is based on the need to balance the safety of our JBSA



COURTESY GRAPHIC

community with our mission partner and traffic volume demands.

We regularly monitor these demands for senior leader-requested changes or significant shifts in traffic patterns. We will respond accordingly while maintaining that balance.

To date, our data shows wait times at the gates have decreased to minimal and pre-COVID-19 levels due in part to taking advantage of the South Gate and because a significant portion of JBSA-Randolph's mission partners are still teleworking. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time.

**Q. The Gateway Child Development Center at JBSA-Lackland screens children when they're dropped off in the morning.**

**One morning, I noticed multiple**

**parents had answered "yes" to a screening question and still dropped their child off with the Lackland CDC team.**

**When questioned about this, the staff did not realize the parents had marked "yes" for the question about someone in the household having/showing symptoms of COVID-19.**

**Why do we have these protocols if they're not being used? How can we be sure our children are safe when providers are overlooking these critical questionnaire responses?**

**A.** Thank you for bringing this observation and concern to our attention.

The staff at the Lackland Gateway CDC location who are working the health screening stations have been retrained on their role in receiving

children and the steps to take when a screening question is answered with a "yes."

The management team will also be providing additional oversight to ensure procedures are being properly implemented to reduce the exposure risk within our programs.

The intent of the health screening questions is to gain baseline information about a child's overall health and potential exposure to COVID-19.

When a parent answers "yes" to a question, it is the receiving staff members' responsibility to notify the supervisor on duty. Additional questions may be asked to determine if the child can be admitted into care for that day.

Please feel free to ask to speak with the Lackland CDC director to discuss any additional questions or concerns, in person or call 210-671-3675.

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

The print edition of the JBSA Legacy will not be published on Dec. 25, 2020, or Jan. 1, 2021. We will resume publication Jan. 8, 2021.



# JBSA First Sergeant Diamond Sharp Awards

By Joint Base San Antonio First Sergeants Council

*The Diamond Sharp Award is sponsored by the Joint Base San Antonio First Sergeants Council and recognizes outstanding Airmen who continually exceed the standard to meet the Air Force mission.*



**Tech. Sgt. Michael Mitchell**  
Unit: Headquarters, Air Force Services Center  
Duty Title: Program Manager, Air Force Readiness & Plans  
Tech. Sgt. Michael Mitchell

demonstrated the utmost professionalism in assuming the role of project manager for the Air Force's Contingency Quarters Management Accountability Platform, a program that is set to solve a 20-year mission gap of standardizing contingency quarter's accountability across the Air Force. This responsibility usually falls on senior civilian/military leaders and Mitchell attacked this initiative head-on, partnering with AFWERX and commercial contractors, culminating in this project being awarded \$1.1 million towards maintenance and completion. Mitchell also completed two college courses towards his bachelor's degree and used those skills to improve the efficiency of four Air Force Readiness programs.



**Staff Sgt. Patrick Pinto**  
Unit: 93rd Intelligence Squadron  
Duty Title: Cryptologic Language Analyst  
Staff Sgt. Patrick Pinto is a

top-notch language analyst, leader and wingman. He led an eight-member team that analyzed thousands of intelligence files and managed the data collection processes for 480 personnel covering 1,000 targets. In addition, he took point on tracking records, training and logistics for a stressful unit manpower switch ensuring smooth and clear transition for nine Airmen. Pinto also assisted the first sergeant by facilitating two Airman Leadership School mentoring sessions for five airmen who were slated to attend the course virtually and became their mentor for the duration of the course.



**Staff Sgt. Tariq D. Russell**  
Unit: 802nd Security Forces Squadron  
Duty Title: Emergency Communication Center Controller  
Staff Sgt. Tariq D. Russell is a

highly motivated leader who always strives to inspire the full potential of his 58 flight members. Russell puts in the time to groom his Airmen to grow professionally as they progress

through the enlisted ranks. As vice president of the Defender's Association, despite being limited due to COVID-19 restrictions, Russell partnered with the Unite Program to raise camaraderie and morale throughout the unit. Russell acquired \$5,757 for the 500-plus-member squadron, enabling each section to host the socially distanced event of their choice for the holiday season. As a violence prevention and resiliency trainer, Russell was instrumental in the success of the Department of Defense Suicide Awareness and Sexual Assault Prevention training.



**Senior Airman Alec Worden**  
Unit: 35th Intelligence Squadron  
Duty Title: Malware Team Lead

Senior Airman Alec Worden has gone above and beyond the call to showcase his talents as a leader and has constantly been involved and engaged with one of the newest members of the squadron. He has consistently strived to do what he can to better provide for this new Airman and set their family up for success upon arrival on station. Worden has embodied what it means to be a wingman by stepping in, not only using his words to support his fellow Airman but by his actions following suit. Being a great wingman is something we all strive for and this member has hit the pinnacle by taking care of his fellow Airmen in a time when they needed him most.



**Senior Airman Cameryn Berti**  
Unit: 502nd Security Forces Squadron  
Duty Title: Patrolman

Senior Airman Cameryn Berti displays impeccable leadership, integrity and loyalty. She achieved a 100 percent grade on her installation patrolman duty position evaluation. She then shared her knowledge with three Airmen and helped with their upgrade and on-the-job training, inspiring them to achieve an average score of 98 percent on their evaluations. Berti recently completed three college classes towards her associate's degree, achieved a 4.0-grade point average and sparked others to enroll. She clearly embodies what it means to be "Diamond Sharp."

**Airman 1st Class Eric Grays**  
Unit: 802nd Force Support Squadron  
Duty Title: Customer Support Technician  
Airman 1st Class Eric Grays is one of the top site security managers for the second-largest Force Support Squadron Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System site. Due to COVID restrictions, he has been instrumental in the online ID card process



for dependents and retirees, processing more than 160 online ID card renewals and reducing the customer wait time by 90 percent. Grays has completed 18 credit hours towards his bachelor of science degree in health administration, maintaining a 4.0-grade point average. He receives numerous positive Interactive Customer Evaluation comments and has been praised by senior leadership. Grays' long-term goals include commissioning to become a personnel officer or pilot.



**Airman 1st Class Juan Rojas**  
Unit: 454th Electronic Warfare Squadron  
Duty Title: Electronic Warfare Signals Analysis

Airman 1st Class Juan Rojas has been at the top of his game, relentlessly supporting our booster club at fundraising events at a critical time during the COVID-19 pandemic. He has coordinated events in the local community which drove us to reach a \$4,000 goal to fully fund the squadron's holiday events. Rojas spends his free time with community service events, such as supporting the San Antonio Food Bank at a time when our community needs it the most. He has been a phenomenal leader in the office with his core duties and constantly elevates the competency levels of the Airman around him.



**Seaman Victoria Gerow**  
Unit: 59th Dental Training Squadron  
Duty Title: Dental Technician

Seaman Victoria Gerow, a Navy hospital corpsman, is a dental assistant assigned to the Tri-Service Orthodontic Residency, which provides care to more than 10,000 tri-service members and beneficiaries. Her efforts resulted in graduating 11 dental officers in receiving their master's degree in oral biology from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Gerow also supported front desk operations in calling and confirming patients which reduced patient failures, as well as facilitating room inspections for 30 dental treatment rooms which achieved a 100 percent pass rate. Gerow coordinated a successful Thanksgiving event for 30 members and volunteered at the San Antonio Food Bank, helping to construct 100 meal baskets to benefit local families.

# Resilience during holidays can be daunting, but possible

By Lori A. Bultman

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The holiday season can be an exciting time, full of gift giving, visits with friends and relatives, delicious meals, or spending quiet time at home with loved ones. For some, the season may not be as joyful — a lonely time full of negative thoughts and difficult circumstances, such as the ongoing pandemic.

Joint Base San Antonio offers many programs and services which can help lift spirits and assist in navigating the holidays in a positive way.

Chap. (Lt. Col.) Larry J. Fowler, a 502nd Air Base Wing chaplain, said anyone can feel down during the holidays for a multitude of reasons, to include distance, grief, guilt and regret, or perfection and comparison.

"Being away from parents, siblings or extended family can be difficult during the holidays," Fowler said. "Emotional distance brought about by a strained relationship can make the holidays daunting instead of delightful.

"One of the perennial struggles we face is deployment and if you are separated by deployment during December ... it sucks. Find the balance between crying in your coffee and taking pride in the selfless service of your family member," he said. "Remember, deployments come and go. You and your family will make it through this one and the next as well."

Grief is another difficult thing to cope with during the holidays.

"Walking through a holiday and remembering a loved one who passed recently or even many years ago can wear on our hearts," Fowler said. "Grief is a strange thing that seems to have a life of its own. Give yourself time and space to grieve, knowing that emotional pain is a sign of life, growth and humanity."

For some, feelings of guilt and regret can surface more during the holidays.

"All of the would've, should've and could've's of life can work against us. Mispasted guilt and regret over things in our past are of no value as they do not help or resolve anything," Fowler said. "Addressing real issues can be of benefit; but playing the 'what-if' game with our past mistakes is a no-win situation."



**Military Family Life Counselors  
at JBSA can be contacted at:**  
**JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, 210-835-5848;**  
**JBSA-Lackland, 210-984-1076 or 210-238-5528;**  
**or JBSA-Randolph, 210-744-4829 or 210-966-4037**

**For information on  
JBSA chapel holiday events, visit  
[www.jbsa.mil/Resources/Chaplain-Services/](http://www.jbsa.mil/Resources/Chaplain-Services/)**

COURTESY GRAPHIC

*Joint Base San Antonio offers many programs and services which can help lift spirits and assist in navigating the holidays in a positive way.*

Fowler said it is best to be honest and realistic in regard to self-induced guilt and recognize that regret is of no value.

"If you need catharsis, then speak with a priest, pastor or professional counselor ... or anyone who really cares and is willing to listen," Fowler said. "It may be your turn to be the listener this year, but talking with others can truly help lift the emotional burdens that sometimes pop up during the holidays."

When it comes to family celebrations, some want things to be so perfect and flawless that they lose perspective.

"Make peace with the truth that your house doesn't have to look like something out of a Hallmark Christmas

movie or compete with a magazine photo montage," Fowler said. "Real people don't live in those worlds. Embrace the joys of a messy house, burnt turkey and lumpy gravy. They reflect the realness of life for busy military families.

"Don't get sucked into the black hole that is social media," he said. "Don't despair that your posts aren't as glorious as some of your friends. It's your holiday, enjoy it."

If you are separated from your family over the holidays, Fowler suggests finding positive people to be a part of your life, and for those who are definitely in the holiday spirit, why not reach out to someone whose holiday

might not be so jolly?

"Whether it's a co-worker, a relative, or friend who is alone, a phone call just to check in on them can mean the world," Fowler said. "Perhaps invite someone to your home, or elsewhere, to talk and share some time together — keeping COVID-19 restrictions in mind, of course."

Fowler also said the holiday season is a good opportunity to exercise your faith tradition.

"Our community is rich with a wide array of faith traditions," he said. "Our military chapels have a wide variety of services and events taking place."

Information on chapel holiday events is posted on the JBSA chapel Facebook pages, which can be found at: [www.jbsa.mil/Resources/Chaplain-Services/](http://www.jbsa.mil/Resources/Chaplain-Services/).

There are also multiple programs JBSA members can utilize to find assistance, free of charge.

"Military members are blessed with a toolkit full of resources to help with the struggles of life," Fowler said. "On a personal basis, since 2006 I have used the Military Family Life Counselors. They offer free, confidential (except for duty to report items) counseling. I have walked into their offices, or had them come to my office, and I have utilized their professional skills to address my struggles and troubles, both real and imagined."

Military Family Life Counselors at JBSA can be contacted at: JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, 210-835-5848; JBSA-Lackland, 210-984-1076 or 210-238-5528; or JBSA-Randolph, 210-744-4829 or 210-966-4037.

As the New Year approaches, Fowler said it is important to look ahead.

"2020 has been a difficult year in numerous ways. Truth is, life can be tough with or without a pandemic," he said. "I encourage people to gain a broader perspective on their current struggles and consider the truth that, while it may be tough right now, it will get better."

"Lean upon the best aspects of your faith, family and friends to help you walk through the tough spots of life," he added. "Remember, the tough patches will work out. You can, and will, work through to a better, brighter future."

# FORT SAM HOUSTON

## Winter is coming: COVID surge spurs readiness efforts at BAMC

By Elaine Sanchez

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

With COVID-19 cases on the rise across the nation, Brooke Army Medical Center is bracing for the impact of the coming winter months as colder weather drives people indoors where the virus is more likely to spread.

Equipped with lessons learned, BAMC is preparing to shift resources and personnel to ensure hospital readiness in the event of a patient increase. On the preventive front, leaders continue to underscore the importance of safety measures such as hand washing, face coverings, personal protective equipment and physical distancing.

“The ability to remain flexible and agile, while ensuring the delivery of safe, high quality care, has been vital since the start of the pandemic,” said Brig. Gen. Shan Bagby, BAMC commanding general. “Nearly a year ago, the San Antonio Military Health System moved out quickly to ensure the safety of our patients and staff and we continue, as a system, to do everything possible to preserve their health and wellbeing.”

### Decision points

Key leaders at BAMC continually assess current conditions, both within the SAMHS, Joint Base San Antonio and across the community to ensure “we are all in step with each other and working effectively as a team,” explained Air Force Col.



JAMES CAMILLOCCI

*April Pace, a registered nurse, enters a patient room in a COVID-19 intensive care unit at Brooke Army Medical Center, July 17.*

Heather Yun, Deputy Commander for Medical Services. Leaders across the organization also evaluate personnel and resources, to include PPE, on a daily, sometimes hourly, basis, to ensure they are tracking trigger points for every contingency.

“These assessments help shape our posture and ensure we are ready to respond quickly and appropriately, whether it’s scaling back elective surgeries to increase bed capacity or leaning more heavily on virtual care to protect patients and

preserve PPE,” Bagby said.

Healthcare personnel is a trickier resource to manage for a military hospital. Unlike their civilian counterparts, military personnel are called on to deploy in support of overseas operations, as well as humanitarian missions and stateside efforts. In recent days, numerous BAMC healthcare professionals have been assisting in hard-hit areas of North Dakota as well as in El Paso, about eight hours west of San Antonio.

BAMC has also offered to

accept non-COVID-19 beneficiaries from William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, freeing up their capacity to admit additional TRICARE patients with COVID-19 as needed.

“BAMC is proud to support our El Paso neighbors and colleagues,” Bagby said. “We will continue to work alongside our Military Health System partner to help relieve the stress on their local healthcare system as needed.”

In the event of a patient increase and to avoid shortages

to critical care areas, BAMC is prepared to draw nurses and technicians from outpatient clinics as well as lean on its partner, the Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center, which is housed in the hospital.

These efforts combined have helped to ensure BAMC stands ready to support both military and community-based missions.

“The keys to our success so far have been in communication, deference to expertise, and collaboration, and we are relying on those in our current response as well to keep us agile and on the right track,” Yun said. “We are in constant communication with our staff from all across the organization to ensure that concerns are addressed as early and effectively as possible, before they become safety issues. And we are relying on our subject matter experts who are keeping up with the science and advances in their field to provide counsel and refine our responses.”

### Community support

As with all military hospitals, BAMC primarily provides care to active duty, military retirees and family members. However, as the only Level I Trauma Center in the Defense Department, BAMC has a unique community role within the local trauma network.

Alongside its Level I partner, University Health System, BAMC administers lifesaving care to more than 4,500 trauma patients each year, including 750 burn patients, from an area

BAMC continues on 9

# ARNORTH to oversee military COVID-19 operation in Wisconsin

By Lt. Col. Martin O'Donnell  
DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT TO  
FEMA COVID-19

At the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, approximately 45 U.S. Army medical personnel, part of a Department of Defense COVID-19 operation, will deploy to Wisconsin this week.

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

"Wisconsin, we stand with you in solidarity as part of the whole-of-America response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in support of FEMA," said Lt. Gen. Laura J. Richardson, ARNORTH and JFLCC commander. "Working together, alongside our local, state and federal partners, we

are committed to caring for Wisconsinites in need and to mitigating this virus."

The military medical personnel, part of two Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces, will come from several locations and support four hospitals across the state.

One UAMTF is comprised primarily of personnel from U.S. Army Medical Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, while the other is comprised primarily of personnel from the 531st Hospital Center, Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

The personnel from UAMTF-MEDCOM and UAMTF-531 will support the Marshfield Medical Centers in the cities of Marshfield, Eau Claire, Beaver Dam and Rice Lake.

Under the command of ARNORTH, elements of Task Force 46, formed primarily by

the Michigan Army National Guard's 46th Military Police Command, deployed to Madison, Wisconsin, to assist in the arrival of the UAMTFs. Designated as "Task Force Center," this scalable organization will provide oversight of the military medical teams.

Personnel from the U.S. Army's 62nd Medical Brigade from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, will also assist TF-Center with command and control.

Additionally, elements of the U.S. Army Reserve's 377th Theater Sustainment Command from New Orleans, Louisiana, and the 4th Expeditionary Sustainment Command from San Antonio, Texas, along with elements of the 1st Infantry Division's Sustainment Brigade from Fort Riley, Kansas, will provide multi-component sustainment services to the military medical teams.



LUIS DEVA

*U.S. Army Capt. Stacey Johnson, critical care nurse from Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force-627, provides positioning aids to a COVID-19 patient, July 10 at Baptist Hospital, in San Antonio. U.S. Northern Command, through U.S. Army North, is providing military support to states in need.*

# Know how to celebrate holiday season safely

By Richard S. Campos

JBSA FIRE EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Christmas season can be the most joyous of times, but can also be deadly if people are not careful.

Each year, approximately 400 fires occur that involve Christmas trees, according to the National Fire Protection Association, or NFPA, resulting in more than a dozen deaths, numerous injuries and more than \$10 million in property loss and damage.

Short-circuiting tree lights are cited as the leading cause, while more than a third of home fires are started by candles.

Joint Base San Antonio-Fire Emergency Services and the NFPA offers these safety tips for a safe holiday season.

## Picking the tree

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

## Placing the tree

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

## Lighting the tree

- ▶ Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- ▶ Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.
- ▶ Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.



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

COURTESY GRAPHIC

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

## After Christmas

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

## Christmas tree fast facts

- ▶ Nearly one of every three home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- ▶ Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ▶ A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly one in every four of the fires.

## Holiday decorating

- ▶ Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- ▶ Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- ▶ Some holiday lights are only for indoor or outdoor

use, but usually not both.

- ▶ Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- ▶ Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- ▶ Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

## Holiday entertaining

- ▶ Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- ▶ Keep matches and pets away from lit candles.
- ▶ Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- ▶ Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- ▶ Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- ▶ Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

## Decorating fast facts

- ▶ More than a third of home decorations fires started by candles.
- ▶ Forty-two percent of decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.
- ▶ Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- ▶ Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

JBSA-Fire Emergency Services reminds you as you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. For more information about winter holiday safety, visit the National Fire Prevention Association website at <http://www.nfpa.org/education> or contact the Fire Prevention Offices at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-221-2727, at JBSA-Lackland at 210-671-2921 or at JBSA-Randolph at 210-652-6915.

## BAMC

From page 7

that stretches across 22 counties in Southwest Texas and encompasses 2.2 million people.

Of the over 4,500 trauma patients admitted each year, about 85 percent are community members without military affiliation. The Secretary of the Army Designee, or SECDES, program enables BAMC to receive civilian trauma patients in a military treatment facility. Traumas range from gunshot wounds and stabbings to vehicle accidents and severe burns, many of which bear

striking similarities to combat wounds. As a trauma center, service members from a vast array of specialties are able to hone valuable medical skills while aiding the community they call home.

"Our close partnership with Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC), University Health System (UHS) and the other local healthcare systems allows BAMC to seamlessly integrate into community crisis responses," said Air Force Col. Patrick Osborn, Deputy Commander for Surgical Services.

Working alongside STRAC, which coordinates the region's

trauma and disaster relief response, and UHS, BAMC is fully integrated within the local trauma network, Osborn said.

## Critical care

This has been evident in recent months. This past summer, BAMC took on additional trauma patients to ease capacity at local hospitals. Additionally, BAMC continues to care for the area's most critically ill COVID-19 patients, to include beneficiaries, veterans and civilian patients, through the use of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or ECMO, treatment, Osborn noted.

ECMO is a heart-lung

bypass system that circulates blood through an external artificial lung, oxygenates it, and delivers it back into the bloodstream. Rather than treat the condition, ECMO performs the job of the patient's heart and lungs, buying the patient precious time to respond to treatments and heal. Requiring a highly specialized team and equipment, BAMC is one of a few hospitals within the city with this capability, and as with trauma, accepts civilian patients through the SECDES program.

"As much as able, BAMC is easing the burden on local healthcare resources by admitting civilian ECMO

patients and seeking out military beneficiaries that can be transferred from community hospitals," Osborn said.

The mutual support of BAMC's military and community partners is key to mission success, the commander noted.

"Due to their support and the expertise of this team, the San Antonio Military Health is able to continue to ensure safe, quality care for our 250,000 active duty and military beneficiaries while preserving its readiness role as a worldwide response platform and sustaining the Level I trauma support of our region," Bagby said.



# CCAF program helps Airmen further careers, education

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Several Joint Base San Antonio Airmen are furthering their education and enhancing their military careers through an Air Force program that allows them to take courses toward a college degree.

The Community College of the Air Force, or CCAF, is a federally chartered academic institution serving approximately 270,000 active-duty, National Guard, and Reserve Component enlisted members of the U.S. Air Force and Space Force. It offers classes with 112 affiliated Air Force and Space Force schools and has 300 Air Force education service offices and centers throughout the world, making CCAF the world's largest community college system.

Annually, CCAF awards more than 22,000 Associate in Applied Science degrees for 71 programs. The college program is optional and voluntary for Airmen to pursue.

Torrice Mitchell, JBSA-Lackland Air Force Education Center education services specialist, said enlisted Air Force service members are automatically enrolled in CCAF once they are in technical school.

Airmen can earn college credits for courses they take in technical school, and after they complete technical school, they can expand on those credits to earn an associate degree through CCAF, which takes 64 semester hours to complete, according to Mitchell.

The program gives Air Force service members the opportunity to earn a college degree based on their job or specialty within the Air Force.

Mitchell said the CCAF program provides Airmen with the opportunity to obtain a college education while serving their country.

"Airmen are afforded a head start in their college education by both learning their skill within the Air Force and learning their craft," Mitchell said. "By doing so, their training courses earn college credit. As they are continuing to learn about their job, they have the opportunity to use tuition assistance to help pay for those courses to complete their degree."

Mitchell said CCAF provides degree programs for most specialties and jobs in the Air Force, from force support to human resources specialist to logistics.

He said Air Force Education Centers

located at JBSA-Lackland, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Randolph provide guidance, support and counseling to CCAF enrolled enlisted members on what programs are available to them, the requirements needed to complete each degree program, and financial options available, including tuition assistance, Veterans Affairs benefits, Montgomery GI Bill, Post 9/11 GI Bill, scholarships and grants.

Master Sgt. James Sturgis, 802nd Force Support Squadron first sergeant at JBSA-Lackland, earned an associate degree in human resources through CCAF this year. He plans to apply the knowledge and skills he learned to be more effective at his job.

"There were a lot of different aspects of the requirements to fulfill a degree that I can apply directly to my job," Sturgis said. "Everything from communications to cross cultural leadership, personnel, the expanding and understanding of different personnel personalities, to how to effectively lead."

As the 802nd FSS first sergeant, Sturgis is a key enlistment advisor to the squadron commander and senior leaders, and he works in many areas related to personnel, including maintaining discipline, standards, warfare and personal orientation.

In addition, he provides guidance for administrative actions and assists with performance reports, awards, decorations and promotions, and professional military education.

Sturgis said this, his second associate's degree from CCAF, is helping further his education, and he plans to complete a master's degree in communication and leadership. Earlier in his 16-year Air Force career, he earned an associate degree in aviation maintenance and technology, which allowed him to pursue and complete

a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in computer and military sciences.

Sturgis encourages other military members to further their education and knowledge, but it is up to them to decide if and how to set and meet their education goals.

"Nobody is going to make you do it, you have to have some type of desire to continue your education," he said.

Mitchell said the CCAF program is flexible, as students can take classes online or in-person. Students can take courses through accredited Air Force training or through an accredited civilian institution approved by the Department of Defense and through guidance by an Air Force education office or service center.

The CCAF program is overseen by Air University, based out of Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, which oversees the full spectrum of Air Force education programs, from pre-commissioning to the highest levels of professional military education, including degree granting and professional continuing education for officers, enlisted and civilian personnel.

Through the Air University Associate to Bachelor's Program, or ABC, CCAF graduates who have completed their associate degree are allowed to transfer their college credits to participating higher education institutions, who will count those credits toward a bachelor's degree program.

The JBSA members who received their CCAF degrees this fall, including Sturgis, were recognized during a ceremony utilizing COVID-19 protocols Nov. 4 at the Bob Hope Theater at JBSA-Lackland.

For information on CCAF, contact the Air Force Education Centers at JBSA-Lackland, 210-671-8710; JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, 210-221-0852; or JBSA-Randolph, 210-652-5964.



JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

# FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

## Monthly Events

January

### Attention

Due to COVID-19 event times and dates may change, and for the safety of both staff and customers, current COVID-19 guidance will be followed at all locations.

### Bowling

#### Bowlers save over the holiday

Come out to the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center Jan. 16-17 during normal operation hours to celebrate the Martin Luther King Holiday Weekend and receive a coupon for "Bowl Two Games and Get One Free" on a return visit. The special bowling rate is \$2.75 (excluding Strike Club) per game, per person with \$3 shoe rental. For more information, please call 210-652-6271.

#### Fridays just got better at the bowling center

Head over to the JBSA-Lackland Skylark Bowling Center Fridays in Jan. (excluding Jan. 1) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Friday Fun Day. Patrons will receive 50% off the normal hourly rate to rent a lane. Instead of paying \$15 per hour, patrons will only pay \$7.50 per hour to rent a lane. For more information, call 210-671-1234.

#### Single military members bowl the night away

Single active-duty military members can bowl three games with shoe rental included at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. all month in Jan. and Feb. For more information, call 210-221-4740 or 210-221-3683.

#### Lunch combos come with bowling coupons

Come to the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center for a great lunch time deal. Purchase a combo meal and receive a Bounce Back Coupon for the Saturday Strike Club at the special rate of "Buy Two Hours and Get an Hour Free". For more information, call 210-652-6271.

### Canyon Lake

#### Patrons save money

Save money with every visit to the JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake with the purchase of an annual pass. The cost is only \$75 per year, with addition passes for family members costing \$25. Each annual pass covers a vehicle and boat trailer day pass, with full access to both military entrances. Enjoy the lake, trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, and everything else the park has to offer. For more information, call 830-964-3576.

#### Boat rentals come with a bonus

Rent a boat at the JBSA Recreation park @ Canyon Lake twice for eight hours in the months of January and February and get the third rental half off. The price includes all required safety equipment such as life vests but does not include fuel. The rentals are on a reservation only basis.

Now is your chance to take advantage of a less crowded lake and save money. Email [jbsamarinasuper@gmail.com](mailto:jbsamarinasuper@gmail.com) for reservations. You must have taken the boater's safety course through the State of Texas to be able to rent a boat. For more information, call 830-964-3576.

### Clubs

#### Customers are appreciated

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club hosts Customer Appreciation Night Jan. 12 from 5-7 p.m. in the Fiesta Ballroom with entertainment provided by DJ Tony Style. The price is \$12.50 for members and \$15.50 for nonmembers. No coupons are accepted.

The entrees include beef tenderloin with Port wine sauce, chicken Bordeaux with white wine sauce, sautéed mushrooms and red grapes, and roast pork loin stuffed with dried fruit. The menu also includes parsley red potatoes, mixed wild rice, steamed broccoli with red peppers, mixed vegetables, Southwest salad with creamy avocado dressing, clam chowder, rolls, fresh fruit cups, caramel cheese cake with mixed berries and double carrot cake. For more information, call 210-645-7034.

#### Bingo fun is at the club

Bingo takes place every Sunday at 3 p.m. and Monday-Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club Ballroom. There is limited and social distanced seating. Admission is free for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Members have the chance to win full jackpots and nonmembers can try to win half jackpots. Don't forget to play every Tuesday and Wednesday to qualify for the monthly member prize give-away. Prizes for January are large screen TVs.

Bingo Extravaganza is held Jan. 11 and 25 at 6:30 p.m. Join us for a chance to win a jackpot of up to \$15,000.

Birthday Bingo is on Jan. 12. Celebrate your birthday with us and receive a complimentary bingo machine. Randolph Club members only along with DoD ID and proof of membership required. For more information, please call 210-652-3056.

#### Customers get food on the fly

Try the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club's new menu, which includes salads, burgers, club sandwiches, chicken sandwiches, wraps, chicken tenders, chicken wings, tacos, fries, onion rings and much more. Now offering an on-base delivery service Monday - Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-8 p.m. Please call 210-569-2510 to place your order for on-base delivery. Delivery is free for members and just \$2.95 for all others. For more information, call 210-652-3056.

Family meals to go are offered at the JBSA-Randolph Parr Club Wednesdays and Fridays with Pick-up times between 3:30-5:30 p.m. Family meals consist of fried or

baked chicken, fried or smothered pork chops, chicken fried steak and savory sides. Orders must be placed at least the day before the pickup date. To place an order, call 210-569-2510. Orders can also be placed at [jbsarandolphclubs@gmail.com](mailto:jbsarandolphclubs@gmail.com) or on the member planet website. For more information, call 210-658-7445.

#### Patrons relax after a long week

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club is the place to be Friday in January. Come out Jan. 8, 15, 22 and 29 for Variety Night as DJ Tony Style plays a wide variety of music in the Lone Star Lounge from 5-10 p.m. Relax and decompress after the long work week. For more information call, 210-645-7034.

### Community Programs

#### Bingo is played from home

Join JBSA Community Programs on Facebook Live for a free Virtual Bingo Night on Friday, Jan. 22 at 7:00 p.m. This event is fun for all ages and great for the whole family to play along. Register at "[www.facebook.com/JBSA502FSS](https://www.facebook.com/JBSA502FSS)". Deadline to register is Thursday Jan. 21. This event is sponsored by First Command, USAA and RBCU. No federal endorsement of sponsors is intended. For more information, call 210-652-5763.

### Community Services

#### Patrons set their eyes on the prize at bingo

Grab your friends and join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Community Center Jan. 8 from 6-9 p.m. for the first Designer Purse Bingo of the year. The cost is \$35. Light snacks will be provided and beverages are available for purchase. For more information call, 210-808-6263.

#### Customers get frames made at a discount

Both the JBSA-Lackland and the JBSA-Randolph Frame Shops offer discounted framing services for all of your framing needs. Their expert framers will help you design a one of a kind custom frame to display your precious memories or special achievements. Don't let these accomplishments fade away; preserve them for a lifetime. In addition, they will match any off-base price on a comparable custom framing job, and you pay no sales tax. For questions about framing, please call 210-671-5503 for JBSA-Lackland or 210-652-5142 for JBSA-Randolph.

#### Vehicles stay road ready all year long

Remember winter months can be extremely brutal on vehicles even here in Texas. Don't get stranded in the cold. The full-service department provides vehicle maintenance services including antifreeze/coolant flushes, new thermostats, charging and starting system tests, as well as battery services, COVID disinfection, state inspections, front-end alignments, shocks and struts as well as A/C

# JBSA FSS

service. The self-service side of the house gives the do-it-yourselfers a place to work on a vehicle and access to tools patrons may not have at home. Don't get stranded in the cold. Let the technicians at the Auto Hobby Shop ensure your vehicle is in good shape for the Texas winter roads, so call us for an appointment at 210-671-3549.

## Patrons learn a new musical skill

Arnold Hall at JBSA-Lackland has a great opportunity for anyone looking to learn an instrument. Piano and violin lessons are offered every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. If you live close to JBSA-Randolph and don't want to drive to JBSA-Lackland for a lesson, we have you covered by offering virtual lessons. Students must have their own violin. 30-minute sessions cost \$25 each. For more information, please call at 210-671-2619.

## Equestrian Center

### Patrons learn the art of horseback riding

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center offers horseback riding lessons for beginners and advanced riders in both English and Western style riding. Therapeutic riding lessons are also available and taught by certified instructors. Horses, saddles and tack for lessons will be provided if needed. Patrons must be at least seven years old. The price is \$60 per hour for a private lesson, \$50 for semi-private and \$40 for group lessons. Lessons are available most days of the week and in the evenings. All lessons are by appointment only. For more information, call 210-224-7207.

### Trail rides offered

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

### Children go on pony rides

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

### Patrons board their horses

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center has paddocks and stalls for boarding your horse, a covered arena, two outdoor rings, round pen, wash racks, a hot-walker and many more amenities so call us for more information. Active-duty military personnel have priority. For more information, call 210-224-7207.

## Fitness

### Newcomers to the gym learn proper form

We all need to know the proper way of lifting and getting ourselves stronger through safe and effective strength training. Come to the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center on Jan. 10, at 11:20 a.m. for a beginner resistant training class. This class is perfect for individuals who would like to start a strength training program or simply just want to know more about strength training. This takes place in exercise room 128. For more information, call 210-652-7263.

### Athletes test their strength

Stop by the JBSA-Lackland Chaparral Fitness Center Jan. 12 at 11:30 a.m. for the Pyramid of Gains. Try out this free, fun and challenging body weight workout. Each participant will go through three rounds involving a series of body weight exercises starting with 10 pushups and ending with one pull-up. For more information, call 210-671-2401.

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO**  
**INFORMATION, TICKETS & TRAVEL**  
**NOW OPEN!**

**JBSA ITT LOCATIONS**  
 Tuesday-Saturday  
 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 For more information, call  
 Lackland: (210) 671-3059  
 Randolph (Kendrick Club): (850) 266-9333  
 Fort Sam Houston: (210) 808-1378

**LACKLAND LEISURE TRAVEL**  
 Tues.-Fri. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
 Open for appointments only. Email  
 info@jbsatravel.com or call (210)  
 671-7111 to make an appointment  
 or for more information.

To ensure the safety of the staff and customers  
 current Covid-19 guidance will be followed.

### Competition heats up at the fitness center

The JBSA-Lackland Gillum Fitness Center is hosting a Push-Up/Sit-Up contest on Jan. 15 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Patrons have two minutes to do as many push-ups and sit-ups they can. The male and female with the highest combined score wins. This event is open to all DoD ID cardholders and is a free event. Prizes will be given to top male and female with the best score. For more information, please contact the Gillum Fitness Center at 210-977-2353.

Come to the JBSA-Lackland Chaparral Fitness Center Jan. 19 at 11:30 a.m. and bring a group of friends or

coworkers and show off your skills in this free single elimination Knockout Basketball Competition. The sign up deadline is Jan. 18. For more information, call 210-671-2401.

## FAMILY FUN DAY

**JBSA-LACKLAND  
 SKYLARK BOWLING CENTER**

**Jan, 8, 15, 22 and 29  
 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**50% off the normal hourly rate to rent a lane  
 Was \$15/hour, now \$7.50/ hour on Family Day!**



### Get an upper hand on personal fitness

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Central Post Fitness Center offers equipment orientation and a body fat fitness assessment. Stop by Mon.-Wed. from 7-11 a.m. or call 210-221-3593 for an appointment to get a free body fat assessment. This is open to all DoD ID cardholders. Social distancing is enforced and face coverings must be worn when social distancing can't be maintained. For more information, call 210-221-3593.

### Patrons rebuild themselves for the new year

Challenge yourself at the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center all year with this self-monitored program, running from at the Rambler Fitness Center. All you have to do is pick up your "New Year Program" tracking card from our staff and start your 7-mile run/walk, 24 group aerobic classes and 3-mile bike ride. Participants will receive a t-shirt once they complete the required activities and distances. For more information, call 210-652-7263.

### Patrons register for a virtual 5K/10K

The JBSA Fitness Center teams encourage everyone to partake in a virtual New Year, New You 5K/10K run. Registration is now open on [www.itsyourrace.com](http://www.itsyourrace.com). The cost is only \$12 per person and all paid registrations include a T-shirt, however, sizes can't be guaranteed and T-shirts will be given out on a first come first served basis. The fastest three males and females in each race distance win a \$25 gift card to Academy. In order to qualify for the \$25 gift

card, participants must download the IYR Virtual app to track their run. Run your race any time between Jan. 4 and Jan. 26 by simply clicking "start race" in the IYR app. Once you start tracking your race, the app will only allow you to pause for brief periods. T-shirts will be available for pick up Jan. 4-26. This event is sponsored by First Command. No Federal endorsement of sponsors is intended.

Join us for our virtual Chasing Cupid 5K/10K Feb. 1-26. Registration opens Jan. 15 on [www.itsyourrace.com](http://www.itsyourrace.com). The cost is only \$12 per person and all paid registrations include a T-shirt, however, sizes can't be guaranteed. T-shirts will be given out on a first come, first served basis. The fastest three males/females in each race distance win a \$25 gift card to a restaurant to celebrate you and your significant other. In order to qualify for the prize, participants must download the IYR Virtual app to track their run. Run your race any time between Feb. 1 and Feb. 26 by simply clicking "start race" in the IYR app. Once you start tracking your race, the app will only allow you to pause for brief periods. T-shirts will be available for pick up Feb. 1-26.

T-shirts for both runs will be available for pick up at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, the JBSA-Lackland Warhawk Fitness Center and the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center any time after you have registered and paid once the run has opened. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center at 210-221-1234. The JBSA-Lackland Warhawk Fitness Center at 210-671-2016. Or the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center at 210-652-7263.

## Golf

### Golfers compete in a scramble

Come to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course Jan. 8 at 12:30 p.m. for the Warrior Golf Scramble. The cost is \$30 for DoD ID cardholders and Fort Sam Houston Golf Club members and \$40 for nonmembers. Price includes green fee, golf cart and box lunch for players. The event is limited to the first 60 paid players. For more information, call 210-221-5863.

On Jan. 18 the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course hosts a one player scramble starting at 9 a.m. Players will get a second putt on every hole and all other shots will be regular individual stroke. The entry fee is \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers and includes green fees, cart rental and prizes. For more information, call 210-222-9386.

### Sunset brings a challenge

Everyone is encouraged to come out Jan. 11 and 25 at 5:30 p.m. to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course for the Night time par 3 Challenge. This nighttime event is a Nine-Hole Individual Stroke Par 3 Challenge. The entry fee is \$20 for members and \$30 for nonmembers and includes green fees, cart rental, night golf supplies and prizes. Registration is required by noon on the day of the event. For more information, call 210-221-5863

### Golfers compete in a holiday shamble

Join the JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course Jan. 18 for a two-person shamble. Tee times run from 7-9 a.m. This is a fun format where you choose the best tee shot then play

your own ball from that point and record the lower of the two scores. The cost is \$20 per person plus cart and green fee. Net and Gross will be paid to teams that place. The team handicap is the lower of the two handicaps. Stop by the Pro Shop or call to 210-652-4653 for more information or to sign up.


**The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Harlequin Theatre**

# Classic Rewind

Jan. 22-Feb. 20

A concert-style music revue spotlighting the singer-songwriters and classic rock groups of the 1970s. Featuring music written and performed by Fleetwood Mac, Tom Petty, Kiss, Linda Ronstadt, Rod Stewart, Queen, Elton John, Janis Joplin & Heart

For information & ticket prices call the Harlequin at (210) 222-9694





Doors open at  
7 p.m. with table  
side bar service.

**Tickets**

Adult	\$22	Military	\$20
Student	\$18	Child	\$10

(Age 12 & younger)

2652 Harney Path • (210) 222-9694  
Open to the Public

### Patrons take on an individual challenge

Swing by the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course Jan. 18 at 8 a.m. For a par three challenge. Individuals play an individual stroke play challenge. Entry fee is \$20 per person before COB on Jan. 14 and \$30 after Jan. 14. This is the first event of the 2021 Gateway Cup Series. Fee does not include green fee and cart fee. For more information, call 210-671-3466.

### Golf clubs are repaired at the pro shop

The JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course is now servicing the JBSA Golf community and can modify clubs to meet all needs. If you need new shafts, grips, a swing weight change, loft or lie angle adjustments or more than Marty Mendez and Eric Stafki are here to help. They can be reached Monday-Friday during standard business hours at 843-655-7508 or 915-996-7694.

### Lunchtime loyalty brings savings

Pick up a meal card and get a punch every time you spend \$10 or more on food in the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Club snack bar. After 10 punches, customers earn a free meal not to exceed a \$10 value. For JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph Golf Courses, customers get a punch on their card for every combo purchased and after 10 punches; they earn the 11th combo free. For more information, call

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-221-5863. JBSA-Lackland at 210-671-3466, and JBSA-Randolph at 210-652-4653.

## Information Tickets & Travel

### Information, tickets & travel are open for business

JBSA Information, Tickets and Travel locations are open and ready to handle all your vacation needs to include tickets, lodging and transportation. All locations are open Tuesday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Leisure Travel at JBSA-Lackland is open Tues.-Fri. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call the following numbers to make reservations or for more information. For JBSA-Fort Sam Houston call 210-808-1378, for JBSA-Lackland call 210-671-3059 and to reach JBSA-Randolph, call 803-266-9333.

## Military & Family Readiness

### Participants discover home-buying strategies

Attendees review home-buying strategies, discuss mortgage and VA loan options, and more during the virtual Home Sweet Home: Home-buying Strategies workshop, Jan. 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. To register, call 210-221-2705.

### Workshop provides professional development

Whether providing a desk-side briefing to a commander or information to a diverse audience, the virtual Briefer Training Course, Jan. 12 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., addresses how to prepare for and present an effective briefing. To register, call 210-221-2418.

### Key Spouses attend training

A Key Spouses Initial Training slated for Jan. 12, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., is mandatory for all newly appointed Key Spouses and highly recommended for Key Spouse Mentors. To register for this virtual training, call 210-652-5321.

### Classes help improve computer skills

Instructor-led virtual workshops provide basic skills and knowledge for Microsoft Word on Jan. 12-14, Microsoft Excel on Jan. 19-21, and Microsoft PowerPoint on Jan. 26-28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 210-221-2705 to register.

### Federal employees get familiar with TSP

Participants review different aspects of their Thrift Savings Plan like contribution limits, return rates, tax-deferred investments, and more, during the virtual Thrift Savings Plan workshop, Jan. 14 from 10 a.m. to noon. To register, call 210-671-3722.

### Parents prepare for baby

Active-duty expecting parents participate in the virtual Bundles for Babies workshop, Jan. 15 from 8 a.m. to noon, to receive information on financial planning and resources. Held in partnership with the Air Force Aid Society. To register, call 210-671-3722.

### Workshop helps nominate volunteers for awards

Review award criteria for the Volunteer of the Year Awards, the Volunteer Excellence Award, and how to prepare and submit a package during the virtual Volunteer Awards Nomination Writing Workshops. Call 210-562-5321

to register for the Jan. 22, 9-10 a.m. workshop, or 210-221-2705 for the Jan. 25, 11 a.m. to noon workshop.

#### **Military spouses gain insight on federal careers**

Learn how to leverage hiring preferences, navigate the USAJobs site, and compose a federal resume during the virtual Military Spouse Federal Resume workshop, Jan. 25 from 2-3 p.m. To register, call 210-671-3722.

#### **Spouses acclimate new community**

Military spouses new to JBSA-Fort Sam Houston community participate in a virtual discussion, Jan. 27 from 1-3 p.m. to find local resources, build a strong network and discover their new surroundings. To register, call 210-221-2705.

#### **Assistance with Tax Preparation**

Review the tax laws, income brackets, filing basics, and more during a virtual Tax Preparation class, Jan. 28, from 9-10:30 a.m. Attendees also learn about free tax resources and special tax situations active-duty military encounter. To register, call 210-652-5321.

### **Outdoor Recreation**

#### **Concealed carry classes offered**

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center, bldg. 6215, is providing Concealed Handgun License (CHL) classes Jan. 9 and 23 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. To register for the class, students must be 21 years old, unless they are active duty military 18 years or older (DoD ID cardholders only). Students must also meet Federal qualifications to purchase a handgun. Facemasks must be worn during COVID-19.

The cost of the class is \$75. 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." For more information, call Mr. Dan Willis at 210-363-2332.

#### **Guests enjoy some archery at the range**

The JBSA-Camp Bullis Archery Range is open for archery Thursday to Monday from 8 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. The range requires a 100% ID Check for all guests. All guests must report to the Rod-n-Gun Recreation Center and present an ID card. The RNGRC offers an outdoor archery range with targets ranging from 10 to 60 yards at 10-yard intervals. The targets at the range are crossbow rated. The cost to shoot is \$5 for E1 through E4, active duty or medically retired, \$5 per DoD ID cardholder age 10 and older. All DoD ID cardholders are allowed to sponsor two Non DoD ID cardholders to the range at \$5 each (ages 10 and older). Guest must be in the same vehicle. For more information, call 210-295-7577.

#### **Customers rent items at a discount**

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Outdoor Equipment Center is offering half priced bass and Jon boat rentals for the months of January and February. Prices will vary based on the size and style of boat. Daily rates will be as low as \$12.50 and week long rentals are no more than \$200. A boaters safety course is required for rental. For more

information, call 210-221-5224 or 210-221-5225.

The JBSA-Randolph Outdoor Recreation Center encourages everyone to take advantage of their January Rental Special. Rent a snow cone machine, popcorn machine or both for 25% off. For more information, call 210-652-5142, option 2.

#### **Patrons rent all the recreation essentials**

Even though, it is technically winter, it can still be great for having fun or working outdoors.

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Outdoor Equipment Center has equipment rentals for everyone, to include camping, water fun, fishing boats, speedboats, sports and party equipment, tables, chairs and bouncy castles. We also have RV campers, mobile grills and portable grills, so come visit us. In addition, equipment rental has a resale car lot. Masks are required when entering the ODR facility and please maintain social distancing. For more information, call 210-221-5224 or 210-221-5225.

The JBSA-Randolph Equipment Checkout has tables, chairs, canopies, ice chests, and water jugs that might be needed for those birthday parties, holiday dinners or backyard BBQ. Equipment Checkout also has the extra items needed to make guests' stay more comfortable. Patrons can rent roll-a-way beds with mattress, aluminum cots, and sleeping bags for great prices. For more information, visit the Community Service Mall, bldg. 895, or call 210-652-5142, option 2.

#### **Patrons have fun on the water**

We encourage everyone to take advantage of all the great boating available at the JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake and other surrounding lakes. Outdoor Recreation requires a Boaters Safety Course certificate from Texas Parks and Wildlife in order for customers to rent our boats. Approved Texas Boaters Safety Courses can be taken online at any of the following sites: [www.boaterexam.com](http://www.boaterexam.com), [www.boat-ed.com](http://www.boat-ed.com), [www.BOATsmartexam.com](http://www.BOATsmartexam.com), [www.BoatUS.org](http://www.BoatUS.org), or [www.iLearnToBoat.com](http://www.iLearnToBoat.com). For more information, call JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-221-5224 or 210-221-5225, JBSA-Lackland can be reached at 210-925-5532 or 210-925-5533, or call JBSA-Randolph at 210-652-5142.

### **Youth Programs**

#### **Children learn the fundamentals**

The JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs is opening registration for First Steps Soccer Jan. 11 to Feb. 5. First Steps teaches the basic fundamentals of soccer to ages 3-5 in a non-game non-team format. Parents are required to participate as an extension of the instructor so the element of fear is eliminated. Register Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Current immunization record is required at time of registration. Cost of the program is \$35 per child. The season runs March 1 to April 15. For more information, call 210-671-2388.

#### **The heat is on with a chili cook-off**

Join us Jan. 14 from 5-6 p.m. for the first Chili Cook-Off Family Contest at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston W. Ed Parker Youth Center. Bring your favorite recipe, load it in a crock pot, and serve to our youth member judges. Prizes

will be awarded for first, second and third places. To sign up or for more information, call 210-221-3502 or 210-221-4492.

#### **Youth skate the night away**

Join us Jan. 15 from 5-6 p.m. for a free fun, family skate night at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Patch Chaffee Youth Center (YP2). Each family will receive one ticket for a door prize drawing. For more information, please call 210-221-3630.

#### **Children enjoy high tea**

Youth 5 years and older are invited to come enjoy a warm cup of tea with JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs on Jan. 23 from noon to 2 p.m. Learn about the English tradition in a Winter Wonderland themed tea party and enjoy samples of English hors d'oeuvres. Space is limited. The cost is \$10 per parent/child couple and \$5 per additional child. For more information or to make reservations, please call Youth Programs at 210-652-3298.

#### **Parents are 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. The 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-Fort Sam Houston hosts Parents Night Out Jan. 22 from 6-10 p.m.

JBSA-Lackland hosts Give Parents a Break on Jan. 23 from 1-5 p.m. JBSA-Randolph is hosting Give Parents a Break Jan. 23 from 6-10 p.m.

For more information or to register with JBSA-Lackland, call 210-671-2388. To reach JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, call 210-221-5002. And for JBSA-Randolph call, 210-652-4946.

#### **Families get meals to go**

Stop by the W. Ed Parker Youth Center (YP1) on Jan. 27 from 5-6:30 p.m. and get curb side delivery of a New Year meal, soft drink and dessert. Our leadership club will deliver the meals. For more information or to reserve your plates, call 210-221-3502 or 210-221-4492 by Jan. 25.

## **STAY CONNECTED**

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

<https://jbsatoday.com>



## LACKLAND

## U.S. Space Force makes history at BMT

By Annette Crawford

37TH TRAINING WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

History was made at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Dec. 10 as the first seven people to enlist directly into the U.S. Space Force graduated from Basic Military Training.

The five men and two women were among the 414 recruits who completed seven and a half weeks of training. Assigned to the 320th Training Squadron, their training began Oct. 20. The new Space Force Professionals are: Amy Biggers, Virginia Beach, Virginia; Giahma Brown, Woodbridge, Virginia; Delvano Brown, Gaithersburg, Maryland; Benjamin Nevoraski, Virginia Beach, Virginia; Shane Brown and Elijah Engelby, Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Nathan Ramage, Falcon, Colorado.

Secretary of the Air Force Barbara M. Barrett was the featured speaker at the graduation ceremony, which was streamed live on Facebook. She spoke to the graduates about joining a heritage of integrity, service and excellence, and mentioned three Airmen who represent those ideals. One of those Airmen was retired Lt. Gen. Susan Helms, who flew more than 30 different types of U.S. aircraft as an Air Force test pilot and then served 12 years as an astronaut.

"Gen. Helms was the first U.S. military woman in space. She still holds the world record for the longest spacewalk — eight hours and 56 minutes," Barrett said. She added that Helms, in particular, represents the caliber of talent the Space Force is recruiting.



SARAYUTH PINTHONG

*United States Space Force Tech. Sgt. Eric Mistrot, 324th Training Squadron military training instructor, stands in front of his flight during the graduation ceremony, Dec. 10 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.*

"So, it is fitting that we celebrate the historic milestone of graduating the first seven trainees to the United States Space Force!" Barrett said.

The number of Space Force trainees will continue to increase over time as processes for recruiting and training are solidified, and the Space Force plans to recruit a little more than 300 enlisted members through the end of the fiscal year. There are currently another 13 trainees at BMT with seven more scheduled to arrive later this month.

Through January, all Space Force accessions will become Space Systems Operations specialists and in February, new accessions will join for positions in additional career

fields such as operations intelligence and cyber systems operations.

Chief of Space Operations Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond spoke to the graduates before administering the Oath of Enlistment. He said that while every Basic Military Training graduation ceremony was important, the one on Dec. 10 was historic as it was the first to send seven "of our nation's finest directly into the new United States Space Force."

Raymond challenged the seven Space Force Professionals.

"I need you to be bold. You will help us build this service from the ground up. You will help us define our warfighting culture. You will build the

Space Force as the first digital service. You will lay the foundation of a service that is innovative and can go fast in order to stay ahead of a significant and growing threat, and you, if deterrence fails, will fight and win the battle for space superiority which is so vital to our nation, our allies and our joint and coalition forces," he said, adding that "the nation expects you to deliver dominant Spacepower."

"The Air Force develops the best enlisted force in history, and we proudly and confidently secure our efforts on that foundation," said Chief Master Sgt. Roger A. Towberman, Senior Enlisted Advisor, U.S. Space Force. "We are proud our trainees know

they're part of the Space Force from day one, and we added a bit of Space flavor to the curriculum toward that end. Over the next year, we'll continue to improve their experience based on their feedback and in partnership with [Air Education and training Command]."

Lt. Gen. Brad Webb, commander, Air Education and Training Command, and Chief Master Sgt. Erik Thompson, command chief of AETC, were also at the ceremony.

"Today's graduation represents the great partnership we have forged while supporting the United States Space Force, and our commitment to recruit, train and educate exceptional Space Professionals," Webb said. "The cadre and staff at Basic Military Training are producing Space Professionals who have the foundational competencies to succeed in any environment, and who can adapt, decide and act at the speed needed today and for tomorrow's challenges."

"These graduates will take the foundational concepts laid here in The First Command and will use them to help build a bold and agile Space Force, which will ensure our nations long-term competitive advantage in space," Thompson said.

The seven Space Force Professionals will attend Space Systems Operations technical training at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. Once that training is complete, they'll perform a wide range of duties from detecting ballistic missiles and tracking satellites to assisting in rocket launches and space flight operations.

# JBSA-Lackland comm officer joins U.S. Space Force

By Rachel Kersey

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A member of the 502nd Communications Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland has been selected to transition to the newly established U.S. Space Force in early 2021.

Air Force 2nd Lt. Patrick Reid, officer in charge of the 502nd CS operations flight, said he has no idea what his new job will be, but he's always had an interest in space.

"The various challenges and intrigue that lie above piqued my interest since I was a kid," Reid said. "When I saw the opportunity to transfer, I thought it over for a few days and decided to go for it."

Growing up in Cibolo, Texas, not far from JBSA-Randolph, Reid said he would look up at the sky to see the major constellations, meteors and eclipses, and then in high school, he took a real interest in science, which paved the way for his future career.

Reid applied by submitting his work experience and reasons for his interest



SARAYUTH PINTHONG

*U.S. Air Force 2nd Lt. Patrick Reid, 502nd Communications Squadron officer in charge of the operations flight, stands for a photo Dec. 11 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.*

in transferring and, after a competitive selection process, he was picked to join the newest branch of the Armed Forces.

**"Space is just cool. So much happens out there, both near and far. New advancements in our observations indicate its complexity. The phenomena that occur are stunningly beautiful. Thinking of what lies undiscovered out there is exciting."**

2nd Lt. Patrick Reid, 502nd Communications Squadron operations flight officer in charge

He received the news Oct. 15, and is expected to transfer officially by February 2021.

"Space is just cool," Reid said. "So much happens out there, both near and far. New advancements in our observations indicate its complexity. The phenomena that occur are stunningly beautiful. Thinking of what lies undiscovered out there is exciting."

Established Dec. 20, 2019, the USSF organizes, trains and equips space forces in order to protect U.S. and allied interests in space and to provide space capabilities to the joint force.

The USSF's responsibilities include

developing military space professionals, acquiring military space systems, maturing the military doctrine for space power and organizing space forces to present to our combatant commands.

Currently, Reid is awaiting congressional approval of the transfer. After that, when his current orders are up, he will be moved wherever the USSF deems necessary.

"I am interested in the challenge," he said. "I'll be part of the force setting up a new military service. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity, and I want to see what I can do to make it better."

# 59th Medical Wing offers telehealth throughout COVID-19 pandemic



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MELODY BORDEAUX

*Staff Sgt. Paullexia Dale, 59th Medical Wing aerospace medical technician, calls a patient for a telehealth appointment Dec. 3 at the Family Health Clinic at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.*

By Airman 1st Class Melody Bordeaux

59TH MEDICAL WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the 59th Medical Wing has remained operational adapting to the current situation the world is facing. Many clinics have telehealth appointments available, ensuring patients can still receive the care they need while social distancing or in quarantine.

Scheduling a telehealth appointment is similar to scheduling an in-person appointment.

First, a patient books their appointment either through the Central Appointment Management Office or the Family Health Clinic. Then, before the scheduled

appointment, the patient is called for pre-screening questions about general health, any changes or concerns since their last appointment, and any COVID-19 symptoms. Finally, the provider calls the patient after reviewing their record and pre-screening answers, and discusses any concerns the patient may have and proceed with the appointment.

Clinics at the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center that offer telehealth appointments include the Family Health Clinic, Cardiology Clinic, Gastroenterology Clinic, Mental Health Clinic, and more. For specialty clinics, patients should bring their concerns to their primary care provider for a referral.

"A telehealth appointment is

an alternative method for providing care when in-person visitation is not ideal due to health concerns, such as COVID-19," said Capt. Isayah Jones, 59th MDW licensed clinical social worker.

For patients who prefer having an in-person appointment but are concerned with safety and social distancing, Jones suggests discussing concerns with their provider. Providers can help patients weigh the pros and cons of an in-person appointment and with scheduling a time for an appointment when there are fewer people in the clinic, if possible.

To make an appointment at the Family Health Clinic, call 210-292-2003 or CAMO at 210-916-9900.

# JBSA-Lackland Airman has ties to Pearl Harbor hero



ANNETTE CRAWFORD

*Airman 1st Class Hunter Fugitt of the 37th Training Wing, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, has a family connection to 2nd Lt. George Whiteman, considered to be one of the first Army Air Corps members killed during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.*

By Annette Crawford

37TH TRAINING WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

His connection to a World War II hero isn't by blood, but it's a proud connection nonetheless to Airman 1st Class Hunter Fugitt.

Twenty-year-old Fugitt of Bolivar, Missouri, has known about 2nd Lt. George Whiteman nearly all his life. Whiteman is Fugitt's father's stepfather's uncle.

Whiteman received his pilot training at Randolph Field, Texas, in 1940. He was an Army Air Corps pilot stationed at Bellows Field, Hawaii, when the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor began on Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941.

He took off in his P-40B aircraft and, according to the fact sheet on the Whiteman AFB website, the plane "had just lifted off the runway when

a burst of enemy gunfire hit his cockpit, wounding him and throwing the plane out of control. The plane crashed and burned just off the end of the runway." He was 22 years old.

Whiteman is thought to be one of the first Army Air Corps members killed during the assault. He was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, the American Defense Medal with a Foreign Service clasp, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign medal with one bronze star, and the World War II Victory Medal. On Dec. 3, 1955, nearly 14 years after his death, the recently reopened Sedalia Air Force Base was renamed Whiteman Air Force Base.

Fugitt, who joined the Air Force in November 2018, now works as the 37th Training Wing commander's executive assistant. He remembers

visiting Whiteman Air Force Base from the time he was very young, sitting in the cockpit of a B-52 and touring a missile silo. He and his family were guests of honor at the annual air show.

"We had a wreath-laying ceremony at his gravesite every year around Memorial Day to honor Lieutenant Whiteman, a 2i-gun salute and everything," Fugitt said. "I actually have some of the shell casings from those ceremonies."

It's not lost on Fugitt that Whiteman was only two years older than he is now when he made the ultimate sacrifice.

"I grew up knowing about him and he was a part of my life, even if we never met," Fugitt said. "I try to imagine what was going through his mind as he ran to his plane. Now that I'm in the Air Force, it makes it that much more meaningful to remember him on Pearl Harbor Day."

# IAAFA wins Enlisted Professional Military Education Center award

By Inter-American Air Forces Academy  
Public Affairs

The Inter-American Air Forces Academy at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland was formally presented with the United States Air Force's 2019 Air Force Enlisted Professional Military Education Program, Outstanding EPME Center of the Year Award Dec. 4.

Col. Rockie K. Wilson, 37th Training Wing commander, presented the award to the Professional Development Flight and to the International Student Support Section and commended them for their exceptional leadership and mission accomplishment. IAAFA competed against 80 other similar institutions across the Air Force and distinguished itself for the award by being the only



COURTESY PHOTO

*The Inter-American Air Forces Academy at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland was formally presented with the United States Air Force's 2019 Air Force Enlisted Professional Military Education Program, Outstanding EPME Center of the Year Award Dec. 4.*

academy with all three levels of EPME.

Col Jose E. Jiménez Jr., IAAFA commandant,

accepted the award on behalf of the Academy.

"This award is the result of our past year's efforts,

dedication, and professionalism, from the instructors to the support staff in IAAFA, culminating

in this recognition as the best USAF EPME center of the year for the entire Air and Space Forces," Jiménez said.



# DRIVE program meld of compassion, connections

By Annette Crawford

37TH TRAINING WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A new program at the 737th Training Support Squadron's Transition Flight is giving motivated, but disqualified, Airmen a chance to serve their country in ways other than in uniform.

Known as DRIVE — Develop, Redistribute, Improve, Vault, Expose — the program is designed to transform medically disqualified Airmen with unique skill sets into viable civil service applicants, thereby keeping the talent within the Air Force.

“The DRIVE program's mission provides these individuals a Plan B for their careers,” said Capt. Tho K. Dang, Assistant Director of Operations and Transition Flight Commander for the 737th TRSS.

“Not wanting to let their skills go to waste, we've seen an opportunity to help them and the Department of Defense by finding them jobs, facilitating total force recruiting,” Dang added.

“Many of these individuals have such a passion to serve their country, but they're not able to because of a medical issue,” said Master Sgt. Paul Lamelin, a military training instructor who was one of the program's original founders. Lamelin was a guest speaker when DRIVE held its official kickoff in its new offices at the base education center at building 5725 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Nov. 16.

Medical issues that disqualify an individual from joining the Air Force include asthma, eczema, psoriasis, stress fractures, hearing loss and anemia. Often these issues don't manifest themselves until a person is in Basic Military Training, or BMT. Before DRIVE came around, these conditions meant dreams of serving in the military



ANNETTE CRAWFORD

*Elizabeth Ross is flanked by Lt. Col. Matthew Kowalski, 341st Training Squadron commander, and her supervisor, James Reese, at the grand opening of the DRIVE program office Nov. 16, 2020, at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Ross, an animal caretaker with the Military Working Dog Center, 341st TRS, is the first candidate successfully placed through the DRIVE program. DRIVE gives motivated, but disqualified, Airmen a chance to serve their country in ways other than in uniform.*

stopped before they even began. Now, they have a second chance.

Individuals considered for DRIVE are in BMT, in their first enlistment, and within their first 180 days of service. However, any trainee who has a behavioral diagnosis or who is being separated for disciplinary concerns will not be considered for DRIVE.

Kelli Williams joined the 737th TRSS in September as the DRIVE program manager. She explained that when trainees arrive at the Training In-processing Center, or TIC, they complete a survey which asks them about their work history, education background (to include degrees,

certificates, and licenses), security clearances and college credits. Williams collects and reviews those surveys on a daily basis, and then does an in-person interview and assessment with the trainee to see if they want to participate.

“From there I work to fit and match these individuals with potential jobs,” Williams said.

The first step is creating a profile and resume on the USAJOBS website. The resume and any supporting documentation are then uploaded into the Air Force Civilian Service website where the Air Force Personnel Center DRIVE program manager vets the candidates. Williams and

the AFPC DRIVE program manager work together to arrange interviews between selected candidates and direct hiring agencies.

Elizabeth Ross, an animal caretaker with the Military Working Dog Center, 341st Training Squadron, is the first candidate successfully placed through the DRIVE program. Once she decided to join the Air Force, she said it never occurred to her that she wouldn't become an Airman.

“I didn't have a Plan B,” she admitted.

Due to a stress fracture, she wasn't able to graduate with her basic training flight. She spent several months on medical hold and only had a

week before her entry level separation was signed when she learned about DRIVE.

With a degree in zoology from Oklahoma State University, she was an ideal candidate for the program. Ross separated from the Air Force and went home to Virginia, but the DRIVE process had already begun. After several interviews, emails and phone calls back and forth, Ross returned to JBSA-Lackland in August to start her new career.

“This is one of the highlights of my command, and greatest memories of my Air Force career,” Lt. Col. Cheo Stallworth, 737th TRSS commander, said of DRIVE. “It is very rare to see an idea become reality in only a few short months. Although it is in its infancy stages now, I cannot wait to see it grow and take off from here.”

Col. Michael Newsom, commander of the 737th Training Group, spoke of the enthusiasm surrounding the DRIVE program.

“What we're talking about here is dreams. It's about hopes and opportunities,” Newsom said. “BMT is a pool of knowledge, and I look forward to seeing this program go beyond our boundaries.”

Col. Rockie K. Wilson, 37th Training Wing commander, echoed Newsom's comments.

“I don't think our process [to separate individuals] was always compassionate. We're getting better,” Wilson said. “We're employing common sense. DRIVE is just the tip of the iceberg. The connections that start here will just grow. When you see things like this happen, it leaves you full of hope.”

Since DRIVE began in July 2020, 144 trainees/Airmen has been assisted, 58 resumes created, and 33 certifications awarded. Four individuals have been placed in civilian jobs, and two have been placed in civil service positions.

# I-WEPTAC chairs will tackle combat support challenges

By Joe Bela

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION SUPPORT CENTER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

With topics for the 2021 Installation and Mission Support Weapons and Tactics Conference announced last month, all that remained was deciding who would lead the Mission Area Working Groups charged with helping shape the future of Air Force combat support.

Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center officials announced the names of the four chairs Dec. 2. Each chair will lead a team whose members will take on one of the four topics previously selected by a panel of general officers and senior civilians.

**Topic 1** — Right Size the Foundation: Optimize Installation & Mission Support for the Air Force We Need; Chair: Lt. Col. Raymond Fortner, AFIMSC Det. 6, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

**Topic 2** — Strategic Mission Dependency Index for Targeted National Defense Strategy Investment; Chair: Capt. Jamela Satterfield, AFIMSC Installation Support



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Directorate, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

**Topic 3** — Supply Chain Vulnerabilities in the Future “Way We Fight;” Chair: Capt. Zachary Kauth, Air Force Installation Contracting Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

**Topic 4** — Institutionalize Readiness as a Foundational Competency to Develop Mission-Ready Airmen; Chair: Chief Master Sgt. Jeremiah Grisham, 436th Mission Support Group, Dover Air Force Base, Delaware.

I-WEPTAC tackles the

challenges facing agile combat support by leveraging the expertise and experience of Airmen from around the world. The MAWG chairs will round out their teams with about 100 Airmen in the weeks ahead.

“I-WEPTAC is on and we’re looking for innovative ideas from those of you out there in our installation and mission support arena,” said Maj. Gen. Tom Wilcox, AFIMSC commander. “I know there are good ideas out there. Join the team and bring them to us. Help us solve today’s challenging problems.

“Together we can enhance our ability to deliver the agile combat support capabilities we need. Once you’re done, it will be our job to take your recommendations from idea to proof of concept.”

MAWG members will convene in January to research and develop solutions for the four topics. The teams will present their recommendations to senior leaders from across the Air Force April 19-21, 2021, in San Antonio. To address COVID-19 concerns, the conference is expected to feature both in-person and virtual gatherings.

“These individuals have unique insights and perspectives earned from their years of personal and professional service,” said Col. Lance Clark, AFIMSC’s Director of Expeditionary Support and Innovation. “In the months ahead, they will lead teams of military and civilian Airmen to develop innovative ideas and solutions that posture the agile combat support required to deliver Air Force capability in the future.”

In its fifth year, I-WEPTAC teams have provided the Air Force with more than 30 recommendations, including today’s concept for the combat support wing and the development of multi-function (skilled) Airmen.

I-WEPTAC was established as the only innovation forum for the installation and mission support community after more than 150 I&MS capabilities centralized at AFIMSC in October 2015. It’s a natural extension of AFIMSC’s commitment to support commanders and Airmen across the entire Agile Combat Support enterprise.

To learn more, visit [www.afimsc.af.mil/I-WEPTAC-2021/](http://www.afimsc.af.mil/I-WEPTAC-2021/).

# CSAF releases action orders to accelerate change across Air Force

By Air Force News Service

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr. released the CSAF Action Orders to Accelerate Change Across the Air Force Dec. 4.

In August, Brown released his strategic approach entitled Accelerate Change or Lose, in which he described his view of the strategic landscape as Air Force chief of staff and, from that, his emphasis on why change is necessary. The newly-released action orders now represent his call to Airmen to move forward aggressively in the push toward change; the “what” to the first document’s “why.”

The document outlines four Action Orders:

► **Action Order A:** Airmen describes

a people-first approach. This means identifying attributes of Airmen the Air Force needs and reviewing personnel and talent management systems to meet the identified needs.

► **Action Order B:** Bureaucracy says the Air Force needs to speed up its decision-making process. Changing design processes will improve effectiveness and efficiency, allowing more space for innovation.

► **Action Order C:** Competition explains that Airmen need to understand their role in the long-term strategic power competitions between the U.S., Russia and China. The Air Force must improve its understanding of competitors’ ambitions and ways of war to inform how it organizes, trains and equips Airmen.

► **Action Order D:** Design Implementation says the Air Force needs to know how to adapt to changes. The service must be ready for future budget constraints by developing an affordable, analytically defensible and Congressionally supported force structure.

While the Action Orders provide the “what,” the “how” represents the answers to these problems, according to the document. Airmen will provide these answers, cutting through bureaucracy with global competition in mind, to reshape the design of the future.

To view the full document, visit [https://www.af.mil/Portals/1/documents/csaf/CSAF\\_Action\\_Orders\\_Letter\\_to\\_the\\_Force.pdf](https://www.af.mil/Portals/1/documents/csaf/CSAF_Action_Orders_Letter_to_the_Force.pdf).



Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr.

# RANDOLPH

## Officer dreamed of becoming astronaut, selected as Space Force recruiting leader

By Master Sgt. Chance Babin

AIR FORCE RECRUITING SERVICE PUBLIC AFFAIR

As a young boy growing up in upstate New York, Lt. Col. Michael Graff had dreams of becoming a NASA astronaut. Now he finds himself in a position to shoot for the stars by leading the recruiting operations efforts for the U.S. Space Force as part of Air Force Recruiting Service.

Graff was sworn into the U.S. Space Force Oct. 8, and is serving as the first Space Force Recruiting Branch chief within Air Force Recruiting Service. Maj. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt, a former AFRS commander, swore him into the nation's newest service.

"It's very rare for officers to be commissioned twice in a career, and given Maj. Gen. Leavitt's background as a pioneer and pacesetter in the Air Force, I was happy that she agreed to administer the oath of office to me," he said.

Graff now is in a position where he too can be part of a pioneering group that helps the USSF in its infancy.

"As we continue to move forward with Total Force recruiting, recruiting space professionals is an exciting part of what we do," said Maj. Gen. Ed Thomas, AFRS commander. "Having an in-house space professional like Mike Graff, who was an Air Force recruiting squadron commander, only strengthens our team."

For Graff, his path began in the third grade with a dream to be an astronaut after visiting the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

"Near the moon lander exhibit, there was a video kiosk advertising the Space Camp experience. I was immediately hooked on the notion of going as soon as possible," Graff said.

His experiences at Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, helped set course for Graff's future.

"While at these camps, you're completely immersed in a STEM



Maj. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt, former Air Force Recruiting Service commander, swears Lt. Col. Michael Graff into the U.S. Space Force Oct. 8. Graff is the first Space Force branch chief of operations at AFRS.

experience. You meet people from all over the country. The staff and speakers are superb mentors and provide outstanding guidance for young people interested in STEM," he said.

At this point, Graff was hooked and his desire to be an astronaut was strong. He also knew having a military background was part of the path he would take on his pursuits.

"The staff also spoke about the opportunities in the space enterprises, and the heavy reliance on military personnel to supply astronauts was definitely something that drove my decision making," he said. "I had made my mind up that I would enroll in Air Force ROTC as soon as I arrived at college."

Knowing the difference it made in his life to attend Space Camp as a young student, Graff thinks it is a great opportunity for any kid interested in attending.

"I absolutely recommend Space Camp and its associated programs in aviation, robotics and cyber," he said.

Graff recently participated in a video

teleconference call with Space Camp officials. While he doesn't know what relationship the Space Force and Space Camp may have, he does see the value of working together.

"It's too soon to say whether we'll definitely be working with Space Camp programs, but it very much makes sense to do so in my mind," Graff said.

When Graff was completing his high school experience, he knew he wanted to serve and planned on being part of the Air Force ROTC wherever he attended college. He chose Georgia Tech, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, and upon graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant.

It was during his time at Georgia Tech that Graff says his dream of becoming an astronaut came to an end as the academic rigors were demanding.

"Georgia Tech is an amazing school, but you really have to earn your way to become a graduate," he said. "The classes were tough and I probably wasn't the most prepared student. In fact, that was a pretty humbling experience, but I

applaud the people who did the humbling. While I was in ROTC, I learned that I was really enjoying what I was learning about the military and the Air Force specifically and a career in the military had grown on me considerably."

He said he realized it took a very special person to become an astronaut.

"The people I've met who have been or have gone on to become astronauts have these spectacular mindsets and viewpoints on the world around them," he said. "Beyond being brilliant, they seem to be excellent communicators and are very talented outside their own fields of study."

Although Graff didn't become an astronaut, his first assignment in the Air Force was at a space wing, the 90th Space Wing (now the 90th Missile Wing) at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

"Being a missileer builds an enormous amount of discipline and adherence to technical orders while dealing with an extremely important weapon system," Graff said. "There's very little room for error in that business."

Once he completed his missile tour, he was fortunate enough to be selected to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, where he pursued a master of science degree in space systems, which is a multidisciplinary program covering a variety of science and engineering topics.

"While civilian institutions teach similar programs, AFIT teaches military applications of these topics," he said.

After finishing his AFIT degree, Graff had two other space assignments before moving to Basic Military Training. His experience as a missileer years earlier would be an asset in his new job.

"I was assigned to Basic Military Training as a squadron director of operations. At the time, BMT was recovering from the actions of some bad

AFRS continues on 22

# Ultra-low cost simulation program augments pilot training

By David Vergun

DOD NEWS

Traditionally, pilot flight instruction involves a combination of simulators and actual flying, said Air Force Lt. Col. Eric Frahm, a program manager for the Defense Innovation Unit.

However, a shortage of pilots throughout the Defense Department has limited the number of flight instructors who can give one-on-one training, he said. Also, it is cost prohibitive to build more simulators because each one costs about as much as an actual aircraft.

While JTS isn't meant to replace simulators or real-time flight training, it promises to augment existing systems and accelerate the pace of training, significantly reducing the cost to train new pilots, Frahm said.

The software powering JTS uses a combination of virtual reality, artificial intelligence

and machine learning and commercial off-the-shelf items, he said. Controls similar to joysticks are plugged into the system using ordinary USB connections.

## Spotlight: Artificial Intelligence

Students can take the laptops home and train on them at their own pace or use them at work. A variant of JTS that is more sophisticated features a specialized gaming chair and realistic flight controls that mimic a cockpit, he said.

The AI-powered software enables students to practice flying on their own without an instructor present. However, JTS can also be used with an instructor who is virtually present, and that instructor could monitor a number of students simultaneously, potentially saving flight instructor man-hours.

"What we're trying to do is



COURTESY PHOTO

*Air Force Capt. Christine "Switch" Durham, 19th Air Force Det. 24 director of staff, uses the Joint Immersive Training System at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, Dec. 7. A replica of the cockpit can be seen on the flight simulator monitor.*

change the instruction from a teacher-centered model to more of a learner-centered

training model," he said. DIU aided the Air Force's effort to produce JTS by

partnering with industry, he said. "We partnered with four different companies. Each brought a component of the broader technology that we needed to create this device and the surrounding ecosystem that will support it."

"Our team will collect detailed feedback from everyday instructors and students to understand how the system performs for them," Frahm said. "We'll incorporate that feedback into at least three redesigns of the hardware and countless revisions of the software. In the end, we want a system that will be flexible, adaptable, scalable and speeds the rate of competency attainment within our pilot force."

When JTS is up and running in the next year, the goal is to eventually expand the platform to provide training for all types of fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, to include remotely piloted aircraft, he said.

## AFRS

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actors and a culture that had become corrupted," he said. "Missileers were welcomed to take part in the leadership cadre because of their well-known discipline and ability to make corrections as necessary, as well as report/document non-compliance and mishaps."

For Graff, working at BMT was a deviation from previous assignments, but he would gain valuable knowledge that would help him later in his career.

"I'm not sure anyone is actually prepared to take part on that mission. There is a stressful adjustment period with a lot of noise, activity, early mornings, late nights and no guaranteed weekends," Graff said. "BMT is definitely a huge machine, and keeping things running smoothly is paramount, so I would look for things that would detract from running smoothly."

While he was at BMT Graff said he learned a lot about human beings.

"Everyone has a story as to how they ended up joining the Air Force and now the Space Force. Some are unfortunately

more troubling than others," he said. "People have different reactions under stress, some don't do well, some really thrive, and some have some adjustment to do but they get there."

Graff spent a lot of his time handling the discipline issues and discharges at BMT. He struggled that he might effectively be ending someone's dreams but realized it would not be ok to allow these people to continue serving when they may have severe issues down the road.

"At the time I felt like it was recruiting's fault that these people were sent to BMT, but this is not the case," he said. "At the end of my time at BMT I was very much interested in taking command of a recruiting squadron to bring my perspective and experiences upstream."

When Graff became commander for the 362nd Recruiting Squadron at March Air Reserve Base, California, he brought with him the lessons he learned at BMT.

"I took some time to relate some of my experiences at BMT, but I also took the time to listen to them about the challenges they encounter when screening people for service," he said. "I spent a good amount of time

understanding high-interest requests for waivers to make sure we were really hiring the right people, keeping in mind those people will be under the supervision of other Airmen and Space Professionals ... they have to be the right fit."

As he learned from each of his stops, Graff took away experiences from being a recruiting commander.

"My experience as a recruiting squadron commander illustrated for me the incredible burden our recruiters carry," he said. "No one enlists in the Air Force or Space Force without talking to a recruiter first. They are under massive pressure to find the talent we need to defend our nation, and eventually serve as our replacements. We don't get those people without recruiters."

Graff hopes to take his experiences as an Air Force recruiting squadron commander and apply it to recruiting for the Space Force.

"My command experience gives me a good idea of how we need to adapt to meet the specific requirements of the USSF, and I also know it'll be frustrating for recruiters if we execute this mission incorrectly," Graff said. "I want to be mindful of their needs to get the job

done, and I don't want to cause excess difficulty."

Graff said his new job definitely comes with its stressors, but those should be expected in a start-up culture.

"Right now, I'm charged with building a program that employs the current AFRS organization to find officer and enlisted candidates," Graff said. "The first challenge is ensuring that recruiters are all on the same page about what to do when someone walks in their door and wants to join the Space Force. The next biggest challenge is to build selection processes for both officer and enlisted space professionals that select the best fit for the USSF while also attracting a diverse and inclusive population."

While the new service celebrates its first birthday Dec. 20 this year, Graff echoes the need for the newest branch.

"Access to and reliance upon space has been achieved by private industry and in spectacular fashion," he said. "There are more spacefaring nations now, and that domain must be managed and defended to preserve the remarkable capabilities it promises. It was time for a Space Force to focus on that mission and grow as humanity fares further into it."