



**Thank you**  
Master Sgt. Michael Halbrook (left) and Tech. Sgt. Dominick Aritz present a certificate of appreciation to Tim Morris, sales manager at Lindsey Equipment in Ashley, Pennsylvania, March 11. Aritz, the 314th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight enlisted accessions recruiter, worked with Morris on free advertising. The store displayed the squadron's wrapped Gator for a week, which generated several leads. Halbrook is the B-Flight chief. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Airmen may choose retirement plan at 14 1/2-year mark

By Debbie Gildea  
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas – The Air Force Personnel Center has developed an automatic notification process that sends a message directly to regular Air Force and headquarters Active Guard Reserve members when they reach 14½ years of active service. The new process will help ensure eligible military members are aware of their options in choosing a retirement plan with ample time to make an educated decision.

Prior to implementation of the new process, only about 52 percent of Airmen acknowledged the notification message, and during the new process preliminary testing, 95 percent of Airmen responded to the message.

The Career Status Bonus - or REDUX - program was

implemented in 1986. It allows Airmen who initially entered service Aug. 1, 1986 or later the option to choose either the REDUX retirement plan or the high three plan once they have 14 ½ to 15 years of active service. In 2000, a \$30,000 bonus was approved for Airmen who choose REDUX.

Information about each retirement plan, including a link to a retirement calculator, is available on the myPers website. Go to <https://mypers.af.mil> and enter Career Status Bonus or REDUX in the search window.

“Our goal is to ensure all eligible Airmen know what their options are and are able to make informed decisions,” said Ann Lacey, military retirement policy and procedures branch. “We don’t want to steer Airmen one way or the other, but we do want them to be aware that they have reached the decision eligibility point. So, we also use the notification message to

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Members from Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service are shown at the Advanced Rider Course at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in March. From left are: Master Sgt. Soren Pease, Staff Sgt. James Gill, Staff Sgt. Darby Larvenz, Master Sgt. Jermaine Goodman and Chief Master Sgt. Edward Edgar. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Safety Corner: Training essential to safe motorcycle riding

By Master Sgt. Jermaine Goodman  
AFRS Ground Safety Manager

The motorcycle riding season is rapidly approaching, and with that comes the urge to get out on the open road and ride!

Training is very essential when it comes to riding those beautiful two-wheeled machines. To kick off the riding season several members from Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service took the Advanced Rider Course hosted by Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. This course equips

riders with the necessary survival tools and also enhances the rider's knowledge of their motorcycles capabilities.

Did you know that riders are responsible for obtaining and maintain current training within the mandatory timelines as directed by Air Force Instruction 91-207 Chapter 4, Table 4.1? If you have any questions please contact your Motorcycle Safety Representative or the AFRS Safety Office at 210-565-1473.

In other safety news, Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Rotino, 313th Recruiting Squadron, logged 4,862 accident-free miles in less than 90 days in New York. Great job, Chief!

## 'Retirement' continued from Page 1

point them to resources that will help them choose the most beneficial plan for them."

Under the new notification process, Airmen will get an email at their 14½-year mark. The email will include an embedded link to an information page with an acknowledgement button. Airmen must click the acknowledgement button to let AFPC know they are aware of their options. Doing so will take them to a page that includes in-depth information about each option.

"Acknowledging that you've been notified does not mean you are accepting the REDUX plan or rejecting it," said Lacey. "It just lets us know that you are aware. For Airmen who are unable to respond to the initial notification, we'll send three follow-up reminders."

The default plan is the high three retirement, so once Airmen have acknowledged the option to choose, if they do nothing, they will automatically get the high three plan.

Airmen who want the REDUX plan must complete the election form, have their commander sign it, and then submit it to AFPC by their 15 years of active service date.

Because of significant differences between the two plans, Air Force officials recommend Airmen seek financial counseling before they make a decision.

"Every Airman and Family Readiness Center is required to have a certified financial counselor on staff, so we recommend that all Airmen contact their local center for assistance before they make their retirement plan decision," said Jeffrey Nelson, AFPC community readiness analyst. "Every Airman's situation is different, and our counselors won't direct Airmen one way or the other. What they will do is work with each Airman to help them understand the impact their decision will have, short-term and long-term."

For more information about Air Force personnel programs go to myPers at <https://mypers.af.mil>.

# Travis welcomes students for outreach event

## 364th Recruiting Squadron helps organize annual event, now in its third year

By Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman  
60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. -- Travis Air Force Base, California, welcomed more than 100 current and former high school students March 10 during the base's Golden Bear Outreach and Recruiting event.

The event, now in its third year, provides potential recruits, members of the Air Force Delayed Entry Program and their families with information about Air Force careers.

Attendees included Junior Officer Reserve Training Corps students from Fairfield and Armijo High Schools in Fairfield, California, their parents and recent graduates of those schools.

Tech. Sgt. Earl Mata, 364th Recruiting Squadron recruiter and one of the event's organizers, said the event was held to educate people, so they know what life in the Air Force is like.

"Many people don't know what the Air Force is about," he said. "They've never been to a base, never talked or interacted with Airmen. As recruiters, we can show them pictures and answer questions, but with an event like this, they have a great opportunity to interact with Airmen and learn from their experiences."

The event featured question and answer forums with former military training instructors, former military training leaders and Special Forces Airmen. Attendees also saw a military working dog demonstration, weapons and military vehicles display, had lunch with Airmen from 60 Air Force specialties and toured a C-5M Super Galaxy, the largest aircraft in the Air Force inventory.

"Being on a C-5 brings back so many memories," said Shelby Bouer, a DEP recruit whose father, retired Tech. Sgt. Michael Bouer, was a C-5 crew chief.

"I used to go to so many air shows and my father showed me everything on the aircraft," Bouer said.

Bouer also shared her favorite moment of the day; the MTI question and answer session.

"I never knew about basic military training," she said. "It's cool to know what the expectations are and to know that it's not that scary. This was a great opportunity."

Nicholas Palacios, from Vacaville, California, shares Bouer's enthusiasm.



Staff Sgt. Garrett Garza, 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, describes the C-5M Super Galaxy to local high school students and recent Air Force recruits March 9 during the Golden Bear Outreach and Recruiting event at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. (U.S. Air Force photo/Ken Wright)

"This is a great event to have," he said, "it shows future Airmen everything the Air Force has to offer."

Palacios graduated from Vanden High School in June 2014 and entered the DEP two months later.

"I've grown up around the Air Force and I've wanted to join the Air Force since the seventh-grade," he said. "It's something I just really want to be a part of and I'm ready to make a difference."

Palacios said he's interested in a career in explosive ordnance disposal. He even tried on an 80-pound bomb suit and performed several pushups while wearing it during the event's information fair.

"Going inside the bomb suit was my favorite part of this," he said. "It's an experience. It was eye opening and it's something that can help further my training before I ship out so I know how to prepare myself."

Event attendees interacted with more than 70 Airmen including firefighters, loadmasters and medical professionals asking several questions about the Air Force mission. Lunch and refreshments were also provided.

"We hope everyone understands the Air Force a little better," Mata said at the end of the day.



Sarah Khan (center) participates in an activity with members of The Village Program in Norway last summer. (Courtesy photo)

## 317th RCS spouse making changes on global level

By Lt. Col. Charity Hartley  
317th Recruiting Squadron commander

I am proud to highlight one of our Patriot Spouses who is doing big things on a global scale. Sarah Khan, wife of Tech. Sgt. Ernest Williamson, 317th Recruiting Squadron Military Entrance Processing Station Liaison, participates in an organization called Children's International Summer Villages.

CISV was started in 1950 by Dr. Doris Twitchell Allen, a psychologist who lived through World War II with her young son. Her goal for the program was to prevent the same atrocities from happening by building cross-cultural communication and understanding from a young age (11 is the youngest age of participants in the organization). Specifically, the organization aims to make a more just and peaceful world through programs that are targeted for each age group, 11-25, by "educating and inspiring for peace through building inter-cultural friendship, cooperation and understanding."

As part of her master's degree on conflict and religion from Harvard University, Sarah had the privilege to be a staff member last summer for the youngest program, The Village Program. She spent seven weeks in Norway and worked with 45 children from 12 countries for four weeks.

"It is extremely difficult to summarize the essential experience in DreamWork Village, but to put it simply, it was

a camp that focused on fostering cross-cultural relationships and learning about difficult situations of the world through the eyes of an 11-year-old," Sarah said.

"We would have three activities a day, and as DreamWork progressed towards group trust and stability, the activities would bear lessons far greater than learning about different cultures or each other's names. For example, one day, our kids were given 'handicaps' in which eyes were covered, hands tied and not allowed to be used, ears covered, and legs were tied. Our day continued as normal, but ended with each kid learning first-hand what it is like to live with a disability – or rather, what it is like to be 'differently abled' as we liked to put it," she continued.

"Another activity, titled stereotypes, allowed us to honestly write down stereotypes and our thoughts about each delegation's countries and then face the stereotypes head-on, react, and create dialogue around them."

Of course, Sarah says it is impossible to describe the impact that this experience had on her. She will continue this work this upcoming summer as the team leader for a delegation of four teenagers from the DC Chapter. She will take her group to Romania as part of the Step-Up (14-15 year olds) program. The 317th Patriots could not be prouder to have her as part of our family and appreciate her efforts on making a difference in the world.



Kelly Jones, O'Gorman High School counselor, from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, participates in a demonstration with a military working dog March 13 at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. Several educators from the region received a K-9 demonstration from the 55<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron as part of their base tour sponsored by the 343rd Recruiting Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Jeff W. Gates)

## 343rd recruiters demystify military life

By Staff Sgt. Rachelle Blake  
55th Wing Public Affairs

OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Nebraska – The 343rd Recruiting Squadron hosted eight educators from across the region for a base tour March 13, with the farthest attendees coming from Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

This was the squadron's first time hosting a function of this nature.

"We invited educators from all over the local area to take the tour," said Tech. Sgt. Zachary Atkinson, 343rd RCS marketing and logistics NCO. "Our goal was to better educate them on what the Air Force is really about."

The tour included a 55th Security Forces Squadron K-9 demonstration, a walk-through of the Offutt Field House and Health Promotion office, a tour of the 55th Operations Support Squadron Air Traffic Control tower, a driving tour of the base and lunch with a guest speaker.

But before the tour began, the attendees shared breakfast with the recruiters and their commander, Lt. Col. Stephen Phillips. Phillips is a weatherman by trade, but has been leading the recruiting squadron for nearly two years.

"Today we want to demystify military life and introduce you to what our Airmen do," he said. "We also want to arm you with information because you are the people our young men and women turn to."

Phillips took the opportunity to highlight some of the different paths offered within the military by having the service members in the room speak about their original career fields and their proudest moments.

"The best thing that I have done is deploy," said Staff Sgt. Benjamin Hoffman, originally a security forces Airman who is now a recruiter in Bellevue, Nebraska. "Most people

wouldn't say that, but it was a great experience. I was able to go out into the villages in Afghanistan, handing out blankets and water."

The teachers were also interested to hear about the caliber of men and women the Air Force is looking to recruit, the process of signing-up to arriving at the first duty station, and what makes the Air Force different from other branches.

But, it was meeting the Airmen around base and the talk of higher level education that won several over.

"I am big on education, obviously, and it was very interesting when they started talking about how much emphasis is put on the Community College of the Air Force," said John Stanton, Plattview High School counselor. "It really impressed me. I have a sophomore son, and after today, this is definitely something I will expose him to."

After lunch, the visitors had the distinct pleasure of hearing from and interacting with the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing's Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Grengs, who was also celebrating the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his enlistment.

"What I want our high school students and hopefully our future Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Coast Guardsmen and Marines to know is that this is more than a job," Grengs said. "Serving is going to give them incredible opportunities while in uniform and beyond."

The attendees all gave positive feedback about the event and the squadron hopes to continue giving similar tours in the future.

"We believe it is important for civilian educators to know what the Air Force is really about and to educate them on the Air Force mission," Atkinson said. "Hopefully, it helped the participants to gain a new outlook on what the Air Force does on a day-to-day basis."



Staff Sgt. Dorscilla Nenninger of the 369th Recruiting Squadron (in bright blue) stands with about half of the members of her Delayed Entry Program during a recent volunteer event. (U.S. Air Force photo)

# Organization key to managing DEP

By Staff Sgt. Dorscilla Nenninger  
369th Recruiting Squadron

As an Air Force recruiter, I have the role of managing, mentoring and preparing my future Airmen for success in the Air Force. Managing a team of more than 20 individuals calls for me to be proactive at all times. The most important aspects of Delayed Entry Program management are feedback sessions, mentoring, planning and organization.

I provide feedback to everyone who enters my DEP and all expectations are documented on the Performance Feedback Worksheet. The feedback session informs them of their new responsibilities and allows time for any questions or concerns that may arise.

I also go over what my responsibilities are: I will prepare them with the tools and knowledge they will need to be successful in basic training, ease the transition into the Air Force for them and their family members, assist in developing a plan to achieve their goals while in the Air Force, and serve as a role model, supervisor, and mentor.

Mentoring is the part of DEP management that I enjoy

the most. The rapport I build with my future Airmen are professional and unique to each individual. Every person has different needs and goals, and it is important to recognize how to motivate each person in a way that will empower them to be successful.

Communication and active listening skills are necessary to ensure that my trainees have confidence in my ability to serve as a mentor and trust that I have their best interest in mind. I make sure to set aside time for each individual to talk and catch up on things that they have going on in their lives and help them set goals that they want to achieve while in the Air Force. Constantly talking about what they want to accomplish in the Air Force keeps them in the picture and motivated about their decision to join.

Planning and organization are vital to successful management. I plan time each month solely for the management of my DEP and protect the time to ensure that I follow through. I prepare for my commander's calls and plan time to update afterwards. Planning allows me to stay organized, which makes management easy for me no matter how small or big my DEP is!



### Success with teamwork

Members of the 344th Recruiting Squadron teamed up with Airmen from Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, to support the STEM Diversity Career Expo in Dallas, March 19. From left are: Tech. Sgt. Braulio Jimenez, 344th RCS A-Flight; Capt. Nicki Borgstrom, 82nd Training Wing; Capt. Deanna Franzen, 344th RCS Support Flight commander; and Staff Sgt. Joshua Mash, 364th Training Squadron. The team set a one-day record with 19 qualified STEM officer leads and nine enlisted leads. Approximately 75 percent of the 400-plus attendees were in the target demographic. "Having Captain Borgstrom there to give real life experience on what life as a Civil Engineering officer is like and to explain what people with different types of engineering degrees might be asked to do in the Air Force was invaluable," Franzen said. "Further, Staff Sergeant Mash gave current testimony on what technical training in the Air Force is like and offered excellent insight into enlisted career fields that use the same engineering principles as officers. I am grateful for the proactive support that Sheppard AFB has provided us." (U.S. Air Force photo)



**Marketing machine**

Tech. Sgt. William Hierholzer of the 344th Recruiting Squadron is considered “a marketing machine” in the San Angelo, Texas, area. Among his achievements are hosting his own radio show Monday mornings called “Good Morning Goodfellow.” His efforts, alongside new office partner Staff Sgt. Paul Krywinski, have been noticed by leadership at Goodfellow Air Force Base. Command Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Good, 17th Training Wing, paid the recruiters a visit March 19 and coined them, thanking them for their efforts in building the relationship with the base and community. ABOVE – Hierholzer at his weekly radio show. RIGHT – The coins presented by the command chief. (U.S. Air Force photos)



**St. Pat's parade**

B-Flight recruiters and their Delayed Entry Program members from the 314th Recruiting Squadron represented the Air Force at the Wilkes-Barre St. Patrick's Day Parade in Pittston City, Pennsylvania, March 14. ABOVE – Tech. Sgt. Dominick Aritz drives the mini-jet. (U.S. Air Force photo)



### Rugged racers

Recruiters from the 336th Recruiting Squadron were at the Rugged Maniac race in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, March 7. A-Flight set up a booth for the event, and also participated in the race. Riding down the slide are, from left: Tech. Sgt. Ben Woods, Master Sgt. Michael Malott and Tech. Sgt. Julian Ledford. Rugged Maniac is a 5K race with 25 obstacles and mud trailers. There were approximately 500 racers and 500 spectators. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Earth Day 2015 – April 22

### Recycling Facts

- Recycling just **48 cans** is the energy equivalent of conserving **one gallon of gas**
- Since 1990, the paper recovered through U.S. recycling efforts would fill **200 football stadiums** to a height of **100 feet**
- The most recycled consumer product in America is the **automobile**, with **26 cars being recycled every minute**
- Every ton of recycled paper saves **17 trees** and **462 gallons** of oil
- **One pound** of newspaper can be recycled into **6 cereal boxes** or **egg cartons**
- In the U.S., we toss more than **100 million cell phones** in the trash every year
- EPA reports that over **112,000 computers** are discarded every single day, in the U.S. alone. That's **41.1 million** desktops and laptop computers per year!
- Only **30%** of electronic waste is disposed of and recycled properly
- Recycling just **one aluminum beverage can** saves enough energy to run a **100-watt bulb** for **20 hours**, a computer for **3 hours** or a TV for **2 hours**
- Recycling **125 aluminum cans** saves enough energy to power one home for a day
- Recycling one ton of cardboard:
  - Saves **390 kWh** of energy
  - Saves **1.1 barrels (46 gallons)** of oil
  - Saves **6.6 million BTUs** of energy.
- If everyone in the U.S. was able to reduce their **10.8 pieces of junk mail** received each week, we could save nearly **100 million trees** each year.
- If every household in the U.S. replaced one roll of non-recycled paper towels with a roll of **100% recycled paper towels**, we would save **864,000 trees** and **3.4 million cubic feet of landfill space**.
- If **10,000 people** switched from zero to 100% post-consumer recycled office paper for a year, the collective annual impact is equivalent to **taking 230 cars off the road** for a year
- A typical disposable lunch, with items like single-serve yogurt, Ziploc bags and juice boxes, creates 4 to 8 oz. of garbage every day. In a year, this could generate up to **67 pounds of waste!**
- Between Thanksgiving and New Year's, Americans throw away one million extra tons of garbage every week
- The average U.S. citizen uses **200 pounds of plastic per year** and **only 3% is recycled**. Glass makes up 6% of all the items in a landfill and it takes over 1 million years to decompose
- An average of **220 tons** of computers and other e-waste is dumped annually



For more information on the Air Force's Earth Day efforts, visit <http://www.afcec.af.mil/news/earthday>



## Marketing Matters

Airforceads.com contains current print ads, online ads, posters, billboards and health professionals email lists for squadrons to use. We recently added five new female-centered billboards to coincide with our Breaking Barriers campaign. If you need a special size or format for any of the products on Airforceads.com, please go through your marketer and they will contact the Advertising Branch.



### Successful Senior Send-Off

Tech. Sgt. Robert Pluneda and Staff Sgt. Daniel Ramos, 344th Recruiting Squadron G-Flight, had a successful event at the Wichita Falls, Texas, Convention Center March 25, thanks to the volunteer efforts of Airmen stationed at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. Senior Send-Off is a career day for the more than 650 seniors from four high schools in Wichita Falls. The recruiters obtained 35 leads and contacted eight teachers and coaches. From left are: Master Sgt. Mathew Kredell, Tech. Sgt. Nathanael Lindsay, Staff Sgt. Joel Calahan and Tech. Sgt. Stephen Ohue, Explosive Ordnance Disposal specialists; Tech. Sgt. Marshall Jacobs, Aerospace and Operational Physiology; Ramos; Staff Sgt. Jasmine Mudd-Smith and Airman 1st Class Danielle Baumann, Aerospace and Operational Physiology; Tech. Sgt. Leeanne Phillips, Ammo; Airman 1st Class Sarvinoz Hasanova, Aerospace and Operational Physiology; and Pluneda. (U.S. Air Force photo)



The Air Force Powerlifting Team is shown at the 2015 USAPL Military Nationals and Southeastern State Bench Competition in Atlanta March 14. Master Sgt. Michael D. Lear, 347th Recruiting Squadron, is at far left, and Tech. Sgt. Michael L. Parrott, Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service, is fourth from left. Holding the team's silver trophy is the coach, Chief Master Sgt. Troy Saunders, HQ Air Force, the Pentagon. (Courtesy photo)

## 2 Recruiting NCOs excel at military powerlifting nationals

By Annette Crawford  
Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

Two Air Force Recruiting Service NCOs' accomplishments helped their Air Force Powerlifting Team mates earn silver in the 2015 USAPL Military Nationals and Southeastern State Bench Competition in Atlanta March 14.

Master Sgt. Michael D. Lear, 347th Recruiting Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. Michael L. Parrott, Headquarters AFRS, were among the 14 team members led by their coach, Chief Master Sgt. Troy Saunders, HQ Air Force, the Pentagon.

"Having been the Air Force Team coach since 2009, as well as a military powerlifting competitor for over 27 years, I can unequivocally say this year's team consisted of the best in lifting and Airmanship to date," Saunders said. "I can attest that Master Sgt. Lear's and Tech. Sgt. Parrott's indomitable accomplishments of strength and spirit were core to the Air Force team's incredible performance at the 2015 Military Nationals."

The Military Nationals are an annual powerlifting competition that is open to all active duty military, retirees, Department of Defense civilians and contractors. Athletes have three attempts at the squat, bench press, and deadlift (nine lifts total) with their highest/best lift contributing to an overall total.

Lear registered in the RAW 83-kilogram/182-pounds weight class with a body weight of 82.3 kg (181.5 lbs.) He won gold, broke two American military records and three of four Illinois State Records.

Lear completed each lift with a 220 kg/485 lbs. squat (an Illinois state record), 130 kg/287 lbs. bench press, 287.5 kg/633 lbs. deadlift (American military and Illinois state record) and totaled 637.5 kg/1,405 lbs. (another American military and Illinois state record).

Parrott registered in the 93 kg/205 lbs. weight class with a body weight of 86.9 kg (about 191 lbs.). He conquered each

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lift with a 240 kg/529 lbs. squat, 150 kg/330 lbs. bench press, and 275 kg/606 lbs. deadlift. He totaled 665 kg/1,465 lbs. awarding him as a silver medalist in his weight class.

“Although powerlifting is focused on an individual’s ability to overcome the forces of gravity, the success of any powerlifter relies on a strong network of support,” said Saunders, who is also the USA Powerlifting Association Military Chair.

“Both of these outstanding athletes and Airmen excelled in their ability to congeal team spirit and fostered camaraderie that was reflected not only in their own incredible performances but inspired fellow team members to break American and personal best records,” Saunders added. “It was an honor to work with them at this year’s nationals, and I suspect they will be lifting for a long time to come.”



TOP PHOTO – Tech. Sgt. Michael L. Parrott, Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service.  
LEFT – Master Sgt. Michael D. Lear, 347th Recruiting Squadron. The two NCOs are members of the Air Force Powerlifting Team that won the silver at the 2015 USAPL Military Nationals and Southeastern State Bench Competition in Atlanta March 14. (Courtesy photos)



**Precision recruiting**  
Staff Sgt. Shawn Blair, 361st Recruiting Squadron H-Flight recruiter, coordinated a combat controller demonstration jump for students from Bonney Lake High School on the Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, flightline March 26. The precision recruiting event was coordinated with the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo)



### Regional job fair

The 338th Recruiting Squadron made sure there was an Air Force presence at the 2015 South Eastern Ohio Regional Job Fair in Gallipolis, Ohio, March 18. The region had not had an Air Force recruiter for more than a year and a half. Pictured from left are: Senior Master Sgt. David Jackson, 338th RCS production superintendent; Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Kelloway, 338th RCS B-Flight chief; and Staff Sgt. Jonathan Chan, 338th RCS B-Flight recruiter. (U.S. Air Force photo)



### Habitat for Humanity

Members of the 311th Recruiting Squadron assisted with the Habitat for Humanity project in Washington, Pennsylvania, March 19. Pictured from left are: Airman Trent McElroy, Recruiter Assistance Program; Capt. Brian Chapman, Operations Flight commander; Staff Sgt. Christopher Beck, Military Entrance Processing Station NCO; Tiffany Murphy; and Master Sgt. Sean Murphy, F-Flight chief. (U.S. Air Force photo)



### Out on a hike

Staff Sgt. Dustin Parsons (left), 369th Recruiting Squadron, led the San Pedro/Carson Delayed Entry Program members on a nature hike at the Trump National Golf Course in Palos Verdes, California, March 7. Parsons is the enlisted accessions recruiter in Torrance, California. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## SNCOs: Is Course 14 completion noted in your records?

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas – Senior noncommissioned officers recently notified by the Air University Barnes Center for Enlisted Education that their Senior NCO Academy Distance Learning Course 14 Version 6 “failed” exam scores have been corrected may want to review their records to ensure updates are complete.

In late 2013, Air Education and Training Command officials replaced Version 5 of the online course with Version 6. During routine test item analysis in late 2014, AETC identified several test questions that were outside statistical performance parameters.

After reviewing course material and related test items, Barnes Center officials eliminated those test questions and gave students credit for the missed questions.

Completion of professional military education courses can impact many aspects of an Airman’s career, such as senior rater endorsements on enlisted performance reports,

promotion recommendations and decorations. Airmen notified by AETC that they passed the course can go to the secure virtual military personnel flight, accessible via the Portal or myPers, to confirm their records were updated.

Airmen who believe their EPR, decoration or other personnel records were affected can contact the Air Force Personnel Center for assistance.

In addition, Airmen who believe consideration for promotion may have been affected can request supplemental promotion consideration. The next supplemental promotion board is scheduled to convene in July at the Air Force Personnel Center.

For more information or assistance determining if records, promotions, decorations or evaluations were affected by the Course 14 update, go to myPers at <https://mypers.af.mil> and select “Contact Us” on the bottom left side of the page.

*(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs)*



### First half-marathon

Staff Sgt. Tatianna Boodram completes the Canyon Meadow Trail Run in the Redwoods Regional Park in Oakland, California, March 22. It was the first half-marathon for Boodram, who is the 364th Recruiting Squadron Standardization and Training NCO. (Courtesy photo)