



Resilience hike takes Travis Airmen to ...

YOSEMITE

PAGES 12-13

Why OPSEC? Protect military operations

Commentary by
Maj. Thomas Wagner
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING
PLANS AND PROGRAMS

Operations security is critical to protecting the mission of Travis Air Force Base and our Air Force. The goal of OPSEC is to protect information about friendly operations and reduce the adversary's ability to collect and exploit critical information and indicators about friendly activities. Breaches of OPSEC, which can tip off adversaries to the actions of friendly forces, can occur in the most benign ways: text messages, phone calls, social media posts and even face-to-face conversations can be

intercepted by adversaries looking to cause harm to our military. Seemingly inconspicuous details including, deployment and temporary duty dates, locations and information about personnel such as manning levels, schedules and details about specific operations can be damaging to military operations.

Adversaries can piece together details from multiple sources to form a picture of military operations happening around the world. Knowing how we conduct operations, where we are conducting operations and when those operations are happening can cause adversaries to adjust their tactics. This has the potential to weaken our military's capabilities and effectiveness.

Commander's Commentary

In 2018, CBS News reported how GPS data from fitness devices revealed locations of previously undisclosed U.S. bases abroad. It also revealed exercise routes used by military members. This data featured information about bases that rely on secrecy to conduct their missions. By posting locations of where military members are, adversaries can target them and disrupt military operations. Even posting details about how we conduct operations at home can affect the security of Travis AFB. Sharing

work schedules or capabilities of equipment used on base can have negative impacts if adversaries have access to that information. Sharing work schedules online can highlight to adversaries when changeover happens, which could be indicative of gaps in coverage or weak points in manpower.

In some ways, we want to highlight our equipment capabilities and show the public the cool toys we get to play with, but not all of this information needs to be posted online for anyone to see. Before posting any information related to the military, Airmen should consult the critical information and indicators list. This document is published by the 60th Air Mobility Wing

OPSEC program manager and is used for units to create their own CIILs, specific to their mission. The CIIL describes which information is vital to protect and prevents adversaries from knowing how we conduct operations.

While OPSEC is not the most exciting subject, it is critical to protect information about military operations. Before posting anything online, reference the CIIL, if the information falls into one of the critical information or indicators categories, do not post it.

For more information about OPSEC or how to protect critical information, contact your unit OPSEC coordinator or the 60th AMW OPSEC program manager at 707-424-4355.

Rumble, Airman, rumble: Learning to persevere



Commentary by Staff Sgt. Erick Hernandez
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Muhammad Ali's trainer, Drew Bundini Brown, said, "You gonna float like a butterfly and sting like a bee, aaah (in unison with Ali), Rumble young man, rumble, aaah (in unison, again)." Every time I heard this as a young child, I imagined myself saying "aaah," as if I was being spoken to as well. It continues to guide me as the leader I am today. I grew up in a rough neighborhood in Las Vegas. Violence was an everyday occurrence and toughness was mandatory. A kind heart was unacceptable and hate was rampant.

Chief's Commentary

As a younger man, I mistakenly used the hate in my heart for motivation. I hated where I lived, my situation in life and the unfair advantages others had. I desired a better future in life. After high school, I thought of all my options and settled with speaking to a recruiter after a friend told me about benefits the Air Force offered. The recruiter told me about an opportunity to become something bigger than myself, which offered a chance to improve my life. I was hooked. I met

with the recruiter in October 2009, and started my Air Force journey seven months later. I was happy just to be in the Air Force and performing my job. With every task I was given, I started to see the significance of doing something greater than myself. I wasn't only protecting my nation's air power, but the people who provided it. My fellow Airmen and I were putting ourselves on the front lines to ensure the safety of all who lived and worked at my duty location – since air power isn't effective if it stays on the ground.

I wanted to be the best Airman

could be and do all I could to support the mission. However, in December 2011, I scored an 87.2 on my fitness assessment, which was 2.8 points below an excellent passing score, and making me ineligible for many advancement opportunities. I was determined to "rumble" and improve that, as well as other things. It made me look at where I was and where I was headed. I had to ask myself, "Had I really hit my full potential in my career and life?" I thought being ambitious was no longer required since I had

See **HERNANDEZ** Page 16

60th LRS gets Travis pumped up for innovation

Senior Airman Christian Conrad
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

As a fuels distribution operator for Travis AFB's 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Senior Airman Tanner O'Laughlin rarely spared a thought on the weather.

His job – to ensure quality fuel makes its way into any of the numerous aircraft comprising Travis' fleet – acted independent of it, and even if it didn't, the base's mission would compel him to carry out his work.

That work was logged analogously, though, meaning the account of his duty made its way onto pieces of paper held at the mercy of the sometimes unreliable grip of a clipboard. All this made for a perfect storm... of paper.

"One day on the flight line, the clipboard set loose what was probably a dozen sheets of work logs, all taken immediately by the wind," O'Laughlin said. "As anyone who knows how secure a location it is, random papers flowing around can represent a disastrous situation on the flight line. We all started frantically grabbing for papers. After we managed to get them all together, we happened to look over and see a maintainer a ways away recording his work on a tablet. Our next thought being, 'Well, what the hell – why don't we have that?'"

This question was a common one for 60th LRS Airmen who recently set about allocating innovation funds to bring the squadron's processes into the digital age.

"A lot of what we're doing is a no-brainer, but has nevertheless made a huge impact on cost-savings, man hour efficiency and accountability," said Senior Master Sgt. David Janes, 60th LRS fuels superintendent. "However, some projects have come from the ingenuity



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christian Conrad
Airman 1st Class Matthew Melder, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels distribution operator, checks the quality of a fuel sample July 10 at Travis Air Force Base, California. The 60th LRS commits itself to putting the best fuel into Travis' aircraft via a 128-point inspection that must be conducted on the fuel every day.

of a handful of our Airmen, and current circumstances have been favorable enough as to allow us the avenues to proceed with prototyping them."

Along with replacing clipboards with tablets, the 60th LRS has seen a floor-to-ceiling overhaul of their protocol, from

updating their brick and mortar snack bar to revolutionizing the means of pressurizing fuel on the fly, cutting the needed man hours for the process from two hours to 45 minutes.

All this didn't happen by accident, said Janes.

"We've been very deliberate in what kind of environment we wanted to create to make these ideas a reality," he said. "In the end, we saw the most value in creating one that put the emphasis

See **INNOVATION** Page 18

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif. | 60th Air Mobility Wing

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60th Air Mobility Wing commander

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Tech. Sgt. Traci Keller
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Airman 1st Class Jonathon Carnell

Airman 1st Class Cameron Otte
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Daily Republic

Nick DeCicco
Tailwind editor

Todd R. Hansen
Copy editor

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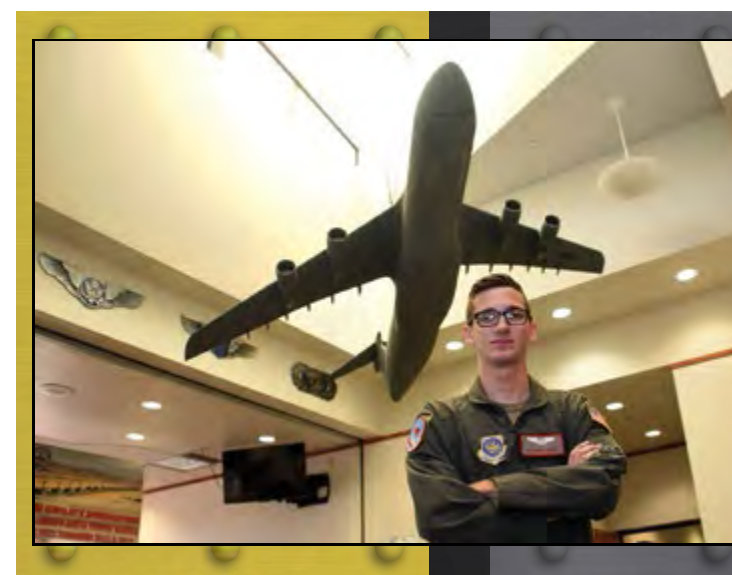
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On the cover

Airmen from Travis Air Force Base, California, work their way down the summit of Cloud's Rest during a resilience hike July 13 at Yosemite National Park, California.

U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman



WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name:
Airman 1st Class Jarred Damico.

Unit:
22nd Airlift Squadron.

Duty title:
Loadmaster.

Hometown:
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Time in service:
Two years.

What are your goals?
To become a helicopter pilot.

Family:
None.

What are your hobbies?
Working on cars.

What is your greatest achievement?
Having a job where I get to travel the world.



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

Tech. Sgt. Matthew Smith, 660th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron flying crew chief, inspects an engine compartment of a KC-10 Extender July 11 at Travis Air Force Base, California. FCCs are responsible for a wide variety of maintenance duties while traveling with the aircraft, including refueling, paperwork, routine maintenance and troubleshooting major issues.

Much more than just a sky mechanic

Heide Couch

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Keeping an aircraft worth hundreds of millions of dollars in tip-top shape is a complex process. Tactical aircraft maintainers are commonly known as “flying crew chiefs” because they’re generalists who coordinate the aircraft’s readiness and call in specialists like avionics or propulsion technicians when there is a problem.

FCCs are trained in special operation maintenance in addition to the hundreds of hours it takes to become a qualified maintainer.

Tech Sgt. Matthew Smith, 660th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is one of these flying crew chiefs, maintaining KC-10 Extender aircraft

assigned to Travis AFB.

“We accompany any aircraft that flies off station and lands at another location,” Smith said. “We do all the necessary servicing, add oil to engines, fill the jet up with the required fuel load for the next day’s flight and inspect the aircraft for any damage that might have occurred. It’s mostly knowing my job as a crew chief as well as having an understanding of the specialists’ jobs.”

Smith explained they are described as jacks of all trades, but masters of none. “If the aircraft breaks on the road we are the point of contact for diagnosing malfunctions and replacing components,” he said.

FCCs also coordinate with base support, organize

with transient alert, arrange crew bus pickups and contact local petroleum, oil and lubricant agencies.

Smith chose to be a crew chief when he decided to enlist in 2006.

“It was a lifelong dream to join the military and I always loved airplanes, so it made sense to me to join the Air Force,” Smith said.

“My father served 20-plus years in the Navy and he always said if he could do it all over again he would go Air Force. My grandfather also served in World War II in the Army Air Corps, transitioning into the Air Force when it became a branch,” he continued.

Aside from basic training and technical school, Smith has spent his entire

Air Force career assigned to Travis.

“When I got through training, I saw some crew chiefs in flight suits,” he said. “The section chief told me they were flying crew chiefs and it means they are at the top of their game and the best at their jobs. So right at that moment, I told myself I would become one.”

Chief Master Sgt. Shane Hickman has flown with both the 6th and 9th Air Refueling Squadrons for 15 years as a KC-10 Extender in-flight refueling specialist, more commonly known as a boom operator. He currently holds the position of 60th Operations group superintendent. Aircrew share a close relationship with the

See MECHANIC Page 19

Travis content added to app

60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

The 60th Air Mobility Wing announced July 17 the launch of its sub-app on the USAF Connect mobile application.

USAF Connect is an Air Force-wide mobile app designed to enable, engage and empower Airmen by centralizing and increasing access to the information they need for their careers.

In addition to providing headquarters-level information, local units can maintain sub-apps, accessible through the USAF Connect Favorites Portal.

Team Travis is invited to install the USAF Connect application from the Apple App Store or Google Play and select the “60th Air Mobility Wing” when prompted to add favorites. Once favorited, users can swipe left from the USAF Connect home screen to see the wing’s platform, making it easy to get the information they need anytime, anywhere, from the palm of their hands.

This sub-app augments traditional wing communication tools by consolidating multiple resources in a single location, easing access to information and news from all channels. Additionally, the sub-app will allow spouses, family members and retirees to receive real-time notifications on emergencies, gate closures and other important updates from the wing.

The sub-app aims to improve base community engagement and workforce efficiency by providing an array of robust features that enhance access to the information personnel need to manage their

See APP Page 22



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman

Master Sgt. Brianna Hunt, 60th Force Support Squadron Sgt. Paul P. Ramoneda Airman Leadership School commandant, stands inside the school July 8 at Travis Air Force Base, California.

Legislator recognizes Travis SNCO

Nick DeCicco

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Master Sgt. Brianna Hunt, 60th Force Support Squadron Airman Leadership School commandant at Travis AFB, was recognized June 20 as the 4th Assembly District Veteran of the Year.

California Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, D-Winters, honored Hunt, a resident of her district, at the Esparto Veterans Hall in Esparto.

“Master Sgt. Brianna Hunt is a proven leader bravely serving our country and her community every day,”

Aguiar-Curry said in a statement released by her office. “I am honored to name her as the 4th Assembly District Veteran of the Year.”

Each year, the California State Assembly honors veterans throughout the state. Hunt was nominated due to her service on and off duty. During the course of her Air Force career, she has served as an operating room flight chief, base honor guard superintendent, surgical technician, instructor supervisor and interrogator. Her deployments include Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

For Hunt, who enlisted in 2000, helping others is a theme that runs through her service as well as her off-duty efforts.

“The Air Force has stressed to me that as a member of every community, that I am blessed to work in and live in, it is my responsibility as a community member to leave that area better than when I arrived,” she said.

Hunt said that although she is grateful for all of the duties she has had, her time as an honor guardsman at Travis, as well as during deployments to Qatar and Iraq, stands out.

“Honor guard is the highest honor to render final military honors to our fallen comrades, whether active duty, veteran

See VETERAN Page 16

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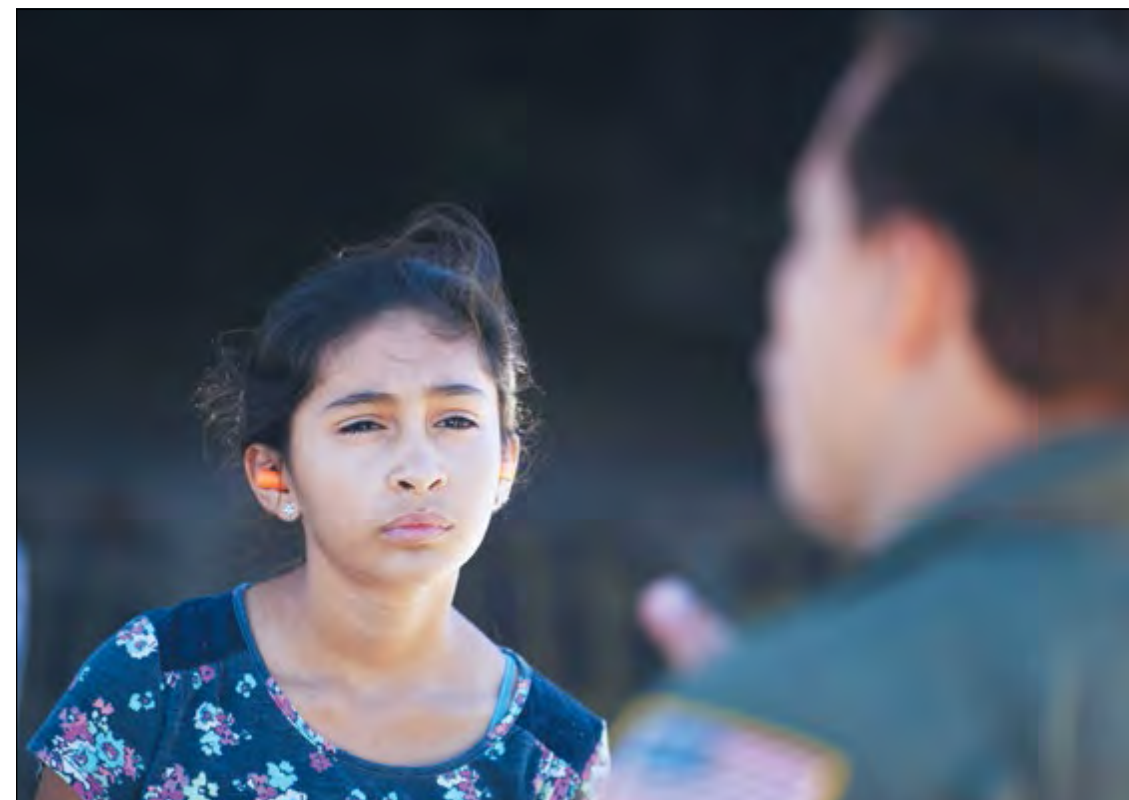
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Salvation Army Kroc students tour 22nd AS



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jonathon Carnell

A Suisun City Salvation Army Kroc Center summer camp student listens to U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Ernesto Hubble, 22nd Airlift Squadron C-5M Super Galaxy flight engineer, July 11 on a C-5M static display at Travis Air Force Base, California.

Senior Airman Jonathon Carnell
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"Today was special for our 22nd Airlift Squadron team," said Tech. Sgt. Ryan Padgett, 22nd Airlift Squadron unit technician. "We were able to show and discuss our aircraft (C-5M Super Galaxy) mission."

Approximately 110 students and 10 chaperons from the Salvation Army Kroc Center summer camp attended a tour July 11, at Travis Air Force Base, where they learned about the 22nd AS, 60th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog unit and met with Airmen to answer questions.

Events like this are designed to expand public knowledge and positive relationships with the community.

"There is a lot that happens on this base that no one ever sees," Padgett said. "Many of these kids may not have an opportunity to come onto base besides during an air show and this can help humanize what we do. We really want to show our community, who support us, what we do and if we can invite them into our home once in a while, let's do it."

This was the first time for some of the students to step

onto an aircraft, said Daniel Mendieta, Salvation Army Kroc Center summer camp counselor.

While on the C-5M static display, pilots, loadmasters and crew chiefs presented the 22nd's history and heritage to the students.

"This could spark initial interests to want to know more about these planes and the work that goes into them getting into the sky," Mendieta said.

The group then got insight of the SFS MWD unit.

"This particular demonstration was a little different than our normal demo," said Staff Sgt. April Ray, 60th SFS MWD handler. "Normally, we do demonstrations for leadership to show our capabilities, but for this tour, (it had) more of a fun aspect. We showed these kids the importance of not touching working dogs because of what they are capable of."

I hope this demo encouraged some of our young in the community and possibly created a spark in their brain that they can be whatever they want to be," she added. "It was fun showing these students the

See STUDENTS Page 22

Base leader visits 60th LRS



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jonathon Carnell

Senior Airman Jerome Macalino, left, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron service center journeyman and a star performer, speaks about his job to Col. Zachery Jiron, 60th Air Mobility Wing vice commander, July 12 at Travis Air Force Base, California. Jiron went to the LRS for Leadership Rounds, a program that allows wing leadership to get a detailed view of their mission at Travis AFB.

SEAC empowers total enlisted force

Airman 1st Class Shannon Bowman

6TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. John W. Troxell, senior enlisted adviser to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, visited MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, July 11 to mentor and develop

noncommissioned officers from across the installation including those assigned to joint organizations, such as U.S. Special Operations Command and U.S. Central Command.

As the most senior ranking NCO in the U.S. armed forces, Troxell is responsible for monitoring all matters involving joint and combined total

See SEAC Page 17

Ron DuPratt USED CARS in Vacaville

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EPISCOPAL



Grace Episcopal Church
1st & Kentucky Streets, Fairfield
(just off W. Texas St.)
425-4481

Sunday Services:
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:15 a.m. Pastor's Forum
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
Tuesday Service:
10:00 a.m. Healing Eucharist
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For additional information, contact the office at 425-4481
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Islamic Center of Fairfield
1945 Kidder Ave., Fairfield, CA. 94533

"THERE IS NO DEITY WORTHY OF WORSHIP EXCEPT ALLAH (GOD)"
Imam: Faridbeg Mirza
(707) 688-3999
Friday - Jumua Service
English Lecture: 1:00PM
Khutbah: 1:30PM

***Daily Prayer Schedule**
Fajr-Dhuhr-Asr-Maghrib-Isha
*Actual prayer times are listed in Website-Download Section.
<http://www.fairfieldmasjid.com>
Email: Fairfieldmasjid@gmail.com

Islamic School
Mon-Tue-Wed-Thurs: 4:00-5:30PM
ALL ARE WELCOME

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Jesus said, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; John 11:25

Sunday Morning Bible Study 9 AM
Sunday Morning Worship10 AM
Sunday Evening Worship6 PM
Wed. Evening Bible Study7 PM
Homeless ministry at Mission Solano
Rescue Mission 1st Friday of month 6-8 PM

CHURCH OF CHRIST - SOLANO
1201 Marshall Road, Vacaville, CA 95687
707-451-9301 • www.churchofchristlosano.com



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Awana on Wednesdays at 6pm

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707-448-6209
www.fbcvv.com



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Dr. Clayton Lea, Jr. - Senior Pastor

Fairfield Campus
1755 Enterprise Drive, Bldg. 3
Fairfield, CA 94533
Sunday Worship Services 7:00am & 9:30am.

Bible Study
Tuesdays @ 7:00pm (Youth Sanctuary)

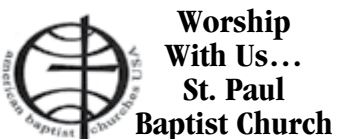
Suisun Campus
601 Whispering Bay Lane,
Suisun City, CA 94585

Sunday Worship Services, 11:00am

Bible Study
Tuesdays @ 12:00noon
707-425-1849

www.mchcfs.org for more information

BAPTIST



2500 N Texas Street, Suite H
Fairfield, CA 94533

Rev. Dr. Terry Long, Pastor

Sunday
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
Children's Church: 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday
Prayer Meeting: 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Bible Study: 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Web Site: www.stpaulfairfield.com
Email: stpaulbcairfield@comcast.net
Church Phone: 707-422-2003

DIRECTORY OF

local worship services

For advertising information about this directory, call Classifieds at 707-427-6973 or email: lvargas@dailyrepublic.net

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(707) 451-6675

mychurch@gobethany.com
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Sunday: 10:00am with Bible Studies and Sunday School for all ages at 9:00am
Fellowship: 11:15am
Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month @ 621 S. Orchard Ave., VV
Pastor Dann Ettner
Bethany Lutheran Preschool
451-6678
mypreschool@gobethany.com
www.gobethany.com

Bethany Lutheran School
1011 Ulatis Drive
Vacaville, CA 95687
451-6683 ph • 359-2230 Fax
myschool@gobethany.com
www.gobethany.com

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Church of Christ

1500 Alamo Drive
Vacaville, CA 95687
(707) 448-8838
www.vacavillechurchofchristalamodrive.com

Sunday Morning
Bible Classes9:30 am
Assembly Worship.....10:45 am
Evening Assembly Worship.5:00 pm
Wednesday Evening
Bible Classes7:00 pm

Classes also by appointment
Elders:
Mark McCallister (707) 446-7477
Ed Sanderson Sr. (707) 446-0536

NON-DENOMINATIONAL



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9 AM, 10:45 AM & 6 PM

Pastor Jon Kile
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707-451-2026

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Adult & Youth Sunday School -
9 AM & 10:45 AM

Check our website for more information on other ministries offered
www.vacavillefaith.org

NON-DENOMINATIONAL



"To know Him, and to make Him known"
490 Brown Street
Vacaville, CA 95688
707-446-8684

Sunday Services:
Sunday School 9:45am
Morning Worship 11am
Evening Worship 5pm

Thursday Service:
Prayer Meeting 7pm
Bible Studies throughout the week
Pastor Ben Smith
www.vacavillebiblechurch.com
office@vacavillebiblechurch.com

Vacaville Church of Christ

401 Fir St., Vacaville, CA 95688
(707) 448-5085

Minister: Ryan Brewer
Sunday Morning Bible Study
9:30 AM

Sunday Morning Worship
10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 PM

Wed. Evening Bible Study
7:00 PM

www.vacavillecofc.com

If you would like to take a free Bible correspondence course contact:
Know Your Bible Program
401 Fir Street • Vacaville, CA 95688
(707) 448-5085

NON-DENOMINATIONAL



The Father's House
4800 Horse Creek Drive
Vacaville, CA 95688
(707) 455-7790

www.tfh.org

Service Times
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 9am & 11am

UNITED METHODIST



1875 Fairfield Avenue, Fairfield
Phone: 707-426-2944
Email: info@cumcfairfieldca.org
Website: cumcfairfieldca.org

Pastor Anne Choy
Worship Service 10:30 A.M.
Sunday School for Children during the Worship Service

Communion is held the 1st Sunday of every month
Adult and Bell Choirs
Adult Bible and Book Studies
United Methodist Women
Sunday Morning Bible Studies at 9:00 A.M.



350 N. Orchard Ave, Vacaville - 447-0521
unityvv@pacbell.net
www.unityvacaville.org

Sunday Morning
8:00 am Coffee with God
10:00 am Contemporary Celebration with Youth Education

Wednesday Evening
6:30 pm Non-Denominational Meditation Time
7:00 pm Contemplative Prayer

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• Men's & Women's Bible Studies
• Prime Timers (Seniors Ministry)
• In Home Mid-Week Bible Studies
• Celebrate Recovery

Bruce Gallaher, Lead Pastor
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www.cccv.me
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Children's Ministry
THURSDAYS
Prayer - 6:00PM

Family time in the Word - 7:00PM
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TNT - Women's Ministry
New Beginnings Youth Ministry
Children's Ministry
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148 Travis Airmen selected for E-6

60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Air Force officials selected 9,467 staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant out of 29,328 eligible for a selection rate of 32.28%.

The 148 Airmen from Team Travis on the 19E6/technical sergeant promotion list are listed below.

Airmen will also be able to access their score notices on the virtual Military Personnel Flight via the AFPC secure applications page.

Those selected for technical sergeant will be promoted beginning Aug. 1, according to their promotion sequence number.

Commanders received notice of their selects from their senior rater's agent starting July 11.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, visit the AFPC public website.

- Christopher Agbulos, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron
- Sinan Ahmed, 60th Communications Squadron

- Scott Allen, 60th Force Support Squadron
- Curtis Ambrose, 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Jason Amos, 60th Maintenance Squadron
- Kevin Amrich, 60th MXS
- Jay Arecega, 60th LRS
- James Armstrong, 21st Air-lift Squadron
- Seger Baladad, 60th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron
- Samuel Balzer, 60th AMXS
- Kaitlin Barnett, 60th Aerial Port Squadron
- Gage, Bergman, 60th Contracting Squadron
- Zachary Bernard, 860th AMXS
- Justin Bise, 860th AMXS
- James Blackburn, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Daniel Blair, 9th Air Refueling Squadron
- Chelsea Boehme, 22nd Air-lift Squadron
- Ryan Botts, 60th APS
- Anderson Brooks, 60th CES
- Steven Bunnell, 60th MXS
- Gage Burke, 60th LRS
- Jacob Buruato, 22nd AS
- Shontece Bush, 60th Medical Operations Squadron
- Nicholas Butera, 60th MXS
- Christopher Carr, 60th MDOS
- Benjamin Clouse, 6th ARS

- Eric Coetzee, 60th CES
- Shaun Colquitt, 60th LRS
- Carlos Coronado, 60th AMXS
- Jacob Costello, 60th MXS
- Christopher Covin, 60th Security Forces Squadron
- Christian Crider, 60th LRS
- Nicole Davis, 60th MDOS
- Teodorico Dela Cruz, 60th CES
- Bryan Delgado, 60th MXS
- Mehmet Demir, 60th Surgical Operations Squadron
- Terry Dolls, 60th CES
- Phillip Downs, 60th MXS
- Timothy Eddinger, 60th MXS
- Matthew Edwards, 60th MXS
- Joseph Eidson, 660th AMXS
- Christopher Ekstrom, 60th APS
- Henry Ensley, 60th MXS
- Jay Estores, 60th CES
- Drew Gayhart, 21st AS
- Peter Gentles, 60th Operations Support Squadron
- Stephen Gibson, 22nd AS
- Ryan Girard, 60th CES
- Nicole Girimonte, 60th Inpatient Operations Squadron
- Jeremiah Glover II, 60th MXS
- Michael Gomez, 60th OSS
- Dominic Greco, 60th Medical Group

- Garrett Griffith, 860th AMXS
- Jamaal Haley, 60th CS
- Kevin Hammond, 60th OSS
- Henry Han, 22nd AS
- Joshua Harbin, 60th APS
- Kassie Hart, 60th APS
- Ganon Hawkins, 60th MXS
- Rebecca Hernandez, 60th SFS
- Michael Hoh, 60th CES
- Christopher Holcomb, 60th AMXS
- Titus Holman, 6th ARS
- Isabell Hood, 60th APS
- Darren Hussey, 660th AMXS
- John Kearney, 60th MXS
- Jakeob Kono, 60th OSS
- Raymond Longoria, 60th MXS
- Tameika Lynard, 60th IPTS
- Justin Lynch, 60th MXS
- Vincent Lyons, 60th FSS
- Matthew Mahoney, 60th MXS
- Don Malay, 60th MXS
- David McDonald, 60th MXS
- Justin Mendiola, 60th Medical Support Squadron
- Kristen Merkey, 60th AMXS
- Jeremiah Mohr, 60th CES
- Michael Montes, 60th MDG
- Gary Morison, 60th Maintenance Group
- Brennan Neal, 860th AMXS
- Kim Nota, 60th CES
- Robin Ogg, 22nd AS
- Stuart Ogran, 60th MXG

See E-6 Page 15

DoD delays transfer of education benefits

Staff Sgt. Courtney Dotson-Essett

434TH AERIAL REFUELING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

GRISSOM AIR RESERVE BASE, Ind. — The Department of Defense delayed the implementation of a policy that would limit a service member's ability to share education benefits with family members.

The policy, originally slated to take effect July 12, will discontinue the transfer benefit for members with 16 years or more of service.

The implementation has been delayed until Jan. 12, 2020, giving long-serving members more time to transfer their education benefits to spouses or dependents.

Currently, members who serve a minimum of six years and commit to serving another four years can transfer their education benefits to dependents.

Those who agree to four additional years but who are unable to complete them because of a service-connected injury, medical discharge or receive a waiver can also keep their transfer benefits.

If a service member has more than 16 years of service after Jan. 12, 2020, he or she will not be able to transfer GI bill benefits.

Purple Heart recipients will be able to transfer any unused benefits regardless of years of service.

"This extension will be significant for our Airmen, or any service member, with longer careers," said Senior Master Sgt. Adam Oswalt, 434th Air Refueling Wing training technician. "It gives them more time to make an informed decision or start the transfer process."

To learn more about education benefits, visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/>.

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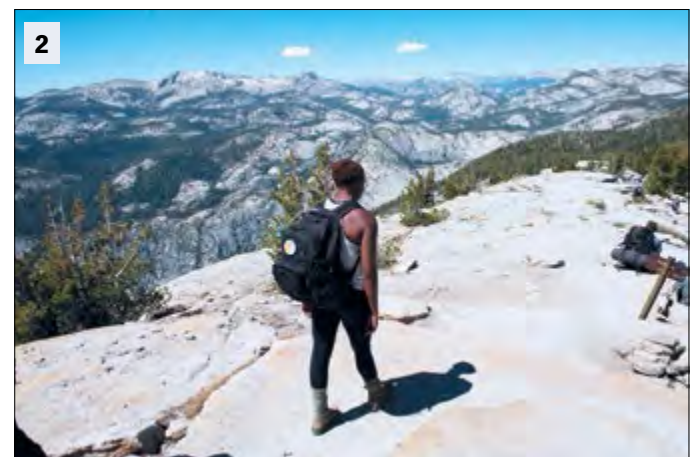
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Resiliency with every step: Airmen hike to Cloud's Rest



1) Tech. Sgt. Lavon Johnson, 6th Air Refueling Squadron independent duty medical technician, works his way up a hill July 13 at Yosemite National Park, California, during a 14.5-mile hike to Cloud's Rest. 2) Senior Airman Lanisa Haynes, 60th Aerospace Medical Squadron medical technician, hikes down from the summit of Cloud's Rest July 13 at Yosemite. 3) Retired Master Sgt. Terry Hendricksen, 60th Force Support Squadron outdoor recreation equipment repair technician, takes a break from hiking July 13 in Yosemite.

Story and photos by
Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif. – Yosemite National Park in California, which features waterfalls, redwood trees and numerous trails, served as the backdrop July 13 for a resiliency hike for 42 Airmen from Travis Air Force Base.

The hike to Cloud's Rest, which is 9,926 feet above sea level, required Airmen to navigate through arduous terrain, battle mosquitoes and tax their bodies for nearly 15 miles. The concept for the adventure came from Capt. Kevin Hostettler, 60th Air Mobility Wing chaplain.

"The Air Force wants resilient Airmen and resiliency is the ability to bounce back from something or push through something that is difficult," Hostettler said. "This hike was an opportunity for our Airmen to experience something incredibly challenging physically, mentally and spiritually. We wanted to find a way to better prepare them for life's difficult moments when they will need to push through."

Hostettler said the 14.57-mile route the Airmen traveled, which featured 1,775 feet of elevation gain highlighted by a series of switchbacks, was designed to be as taxing as possible.

"We wanted to develop a hike that would test their physical fitness, stamina and mental fitness at high altitude," he said. "That is incredibly difficult, and at some point, all of them will face challenges. So, why not do something in a controlled environment where they can enhance their resiliency? This will help them perform at a high level to accomplish the mission and be the best they can be for themselves and their families."

Airmen from 21 different organizations tackled the journey in pairs and supported each other along the way. On numerous occasions, they shared water, food and words of encouragement.

"We brought 42 Airmen so

they can support one another and connect while doing something challenging," said Senior Airman Raymond Ruffin, 660th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron KC-10 Extender communication and navigation maintainer. Also one of the hike's planners.

"In the Air Force, we are each other's wingman," he said. "We look out for one another and this hike was a great example of that. Some people may have been intimidated by the distance we were going to cover or how high we climbed, but when they look back on this experience, they will know they accomplished something they can use as motivation in their jobs, relationships or in their spiritual walk."

Senior Airman Lanisa Haynes, 60th Aerospace Medical Squadron medical technician, made the journey to Cloud's Rest and said she's glad she did.

"There were points I wanted to stop; it was tough," she said. "But that view at the end was so beautiful. Before doing this hike, I never hiked more than five miles."

From the summit of Cloud's Rest, many of the landmarks that make Yosemite a popular destination can be seen, including El Capitan, Half Dome and Tenaya Lake.

While she enjoyed taking in her surroundings from nearly 10,000 feet up, Haynes said, she gained more from the hike than a nice view.

"There are times when you feel your body is about to give out, but in those moments, it's your mind that will push you through," she said. "You have to have the end state in mind and focus on that. I believed I could complete this hike and I did so by taking one step and then the next step."

Positive thinking, along with a strong support system, is vital to overcoming adversity, Haynes said.

"My grandmother died in November 2018 and we were really close," she said. "I also lost a childhood friend in February. She was killed in a car accident. That was a really sad time for me. For a

while, I was scared to drive."

"I discussed everything I was going through with my family and friends," Haynes said. "I also had incredible support groups within my unit. Their support helped me focus on serving my brothers and sisters in arms and accomplishing my goals."

The Houston native is training to run her first half-marathon in 2020 and hopes to earn a commission in the Air Force as a social worker. She also wants to rid the Air Force of suicide.

"I got through this hike, loss and so many other challenges in life," she said. "I'm going to tackle every goal I have one step at a time."

Showing every Airman that he or she has the physical, mental and spiritual resiliency to overcome nearly any obstacle was essential when planning the hike, Ruffin said.

"All things are possible once you set your mind to it," he said. "We want every Airman to understand that they can do anything and when they face challenges, they don't have to face them alone. There's so much support out there for you no matter what situation you're dealing with."

The Airmen tackled Cloud's Rest in small groups, with the first group starting their journey at 7:30 a.m. They were followed by three more groups just 30 minutes apart from each other. The grueling hike took each group between eight and 10 hours to complete, with the last group finishing around 8 p.m.

"The hike was tougher than I thought it was going to be because of the elevation," said Senior Airman Adam Taylor, 60th Contracting Squadron contracting specialist. "I wanted to spend more time at the summit. It's one of those once-in-a-lifetime experiences."

Taylor said, after hiking to Cloud's Rest, his resilience and the resilience of his fellow Airmen are much stronger.

"After completing this hike, I believe all of us can better push through whatever challenges we may face."



4) Capt. Ayodeji Alaketu, 60th Medical Operations Squadron family resident physician, enjoys the view from the summit of Cloud's Rest July 13 at Yosemite National Park, California. 5) Staff Sgt. Jarret Redhair, 22nd Airlift Squadron C-5M Super Galaxy flight engineer, hikes July 13 in Yosemite. 6) Airmen from Travis Air Force Base, California, cross a river during a resilience hike July 13 in Yosemite. 7) Alaketu hikes Cloud's Rest July 13 in Yosemite National Park.

Swap Ads

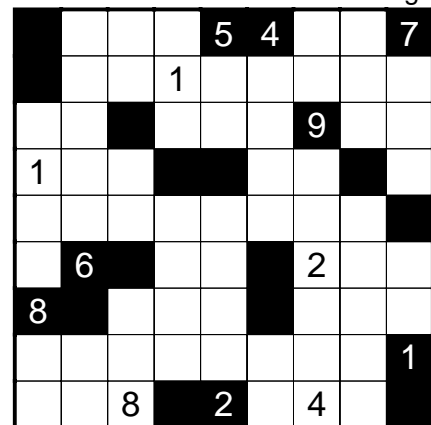
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3/2 home, very clean, 3 mins. to Travis. Living room, dining room, family room, fire place, dish-washer, microwave, custom draperies. Top-of-the-line carpet. 3 patios. A/C. No pets, no Sec. 8. \$2,000 plus deposit. 707-425-5679.

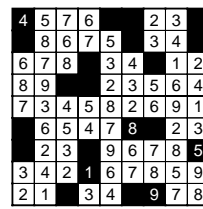
Puzzles

STR8TS

No. 447 Tough



Previous solution - Medium

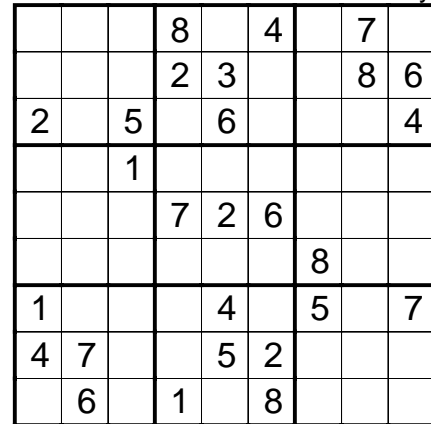


How to beat STR8TS – Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into **compartments**. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A **straight** is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, 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.

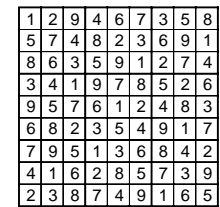
You can find more help, tips and hints at www.str8ts.com

SUDOKU

No. 447 Easy



Previous solution - Very Hard



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

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Retiree Corner

AAFES recruiting vets to fill downrange positions

DALLAS — The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is recruiting veterans to bring a taste of home to warfighters downrange.

The 123-year-old Department of Defense retailer is seeking veterans to deploy to fill various positions wherever the Exchange

operates within Southwest Asia and Eastern Europe.

The Exchange operates 41 direct-run stores on 32 installations in eight Middle East countries, including Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Qatar, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, as well as on installations in Europe, such as Bosnia, Kosovo, Romania, Poland and Bulgaria.

— **AAFES News Service**

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 noon Sunday at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Fairfield Stake Center, 2700 Camrose Ave., Fairfield.

DGMC Chapel

- Latter-day Saints Service: 4 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at DGMC Medical Center Chapel.
- For all other inquiries, 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, 6-8 p.m. every second and third Tuesday of the month at First Street Chapel Annex, vice 8-9 a.m. first Saturday of the month.

- Moms group. Jesus Cares ministry, EFMP children's ministry, 4:30-6:30 p.m., every third Saturday of the month at First Street Chapel Annex.

Twin Peaks Chapel

- Protestant Women of the Chapel: 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday.

DGMC Chapel

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

Airmen's Ministry Center

- The Peak is open from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday at Bldg. 1348. Home-cooked meal from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays followed by Bible study.



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

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 Recruiting Office. Now open at the Solano Town Center mall. Learn more about what the Air Force has to offer, such as up to 100-percent tuition assistance, 30 days paid vacation per year, free medical and dental care, tax-free housing and food allowance and much more. Contact Tech. Sgt. George Yardley at 707-889-3088 or stop by the office located at 1350 Travis Blvd., Suite P2, Fairfield, in the Solano mall.

Air Force Sergeants Association "Walter E. Scott" Chapter 1320. General membership meetings are at 2 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at Wingman's in the Delta Breeze Club and include a free breakfast. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Reynoldo Rios or Master Sgt. Rosel Agapay. **Airmen's Attic.** The Airmen's Attic is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, 560 Hickam Ave. For more information, call 707-424-8740 or visit the Facebook page "The Attic at Travis AFB."

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

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

Base illicit discharge number. To report sewage/water leaks or illegal dumping, call 707-424-2575. For hazardous chemical/material spills, call the base emergency numbers.

Civilian Health Promotion Services.

Will perform free wellness screenings from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. every Monday for all DoD federal civilians. Screenings include cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure and body composition analysis. For more information, visit www.afmcfwellness.com or contact CHPS at 707-424-CHPS or CHPSTravis@foh.hhs.gov. **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."

Family Advocacy Parent/Child play groups.

Toddlers to the Max play group 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 play group 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 to 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 travspcombatpsts@gmail.com.

Government no-fee passports. All submissions of applications for government no-fee passports must now include: 1) A photocopy of Military Identification Card front and back;

2) Passport photo taken in the past six months; 3) Supporting document(s), proof of U.S. citizenship certified copy with state or county seal, if it involved a name change submit a court order or marriage certificate. Passport application cannot be handwritten and printed back to back and must be completed online with 2D barcode at website <https://pptform.state.gov> and/or <https://travel.state.gov>. For more information, call 707-424-5324.

Hometown News Releases. To submit a Hometown News Release, visit <https://hns.release.dma.mil/public> and fill out the information.

Mare Island Museum. Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. 1100 Railroad Ave. in Vallejo. 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.

MPF self-renewal program. Did you know that dependents can now renew their ID cards online? To participate in this program, visit <http://bit.ly/2mR1gl2>. This program is limited only for renewing dependents' IDs. For all other services, visit MPF during duty hours or call 707-424-8483.

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

Photocopying of military identification. The prohibition 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.

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 Air Force Base Heritage Center. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Building 80, 461 Burgan Blvd., Travis Air Force Base. Escorts required for general public, call center to arrange. Free. 424-5598, www.travisheritagecenter.org.

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.

Tuskegee Airman Lee A. Archer Chapter. Meets at 3 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

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



- Dina Patterson-Steward, 60th Aerial Port Squadron

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

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

Local events

Events

Benicia Farmers Market. 4 to 8 p.m. Thursdays through August, 4 to 7 p.m. September and October, First Street between B and D streets. www.beniciamainstreet.org

Fairfield Farmers Market and Thursday on the Green. 3 p.m. Thursdays through Oct. 4, Jefferson and Texas streets. www.fairfieldmainstreet.com.

Film Club. "Metropolis," 4 p.m. July 20, Empress Theatre, 330 Virginia St., Vallejo. www.empresstheatre.org.

Party on the Patio. 5:30 p.m. Thursdays, through Oct. 24, Cast Iron Grill & Bar, 700 Main St., Suisun City. www.facebook.com/castirongrillandbar.

"Sounds of Suspense." Radio broadcast, noon fourth Friday of each month, Vacaville Public Library-Town Square, 1 Town Square Place. Free. www.solanoliberal.com.

Third Thursday Night Market. 5 to 8:30 p.m. through September, Andrews Park, Vacaville. Free admission. www.downtownvacaville.com.

Vacaville Farmers Market. 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, through October, Creekwalk Plaza at Andrews Park. www.vacavillefarmers-market.com.

Vallejo Art Walk. 5 to 10 p.m. second Friday of each month, downtown Vallejo. Free admission. www.vallejoartwalk.com.

Vallejo Farmers Market. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, year-round, Georgia and Marin streets. www.pcfma.com.

Vintage Market. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every third Saturday, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 101 West St., Vacaville. 925-978-6989.

Music and dance

Ambassadors of Music. "An Afternoon of

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

Today

- 6:30 p.m. "The Lion King" (PG, first run)

Saturday

- 6:30 p.m. "The Lion King" (PG, first run)

Sunday

- 2 p.m. "The Lion King" (PG, first run)

For more information on the Reel Time program, visit <https://bit.ly/2JG2nDU>.

THE FLIP SIDE

Airmen complete FTAC



U.S. Air Force photo

Congratulations to the latest Airmen to complete the First Term Airman Center course. Alphabetically: Airman 1st Class Quintin Anderson, 21st Airlift Squadron; Airman 1st Class Isaac Asia, 860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Jennifer Barca, 921st Contingency Response Squadron; Airman Basic Kaleb Blackmon, 60th Aerial Port Squadron; Airman 1st Class Lenora Boot, 60th Operations Support Squadron; Airman 1st Class Ryan Butler, 60th Medical Support Squadron; Airman Joshua Butler, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron; Airman 1st Class Benjamin Chase, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Jurnee Collins, 660th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Jeremy Console, 660th AMXS; Airman Logan Duke, 22nd AS; Airman 1st Class Trenton Erickson, 860th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Grant Gibbs, 921st CRS; Airman 1st Class Anna Gilpatrick, U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West, Airman 1st Class David Gonzalez, 60th MDSS; Airman Basic Parker Henderson, 60th APS; Airman Myunghoon Jung, 517th Training Squadron; Airman 1st Class Ryan Lallish, 21st AS; Airman 1st Class John Lauriano, 660th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Andrew Loza, 60th CES; Airman 1st Class Savannah Mead, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Airman 1st Class Matthew Melder, 60th LRS; Airman 1st Class Nelson Mendoza, 60th Surgical Operations Squadron; Airman 1st Class Mackenzie Miller, 60th OSS; Airman 1st Class Christine Mitchell, 60th APS; Airman Mark Ringgenberg, 22nd AS; Airman 1st Class Quentin Schultz, 660th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Antonio Talavera, 22nd AS; Airman Basic Jessica Vargo, 60th Security Forces Squadron; and Airman Sebastian Velazquez, 660th AMXS.

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

E-6

From Page 10

- Kelsey Owens, 60th SFS
- Johnathan Page, 60th CES
- Kristen Platlan, 60th SFS
- Jamie Payne, 60th CES
- Benjamin Peck, 60th CES
- Anthony Pena, 60th SFS
- Shyanne Perry, 60th Comp-troller Squadron
- Alana Phillips, 60th IPTS
- Vincent Pinkley, 60th CS
- Matteo Piruzza, 60th OSS
- Andrews Posada, 60th SFS
- Danielle Price, 60th FSS
- Benjamin Reed, 60th CES
- Justine Reinhardt, 60th Dental Squadron
- Samuel Richards, 60th SFS
- Justin Rico, 60th CES
- Syed Rizvi, 60th CES
- Adam Robb, 60th MXG
- Clark Robinson, 60th OSS
- Nathan Rogers, 6th ARS
- Scott Sanders, 660th AMXS
- Caleb Schneider, 860th AMXS
- Joshua Schwab, 60th OSS
- Jonathan Scott-James, 60th LRS
- Nana Sefa, 60th LRS
- Justin Simmons, 60th SFS
- Nathan Simon, 660th AMXS
- Benjamin Smith, 60th OSS
- Jerry Snyder, 60th DS
- Daniel Socarras, 860th AMXS
- Douglas Spencer, 60th AMXS
- Nicholas Stine, 60th MXG
- Alex Stoll, 6th ARS
- Jessica Stoneburg, 60th OSS
- Gerald Styles, 60th SFS
- Aaron Tate, 9th ARS
- Curtis Taylor, 60th APS
- Jael Thomas, 60th CPTS
- Jennifer Thomas, 60th MXG
- Ryan Thomas, 60th MXS
- Timothy Thomas, 60th AMXS
- March Tighe, 60th MXS
- Ruben Tolbert, 60th DS
- Brixon Tumaneng, 60th MDOS
- Emanuel Turcu, 60th CS
- Corey Turner, 60th CS
- William Tysar, 60th MDG
- Kierre Vance, 22nd AS
- Mark Visita, 60th DS
- Justin Welsh, 660th AMXS
- Cody Whipp, 60th APS
- Daniel Wiggers, 22nd AS

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AF flies HH-60W for first time

Jennifer Vollmer

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — The 413th Flight Test Squadron successfully conducted the first Air Force-piloted flight of the HH-60W Combat Rescue Helicopter July 11. The test took place at Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Development Flight Center in West Palm Beach.

The unit embedded Air Force personnel with the contractor, Sikorsky, to provide early warfighter involvement and operationally relevant developmental testing.

The aircraft, based on the Army's UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter, is modified to perform missions locating and rescuing downed pilots in hostile territory. The Air Force is contracted to purchase 113 HH-60W aircraft to replace its aging fleet of HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters.

"Our entire team has been focused on bringing together a lot of moving parts to



Courtesy photo/Lockheed Martin

The HH-60W Combat Rescue Helicopter is the helicopter the Air Force has contracted to replace its fleet of HH-60G Pave Hawks.

get here today," said Lt. Col. Wayne Dirkes, 413th FLTS operations officer. "We are really excited to be a part of recapitalizing a vital component of our warfighting strategy,"

The purpose of the test flight was to collect level flight performance data the Air Force requires to move the program into the production and deployment phase of the defense acquisition process.

According to Dirkes, the crew performed an instrumentation and telemetry checkout with the control room, gathered basic engine start data and flew referred gross weight level flight speed sweeps between 40 knots and maximum horizontal speed.

"Performance testing requires extremely precise aircraft control, and our test pilot maintained tolerances of plus or minus one knot of

airspeed, 20 feet of altitude and less than 100 feet per minute vertical speed, flying by hand," Dirkes explained.

The flight also served as a method for the test pilot to complete the required qualifications to fly the aircraft. Maj. Andrew Fama, a 413th FLTS test pilot, was the first Air Force pilot to fly the aircraft.

"I'm honored to be the first Air Force pilot to fly the 'Whiskey' and very excited to deliver a new aircraft to my rescue brothers and sisters," Fama said.

Sikorsky pilots have been flying the aircraft for about a month; however, this milestone marks the beginning of integrated government and contractor flight test operations.

There are six aircraft dedicated to the developmental test program. The 413th's HH-60W operations are scheduled to begin at Eglin AFB Auxiliary Field #3, also known as Duke Field, Florida, this fall.

Hernandez

From Page 2

completed the goal of just improving my circumstances. In reality, I had just taken one step forward and settled, which I could no longer allow.

The Air Force strengthened the pride I have in myself, by demanding I pursue excellence in all I do. Along with integrity and service before self, the values replaced my old hate-driven motivation. They gave me the ability to "rumble" once again, this time, to become better and support something I believed in. It gave me direction to become the best Airman I could possibly be. I hustled to become a certified patrolman as an airman first class, something not done before at my duty location. I was also selected for the incredibly rewarding duty of protecting three former secretaries of defense.

Once I became a supervisor, I learned the ability to "rumble" was different for everyone. For a long time I was frustrated with my Airmen because I didn't understand why they wouldn't "rumble." I found one common denominator with all my Airmen: They believed more in actions than words. They had to see someone float like a butterfly and sting like a bee. I worked on improving myself with any educational and professional development opportunity available. I took any task and always gave it my all. My "rumble" and passion became their motivation. It illuminated them to the possibility of reaching higher levels such as taking the lead in their own respective positions, working to attain higher education and always trying to out work the person next to them, which is what Muhammad Ali had did for me. More importantly, the joy of seeing the people I motivated with my hustle become successful was amazing. It has been one of the best joys in my life.

"I read a quote recently that resonated with me: 'People who care about animals tend to care about people,'" she said. "They don't care about animals to the exclusion of people. Caring is not a finite resource and, even more than that, it's like a muscle — the more you exercise it, the stronger it gets."

"Veterans are proud people, and when we fall on hard times, we appreciate the help up, but want to walk once again on our own," she said. "Veterans are looking for support, not pity."

Another of Hunt's passions is working with and rescuing animals. She has fostered 26 dogs and cats. Additionally, she's trapped 37 feral cats to have them neutered and released.

"I usually leave with new animal additions to my family," she said about permanent changes of station.

Hunt said that her commitment to valuing animals started at a young age, when her parents taught her about treating other species with respect.

Even after all Hunt has accomplished, she said she was surprised to be recognized as VOY.

Aguiar-Curry represents the 4th Assembly District, which includes Lake and Napa counties, parts of Colusa, Solano and Sonoma counties and Yolo County except West Sacramento.

Veteran

From Page 5

or retired," she said. "I am grateful for each opportunity and believe I was in each position for a reason."

Hunt understands the gravitas that comes with the duty. She holds many hard memories, such as comforting crying, distraught families. One night she also received a phone call that an Airman she knew committed suicide and she needed to prepare for the funeral.

But Hunt saw stories of perseverance, too. As the honor guard superintendent at Travis, she performed honors at 1,484 funerals and supported 611 formal details, leading 432 Airmen. One of those Airmen was an honor guard member who was afraid of caskets due to traumatic events as a child.

"I urged her to try and

Pilots showcase virtual reality

Master Sgt. Daryl Knee

AIR COMBAT COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va. — Helicopter pilots and special mission aviators from the 41st Rescue Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, performed a demonstration of a virtual reality training system for Air Combat Command leadership July 8 as part of a squadron-led innovation showcase.

Lt. Gen. Chris Weggeman, ACC deputy commander, viewed the demonstration and lauded the unit's efforts to incorporate new technologies into the squadron's everyday culture.

"It's inspiring," Weggeman said. "I think it's going to be a set of equipment that will allow us to improve the efficiency of how we conduct training in the HH-60, and it'll also give us insights into the broader Pilot Training Next (program) and all the things we're doing with virtual reality."

The trainer allows four people to don VR headgear and simultaneously enter a server to fly a virtual HH-60G Pave Hawk combat search and rescue

helicopter in simulated training missions. The controls are the same equipment the helicopter uses to add further realism to the VR environment.

"Science and technology innovations in VR present an excellent opportunity to advance and augment realistic training and learning for our warfighters to not only maintain competitive advantage but also to increase lethality over emerging threats," said Dr. John D. Matyjas, the scientific adviser to the ACC commander and the person who arranged the demonstration. "The 41st RQS seized this opportunity and showcased results in just a couple months."

And this is how it all came together.

In mid-2018, Moody AFB leadership hosted a Spark Tank competition, an innovation-driven event in which participating Airmen present their ideas in an effort to secure funding. The winning concepts more often than not focus on increasing squadron readiness, modernizing mission sets and creating a more resilient, future-minded Air Force.

SEAC

From Page 7

force integration, utilization, health of the force and joint development for enlisted personnel.

During his visit, Troxell visited the base commissary and observed combatives and military working dog demonstrations put on by the 6th Security Forces Squadron. Troxell discussed the importance of joint force readiness, fitness, training and trust within each organization.

"By empowering troops, they can reach into untapped potential," said Troxell. "Empowered troops are ready, focused and more lethal."

The visit culminated in a town hall style all-call for local senior enlisted leadership, where Troxell revealed what he considers the key to war fighting dominance.

"The greatest advantage that our military has is in the human domain and the people of our enlisted force," said Troxell. "No other nation in the world puts the level of trust, confidence, training, education and empowerment in the people like the United States military, and that, in the end, is what is going to win the day."

Troxell added that NCOs who understand the



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Shannon Bowman

U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. John W. Troxell, senior enlisted adviser to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks during a joint force noncommissioned officer all call July 11 at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida.

commander's intent and are empowered to exercise disciplined initiative with their agile and adaptive thinking provide the U.S. with its greatest competitive advantage.

"That's why we are the greatest military in the world," Troxell said.

We must continue to focus on the basic tenants of being part of the warrior class, explained Troxell, emphasizing

the importance of maintaining fitness standards and the ability to deploy forces at a moment's notice.

"Inspirational and engaged leadership provide purpose, motivation and direction," said Troxell. "People feel like they are part of the organization when they have engaged leadership, and that is one of our strongest recruiting tools."

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Innovation

From Page 3

on fostering respect and worth in Airmen's ideas."

For Airmen like O'Laughlin, that environment is the difference between spinning his wheels and planting them on a path to new, uncharted territories for an Air Force he sees as ripe for an update.

"What we're doing in the squadron now is unprecedented in other LRS squadrons around the Air Force," he said. "It's our leadership's attitude of saying, 'Yeah, that sounds awesome. Do it.' that gives those of us who experience some of these problems and frustrations on a day-to-day basis the agency to approach each day with a mindset of owning the work we do; that this isn't just Gen. Goldfein's Air Force or Col. Nelson's Air Force, but our Air Force."

O'Laughlin, whose idea it was to construct a mobile fuel pressurizing manifold to replace the time-sapping to-and-fro sequence of yesterday's LRS, recently had an audience with Brig. Gen. Linda Hurry, Defense Logistics Agency Aviation commander, regarding the pushing out of his prototype to the Air Force at-large.

"In every LRS squadron - in every squadron, period - there exists a rich, often untapped resource, and that's every Airman who has taken the time to become a subject matter expert in their area of responsibility," Janes said. "What we've done is taken a position of enabling, not squandering, that resource and it has time and again paid dividends not just for us, but for every Airman who will ever touch the technology and processes we're pushing out."

"It's my hope that when some of these Airmen change stations, their new squadron will be using the exact tech their work here has made possible. I want our Airmen to go onto



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christian Conrad

A prototype mobile fuel pressurizer sits ready for use beside a 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuel truck July 10 at Travis Air Force Base, California. The prototype has been proven to cut man hours for the fuel pressurization process from two hours to 45 minutes and is the brainchild of Senior Airman Tanner O'Laughlin, 60th LRS fuels distribution operator.

other squadrons and be able to say, 'Hey, you're welcome. I helped make that.'"

That's not to say every idea that comes from the 60th LRS think tank can be implemented, but for Janes, innovation culture means more than what the Air Force can receive from their Airmen.

"Innovation culture, at its heart, means acknowledging our Airmen as

the SMEs they are and that no matter how much weight is on your sleeves or your lapels, there is always value in what we all bring to the table," he said.

At the end of the day, though, Janes acknowledges the 60th LRS for what it is: just one squadron; something he takes stock of in an open challenge to Travis' other 19.

"No squadron is going to succeed in

changing the Air Force alone," he said. "We've elicited the help of several different agencies while constructing our projects. They helped us not because it was their job that day to do so, but because they, like us, have the urge to leave this Air Force better than how we found it. Something every Airman of every squadron on Travis should ask themselves is 'Do I have that urge in myself?'"

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Mechanic

From Page 4

FCCs, making the job of flying the airplane much easier.

"With our aging KC-10 fleet, the flying crew chiefs are vital to mission accomplishment," Hickman said. "When the aircraft are out in the system, there is only so much aircrew can do to troubleshoot and fix maintenance issues as they occur."

"The flying crew chiefs are the ones who work those issues, many times after a long flight, allowing the aircrew to enter crew rest," Hickman said. "The partnership between flying crew chiefs and the aircrew is extremely important and is what keeps the mission moving on time."

The role of an FCC calls to individuals who embrace a problem-solving mindset and commit to the continual work required of them.

"There are so many times I have been on missions and the flying crew chief worked magic to get the aircraft ready for the next day. I have seen these amazing maintainers conduct major maintenance operations while transiting Alaska where the temps continuously fell below freezing to places where the temps continuously stayed above 100°F.

"The expertise they provide and the dedication they display is truly a driving



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

Senior Airman John Phoebeus, 660th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aero propulsion apprentice, checks the tire pressure on a KC-10 Extender prior to takeoff July 11 at Travis Air Force Base, California.

force in keeping the KC-10 fleet in the fight and conducting worldwide operations," Hickman said.

An FCC must know every inch of the aircraft from nose to tail, conducting day-to-day maintenance, including end-of-runway, post-flight, preflight, thru-flight inspections as well as record keeping and administration.

"Minus the regular crew chief tasks, you need to be familiar with

troubleshooting all other systems on the aircraft," Smith said. "You also need to know how to manage the people you are with and figure out logistical problems as well as getting what we need to get the aircraft off the ground on time."

"I believe it has enhanced my skills as a leader and helps me think outside of the box. Honestly, at this point in my flying career, there really aren't any challenges that can't be overcome with a

little knowledge of the technical orders and little tricks I have learned over the years."

Smith went on to relate a point in his career which particularly stands out in his memory.

"One of the best moments I had was in 2009 while deployed to the Middle East. I just finished launching a jet on a routine mission when I saw a truck fly past me heading to the Horn of Africa alert jet. This is a KC-10 Extender that is on constant preflight by aircrew and remains on alert status. If the need arises, the aircrew can show up to the jet, turn the engines on and go. So after this truck passed me, I headed over to the alert aircraft and asked what was up. The pilot screamed, PIRATES!"

Smith laughed and shrugged it off, got on his headset and prepared to launch. The pilot started all three engines and took off.

"I found out later I launched out the tanker that refueled the aircraft carrying the Navy Seals who rescued ship Capt. Richard Philips when Somali pirates hijacked the Maersk Alabama in the Indian Ocean," Smith said.

Newly married, Smith hopes to focus more on his family and eventually make the transition to civilian life. But for now, he will continue to fly.

"It still gives me pride to get the mission done," Smith said.

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App

From Page 4

Air Force life and career. Top features in the 60th AMW sub-app for Team Travis include:

- Base notifications.
- Map and directory.
- Space-A travel resources.
- David Grant USAF Medical Center information.
- 60th Force Support Squadron resources.
- And more.

Additional features are planned for future release, and feedback is welcomed to ensure the sub-app meets the needs of users across Team Travis. The app collects no personal data and cannot be used to track your location.

In addition to the content available within the primary app and the multiple sub-apps, the USAF Connect team is beta testing mobile common access card functionality.

This feature allows Airmen to pair their device with a mobile CAC reader to access some CAC-secured sites, such as:

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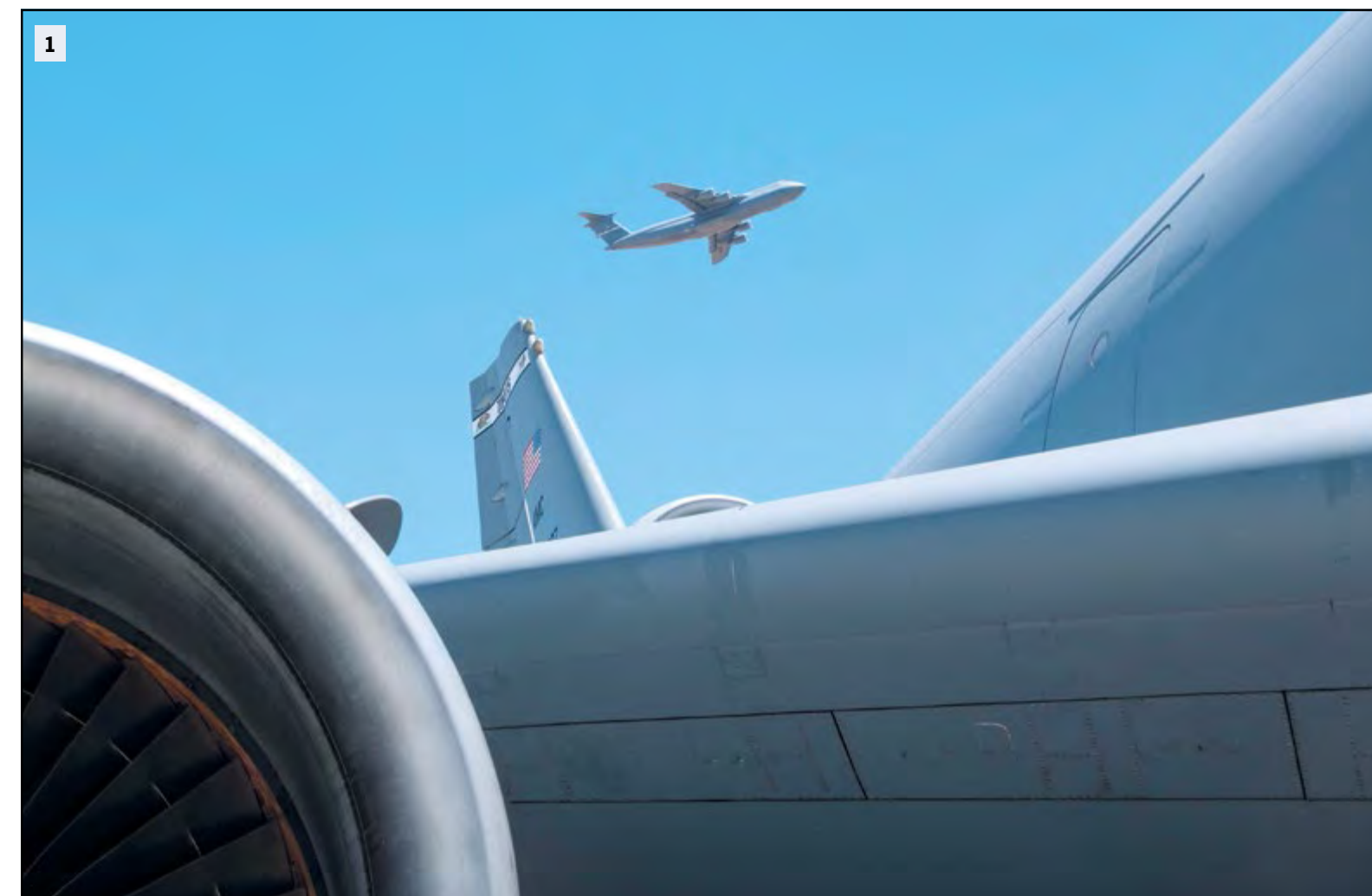
Students

From Page 6

'real' side of K9."

The tour concluded with lunch at the base's Heritage Center followed by a question and answer session with Airmen.

"We are very happy Travis was able to host us today," Mendieta said. "Our kids and our team got a lot of insight from this event. Now when we point at Travis' largest aircraft, we know why they do what they do."



1) A KC-10 Extender is seen in the foreground of a departing C-5M Super Galaxy July 11 at Travis Air Force Base, California. With roughly 3,300 aircraft continuously arriving and departing on a monthly basis, Travis handles more cargo and passenger traffic than any other military air terminal in the United States. 2) A KC-10 landing strut is serviced by ground maintenance July 11 at Travis AFB. Although the KC-10's primary mission is aerial refueling, it can combine the tasks of a tanker and cargo aircraft by refueling fighters while simultaneously carrying support personnel and equipment. 3) An E-3 Sentry Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft departs July 11 at Travis AFB. The aircraft, which is assigned to Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, is equipped with a 30-foot-wide radar subsystem that permits surveillance up to the Earth's stratosphere.

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