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Spc. Alejandro Sancho, right, earned his spot on the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team at the 2021 U.S. Wrestling Olympic Trials in Fort Worth, Texas. (U.S. ARMY/MAJ. NATHANIEL GARCIA)

## Soldiers to compete in Tokyo Olympics

**T**welve soldier-athletes and three coaches who serve in the Army will compete in the Summer Olympics and Paralympics in Tokyo.

At least 541 soldiers have been selected for the Summer or Winter Olympic teams since the World Class Athlete Program was founded by the Army in 1948. In that time, soldier-athletes have amassed at least 131 Olympic medals in various sports, according to DoD.

The WCAP trains the most elite soldier-athletes from the active Army, the Army Reserve and the National Guard to compete in the Olympics and Paralympics.

Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth Marks, the Army's first Paralympic swimmer, said in an Army news release that her fellow service members inspired her to compete.

"I am honored to represent my country and the U.S. Army," Marks said. "None of this would be possible without my brothers and sisters in the military. I never thought I could [pursue] something like this, and they pushed me to try."

Marks will compete in the 100-meter backstroke, 50-meter butterfly, 200-meter individual medley and the 50-meter freestyle events at the Paralympic Games, which begin Aug. 24.

The Olympics begin Friday.

For Spc. Alejandro Sancho, the child of Cuban immigrants, qualifying to wrestle in the Olympics' 67 kg Greco-Roman event was the culmination of a lifelong dream.

"It's every kid's dream to make the Olympic team," Sancho said. "I've always had that ambition since I was a child. It just made it so much more

sweet. And having my family there was so emotional. They knew ... how much work I put into making this team."

Sgt. Ildar Hafizov, Sancho's teammate, immigrated to the U.S. in 2014 from Uzbekistan with his wife and daughter. He sees this summer's games as a way to give back to the country that took him in.

"It's a moment of joy—pride and joy," Hafizov said. "So now I can give back to the U.S. They have given me opportunities to wrestle and represent the Army and represent the United States. I am happy to give back."

In addition to the 12 soldier-athletes who have been selected to compete in the Summer Olympics and Paralympics, three Army coaches were named Team USA coaches for the games.

See **Army Olympians**, Page 6

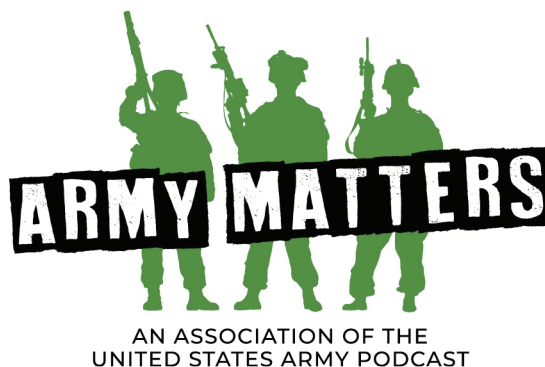
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## Seat belts, speed limits can reduce tactical accidents

A government watchdog agency says the Army has the right established practices to mitigate and prevent tactical vehicle accidents and improve driver training, but there are still problems, particularly with getting drivers to wear seat belts and obey speed limits.

A July Government Accountability Office report on Army and Marine Corps accidents and deaths says the services do many things right when preparing military drivers, but accidents still happen, caused by human, environmental and mechanical factors.

There are a lot of accidents. From 2010 through 2019, the Army recorded 3,091 tactical vehicle accidents.

The Marine Corps had 662 during the same period, but the lower number is likely the result of the Army having 2½ times the number of vehicles, the report says.

Most of the accidents were minor, but the Army had 153 Class A and 136 Class B accidents during the nine-year span.

Class A accidents are those that cause death or permanent total disabilities, or damage worth \$2 million or more. Class B accidents are those that cause permanent partial disabilities, three or more people hospitalized or damage costing \$500,000 to \$2 million.

The Army averaged 29 Class A or B tactical accidents over the nine-year



Spc. Alexander Rufener, assigned to the 4th Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, guides a Stryker vehicle to its parking spot in Rose Barracks, Germany. Ground guiding is one of many safety measures to prevent vehicle accidents. (U.S. ARMY/MAJ. JOHN AMBELANG)

period, with 2010 being the worst, with 44 accidents.

There have been 101 Army deaths from tactical vehicle accidents over the nine years, with 13 deaths in 2019.

The congressional report says accidents were primarily caused by lapses in driver attention, supervision or training. Humvees were involved in more accidents than any other type of tactical vehicle.

“The Army and Marine Corps reported that human factors such as driver error, mindset, complacency, and confidence were the most common causes of tactical vehicle accidents,” according to the report.

“Army and Marine Corps data also frequently cited other human factors such as inadequate supervision and inadequate training or experience. In contrast, the data cited environmental and mechanical factors much less frequently.”

Alcohol, drugs or illness were rarely a contributing factor, the data shows. It is mentioned in 0.2% of the reports.

Interviews with soldiers reveal speed limits were not universally followed by tactical vehicle drivers, partly because of confusion about the limit for specific vehicles and partly because soldiers felt time pressure, the report says. Complacency, overconfidence and inexperience were also factors.

GAO recommends, and DoD and the Army agreed, that risk management should get more attention in training for tactical vehicle drivers and their supervisors.

Better-defined training and licensing processes might also decrease accidents.

Responding to the report, the Army said it will inspect ranges and training areas for hazards and review policies and training manuals.

The full report is available here.

## Meet the AUSA headquarters staff

### Michael Cerami

*International Sales Manager*

Michael Cerami has been with AUSA for eight years. He and his wife, Melissa, have two daughters in college and a son who is a rising high school junior. Michael enjoys taking walks with his dog, watching the Pittsburgh Steelers and testing his culinary skills by recreating dishes from shows like “Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives.”



## New Army undersecretary nominee emphasizes importance of people



Gabe Camarillo, left, then-assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs, meets with Steven Doucette, chief of staff for the 25th Air Force, during a visit to San Antonio, Texas. (U.S. AIR FORCE/LORI BULTMAN)

**G**abe Camarillo, an attorney who has served in various positions in DoD, is President Joe Biden's nominee to serve as undersecretary of the Army, the White House announced July 13.

If confirmed by the Senate, Camarillo would be the 35th Army undersecretary, succeeding James McPherson.

Christopher Lowman is currently the senior official performing the duties of the Army undersecretary, filling the job since January.

Over a career in government and private practice, Camarillo has spent several years in DoD.

From 2012 to 2015, he was the principal deputy assistant Army secretary for acquisition, logistics and technology, where he helped lead the Army's research and development and modernization portfolio, according to the White House.

Before that, from 2010 to 2012, he was the special assistant to the assistant Army secretary for acquisition, logistics and technology.

More recently, in 2015, he was appointed as the assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and re-

serve affairs, overseeing all related matters affecting more than 670,000 military and civilian personnel.

His time with the Army reinforced to him the importance of people, Camarillo said in 2015 as the Senate Armed Services Committee considered his nomination to serve in the Air Force.

"Over the past five years, I have been extremely privileged to serve with Army soldiers, civilians and contractors in support of the Army's acquisition efforts," he told the committee. "This experience has underscored the vital importance of our people, the talent they contribute, and the expertise they develop."

Currently, Camarillo is a senior vice president at SAIC. He also has worked as a lawyer in private practice, specializing in commercial litigation, campaign finance and government ethics, according to the White House.

He received his law degree from Stanford Law School and his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University, where he previously was an adjunct professor at the university's School of Public Policy.

# AUSAExtra

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## PERK OF THE WEEK

Normally exclusive to veterans, Armed Forces Vacation Club is now available to all AUSA members and their



families. Similar to "Space A," you can explore available luxury resort rental options worldwide for just \$379 per week. That's per unit, not per person. Once you sign up, you also have access to special savings and sales throughout the year. For more information, visit [www.afvclub.com](http://www.afvclub.com) and choose "AUSA Member" for eligibility.



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## Registration now open for in-person AUSA annual meeting

**R**egistration is now open for the Association of the U.S. Army's 2021 Annual Meeting and Exposition.

The in-person event will take place Oct. 11–13 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. Planning is quickly moving ahead now that the District of Columbia has reopened to in-person events.

Attendees also can register for housing, which opened July 7.

This year's theme is "America's Army and its People, Transforming for the Future."

Throughout the annual meeting, professional development forums and addresses by top military leaders will focus on Army efforts to build a winning team, with people at the center of everything the Army stands for and must do to meet the chal-

lenges of today and tomorrow, Army officials said.

The three-day event will feature keynote speakers from the Army, DoD and industry leaders, as well as professional development forums, awards presentations, networking opportunities and more than 700 exhibits spread over five halls.

Updated information will be available here. You can register here.

Housing registration is available here.

AUSA meeting planners are working to make this a safe, healthy and comfortable event based on public health guidelines for large events.

The D.C. convention center is doing its part with technology investments to keep the facility clean and safe.

This includes increased air filtration and purification and contactless food and beverage purchases.



Registration is open for the 2021 AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition. The in-person meeting will feature enhanced health and safety protocols. (AUSA PHOTO)

### Army Olympians

From Page 1

Staff Sgt. Spenser Mango, a two-time Olympian who will coach the WCAP wrestlers, called coaching "a tremendous honor" and said "it could be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Sgt. Terrence Jennings, an Olympic medalist who joined the WCAP as a soldier-athlete in 2016, will coach taekwondo.

"It will be great to be there, show the world the Army from the inside and that we have programs like WCAP," Jennings said. "We work with soldiers who chase their dreams. We want to win for our team and the U.S. Army."

Soldiers competing and coaching during this summer's games are:

- 1st Lt. Amber English—Women's Skeet
- Staff Sgt. Naomi Graham—Women's Boxing 75 kg
- Staff Sgt. Nickolaus Mowrer—10m Air Pistol and 3-Position Rifle
- Staff Sgt. Sandra Uptagrafft—10m Air Pistol and 25 Pistol



Army Reserve 1st Lt. Amber English qualified for the Olympic Games Skeet event following part two of the Olympic trials in Tucson, Arizona. (U.S. ARMY/MAJ. MICHELLE LUNATO)

- Sgt. Samantha Schultz—Modern Pentathlon
- Sgt. Amro Elgeziry—Modern Pentathlon
- Sgt. Ildar Hafizov—60 kg Greco-Roman
- Spc. Alejandro Sancho—67 kg Greco-Roman
- Spc. Benard Keter—3,000 m Steeple Chase
- Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth Marks—Para Swimming
- Staff Sgt. John Joss—Para

### Shooting

- Staff Sgt. Kevin Nguyen—Para Shooting
- Coaches:
- Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Bowsher—Modern Pentathlon Coach
  - Staff Sgt. Spence Mango—Greco-Roman Coach
  - Sgt. Terrence Jennings—Taekwondo Coach

For more about the World Class Athlete Program, click here.

—Karli Goldenberg

# Take advantage of resources for families on the move

By Holly Dailey

**F**or military families, transition is a common occurrence, and this is even more true in the era of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Transition starts on the first day you join your service member's journey in the military. It continues with every permanent change-of-station move and when you exit the military and integrate into civilian life.

From my own experience, transition is unique to one's own journey. However, there are some things we all experience on our military journeys, such as frequent PCS moves.

PCS orders can come at any time, so there is no time like the present to prepare for that next move. The Army and DoD offer excellent resources and programs to answer your PCS questions.

But who better to learn about best practices than from those who have been through the process firsthand?

Look for the Association of the U.S. Army's upcoming special edition podcast of "Military PCS Moves" with special guests Maria McConville, spouse of the Army chief of staff; Alexandra Grinston, spouse of the sergeant major of the Army; and Brittany Raines, spouse of Staff Sgt. Casey Raines and the 2020 recipient of AUSA's Volunteer Family of the Year award.

In the podcast, which will be available July 28 here, they discuss their experiences from many years of PCS moves throughout their soldiers' careers and provide us with valuable resources, such as the "Army PCS Moves" mobile app, available on iPhone and Android.

There is much to consider when moving to a new duty station, such as where to live, schools and colleges, and employment. We are fortunate to have programs and support services available to help us through the process.

The Relocation Assistance Program



There is much to consider when moving to a new duty station, such as where to live, schools and colleges, and employment. (U.S. ARMY/KAREN IWAMOTO)

can help you begin your research on your new duty station before you get there.

Options include housing, schools, spouse employment, child care, youth programs, family members with special needs, Tricare, financial readiness and much more. They even offer one-on-one consultations.

During PCS moves, our children are transitioning, too. Throughout the pandemic, not only are they adjusting to new friends, a new house and a new community, but to new schools and colleges.

If you have school-aged children, a school liaison officer can connect you with local schools and assist with education options, registration, graduation requirements, after-school programs and more.

Including our children in the research and decision-making process gives them a voice and ownership, helping them with the transition process.

There are also many resources and programs available for military spouse employment.

Even though military spouses possess a wealth of experience, skills and education, transitioning during moves can cause stumbling blocks for their careers.

More and more spouses are looking for telework, portable jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities.

A good stepping stone is the Employment Readiness Program, which can help you with career planning and job searching, as well as connect you to local resources such as chambers of commerce.

As a reminder, volunteering can help you build your skill sets, fill in gaps on your resume and provide you with references—not to mention it provides avenues to help others and create relationships.

Transitions can be very challenging, but they can also open new doors of opportunity.

Having a family plan, setting family goals, researching ahead of time, creating an organizational binder and being familiar with your resources can help make everything a little bit smoother.

Discussing expectations and giving grace during transition times make for a more positive journey.

Once you have reached your new duty station, networking and establishing your support group builds resiliency in the whole family.

**Holly Dailey** is AUSA's Family Readiness Director.

## New chapter president focuses on growth, involvement

**R**etired Staff Sgt. Corey Mason assumed leadership of the Association of the U.S. Army's Space Coast chapter from longtime president Phil LoSchiavo, a retired colonel, during a recent event hosted by Bansbach Easylift of North America Inc., one of the chapter's Community Partners.

The Space Coast chapter, based in Melbourne, Florida, has more than 600 individual members and covers the counties of Brevard, Indian River, Martin, St. Lucie and Volusia.

At the event, the chapter recognized LoSchiavo's "tremendous initiative and efforts" during his Army service and his four years as chapter president, Mason said.

"My focus is to continue to grow and sustain the Space Coast chapter and increase the participation and involvement of individual members and business partners for the benefit of our soldiers," he said, according to *Florida Today*.

LoSchiavo also presented an award



Retired Staff Sgt. Corey Mason, left, the new president of AUSA's Space Coast chapter, shakes hands with retired Col. Phil LoSchiavo, the outgoing president. (AUSA PHOTO)

to Bansbach Easylift for its support of the chapter.

Many employers "have an intimate relationship with the U.S. military, and many are members who have joined the Association of the U.S. Army. We greatly appreciate the commitment and support of our individual and business partners," LoSchiavo

said, as reported by *Florida Today*.

Bansbach "is excited to participate in this show of support for the men and women that selflessly serve our country and protect our freedom. We challenge all of Brevard's employers to demonstrate their support by joining in" with the AUSA chapter, said Robert Rose, the company's president.

## AUSA members support local VA medical center patients

**M**embers of the Association of the U.S. Army's Allegheny-Blue Ridge chapter recently met with representatives of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salem, Virginia, to present them with 250 "welcome kits" to be distributed to new patients at the center.

The kits, delivered July 12, included items such as a neck pillow, ear plugs, eye masks and pen and paper. Each kit also contained a chapter trifold pamphlet with an AUSA membership application.

The total cost of the chapter donation was \$1,776.65.

The Allegheny-Blue Ridge chapter of supports 49 counties in Virginia



AUSA members from the association's Allegheny-Blue Ridge chapter deliver welcome kits to the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salem, Virginia. (AUSA PHOTO)

and West Virginia, from Virginia's southern border to Rockingham in the north, and from Charlotte in the east to Dickenson in the west.

In addition to its regular event at the VA, the chapter also supports the 240 residents of the Virginia Veterans Care Center in Salem.



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