



Newsletter Issue No. 63

June 2021

In Memory of Sheila Andahazy

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved colleague, Sheila Andahazy. Sheila was surrounded by family in her Virginia home in her final days of battling cancer. She had a very strong faith and she is now with her lord, free from pain. It is with a heavy heart we bring this news.



At several points, we had hoped the disease had been beaten and gone into permanent remission. Sheila joined TekSynap on November 19th, 2014. She saw the company through extensive growth as one of our senior leaders and was a significant driver of the success of the company. It was a blessing to be in the presence of this woman. She was an incredible person, a force to be reckoned with, full of life, passion, and always the consummate professional. Sheila embodied poise, grace, and class. She taught me how to be a better leader, challenged me and those around her to strive for excellence. I will miss her dearly.

Life is short and precious; I hope all of you will join me in remembering and celebrating Sheila's life. Undoubtedly, this week will be tough as we process her passing. I met with her a number of times in the past few weeks and talked about her experience with life, the company, and this illness. She met this challenge as she did others, with incredible courage. Sheila would not want us to be sad, but rather celebrate her accomplishments and her life.

In loving memory,
Kam



Caught in the Act

Kam Jinnah would like to send his appreciation to **Tim Carreras, Darren Satterfield,**

Ernesto Ventura, and **John Brown** for going the extra mile for DLA. They received a shout-out from DLA distribution and leadership. Thank you for the excellent service that you provide our customers.

Josephine Fleming would like to recognize **Mike Noonan** for his resource lending, and **Logan Edens** and **Daniel Bisel** for all their efforts to keep ESD on track.

A DLA customer would like to thank **Danyl White** for all his hard work setting up the new Public WiFi.

Josephine Fleming would like to thank **Patrick Swearengin** and **Richele Latosinski** for achieving contract metrics for their site for the first time in a year! This was a great achievement in the face of projects, supporting remote customers and a very busy DLA site.

Josephine Fleming would like to give a shout-out to **Dan Bisel** and **Logan Edens** for all their hard work and effort to assist OKC.

Zachery Gardner received kudos from Leonard Newman and Rachel Bates for going above and beyond when diagnosing and fixing technical problems.

The entire Technical Team for the DHS proposal would like to thank **Joseph Schmidbauer** for his excellent and diligent work on the technical and orals portion.

Kam Jinnah would like to thank **Randy Tisler**, **Raymond Caruso**, and **Matt Davies** for their efforts on the Estimating Examination.

Maurice Green was received kudos by a DTRA customer for being positive, approachable professional, and quickly resolving the issue they had.

"Don't put off tomorrow, what you can do today."

As I approach my one-year anniversary at TekSynap, I think of all the changes that have happened and milestones that have been made. In February of 2020, I wasn't sure if I wanted to continue my career where I was, go off on my own, or was there a next move for me. In meeting Kam, David and Ray seven years ago, I did not know we could come full circle, but apparently, they did. No sooner did I think it when my phone rang and on the other line was Ray.

At the midway point of 2021, the past 18 months have been one of many events, filled with a pandemic, starting my role here at TekSynap, buying a home and selling a home, my youngest daughter graduating from Virginia Tech (shown right) in May and now moving her to Houston at the end of June to begin her next chapter.

It would be remiss of me to think the pandemic hasn't made many people re-evaluate priorities, goals, dreams, and just day-to-day life. I believe we all have been, know someone or many people who have been negatively impacted by the pandemic – what it has very aggressively reminded me of is life happens and when you wake up each day live your best life, be the best version of you and give all you can every day. We



don't wake up each morning ready to conquer the world, but we should always gently remind ourselves each day is an opportunity to make a difference.

Around the same time I chose to join TekSynap, I also decided to take on something I had been wanting to do for many years and became a mentor and sponsor for an organization called Generation Hope. I currently mentor and sponsor a young mother who is pursuing her college degree and navigating the challenges of being a young mother and beating the odds. This is something that hits home as I was that young girl once – and although the resources and organizations like Generation Hope were not as prevalent then, I am thankful for those who were there to guide me along the way.

We all find great reward in working hard and investing in our careers. With that same drive, find your passion, your hobby, or new interest, and just do it! If I haven't met you, I look forward to meeting you hearing what drives you each day both in and outside of work.

-Bianca Berrios

Add/Update the Beneficiaries for Your ADP 401(k) Plan



You can make updates to your 401(k) Plan's beneficiaries online. To begin, log into your ADP account by following the [employee portal link](#) and clicking on ADP – Employees & Managers icon, proceed to **Myself > Benefits > Retirement Savings**.

Once in the MyKPlan, select the **Manage My Beneficiaries** option from under the **My Account** tab.

For further instructions, [click here](#).



The federal government is providing the vaccine free of charge to all people living in the United States, regardless of their immigration or health insurance status.

COVID-19 vaccination providers cannot:

- Charge you for the vaccine
- Charge you directly for any administration fees, copays, coinsurance, or the balance of the bill after appropriate reimbursement
- Deny vaccination to anyone who does not have health insurance coverage, is underinsured, or is out of network
- Charge an office visit or other fee to the recipient if the only service provided is a COVID-19 vaccination
- Require additional services in order for a person to receive a COVID-19 vaccine; however, additional healthcare services can be provided at the same time and billed as appropriate

COVID-19 vaccination providers can:

- Seek appropriate reimbursement from the recipient's plan or program (for example, private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid) for a vaccine administration fee
- Seek reimbursement for uninsured vaccine recipients from the [Health Resources and Services Administration's COVID-19 Uninsured Program](#)

The above information is provided by the CDC.

If you are interested in finding one of the three available Covid Vaccines, [click here](#).

If you would like more information about the differences between each of the COVID-19 Vaccines, [click here](#).

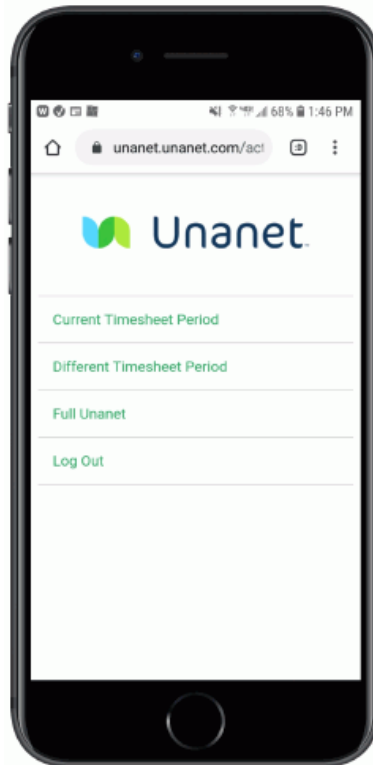
Unanet Mobile App

The app allows you to complete your timesheet, submit leave requests, and includes a feature that will autofill your timesheet daily.

SSO (Single Sign On) for this application is not yet available, so you will have to go through the process in **BMS 9.3.0 Unanet Mobile App Access** to create a password for the app.

Please note, you will need the Outlook Mobile App in order for certain steps to work correctly. Please do not hesitate to reach out to support@teksynap.com if you have questions or need any assistance.

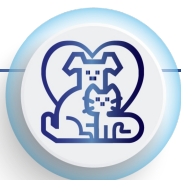
[Click here to view the "Using the Unanet Mobile App" document](#)



Tiny Team TekSynap!



Timothy Roberts' new baby, Damian Roberts was born on June 12th



TekPets

Meet Tiffany Bean's New Kittens

I am excited to announce that I have finally adopted a pair of kittens! Helios (orange) and

Jasper (white) are baby brothers that my boyfriend and I adopted from PetsBringJoy. They are 1000% bringing us so much joy! They are purr machines as soon as they start receiving pets and like to snuggle by my arm or head when it is time for bed or we are chilling on the couch.



Meet Daisy! Kimberly Snyders New Pup!



We are overjoyed to have our new puppy, Daisy. She is a 5 month old Whippet. As you can see, she's getting along great with our 19 month old Whippet, Olive

We want to feature your pets in the next newsletter! Send pictures of your companions to news@teksynap.com

TekSynap's **Kay Stephens** (DTRA) and **Rob Kennett** (AFNCR) tied the knot on May 8, 2021. Rob joined TekSynap 8 years ago and Kay has been with us for 3 years. Kay was an employee referral from Rob and they have each been a huge asset to our company. We wish them a long, happy, and healthy marriage.

Congratulations Rob and Kay!



Certification Corner

Sailender Maramreddy
CISSP

Brent Powell

Microsoft Azure Administrator Associate

Cathryn Mach

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner

Splunk Enterprise Certified Admin



We encourage employees to use the Employee Learning Program (ELP) Benefit.

[Click Here](#) to access the form and submit to your manager for approval.

**If you have received a new certification please add it to ADP
and include an effective date**

ADP > Myself > My Information > Profile

And email a copy to **HR@teksynap.com**

Updating your certifications in ADP will help us grow your career through advancement opportunities.

#TekSynapTravels

Jenn Neish-McMurdy and **De James** (pictured right with **Tanner Neish-McMurdy**) put their 5-year anniversary travel bonus together and took a trip to OBX! Shout out to Toni Fisher for assisting with the beach house rental and helping to make this possible.

"There were 20 of us who got to enjoy this trip: My Family (Dave, Tanner & Alea), De, 3 other couples along with their kids, and a handful of 2020 Grads (friends of Tanner) – it was a perfect time with the perfect group of people, which never would have happened had it not been for TekSynap! Because of your generosity, we were able to recharge our “mental” batteries, make new memories/traditions, and remind ourselves to live each day to its fullest.

I do not believe that there are enough words to express my appreciation and gratitude. I am so very blessed to be a part of the TekSynap Family!!! I look forward to spending the rest of my working years with my WiFi Team and continuing to grow with the company!"

With Heartfelt Thankfulness,

Jenn Neish-McMurdy (& De James)





Hobbies and Structured Time

I recently stumbled across a 2015 article in Psychology Today titled *Six Reasons to Get a Hobby*. Not having a hobby (if you don't count the coin collection I started with my father as a child and very occasionally add to), the title intrigued me – so I read on. It turns out there is an excellent reason to get a hobby, though not six of them.

The six reasons listed in the article were:

- *Hobbies help you structure your time.*
 - This is the excellent reason, expanded on below the list.
- *Hobbies promote flow.*
 - The crux of this reason is that doing a hobby in place of watching television or surfing social media is better. That strikes me as an unwarranted value judgment. Hobbies should be enjoyable, no? If you prefer watching TV to knitting, then why make your leisure time miserable by depriving yourself of TV and making a scarf?
- *Hobbies can foster new social connections.*
 - Another lame reason. No guarantee and certainly hobbies are not the only way to make connections.
- *Hobbies make you interesting.*
 - Patently ridiculous. I know this. I was raised by a stamp collector. Stamp collecting was the least interesting thing about him.
- *Hobbies help you cope with stress.*
 - I almost jumped on this one until I read the rationale, which was that attending a pottery class at the end of a day when you were chewed out by your boss would heal your damaged ego while watching a movie would not. I like pottery but that's asking way too much of a pot.
- *And the benefits can spill over into other aspects of your life.*
 - The author of the article writes, "If you can designate an hour a day or even a few hours a week for something you feel truly inspired and enlivened by, don't be surprised if some of that newfound zest carries over into your work and family life." Given the author suggests these inspiring, zestful hobbies might be learning to knit, gardening, learning to play the piano, community choir, softball, book club, or beekeeping, I can't imagine any noticeable spillover, so perhaps it would surprise me.

Still, reason #1 – Hobbies help you structure your time – is sufficiently good. The author cites Parkinson's law, "work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion." If you have a commitment in the evening, you are more likely to plan better and use your time efficiently during the day to complete your work so you can make it to your hobby event. Otherwise, the author argues, "when the evening stretches out before you, unscheduled, you might find yourself laboring over that work project or answering emails into the wee hours." The idea is that hobbies create more time by encouraging efficiency.

More time would be nice, so I'm on the market for a hobby. Not having one yet, I do peruse social media and have learned something about the hobbies of my colleagues and their families. Melissa Gauldfeldt makes gorgeous quilts. MJ Helveston, Tami Devitt, and Grace

Jinnah are avid fishers. Warren McQueen homebrews some good-looking beer. I would love to hear about other hobbies my colleagues enjoy. Feel free to drop me a note about yours. I will select one from among the suggestions and update you on positive effects, time management related or otherwise, in my next installment. Here's to making efficient use of time!

Julie Ennis, Senior Vice President

Security Reporting Duties and Responsibilities:

Employees are required to report a variety of information to TekSynap Security. Employees must report all personal foreign travel and foreign contacts. Travel to U.S. territories is not reportable.



In addition, personnel must report any:

- Application for or receipt of foreign citizenship;
- Application for, possession of or use of a foreign passport or identity card for travel;
- Attempted elicitation, exploitation, blackmail, coercion, or enticement to obtain classified information or other information prohibited by law from disclosure, regardless of means;
- Arrest;
- Bankruptcy or debt delinquency of more than 120 days;
- Any sudden financial gain of \$10,000 or more, such as from an inheritance or lottery winnings;
- Alcohol- or drug-related treatment;
- Direct involvement in a foreign business;
- Holding of foreign bank accounts;
- Ownership of foreign property;
- Voting in a foreign election;
- Shared residence of more than 30 days with any foreign national;
- Adoption of a child who is not a U.S. citizen;
- Marriage (whether to a U.S. citizen or foreign national);
- Cohabitation.

To report, please email security@teksynap.com.

SkillSoft Opportunities

If you are interested in the courses or Bootcamps that are offered in SkillSoft, [click here](#).

Skill Areas

- Business Operations >
- Cloud Services >
- Customer Service >
- Data >
- Infrastructure & Operations >
- Management >
- Perspectives >
- Product Management >
- Productivity & Collaboration >
- Tools >

Certifications

- (ISC)2
- Amazon
- American Society for Quality (ASQ)
- BCS Professional Institute
- Cisco
- CompTIA
- Digital Marketing Institute
- EC-Council
- Google
- HR Certification Institute® (HRCI®)

Aspire Journeys

- Aspire Journeys for Business Skills
- Aspire Journeys for Technology & Developer

Showcase

- Skillsoft Bootcamps
- Skillsoft Leadercamps
- Skillsoft Live Events
- Skillsoft Perspectives

TekSynap and Microsoft Partner University

TekSynap would like to remind everyone that ALL employees have access to Microsoft Partner University. This learning portal gives our employees access to an abundance of training and assessments on the latest Microsoft Technologies and services. We are also working with Microsoft to come up with training events and workshops for our employees. To assist us in making this possible we kindly ask everyone interested to register to the Microsoft Partner University and associate their Microsoft Learn accounts to TekSynap's MPN Portal. Instructions on how to do so can be found, [here](#). If you have any questions or need assistance registering, please contact support@teksynap.com.

Join the Microsoft Partner Network

As a Microsoft partner, you'll gain instant access to exclusive resources, programs, tools, and connections. Join a community designed to foster business growth.

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[Sign in](#)

Open Positions

DLA ETN – Fort Belvoir, VA

Cloud Computing Specialist - Subject Matter Expert

DLA ESD – Oklahoma City, OK, Corpus Christi, TX, Columbus, OH and Warner Robins, GA

Computer Operator

DLA WAN – Columbus, OH

Network Engineer

DLA EWASS – Multiple Locations

IT Support Specialist

Kirtland AFB – Albuquerque, N.M

Client Support Technician II (2 openings)



DOT EITSS – Washington, DC

Service Catalog and Request Manager
Power BI Platform Administrator
Dynamics 365 and Power Platform Administrator
Senior Endpoint Engineer

DOT EITSS – Beaumont, TX

Senior IT Support Specialist

DOT EITSS – Colorado

Junior Deskside Engineer

FDA IT BPA – Silver Spring, MD

Help Desk Analyst (2)

Senate ITSC – Washington, DC

Help Desk Tier III Network Technician
System Consultant
Email Queue Coordinator
Service Delivery Coordinator
Sr SharePoint Developer/Admin
Installation Desktop Technician (MAC Specialist)

Wireless – Remote/Travel

Site Manager (3)
Jr Wireless Engineer (7)
Wireless Engineer (2)

Please email your referral resumes to careers@teksynap.com

Referral Program

TekSynap offers \$3,000 for candidates that fill a cleared position
and \$1,000 for non-cleared positions.

Please visit the employee portal [here](#) to learn more.



Anniversaries

Welcome, New Employees!

Seven Years

Jeffrey Beyer

Four Years

Ruben Hormostay

Keith Pressel

Robert Yohn



Three Years

Jessie Ragsdale

Jonathan Brinkman

Two Years

Anthony Bosco

Karen Billingsley

Eric Simpkins

Jordan King

Rachel Bates

Joshua Tudor

Rolan Tuazon

One Year

Christopher Lichner

Gilbert Lafayette

Roderick Moton

Gerald Coles

Michael Freeman

Seth Biggs

Stanley Beaver

David Bourgeois

Benjamin Schwieterman

Daniel Lyons

Michael Schnell

Katrina Woolridge

Humberto Zarco

Avery Rolle

Steven Lipps

Jian Chen

Darius Smith

Cydney Schrader

Crystal Cross

Randall Faulk

Zach Tabor

Mark Vinson

Robert Lopez

Anthony Byrd

Jane Henry

Robert Ruvalcaba

Karen Kane

Christyna Bishop

Danni Ross

Stephen Barber

Anthony Allen

Laurie Hrubowchak

Pablo Julia Ocasio

Jason Morrow

Jesenia Fonseca

David Fulton

Maria Singarayan

Timothy Morgan

