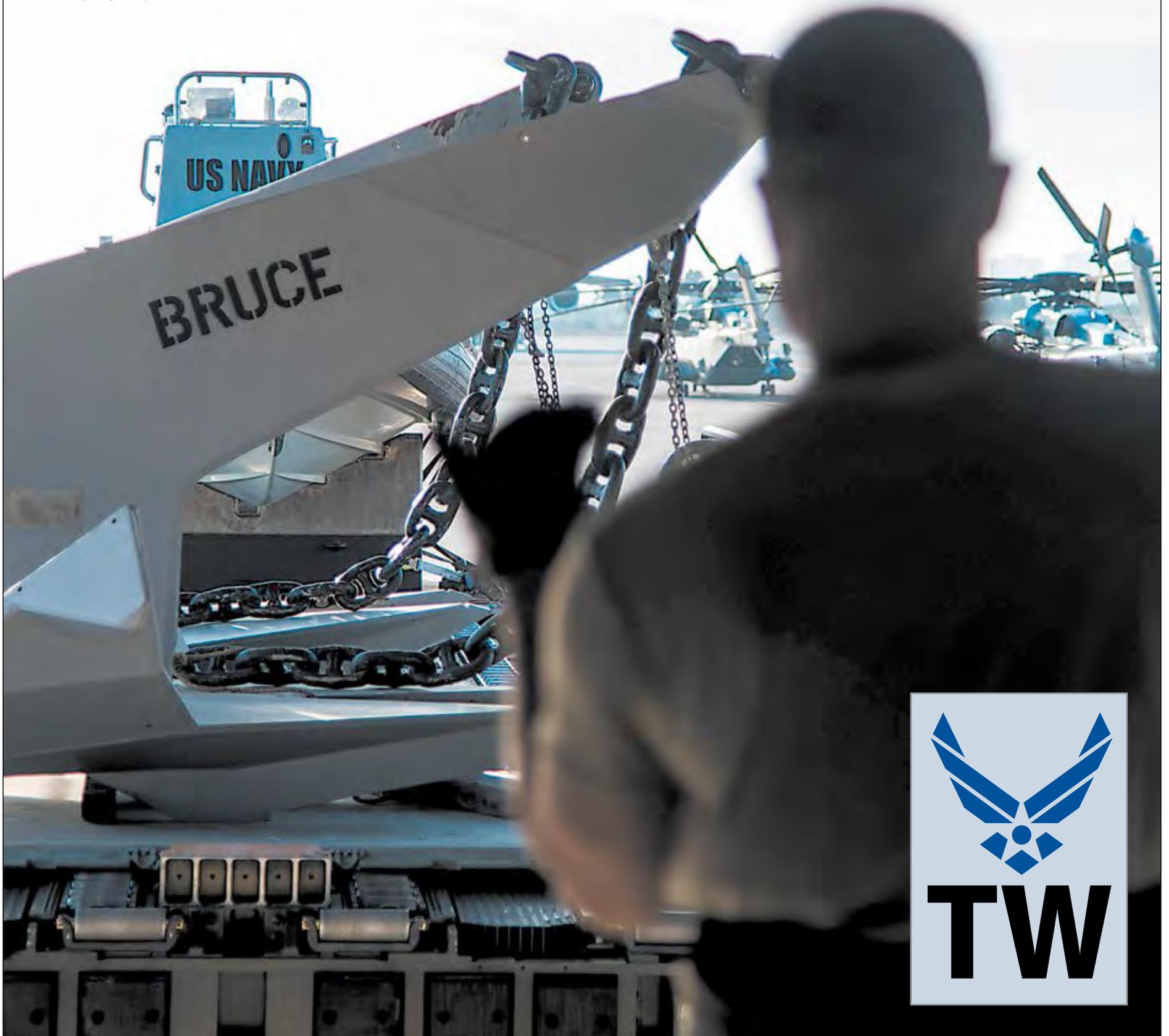


ARGENTINA

Travis enables Navy search for sub in ...

PAGES 16-17



Base heads into holidays after busy year

JOINT BASE MC-GUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, N.J. — In July of this year, I became the command chief master sgt. for the 621st Contingency Response Wing. After five months, I am still in awe of the capabilities, rapid response and resilience of our people.



Commentary by Chief Master Sgt. David M. Abell

621ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING

teams and respond to multiple crises. If this past hurricane season has taught me anything, it is that we are an unstoppable unified team.

During the past three months, the 621st CRW has sent more than 200 Devil Raiders to various locations across Arizona, Texas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois and the Caribbean to help with recovery efforts following some of the worst hurricanes we have ever witnessed.

When the initial call came down, telling both wings to begin preparing for deployment, I was

Chief's Commentary

in California and witnessed Team Travis and the CRW Airmen spring into action. Within a matter of hours, load plans were being developed, aircraft were being staged and mission planning was underway to ensure rapid mobility when the time came. Because of this teamwork the 621st CRW was poised to establish command and control, assess airfield integrity, offload numerous aircraft and handle a myriad of additional ad-hoc contingency tasks. The quick response of the CRW and Travis AFB Airmen allowed humanitarian

aid from numerous organizations to reach those in desperate need. Since disaster relief and humanitarian response efforts have started, countless aircraft have landed and thousands of tons of cargo has been delivered, all thanks to the hard work and teamwork of our Airmen.

This hurricane season showcased our ability to not only work as a team, but proved our dedication to being good wingmen. As good wingmen, we have to make sure we carry this over from hurricane season into the holiday season. For most people, this is a time of year for celebration and family time. However, there are many

of your fellow Airmen who may find this time of year difficult. They may have family members deployed, are dealing with the loss of a loved one or are away from home for the first time. Whatever the situation may be, we as teammates and wingmen have to be vigilant and watch out for signs of distress. Remember that it's better to ask, care and escort, than it is to assume, neglect and excuse. Every Airman is the most important Airman in the Air Force. Please take care of one another and help to make this a season of celebration for everyone. From all the leadership of the 621st CRW, thank you for all you do.

Weeklong course teaches how to look Honor Guard

Commentary by Airman Nicolas Z. Erwin
28TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Enlisted Commentary

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE, S.D. — If given the opportunity to get a crash course in your favorite subject, but only in a week, would you take it?

I did. My passion is the military, whether it is history or drill movements. I love everything the military represents.

The United States Air Force Honor Guard flew out to visit professionals stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, and to train them in rendering honors for both the flag and to

those service members who have passed on. I was luckily one of those people immersed in this hands-on experience.

Most Airmen remember basic military training and those people with the tendency to march awkwardly. I was one of those people who still do from time to time. The Air Force Honor Guard team instructed us on how to crisply showcase our movements, making them picturesque. It was a resurrection of a forgotten art, rather than a refresher course.

To the other participants of this honor guard training class, doing facing movements seemed natural and easy. I struggled. I wasn't on the same level as the other 11 in the group, but they never ceased to support me. What I came to realize was that I was with people who I have grown to respect as some of the best Airmen I have met.

The instructors of this elite class set us against each other with a drill off, a competition focusing on precise and accurate facing movements. My pride and ego was on the line. The instructors commanded "fall out" when mistakes were made, and in the course of ten commands, only four remained standing.

Fear gripped me. Sweat covered me. I reacted with the most stoic and professional demeanor I could muster. In two fell swoops it happened. Someone grimaced and another did not respond fast enough. I was standing alone, having won a competition against the best of the best of the Ellsworth Air Force Base Honor Guard.

I felt like the cream of the crop. But, the crop was quickly obliterated in a barrage of bullets when we moved on to the firing party instructions.

I charged an M14 rifle more times than most people, myself included, can

See ERWIN Page 26

Travis, Twitter team up



Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad
@Travis60AMW • Nov. 22

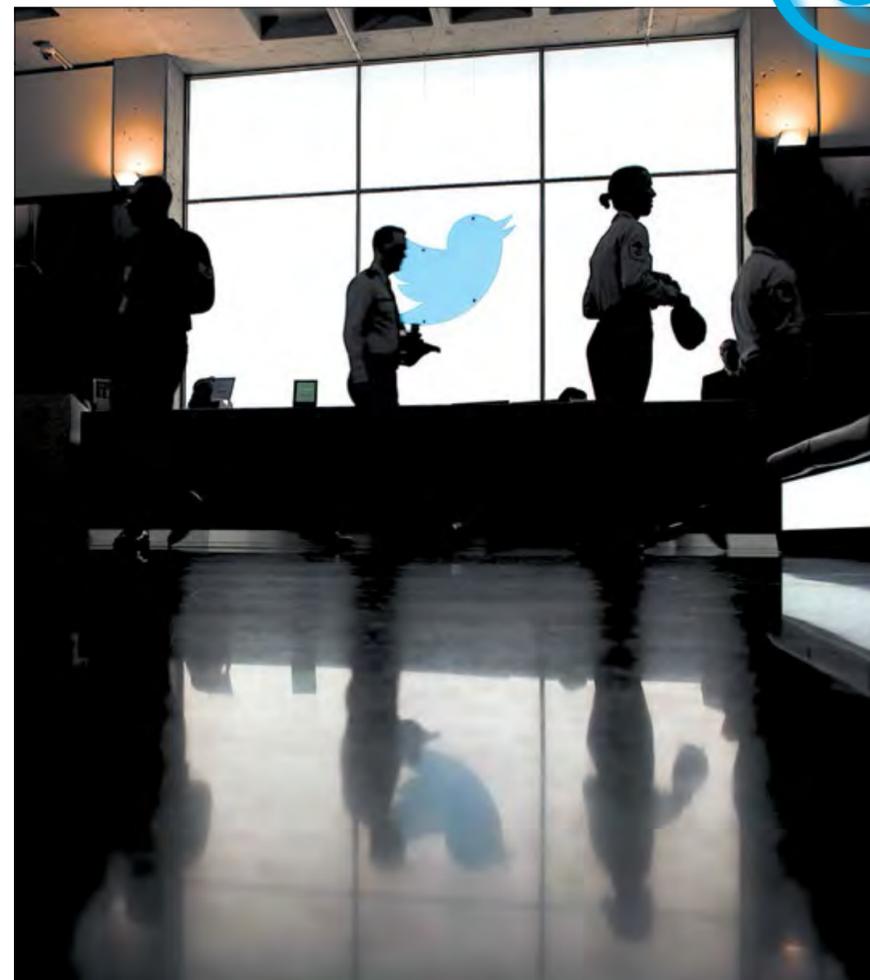
Members of both the U.S. Air Force and Twitter met at Twitter Headquarters Nov. 9 in San Francisco, California to exchange professional development ideas and management strategies to improve and modernize both organizations.

Hosting two respective one and a half hour seminars, both the Air Force and Twitter taught each other strategies employed by their separate organizations in an effort to foster cooperation as well as maximize each other's workplace competencies.

During their seminar, Twitter outlined the importance of the principles of intersectionality and diversity had in interacting with others in the workplace. The seminar also covered what it meant to acknowledge the differences between us and how to utilize those differences to our best advantage while also bringing us together through shared interests and qualities.

The Air Force's seminar included a lesson on leading and understanding different temperaments also known as "Leading the Four Lenses." Splitting the Twitter workforce into different colors representing their own, unique personality types, Senior Master Sgt. Scott Piper, 60th Air Mobility Wing career assistance advisor, asked the Twitter employees, or "tweeps," to brainstorm qualities their specific color had in respect to their preferred work environments. Using this information, Piper

See TWITTER Page 21



U.S. Airmen from Travis Air Force Base Calif., depart Twitter headquarters Nov. 9 after a professional development workshop in San Francisco, Calif.

U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Joey Swafford

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif.
60th Air Mobility Wing

Air Force
Col. John Klein
60th Air Mobility Wing commander

2nd Lt. Jessica Ward
Chief of command information

Airman 1st Class Jonathon D. A. Carnell
Internal information staff writer

Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad
Internal information staff writer

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Visit the Travis public web site at <http://www.travis.af.mil>. Read the Tailwind online at <http://tailwind.dailyrepublic.net> or by accessing the Travis SharePoint.

Table of contents

Commentaries	2
The Flip Side	15/18
Cover story	16-17
Worship services	20-21
Classifieds	27-29
Parting Shots	30

On the cover

Senior Airman Justin Han, 22nd Airlift Squadron loadmaster, loads U.S. Navy undersea rescue equipment onto a C-5M Super Galaxy aircraft Nov. 18 at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jonathon D. A. Carnell

Name:	Staff Sgt. LaShunda Davis.	Family:	Fiancé, Da'Chele.
Unit:	60th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron.	Time in service:	Five years.
Duty title:	Pharmacy phase II course supervisor.	What are your goals?	Wedding in 2018 and Bachelor of Science in accounting in 2019.
		What are your hobbies?	Shopping and traveling.
		What is your greatest achievement?	Joining the United States Air Force.

Travis hosts bevy of distinguished visitors

Louis Briscese

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

While every installation hosts distinguished visitors, Travis Air Force Base, California, has become a hub for many DVs traveling to the Pacific. Whether it's a cabinet secretary, politician or military leader, Travis has recently seen them all.

In the last six months, Travis has hosted Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Air Force Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, Air Mobility Command commander, U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Giovanni Tuck, 18th Air Force commander, a host of congressional delegations and other significant dignitaries.

There's a variety of reasons for the high number of visits to Travis according to 1st Lt. Christy Martin, 60th Air Mobility Wing chief of protocol.

"Travis is the gateway to the Pacific," said Martin. "Right now at least 40-50 percent of our mission is handling distinguished visitor visits. World events over in the Pacific have facilitated the influx of visits."

These visits provided wing leadership an opportunity to highlight areas of accomplishment and concern to those individuals who can make a difference.

"When distinguished visitors come to Travis, it gives us a special opportunity to talk about Airmen, Team, Pride and Mission," said Martin. "We can give Congressmen, and senior military leaders a snapshot of what we're doing as a real Air Force."

Each visit provides Travis a chance to make a lasting impression on those who are seeing it for the first time.

"Our expectation for these distinguished visitor visits is to treat them as good as we treat our Airmen," said



U.S. Air Force photos/Louis Briscese

Former airline pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger III meets with Airmen May 4 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

Martin. "Normally, there's not much time to highlight everything we do here at Travis, so making an impression is important."

Putting these visits on isn't easy and takes a lot of moving pieces to ensure their success, according to Staff Sgt. Alexandria Estwick, 60th Air Mobility Wing protocol specialist.

"It takes a lot of interactions with other organizations on base to make these visits successful," said Estwick. "We have contingencies. For example, if the aircraft breaks down, we need to have lodging reserved just in case."

The focus of every organization involved is to ensure the distinguished visitor has everything they need during their stay.

"We work extremely hard

to accommodate the needs of the distinguished visitor," said Estwick. "Whether it's something particular they want to see, communications or a dietary need, it's important we go out of our way to oblige them."

It is also important to get as much information about the distinguished visitor and find out what their interests are.

"We try to look at the interests for the distinguished visitors to help focus what we want to brief or show them," said Martin. "If a governor is coming through and they're interested in health care, we may highlight David Grant USAF Medical Center or the partnership we have with the Veterans Affairs."

This is particularly important since Travis is one of the preferred locations for the



Ed Markey, U.S. senator from Massachusetts, talks with U.S. Air Force Col. Matthew Leard, 60th Air Mobility Wing vice commander, Aug. 16 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., during a gas and go.

next active-duty-led KC-46A Pegasus. Funding for construction and other support needs will be a topic that leadership can convey.

"It's a win-win for both the

distinguished visitor and Travis," said Estwick. "These military leaders and government officials will be able to speak on our behalf."

See DV Page 25

BHOP provides care to Travis

60th Medical Group

It is common for military members to experience stress that can compromise life at work and at home. Family members also can experience a decline in functioning as they deal with the stress that comes from supporting a loved one who is serving our country.

The Air Force recognizes the need to provide comprehensive resources to help support active duty members, dependents and retirees who may be experiencing situations that impact their social and work lives. One of these resources is the Behavioral Health Optimization Program.

BHOP became the first stop for all behavioral health care Sept. 6 for TRICARE beneficiaries ages 18 and older at Travis Air Force Base, California.

BHOP integrates psychologists, clinical social workers and psychiatric nurses into primary care clinics. The role of these professionals is to consult with primary care managers on patients' medical and mental health conditions, such as job stress, family conflict or grief or chronic medical conditions such as pain, insomnia or diabetes. They also help with behavioral changes patients want to make such as to quit smoking or to start an exercise program.

This shift in accessing mental health care through primary care clinics is the result of year-long pilot study that showed 90 percent of patients can get the treatment they need in primary care, decreasing the mental health stigma and increasing patient satisfaction.

Treatment is typically limited to four sessions and

See BHOP Page 21

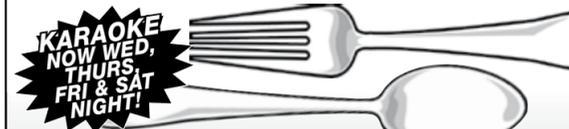
Travis has hand in delivering buses to Haiti



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

U.S. Airmen from the 60th Aerial Port Squadron load buses onto a C-5M Super Galaxy Nov. 20 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The buses are being airlifted to Port Au Prince, Haiti, through the Denton Program and are part of a humanitarian effort by Those Angels, Inc. founder and Haitian native Claude Joseph. The Denton Amendment is a commodities transportation program that allows for the transport of humanitarian goods on a space available basis using U.S. military transportation and is jointly administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of State, and the Department of Defense. After visiting Haiti in 2014, Joseph realized the area's educational and transportation needs and created the nonprofit based in Oakland, Calif., to help meet those needs. The seven buses were donated by the Sacramento City Unified School District and will benefit more than 300 Haitian students.

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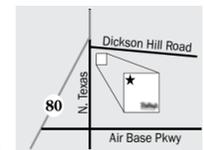
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Guard, Reserve defenders bring experience to fight

Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.
386TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SOUTHWEST ASIA — The training and experience Air National Guard and Reserve law enforcement Airmen gain in their civilian and military careers help keep people safe from enemies foreign and domestic. Many of these security forces members, or defenders, bring the knowledge of both careers to make them more effective both at home and abroad.

Master Sgt. Christopher Scott, 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron operations noncommissioned officer in charge, is one of over 25 defenders currently deployed and attached to the squadron, with both a civilian and military law enforcement background.

“As far as being a civilian police officer, we get a lot of calls compared to military installation law enforcement,” said Scott. “I feel like that has better prepared me for those high intensity calls or situations. I can

curve that adrenaline and calmly think through the process.”

Scott has been an Oklahoma City police officer for 10 years, and his home unit is the 507th SFS, at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

The contact security forces Airmen have with civilians is limited and the majority of people they deal with are professional military members or retirees. However, law enforcement in the military is broader as far as what the job entails, especially in a deployed environment.

“As a civilian (police officer), I’m not worried about suicide bombers, asset protection, or security of an installation,” Scott said. “With security forces, we are responsible for a particular post or area and although we conduct a lot of security measures, a big portion of the job is waiting for something to happen.”

Tech. Sgt. Domenic Mash, 386th ESFS training NCOIC, has been a deputy sheriff with the Montgomery County Sheriff’s

See DEFENDERS Page 25



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.

From left to right, Senior Airman Joshua Suss, Tech. Sgt. Domenic Mash and Master Sgt. Christopher Scott, 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron Airmen, pose for a photo Nov. 7 in Southwest Asia.



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Charleston Airman fights for terminally ill son

2nd Lt. Alejandra Fontalvo
 JOINT BASE CHARLESTON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE CHARLESTON, S.C. — November, Military Family Month, as designated by the Department of Defense, is a time to thank those who support service members for sacrifices that come with serving our country. For one Joint Base Charleston family, having a terminally ill child has required even more sacrifice, teamwork and dedication.

Capt. Steven Braddick, 628th Air Base Wing Civil Engineer Squadron Weapons Station Engineering Element chief, was two years into his Air Force career when his now 16-year-old son, Nathan James Braddick, was born with 32 genetic duplications causing severe life-long health conditions.

"Nathan was born in Hawaii in January of 2001. Picture perfect pregnancy, no issues, he was 38 weeks and a day. My wife hit all of the milestones; everything was great and then

it all just went downhill really quickly," explained Braddick.

Shortly after birth, Nathan was diagnosed with a ventricle septal defect, also known as a hole in the heart, as well as a heart valve disorder. After open heart surgery, Braddick and his family thought the worst was behind them.

"They repaired the hole in his heart and the valve," said Braddick. "So at the time, we thought we were good. The heart is fixed, he's going to grow up to be a normal child. Later, we went to the 12-month post-op checkup and once again the floodgates opened."

Nathan was diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension, a serious condition which could ultimately lead to heart failure. When genetic testing technology advanced in 2010, he was officially diagnosed with MECP2 duplication syndrome.

"As Nathan grew, he started to get away from kids of his age group," said Braddick. "The doctors like to chart kids as a developmental line to see



U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Alejandra Fontalvo

Capt. Steven Braddick, left, explores his family's new camper trailer with his spouse, Renee, right, and their two children, Nicholas, 2, second from left, and Nathan, 16, Nov. 7 in Charleston, S.C. Nathan was selected to receive a gift from the Make-A-Wish Foundation due to his severe illness, MECP2 duplication syndrome.

if he was hitting all of his milestones. The difference between Nathan's abilities and where he was supposed to be just grew and grew."

The rare disorder is

characterized by severe intellectual disability, impaired motor function and for Nathan, it also meant over 80 hospitalizations for lung infections alone.

As a military family, the

Braddicks are no strangers to moving or deploying, but as a special needs family, the line between family and country becomes even more difficult to navigate.

"It does take a lot away from work," said Braddick. "You do have to make a choice; what's more important? Work or staying home and taking care of Nathan? Finding that balance is incredibly hard."

Throughout his 18-year career, Braddick has deployed five times, the most recent deployment being a 12-month tasking in Afghanistan as a civil engineering advisor.

"The deployments are really hard, because of having to take care of Nathan," said Braddick's wife Renee. "Actually, last time Steven was deployed he was brought back twice because Nathan was taken to the hospital in critical condition. The Air Force was very good about making sure we got him back so we could be in the hospital together. The Air Force

See FIGHTS Page 26

Travelers reminded of flat rate per diem

Ed Shannon
 AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION SUPPORT CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — Some Air Force travelers may not be aware of a flat rate per diem policy established a few years ago that focused on extended temporary duty travel.

Congress instituted the flat rate in November 2014. The new policy reduced per diem from 100 percent to 75 percent for TDYs from 31 to 180 days and to 50 percent for TDYs over 180 days.

Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center finance

officials encourage Air Force travelers whose temporary duty travel exceeds 30 days and their approving officials to be knowledgeable of the policy.

"We want to make sure Air Force travelers and approving officials understand the policy when creating travel authorizations and filing vouchers so that payments can be made timely and accurately," said Col. Burke Beaumont, deputy director of AFIMSC's Resource Management Directorate.

Flat rate per diem information is available at the Defense Travel Management Office website at <http://www.defense-travel.dod.mil>.



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AETC welcomes new leader



U.S. Air Force photo/Sean Worrell
Lt. Gen. Steven Kwast, Air Education and Training Command commander, addresses the members of the 1st Command during a change-of-command ceremony Nov. 16 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.

Staff Sgt. Chip Pons
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Members of Air Education and Training Command gathered as the guidon was passed from Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson to Lt. Gen. Steven Kwast, signifying the formal transfer of authority and responsibility in a ceremony Nov. 16 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein presided over the ceremony and shared his sincere appreciation for the men and women who recruit, train and educate every Airman in the Air Force.

“To the Airmen and families of the First Command, I want to thank you for making it known across the globe that airpower starts here in Air Education and Training Command,” said Goldfein. “I believe we have only one lasting legacy

See AETC Page 24

AFPAAS teams help AF families

Richard Salomon
AIR FORCE'S PERSONNEL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — When a natural disaster or real-world event impacts the Total Force, two branches at the Air Force's Personnel Center come together to provide comprehensive support: the Airman and Family Support Branch and the Personnel Readiness Branch.

Both branches sprang into action during 2017's vicious hurricane season says Angela Cottman, Airman and Family Support Branch Crisis Support Program manager.

“By following the live news coverage of recent hurricanes, we were able to target support to potential impact areas and help more Air Force personnel,” Cottman said.

Among her many duties, Cottman oversees Air Force Personnel Accountability and Assessment System training for more than 1,000 case managers at more than 80 Airman and Family Readiness Centers, various command headquarters, as well as Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve offices.

AFPAAS is a self-reporting tool that monitors the status and location of personnel and family members who may be affected by a catastrophic event that has potential for widespread injury or death.

“Even before the AFPAAS notifications went out for Hurricane Irma, people were looking for information on evacuation routes, shelter locations and transportation,” Cottman said. “Because Irma had the potential to impact both coasts of Florida, our team and members of the Personnel Readiness Branch wanted to be

See AFPAAS Page 24

Buddhist brings diversity to AF chaplain team

Senior Master Sgt. Timm Huffman
HEADQUARTERS INDIVIDUAL RESERVIST
READINESS AND INTEGRATION ORGANIZATION

BUCKLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Reserve 1st Lt. Brett Campbell became one of the Air Force's newest chaplains when he graduated chaplain school in September.

Campbell, an Individual Mobilization Augmentee at the 460th Space Wing chapel at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado, is the first, and only, Buddhist chaplain in the Air Force.

He said his life's goal is to help other people, which led him to military service.

The Iowa native, who was raised Catholic, discovered meditation and was introduced to Buddhism while at Iowa State University. He was attracted to the religion because it was more of a life philosophy and he was frustrated with the mainstream church culture and system that he said was so susceptible to corruption. After graduation, Campbell joined the Peace Corps and served in Mongolia where he began identifying as a Tibetan Buddhist.

Buddhism, Campbell explained, is about learning how our minds control how we



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jacob Deatherage
First Lt. Brett Campbell, Buddhist chaplain at the 460th Space Wing at Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., delivers remarks during a community gathering at the chapel. Campbell is an Individual Mobilization Augmentee and the first Buddhist chaplain in the Air Force.

relate to the world we live in, and then training our minds to do things that enable us to live more peaceful, relaxed lives.

“There is a spiritual aspect,” he said, “but I describe it in those terms because it's easier for people to understand.”

After returning to the U.S., he began graduate school at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado, and continued to pursue his new faith. He earned his masters of divinity in 2013 and was also ordained as a Buddhist upasaka,

translated devoted layman, by renowned Buddhist teacher Dzogchen Ponlop Rinpoche.

Campbell wanted to serve as a chaplain, especially in the military. He began pursuing both the Navy and Air Force chaplain programs and filled

the intervening years by serving in religious and teaching roles at several different hospitals, including the Denver Veterans Affairs hospital, where he taught meditation and loving-kindness classes on the post-traumatic stress disorder ward with fellow Buddhist Steve Burden.

“I was really impressed with Brett,” said Burden. “He has empathy, compassion and an ability to reach out to the younger guys.”

During this time, Campbell applied and was accepted into the Air Force Reserve chaplain candidate program.

According to Lt. Col. Amy Hunt, the Air Force Reserve chaplain recruiter, the Air Force Chaplain Candidate Program is an opportunity for seminary and other professional religious school students to evaluate their compatibility and potential for commissioning as Air Force chaplains. The focus is on experiencing ministry in the Air Force during summer training internships. Chaplain candidates draw on their background, education and experience to function as part of a chapel team. Upon entering the program,

See BUDDHIST Page 23

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**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

The U.S. Air Force invites you to review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and attend Public Hearings for the Proposed Beddown of KC-46A Tanker Aircraft for Main Operating Base #4

PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Air Force (Air Force), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review that analyzes the potential environmental consequences associated with the proposal to beddown the KC-46A Main Operating Base #4 (MOB 4) mission at one or more active duty installations in the continental United States. The MOB 4 beddown requires infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, and personnel.

The Air Force's Preferred Alternative is to beddown the MOB 4 mission with 24 KC-46A aircraft at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL), New Jersey; or Travis Air Force Base (AFB), California; or both. Fairchild AFB, Washington and Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota are reasonable alternatives for the MOB 4 beddown. Along with the No Action Alternative, all four installations and the option to beddown either 36 or 24 KC-46A aircraft for the MOB 4 mission are evaluated as alternatives in the Draft EIS. Depending on the installation, the KC-46A would either add to existing non-tanker missions or would replace the current active duty tanker mission.

OBTAIN AND REVIEW THE DRAFT EIS. The Draft EIS is available for for download at www.KC-46A-MOB4.com and may be viewed at the following libraries:

Fairchild AFB Area: Fairchild AFB Library, Spokane Public Library

Grand Forks AFB Area: Grand Forks AFB Library, Grand Forks Public Library

JB MDL Area: Burlington County Library, Pemberton Community Library, Ocean County Library- Manchester Branch

Travis AFB Area: Fairfield-Suisun Community Library, Suisun City Library, Mitchell Memorial Library, Vacaville Public Library

PUBLIC HEARINGS- PLEASE ATTEND. The Air Force requests comments from interested local, state, and federal agencies; federally recognized tribes; and interested members of the public. The Air Force is holding public hearings to provide the public with the opportunity to learn more about the proposal and provide input. The public hearing venues will open at 5 p.m. and begin with an "open house" style format and poster stations. At 5:30 p.m., the Air Force will give a brief presentation about the proposal. Formal public testimony will begin at approximately 6 p.m. The hearing venue will close at 8 p.m. All members of the public are invited and encouraged to attend. **Written and verbal comments will be accepted at all hearings; your input is valuable and assists the Air Force in making more informed decisions.** Dates and locations for each hearing are provided below:

Date	Installation	Location
November 28, 2017	Travis AFB	Northern Solano County Association of Realtors 3690 Hilborn Rd, Fairfield, CA 94534
November 30, 2017	Grand Forks AFB	Alerus Center, Hawk Meeting Room 1200 S 42nd St, Grand Forks, ND 58201
December 5, 2017	JB MDL	North Hanover Township Municipal Building 41 Schoolhouse Road, Jacobstown, NJ
December 7, 2017	Fairchild AFB	Shriners Event Center 7217 W Westbow Blvd, Spokane, WA

PUBLIC COMMENT. Comments on the Draft EIS can be submitted electronically at www.KC-46A-MOB4.com; verbally or in writing at the public hearings; or via postal mail at the address below. For further information, please contact:

Capt Matthew Smith, AFCEC/CZN
Attn: KC-46A MOB 4 EIS
2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155; JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853

To ensure the Air Force has sufficient time to consider public input in preparation of the Final EIS, please submit comments by December 18, 2017.

AFGSC wraps up innovation, technology symposium

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson speaks at the 2017 Air Force Global Strike Command Innovation and Technology Symposium Nov. 15 at the Shreveport Convention Center in Shreveport, La.

Courtesy photo



Carla Pampe
AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SHREVEPORT, La. — The 2017 Air Force Global Strike Command Innovation and Technology Symposium concluded Nov. 16 at the Shreveport Convention Center with a focus on leadership and the Airmen who make the mission happen.

Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Patrick Alston, former U.S. Strategic Command command senior enlisted leader, kicked off the day talking about the importance of leadership and getting to know the people you are leading.

"The only reason why we enjoy the freedoms we enjoy in our great nation is because of you," he said. "You are

leaders, and leadership is the ability of someone to influence someone else to accomplish a mission, but you have to understand who it is you're trying to influence."

Part of that is learning how the younger generations operate, and how they communicate, Alston said.

"Your credibility lies with your ability to keep up with the change in times," he said. "You have to be well versed on what's going on, and if you're not mindful that the next generation is going to replace us, you're going to fail. A leader is someone who is able to adapt."

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Tapia, former Air Education and Training Command command chief master

See AFGSC Page 22

Keesler plan seeks to create lifelong learners

Tech. Sgt. Ryan Crane
81ST TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — Keesler Air Force Base's 336th Training Squadron has begun developing multiple initiatives aimed at improving the learning experiences of Airmen who are fresh out of basic military training.

Air Education and Training Command's Continuum of Learning initiative is a shift to better focus how Airmen learn by integrating education, training and experience in ways that allow them to learn anytime, anywhere throughout their careers. The end goal of the continuum is to create a culture of life-long learners.

"What this does, is transform our industrial-age pipeline production system into a modern-age, learner-centric model," said Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, AETC commander.

According to Rick Harmon, 336th TRS communications & information flight chief, the squadron is laying the foundation for innovative ways of conducting modulated training that is current and relative at any stage in their career.

The first initiative the 336th TRS is tackling is to realign career development

course writers with the training development element. This means the CDC writers will now work directly with their career fields and the three-level courses to bridge the gap between what Airmen in the field are actually doing and what the instructors are teaching at tech school.

"This initial step is an essential building block in the process of the Continuum of Learning," said Harmon. "This will have long-reaching impacts for a career Airman's training at all skill levels and will create a culture of life-long learning."

The previous method the Air Force used to develop this training was centered on training specialists, said Harmon.

"The problem was it lacked an operational flavor to make it relevant and to keep pace with changing technical requirements," said Harmon. "Now with the CDC writers working hand-in-hand with the training specialists, we've partnered our top experts in the career fields with the masters of delivering education, enabling them to see and capitalize on opportunities for the betterment of training quality."

Lt. Col. Daniel Schmitt, 336th TRS commander,

See LEARNERS Page 23

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U.S. Air Force photo/Richard Eldridge

Dallas McDonald, Air Force Research Laboratory-Carroll High School iGEM team member, prepares a gel for DNA analysis during the laboratory phase of the team's project prior to the iGEM competition in Boston.

AFRL-backed high school team honored

Gina Marie Giardina

711TH HUMAN PERFORMANCE WING

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — A Carroll High School academic team, mentored by CHS teachers and Air Force Research Laboratory scientists, earned a gold medal Nov. 9-13 at the 2017 International Genetically Engineered Machine competition in Boston.

This team, whose Twitter handle is @iGEMLabPats, presented its project titled "Engineered Microbes to Sense and Respond to Enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli," which examined this most common form of traveler's diarrhea that affects thousands of deployed warfighters.

"This research aligns seamlessly with the tri-service (Army, Navy and Air Force) Synthetic Biology for Military Environments initiative that many researchers within AFRL are involved with," explained Dr. Michael Goodson, an iGEM mentor and research scientist with AFRL's 711th Human Performance Wing. "The most prevalent disease affecting our deployed service members is traveler's diarrhea. The biological machine that our iGEM team designed would detect

the traveler's-diarrhea-caused bacteria ETEC and indicate its presence by glowing green. It could be put into water sources and even within the gastrointestinal tract to give an early warning of ETEC infection."

The Office of the Secretary of Defense sponsored this team under the Applied Research for the Advancement of Science and Technology Priorities program in Synthetic Biology for Military Environments.

"Synthetic biology is an emerging area of research that can be broadly described as the design and construction of novel artificial biological pathways, organisms or devices, or the re-design of existing natural biological systems," according to the United Kingdom Royal Society. A common example of a microorganism that can be introduced into the body is a probiotic, which consists of live bacteria and yeasts that benefit the digestive system.

The team competed with 337 teams from around the world, and was one of 47 high school teams. It was the only team from Ohio, and was one of two teams from the United States to earn gold.

"This is the first year OSD and AFRL sponsored an iGEM

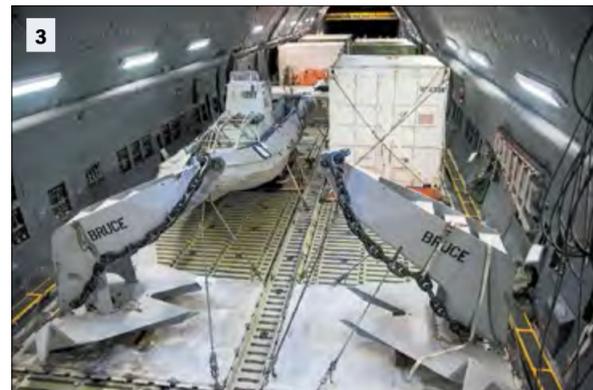
See AFRL Page 22



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Joey Swafford

Travis aids in search

AMC teams up with Navy to find missing Argentine submarine

Senior Master Sgt. April Lapetoda
AIR MOBILITY COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Two C-17 Globemaster IIIs and a C-5M Super Galaxy flew Nov. 18 to Argentina to deliver the U.S. Navy's undersea rescue capabilities to aid in the search for the A.R.A. San Juan, an Argentine navy submarine, which went missing Nov. 15 in the southern Atlantic.

Air Mobility Command deployed six C-17 Globemaster IIIs and three C-5M Super Galaxies, said Oliver Winter, 618th Air Operations Center Operational Analysis Division project manager. Those aircraft flew 17 sorties, unloaded 76 Sailors assigned to the Undersea Rescue Command, and 764,000 pounds of equipment.

One of the C-5s, assigned to the 60th Air Mobility Wing at Travis AFB, California, flew to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, California. From there, they transported the first rescue system, the Submarine Rescue Chamber and underwater intervention Remotely Operated Vehicle to Comodoro Rivadavia, Argentina, Nov. 19.

Mobility Airmen launched a C-17, assigned to the 437th Airlift Wing at Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, carrying a tow bar, a Tunner 60K Aircraft Cargo Loader and three members of the 437th Aerial Port Squadron Nov. 18. While on the ground in Argentina, the team conducted runway assessments prior to other equipment arriving in country.

The second rescue system, the Pressurized Rescue Module and supporting equipment, was scheduled to arrive Nov. 20 in Argentina.

"Helping others is in Air Mobility Command's DNA," said Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, AMC commander. "Our Airmen recognize the critical nature of the mission and as requirements expanded we moved to expedite delivery of increased capability to the U.S. Navy and our Argentine friends."

"The U.S. Air Force takes pride in always being ready and always there to assist those in need," said Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, Air Mobility Command commander. "Moments matter and the AMC team is committed to providing support to our Argentinian partners and friends."

In addition to the aircraft listed above the 436th Airlift Wing at Dover AFB, Delaware, the 62nd Airlift Wing at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, and the 176th Wing at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, deployed aircraft to support in the effort as well. Additional missions are planned to continue to provide needed equipment, to include Sonar.

The SRC is a McCann rescue chamber designed during World War II and is still used today. SRC can rescue up to six people at a time and reach a bottomed submarine at depths of 850 feet. The PRM can submerge up to 2,000 feet for docking and mating with a submarine settled on the ocean floor up to 45-degree angle in both pitch and roll. The PRM can rescue up to 16 personnel at a time.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm



U.S. Navy photo/Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ronald Gutridge

1) A C-5M Super Galaxy aircraft from the 22nd Airlift Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., is loaded with U.S. Navy rescue equipment Nov. 18 at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. The equipment was delivered to Argentina and used to aid in the search for the Argentina navy submarine A.R.A. San Juan. 2) A C-5M from Travis is loaded with U.S. Navy rescue equipment Nov. 18 at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. Air Mobility Command aircraft delivered equipment and expertise to assist a partner nation. 3) A C-5M from Travis is loaded with U.S. Navy rescue equipment. 4) A C-5M Super Galaxy takes off Nov. 18 from Travis Air Force Base, Calif. 5) A C-5M is loaded with U.S. Navy rescue equipment Nov. 18 at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. 6) Undersea Rescue Command, based in San Diego, Calif., mobilized to support the ongoing search for the Argentine navy submarine A.R.A. San Juan Nov. 18 in the South Atlantic. URC worked with the U.S. Air Force to deploy two rescue assets, the Submarine Rescue Chamber and the Pressurized Rescue Module, from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., to Comodoro Rivadavia, Argentina.

Puzzles

STR8TS

No. 361 Easy

	9	7		1	5	4	
		5					
	7			4			
						2	
	4	3	1			9	8
					9		
	6						
			8	4	6		
1			8			6	4

Previous solution - Medium

5	6	8	9	7	3	2	4
9	6	7	8	5	4	3	
6	5	7	8	3	2	1	
7	8	9	2	1	3		
4	5	3	2	1	9	7	6
2	1	6	3	4	8	5	7
1	3	2	4	8	7	6	
7	4	5	6		8	9	
2	3	1	5	6	4	9	8

How to beat **Str8ts** – Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into **compartments**. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A **straight** is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5]. Clues in black cells remove that number as an option in that row and column, and are not part of any straight. Glance at the solution to see how 'straights' are formed.

SUDOKU

No. 361 Tough

5			7		1		
	1	9		6		7	
	2			3	6		
7	8		6		9		
		6		8	1	7	
	1	2				6	
	8	6			3	2	
4			1				8

Previous solution - Medium

1	5	9	7	2	4	8	3	6
7	2	6	8	5	3	9	4	1
4	8	3	9	6	1	2	7	5
3	4	7	1	9	2	5	6	8
2	6	8	3	7	5	1	9	4
9	1	5	4	8	6	3	2	7
5	3	1	2	4	7	6	8	9
8	7	2	6	1	9	4	5	3
6	9	4	5	3	8	7	1	2

To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely.

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

If you like Str8ts, Sudoku and other puzzles, check out our books, iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on our store at www.str8ts.com

News Notes

Flu shots available. Influenza season is rapidly approaching. Active duty members can annual get flu shots beginning Monday at the David Grant USAF Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, California. All other TRICARE beneficiaries can get immunized beginning Sept. 18. Flu shots are available in the Influenza Room, which is located on the first floor across from Internal Medicine. Flu shots are strongly recommended for high-risk populations, which includes children 5 years and younger, adults age 65 and older and pregnant women. For more information, call the Allergy and Immunization Clinic at 707-423-5107.

Operation Cookie Drop. The Travis Spouses Club will hold its annual Operation Cookie Drop from 7 a.m. to noon Dec. 6 at First Street Chapel. Cookies are brought to the Airmen living in the dorms.

Operation Homefront. 10 a.m. Dec. 7 at First Street Chapel. Travis families are provided a meal for the holidays.

Tree Lighting Ceremony. Travis will hold its annual ceremony at 5 p.m. Dec. 8 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. In the event of rain, the tree lighting ceremony will be held at the Base Theater.

CA Run for the Fallen. Takes place Dec. 8-10. A full breakdown with maps and more information is available at www.carunforthefallen.org/the-run.html.

Free Christmas Eve Dinner. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 24 at Veterans Memorial Building, 549 Merchant St., Vacaville.

Chapel programs

Recurring events

Catholic Twin Peaks Chapel

- Roman Catholic Mass: 9 a.m. and noon Sunday.
- 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., 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 Friday.

DGMC Chapel

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

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

- Sacrament Services: 9 and 11 a.m.

In the next week and a half...

wed
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sat
sun

Fitness Center Temporary Closure. Due to upgrades, the weight room will experience closure through Nov. 22. For more information, call 707-424-2008.

DFAC Turkey, Brisket & More. On Nov. 23, the Sierra Inn is serving up fixin's, including turkey, brisket, cakes, pies and more. Breakfast is served 6:30 to 9 a.m., lunch is served 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner is served 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 707-424-0906.

Reserve Thanksgiving Brunch. The Delta Breeze Club hosts a Thanksgiving Brunch Nov. 23. Enjoy a special feast from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for \$35 per person. Ages 5-12 are \$17 and ages 4 and under are free. For reservations, call 707-437-3711.

"BOGO" Thanksgiving Bowling Game. On Nov. 26, join Travis Bowl for "buy-one-get-one" free bowling games. The "BOGO" promotion is available from 6-11:30 p.m. For more information, call 707-437-4737.

Sausalito Bay kayaking. 9 a.m. Nov. 26 via Outdoor Recreation. For more information, call 707-424-0969

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sun

Merriment on Main. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 28 in downtown Vacaville. Leadership from Travis Air Force Base will speak to the crowd.

Combined Federal Campaign. Kickoff takes place at noon Nov. 29.

Wing Wednesday. Takes place 4:30 p.m. Nov. 29 at Wingman's. For more information, call 707-437-3711.

Blue Eagles Booster Club 16th Annual Holiday Tree Festival and Auction. 5:30 p.m. silent auction, 6 p.m. start Nov. 30 at Bldg. 31 MXG atrium. Benefits Travis' Fisher Houses. Open to all Travis AFB personnel. Acceptable donations include fully decorated artificial trees 6 feet

and smaller, stockings filled with items, gift baskets, wreaths and quilts. For more information, call Camille Roland at 707-592-1120, Lori Caron at 707-365-2128 or email bebctreeauction@gmail.com.

Military Personnel Section closure. Due to mandatory training, Military Personnel Section will be closed Nov. 30. For more information, call 707-424-8483.

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.

DGMC 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.

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

- Protestant Traditional Service: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday.

Airmen's Ministry Center

- The Peak is open from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday at Bldg 1348.

Online language courses. Mitchell Memorial Library is offering Mango Languages for free. Learn Dutch, Spanish, French, Korean, Japanese, Italian and more at your own pace. For more information, call the library at 707-424-3279.

Custom vacation packages. Leisure Travel located inside Outdoor Recreation books travel destinations like Hawaii, Mexico, Las Vegas and more. Options include rental car, lodging, excursions, airfare and cruises. For more information, call 707-424-5250.

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 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 707-424-5324.

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 travspocombatptsd@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://pftform.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 <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,

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

Today
• 6:30 p.m. "Coco" (PG, first run)

Saturday
• 6:30 p.m. "Coco" (PG, first run)

Sunday
• 2 p.m. "Coco" (PG, first run)

For more information about the Reel Time program at Travis, visit <http://bit.ly/2jWJEy>.

reservists and their family members 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 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, 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 NAF folks. Family members welcome, but must cover own costs. All registrations done via phone at 1-800-966-3844.

On-base child care. The Air Force receives 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 of 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 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 family members. It is the RAO's responsibility to maintain open communication and to ensure retirees receive the service and the respect 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 the 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 information when a crisis occurs resulting in

THE FLIP SIDE

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 p.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 Clayton at mathew.clayton@us.af.mil.

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.mil.

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 p.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:

- Timothy Miller, 60th Medical Support Squadron.

The VLTIP 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.

Tuskegee Airman Lee A. Archer Chapter. Meets at 1 p.m. third Saturday of the month at Nut Tree Airport. For more information, call James Harris at 707-631-6361.

What's Cookin' Wednesday. Free lunch at the Travis AFB USO building 1348. Served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday. For active duty, Guard, reservist and their families.

Local events

Events

Holiday Home Tour. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 9. Purchase tickets at the Vacaville Museum, 213 Buck Ave. 447-4513.

Retiree Corner

TRICARE offers help to smokers looking to quit

FORT LEE, Va. — Quitting smoking can be a challenge, but if TRICARE beneficiaries think they may be ready, there is help available to make quitting easier.

The Freedom Quitline offers nicotine replacement treatment at no cost mailed directly to beneficiaries, plus guided telephone counseling and support to maximize the chances of success.

Freedom Quitline was just what former smoker Tim, from Clio, Michigan, needed when he decided it was time to quit. "I liked everything about

the program," said Tim. "It was very easy to participate, very convenient. The calls were on time and the patches always arrived on time. The counselor was very supportive, always made himself available if I needed any help between sessions."

Call Freedom Quitline at 844-I-AM-FREE (1-844-426-3733) Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Freedom Smoking Quitline is a National Institutes of Health-funded research study co-sponsored by 59th Medical Wing, Joint Base-Lackland, Texas, and the University of Virginia.

— TRICARE

Window open for commissioning programs

Kat Bailey
AIR FORCE'S PERSONNEL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The Air Force's Personnel Center will accept applications from active-duty enlisted Airmen for the Nurse Enlisted and Direct Enlisted Commissioning Programs through March 16, 2018, for the April selection boards.

NECP offers the opportunity to earn a baccalaureate degree in nursing at a college or university with an Air Force ROTC detachment or a college or university with a "cross-town agreement." Applicants are required to attend school year-round in a resident-based program for up to 24 consecutive calendar months, to include summer sessions. Airmen selected by the NECP board will start school in fall 2018.

The DECP allows Airmen to commission into the Nurse

Corps if they already possess a nursing degree and have passed the National Council Licensure Examination.

"Sustainable success comes from an enduring commitment to a diverse force and inclusive culture," said Maj. Rebecca Farmer, Nurse Education Fellow at AFPC. "Generations, technologies and labor markets change. It is our responsibility to ensure the Air Force continues to invest in our Airmen and their families and retain our talented Airmen while giving them opportunities to broaden their skill sets."

To be considered for the NECP or DECP boards, applicants must be U.S. citizens with rank of senior airman or higher and no more than 10 years total active federal service (12 years for DECP) as of April 30, 2018. In addition, Airmen must meet time-on-station and retainability requirements, possess current security clearances, be

worldwide qualified and commissioned by age 42.

Upon successful completion of their degrees, Airmen who pass the NCLEX and receive their nursing licenses will be commissioned. Both DECP and NECP candidates will then attend Commissioned Officer Training and the Nurse Transition Program, and move to a final assignment location.

For complete application instructions and requirements, visit myPers from a CAC-enabled computer. Select "Active Duty Enlisted" from the dropdown menu and search "NECP" or "DECP."

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Stefanie Torres

The Air Force has two commissioning programs for enlisted Airmen who have, or are close to having their nursing degree. The Nurse Enlisted Commissioning Program helps Airmen finish their degree while the Direct Enlisted Commissioning Program is open to enlisted Airmen with a nursing degree and license.




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 www.tbvacaville.com
 Greg Davidson, Senior Pastor

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 Worship Service & Bible Study..... 10:30 am
 Evening Worship & Prayer.....6:00 pm
Wednesday:
 Dinner (Sept-May).....4:45 pm
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CORE Bible Studies 12:30 & 5:00 pm
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WEDNESDAY
 Adult Studies.....2:00 pm
 AWANA for Kids6:15 pm
 Adult & Youth Studies.....6:30 pm

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 Pastor's Forum
10:00 a.m.
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Pastor Gregory Stringer
Bethany Lutheran Preschool
 451-6678
 bethanypreschool@pacbell.net
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 Fairfield, CA 94533

Twitter

From Page 3

outlined the ways in which each color tended to interact with one another and by what means the company could motivate each type of personality.

"The value this lesson presents to members is that it fosters a more inclusive environment, and it enables us to embrace diversity despite our personality differences," said

Piper. "Our overall goal with this initiative was to develop, inform, mentor, educate and share, or 'drop dimes' with members within our extended community. Team Travis is about no bounds, and that includes the Professional Development Program."

Both Col. John Klein, 60th AMW commander and Chief Master Sgt. Steve Nichols, 60th AMW command chief, were present for the day's meetings and were happy with the lessons gleaned

during the seminars and with the connections created between members of both organizations throughout the visit.

"The Air Force was honored by its opportunity to collaborate with Twitter," said Nichols. "Moving forward, we hope to secure and strengthen this relationship and, through it, make both of our organizations stronger through our shared insight."

The Air Force is in talks to invite Twitter onto base within the next six months.

BHOP

From Page 5

emphasizes education, skill-building, self-management and home-based strategies.

Patients requiring specialty mental health services are referred to the mental health clinic on base or to local community resources.

Active duty members should contact the mental health clinic directly if they require a special duty evaluation, fitness

for duty evaluation, are under investigation or are dealing with substance abuse. Members having thoughts of harming self or others should contact mental health during duty hours or the emergency department after hours.

Patients can self-refer to BHOP or schedule an appointment through their primary care provider. In some cases, same-day appointments may be available. To schedule a BHOP appointment, call central appointments at 707- 423-3000.

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 AWANA (Sept-May)..... Wed. 6:30pm
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6:00 PM

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7:00 PM

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AFRL

From Page 14

team so everyone involved was a trailblazer," Goodson said. "The dedication, diligence and flexibility of the team, especially the students, was essential to the success of the team. They worked above and beyond our wildest expectations; they 'grasped the nettle' and took possession of the project. The lab portion of the project is only one part of the final submission; there are other components related to public outreach, collaboration with other teams, and design of a wiki page. The students performed all of these with minimal guidance and assistance from the mentors."

Matthew Sableski, the CHS principal explained that the experiences afforded to these students were vast, being able to compete with hundreds of teams on an international stage.

"The AFRL-CHS iGEM team collaborated with schools from London, Singapore, Denmark and Michigan, to name a few," Sableski said. "At the competition they met

other (Department of Defense) teams from West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy and a team sponsored by the Army. They consulted with high school, under-graduate and post-graduate students."

Goodson explained that teams from all over the world were sharing their success and failures during the event in order to push and encourage each other.

"The energy associated with the event was palpable. Our students were meeting up with each other, and other teams, to animatedly discuss the amazing breakthroughs and creative problem solving they had just witnessed in each presentation. Speaking personally, it has been one of the most inspiring and uplifting moments in my AFRL career, and I think that sentiment was shared by all the members of the team," explained Goodson.

The CHS team were all students at Carroll High School when the team was started back in May 2017, explained Goodson. Originally, the team consisted of then-seniors Tina Davis, Dallas McDonald, Andrea Poole, and Angela Smith; then-juniors Jason Dong and

Peter Menart; and then-sophomores Annie Bete, Jonah Carter, Max Herrmann and Hayley Jesse.

Those seniors are now college students, all attending universities in Ohio. Andrea Poole and Tina Davis attend Wright State University; Dallas McDonald, Case Western Reserve University; and Angela Smith, University of Cincinnati.

"These young people went from not knowing one end of a micropipette from the other to fielding and confidently answering questions from world-renowned leaders in synthetic biology in only seven months," Goodson said. "I am confident they will become the leaders of the future and, based on this evidence, the future is bright."

Mentors from CHS were Drs. Martha Carter, Caroline Dickey and Chrissy O'Malley. Mentors from AFRL were Dr. Nancy Kelley-Loughnane with 711th HPW and Dr. Wendy Goodson with the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate as well as AFRL UES, Inc. contractors Drs. Michael Goodson, Chia Hung, Vanessa Varaljay and Rachel Krabacher.

AFGSC

From Page 13

sergeant, furthered that topic by talking about the warrior ethos.

"Ethos is the fundamental character of something. It's the way we live, our culture, the things we will fight for, the things we will die for," he said. "What you put in the uniform is more important than putting on the uniform."

As an Airman who self-admittedly started off on the wrong foot, yet eventually achieved the highest enlisted rank, Tapia said sometimes even Airmen who seem hopeless deserve a second chance. He got that second chance from one person – a commander who believed he was worth saving – and Tapia made a promise to his commander that he would never regret that decision.

"Integrity tastes sour coming back up," he said. "So be grateful for second chances, and for first ones as well... Whatever is given to you, pay back with interest."

Retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Roger W. Burg gave the attendees a perspective on Intercontinental Ballistic Missile heritage. Burg is a former missileer who served before retirement as the deputy chief of staff for intelligence, for North American Air Defense Command and the Air Force Aerospace Defense Command.

"What is ICBM heritage?" he asked. "It is not about the technology at all. It's about the people. ICBMs are impressive, but they are a machine. Without people they really don't do much. With the right people, they're the most impressive weapons on the face of the planet."

Burg also recognized that without industry partners who build the weapon systems, the Air Force would be nothing.

"Someone built the ICBM for us. We need to remember that our defense industry is the best in the world, and they built us a great machine," he said. "This is your heritage, but it's the people who make them tick, and there are a lot of young Airmen, and a few old ones, who keep this system viable and working."

The symposium concluded with a keynote speech by

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson, who opened with a history of Gen. Bernard Adolph Schriever, the father of modern ballistic missiles.

"The missiles his teams developed helped provide strategic nuclear deterrence throughout the Cold War," Wilson said. "Today, the president, and Secretary of Defense (James) Mattis have full confidence in all of you to do the same, so that on our worst day, Global Strike Command can provide the nation unmatched global power under all conditions, and without fail."

Wilson told the Airmen of AFGSC that they have an awesome responsibility for the people of this nation, and competitions like Global Strike Challenge help sharpen their combat edge.

"Every other year you compete to see who is the best of the best," Wilson said. "That's kind of a competition for bragging rights I guess, but it's not just about crew dogs in a bomb competition, this is the whole team, and that's one of the reasons I like what you're doing."

She added that it's not just about the loaders, the defenders and the missileers.

"It's also about knowing when you step out the door to go to combat, you're doing it with some of the best Airmen in the world," she said. "At the end of the day, it's knowing that we're all in this together. We're part of one team, because we're Airmen."

Wilson told competitors as they celebrate the winners of the Global Strike Challenge during the scoreposting event, to remember something else.

"As you celebrate the competition, celebrate also the foundation of that competition, which is being a values driven organization, committed to excellence, and founded on integrity," she said.

Wilson concluded by giving her expectations for Airmen in the future.

"I expect you to stay values driven. I expect you to stay mission focused, and I expect you to be people oriented," she said. "If each one of you will do that every day, the United States Air Force will continue to be the keeper of safety for the world, and the best Air Force in the world."

Learners

From Page 13

further explained why this shift was necessary.

"The most important thing with our training at tech school is to make sure it's as tight with the operational needs as possible," Schmitt said. "We want our Airmen to be ready to hit the ground running from day one. Having a contact point in the training squadrons to collect feedback from the field and modify training in a more agile manner allows us to be able to respond quicker with both big changes and small ones."

With this building block in place, the 336th TRS will also move to modularize their curriculum.

Whereas the Air Force had provided training strictly in a traditional classroom setting, the new curriculum will move most content online to Blackboard, a program widely used by universities around the world to make course content available anywhere the student is.

Initially, the squadron will move their Security Plus and Client Systems Courses to this format.

"Courses and instructors are being retooled to present material in a more learner-centered approach where the learner is held responsible for their education by using a self-paced and team-based approach to learning," said Harmon.

The knowledge portion of the course will be hosted online, but that doesn't mean the students won't have a classroom experience still.

This model is often called the "flipped classroom." For homework, the students will read and study the material, and when they come to class they will apply what they have learned in engaging and collaborative discussions with their peers. This paradigm shift will also change the way the instructors are used in these classrooms.

"The instructor's role will be to facilitate, coach and mentor students," said Harmon. "This role is crucial because each class will have students in different stages of the learning process."

Buddhist

From Page 11

the candidate commissions a chaplain candidate, second lieutenant and upon graduation and ecclesiastical endorsement, the chaplain candidates may be eligible for reappointment as an Air Force chaplain.

After completing his requirements and graduating from Commissioned Officer Training in April 2017, Campbell began his ministry to the Airmen at Buckley AFB, serving on active-duty orders through the summer, prior to attending his formal chaplain training. In addition to leading a small Buddhist gathering each Thursday, Campbell counseled Airmen who came into the chapel, taught secular meditation and mindfulness classes and would offer his own, unique style of invocations when called upon to support functions.

With no model for a Buddhist invocation, Campbell said he had to work through what these public "prayers" would look like. They have evolved over the past six months, but he said he uses them to provide Airmen with a moment of self-reflection. In one recent invocation, he encouraged Airmen to reflect

on the benefits of their work relationships and how each individual could do their part to strengthen those bonds.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Robert Ward, 460th Space Wing chaplain, said Campbell came to the unit already possessing a strong, well-rounded skill set and carries a calmness with him that settles on those around him.

"Chaplain Campbell has a knack," said Ward. "People gravitate towards him and he has a very unique way of being present and available (to others)."

Ward said that Campbell is a valuable asset in the mission to support the base's 19,000 employees. Chaplains aren't just focused on their religion, said Ward, a large part of their role is to be present as a resource to help when people need guidance, advice or counseling.

Campbell said counseling is a topic he enjoyed learning more about during his chaplain training at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. It was something he'd touched on in school and elsewhere, but the training he received through the Air Force was much more in-depth and was something that, just from his first summer on duty, he knew he'd use frequently in the military.

While the Buddhist chaplain brings diversity to the

chaplaincy at Buckley AFB, Ward said the reservist also brings manpower flexibility. Campbell came at a time when the office was short two chaplains, said Ward. The ability to bring Campbell on active duty orders allowed the chapel staff to better support Buckley AFB Airmen during that shortfall.

As an IMA, Campbell has a minimum commitment of 24 days each year, which Campbell is working to complete this fall. With the 460th Space Wing chaplain staff back at full staff, Campbell, like all reservists, will return to his civilian life for a while after that commitment is finished. However, while he's not required to, the new chaplain has committed to returning to Buckley AFB on a weekly basis to mind his small but growing Buddhist flock.

Ward said he was concerned there might be pushback to hiring a chaplain who wasn't from

a major faith group, but that those fears were unnecessary.

"Since he's been here, that hasn't happened one bit," Ward said. "People in the military get it; he has a place at the table, he has a skillset, he can do his job."

IMAs are Air Force Reservists assigned to augment active component and government organizations, including Air Force units, major commands and combatant commands. They are part of the Individual Reserve, which is managed by the Headquarters Individual Reservist Readiness and Integration Organization, located at Buckley AFB. The IR also includes reservists in the Participating Individual Ready Reserve, who typically augment the Civil Air Patrol and the U.S. Air Force Academy, participating for points toward retirement only.

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AFPAAS

From Page 10

proactive, so we pushed the needs assessments first before the activation of the personnel accountability piece.”

Normally, needs assessments are the second part of the AFPAAS process where people in affected areas can identify their needs after they account for themselves and their affected family members in the system.

The needs are divided into 19 categories that range from housing and child care to legal services and financial assistance.

As assessments were entered into AFPAAS for Irma, Airman and Family Support Branch members reviewed each of the 279 cases to determine the most appropriate Airman and Family Readiness Center to provide support.

“Airman and Family Readiness Centers located as far away as California provided assistance during this event,” Cottman said. “It doesn’t matter where the case manager is located since our support capabilities are worldwide. They are all trained to provide support, information and referrals through AFPAAS.”

Assessing family needs is only one portion of AFPAAS.

“AFPAAS allows commanders to account for and manage their personnel.”

— Edsel Walker

The system is also used by the Air Force to account for members and their families. When a disaster occurs, the AFPAAS process usually begins with personnel accountability. Personnel Readiness Branch members build an accountability event and activate the system for the affected geographical area of interest. Email and text notifications are then sent out to Total Force Airmen and civilians in the impacted area alerting them to log in at <https://afpaas.af.mil> and account for themselves and their family members.

Members can use their smartphones to log into the AFPAAS website via a user ID and password. New or updated password and username information can be obtained or established on the desktop site. Total Force personnel include active duty, Guard, Reserve, government service, nonappropriated fund employees and immediate family members.

The Personnel Readiness Branch serves as the Air Force focal point for all personnel actions required to support crisis situations and natural disasters.

Edsel Walker, Personnel Readiness Branch chief, said most events are established as Air Force-wide events, so commanders can account for personnel on leave or on temporary duty in affected geographical areas.

“AFPAAS allows commanders to account for and manage their personnel,” Walker said. “This accountability information is critical when a large scale disaster occurs.”

The goal is for commanders at all levels to have 100 percent accountability within 48 hours after an AFPAAS event is initiated. After the initial 48 hours, the branch’s staff members begin contacting readiness offices at the major commands who are still at less than 100 percent.

“Our folks usually go above and beyond to ensure the correct information is available Air Force-wide and that as many people as possible receive assistance,” said Walker. “When calls to the readiness cell were dropped during hurricanes Irma and Harvey, our staff members used their personal cell phones to return

the calls and assist customers.”

When a crisis occurs, Walker’s staff provides 24/7 operational support. During Irma, branch personnel established contact with more than 114,000 Airmen and achieved 99.94 percent accountability.

“Whenever there is a crisis situation, it requires everyone involved from the accountability and needs assessment teams to come together to help displaced Airmen and their families,” said Walker. “It is definitely a team effort.”

Individuals who do not have computer access to AFPAAS should contact their Unit Control Center, Command Officer Representative or Installation Personnel Readiness Office. IPR offices unable to update AFPAAS will contact their major command’s readiness office. MAJCOM offices should call AFPC’s readiness cell at 800-435-9941 or DSN 665-2020 if they are unable to perform AFPAAS updates.

For more information, Airmen can visit myPers and enter “AFPAAS” in the search menu. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following the instructions at <http://bit.ly/2B6VHLF>.

For additional planning and readiness information, visit <https://www.ready.gov>.

AETC

From Page 10

as leaders: those we raise to replace us. If this is true, what an incredible legacy for this command that is responsible for raising the leaders our nation needs to fight and win in the most complex international environment we have seen since World War II. And with each passing of the guidon, we cement the historic legacy of an outgoing leader and introduce a new commander who will guide us into the future.”

Speaking directly to Roberson, Goldfein praised his tireless efforts at the First Command and highlighted some of the accomplishments during Roberson’s tenure as commander.

In Roberson’s farewell remarks, he took a moment to praise the Airmen of AETC.

“To the Airmen of AETC, two and a half years ago when we began this chapter together, we discussed four overarching focus areas: motivational mission accomplishment, compassionate care of our Airmen and their families, innovation and leadership,” Roberson said. “Throughout my command tour, you definitely delivered on all of these. I feel so fortunate to have been able to serve alongside some of the most innovative and bright minds throughout the Air Force. Every single Airman goes through AETC, so thank you for the impact you have had on so many people...this is where airpower starts.”

Turning his attention to Kwast, who comes to JBSA-Randolph from Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, Goldfein challenged him with a drive for continued excellence throughout the command.

“When it was time to select the new AETC commander, General Steven Kwast was the obvious choice,” Goldfein said. “In Kwast, we have an Airman whose resume strikes a balance between combat warrior, intellectual and leader. And perhaps most importantly, he exudes humility, credibility and approachability. This is your next commander.”

Taking the podium to officially address AETC Airmen for the first time, Kwast proudly announced his excitement for this next chapter in his career.



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrives Aug. 10 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., during a gas and go.

DV

From Page 4

Who is accompanying the distinguished visitor is also a vital piece of information that protocol likes to have.

“When we get a notification on a distinguished visitor arrival, we gather as much information as possible,” said Estwick. “The duration of the visit, amount of personnel and if their spouses are accompanying them are all questions we ask.”

The amount of time to prepare for visits may determine what the distinguish visitor sees at Travis.

“Notification on distinguished visitor visits vary,” said Estwick. “Sometimes we can get a few weeks’ notice and sometimes we find out six hours prior.”

This is the exact reason why the Travis Command Post has created a checklist for this type of scenario according to Senior Airman Taylor Landis, 60th Air Mobility Wing emergency actions controller.

“Sometimes these visits happen with almost no notification,” said Landis. “This is why we’ve created a Quick Reaction Checklist so we know exactly who to notify and what they will have to provide.”

Once all the notifications are in place, each agency works together to ensure a successful visit.

“Typically the command post or distinguished visitors’ point of contact will inform us of the visit,” said Martin. “A Prior

Permission Request gets generated from base ops, then they notify the command post, transient alert, security forces and maintenance.”

Each distinguished visitor has a classification that determines the type of support they need.

“Distinguished visitors are coded and usually determined by rank and position,” said Martin. “A colonel and above or GS-15 and above are what we consider distinguished visitors here at Travis.”

When distinguished visitors arrive, they are always greeted by Travis leadership, most often by the wing commander.

“U.S. Air Force Col. John Klein, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, makes it a point to

greet every distinguished visitor coming to Travis,” said Estwick. “Who better to talk about the mission and personnel than our wing commander?”

As of now, there is no foreseeable slowdown in distinguished visitors coming to Travis.

“We average at least two distinguished visitors a week here at Travis,” said Martin. “That’s a lot of resources that we need to have available to ensure these visits go as planned.”

For now, Travis will continue to impress distinguished visitors with their secret weapon.

“We always want to leave a lasting impression on the distinguished visitor,” said Estwick. “Having fresh-baked cookies in the distinguished visitor lounge doesn’t hurt.”

Defenders

From Page 6

Office in Maryland for the past four years, and is attached to the 911th SFS, Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station, Pennsylvania.

“I train my people from my experiences,” said Mash. “There is a bigger safety risk when you are dealing with the civilian public. I believe there are some training aspects I feel are safer from the civilian stand point that the military hasn’t adopted yet.”

The dual training, experience and skills these men and women bring to the table are undeniably important to the fight.

“No matter which job I’m at, the training I receive always crosses over to the other side,” said Senior Airman Joshua Suss, 386th ESFS fire

team member and Great Bend, Kansas police officer, deployed from the 22nd SFS at McConnell AFB, Kansas. “I can be training on defense tactics in my home department and turn around and do the same training for my reserve unit. As a law enforcement officer, you get in fights and the training you receive helps you get the job done.”

The three Airmen have eight deployments between them and more than 21 years of security forces experience. The calling to protect and serve varies between all three, but the reason for serving their country was the same.

“I have always had a military mentality,” Scott concluded. “Both my grandfathers were in World War II and one was a prisoner of war for three years. If you want the great things our country has to offer, you have to give something back.”

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Fights

From Page 9

has always worked really hard for us.”

The family credits Braddick's supervisors and base leadership with allowing them the flexibility to take care of Nathan.

“Leadership has been phenomenal and understanding. In the last two months, Nathan has had two surgeries. He had one surgery in September and another hospitalization in October. They said, ‘Go, don't worry about this. We've got this,’” said Braddick.

Todd Martin, Braddick's supervisor at the 628th CES, echoed the Air Force's focus on taking care of its Airmen and their families by creating an understanding work environment which prioritizes family. However, Braddick continues to contribute to the squadron's success despite his demanding home life.

“He has a very strong sense of being a team leader,” said Martin. “He was an integral part of winning the

unit CE awards because of his work and the efforts of his team. I'm in awe of how he manages his responsibilities at home because it doesn't affect his work. It makes me tired to think about how much he has to do in a day and yet still does his job admirably.”

In addition to the support from supervisors and family, the hospital staff at the Medical University of South Carolina in downtown Charleston assisted the Braddicks. MUSC worked with volunteers from Hands of Hope, an organization providing pediatric comfort care to children with life-limiting illnesses, to nominate Nathan for a gift from the Make-A-Wish Foundation. After hearing Nathan was selected, the family chose to receive a camper trailer.

“The traditional trips to Disney were a waste of time because he doesn't understand what's going on,” said Braddick. “So we bounced around a lot of things and said, ‘Well hey, Nathan really enjoys road trips. He loves going for a drive; he likes watching the cars driving by.’”



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman Nicolas Z. Erwin

Airman 1st Class Joseph Serrano, a material management specialist assigned to the 28th Logistic Readiness Squadron, begins the flag folding sequence during an honor guard training exercise Oct. 26 at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D.

Erwin

From Page 2

count to. My elbow made sure I felt it in the morning.

We were evaluated. I was not chopped off the block. Even with aching hands and limbs, we had to continue. There was the next portion of the class awaiting: the meat and potatoes of honor guard – the casket and flag folding sequence.

It seems simple: move a casket from a hearse to a mock-up without letting the flag hit the floor. There was much more to it than moving the remains of a service member 100 feet. The actual

ceremony requires strength, teamwork and the resolve to lay a service member to rest with dignity.

The first large-scale exercise encompassed teams of six carrying a three hundred pound casket for ten minutes. Ten minutes seems short. It could be a quick break – the time it takes to grab a meal from a mediocre restaurant – or it could feel like years.

For most funerals we perform, it is a two minute walk from the hearse to the mock-up for the family to watch the American flag be folded. Having the understanding that for other bases, the distance varies and being capable of holding this casket for a prolonged amount of time changed from

a skill to a necessary trait.

The honor guard trainers trained us from novices to experienced ceremonial guardsmen, not by overtly changing how we perform, but by what goes into the minute specifics that make the difference between the funeral staff and the Ellsworth Air Force Base Honor Guard.

We also learned the flag bearing and parade sequences for different functions we do depending on the amount of guardsmen we tasked out. It involved a tremendous amount of throwing, twirling, standing bewildered with calloused hands due to long hours holding rifles.

All these things seemed intense and inaccessible, but it almost feels like second-nature when a rifle comes into my hands, knowing the weight and pivot points, knowing exactly the time in which the rifle could strike my palm and be reversed in direction. All of it became awe-inspiring.

Everything a person is can vanish like breath on a mirror. It just fades. But, the memories they leave with others tend to remain. The honor guard trainers left and some people might not even remember their names, yet the entire Ellsworth Air Force Base Honor Guard will never forget the skills and standards that have been set until we fade into the legends of the past.

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1) Members of the Leadership Today Tour see a KC-10 Extender Nov. 16 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

Travis hosts Leadership Today Tour...

VISITORS

U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Amber Carter



2) Master Sgt. Douglas Zolnar, 60th Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, speaks Nov. 16 to members of the Leadership Today Tour at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The Leadership Today Tour introduces community leaders from the local area to Travis and showcases the mission of the base as well as the Airmen. 3) Col. Lance Clark, 60th Mission Support Group commander, briefs members of the tour. 4) Staff Sgt. Michael Lloyd, 60th Aerospace Medicine Squadron hyperbarics technician, speaks to members of the Leadership Today Tour.

A promotional graphic for the 'Fall Into Cash' promotion. It features a tree with colorful leaves and falling money. The text reads: 'FALL INTO CASH 'til Nov 26. 1 - \$10,000 and 9 - \$1,000 WINNERS every DRAWING Fri, Sat & Sun at 7pm plus Thanksgiving! CACHE CREEK CASINO RESORT cachecreek.com'. The background is a light green and yellow gradient with a rain pattern.

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