

JBSA LEGACY

WWW.JBSA.MIL

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

OCTOBER 29, 2021



PFC. JOSHUA TAECKENS

U.S. Army Spc. Justin Earnhart, 470th Military Intelligence Brigade, pulls security while wearing a joint service general purpose mask during an exercise in the Army Futures Command Best Warrior Competition at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston June 9.

470th MIB member named U.S. Army Soldier of the Year

Page 10



**502nd ABW vice commander
goes airborne with 149th FW**

Page 19



**Aviation mentor inspires
Houston youth**

Page 22

DAF COVID-19 military vaccination deadlines approaches

**By Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs**

Nov. 2 is the deadline for active-component Airmen and Guardians to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, followed by Dec. 2 for Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel.

Any active-component Airman or Guardian who has refused to obtain a qualifying vaccine by Nov. 2 and has not received, or, is not in the process of seeking, a medical exemption or religious accommodation will be in violation of a lawful order and subject to discipline under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or UCMJ.

As of Oct. 18, 96.2% of the active-component population has at least one shot, according to Air Force officials. The percentage of the total force with at least one shot is 92.8%.

"Thank you to the hundreds of thousands of Total Force Airmen and Guardians who are fully vaccinated or on track to meet the Department's vaccination timelines," said Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall. "To those yet to get vaccinated, the order is clear: you have a

responsibility to take action now, protect our nation and those we love, or be held accountable for failing to do so."

Should a service member refuse to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, commanders retain the full range of disciplinary options available to them under law and policy, some of which include issuing administrative paperwork, imposing nonjudicial punishment, or referring court-martial charges.

Prior to taking action against a service member, commanders will coordinate initial disposition with the first O-6 with special court-martial convening authority in the service members' chain of command, and should consult with their servicing Staff Judge Advocate for additional guidance on vaccination non-compliance.

The Department of the Air Force is also holding new recruits accountable, recently discharging nearly 40 Air Force Basic Military and Technical trainees under "Entry Level Separation" characterizations who refused the vaccine.

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III mandated all members of the Armed Forces receive the COVID-19 vaccine on

Aug. 24, following the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

Additionally, Department of the Air Force civilian employees must comply with the Sep. 9 Executive Order (EO) requiring all federal employees to be fully vaccinated to ensure the health and safety of the federal workforce and halt the spread of COVID-19.

Department of the Air Force civilian employees need to be fully vaccinated by Nov. 22, and contractors by Dec. 8, in accordance with the Presidential EO. The Safer Federal Workforce Task Force has issued guidance here with additional DAF guidance forthcoming.

"I get at least one notification a day about an Air Force or Space Force teammate we have needlessly lost to COVID," said Under Secretary of the Air Force Gina Ortiz Jones. "The data is clear—the vaccine is the best tool to fight this disease. This is about readiness and ensuring our Airmen and Guardians are healthy and ready to defend the Nation."

For more information, click here or visit www.defense.gov/Spotlights/Coronavirus-DOD-Response/#_blank.

JBSA LEGACY

**Joint Base San Antonio
Editorial Staff**

**502nd Air Base Wing
and JBSA Commander**

BRIG. GEN.

CAROLINE M. MILLER

**502nd ABW/JBSA
Public Affairs Director**

MAJ. GINA "FLASH" McKEEN

Editor

STEVE ELLIOTT

Staff

LORI BULTMAN

DAVID DeKUNDER

SENIOR AIRMAN

TYLER McQUISTON

DRESHAWN MURRAY

MyVector updates help connect Airmen, Guardians

**Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs**

To help advance diversity efforts across the force, MyVector has recently added several features to the platform.

MyVector is one of the many tools Airmen and Guardians can use to enhance their career development, including tracking personal development and assignments, writing performance evaluations, and connecting with mentors as well as mentoring others.

Last summer, the Secretary of the Air Force stood up the Diversity and Inclusion task force to address the issue of racial, ethnic and other demographic disparities and their impact on the forces.

The task force identified MyVector's mentorship platform as an area that could



COURTESY GRAPHIC

help expand diversity efforts. Having more specific filters, such as race, ethnicity and disability, allows Airmen and Guardians to better tailor searches to their specific needs.

"The objective of expanding the mentoring filters in MyVector is to provide a better search experience for Airmen and Guardians to locate potential mentors with similar backgrounds," said Dr. Carrie Baker, a member of the SAF Office of Diversity and

Inclusion. "We noticed that the mentor request fields had limited search features and wanted to enhance this valuable resource."

Lt. Col. Cindy Roberts, one of the leaders within the task force, explained that the new filters also applied to those in the Exceptional Family Member Program, or those who have identified themselves as having a disability, such as hearing loss or invisible wounds. The disability filter

allows approximately 1,000 Airmen and Guardians who have identified themselves with a disability or an invisible wound to connect with other Airmen and Guardian mentors who have an identified disability.

These MyVector additions will advance Department of the Air Force inclusion practices to incorporate as many aspects of mentorship as possible and make it easier for members to find the best mentor for their needs.

"There may be someone out there struggling with a topic, but there's no one near them to connect with, discuss their problem, or provide advice," Roberts said. "These new filters help narrow down the search for a mentor that can best assist someone seeking advice on their unique topic."

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

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

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

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

Feedback Fridays

Brig. Gen. Caroline M. Miller

502D AIR BASE WING AND JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO
COMMANDER

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

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

Q: I have been in the process of pursuing a religious accommodation exemption so that I do not have to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

However, the process has been very slow and with the deadline fast approaching for Airmen to receive the vaccine, my concerns have grown tremendously. Will I be punished if I do not receive the vaccine before the deadline yet my application for exemption is being processed?

Thank you for your time.

A: Thank you for reaching out!

You will not be punished if you are currently in the process of receiving a religious accommodation to forego the COVID-19 vaccine, and can provide necessary documentation attesting to this.

If your accommodation is not accepted, your commander will work with you to receive the vaccination.

Should you then refuse to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, your commander retains the full range of disciplinary options available under law and policy, including administrative paperwork, nonjudicial punishment, or referral to court-martial.

Any Airmen or Guardian refusing to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, or is not in the process of seeking an exemption or accommodation when the deadline passes, will be in violation of a lawful order and subject to discipline under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The deadline for active-component Airmen and Guardians is Nov. 2. For Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel, the deadline is Dec. 2. This is about readiness and ensuring our Airmen and Guardians are healthy and ready to defend the nation!

Cybersecurity Awareness Month: Gone phishing

By Staff Sgt. Cryston Williams

422ND COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

The digital world has become an important part of our lives. We pay bills, we stay connected with our friends and family, we shop.

All of this adds up to vast amounts of data moving around the internet, leaving our personal and financial information vulnerable to cybercrimes.

Now in its 18th year, Cybersecurity Awareness Month — previously known as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month — continues to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity across our nation, ensuring that all Americans have the resources they need to be safer and more secure online.

Phishing is an example of a highly effective form of cybercrime that enables criminals to deceive users and steal important data (*Alkhalil, Z. (2021)*). The purpose of this article is to expose the reader to the many different forms of phishing and how to better protect yourself from these attacks.

Phishers conduct their attacks by using psychological manipulation to scare or trick individuals into disclosing personal information. Much like the wide variety of predators lurking in the ocean, phishing attacks come in many forms. We will be sticking with the more common exploits people will see such as phishing E-mails, spoofed websites, phone phishing/smishing, and social media attacks.

Email Phishing

The phishing emails are the most common of the listed attacks and follow the basic formula listed below:

- ▶ The phisher sets up a fraudulent email containing a link or an attachment (planning phase).
- ▶ The phisher executes the attack by sending a phishing email to the potential victim using an

appropriate medium (attack conducting phase).

- ▶ The link (if clicked) directs the user to a fraudulent website, or to download malware in case of clicking the attachment (interaction phase).
- ▶ The malicious website prompts users to provide confidential information or credentials, which are then collected by the attacker and used for fraudulent activities. (Valuables acquisition phase). (*Alkhalil, Z. (2021)*)

A good example is the email phishing attack that happened to Sony employees on Nov. 24, 2014. These hackers posed as Sony employees and sent out a malicious link. This link was then passed around the company enabling the hackers to make off with hundreds of terabytes of company data, including movie files, financial records, and even customer data.

Website spoofing

Website spoofing can be as simple as the following: pay.pal.com/us/home versus the actual website paypal.com/us/home.

Did you catch the difference? Another difference to look for is the secure connection status, HTTPS vs the unsecured HTTP, next to the URL. These minuscule changes are what make it so easy to make mistakes, especially when we're in a hurry. The longer users interact with the website, the more susceptible they become to disclosing personal data.

Two easy rules to for detecting phishing are to ask yourself: "Did this try to get me to do something I wouldn't normally do based on an emotional response?" and "Is this too good to be true?" If they are, use a different method to verify they are legitimate messages.

Phone games

The last form of phishing, sometimes called smishing, uses spoofed messages on your cell phone. This type of

attack via messaging has become more prevalent, especially since COVID-19.

Users are receiving convincing alert messages from their banks, healthcare providers and even shopping vendors which ask the victim to input their login credentials. Sometimes these links can also steal contact information, allowing the attacker to find further victims.

What can we do

Phishing is something that will continue to happen as we become more reliant on technology. However, we can do our best to identify them and not fall for these sorts of attacks. The first thing is to be skeptical of unsolicited links.

A little skepticism goes a long way when it comes to unknown links. If it looks funny, ask questions and, especially if you are at work, report it.

The next step is to have good antivirus which is up-to-date so you'll have some backup, just in case you click that link that was sent to you via text or email. The antivirus software will help identify and stop malicious activity.

The last thing we can do is use an anti-phishing toolbar extension. That's an extension of antivirus that actively looks for phishing-specific content and weeds it out.

Phishing remains one of the major threats to individual data today. Remember, phishing plays on our emotions and inattention so, don't get sucked into the hackers' trap. Keep calm and be skeptical.

References

Alkhalil, Z. (2021). Phishing Attacks: A Recent Comprehensive Study and a New Anatomy. Frontiers. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fcomp.2021.563060/full#B98>

Annual Operation Home Cooking tradition for JBSA-Lackland trainees returns in modified format

By Annette Crawford

37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Operation Home Cooking tradition at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland is returning this Thanksgiving, although not as expansive as in years past.

The event will be open only to Department of Defense ID cardholders living in the San Antonio metropolitan area. There is a need for approximately 375 hosts; this year's participants will be trainees assigned to the 321st and 322nd Training Squadrons — not all Basic Military Training personnel.

In addition to being DOD ID cardholders and living in the San Antonio metropolitan area, sponsors must be fully vaccinated. The vaccine card must be presented to BMT personnel at the time of pick-up; photos or copies will not be accepted.

Family members who are DOD ID cardholders residing in the San Antonio metropolitan area may submit a "By Name Request" for a specific BMT member. Family members are defined as mother, father, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, grandparent or spouse.

All "By Name Requests" must include the flight number of the BMT member in training and are subject to the approval of the BMT member. Please note that families and guests who are approved to attend the graduation ceremony of the 322nd TRS on Nov. 24 are authorized and already cleared to sponsor their Airman for Thanksgiving. No email request is required.

Volunteer sponsors must be willing to accept two BMT members into their homes to support BMT's Wingman Concept. Sponsors should also identify any special dietary needs of

their household when they volunteer — such as vegetarian/vegan — so BMT members can be paired accordingly.

In addition, volunteers must provide transportation from JBSA-Lackland to the sponsor's house, and return them to their squadron at JBSA-Lackland. Pick-up time from BMT is 7 to 10 a.m. The curfew time for return is 6 p.m. for the 322nd TRS (graduating squadron) and 7 p.m. for the 321st TRS.

Remember to plan for holiday traffic when returning to BMT, since curfews are driven by squadron mission requirements. Complete details and instructions will be provided with the confirmation email once the volunteer request is approved.

Requests to sponsor a BMT member for Thanksgiving can be made beginning Monday, Nov. 1, through Friday, Nov. 19. Send your email

request to BOTH laurie.pozorski@us.af.mil and kevan.dent.1@us.af.mil. Include the following information:

SUBJECT:

» Operation Home Cooking

BODY OF EMAIL:

- » Last Name, First Name
- » Address with Zip Code
- » Phone Number
- » Branch of Service
- » DoD ID Number
- » If submitting a By-Name Request, List Name and Flight Number.

Operation Home Cooking began in 1975 when base chaplains teamed up with San Antonio churches to sponsor basic military training and technical school students. When participation in the program began to grow, Operation Home Cooking focused solely on basic military trainees.

Tips for dealing with online harassment

By Allyson B. Crawford

AIR FORCE LIFE CYCLE MANAGEMENT CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

With the rise of widespread Internet use among all age groups, communicating through online forums and social media means cyber harassment remains a rising problem around the globe.

Some individuals post things online they would never say to another human if the conversation was face-to-face. Feeling a shield of "anonymity," online posts can get ugly ... fast. This online bullying can be hurtful — and in many cases — unlawful.

There are things you can do to protect yourself online and actions you should take if you are a victim of cyber harassment. The Air Force does not tolerate cyber harassment and provides resources to help.

For high-profile Airmen or those in roles that deal a lot with the public, the risk of cyber harassment grows. It is important for all Airmen — military, civilian and contractors — to take stock of their mental health and ask for help



COURTESY / MALMSTROM AIR FORCE BASE

Some individuals post things online they would never say to another human if the conversation was face-to-face. Feeling a shield of 'anonymity,' online posts can get ugly ... fast. This online bullying can be hurtful — and in many cases — unlawful.

when needed. Cyber harassment can get out of hand quickly, leading to job dissatisfaction, depression and pulling

back from family and friends.

AFI 1-1, Air Force Culture, specifies that "our core values demand that

Airmen treat others with genuine dignity, fairness, and respect at all times...This respect for others not only involves personal interaction but also extends to communications and interactions in social media and cyberspace."

The document also states "Airmen do not tolerate bullying, hazing, or any instance where an Airman inflicts any form of physical or psychological abuse that degrades, insults, dehumanizes, or injures another Airman. It is the obligation of each Airman in the chain of command to prevent such conduct."

If you are a victim of cyber harassment, report the incident(s) to your immediate supervisor. Your leadership will help you navigate the situation. If the harassment is causing mental strain or is interfering with your work, this list of resources may be helpful at <https://www.afmc.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/2812055/resources-available-for-airmen-seeking-anxiety-depression-burnout/>.

Report incidents to your chain of command. Keep reporting until you get help, and do not suffer alone.

Celebrate America's Military in November

By 502nd Air Base Wing
Public Affairs

"Word to the Nation: Guard zealously your right to serve in the Armed Forces, for without them, there will be no other rights to guard."

President John F. Kennedy

San Antonio will celebrate America's Armed Forces for the 51st time Nov. 1-19, honoring the nearly 300 years of military presence in the Alamo Region.

Sponsored by the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, Celebrate America's Military, or CAM, will include a wide array of activities for service members and their families, as well as the citizens of San Antonio.

"The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce is proud to host the nation's largest collaboration of events honoring the men and women who serve in our Nation's Military - active, Guard, and Reserve of all ranks from all branches," said retired Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Julie Gudgel, Aligned Education Foundation director, former



COURTESY GRAPHIC

command chief at Air Education and Training Command, and 2021 Celebrate America's Military committee chair. "Recognizing the service of our

military members in uniform and thanking the organizations throughout the community who support them year-round continues to be the aim of

our events every year."

The Chamber has been organizing this annual tribute to the military since 1970 and prepares all year for the special occasion. The opening ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. Nov. 1, at Alamo Plaza.

This free event is open to the public, and will include special remarks and appearances by: San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg, former Congressman Will Hurd, Commanding General of U.S. Army North Lt. Gen. John R. Evans Jr., the 323rd Army Band and Brackenridge High School's award-winning Junior ROTC Color Guard.

Other CAM events are specifically for military members and require registration for civilian community members, such as the patriotic Spirit of America Dinner, Prayer Breakfast to Honor Military Chaplains, and several receptions for different levels of military leadership.

For more information on the community-wide events for 2021 Celebrate America's Military, visit <http://www.celebrateamericasmilitary.com/>.

Joint Base San Antonio First Sergeant Diamond Sharp Awards

Joint Base San Antonio First Sergeants Council

Staff Sgt. Justin R. Shmidl

802nd Force Support Squadron
Duty Title: Professional Military Education instructor

Staff Sgt. Justin R. Shmidl is the epitome of a professional Airman and selfless wingman. He single-handedly organized the Airman Leadership School Class 21-6 volunteer event by coordinating with district officials to bolster a local San Antonio Elementary School. Shmidl led 52 students in the beautification efforts of 19,500 square feet, saving more than \$20,000 for a community. Additionally, he identified signs of distress and referred three wingmen for mental health services and expedited one emergency



Staff Sgt.
Justin R. Shmidl

leave; he exceeded Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force's vision of "People First."

Senior Airman Gabriel A. Aranda

Unit: 57th Intelligence Squadron
Duty Title: Signal analyst team lead

Senior Airman Gabriel A. Aranda exemplified himself by guiding his four-member analysis team that completed 11 radar reviews, which increased production by 25%. Aranda also was able to expedite two external analysis requests within a record time, resulting in being coined for excellence by the 365th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group command chief. Aranda demonstrated outstanding community involvement by his performance as the squadron booster club



Senior Airman
Gabriel A. Aranda

vice president. In this position, he coordinated a squadron sports competition and banquet. Aranda demonstrated the ability to adapt and overcome when faced with inclement weather.

*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.*



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Senior Airman Leinaala K. Esperon

Unit: 502nd Communication Squadron
Duty Title: Client systems technician

Senior Airman Leinaala K. Esperon exemplifies excellence through her actions at work and leads her peers through training and technical expertise. She filled in as service center team lead, a position normally held by staff sergeants. She led four members while mentoring junior enlisted members. She devised an operations plan for her team that helped cement the overall section to resolve a 400-ticket backlog by 91 percent. Esperon created a training course attended by 30 technicians to



Senior Airman
Leinaala K. Esperon

ensure the seamless rollout of mobile devices for senior leadership across the base.

Airman 1st Class Malique Morris

Unit: 59th Dental Squadron
Duty Title: Dental technician

Airman 1st Class Malique Morris is proactive and willing to do whatever it takes to get the mission complete. Morris is a wingman to all of his peers and will take time to ensure the Airmen are heard. He organized an Airman's panel with 20 individuals to hear their concerns and then elevated them to leadership. As the patient safety coach, he embodied the concept and lifestyle which earned the 59th Dental Group "Best Safety Program in Air Education and Training Command" rating in the July site visit. He coordinated our first volunteer event to build houses in the community.



Airman 1st Class
Malique Morris

Senior Airman Joseyln V. Niveló

Unit: 802nd Security Forces Squadron
Duty Title: Installation patrolman

Senior Airman Joseyln V. Niveló contributed her efforts at San Antonio's "God's Dogs Rescue," arranging for the transportation of more than 100 abandoned or abused dogs and making their journey as comfortable as possible by collecting towels and blankets from donations she collected from her flight. She also fostered two rescue dogs until they were adopted. Additionally, Niveló volunteered at the Freedom Chapel for more than 20 hours. She assisted in distributing 2,000 pounds of groceries for military families. She also trained 50 chapel guide trainees in counseling and communication exercises to aid their fellow Airmen through stressful times.



Senior Airman
Joseyln V. Niveló

FORT SAM HOUSTON

MEDCoE hosts interactive display at 2021 AUSA Annual Meeting

By Tish Williamson

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, or MEDCoE, provided a participatory experience for attendees during the Association of the United States Army, or AUSA, Annual Meeting during the three-day event from Oct. 11-13.

Hundreds of Army senior leaders, industry leaders and other interested AUSA participants stopped by the MEDCoE kiosk for a fully interactive experience that highlighted the Tactical Combat Casualty Care Exportable, or TC3X, mannequin, offering an opportunity to see the simulation capabilities in action during live, hands-on exhibitions.

The TC3X is a rugged, realistic full-body trainer mannequin used to train for the treatment of severe wounds. The mannequin simulates screams, breathing, bleeding, and body movements. Users work on realistic arteries and lungs and navigate a blivet used to store fake blood when the mannequin bleeds during mimicked combat and non-combat trauma scenarios.

Notable visitors to MEDCoE's AUSA display included Secretary of the Army Christine Wormuth, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston and Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle, the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army and Commanding General, U.S. Army Medical Command, or MEDCOM.

The annual AUSA national meeting is the largest land power exposition and



COURTESY IMAGE

professional development forum in North America. Formal presenters are selected to deliver the Army's message by highlighting the capabilities of their organizations and presenting a wide range of industry products and services.

This year's MEDCoE display was presented by Master Sgt. Kaleb Twilligear, noncommissioned officer in charge, MEDCoE Directorate of Simulations, or DoS, and James Kinser, the MedSim Modernization and Technology Program Lead at MEDCoE DoS.

"Our booth has been a constant center of attention," Kinser said. "We even give people an opportunity to use the simulator themselves by applying tourniquets and packing the junctional wound." He said the simulator is an eye-catching example of the importance of providing

realistic training to the Army medicine force.

Kinser said the TC3X simulator has been around since 2008, and it continues to evolve with each passing year, receiving new updates and added technological advancements that aid in its effectiveness. Soldiers use simulators to refresh and build on past training. Successful completion of official training on the model earns medics a certification on the operation of and use in training with the TC3X.

Twilligear says there are 77 of the TC3X mannequins fielded across the force, including two in the training support company at the MEDCoE. "The intent of the TC3X is not only for medical folks," he said. "It is for medics to integrate casualty training into the unit team and collective training in operational units."

The U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, or MEDCoE, provided a participatory experience for attendees during the Association of the United States Army's, or AUSA's, Annual Meeting, October 11-13. Hundreds of Army senior leaders, industry leaders and other interested AUSA participants stopped by the MEDCoE kiosk for a fully interactive demonstration that highlighted the Tactical Combat Casualty Care Exportable, or TC3X, mannequin, offering an opportunity to see the simulation capabilities in action during live, hands-on exhibitions. Shown here are MEDCoE's kiosk leads, Master Sgt. Kaleb Twilligear (left) and James Kinser (right) at the AUSA display Oct. 11, 2021.

An example that Twilligear likes to give is a real-world scenario that most medics will likely face.

"If I am a medic doing convoy operations training," Twilligear explained, "if given a react to an improvised explosive device, or IED, react to ambush or vehicle rollover recovery, I can sign out a TC3X mannequin and integrate that high fidelity trainer into the scenario." He believes the trainers add a level of realism and difficulty that most leaders will say are vital to have to consider the training worthwhile or "high quality."

Assessing the training standards and fielding of the TC3X mannequin is only one of many DoS priorities. Formally established after MEDCoE was realigned from MEDCOM to the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, or TRADOC, in October 2019,

formalizing DoS and its mission are relatively new to MEDCoE compared to other centers of excellence.

"Since DoS stood up, we have focused on defining training gaps, which is step one that will ultimately result in doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, facilities and policy solutions to fill those gaps," said Twilligear, who joined the MEDCoE DoS team in January.

Twilligear is a special operations combat medic formally assigned to the 3rd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, out of Fort Benning, Georgia, with eight special operations forces deployments split evenly between Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Within the Ranger Regiment, casualty response is an 'everybody' thing; it's not just a medical thing," he said. "Challenging training is driven by the commanders; they ensure their Soldiers practice getting hit every time they go out to train. That mindset leads to medical outcomes that save lives."

He believes, after widespread medical simulation adoption, training standards and data collection architecture used for assessments and performance on medical simulators like the TC3X will become more and more predictive of performance on a real patient.

"Our short-term goals include getting recognition and buy-in both within the medical, and specifically within the non-medical, community," Twilligear said. "Advancing medical simulation is the single biggest thing that we can do to impact quality, rigor, and realism of training."

New BAMC walk-in clinic provides contraception to female service members

By Lori Newman

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brooke Army Medical Center now offers female service members a walk-in clinic for contraception on Wednesdays from noon to 2 p.m. in the Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine Clinic at the Capt. Jennifer M. Moreno Clinic.

The Patients in Need of Contraception, or PINC, clinic is open to all female permanent party active duty service members assigned to Joint Base San Antonio.

“A team of providers and nurses are available to help with decision making, prescription refills or starting a new form of contraception altogether, including Long Acting Reversible Contraception, or LARC, options that might require a procedure,” said Elaine Boshoff, registered nurse.

“PINC clinics are a point of care system for receiving birth control pills, patches, vaginal rings, birth control shots, etonogestrel implants or an intrauterine device.”

The staff also hopes to address issues such as questions that arise while choosing an appropriate form of contraception, provide education on menstrual suppression, unplanned pregnancy, personal health, and hygiene-related issues to improve force readiness and mission accomplishment.



JASON W. EDWARDS

Army Maj. (Dr.) Kayla Jaeger (right), Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine chief, discusses contraception options with patient, Air Force Capt. Jacqueline Wade, while Benesha Jackson, licensed vocational nurse, gathers instruments for an exam at the Capt. Jennifer M. Moreno Primary Care Clinic at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Oct. 20.

The team established a similar clinic earlier this year at McWethy Troop Medical Clinic for female trainees. These clinics were so popular, we decided to offer them to our permanent party personnel as well, Boshoff explained.

“Receiving contraception should not have a negative impact on training, education or the mission,” Boshoff said. “Care needs to be delivered faster, be more structured, and meet the needs of women in uniform.”

BAMC nurse helps rescue child after car crashes into house

By Lori Newman

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Brooke Army Medical Center nurse jumped into action Oct. 7, rescuing a toddler after a car careened into the child's home.

Sharon Acker, a trauma nurse in the emergency department at BAMC, was on her way home from work a little after 11 p.m. She was just a few blocks from home when she happened upon the scene.

“The car had crashed into my neighbor's house and it appeared as though it had just happened,” she said. “There was nobody outside, so I got out to check to see if there was anyone in the car.”

“This is just one example of the caring and compassion our nurses show every day. We are proud of Mrs. Acker's quick thinking and willingness to jump in and help this little girl.”

Army Col. Daniel Thompson, BAMC chief nursing officer

The car was abandoned, so she called 911 and knocked on the door of the house to make sure everyone was safe. Nobody answered the door, so she went back to the window where the car had crashed into the house.

“I heard a child's voice,” Acker said.

The 911 dispatcher advised her not to enter the home because the structure might not be safe. The San Antonio police

arrived on the scene a few minutes later. As they surveyed the situation, Acker made the decision to crawl through the window and check on the girl.

“The intrusion from the car had pushed brick and glass onto her bed,” she explained. “I picked her up and then the (officer) came through a moment after me. The bed had been pushed up against the door, and she wouldn't have been able to get out.”

Together they were able to safely get the child out of the house. The officer went to find the homeowners, and Acker stayed with the little girl until an ambulance arrived at the scene.

“She had blood on her face and I assessed her for injuries while waiting on an ambulance,” Acker said. “I stayed with her in the ambulance until her dad came to her side.”

The girl's father had fallen asleep with headphones on and he never heard the crash.

“This is just one example of the caring and compassion our nurses show every day,” said Army Col. Daniel Thompson, BAMC chief nursing officer. “We are proud of Mrs. Acker's quick thinking and willingness to jump in and help this little girl.”

Acker admits that emergency personnel may be a little calmer under pressure, but she doesn't consider herself a hero.

“I would hope that anybody who pulled up on that scene would have stopped to help,” she said. “I can't imagine not doing that. I believe any of the nurses I work with would have done the same.”

NAMRU San Antonio highlights research microbiologist during National Hispanic Heritage Month

By Burrell Parmer

NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH UNIT SAN ANTONIO
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

National Hispanic Heritage Month marks a time to showcase and honor the many contributions Hispanic Americans have made to the Department of Defense and the nation.

For Naval Medical Research Unit San Antonio, Dr. Luis Martinez, a research microbiologist, assigned to the Biomaterials Department, Craniofacial Health and Restorative Medicine Directorate, is a representation of the highly professional and diverse civilian workforce within the Department of the Navy.

Born in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, and raised in San Angelo, Texas, Martinez began working at NAMRU San Antonio as a contractor, becoming a federal employee in 2018.

According to Martinez, who has been a microbiologist for 18 years, the most rewarding part of his job is knowing that the research conducted at NAMRU San Antonio may help combat medics in the field to stabilize casualties.

NAMRU San Antonio's mission is to

conduct gap driven combat casualty care, craniofacial, and directed energy research to improve survival, operational readiness, and safety of DOD personnel engaged in routine and expeditionary operations.

"I liked the type of research being conducted in the command as well as its mission," said Martinez, who earned his doctorate from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. "The work being done here benefits the members of the military who serve in combat."

Another reason why he enjoys being with NAMRU-San Antonio is being part of a team.

"Being here has afforded me the opportunity to work in a different field from microbiology and learn from other scientists making me a better-rounded scientist," said Martinez, the 2015 recipient of the NAMRU-SA Gold Star of Excellence in Scientific Writing, and a Civilian of the Quarter in 2020. "While at NAMRU-SA, I have been involved in numerous research projects, which have been published in high-impact journals."

During his time with NAMRU San

Antonio, Martinez's ultimate goal is to produce an innovative wound dressing to treat traumatic injuries and burns, thus enhancing the survival of injured warfighters.

"The work being done here has real world use to benefit the members of the military," Martinez said. "Working in a team atmosphere, and remembering that we are here to accomplish the mission is highly valued."

Being a part of the Navy has made Martinez realize that there are other career options for Ph.D. holders that do not involve becoming a professor in academia.

"I was fortunate to have two parents who pushed me to pursue whatever career I chose, and were supportive," said Martinez. "I was also fortunate to find mentors in my career field who have guided me and advised me."

NAMRU San Antonio is one of the leading research and development laboratories for the U.S. Navy under the DOD and is one of eight subordinate research commands in the global network of laboratories operating under the Naval Medical Research Center in Silver Spring, Maryland



BURRELL PARMER

Dr. Luis Martinez, of San Angelo, Texas, a research microbiologist, assigned to the Biomaterials Department, Craniofacial Health and Restorative Medicine Directorate, Naval Medical Research Unit San Antonio, is a representation of the highly professional and diverse civilian workforce within the Department of the Navy.

ARNORTH support to FEMA begins in Washington, continues in five states



SGT. KADEN D. PITT

U.S. Army Capt. Alexis Acuna, a critical care nurse assigned to the 627th Hospital Center, provides care to a COVID-19 positive patient during the COVID-19 response operations at Kootenai Health regional medical center in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Sept. 26.

By Charlotte Reavis

U.S. ARMY NORTH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

At the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, approximately 40 military medical personnel deployed to Washington in two cities to support civilian healthcare workers treating COVID-19 patients in two local hospitals.

U.S. Army North, under U.S. Northern Command's oversight, will provide operational command of the active duty military COVID-19 response in support of federal efforts and the states.

"As the whole-of-government, including U.S. Army North, continues to respond to this pandemic, our service members are working tirelessly to provide the best care possible to hospitals and communities in need," said Lt. Gen. John R. Evans Jr., ARNORTH commander. "As defenders of our nation, they are

deployed within the homeland to support our local, state and federal partners as we work together to defeat COVID-19."

The military medical personnel, split into two 20-person teams, include nurses, respiratory therapists and medical doctors from the U.S. Navy.

One of those teams will support Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, while the other will support Confluence Health in Wenatchee.

This team joins nine other teams currently working in nine hospitals — three in Louisiana, two in Mississippi, two in Alabama, one in Idaho, and one in Tennessee. A U.S. Army team supporting the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock, Arkansas, ended their mission Oct. 11.

ARNORTH is the joint force land component command of USNORTHCOM.

470th Military Intelligence Brigade member named U.S. Army Soldier of the Year

By Leanne Thomas

U.S. ARMY SOUTH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Former Army specialist, now Sgt. Justin J. Earnhart, assigned to the 470th Military Intelligence Brigade, was named the U.S. Army Soldier of the Year Oct. 11 during the Association of the United States Army's annual meeting for placing as the top Soldier while competing in the U.S. Army's Best Warrior Competition 2021.

Gen. James C. McConville, the U.S. Army Chief of Staff, and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael A. Grinston further recognized Earnhart during day two of AUSA by promoting Earnhart on the spot.

"The Soldier of the Year competed against hundreds of thousands of Soldiers in the Army, and he (Earnhart) won," said McConville. "He is the best Soldier we have, and winning does matter in the Army, so Sgt. Maj. (Grinston), I think he's ready to be a



PFC. JOSHUA TAECKENS

U.S. Army Spc. Justin Earnhart, 470th Military Intelligence Brigade, pulls security while wearing a joint service general purpose mask during an exercise in the Army Futures Command Best Warrior Competition at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston June 9.

non-commissioned officer."

At that time, Sgt. Maj. Grinston and the Chief of Staff of the Army pinned the enlisted rank of sergeant onto Earnhart's uniform and promoted him to an NCO on the spot.

"'Humbled,' has been a word that has stuck with me the last few months," Earnhart said. "I just feel incredibly humbled to be named the best Soldier. It still hasn't resonated with me yet, but again, I'm just incredibly thankful for the people that worked alongside me to help me prepare for the best warrior competition, and I'm more than happy and thankful to have been given this opportunity."

Earnhart is a U.S. Army military intelligence professional assigned to the 312th Military Intelligence Battalion, Charlie Detachment, at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where his unit conducts real-world intelligence missions in Latin America.

"I was actually born in the states, in

"I wouldn't send somebody else to do something that I can do, so I decided to join the military and serve my country."

**Sgt. Justin J. Earnhart,
470th Military Intelligence Brigade**

San Diego, California, but I grew up in Peru where my family were missionaries there in Tacna. I spent about 15 years there ... to me that is home," Earnhart said. "And serving under U.S. Army South has allowed me to meet several of the officers from Peru; it's a great conversation starter of common ground."

Coming from a background with several family members serving in the military, Earnhart joined the Army to continue his family's legacy and because he felt he was fit to serve.

"I wouldn't send somebody else to do something that I can do, so I decided to join the military and serve my country," Earnhart said.

To prepare for the Best Warrior Competition, Earnhart gives credit to his command team, especially his first sergeant and first-line NCO supervisors.

"We assisted in helping him put together his physical training plan and two of his NCOs were the primaries behind his training, but it was him (Earnhart). If he wasn't willing to accept the leadership, accept the tasking, it wouldn't have happened. This kid, he's going places," said Sgt. 1st Class John P. Kuehn, the senior enlisted advisor of Charlie Detachment, 312th Military Intelligence Battalion. "And even with all the training he did, he still volunteered to do missions here so he can keep up his MOS. The kid really is something special."

The Best Warrior Competition encompasses what it is to be a Soldier; everything from taking the Army Combat Fitness Test to conducting warrior tasks and battle drills and ends with a sergeants major board.



JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

Monthly Events

November

Attention

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

Bowling

Bowling fun is had over Thanksgiving

Come out to the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center Nov. 24, 6 p.m. for the annual Thanksgiving Bowling Tournament. The tournament is a scratch format. The cost is \$50 per person and prizes are given out based on the number of entries. To sign up, call 210-652-6271.

Treat the family to a fun filled day at the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center November 26, from 1-8 p.m. with the "Rent-a-Lane" special. This special includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental, a 20 ounce soda for each bowler, a large pizza and costs only \$50 for up to six people. To sign up, call 210-652-6271.

Come out to the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center Nov. 27 and 28 from 1-6 p.m. for the special Thanksgiving bowling rate of \$13 per hour, per lane (excluding Galactic Club), with \$3 shoe rental. For more information please call 210-652-6271.

Holiday shopping deals are

The JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center Pro Shop is offering up to 10 percent to 25 percent off selected balls, bags and shoes. Stop in, check out the new equipment and great deals. First come first served for stock on hand only (no special orders). For more information, please call 210-652-6271.

Customers enjoy special rates

Join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center every Tuesday and Wednesday from opening to closing for a \$5 Bowling Special. Patrons will play three games for \$5. For more information, call 210-221-4740.

The JBSA-Lackland Bowling Center offers a special \$10 per hour rate every Wednesday from 5-9 p.m. and a \$7.50 per hour rate every Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Patrons can also come out Tuesdays from opening to closing for three games for only \$5. For more information call, 210-671-1234.

Patrons bowl under the stars

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center holds cosmic bowling every Saturday from 4-9 p.m. everyone is invited to come out and enjoy this party under the lights while a DJ provides musical entertainment. For more information, call 210-221-4740.

Check out the JBSA-Randolph Bowling Center Saturdays from 6-9 p.m. for Galactic Bowling. Galactic Bowling features cosmic lights combined with LED Center Punch Deck Lighting, LED Lane Capping, LED Ceiling Lights and is enhanced with

three 118' projection screens playing "mom approved" music videos. Select your preferred exciting option to bowl at the special rate of \$15 per hour per hour of bowling. For more information, call 210-652-7271.

Clubs

Patrons unwind at the club

Come to the JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club Nov. 5, 12, and 19 from 5-10 p.m. for Variety Night. Hosted in the Lone Star Lounge, relax in the lounge or enjoy the weather out on the patio with pool tables and big screen TVs as DJ Tony Style plays a wide variety of music. For more information, please call 210-645-7034.

Bingo fun is at the club

Bingo takes place at the JBSA-Randolph Kendrick Club every Sunday, 3 p.m. and Monday-Thursday, 6:30 p.m. in the ballroom. 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 November are gift cards.

Bingo Extravaganza is held Nov. 8 and 22, 6:30 p.m. Join us for a chance to win a larger jackpot. Birthday Bingo is held Nov. 9. Club members with a birthday in November receive a complimentary bingo machine. Randolph Club members only along with ID and proof of membership required. For more information, call 210-652-3056.

Patrons enjoy a game night

The JBSA-Randolph Parr Club is calling all ladies for a fun evening at Ladies Game Night Nov. 12 from 4-8 p.m. The evening includes music, purse bingo, bunco, door prizes, and tasty appetizers. This event is reservation only. We will start taking reservations beginning Oct. 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. by calling the cashier's cage at 210-658-7445 or email us at jbsarandolphclubs@gmail.com. The last day to cancel a reservation with a refund is Nov. 10. No refunds will be issued after this date. Coupons, club bucks, or gift certificates are not accepted as payment for this event. The event costs \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, please call 210-658-7445.

Holiday meals are made easy

The JBSA-Randolph Parr Club saves customers some time over the holidays. Let the Parr Club cover all the cooking with their Holiday Meals To-Go. The Parr Club will take orders between Nov. 1-19. To place an order or for more information, please call 210-658-7446 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or email us at jbsarandolphclubs@gmail.com. All Thanksgiving meals can be picked up on Nov. 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sorry, no coupons accepted. Meal options include a turkey or ham and several savory sides.

The turkey meal costs \$85 for members and \$90 for non members, and the ham meal is \$95 for members and \$100 for nonmembers. For those wishing to forgo the sides customers can also order just the turkey or ham. The cost for just a turkey is \$50 for members and \$55 for non members. A ham is \$55 for members and \$60 for non members. For more information please call 210-687-7445.

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Club is also offering holiday meals to go. Patrons can take advantage of their Holiday Meals-To-Go from Nov. 1-24. To place an order, call 210-645-7034 two days prior to pickup an order. Pick up hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 1-24 and 9 a.m. to noon on Thanksgiving Day. Meal options include a turkey or ham and several savory sides. The turkey meal costs \$85 for members and \$90 for non members, and the ham meal is \$95 for members and \$100 for nonmembers. For those wishing to forgo the sides customers can also order just the turkey or ham. The cost for just a turkey is \$50 for members and \$55 for non members. A ham is \$55 for members and \$60 for non members. For more information please call 210-645-7034

Canyon Lake

Boat tour offered at Canyon Lake

The JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake encourages everyone to come out for the Beyond the Marina Boat Tour Nov. 13 from 10-11:30 a.m. Enjoy an hour and a half chauffeured boat tour around Canyon Lake. Encounter breath taking scenic views, discover the lake's history and the town that still resides beneath. This is open to all DOD ID cardholders. The cost for the tour is \$30 per adult and \$15 per child 12 and younger. Register by contacting our call center at 830-964-3576 or email jbsalodgingres@gmail.com.

Families camp-out for the weekend

Head out to the JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake Nov. 6-8 for a great weekend full of fun family friendly activities and entertainment. Patrons bring their own tent, camping equipment and fishing poles. This weekend includes a kayaking and paddle boarding class, a boat tour around the lake, fishing at the pier, dutch-oven dessert class and a surprise night of entertainment from swimming and other beach fun. Make memories with the family and learn some new skills. Cost is \$100 per family up to 5 people, then \$10 per person after that. To reserve your spot, please call 830-964-3576 or email jbsalodgingres@gmail.com.

Cooking class offered at the lake

Come out to the JBSA Recreation Park @ Canyon Lake Nov. 20 from 1-2 p.m. for the Dutch Oven Cooking Class. Patrons can enjoy the cooler weather while learning a new skill, to make some scrumptious treats for family and friends. The cost for this class

JBSA FSS

is \$20 per person. To reserve a spot, please call 830-964-3576 or email jbsalodgingres@gmail.com.

Patrons save money with an annual pass

Purchase a Canyon Lake annual pass for only \$75. Pass holders get into both the Sunny Side and Hancock Cove side of the park. Otherwise, the daily entry fee for the park is \$10 per visit, per vehicle. Annual passes include a vehicle and boat/trailer pass and are valid for one year from date of issue. For more lodging information, call 210-964-3576 or email jbsalodgingres@gmail.com and for Boat Rentals and Marina information, please email jbsamarinasuper@gmail.com.

Community Services

Patrons keep their cars road ready

Let the JBSA-Lackland Auto Hobby Shop technicians prepare your vehicle for any vacations planned during the hottest season of the year. The full service department provides tune-ups, charging system tests, oil changes, undercarriage, suspension and drive-line inspections, A/C systems performance test, repairs, Texas state inspections and more. The self-service side gives the do-it-yourself crowd a place to work on a vehicle and access to many tools that may not be in a home garage. Moreover, since COVID-19 is still around, the Auto Hobby Shop is still offering a complete vehicle disinfection service for only \$35. To make an appointment, call 210-671-3549. Please note the following changes in business hours; Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m., to 6 p.m. Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed Sunday and Monday.

Precious memories are framed for a lifetime

Both the JBSA-Lackland and the JBSA-Randolph Frame Shops offer discounted framing services for all framing needs. Their expert framer will help customer design a one of a kind custom frame to display those precious memories or special achievements. In addition, they will match any off-base price on a comparable custom framing job. For questions about framing, please call 210-671-5503 for JBSA-Lackland or 210-652-5142, option 3 for JBSA-Randolph.

Equestrian Center

Customers go on trail rides every weekend

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center encourages everyone age 7 and older to come out for a trail ride. No experience is required and rides are by appointment only every Saturday and Sunday, 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Trail rides are \$30 per rider. All riders must arrive 30 minutes prior to their appointment time. 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 by appointment for \$40 per person. To make reservations, call 210-224-7207.

For the smaller riders that aren't quite ready for trail rides the equestrian center also offers parent-led pony rides for \$10 for children age 6 and younger. Pony rides are

offered every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Adults must accompany their children and availability is on a first come, first served basis. Pony rides can also be coordinated for weekdays on an appointment basis as well as for parties or other special events held on site. A covered deck is available for small parties for half-day use for \$50. For more information, call 210-224-7207.

**JBSA-Randolph
PARR CLUB**

**HOLIDAY
MEALS TO GO**

Start placing orders between
Nov. 1-19
Orders must be picked up on
Nov. 24
between
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Turkey or Ham Meals	Meals Without Sides
Turkey: \$85 for members \$90 for nonmembers Ham: \$95 for members \$100 for nonmembers	Turkey: \$50 for members \$55 for nonmembers Ham: \$55 for members \$60 for nonmembers

**To place your order call
(210) 658-7446.**

To ensure the safety of the staff and customers, current HPCON guidance will be followed.

Riders of all experience levels attend lessons

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 by appointment only most days of the week and in the evenings. Helmets are also available if needed for the lessons. For more information, call 210-224-7207.

Fitness

Patrons get a jump on the holiday calories

Come to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center any time Nov. 1-30 to take part in the Turkey Gobble Elliptical Challenge. Start logging the miles earned on the elliptical machine, the longest distances will be recorded and displayed in the facility. There will be prizes for male and female winners. For more information, call 210-221-1234.

Join the JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center Nov. 22, 11 a.m. for the Turkey Trot/Great American

Smoke Out 5K. Participants trot their way to a healthy holiday season and support "The Great American Smoke Out" by running/walking a 5K at the Rambler Fitness Center jogging trails. All participants will be entered in a drawing to win a turkey for their holiday feast. Please call 210-652-7263 for more information.

Bring a friend and join the JBSA-Lackland Chaparral Fitness Center Nov. 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the Turkey Burn-Off Challenge. Complete the Turkey Burn-Off Challenge workout that is posted at the front desk. For more information, please call 210-671-2401.

**JBSA-LACKLAND
GATEWAY CLUB**

**TURKEYS
AND
HAMS**

TO GO

Save yourself some time during the hustle and bustle of the holidays by taking advantage of the holiday meals-to-go from Nov. 1-24. To place an order, call (210) 645-7034 at least two days in advance of pickup. Pick up hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 1-24 and 9 a.m. to noon on Thanksgiving Day.

Choose
 Turkey or Ham (alone)
Pricing
 Turkey: \$80 for members or \$85 for non-members
 Ham: \$85 for members or \$90 for non-members
Turkey or Ham Meals
 Choice of Roast Turkey (12-14 lbs.) OR
 Glazed Virginia Pit Ham (up to 9 lbs.)
 • Cornbread Stuffing
 • Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy
 • Sweet Potatoes • Corn • Cinnamon
 • Green Beans • Cranberry Chutney
 • Dinner Rolls • Pumpkin Pie

Pricing for Meals
 Turkey: \$85 for members or \$90 for non-members
 Ham: \$95 for members or \$100 for non-members
Orders must be paid for at the time the order is placed. The last day to order is Nov. 20 and all orders must be picked up NLT Nov. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon. Sorry, no coupons accepted.

To ensure the safety of the staff and customers, current HPCON guidance will be followed.

Patrons push their limits

Athletes come test their upper body strength at the JBSA-Lackland Warhawk Fitness Center Nov. 4, 12:30 p.m. Each participant will grab the bar using an overhand grip and perform as many pull-ups as possible. The total will be determined once a patron lets go of the bar. No registration required. For more information, call 210-671-2016.

The JBSA-Lackland Kelly Fitness Center challenges everyone to complete a 5000M Rowing Challenge. Come out Nov. 9 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and compete for the fastest time to row 5000M on indoor rowers. The fastest time wins bragging rights and a strong back. For more information, please call 210-925-4848.

Head out to the JBSA-Lackland Warhawk Fitness Center Nov. 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for the Jump Rope Challenge. Participants get their heart and body pumping, in this fun exercise challenge. Every participant will try to complete 200 jumps in two minutes. Come see if you have what it takes. No registration required. For more information, call 210-671-2016.

A Virtual Fitness Marathon is held Nov. 18 from 7 a.m.

to 2 p.m. at the JBSA-Lackland Kelly Fitness Center. A variety of fitness work-outs are conducted throughout the day using the premier on demand fitness provider (Wellbeats). Classes include kickboxing, circuit training, step aerobics, cycling and Dance Aerobics. For more information, call 210-925-4848.

Come out to the JBSA-Lackland Chapman Fitness Center any Monday and take on the "Murph" Workout. This workout is named after Navy Lt. Michael Murphy who was killed in Afghanistan on June 28, 2005 and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Take part in trying to complete the "Murph Workout" Challenge which consist of a one-mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 push-ups, 300 body squats and finish off with another one-mile run for a cool down. Don't forget that this must all be completed wearing a 20 lb. vest or body armor. For additional information, call 210-671-4477.

Competition heats up on the court

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston METC Fitness Center hosts the Three Point Shoot Out and Free Throw Contest Nov. 6, 11 a.m. Each shooter will have a chance to make as many three-point shots and free-throws that they can. Each participant has two minutes to complete the three-point shots and two minutes to complete the free throws. The competitor with the most completed shots will be declared the winner. For more information, please call 210-808-5709.

The JBSA-Lackland Gillum Fitness Center holds a Two-Person Three Point Competition Nov. 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. One person will have to make five three-point shots from five different spots and their team mate must rebound and then they switch spots. The fastest time and the most completed three-point shots wins. This event is open to all DOD ID cardholders. For more information, please call 210-977-2353.

Veterans are appreciated at the Fitness Center

The JBSA-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center is hosting an open house Nov. 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for Veterans in recognition of all those who have served this great country and in appreciation for all their sacrifices. Come over to the Fitness Center to take a tour and see how the Fitness Center can help improve anyone's quality of life. The Fitness Center offers top of the line equipment and excellent programs. Fitness Center staff will be on hand to answer any questions. Please call 210-652-7263 for more information.

Contestants raise the bar in a contest

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Jimmy Brought Fitness Center is hosting the Gut Buster Bench Press Contest Nov. 13, 10:30 a.m. Each participant will have three chances to bench press as much weight as possible. There will be prizes for male and female winners. For more information, call 210-221-1234.

Football fans make game time predictions

At the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston METC Fitness Center patrons are encouraged to choose their picks every week during the NFL Weekly Pick'em Contest. Each week participants choose which NFL teams will win their match-up. The person with the most correct picks wins a

prize. Tie breakers are decided by guessing the total score for the Monday night football match-up. Picks are due every Thursday by 3 p.m. This contest runs through Jan. 9, 2022. For more information, call 210-808-5709.



Golf

Golfers participate in a scramble

Join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course Nov. 5, 12:30 p.m. for the Warrior Golf Scramble. The cost for this golf scramble is \$30 for DOD ID cardholders and Fort Sam Houston Golf Club members and \$40 for nonmembers. Price includes greens fee, golf cart and lunch for players. The event is limited to the first 60 paid players. Sign up through The Greens @ JBSA App. Golfers will be sent their start times and all the necessary information. For more information, call 210-222-9386.

Veterans Day is celebrated

Come to the JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course invites everyone to come out Nov. 11, 7 a.m. and celebrate Veterans Day. Come out and enjoy some great golf and sign up for a two-person scramble. Net and gross are paid and the team handicap will be calculated using the USGA method where 40 percent of the lower handicap is added to 15 percent of the higher handicap. The entry is \$20 dollars plus greens fee and cart rental. Sign up through The Greens @ JBSA App. Golfers will be sent their start times and all the necessary information. For more information please call 210-652-4653.

Patrons try a new dining experience

Join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course for a bimonthly themed dinner. Held on Nov. 13 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. this event's theme is a Salsa

Night with assorted Mexican food, margaritas and michelada along with other beverages for purchase at the Clubhouse. Reservations are required, so call 210-222-9386 to reserve a spot.

Thanksgiving is celebrated with rounds of golf

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Course hosts their Turkey Shoot Nov. 20, 12:30 p.m. This is a two-player scramble. The entry fee is \$20 per person plus green fees and cart rental. Entry fee includes lunch and prizes. Deadline to sign up is Nov. 18. Sign up through The Greens @ JBSA App. Golfers will be sent their start times and all the necessary information. For more information, call 210-222-9386.

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Golf Course hosts the Turkey Shoot Nov. 20, 8 a.m. This is an 18 hole, two-player scramble. Players make their own teams and the Pro Shop will make the pairings for the event. Teams are awarded a certain percentage of their combined team handicap with prizes for both gross and net. Entry fee is \$20 per player and covers prizes for the event. Register on-line at The Greens @ JBSA App. Golfers will be sent their start times and all the necessary information. Deadline to sign up is Thursday, Nov. 18. For questions, please call 210-671-3466.

The holidays bring great sales to customers

The JBSA-Lackland Gateway Hills Golf Course and JBSA-Randolph Oaks Golf Course encourage everyone to come by Nov. 26 for some great deals just in time for the holidays. Shop on Black Friday and receive a 15 percent discount on all merchandise in the Pro Shop with the exception of Ping equipment. For more information, please call 210-671-3466 for JBSA-Lackland or 210-652-4653 for JBSA-Randolph.

Military & Family Readiness

Holiday stress management tips offered

The holiday season is full of unique stressors. Review methods to help identify and manage stress, define holiday expectations, and strategies to guide children through the holidays with minimal stress during the virtual Stress During the Holidays class, Nov. 3 from 10-11 a.m. To register, call 210-652-5321.

Workshop helps keep holiday spending stay under

Discuss tips to help control overspending and dial back financial stress this holiday season with the virtual Saving for the Holidays workshop, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to noon. To register, call 210-671-3722.

Jobseekers gain valuable insight

Register for the virtual Resume Roundtable with Experts workshop, Nov. 4, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., for tips to improve your resume, articulate your accomplishments and credentials, and connect with industry professionals. To register, call 210-671-3722.

Spouses discover portable career options

Military spouses explore career and entrepreneurship opportunities that transfer with each PCS during the virtual Portable Careers & Entrepreneurship workshop on Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Get helpful tips for starting

a business and learn about resources specifically for military spouses. Register at <https://go.usa.gov/xMNTs>.

Workshop offers home-buying strategies

Participants register for the virtual Home Sweet Home: Home-Buying Strategies, Nov. 9 from 2-3:30 p.m., to learn fundamental information to help ease the buying process. To register, call 210-652-5321.

Hearts Apart families prepare care packages

JBSA families geographically separated due to a deployment or remote assignment are encouraged to participate in Hearts Apart Holiday in a Box event, Nov. 12, 9-10:30 a.m., to prepare a holiday care package for their service member. To register, call 210-221-2705.

Orientation for new military spouses

Spouses new to the military learn about the mission, lifestyle, protocol, and available resources during Heart Link, a spouse orientation workshop. This virtual orientation is slated for Nov. 12, from 9-11:30 a.m. To register, call 210-652-5321.

Savvy shoppers avoid scams

According to the Federal Trade Commission, over \$3.4 billion dollars were lost to scammers and fraud last year. Register for the virtual Consumer Protection workshop, Nov. 18, 9-11 a.m., to learn how to protect your assets and credit. Call 210-221-2705.

Support group for single parents offered

Long- and short-term single parents meet virtually on Nov. 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to learn about resources, network with other parents, and participate in open discussion. Call 210-671-3722 for details.

Outdoor Recreation

Concealed carry classes offered

The Camp Bullis Rod-N-Gun Recreation Center (RNGRC), bldg. 6215, is providing Concealed Handgun License (CHL) classes Nov. 6 and 13 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students must be 21 years old to register for the class, unless they are active-duty military age 18 or older. Students need to be familiar with their firearm; no first time shooters. Students must also meet Federal qualifications to purchase a handgun. The cost of the class is \$80. Successful completion of this class is required to apply for a Texas LTC license. 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 or the RNGRC at 210-295-7577 or 210-296-7529.

Customers safely store RVs, boats and more

There are 440 storage sites available for rent at Camp Bullis. The cost is \$50 per month or \$480 per year. Customers need a DOD ID card, current registration and proof of insurance prior to signing for a RV storage site. For more information, call 210-295-7529.

Patrons rent all the recreation essentials

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. There are also rental RV campers, mobile grills and portable grills. In addition, equipment rental has a resale car lot. For more information, call 210-221-5224 or 210-221-5225.

JBSA-Lackland Outdoor Recreation offers a full list of party items for summer fun to include tables, chairs, cotton candy machines, margarita machines, party speakers, champagne fountains and many more items. For more information, please call 210-925-5532.

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. Patrons can also 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 210-652-5640.

Boaters learn the rules of the water

All JBSA-Outdoor Recreation locations require a Boaters Safety Course certificate from Texas Parks and Wildlife in order for customers to rent our motorized watercraft over 15HP.

Approved Texas Boaters Safety Courses can be taken online at: <http://www.boaterexam.com>, <http://www.boat-ed.com> or <https://www.boatus.org/onlinecourse/Texas.asp>. For more information, call JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-221-5224 or 210-221-5225. JBSA-Lackland at 210-925-5532 or 210-925-5533 and JBSA-Randolph can be reached at 210-652-5142.

Youth Programs

Families watch a movie on the ball field

Join the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs Keystone Club for a movie night Nov. 5, 7 p.m. next to the W. Ed Parker Youth Center. Bring a blanket, lawn chairs, and a small ice chest and enjoy "Despicable Me 3". For more information please call 210-221-3502.

Parents are given a much needed break

All JBSA Child and Youth Programs locations can give parents that much needed break through the Give Parents a Break and Parents Night Out programs. These programs are for children 6 weeks to 12 years old. 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 Nov. 13 from 6-10 p.m. JBSA-Lackland hosts on Nov. 12 6-10 p.m. and JBSA-Randolph on Nov. 13 from 1-5 p.m. For more information please call JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 210-221-5002, JBSA-Lackland at 210-671-2388, and JBSA-Randolph at 210-652-4946.

Youth learn the fundamentals

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Youth Programs hosts "First Step" Basketball Nov. 15 - Dec. 10. Children ages 3-5 years of age will learn the fundamentals of basketball in a non-game/team format. First Steps teaches the basic fundamentals of basketball in harmony with the gross motor movements of preschool and early school age children. Parents are required to participate as an extension

of the instruction of the instructor. A current immunization/flu shot record is required at the time of registration. The cost is \$40 per child for a one-hour session per week. For more information please call 210-221-3502.

The JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs also holds First Steps Basketball Nov. 15 through Dec. 10. Children ages 3-5 can learn the fundamentals of basketball in a non-game/team format. First step teaches the fundamentals of basketball in harmony with the gross motor movements of preschool and school-age children. Parents are required to participate in the learning sessions as an extension of the instructor. A current immunization/flu shot record is required at the time of registration. The cost is \$40 per child. For more information, call 210-671-2388.

Families have fun over the holiday

Come out Nov. 20 from 8 a.m. to noon for some holiday family fun at JBSA-Lackland Youth Programs annual Turkey Trot. This event is open to individuals of all ages. So come on out, get a little exercise and perhaps you and your family can walk away with a free turkey just in time for Thanksgiving. For more information, call Lackland Youth Programs at 210-671-2388.

Youth are taught the skill of archery

The JBSA-Randolph Youth Programs invites all youth ages 9 and older to come sign up for the Archery Turkey Shoot. Held Nov. 22-24, this event includes two days of instruction and a field trip to Camp Bullis for 3-D target shooting. Parents, friends and other spectators cheer on archers during the competition. The three day camp is \$60 and all archery equipment will be provided during the camp. However, each day of camp participants will need to bring a sack lunch and water bottle. Camp will abide by all COVID-19 health regulations and requirements. Space is limited and advance registration is required. To register, call 210-652-3298.

STAY CONNECTED

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

<https://jbsatoday.com>



LACKLAND

688th Cyberspace Wing spreads cyber, Air Force mission awareness

By Nadine Wiley De Moura
688TH CYBERSPACE WING

Air Force Col. Joshua Rockhill, 688th Cyberspace Wing A/5/8/9 directorate and 26th Cyberspace Operations Group commander, raised awareness about the cyberspace and U.S. Air Force mission to about 75 community leaders participating in the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce Leadership San Antonio program at the Radius Center in San Antonio Oct. 8.

Leadership San Antonio hosted a military day as part of the program's initiative to provide participants with insight from present and future decision-makers in both the public and private sectors in order to prepare them to better lead San Antonio into the future by using their broader understanding of the diverse community.

"While the military has been a great force and presence in Military City U.S.A., specifics of what the military does in San Antonio may not always be known," said Michelle Moreno, Leadership San Antonio Military Day team organizer.

"Through the participation of the 688th Cyberspace Wing and Air Force participation at our event, class members were able to hear directly from military leaders about the significance of the work being done to defend our country's cybersecurity and ask questions."

Rockhill, who was accompanied by 26th Cyberspace Operation Group Command and A/5/8/9 Senior Enlisted Leader Chief Master Sgt. Juwone Harris, shared the same sentiment.



Col. Joshua Rockhill, 688th A/5/8/9 directorate and 26th Cyberspace Operations Group commander, raises awareness about the cyberspace and U.S. Air Force mission to a cohort of roughly 75 community leaders participating in the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce Leadership San Antonio program, Oct. 8, 2021 at the Radius Center in San Antonio.

"Tens of thousands of military members take some of their first steps in uniform in this city," Rockhill said. "It truly becomes home to so many of us later because of that. Be it in cyber or elsewhere, that type of foundation is as strong as they come. We have to continue leveraging it to help the city and country prosper."

Rockhill discussed the larger footprint of Joint Base San Antonio in San Antonio, the 688th Cyberspace mission and related cyber security to local

and national security objectives.

"Sometimes people may not know that the military community is accessible or about the role it plays an integral part of our city as a whole," said Moreno.

"Sometimes that can create a barrier, so by participating in this type of forum, there is an opportunity to not only hear about the most up-to-date public information regarding the safety and defense of our country."

Additionally, this type of

engagement is important for relationship building that leads to a better understanding of our shared mission to defend the United States of America, Moreno added.

"The rising public and private sector leaders of San Antonio are incredible," Rockhill said. "Their passion for the city, cyber, and America and what it represents is clear and inspiring."

LSA was created in 1975 by The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce to help identify and

develop community leaders and is now considered the premier program for existing and emerging leaders in Bexar County and surrounding areas.

The program, one of the first of its kind in Texas, has graduated nearly 1,900 participants and focuses on delivering these leaders an opportunity to develop an understanding of the promise and challenges of the community.

"We are thankful for this newly founded partnership between the U.S. Air Force, 26th Cyberspace Operations Group, 688th Cyberspace Wing, with that of our individual LSA Class 45 participants, the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce," Moreno said.

After answering questions, Rockhill and Harris took the opportunity during the event to network with local leaders, build partnerships and discuss ways to collaborate with the community.

Events like this create shared experiences and understanding that really build a foundation of trust for that team, said Rockhill.

The event featured other guest speakers discussing military color guard, recruiting, active service in Military City U.S.A., the history of Veteran's Plaza, military veterans outreach and transition to civilian life.

"Our nation is strong because of its relationships," Rockhill said. "I think that is also true for our military—It takes a team in and across the military and outside of it to defend our nation."

NADINE WILEY DE MOURA

Partner nation students attend Basic Military Training graduation

By Vanessa R. Adame

37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

More than 100 international military students from partner nations across the Western Hemisphere gathered at the Pfingston Reception Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Oct. 7 to watch nearly 700 trainees become Airmen and Guardians.

These students are attending courses at the Inter-American Air Forces Academy and visited Basic Military Training as part of a field studies program event. These events are a federally mandated initiative designed to provide international students with a cultural immersion during their studies in the U.S.

Col. José Jiménez Jr., IAAFA commandant, and Chief Master Sgt. Emilio Avila, IAAFA superintendent, greeted the students as they watched the trainees march across the Airmen's Arena.

“I want you to have in mind that all of these individuals are volunteers. This is the foundation. This takes so much commitment not only from the service member, but for the entire family.”

Chief Master Sgt. Emilio Avila, Inter-American Air Forces Academy superintendent

“I want you to have in mind that all of these individuals are volunteers,” Avila said. “This is the foundation. This takes so much commitment not only from the service member, but for the entire family.”

International military support staff translated the ceremony for the students from Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador and Guatemala.

“This is a very good experience to learn about a new ceremony and this new force,” said Lt. Jose Mantilla, Colombian Army. “We have similar ceremonies, but different marches and

the protocol is also different.”

Aside from the differences, Maj. Marcela Moreno, Colombian Navy, found common ground with Airman

Basic Javier Fraga, one of the newest Airmen who stood alone after the event among hundreds of Airmen and their families.

After a short greeting in English, she asked, “Hablas espanol?” He did. “Can I give you a hug?” she asked in Spanish.

“We are so proud of you,” she said as they shared a hug.

“I think this is beautiful,” Moreno said. “Looking around, I can see the discipline and the desire that they have to succeed. I promise, this hug made my day.”



Maj. Marcela Moreno, Colombian Navy, hugs Airman Basic Javier Fraga after the basic military training graduation ceremony Oct. 7 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

PHOTOS BY VANESSA R. ADAME

International military students listen to Chief Master Sgt. Learie Gaitan before a basic military training graduation ceremony Oct. 7 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Chapel dog helps connect, comfort people

By Jason Wilkinson

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maverick possesses a charisma most people would be envious of, and it is easy to imagine him as the center of attention in most social situations.

Maverick is a Siberian Husky who functions as the chapel dog for the 502nd Air Base Wing Chaplain Corps and is owned and handled by Tech. Sgt. Karen Pasay-an, the non-commissioned officer in charge of installation ministries at Joint Base San Antonio. As a chapel dog, he is part mascot, motivator, and therapy dog.

“He opens up a lot of doors of communication,” Pasay-an said. “There’s a clear difference when I interact with Maverick, and when I don’t have him.”

Pasay-an says people often tell her that seeing Maverick is one of the best parts of their day. The trainees in particular enjoy seeing him on the track during their physical training.

“I’ve had some of them tell me they passed their PT test because of Maverick,” Pasay-an said.

And while PT motivation is great, Maverick’s real talent is putting people at ease, whether that is during routine visits from the chaplain, or when his presence is requested during a counseling session.

“I think animals are able to tap into people’s emotions, and into certain things they may be going through that we don’t see at the surface level,” said Pasay-an. “Maverick can tell when they are distressed, and I think that aids in the healing.”

Maverick wasn’t always a chapel dog, but Pasay-an quickly saw his potential.

“When he was about a year old, I would take him to work in my old career field, vehicle operations,” she said. “I noticed that he was very good with folks, especially children, so I started training him to



PHOTOS BY JASON WILKINSON

Maverick, a Siberian Husky who functions as the chapel dog for the 502nd Air Base Wing Chaplain Corps, sits with his handler, Tech. Sgt. Karen Pasay-an, the noncommissioned officer in charge of installation ministries at the Gateway Chapel at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland on Oct. 12.

“I’ve talked to numerous chaplains about the chapel dog program and they said this is absolutely one of the greatest ways to make connections with members.”

Tech. Sgt. Karen Pasay-an, non-commissioned officer in charge of installation ministries at Joint Base San Antonio

interact with more people.”

Despite being around 65 pounds, Maverick is gentle with others and likes meeting new people. Pasay-an put him in therapy training where he received his therapy dog certification.

When she changed career fields and came into the Chaplain Corps, she thought

he might be helpful when interacting with and counseling others.

She spoke to leadership, and they thought it sounded like a good idea.

“I’ve talked to numerous chaplains about the chapel dog program and they said this is absolutely one of the greatest ways to make connections with



members,” Pasay-an said.

If you would like to speak with Pasay-an, Maverick, or any other members of the

Chaplain Corps, call 210-671-2911. While Maverick might get the most attention, they are all ready to help.

149TH FIGHTER WING TAKES 502ND ABW VICE COMMANDER AIRBORNE



Army Col. Bryan Logan, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio vice commander, signals the Gunfighter "salute" as he prepares to take off in an F-16 Fighting Falcon with the 149th Fighter Wing at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Oct. 16. The 149th FW recently hosted Logan for a ride in an F-16 Fighting Falcon. Logan was fitted for an oxygen mask and flight suit, went through egress training and then flew with Maj. Caleb Cienski, a 149th FW flight instructor. The 149th FW is part of the Texas Air National Guard and has a mission to produce the finest Airmen for global engagements and domestic operations.

STAFF SGT. DEREK DAVIS



EIGHTEENTH AIR FORCE SENIOR LEADERS VISIT ALAMO WING

Senior Master Sgt. Brian Mizula, 733rd Training Squadron superintendent, demonstrates use of virtual reality equipment as a learning tool Oct. 14, while Maj. Gen. Kenneth Bibb Jr., Eighteenth Air Force commander, receives a brief from Maj. Paul Lentz, 733rd TRS student flight commander, at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

LT. COL. TIMOTHY WADE

Egyptian Armed Forces make historic visit to IAAFA

By Vanessa R. Adame

37TH TRAINING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A new partnership between the Texas National Guard and the Egyptian Armed Forces led to a historic visit at the Inter-American Air Forces Academy at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Sept. 27, when an Egyptian delegation visited the academy.

Nearly a dozen military Egyptian leaders met with George Gagnon, Air Education and Training Command director of International Training and Education, Col. Rockie Wilson, 37th Training Wing commander, and Col. José Jiménez Jr., IAAFA commandant, as well as other leaders.

The Egyptian Armed Forces members met at the IAAFA Training Center for a familiarization briefing and learned about the professional military education and technical training it provides to 21 partner nations across the Western Hemisphere.

“This engagement grants us the opportunity to showcase our security cooperation education and training footprint with our Middle Eastern partner nations,” Jiménez said.

The Egyptian delegation visited the 837th Training Squadron’s material management warehouse and security forces’ virtual active shooter simulator that teaches students how to approach an active shooter situation.

Across campus at the 318th Training Squadron, Egyptian leaders toured the aircraft hangars and the newest pilot training simulators that train partner nation students to fly by instrument.

Aside from the level of training students earn at academy, the relationships



PHOTOS BY VANESSA R. ADAME

Lt. Col. Terry Nail, 318th Training Squadron commander, points to helicopter training aids during a familiarization briefing with Egyptian Armed Forces Sept. 27 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

created here are much like this new partnership aims to achieve.

“Even though this is still an evolving partnership, we are moving fast and positively and that’s evidence of the willingness of both sides to support this partnership and its goals,” said Col. Mahmoud Aly Abdou Helal, Egyptian Armed Forces.

Egypt joined the state partnership program with the Texas National Guard last year. The State Partnership Program helps strengthen strategic partnership and build partner capacity and interoperability.



A member of the Egyptian Armed Forces operates a flight simulator during a familiarization briefing at the 318th Training Squadron, Sept. 27 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.



“The military gave us the tools to persevere. Basic training was quite the experience. It really tested me, but at the same time I was able to prove to myself what I was capable of.”

Airman Basic Richard Jimenez

COURTESY PHOTO

Richard and Jenna Jimenez, and their son Amaron, joined the Air Force as a family after their business came to a standstill due to COVID-19.

When going gets tough, resiliency remains key for Air Force family

By Agnes Koterba

37TH TRAINING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

One day, one decision, and one family. Together, husband, wife, and son raised their right hands and took an oath that changed the course of their lives.

The Jimenez family was running a successful business and enjoying life to its fullest when their world came to a standstill.

“We were celebrating the fact that I was able to launch our company. We went on a little vacation, enjoyed ourselves, and we were just extremely grateful and thankful for everything that life had given us up until that

point, we were finally on the right track,” said Airman Basic Richard Jimenez. “When the pandemic hit in 2020, the world stopped and once the world stopped, my business stopped with it.”

Reality set in for husband Richard, wife Jenna, and son Amaron Jimenez, as they realized that business would not continue for them as usual.

But when the going got tough, the Jimenez family didn’t shy away. Resiliency was key.

“Our story is survival,” Richard said.

When Jenna decided she wanted to join the military, Richard thought it was just a random idea until he did his own research. The Jimenez

household quickly realized that this might be a start to something bigger.

“It was exactly what we were looking for. We wanted to get out of the area. We wanted to make sure that we would never have to worry about health insurance and stability ever again, a safe place to stay or a support system, family, and the list goes on,” Richard said. “I was just ready; I knew that if we were going to do this it had to be together.”

They staggered their entry dates so that Richard and Jenna’s 4-year-old daughter would have someone to care for her. After Jenna and Amaron completed Basic Military Training, it was Richard’s turn

to start his journey. This was a necessary sacrifice for a better future for the family.

“The military gave us the tools to persevere. Basic training was quite the experience,” Richard said. “It really tested me, but at the same time I was able to prove to myself what I was capable of.”

After successfully completing BMT, Richard went on to the 344th Training Squadron to train as a contracting specialist and graduated Sept. 22.

“For me, it’s a natural fit. I’ve always loved business and I’m able to excel at that because that’s what I enjoy doing,” he stated.

Fortitude, heart, and adaptability allowed Richard

and his family to change course in the service of their nation.

For those facing uncertainty or something new, Richard shared “It’s important to trust your cloth, meaning the fabric of who you are. You’re cut out to fit more shapes than you know. You’re smarter, stronger and faster than you think. Never be afraid to reassess and resize yourself. Remain fit to fight.”

Editor’s note: The Jimenez family was interviewed last year shortly after enlisting in the Air Force. Read that story at <https://www.recruiting.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/2405355/air-force-gives-family-fresh-start-after-covid-crushes-private-business/>.

RANDOLPH

Aviation mentor inspires youth in hometown to take flight

**Air Force Recruiting Service
Public Affairs**

Maj. Kiersten “Clicks” Thompson, an Instructor Combat Systems Officer assigned to the 479th Flying Training Group, represented Air Force Recruiting Service Det. 1 twice recently, connecting with youth from all over the country.

She is one of 475 members of the Det. 1 Aviation Inspiration Mentorship, or AIM, team supporting outreach and engagement activities aimed to inform, influence, and inspire the next generation of aviators.

AIM members are Rated Diversity Improvement, or RDI, ambassadors who provide mentorship by sharing their personal experiences during in-person and virtual engagements.

At her first event, Girls in Aviation Day in Dallas, Texas, Thompson and the AIM team inspired more than 500 females, ages 8-18, toward a future in aviation and all things STEM-related.

“It was so rewarding watching their eyes light up when we talked to them, you could see them envision themselves as Air Force aviators. I felt like a superhero all day,” Thompson said.

Every event Det. 1 participates in is different. Whether it has a simulator station, a model C-17 Globemaster III fuselage, or virtual reality headsets, the team always tries to engage youth with fun and free games to the public.

“This time we ran a booth and two virtual reality simulators, enabling the



Maj. Kiersten “Clicks” Thompson meets members of the Pearland High School volleyball team Oct. 8 near Houston.

COURTESY PHOTO

aspiring aviators to fly an F-35 Lightning II through an obstacle course,” Thompson said. “It was a huge hit!”

In addition to the games and foam airplanes, Det. 1 provides at events, the AIM team presence really means they have an opportunity to interact with all event participants, family, friends and sometimes, event faculty.

“Simply, if a girl sees me in a flight suit and it triggers a reaction of, ‘I can do that too!’ then it’s a successful event,” Thompson said. “It’s a much longer game for Det. 1 and AIMs and short game for standard recruiters.”

Participating in events with youth at an early age inspires

them to pursue an education in STEM that sets them up for success for a career in aviation 10-15 years from now, well in advance of having what they need to be eligible to apply for a rated position in the Air Force

After a successful event with Girls in Aviation Day, Thompson volunteered for another event just two weeks later which enabled her to return to her hometown of Pearland, Texas. While there, she visited her alma mater, Pearland High School, and represented Det. 1

“It was a surreal experience walking the halls that I used to know so well. This high school was a huge part of my life and

led all of the opportunities I’ve experienced so far.”

It now marks 15 years since Thompson was a student at Pearland High School and she still gives back when she can by meeting with the current student-athletes about her experiences in the military, specifically as a rated officer in the Air Force.

“It was incredible getting to talk to and watch the volleyball team; since volleyball was my whole life in high school,” Thompson said. “I hope I gave them a role model to look up to knowing that I was once one of them.”

At the Wings Over Houston Airshow Oct. 9-10, Thompson paired up with recruiters from

the region as the only officer and aviator at the tent, a first for the AIM team to manage an event solo. She answered multiple questions on becoming an officer and even thinks she inspired an enlisted Marine to pursue a career as an Air Force aviator.

“My biggest win of the weekend was explaining to people that I was in fact not a pilot; I am a Combat Systems Officer and what that means.”

AIM members cover all four rated career fields, pilot, CSO, air battle manager, and remotely piloted aircraft, or RPA, pilots. This provides a wealth of knowledge when it comes to the various avenues to aviation and explains first hand there is no one way to apply and be selected for a rated career in the Air Force.

“It was an awesome opportunity that I am thankful the AIM team afforded me,” Thompson said. “Times like these let me share my passion for aviation and what I do with my two-year-old niece and nephew. Even though they don’t understand now, hopefully when they do they’ll want to follow in my footsteps.”

Thompson’s involvement with the AIM Program and her understanding of the mission resulted in her also being the first AIM member to represent Det. 1 solo at an event.

“Overall, it was a very rewarding experience. I think the biggest part of being with the AIM team is not necessarily pulling in future recruits, but being a visible presence,” Thompson said. “‘Inform. Influence. Inspire.’ is the AIM motto and that’s what I set out to do.”