

Travis fuels fight

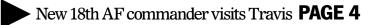


PAGES 16-17

Tailwind | Travis AFB, Calif. Friday, June 9, 2017 | Vol. 42, Number 23



Councils convene about airframes **PAGE 3**



Why continuous process improvement?

Commentary by Lt. Col. Robbie Wheeler 60TH AFROSPACE MEDICINE SOUADRON

early 20 years ago, I was honored to be the 5th Medical Group's Airman of the Quarter, chosen to represent my group before the wing awards board.

With my freshly lintbrushed uniform, a new haircut, and a head full of current events and knowledge of Air Force history, I reported to the panel, nervous but confident. After nailing the first two questions, I thought I had it in the bag when the chief at the end of the table dropped the question, "Airman Wheeler, why 'Quality Air Force?""

I drew a complete blank and to the best of my blurry recollection, stammered something about my airman 1st class fallback response, "Attention to detail." Needless to say, I didn't win.

In the years since, I've watched the Air Force implement Quality Air Force (and heard old-timer's stories of its predecessor Total Qualitv Management), transitioning through Performance Management to Air Force Smart Operations, or AFSO 21, into our latest initiative. Continuous Process Improvement. All of these programs have been built upon the programs before them, and as I've watched

Commander's Commentary

the evolution, I've had many opportunities to reflect, "This is obviously something the Air Force takes seriously and places great value upon, but why?"

You will hear people say that the reason for CPI is that we need to maximize efficiency in these times of increasing requirements and decreasing resources. That answer is 100 percent true - CPI is an invaluable toolset in these times of doing more with less. I would add, however, that I feel that this is not the whole answer to the question of "Why CPI?"

Another aspect of CPI that sometimes gets overlooked is something more basic – the usefulness of the CPI mindset in helping us to uphold one of our Core Values - Excellence in All We Do. When you think about it, the goals of CPI are the underpinnings of this core value; in striving for excellence, we should continuously be improving the things we do. Even if we were not in a resource-constrained environment, we wouldn't want to be content with the status-quo. Even though we're the finest Air Force the world has ever seen, we can't say "We're No. 1, so we can ease up and relax." Instead, we need to always try

to make what's good, better.

This doesn't just apply to the traditionally defined processes, either; you can apply CPI concepts to almost everything we do, even our daily lives. Not all benefits of CPI have to result from a formal event. Become trained/familiar with CPI, and then think about how you could use some of those tools to become "excellent" at something like getting the kids off to school in the morning, or getting yourself to the gym. Don't look at CPI as just another program; instead, challenge yourself to develop a CPI mindset, to enable us to truly aim for excellence in all we do.

JUNE 9, 2017

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Globemaster III.

Force MAF wing commandimprovement.

as representatives at AMC.

Council



It's OK to ask others for help; it takes courage

Commentary by Master Sgt. Jay Voytek 60TH MEDICAL GROUP

ost of us are familiar with action movies where the main character overcomes impossible odds to reach the unreachable, attain the improbable or save the day from certain ruin.

That character is sometimes portrayed as a pillar, unbreakable, unvielding ... needing no one.

The reality, of course, is we are human and fallible, often building on lessons learned from prior generations in order to survive and thrive. Though in your reality, you are both the author and ness of your predicament, problem or

Travis AFB. Calif.

60th Air Mobility Wing

Air Force

Col. John Klein

60th Air Mobility Wing commander

2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson

Chief of command information

Daily Republic

Nick DeCicco

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Todd R. Hansen

Copy editor

Enlisted Commentary

lead character adapting and learning as you write the script, but never going it alone as the story progresses.

Think back on your story. You had to learn almost everything from someone else, from birth until now in order to exist. Sometimes you figured it out on your own, sometimes not. We can get bogged down by what we don't know and not realize it. Every one of us, no matter the level of success, rank or stature, have been there. The trick is gaining awarepuzzle and asking for help. Even if you don't know the question to ask or where to turn, asking someone, anyone, is a start, and better than struggling alone, spinning your wheels.

It's OK to ask for help as it takes courage to do so. No matter the dilemma, issue or concern, from the seemingly simple to the most profound, no one knows all things, but together we've seen almost everything.

Sure, you say, easier said than done. You don't know my problem and I can figure it out on my own. If you can, great, but if trying is getting you nowhere, take the first step and ask a family member, friend, co-worker,

supervisor, first sergeant or other resources to get started. You may feel vulnerable in doing so and that is why it's the hardest part. All of us have failed, been lost or had to learn something completely new at some point. All of us required a teacher, mentor or guide to show us the way. As adults, we may forget those experiences at times because we have learned so much up to this point in life that survival feels instinc-

I felt life was progressing according to plan a couple years ago when I was surprised by the depth of issues

Table of contents

Commentaries	2
The Flip Side	15/18
Cover story	16-17
Worship services	20-21
Classifieds	26-29
Parting Shots	30

On the cover

A U.S. Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt II departs after receiving fuel from a 908th **Expeditionary Air Refueling** Squadron KC-10 Extender during a flight in support of **Operation Inherent Resolve** May 31.

U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Michael Battles

Tailwind

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See VOYTEK Page 24 Co

TRAVIS

Councils seek to solve global mobility challenges

Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman

Squadron, group and wing leaders at Travis Air Force Base, California, meet regularly to discuss ways to improve mission capability and solve problems for each of the base's aircraft, the KC-10 Extender, C-5M Super Galaxy and C-17

The groups combine to form Command's Mobility Air Forces Council. The mission of the council is to identify trends, address issues and share solutions for AMC aircraft. According to the AMC MAF Councils Charter, the ultimate goal of the council is to ensure open communication between all Total ers and MAF Council participants with a focus on mission

At Travis, home to the largest air mobility wing in the Air Force, MAF Councils meet every six months to discuss issues and potential solutions. Those discussions are held with several organizations including active-duty and Reserve commanders at the squadron, group and wing level at home-station and deployed locations, as well

Maj. Mara Lapidus, 22nd Airlift Squadron operations officer, serves on the C-5 MAF

"The intent of the MAF council is to provide a forum for all of our C-5 partners to

discuss various issues affecting the community," she said. "It is important because it provides a structured method for highlighting issues, and engaging simultaneously with our squadron counterparts and leadership at the wing and staff level'

"Among the many initiatives discussed at the MAF council, most of them aim to achieve a more mission capable airplane the Travis arm of Air Mobility and crew force," she said. "That can mean bringing attention to technology that exists that could increase pilot situational awareness, discussing crewmember retention, or evaluating ways we can more efficiently train our new loadmasters. Regardless of the topic, the goal is always improvement."

The C-5 is the largest aircraft in the Air Force inventory and has supported operations in nearly every corner of the globe. The aircraft was used to help evacuate Americans from the Philippines after Mount Pinatubo erupted in June 1991 and has delivered thousands of tons of cargo in support of Operations Inherent Resolve and Freedom's Sentinel.

The flying machine is essential to mission success, not just for Travis, but for the Air Force, said Lapidus.

"The aircraft is incredibly important, especially when we think of how Travis, AMC and ultimately our Air Force, projects American power ... anvtime, anywhere," she said. See COUNCILS Page 24

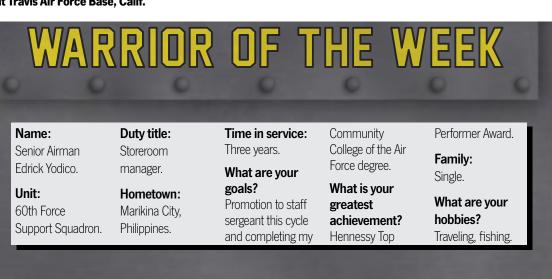






From top to bottom, a C-17 Globemaster III, C-5M Galaxy and KC-10 Extender maneuver through the air space at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.











S. Air Force photo/Louis Brisces

Lt, Gen, Giovanni Tuck, center, 18th Air Force commander, speaks with 2nd Lt, Christopher Dowlearn, left, 60th Air Mobility Wing, and Col. John Klein, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, during his visit June 7 to Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Tuck took command of 18th AF June 1 and is visiting bases throughout Air Mobility Command.

Tuck takes charge of 18th AF

General did 2 stints at Travis AFB

Master Sgt. Thomas J. Doscher

18TH AIR FORCE

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. – Lt. Gen. Giovanni Tuck assumed command of 18th Air Force during a ceremony June 1 at the Scott Event Center at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

Tuck succeeds Lt. Gen. June 2007 to June 2008. Sam Cox, who led the country's largest numbered air force since October 2015 and retired from the Air Force on June 2.

two stints at Travis Air for the command's world-Force Base, California. The wide operational mission general was a KC-10 Ex- of providing rapid, globtender instructor aircraft commander and executive officer from June 1996 to July 1999 and also served as vice commander of the 60th Air Mobility Wing from

vis June 7.

As 18th AF commander, Tuck will lead Air Mobility Command's operation-Previously, Tuck served al mission. He is responsible forward to working with the

al mobility and sustainment for America's armed forces through airlift, aerial refueling, aeromedical evacuation, and contingency response. Additionally, Tuck also commands Task Tuck paid a visit to Tra- Force 294, which oversees Air Force tanker operations in support of U.S. Strategic Command.

Tuck said he is looking

professionals of 18th AF.

"We're going to focus on speed," Tuck said. "We're going to focus on safety and on the culture of safety. And we're going to focus on success, not in the way we would describe it, but in the way our customers and the people we work with grade what we do."

A command pilot with more than 4,800 hours in 11 aircraft, Tuck comes to 18th Air Force from U.S. Transportation Command where he served as the Director of Operations and Plans. As

See TUCK Page 24

CSAF field team to stop at Travis

2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson 60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A team appointed by Gen. David Goldfein. Chief of Staff of the Air Force, is scheduled June 19 and 20 to visit Travis Air Force Base, California, to obtain feedback on actions the Air Force could implement to improve readiness, effectiveness and morale.

The initiative falls under Goldfein's first focus area -"Revitalizing Air Force Squadrons" - which was announced in August 2016. To review and improve the issue, the team is traveling to 23 bases to conduct interviews, lead focus groups and facilitate largegroup working sessions.

The effort was designed to identify and disseminate best practices, identify and remove unnecessary impediments, ensure authority and responsibility is placed at the right level, and to review the preparation and support squadron leadership teams receive.

"The squadron is the beating heart of the United States Air Force," said Goldfein. "I believe that it is at (the) squadron level where we succeed or fail as an Air Force... it's where Airmen are developed. It's where Airmen and families thrive. It's where training and innovation occurs. And I believe it's where we make the most difference as leaders."

Between February and August, the team plans to visit all major command headquarters as well as a base of the MAJCOM's choice. With each visit, information and ideas will be reviewed to find targeted ideas and solutions that can be applied across the Air Force.

Additionally, a web-based, crowd-sourced platform will allow Airmen across the total

TRAVIS

Back in the sky: Loadmaster overcomes cancer



Staff Sgt. Oliver Broadbent, 22nd Airlift Squadron loadmaster, poses in front of a C-5M Super Galaxy June 6 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.



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Staff Sgt. Charles Rivezzo

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"It turns out you have a form of lymphoma," said a voice over the phone. "It's non-Hodgkin lymphoma and luckily it's only Stage 1. You will be receiving a call from an oncologist sometime today."

This was the call Staff Sgt. Oliver Broadbent, a loadmaster from the 22nd Airlift Squadron, was expecting to receive since multiply uncontrollably. Canhaving a lump removed from his upper groin a week prior.

"I never thought I was going to die from anything," said Broadbent. "I think I just

prepared myself to hear that it Follicular lymphoma is the was cancer. I think I even said, most common slow-growing 'OK cool, thank you and have a form of NHL. good day."

Within the hour, Broadbent was diagnosed with Stage 1 Follicular non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

Lymphoma is the most common blood cancer and occurs when cells of the immune system called lymphocytes, a type of white blood cell, grow and cerous lymphocytes can travel to many parts of the body, including the lymph nodes, spleen, bone marrow, blood, or other organs, and form a tumor.

The diagnosis brought Broadbent's world to a standstill. He was removed from flying status, his work life became a steady stream of doctor's appointments and his career in the Air Force suddenly appeared uncertain.

"I remember the doctor telling me, 'Don't read about it, you'll see a lot of people say it's incurable," said Broadbent, reflecting back on his first appointment with the oncologist.

See CANCER Page 23



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AMC continues to pursue fuel efficiency initiatives

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — From electronic flight bags to flight management system modifications. Air Mobility Command Airmen are contributing innovative and cost-saving tions Center's Air Refueling Liways to enhance the command's fuel efficiency.

According to Lt. Col. Vince Zabala, AMC's fuel efficiency tankers already airborne to fill program manager, energy costs for the Air Force total nearly \$8 billion, with about 86 percent of that cost spent on aviation fuel. Air Mobility Command consumes approximately 56 percent, more than all other MAJ-COMS combined.

Since 2008, AMC's Fuel Efficiency Division has reviewed over 80 possible methods of reducing fuel consumption and improving efficiency across the a significant evolution to be-Mobility Air Forces, including changes to policies, procedures, planning, maintenance practices, aircraft material changes and science and technology advances.

Recent examples include the KC-135 Engine Compressor Upgrade Program, which began in fiscal year 2013. The modification improves longevity and efficiency of the engines and saves fuel and sustainment costs. Additionally, the 618th Air Operaaison Office developed a plan to avoid extra fuel costs of approximately \$29.5 million by using refueling requests, rather than launching a sortie specifically to fill that request.

"Our mission is to evolve MAF culture to empower a more-efficient fuel usage mindset to enhance RGM's effective delivery of cargo, fuel and passengers to joint and coalition warfighters across the globe," Zabala said. "Progressing towards this goal, we have seen ing more mindful of the fuel we burn and how we can be more effective with the resources we have.'



The command's headquarters U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Matthew Yaun, a pilot assigned to the 300th Airlift Squadron, conducts aerial operations See EFFICIENCY Page 22 Sept. 8, 2014, during a training flight onboard a C-17 Globemaster III near Joint Base Charleston, S.C.



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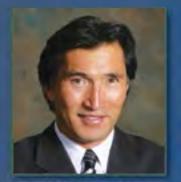


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U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Chance Babi

Master Sgt. Alisa Merriott, center, poses with the Col. Mike Mungavin Recruiter of the Year Award with, from left to right, Col. Chris Nick, former Recruiting Service commander; Lt. Gen. Maryanne Miller, Air Force Reserve Command commander: Chief Master Sgt. Ericka Kellv. AFRC command chief master sergeant; and Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Zwelling, Recruiting Service superintendent.

Family drives Travis recruiter's success

Master Sgt. Chance Babin AIR FORCE RESERVE RECRUITING SERVICE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

While Master Sgt. Alisa Merriott was having a prolific year as an Air Force Reserve recruiter, she also dealt with great personal hardship.

Her mother, Arline Kabele, was diagnosed with stage-four brain cancer and had three months to live.

On a professional level, Merriott, lead health profes-Force Base, California, gained 38 health care professions

accessions in fiscal year 2016, which is believed to be a record within Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service.

In recognition of her achievement, she won the coveted Col. Mike Mungavin Recruiter of the Year Award.

"That was a phenomenal year. Not sure if I can top that," said Merriott. "I don't think anyone has put that many health professions applicants in before. Putting in that many sions recruiter at Travis Air people was a crazy amount of work and timing."

See RECRUITER Page 14





Sean Kimmons

WASHINGTON, D.C. from fortified bunkers.

German-occupied beach.

rest of the unit."

Soldiers crowd a landing craft on the way to Normandy during the Allied invasion, June 6, 1944.

D-Day vets describe 'total chaos' of beach landings

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

When the ramp to his World War II landing craft slammed down onto Utah Beach, Army Cpl. Herman Zeitchik jumped out and dashed across the sand as deadly rounds were shot out

With the amphibious assault underway in the early morning of June 6, 1944, Zeitchik and other 4th Infantry Division soldiers - who were part of the first wave to land - desperately tried to find safe passage through the

"When the front of these landing crafts went down, we just took off," said Zeitchik, now 93 years old. "We couldn't see where to fire. We just had to get off the beach and try to find the

Along a 50-mile stretch of coastline in northern France, more than 160,000 Allied troops stormed Utah Beach and four other beaches that day to gain a foothold in continental Europe. By the end of the D-Day

those Allied troops were either dead or wounded - the majority of them Americans.

While several in his unit were casualties, Zeitchik and others survived to push on into enemy territory and liberate Paris

"There were so many of us coming ashore. I was just lucky," he said today before attending a

invasion, more than 9,000 of remembrance ceremony at the National World War II Memorial here that commemorated the 73rd anniversary of D-Day.

More than 5,000 ships and 13.000 aircraft were used in what is known as the largest seaborne invasion. The massive operation would turn the tide against Nazi Germany forces entrenched across Europe.

See D-DAY Page 22

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Couple, Travis retirees earn college degrees

Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm 60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Kevin and Debbie Edwards always had a dream of higher education and that dream finally came true when they walked the stage June 3 at Brandman University in Sacramento, California, with Bachelors of Arts degrees in business administration.

Kevin retired from the Air Force as a technical sergeant from the 60th Aerial Port Squadron as the NCO in charge of special handling, while his wife, Debbie, retired from the Air Force as a chief master sergeant with the 45th APS as the Air Transportation Superintendent.

In October 2014, the couple decided it was time to go back to school.

"I've always wanted to go back to school," said Debbie. "I've talked about it for years, finally it just fell in our lap. I had the opportunity, so we finally

went back."

The pair worked together over the past three years to complete their degrees without taking a semester off.

"We went straight through, we didn't take any time off for summer or vacation," said Debbie. "We were in Hawaii and still worked on our papers. We like to go (camping) so there was never a time we weren't doing assignments. We would get up early and write papers so we could hang out with people.

The couple worked together, even taking the same classes, to get their degrees finished.

"It's been hard with me having a full time job," said Kevin, who now serves as the 60th APS passenger services flight operations manager. "But she helped me along to get everything done."

For Kevin, getting his degree means moving forward in his civilian career and

See DEGREES Page 19



AF picks Fairchild to host KC-135s

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

June 5, Air Force officials an- critical air refueling center nounced Fairchild Air Force of excellence for our nation," Base, Washington, as the pre- said Gen. Carlton D. Everhart ferred location for basing 12 II, the Air Mobility Command KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft, commander. "The addition of and MacDill AFB, Florida, as 12 KC-135 Stratotankers at the reasonable alternative.

best choice for additional Air constantly evolving glob-Force tankers," said Heather al needs of combatant com-Wilson, the Secretary of the manders who rely on air refu-Air Force. "It's well placed to eling every day." gas up aircraft going across the Pacific, and it has the fa- ground site surveys of each cilities we need without a lot candidate base, AMC evalof construction, making it the uated operational and trainlower-cost option for the tax- ing requirements, potential payer."

ly scheduled to transfer from power, and cost. McConnell AFB, Kansas, in fiscal year 2020, as McCon- ing current air refueling conthe KC-46A Pegasus.

"Fairchild Air Force Base has been an integral part of our nation's defense since WASHINGTON — On World War II and serves as a this strategically located base "Fairchild (AFB) is the enhances our ability to meet

During detailed, on-theimpacts to existing missions, The aircraft are current- housing, infrastructure, man-

The Air Force is answernell AFB is slated to receive straints by building the tanker fleet to 479 aircraft.



LLS Air Force photo/Wayne A Clark

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson speaks about the fiscal year 2018 budget, the Aviation Bonus Program, and an upcoming Air Force fighter jet deployment to Europe during an Air Force Association breakfast event June 5.

Wilson sets sights on readiness

Secretary of the Air Force **Public Affairs**

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson addressed the Air Force Wilson said. "This proposed Association's Air Force Breakfast Series June 5 at the Capitol Hill Club in Washington, D.C. During her remarks Wilson

Force budget for the fiscal year es to help retain pilots and anthat starts October 1. "The fiscal year 17 appropriations stopped the decline,"

budget for fiscal year 18 starts to restore readiness and modernize the force."

Wilson also announced

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spoke about the proposed Air changes in aviation bonusnounced the next fighter deployment to Europe as part of the European Reassurance Initiative.

Readiness

To continue to address readiness, the budget proposal includes an increase in active duty manpower to 325,100 Airmen while also adding 800 reservists, 900 guardsmen and 3,000 civilians. The total force will increase by about 9,000 people to 669,611.

The budget also funds flying hours, maintenance and training at or near the maximum executable levels given the size of the force and the overseas commitments in which the Air Force is engaged.

Because the use of munitions in operations against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria is out-pacing productions, the Air Force is working with industry to expand weapons production and the budget funds this effort.

Modernization

The fiscal year 2018 budget prioritizes the top three acquisition programs to modernize

See WILSON Page 21

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From Page 12

EOD

Join-spouse consideration keeps couples together

Kat Bailev AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIOa busy season for permanent changes of station and military couples may be apprehensive about the possibility of being separated from their spouses during their next assignments.

They have little to be concerned about, however, as the Air Force Personnel Center has an accommodation rate of more than 96 percent for milto-mil married couples through the as- tored in, the placement rate goes to alsignment of military couples option, most 98 percent.

Security

commonly known across the Air Force as a "join spouse" assignment.

With more than 27,000 active-duty Airmen (just under 10 percent of the RANDOLPH, Texas — Summertime is active-duty Air Force) married to another active-duty Airman, and about 1,500 active-duty Airmen (just under half a percent) married to an active-duty member of another military service, the placement rate for join spouse as of March 31, 2017, is 96.6 percent.

> When those on assignment to join their spouses, or those with approved retirement or separation dates are fac-

gally married active-duty military couples the opportunity to be stationed together at the same installation. If positions are not available for both members at the same installation, they may be assigned to different installations within 50 miles of each other and maintain a joint residence.

"The Air Force will try to keep a military couple together," said Cristi Bowes, who is a part of the Assignment Policy and Procedures section at the AFPC. "The most common hurdle to a join spouse assignment lies in meeting the eligibility requirements, so military

A join spouse assignment allows le- couples do have a key role in the success of this program."

> Married military couples are required to present their marriage certificate to their Military Personnel Section Customer Service Element to update their marital status in the Military Personnel Data System and Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System

> They also need to update their join spouse intent code and assignment preferences in the virtual Military Personnel Flight to indicate their intentions as a couple and whether or not they wish to be reassigned together.



An Army explosive ordnance disposal technician assigned to the 630th EOD Company, performs counter improvised explosive device techniques during a joint service EOD field training exercise May 23 at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia.



Teams link up for EOD training

386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Explosive ordnance disposal teams from across the U.S. Air Forces Central Command area of reercise May 22 to 26 at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia.

The 386th Explosive Orded and hosted the joint training from the 386th EOD flight. "We er EOD teams from each of the ent units deployed to a forward

to five different countries in the sponsibility.

"In a real world deployment, it's normal for EOD teams to support units from other branches of TTPs," said Air Force Tech. Sgt. Michael Vallejo, a site leadnance Disposal flight coordinat- er and planner for the exercise operation that brought togeth- had nine teams from eight differ-

four service branches, deployed operating base, working in three AORs on realistic scenarios Central Command area of re- based on current contingencies."

The purpose of the exercise was to provide realistic joint service EOD training to new team leaders and team leaders in sponsibility participated in a and training together improves training, allow for the exchange weeklong joint field training ex- cross service communication of tactics, techniques and proand familiarization and sharing cedures - known as TTPs - between service branches, and share training best practices throughout the AOR.

For the first few days, each team worked on separate See EOD Page 13

platforms.

ants.

istic'





Read the **TAILWIND** online at tailwind.dailyrepublic.net or travis.af.mil

problems while cross-talking and being aware of the other teams working in their AOR. The individual teams interrogated various improvised explosive devices, performed combat lifesaving procedures, and used live demolitions and various robotic

The final day brought all the teams together to complete a mission with named objectives along the route. On this day, the joint service group worked as one to interrogate weapon caches, search and clear buildings of IEDs and disarm suicide vests on hostages while taking simulated fire from enemy combat-

"These are bigger problem sets than usual." said Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Matthew Pazdur, an EOD technician who participated in the exercise. "The biggest part here was interacting with the other services and learning how to manage multiple aspects at once to include team members, other teams and the on-scene commander. When all those different aspects come together, it makes it more real-

EOD technicians all have the same foundation and are trained to the same standard as they attend formal joint service training when they enter the career EOD flight.

field. As the EOD technicians progress in their careers within their respective branch they tend to develop their own TTPs and specialize in certain areas based off the needs of their branch's mission. For example, Air Force EOD technicians are used heavily in the support of flving missions, whereas, Navy EOD technicians are used largely in support of special operations missions

"This joint training is a great opportunity to see and share the different tools and techniques used by the other branches to complete their missions," said Army Staff Sgt. Bryce Granger, an EOD technician with the 630th EOD Company. "It's also beneficial for the younger soldiers. They have to think on their feet and run problems as we hit upon a lot of different training areas, to include unexploded ordnances, improvised explosive devices, combat life-saving skills and casualty evacuation.'

Beyond trading TTPs, another primary objective for the joint exercise was to develop the vounger EOD technicians into team leaders.

"All the older EOD techs have been through wars, whereas the younger guys haven't had much of that experience in war, so we rely on the older generation to teach us," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Daniel Giansanti Jr., an EOD technician with the 386th

Recruiter

From Page 8

Health professions career fields are for officers and include doctors, dentists, nurses, and allied health and medical services corps members.

"Health professions is our most difficult specialty and putting in 38 health professionals in a year is an amazing feat that will be hard to match. But if anyone can do it, she can," said Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Zwelling, AFRC Recruiting Service superintendent, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. "Ser- with young girls, they would see geant Merriott is the best of the that the military was not just for best, not only as a recruiter but as a senior NCO."

While a traditional accession for an enlisted Airman takes tive duty, she made the move job running a health division roughly two to four weeks, sign- to health professions, where for a staff recruiting company ing up a health professional is she really found her calling. in Cincinnati, Ohio. Soon, she

months. Merriott said.

Merriott's path to becom-2016 started when she was a senior airman at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, in 1997. A recruiting team was searching for a few people to be part of a new task force to see if senior airmen would make good recruiters. After an extensive interview process, she was selected and sent off to recruiter school.

"I wanted to be a recruiter to help others get into the military, especially women," she said. "I felt that if I could talk a certain type, and if I could do it, anyone could."

In 2002, while still on ac-

technician in the hospital at Eging AFRC's top recruiter in to the Reserve a year later. By 2005, she had won the Top HP Recruiter Award for the AFRC Recruiting Service. She was then ready to take her skills and training to the civilian sector.

> "I really enjoyed being an HP recruiter, since I loved working in the hospital. I wanthow," she said. "I knew that recruiting HP professionals is in demand in the civilian sec- profits. tor and thought this would be a good area for me to develop my resume."

After getting training in the Reserve, including becoming a certified medical staff recruiter, Merriott was able to land a

cess lasting approximately 10 er, she worked as a radiology largest divisions in the compa- art of relationship building," ny in Fresno, California, work- Merriott said. "Winning awards lin. She was able to transition ing to secure large state con- is never just a 'me' effort but a tracts for nursing homes and whole team concept. There are state prisons.

> gained in the civilian sector is makes me feel good to see it unforgettable," said Merriott. all pay off. The award didn't for you to go after, but it's up to honored to win an award named you to be the dynamic force to after a colonel I so highly remake it happen. No one holds spected and worked for years ed to still be a part of that some- your hand or shows you how to ago." (Mungavin was comdo much. They just want you to mander of the Recruiting Sermake money and larger gross vice for eight years.)

> > competitive and there is always ents has always been a part cant and opportunity, or it will her most successful year ever in be gone. There is no time to be recruiting. lazy, and being creative is how to explore new marketing and night after the award ceremorecruiting ideas."

She said her military trainsucceed.

for future success in all my di-sible." visions and promotions for oth-"I was only out of the mili- with everyone is the time she tary for four years. I didn't re- put her first officer in the Air the chance to learn new view- was going on a trip to Las Vegas points."

serve, Merriott has been named made a point to go and see her. the top HP recruiter for Western Recruiting Squadron each blackjack table as she was year, until her magical year in working and said to her, 'I just 2016, where she swept all the wanted to thank the mom of my major awards in her category recruiter; she changed my life. including the Top HP Recruit- He then said, 'I can see that the er, Top Lead Recruiter, Top apple didn't fall too far from the Physician Recruiter and the tree.' She still talks about that to Mungavin Award as the top re- this day and is my biggest fan. cruiter in AFRC.

was a huge feeling of accom- proud to have been a part of his plishment in recruiting - a success."

a much longer and tedious pro- Prior to becoming a recruit- was promoted to lead one of the feeling that I have mastered the so many others who help me "The experience that I complete each package, which "There are many opportunities change my life, but now I feel

Being able to share her ac-"The civilian market is very complishments with her parsomeone better who is ready to of Merriott's life. And she felt jump in and take your business. so lucky to have her mother You have to fight for each appli- around this past year to enjoy

"I was able to text her that ny. She had a hard time understanding all the medals, but ing and recruiting background we talked the next day, and she gave her the best foundation was so excited and very proud." for learning and helping others Merriott said. "She has always been a big supporter of any-"The amount of teamwork thing that I do, and I love to inthat I brought with me allowed clude her in on as much as pos-

Merriott said her favorite ers around me," Merriott said. story her mother loves to share gret leaving and was happy for Force back in 2004. The officer and knew Merriott's mom was a Since coming back to the Re- blackjack dealer at a casino. He

"He was standing at her That applicant is still in and is "For me, winning that award now a lieutenant colonel. I am





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Travis tankers extend the fight against ISIS



60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Coalition tankers continue to support an uptick in weapons employed against Islamic State of Iraq and Syria strongholds, enabling the release of the most ordnance in a four-month stretch since the inception of Operation Inherent Resolve.

As of April 30, U.S. Air Forces Central Command-controlled aircraft have released more than 14,000 weapons in support of OIR in 2017.

Since Jan. 1, coalition tankers have flown more than 3,800 sorties and offloaded 241 million pounds of fuel to a variety of coalition aircraft.

KC-10 Extenders assigned to Travis Air Force Base have served as one of the primary aerial refueling platforms in the fight against ISIS.

Operation Inherent Resolve is the operation to eliminate ISIS and the threat they pose to Iraq, Syria and the international community.









Refueling Squadron KC-10 Extender during a May 31 flight in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. 2) A 908th EARS KC-10 Extender crew prepares for a mission May 31 in support of OIR. 3) A U.S. Marine Corps F-18 receives fuel from a 908th EARS KC-10 Extender during a May 31 flight in support of OIR. 4) A U.S. Marine Corps F-18 Super Hornet departs after receiving fuel from a 908th EARS KC-10 Extender during a May 31 flight in support of OIR. 5) A 908th EARS KC-10 Extender pilot speaks with the crew during a May 31 flight in support of OIR.

Puzzles

6 4

Previous solution - Medium

3 4 7 9 6 9 8 3 4 2

5 3 1 7 8 4 9 6

8 7 9 6 3 4 2 1 5

To complete Sudoku, fill the board

by entering numbers 1 to 9 such

that each row, column and 3x3 box

For many strategies, hints and tips, visit www.sudokuwiki.org

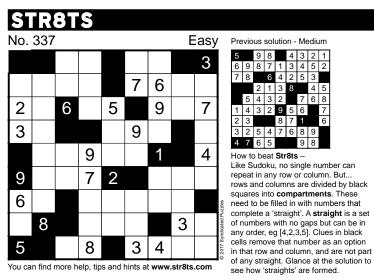
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iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on

If you like Str8ts, Sudoku and

our store at www.str8ts.com

contains every number uniquely.



SUDOKU

No.	No. <u>33</u> 7							
		4				6	1	
	3			6	1		4	
			5		4	3		
		7		3				9
			7		5			
2				8		7		
		8	1		3			
	1		2	7			8	
	7	3				1		

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Retiree Corner

Defense launches BRS comparison calculator

WASHINGTON, D.C. -The Defense Department has launched a comparison calculator for eligible service members to analyze their estimated retirement benefits under the legacy system and the new Blended Retirement System.

The tool walks members through five screens, allowing users to adjust 12 data fields and compare benefit scenarios under both systems, Air Force Maj. Michael Odle, the Defense Department's assistant di- defense.gov/Calculators/ rector of military compen- BRS/. sation policy, explained.

at helping eligible members make the best decision about whether to remain in the current retirement plan, known as the High-3 System, or opt into the Blended Retirement System, which goes into effect Jan. 1, he

The calculator is aimed

Eligible service members have until Dec. 31, 2018, to enroll in the new system. Military members who enter service on or after Jan. 1 will automatically be enrolled in the BRS.

The calculator is available at http://militarypay.

Defense Media Activity

Events and info

Give Parents a Break Program. Canceled due to federal civilian hiring freeze until further

Father's Day cay show. The Travis Exchange will host the fifth-annual Father's Day Car show from 11 a.m to 2:30 p.m. June 17. To enter, send your name, phone number, email address and vehicle make, model, year, color, and license plate and state to ionesim@aafes.com.A \$25 registration fee is required to enter. All motor vehicles are welcome. For information, call Jessica Jones at 707-437-4633 ext. 215."

Chapel programs

Recurring events Catholic

Twin Peaks Chapel • Roman Catholic Mass: 9 a.m. and noon Sunda

Children's Church: 10:15 a.m. Sunday.

• Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday or upon appointment

 Infant Baptism Prep Class: Two classes. Registration Required. 6 to 7 p.m., offered quarterly.

- Youth Choir: 1 p.m. Sunday.
- Children's Choir: 2 p.m. Sunday.
- Adult Choir: 4 p.m. Sunday.
- Women's Bible Study: 10 a.m. (at First Street Chapel)

 Catholic Women of the Chapel: 6 p.m. first Monday of every month Annex Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: 6 to 7:30

p.m. Wednesday, Annex.

• RE Classes: 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, RE Wing.

First Street Chapel

• Mom's Group: 9 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday and Fridav

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

 Roman Catholic Mass: Noon to 12:35 p.m. Monday through Thursday, except for federal holidavs

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

• Sacrament Services: 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Fairfield Stake Center, 2700 Camrose Ave., Fairfield

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

• Latter-day Saints Service: 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at DGMC Medical Center Chapel.

- For all other enquires call LDS Military relations representatives at 707-535-6979
 - Protestant

First Street Chapel

• Protestant Community Service: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Gospel Worship Service: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30

- p.m. Sunday.
- Children's Ministry is provided for
- 6-month-olds through fifth grade. • Protestant Men of the Chapel: 8 to 9 a.m.,
- first Saturday of every month.
- Twin Peaks Chapel • Protestant Women of the Chapel: 9:30 to 11
- a.m. Tuesday.

In the next week ...

Burgan Boulevard paving.

Burgan Boulevard will receive a mill and overlay through June 16. All work will be completed between 9 p m and 5 a m and the road will reopen for daily

traffic. Detour signage will be in place during construction hours and facilities will have alternate access routes and parking. Hangar Avenue will have manhole repairs during this time period as well accomplished between the 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Hangar Avenue will not close, but pay attention to traffic cones/flagger during the construction. For more information, contact the civil

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

engineer project manager at 424-0869.

• Protestant Traditional Service: 10 a.m. to 11 a m. Sundav

Airmen's Ministry Center

• The Peak is open from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday at Bldg 1348. Home-cooked meal at 6 p.m. Tuesday's followed at 7 p.m. by Bible study. *******

For more information about chapel programs, call Twin Peaks Chapel at 707-424-3217.

60th FSS

Upcoming events and information

Travis Aquatic Center. Free. Open daily. Lap swim hours 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Friday; open swim 1 to 5 p.m. daily. To book your summer private pool party or to sign your child up for swim lessons, visit Outdoor Recreation at 273 Ellis Drive. For details, visit TravisFSS.com/Aquatic or call 707-424-5283.

Whitewater rafting. Enjoy the rush of the South Fork of the American River as you are guided through Class IV rapids. SAI eligible dates are July 20 and 30, Aug. 13 and 24. \$10 for SAI. For more information or non-SAI price, call 707-424-0969. Contests

Designer Handbag Bingo. June 30 at

Cypress Lakes Golf Course. Doors open at 5 p.m. and gaming begins at 6 p.m. First handbag given away free, \$20 to play the additional 10 rounds. Head to the FSS Facebook Page to vote on bags. For more information and official rules, visit TravisFSS.com/HandbagBingo.

For more information on FSS, visit http://www. travisfss com

Recurring

Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

To report a crime, get a foreign travel brief or request information on joining AFOSI, report to Bldg. 380B, second floor. Send correspondence to

Food Truck Fridays. Beginning June 9, FSS will begin Food Truck Fridays, which will take place every Friday through Aug 11 at the Delta Breeze Club. This kid-friendly/ pet-friendly event will include live music.

Friday Nights at the Farm. 5 to 9 p.m. June 9, Green Valley Road at Vintage Lane, Fairfield. www.gvagconservancy.org.

Skydiving. On June 10 or 11, Single Airmen Initiative Airmen can go tandem with your safety **C** instructor in over 60 seconds of freefall fun. \$25. To see if you qualify, visit Outdoor Recreation or call 707-424-0969.

AFOSI Detachment 303, 510 Airlift CR, Travis AFB, 94535. For more information, call 707-424-3115 or DSN: 837-3115

Air Force Sergeants Association "Walter E. Scott" Chapter 1320. General membership meetings are at 3 p.m. on the second Friday of every month at Wingman's in the Delta Breeze Club. For more information. contact Senior Master Sgt. Angell Nichols or Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Linden de Romero

Airmen's Attic. The Airmen's Attic is open from 10 a m to 2 p m Tuesday and Thursday and 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday. 560 Hickam Ave. For more information, call 707-424-8740 or visit the Facebook page "The Attic at Travis AFB."

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group. Meetings take place from 1 to 2:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the diabetic education classroom on the first floor in Internal Medicine at David Grant USAF Medical Center. For more information call 707-423-7227

Base emergency numbers. Mobile phone users must dial 707-424-4911 if they have an emergency on base. Those using government or home phones can call 911. For more information, call the Travis Air Force Base Fire Prevention Office at 707-424-3683.

Crisis text line. Free, confidential, 24/7 counseling for teens and young adults. Text 741-741 anywhere in the United States and a live, trained crisis counselor responds quickly

Employee-Vehicle Certification and Reporting System. Civilian and military personnel must maintain emissions information with the Web-based ECARS system. For more information, call Xuyen Lieu at 707-424-5103.

Exceptional Family Member Program Sensory Play Group. This group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays at the Balfour Beatty Community Center, For more information, call 707-424-4342 or visit the Facebook page "EFMP Travis AFB."

Fairfield/Vacaville Train Station Project. Located at Peabody Road and Vanden Road in Fairfield with a six-lane overpass. Construction is scheduled for completion in October. For more information, visit http://bit.ly/1yNIBwV.

Family Advocacy Parent/Child

playgroups. Toddlers to the Max Playgroup for children ages 1 to 3 meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the First Street Chapel Annex. The Rattles to Raspberries Playgroup for infants 8 weeks to 1 year meets 9:30 to 11 a m Thursdays at the First Street Chapel Annex. For more information, call 707-423-5168.

Family and Friends Combat Stress Peer Support Group. Meets from noon to 1 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month at the Balfour Beatty Community Center and from 1-2 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at The Peak. For more information, contact Amber Quirate and Jessica Soto at 501-231-7756 or email travsopcombatptsd@gmail.com.

Government no-fee passports. All

submissions of applications for government no-fee passports must now include: 1) A photocopy of Military Identification Card front and back; 2) Passport photo taken in the past six months: 3) Supporting document(s) proof of U.S. citizenship certified copy with state or county seal, if it involved a name change submit a court order or marriage certificate. Passport application cannot be handwritten and printed back to back and must be completed online with 2D barcode at website https://pptform.state.gov and/or https://travel.state.gov. For more information. call 707-424-5324.

Hometown News Releases. To submit a Hometown News Release, visit the new

paperless website at https://jhns.release.dma. mil/public and fill out the information. LGBT Alliance. General membership meetings take place at 6 p.m. the first

Wednesday of every month at the Airman and Family Readiness Center, For more information. email lgbtalliance707@gmail.com or call 707-424-2486

Mare Island Museum. Now a Blue Star Museum which means active-duty military reservists and their dependents are eligible for free admission from Memorial Day to Labor Day. 1100 Railroad Ave. on Mare Island in Vallejo. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 707-557-4646.

M-50 Gas Mask Fit Testing. Takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Wednesday at Bldg. 791. All deployers are fit as necessary. For more information call 707-424-2689

Mitchell Memorial Library. Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and closed Sunday

Montezuma Shrine Club. Meets every



"NEWS NOTES" BRIEFS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO 60AMWPA@US.AF.MIL SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT DATE. CALL THE 60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE INTERNAL INFO SECTION AT 424-2011 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

third Thursday of the month at the Masonic Center, 412 Travis Blvd., Fairfield. For more information, call Mike Michaelis at 707-427-2573 or Cal Gitsham at 707-425-0060.

Motorcycle licensing and training. California Rider Education offers the Motorcyclists Training Course, the Basic Riders Course 2 and the Military Sportsbike Riders Course on base. MTC classes take place most weekends. Motorcycles and helmets provided Successful completion gives students a DL389 that waives the skills test at DMV. Course cost covered for active duty, reserves, some DOD and some NAF folks. Dependents welcome, but must cover own costs. All registrations done via phone at 1-800-966-3844.

On-base child care. The Air Force requires on-base residents to be licensed by the 60th Mission Support Group if they provide more than 10 hours of care per week in their homes. For more information, call 707-424-8104 or 707-424-4596 or stop by Bldg, 380B.

Photocopying of military identification. The prohibition in photocopying of U.S. government identification Common Access Card announced by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, dated Oct. 27, 2011, does not apply to medical establishments applying for government-issued, no-fee passport and other U.S. government agencies in the performance of official government business. This requirement does not apply to minors ages 16 years or younger. However, it applies to sponsors. For more information, call

707-424-5324 Professional Loadmaster Association. The Professional Loadmaster Association meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the Delta Breeze Club. For more information, call Mark Raymond at 707-416-5331

Retiree Activities Office. Openings for volunteers. Customers are retired American service members and their dependents. It is the RAO's responsibility to maintain open communication and to ensure retirees receive the service and the respect that they deserve. If you would like to apply for a volunteer slot and have three hours or more to give, call 707-424-3905

SGLI and vRED. The Record of Emergency Data, aka vRED, and Servicemembers Group Life Insurance form are two of the most-critical documents a service member is responsible for maintaining throughout a military career. Commanders, Casualty Assistance personnel and Mortuary Affairs personnel rely heavily on these two documents as a vital source of

Here are the showtimes for this weekend's movies at the Base Theater:

- Todav • 6:30 p.m. "How to Be a Latin Lover" (PG-13)
- 9 p.m. "Guardians of the Galaxy, Vol. 2" (PG-13) Saturday
- 6:30 p.m. "King Arthur" (PG-13) • 9 p.m. "Snatched" (R)
- Sunday
- 2 p.m. "Zookeeper's Wife" (PG-13)

information when a crisis occurs resulting in serious injury or death of the service member. 60th Air Mobility Wing Information

Protection Office. The office has the following walk-in customer service window hours: 8 to 11 a m and 1 to 4 n m Monday through Thursday as well as window hours from 8 to 11 a.m. Friday, For emergencies, call 707-424-3114.

Solano/Napa Habitat for Humanity. This organization welcomes volunteers and supporters from all backgrounds. There are recurring events Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, email Staff Sgt. Mathew Clavton at mathew clavton@us af mil

Toastmasters. The Travis Toastmasters meets at noon on the first and third Tuesday of the month in the USO Lounge. Toastmasters is an organization that helps people practice communication, as well as build on skills they already have. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call Nicole Culberhouse at 478-273-1760

Travis Community Thrift Shop. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Ongoing need for volunteers to organize, sort and price donations. For more information, contact the Thrift Shop at 707-437-2370.

Travis Composite Squadron 22 Civil Air Patrol. Open to youth from 12 to 18, as well as adults ages 18 or older who train and serve as the volunteer component of the total force. UTA is 6:30 to 9 p.m. Monday, Bldg. 241-B -2. Open to all students with a 2.0 or higher grade-point average. For more information, contact CAP 1st Lt. Jo Nash at 707-424-3996 or recruiting@squadron22-cap.us, visit during a UTA or check out http://squadron22-cap.us.

Travis Heritage Center. The facility is looking to add to its historical collection. It is missing the past 15 years of conflict in which Travis was involved. Do you have something special to donate for generations to appreciate? The center also seeks volunteers. The gift shop is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, For more information, call Rick Shea at 707-424-5598 or email richard.shea@us.af.

Travis Legal Office. Power of attorney and notaries are walk-ins 9 a m to 2 p m Monday Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 n m Thursday Legal assistance for active duty members and dependents are walk-ins from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday. For all wills and retiree legal assistance, call 707-424-3251 to make an appointment

Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. The following Travis employees are approved as leave recipients through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program:

- Vincente Arespacochaga Jr., 60th Medical Support Squadron.
- Cheryl Brown, 60th Air Mobility Wing. Nicole Miller, 349th Maintenance

Squadron.

 Jessica Trimble, 23rd Combat Communications Squadron.

The VLTP allows an employee who has a medical emergency or is affected by a medical emergency of a family member and is without availability of paid leave to receive transferred annual leave directly from other employees. For more information, call 707-424-1720.



Airmen complete FTAC



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Scott Taylor

Congratulations to the latest Airmen to complete the First Term Airman Center course. Alphabetically: Airman 1st Class Carlos Belalcazar Barcenas. 60th Operations Support Squadron; Airman 1st Class Ruzel Dredd Ditan, 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Travis Dugey, 60th AMXS; Airman Tyler Green, 60th Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Nicholas Gunn, 60th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron: Airman 1st Class Jacob Hall, 60th AMXS: Airman 1st Class Chad Helminiak. 60th AMXS: Airman 1st Class Mario Hernandez. 60th Medical Operations Squadron: Airman 1st Class Jamie Hopper, 860th AMXS: Airman Domonique Jordan, 60th Force Support Squadron; Airman Basic Terrence Krueger, 60th Aerial Port Squadron; Airman 1st Class Qubilah Lambert, 60th MDOS; Airman Anthony Lapiana, 60th MDTS; Airman 1st Class Imani Lee, 60th MDTS; Airman 1st Class Jasmine Lynn, 60th MDTS; Airman 1st Class Kristine Malinowski, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Adam Margerum, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Roxanne Martinson, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron; Airman 1st Class Corwin Miller, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Taylor Nelson, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Derrick Pohl, 60th APS: Airman 1st Class Dylan Radabaugh, 60th MXS: Airman 1st Class Julian Sadava, 860th AMXS: Airman 1st Class John Salazar, 921st Contingency Response Squadron; Airman 1st Class Jacqueline Seeley, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Trent Shaw, 860th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Andrew Smith, 60th APS; Airman 1st Class Brandon Spicer, 60th APS; Airman 1st Class Trenton Watkins, 60th AMXS; and Airman Basic Laiveon Woods, 60th MXS.

Degrees

From Page 9

motivating others to do so as well. "The military always pushes education," said Kevin. "I mentor for my Airmen. Hopefulthey can attain it as well."

thought that I'm still an Airman, I'm still in the military, still work for the military, I just wear a different uniform. I want to be a ly, now they can see that I've done something good, got a degree and

gree.

brate," said Debbie. "Going back to school at this age makes it even more special because people say 'oh I've lived my life' and I say you never quit, you never stop. We were just really excited about going back to school."

in Saudi Arabia in 1997. "I took (temporary duties) and

tunity," said Debbie. "We talk to and do things and don't sit in your dorm rooms. Make the best of it."

their family, but held off on their degrees until now.

Debbie. "I'm proud because not ty for everybody, it's just whethonly did we do it, but we grad- er you pursue it or not. Do it while uated with honors. That's not you can."

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At the age of 54. Debbie said it's never too late to get your de-

"My age is something I cele-

The couple, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, met when they were both serving

every assignment as an opporkids now and we tell them you're at Travis, you're in the most beautiful state there is, go out ried and later added two girls to

something we were expecting." Kevin attributes success to his wife and his military service.

"I wasn't really good in school when I grew up," said Kevin. "I think that's one thing I need to be thankful about, after 21 years in the military they gave me the tools to do some of that education and (I'm) thankful for my squadron who supported me. We spent lots of long hours studying and lost sleep, but we are proof that it can be done. Three years of our lives tied up in this program. It's well worth it."

While the pair may have been some of the oldest students in the class, that reality didn't hinder them and they even found time to help their classmates.

"We've had study groups at our house and I cook for them." said Debbie. "They know when they come to the house, they're going to get a meal."

This is just the beginning for the Edwards. They are both looking at working on their masters degrees in business administration while Debbie also has the additional goal of becoming a teacher.

"It's never too late," said Debbie. "And there's so many programs out there for veterans and educational benefits."

Kevin hopes his degree will further his career before retiring After returning, they got mar- from civil service.

"All I can say is go for your degree," said Kevin. "I like to be a mentor, not just to the Airmen but "It's like living a dream," said to society. There's an opportuni-



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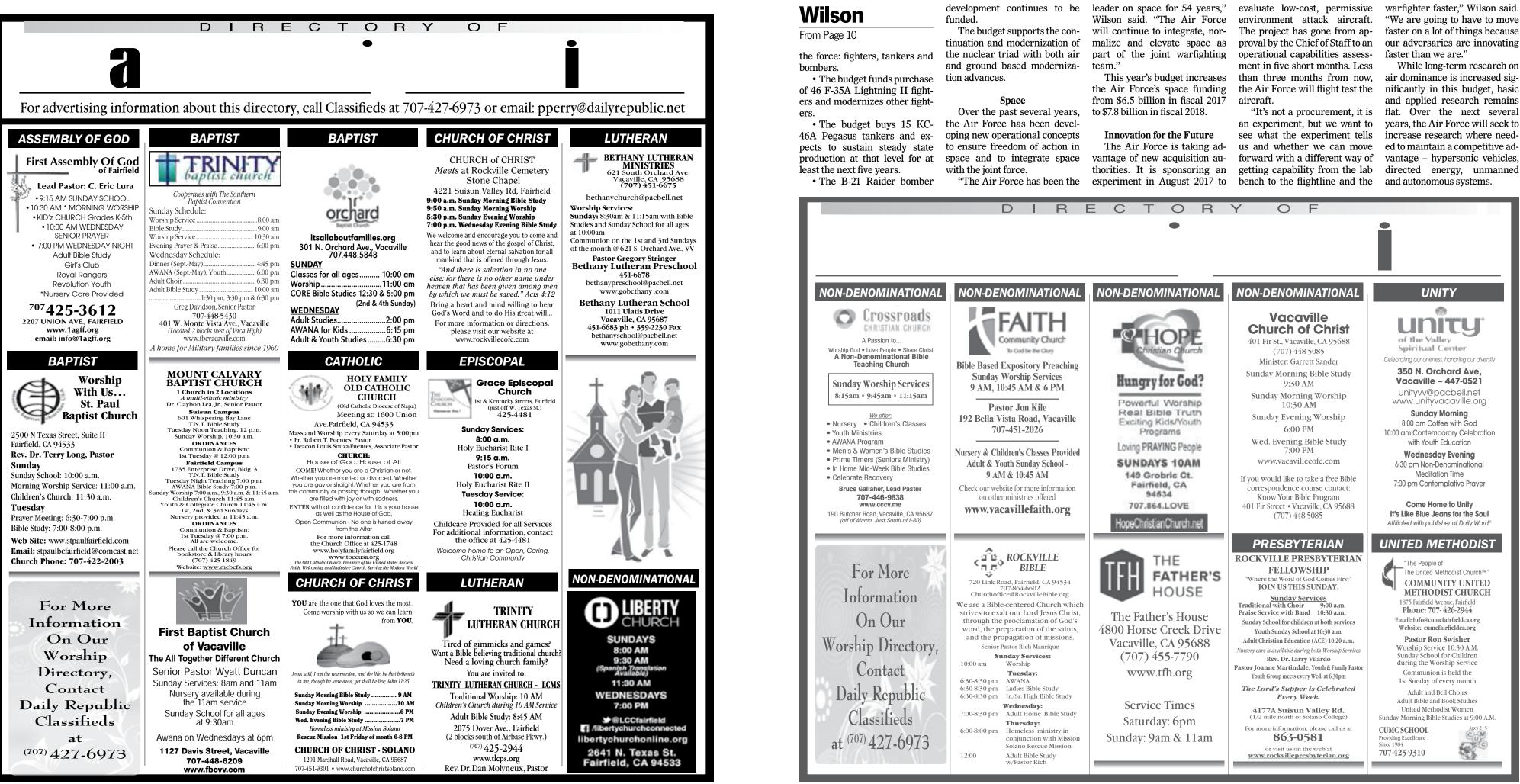


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D-Day

From Page 9

"I don't know that we could have ever done a better job of recreating what happened on this historic day back in 1944," said Lt. Gen. Gary Cheek, director of the Army Staff. Speaking at the ceremony, Cheek said the heroics witnessed on D-Day helped to pave the way to an Allied victory in Europe while also giving Americans freedom for years to come.

"They stormed these beaches so we might stand here free and prosperous," he said. "They were steadfast and loval to the mission at hand and met their rendezvous with destiny head-on and they were successful."

Total chaos

Army Pvt. Arnald Gabriel recalled wading through the cold ocean water after his landing craft failed to make it all the way to Omaha Beach. "The water, believe it or not, in June was awfully cold, and that with the combination of fear, it was quite an experience," he said. A machine gunner with the 29th Infantry Division, Gabriel described how the chaotic scene unfolded.

"With the Air Force overheard, the Navy shelling (enemy positions), the enemy firing have time to look back."

at you and we're firing at them, it was just total chaos," he said. "Nobody landed where they were supposed to. I landed way over to the left flank and ended up with the 1st (Infantry) Division. It took me a day to get back and find the 29th Division. It was that kind of chaos."

After storming Omaha Beach, helping to liberate parts of France and earning two Bronze Stars with the Army, Gabriel later joined the Air Force as a band director. Before the war, he was in his high school band, and he always wanted to get back into music, he said. Music provided him comfort and kept his mind from dwelling too long on the memories of D-Day and other combat missions.

"The way I overcame my post-traumatic stress was to keep so busy that I had no time to look back," he said before the ceremony.

Shortly after the war, he said, a lieutenant gave him the advice about keeping busy. It came at a time when he was struggling to deal with his thoughts of what happened that fateful day, he added.

"It's OK to look back, but just don't stare," said Gabriel, who retired as an Air Force colonel after serving 36 years. "What great advice that was. By keeping busy, you don't

Efficiency

From Page 6

staff aren't the only organization becoming more mindful about fuel efficiency.

MacDill Air Force Base's fuel efficiency group was created to help MacDill Airmen concentrate their efforts and help the command achieve its fuel efficiency goals. The group is composed of maintainers, reservists, pilots, schedulers and boom operators.

"The group's mission is to focus the attention of everyone at MacDill on maintaining our currency and training, and to maintain our warfighting capability, but doing it efficiently as possible and safely," said David Nelson, 6th Air Mobility lead air operations specialist and fuel efficiencv officer. "The team places emphasis on total force integration, and using the knowledge and skillset from each department. They identify an issue, examine options, discuss needs versus wants, and the feasibility of the option."

The group also discusses fuel efficiency efforts and initiatives during training days to ensure Airmen understand the importance of fuel efficiency and its impact on other aspects of the mission.

"Fuel efficiency is extremely important because a tremen-

to fuel costs. A slight change system/automatic dependent can have a huge benefit, and surveillance-broadcast technoleven greater impact if institut- ogv. ed across the entire Air Force and AMC. Nelson said. "This is why when we created the Fuel Efficiency Working Group, we ciency, while reducing costs and included everyone involved - decreasing harmful effects on from operations, maintenance and Reserve. Having TFI in- the command's EFB initiative volvement formulates ideas and solutions, not only for fuel efficiency, but hour efficiencies."

The group's efforts were recognized when the 6th AMW garnered the overall 2016 Mobility Air Forces Fuel Efficiency Award.

MacDill isn't the only AMC unit to develop and implement efficiency and mission effectiveness.

In March, the final KC-10 Extender equipped with the new communication, navigation, surveillance/air traffic management system modifications was flown home to Travis Air Force Base, California. The achievement, which marked the culmination of a six-year project, involved Airmen from Travis and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, working with industry partners to integrate and test the system.

Additionally, in January all AMC wings were approved to use electronic flight bags. In April as part of the EFB initiative, AMC aircrews were apdous amount of our budget goes proved to use global positioning

Both CNS/ATM and GPS/ ADS-B enhances safety, situational awareness and fuel effithe environment. For example, saves the Air Force nearly \$3.8 million per year.

C-17 aircrews at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, are currently evaluating an application that calculates the optimal altitude and airspeed to fly, based on atmospheric conditions. The Pilots Performance Advisory System application has the poteninnovative ways to improve fuel tial to improve fuel efficiency on many missions worldwide, and the results of their evaluation will assist AMC in determining whether to field the app for the

entire fleet. "The Air Force's vision of mission assurance through energy assurance is ultimately about innovative and conscientious Airmen working together to do everything they can dayin and day-out to improve effectiveness," Zabala said. "As the largest consumer of aviation fuel in the DoD and the great number of missions the MAF executes worldwide, AMC and its Airmen have the greatest effect on more efficiently utilizing this precious resource. We are motivated about sharing the great work our Total Force Airmen have done to improve effectiveness through efficiency. We are always looking for better ways to efficiently accomplish the mobility mission."



Cancer

From Page 5

treated with chemotherapy and they could cure him.

kids," he said.

voung daughters. "I just told them, 'I get to

and I'm not going to be working because I'm sick. I probably don't look sick, but I am. Don't worry about me, we get to be together more," he said.

therapy.

his body through a port placed in his chest.

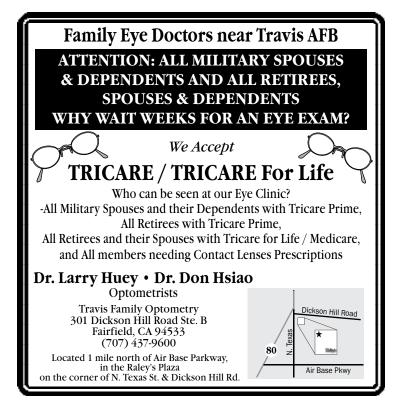
going to be over."

tion of his condition. "I was lying in bed, scratch-

a hand full of hair."

deed a cancer patient.

big deal."



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His doctors reassured him that because the cancer was caught so early, it could be radiation. They were confident

"At that point, I thought, it's in their hands ... I just have to be a good sport and deal with it. I have to be positive for my

Broadbent did his best to explain his illness to his two

spend more time with you guys

In June 2015, Broadbent began his first round of chemo-

He described his chemotherapy treatment as "just like going into work." He'd arrive around 8 a.m. and sit there until 4 p.m., all while seven different medications were pumped into

"I just kind of sat there on the verge of sleeping all day," he said. "I brought a book, never read it. I brought some music, never listened to it. I just sat there thinking, 'When is this

Three weeks after his initial chemotherapy treatment Broadbent awoke to the realiza-

ing my head and looked down and there's hair in my hand," said Broadbent. "I could pick it up like I was picking up dust ...

It was his turning point. The moment he realized he was in-

"My daughter came home after I decided to shave it all off and she just broke down," he said. "When people think of cancer patients, this is what they envision. Bald. No hair. This was the point for me where I was like, 'Wow this is a

Bonded by cancer

Over the next several months, Broadbent endured three more rounds of chemo-



Courtesy photo Staff Sgt. Oliver Broadbent, 22nd Airlift Squadron loadmaster, undergoes chemotherapy treatment in David Grant USAF Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

radiation therapy. The treatments ravaged his body.

But during this time, Broadbent formed a friendship – one he called his "most important relationship."

Sitting next to each other while receiving treatment was then Capt. Matthew Bartomeo, a C-5 pilot from the 22nd Airlift Squadron, a fellow aircrew member who had been diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

"We talked the whole time," said Broadbent. "He said, 'Don't call me captain, I'm Matt and I'm here for you.' One of the things he did was just text me. There was never any obligation to text back, he just would let me know he was there if I needed to talk.

"I think I realize more and more every day that was my most important relationship during chemo," said Broadbent. "He was the only one who could relate to me. Matt was a flyer, he was Air Force, we had a similar cancer and the same doctor."

Undergoing treatment was often an isolating experience. Broadbent said. But the bond formed between these two Airmen made an impact on his recoverv

"Looking back, if I didn't have Matt I think I would have felt pretty lonely," he said. "It was really good to have someone, a real person, who can retherapy before moving onto late to you on so much."

Cancer free

After six months of chemotherapy and radiation treatment, Broadbent was pronounced cancer free by his doctors.

"It was a huge relief. I kind of expected it to be like a movie where the doctor is like, 'Congratulations, you are cancer free' but it wasn't," he said with a laugh. "It was more like, 'Your scan was clear and we are going to have a follow up in six months."

While in remission, Broadbent had vet to experience his "hardest moment."

"I'd say after everything was over was my hardest moment," he said. "Coming back to normal life. I was trying to sort out my whole life because it just stopped. Everything that was a normal, daily thing had changed."

The young loadmaster said he went from "zero to 100" to put back the pieces of the life he had once known.

"For the last six months all I had known was cancer," he said. "Not the airplane, not (Enlisted Performance Reports), not this or that thing in the Air Force ... just cancer. That was all I had talked about and known. I just felt like I was talking about cancer a lot and that was a hard thing not to do."

Although cleared to return to duty, it took an additional nine months before Broadbent could return to flying status a passage that provided him a fresh perspective on his career.

"Once I returned to flying, I was ready to go," Broadbent said. "It put a new perspective on flying. I wanted any mission, it didn't matter. I was just happy to be there, pushing pallets and flying.

His journey would eventually culminate earlier this year. On April 12, Broadbent flew with now Maj. Bartomeo during his first flight back since his battle with cancer.

"It was like everything had come full circle," he said. "We still stay in touch.'

Broadbent said to those enduring their fight with cancer, "Talk about it."

"Whether it's a counselor, a friend or family member, tell your story," he said. "People want to hear. Everyone is different, but be open to people being there for you."

CSAF

From Page 4

force to submit insights into challenges along with recommended solutions.

Travis represents Air Mobility Command, and was chosen as the best representation of AMC as well as a representation of the total force. The 60th Air Mobility Wing maintains a work force of approximately 7,000 activeduty military and 3,000 civilian personnel, including personnel from the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security and Department of Veterans Affairs. In addition, more than the 349th AMW combine with their active duty and civilian at philip.rentz@us.af.mil.

counterparts to form a fully integrated total force team.

"Team Travis is fortunate to have been selected to participate in an effort that will have a major impact on our Airmen and the Air Force as a whole," said Chief Master Sgt. Steve Nichols, 60th AMW command chief. "We're looking forward to contributing our feedback and ideas to the Chief of Staff's initiative and helping improve and equip our squadrons even more in the future."

Airmen and spouses who are not able to attend the sessions but are interested in having their voices heard are encouraged to visit https:// www.milsuite.mil/revitalize to share constructive input 3.000 reservists assigned to and ideas. For more information, email Mai, Philip Rentz





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Councils

From Page 3

"Several of our discussions have addressed crew member manning. It takes approximately two years to develop a C-5 flight engineer, so retention is a major focus point in our community. Our council was able to highlight recent engineer attrition as a potential critical manning problem, and as a result, we have had a forum for coordination with our counterparts at Dover AFB, Delaware to ensure active-duty flight engineer manning is sustained."

Lt. Col. Chad Harris, 21st Airlift Squadron director of operations, addressed a similar issue with the C-17 community.

"Many of our pilots will leave to train the next generation of pilots or fill fighter positions," said Harris. "This often leads to less-experienced pilots in the squadron to perform the mission and train the next generation in the 21st AS. You can only do that for so long."

Harris said he shared this manning concern with AMC's MAF Council in the winter of 2016 and things have improved.

The 21st AS also developed a tracking system to monitor pilot training, qualifications and performance. This system helps the unit identify officers who are good candidates for numerous assignments while ensuring

the squadron can perform its mission.

"The squadron is the root in the war machine, it's where innovation happens, ideas come from and where most of the work is done," said Harris. "I get to walk around the squadron every day and talk to our people, hear their concerns and raise those concerns, if necessary, to the Air Force level."

In 2016, the 21st AS flew the most hours of any C-17 squadron in the Air Force, accumulating nearly 8,600 flying hours supporting missions on six continents. Ensuring that mission continues is vital, said Harris.

"We have a specific mission and we need to make sure we can do that mission today, but my focus is also on ensuring we can do that mission three to five years from now," he said.

Maj. Ryan McAdams, chief of the 60th Air Mobility Wing Command Post, as well as a KC-10 pilot and a member of the KC-10 MAF Council, said flight engineer manning is just one issue that has seen immense improvement as a result of the councils.

"For several years KC-10 flight engineer manning was between 80 and 85 percent," said McAdams. "Now, activeduty manning is averaging 95 percent and projected to improve."

The Travis KC-10 fleet flew 1,953 sorties from the Travis strategic direction."

flightline, offloading more than 170 million pounds of fuel in 2016. With such a large workload, training is an important topic and one that's often discussed in MAF Council meetings, said McAdams.

Ensuring aircrew members are fully trained, qualified and proficient is vital to mission success, he added, while providing an example of what could happen if KC-10 boom operators weren't proficient in their qualifications

"If our boom operators aren't proficient and they load an aircraft improperly, the cargo could move inflight causing a shift in the center of gravity," he said. "That could cause an aircraft to crash or someone to get seriously injured or killed."

"With the MAF Council we have an effect on a weapons system level," said McAdams. "I get to affect change for the entire KC-10 enterprise. When we make decisions, we're affecting many things."

And decisions are not an accident. said Harris.

"When we decide how many maintainers we need, how many flight engineers we need or anything, nothing is an accident, it's all thought out and in some cases, several years in advance," he said. "The MAF Councils serve as the strategic direction we need to go and every decision made is directly related to that

Voytek From Page 2

surrounding one of my parents. At first, it was family contacting me concerning past-due financial obligations. Unfortunately, upon further investigation, it was only the top of an immense iceberg of growing issues with deep roots that it was overwhelming where to start. From health and diet, to financial mismanagement and debt, to subpar living conditions, it was beyond any common sense approach and required urgent priorities, plans and action to take place. ry alone.

Tuck

From Page 4

director, he was responsible for directing the deployment of forces and distribution of supplies and equipment for humanitarian, peacetime and wartime operations for the Department of Defense.

Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II. Air Mobility Command commander, said Tuck is the right Airman at the right place at the right time.

"He's an exceptional leader and aviator who knows the excellence and success."

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Remember this. Your life is an ever-evolving script and the choices you make affect you and others in your story. When lost, confused or you just don't know something, find the courage to reach out. From that wisdom, you are then able to help others when they are stuck because you chose to not write your sto-

business from the tactical to the strategic," Everhart said. "We need him at the controls of a critically important mission with global requirements and impact. He is the right leader for the job."

Tuck promised the Airmen of 18th Air Force he would give them his very best.

"I'm going to give you evervthing I've got and leave nothing on the table," he said. "We're going to look at every opportunity that's laid before us and every challenge that we have and turn them into

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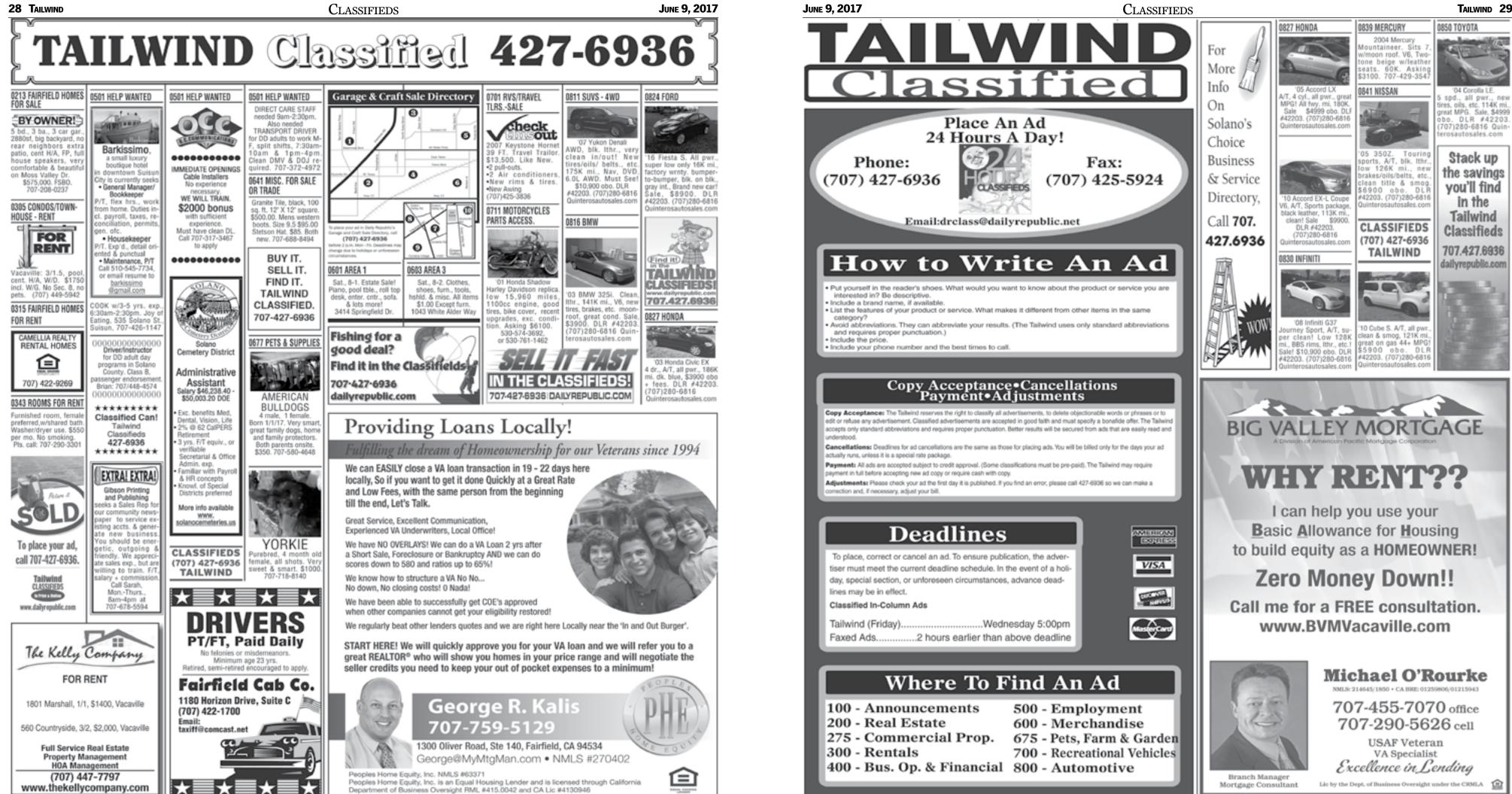
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1) Secretary of State Rex **Tillerson shakes** hands with Col. Corwin Pauly, 60th **Air Mobility** Wing vice commander during a gas and go June 2 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Tillerson stopped at **Travis before** heading to Sydney, Australia, to attend the Australia-**United States** Ministerial Consultations

Travis gets visit from Secretary of State ...

2) Secretary of State Rex Tillerson arrives June 2 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., during a gas and go. 3) Tillerson signs the guest book in the distinguished visitors lounge June 2 at Travis. U.S. Air Force photos by Louis Briscese











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