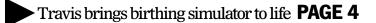
Working dog competition sinks teeth into Travis

PAGES 16-17

Tailwind | Travis AFB, Calif. Friday, April 21, 2017 | Vol. 42, Number 16

Final KC-10 returns after modification **PAGE 3**



Time spent with people not regretted



stone of 24 years of service, one I never thought I would achieve when I left my home as a young kid not sure exactly what I wanted to do, but ing at home with my parents.

by Maj. Traci Bowman **60TH LOGISTICS** READINESS SOUADRON

knowing I didn't want to do it liv-While I have had amazing adventures and been given incredible opportunities, there is a fairly common lesson I learn each time my family packs up our home for the next assignment: regret.

his March I reached a mile

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm

Commander's Commentary

not talking heart-wrenching regret like you see in a lifetime movie, but the kind you promise yourself you won't make again—the regret of not spending more time with your military family. I get it, we are busy, but have you ever tried to pack a ton of going away lunches and dinners your last month at the assignment because you realize how little

time you spent with your (fill-in-theblanks)? Have you ever tried to fit vour base X bucket list in the month before you move?

When we arrived at Travis we were immediately invited to dinner, and one of the guests suggested we continue getting together monthly for dinner with fairly simple rules: No kids and we rotate houses. This monthly dinner is one of my favorite events and it has helped me plan other dinners, brunches and even camping trips with people we like spending time with, instead of

hunkering down in the house every weekend using the long hard week as an excuse to be hermits.

I share this with you to inspire you to pick up the phone this week and invite your neighbors over for a barbeque, or get your co-workers together for coffee. Find people at your church and invite them out after service: whoever it is, make time to connect with the people around you.

Travis is an amazing place with amazing people, so get out there and enjoy them both before you receive vour next assignment notification.

For some, all months are Autism Awareness Month

Commentary by Shellie-Anne Espinosa

21ST SPACE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Something is different with my child. Every parent has that worry at some time. For my husband and I, that worry became a reality one year ago.

April is Autism Awareness month and is also the anniversary of when my daughter was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

We started worrying about our daughter, Rebekah, when she was one year old. She was not speaking yet. She did not verbalize at all. She was very quiet except when she was upset. She would scream then, but only for a short time until we figured out what was wrong.

We did a questionnaire at her one-year well-baby check, and had one of the questions raise a red flag. Our daughter did not point at things. This is one of the early

Travis AFB. Calif.

60th Air Mobility Wing

Air Force

Col. John Klein

Daily Republic

Nick DeCicco

Tailwind editor

Todd R. Hansen

Copy editor

Commentary

signs of autism. Not knowing anything about autism, we did not think much at all about this red

flag. We were mainly concerned with her lack of verbalization. Her doctor said to keep an eye on her progression but not to worry too much. He explained the speech delay was often a product of too much television. While we did not necessarily agree with him, we went with his explanation.

The next couple of years were repeat episodes of her one-year doctor's visit. Bekah was not speaking and the doctors kept shrugging it off. Eventually we were able to convince a doctor to put in a referral for speech therapy.

Speech therapy did not do much for our daughter. When she turned three, she only used the words "more" and "please" when communicating.

It was difficult having a child who did not speak. My heart broke every time I would hear my friends' toddlers speaking, calling out for mama or dada and saying they loved them. I knew my daughter loved me, but still. I wanted to hear her sav it.

Since speech therapy was turning out little results, we decided to place our daughter in day care at the child development center when she turned three so she could interact with other kids. She picked up some habits through mimicry and developed a few more words, but still only had a vocabulary of around 15 words.

After a few months, her main caretaker at the CDC suggested we put Rebekah in the state's preschool program. That was one of the best pieces of advice we received to help our daughter.

Over the next nine months, Rebekah's vocabulary improved to 50 words. She still wasn't speaking in complete sentences, but she had shown significant

improvement in speech and some improvement in social interactions.

At one point, while attending a preschool function, my husband told me that something was different with Rebekah. We watched as she did her own thing while the rest of the class participated in games with the teacher. It was hard to watch, but, for myself, it was even harder to hear those words said out loud.

At Rebekah's four year physical, she had a new doctor. I told him about the issues Rebekah had. He spent the next five minutes attempting a conversation with her and then steeled himself to ask us a question that I will never forget.

"Has anyone ever discussed autism with you?"

My heart shattered at hearing this. I knew next to nothing about the disorder. All I could think was that my daughter no longer had a future. Her doctor tried

See ESPINOSA Page 24

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On the cover

Travis Air Force Base, Calif., hosted the Western States Police Canine Association's fourth annual K9 Trial April 14-15. K9 competitors were evaluated on aggressive behavior and how well they respond to commands.

U.S. Air Force photo/T.C. Perkins Jr.



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Air Force. While most of the editorial content of the Tailwind is prepared by the 60th Air Mobil-60th Air Mobility Wing commander ity Wing Public Affairs office for its Webbased product, the content for the Tail-2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson wind is edited and prepared for print by Chief of command information the Daily Republic staff.

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TRAVIS

Final KC-10 returns after modification

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

The 9th and 6th Air Refueling Squadrons at Travis Air Force Base, California, flew home March 28 with the 59th and final modified KC-10 Extender, signifying the completion of a six-year project.

Since 2011, KC-10 fleets at Travis and Joint Base Mc-Guire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, have been undergoing flight management system modifications. The new system, called the Communication, Navigation, Surveillance/ Air Traffic Management system, modernizes the aircraft, increases mission effectiveness and improves fuel efficiency.

Aircrews previously operated the Flight Management System 800, but have gradually been turning over to the CNS/ATM, developed by an Air Force contracting company. Multiple jets from Travis and JBMDL were flown in succession over the course of the project to Will Rogers World Airport, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to undergo the modification. Once there, the modification process took several months to complete.

Once a jet was finished, aircrews went back to Oklahoma City to receive the aircraft and complete an acceptance check flight to ensure the upgrade



The aircrew who completed the final KC-10 Extender modification flight displays the coin it received to signify the completion of the project April 5 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

The 59th and final ACF was asset for the last 35 years and aircrew that completed it.

"It was an honor to pick up important modernization program that will keep the KC-10 in the fight for years to come," said Capt. Melissa Hughes, 9th

especially significant, said the will remain relevant for years to come with this upgrade."

"(We were) sitting on the the last modified jet from an runway ramp about to do the ACF and we could look outside and all the (contracting) team. all the people who were managing this entire project, were ARS instructor pilot. "There watching us leave," said 1st has been a ton of spotlight on Lt. Robert Bedell, 9th ARS piwas fully effective. If so, the jet the KC-46 (Pegasus) as the lot. "It was their milestone. For would be flown home to be re- tanker of the future, but the them it was huge, and you got KC-10 has been an important to see them excited that their

project is done.'

The ACF consisted of seven approaches and various flight maneuvers fully testing the modification.

most intense because of the ning at 105 degrees, you're goscenario we had to fly," said Staff Sgt. Ryan Young, 6th said Bedell. "For completing ARS instructor flight engineer. the worldwide mission of de-"There was a lot of things go- ployments and getting around ing on all at once, so it's pretty involved."

Upon a successful landing

from the ACF, the crew of four was presented with a coin from the contracting team, signifying the completion of the entire project and the acceptance of the 59th aircraft.

"When we were coined, it was unexpected," said Tech Sgt. Daniel Flenniken, 6th ARS instructor boom operator. "But I finally realized the huge milestone that it was."

The previous FMS 800 system used gyroscopes to display functions and status of the aircraft, such as the accelerometer. These gyroscopes would often overheat and require maintenance.

"The old gyroscopes generated a lot of heat, which affected other components (of the aircraft)," said Flenniken. "They would fail."

The CNS/ATM replaces the old gyroscopes with an infrared laser system. The system increases accuracy while generating significantly less heat, which in turn increases fuel efficiency for the aircraft, said Flenniken.

"Especially in a deployed environment, where you're in 100-degree weather and you have a component that has to "The check flight was the run at 60 degrees and it's runing to run it ragged a lot faster," the world, it will be a lot better for that."

See KC-10 Page 21



Name: Staff Sgt. Ruben Lima.

Unit: 22nd Airlift Squadron.

Duty title: Instructor flight engineer.

Hometown: Fort Lauderdale. Florida.

Time in service: 11 vears.

Time at Travis: Five years.

Family: Spouse. Brittany Lima.

What are your goals? Earn my private pilot's license and finish my master's degree.

What are your hobbies? Bass guitar, making videos and traveling.

What is your greatest achievement? Becoming an instructor flight engineer.

4 TAILWIND

Travis first in AF to receive birthing simulator

Louis Briscese 60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

David Grant USAF Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, California, is debuting a state-of-the-art birth simulator that will enhance the obstetric capabilities of its nurses, providers and technicians.

Providers and staff at DGMC's Maternal Child Flight. part of the 60th Inpatient Squadron, will now use the Complicated OB Emergency Simulator, which replaces the previous simulator, called the Mobile Obstetric Emergency Simulator. The COES is an improved training platform that will enhance the quality of analysis and feedback available from training sessions.

"The Defense Health Agency purchased five of the COES for the Department of Defense and chose Travis as the pilot base for the Air Force to provide the training and necessary feedback," said Maj. Jeanette Brogan, a clinical nurse specialist with the 60th IPTS.

If successful, the COES will be a standardized training platform that all clinical staff members can use to improve their obstetric skills.

One of the main capabilities of the new COES is the data reporting and tracking system it now features.

"We now can provide a standardized training platform for all clinical staff, which promotes a standardization for patient safety," said Theresa Hart, a nurse consultant and the program manager for perinatal, pediatrics and special medical programs within the DHA.

It will also help Travis document how they perform as a team.

"The computer instantly gathers data on how we work as a team and sends that information to the Air Force Medical Operations Agency and DHA," said Capt. Tamara Grimaud. the MCF commander and a clinical nurse specialist with the 60th IPTS.

The new equipment sends the data automatically, so evaluators get real-time updates on which providers are doing what tasks as well as an immediate

Medical staff conduct training on the new Complicated OB Emergency Simulator April 11 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The Defense Health Agency selected Travis as one of five installations within the

after action report, she added.

Defense Department to be a pilot base for the new system.

Under the MOES, data was sent manually through an email and contained information about the type of training conducted, who attended and training results. The new system helps providers and staff achieve the overall goal to increase patient safety while standardizing clinical processes.

The MCF conducts weekly trainings to hone their skills and prepare for emergencies. The scenarios are mandatory for all nurses and technicians assigned to the unit.

"All the scenarios we perform are considered high risk and low volume," said Brogan. "They're not things that happen every day but when they do, we need to know what to do and do it right away. It's impor-

the emergency, and the actions we've taken to resolve the emergency.

The COES also comes with an infant and birthing simulator, a feature not available with the previous MOES simulator. The advantage of this is that scenario-based training can now be conducted on newborns, such as respiratory failure and the amount of pressure being applied when providing care.

"The infant and birthing simulator enhances the system's capabilities by providing necessary training that wasn't possible under the MOES," said Lt. Col. Barton Staat, the Air Force Surgeon General consultant for obstetrics and maternal-fetal medicine. "You can actually record the amount tant to know how the scenario of force and pressure being sults. Travis plans to share situation, said Siler.

scenarios, like a shoulder dystocia delivery, for example."

The MCF has been at the forefront of advanced obstetrics training, even before receiving year in its medical facilities the COES. More frequent training by the flight led to the development of an improved algorithm used to help newborns breathe after delivery.

"We've had a lot of success with the training and improved the way we resuscitate IPTS. "Occasionally you have babies by eliminating compres- an emergency situation, and sions," said Brogan. "Most of those are the ones we practice the time it is a respiratory issue that gives a newborn breathing problems; because of the frequency of the training and how skilled we've become, we don't even get to the compression tion equipment and training obstage anymore."

goes, how quickly we respond to applied during unusual birthing information and best practices with other OB units around the Air Force.

The DOD performs more than 50.000 deliveries every worldwide, with Travis performing 30 to 35 deliveries each month on average.

"Most of the patients we see at this facility are low risk," said Capt. Danielle Siler, an element leader with the 60th for. It might not be something we're anticipating, but at deliverv something shows up and we have to be ready to respond."

The new high-tech simulajectives are invaluable in help-Because of these re- ing prepare for each and every

April 21, 2017

Senior Airman Ryan Laneville, left, and Staff Sgt. Daniel Vendetta, both members of the 60th Maintenance Squadron, break down flare mods April 5 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Laneville and Vendetta are part of the maintenance squadron's munitions team, responsible for munitions valued at over \$13 million.

Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman 60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

axy aircraft.

Maintenance







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

Munitions helps project power

About a dozen Airmen at Travis Air Force Base, California, are responsible for safeguarding \$13 million in munirounds of 5.56 mm and 9 mm ammunition, as well as flares for more than 30 C-17 Globemaster III and C-5M Super Gal-

The members of the 60th Squadron's

Munitions Flight provide the with ammunition needed to protect nearly 10,000 people and resources in excess of \$8.5 billion. The team also manages 52 organizational accounts and entions, including thousands of sures a large stockpile of munitions are ready when needed.

"We store, inspect and maintain a munitions stockpile to support the C-5, C-17 and 52 organizations with ammunition," said Senior Airman Jarred Cotter, 60th MXS.

"We assist the C-5 and C-17 60th Security Forces Squadron with countermeasures," he said. "Without countermeasures, if the aircraft were to fly over a danger zone and be shot at, the aircraft would not be capable of maneuvering to miss the threat. Every time I see our aircraft come back it makes me feel good because we possibly saved lives. I can go home at night knowing that people are going back to their families safe

See MUNITIONS Page 23

DGMC sets take-back day

60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

The David Grant USAF Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, California, will join local law enforcement agencies to take back unused and outdated drugs April 22.

People with base access can take items to the pharmacy in the base exchange minimall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. sors the day to reduce pre-DGMC also will have peo- scription drug abuse. To find ple on hand to receive drugs other drop off locations, go to at the Solano County Sheriff's http://bit.ly/2d9RNVt.

Office, 520 Clay Street, in Fairfield, California.

The disposal service is free with no questions asked. Needles, sharps, asthma inhalers and illicit drugs will not be accepted at the drop off locations

This year, the drug takeback program celebrates its 13 anniversary. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency spon-

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U.S. Air Force phote

A danger sign and beacon simulate real safety precautions taken during laser operations April 10 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Travis was selected as one of the first bases to test the new Nd:YAG lasers for paint, primer, corrosion and rust removal.

Maintenance shop wields lasers

Senior Airman Sam Salopek 349TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Looking much like a handheld vacuum cleaner attached the technology that may revoscream "innovation" on first glance.

Despite appearances, the canet laser have the potential to nance supervisor.

cultivate a healthier and safer work environment, as well ting the lasers was that it was as be a more efficient tool to ac- marketed as being able to be complish common shop tasks.

to an extra-large Shop-Vac, California, 60th Mainte- that has chromate in it. Chronance Squadron received new mate is a carcinogen; it causes lutionize the aircraft structur- Nd:YAG lasers designed to take cancer. One of the big things al maintenance shop does not away paint, primer, corrosion and rust more effectively than the old-school method of sanding and blasting, said Staff Sgt. pabilities of the neodymium- Bennie E. Rizzo III, 60th MXS doped yttrium aluminium gar- aircraft structural mainte-

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"One of the big pulls for getused without a respirator," The Travis Air Force Base, said Rizzo. "We use a primer about these lasers is they minimize our waste stream significantly."

Sanding and blasting knocks up carcinogens in the air, said Rizzo. The laser has a built-in vacuum. As it moves along and removes the substrate, it sucks up the particles, keeping them out of the air.

The aircraft structural maintenance shop at Travis was selected to test the capabilities of the lasers and develop a training plan as well as determine what personal protective equipment is required to operate the technology, said Rizzo.

The 60th MXS will be testing the new laser technology for the next two years.

"Because it's new, we're developing the training plan and we're developing the personal protective equipment requirements," said Master Sgt. Brian Horak, 60th MXS aircraft

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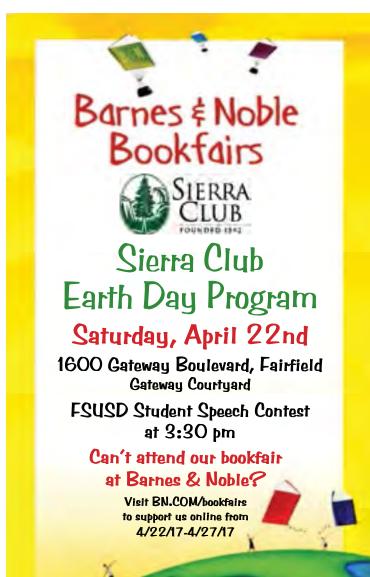


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U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson

60th Security Forces Squadron Phoenix Raven team members Senior Airman Joshua Wolf, left, Tech. Sgt. Brooke Williams, center left, Senior Airman Mayursinh Jadeja, center right, and Staff Sgt. Trevor Lopez stand behind the Phoenix Ravens seal April 6 at Travis Air Force Base. California. The Ravens recently completed a unique capstone mission in Africa Feb. 14-25.



Ravens complete Africa mission

2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A team of six Phoenix Ravens from the 60th Security Forces Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, California, completed a unique mission in Africa February 14 through 25.

The Phoenix Raven team is an Air Mobility Command program open to all security forces personnel who meet the prerequisites of fitness, time in service, conduct and character. Travis is one of seven hubs within AMC for the Raven program.

The elite security forces team is tasked with providing close-in security for any AMC aircraft that transit high-risk or high-threat areas. The 60th SFS team's mission is Africa, called a capstone mission, makes up only 5 percent of their annual work.

The team escorted 19 newly appointed military generals, flag officers and general-equivalent civilians in a cultural field study through the continent, stopping in Accra, Ghana, Entebbe, Uganda, Algeirs, Algeria certain airfields that AMC has

and Stuttgart, Germany.

These Capstone General and Flag Officer Courses are required for all military personnel who become generals as part of their enrollment at National Defense University in Washington, D.C. The course is also open to general-equivalent civilians from various governmental and non-governmental agencies, like United States Agency for International Development and Defense Intelligence Agency.

The capstone is the pinnacle of the course, and aims to make students more effective in planning and employing U.S. forces in joint and combined operations. While overseas, students examine major issues affecting national security decision making, military strategy, joint and combined doctrine, interoperability and key allied nation issues.

Often, the capstone mission takes students into potentially dangerous areas requiring top security.

"When (students) transit

deemed (as having) either inadequate security or unknown security, and not adequate to counter hostile threats, they send Phoenix Ravens in to stay with the aircraft and make sure no one tries to damage it (or) get onboard," said Staff Sgt. Trevor Lopez, 60th SFS Raven team leader at Travis and on the mission. "We provide overall security."

The Ravens must perform under long working hours, anywhere from 12 to 24-hour shifts. Once landed, the team focuses immediately on establishing protective measures for the C-17 Globemaster III aircraft while the passengers exit to lodging.

"Our first priority is to get out and make sure we post up security," said Lopez. "We'll get out of the jet, walk around. assess the area and see defensive areas (and) avenues of approach, things like that. Once we find out where everything is and who the normal people are that will be coming by, all See RAVEN Page 13



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Units join for active-shooter training

An Airman from the **60th Security Forces** Squadron checks on a victim during a simulated mass shooting at the base theater April 7. The 60th SFS, 60th Civil **Engineer Squadron** fire emergency services. Fairfield **Police Department** and Fairfield Fire **Department trained** together during the simulations to allow emergency medical technicians into the buildings faster to save victims. U.S. Air Force photo/Staff

Sgt. Nicole Leidholr



Protecting Airmen helps improve lives

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

The theme of the 2017 Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month campaign is "Protecting Our Airmen Protects Our Mission" because family, friends, co-workers, key leaders and community stakeholders can facilitate crucial conversations with those who have not been traditionally reached.

These leaders' influence is necessary in achieving cultural change, not just in April, but all year long.

The success of "Protecting Our Airmen Protects Our Mission" demonstrates we're strongest when we raise our voices

together. This April, continue joining us. Let's ensure our reach will be more powerful than ever.

"Can you hear me, can you see me: I'm a survivor" are words by sexual assault survivors at Travis Air Force Base, California. It takes a great deal of courage for a victim of sexual assault to report an incident.

On average a victim may have to tell their story three to five times in a restricted report and up to 11 times in an unrestricted report. Can you imagine telling this traumatic event over and over, reliving it every time you tell the story?

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office at See PROTECTING Page 12



flying, which is ultimately why derwater.' we are here in Air Force medicine," said McCusker, 60th Surfornia. In 2013, the Air Force dis- drain the ear. qualified 15 of 38 pilots and 73 bers with ETD, said Maj. (Dr.) Brian Davis, 6th Air Refueling Squadron flight surgeon. Addicants were disqualified. The Eustachian tube con-

tion.

nects the middle ear to the back of the throat. During flight, or situations where altitude or pressure changes rapidly, the Eustachian tube allows people to "pop" their ears.

Merrie Schilter-Lowe

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Drug Administration approved

a dilation system to treat chron-

ic Eustachian Tube Dysfunc-

tion in September 2016, Maj.

(Dr.) Scott McCusker immedi-

When the U.S. Food and

properly, a person may feel a sense of fullness or clogging in the ear. They also may experience earache, ear infection or hearing loss, said McCusker.

Doctors aren't sure what causes ETD.

"In some patients, it's

related to allergies and inflammation around the opening of the Eustachian tube," said Mc-Cusker.

Ear tube dilation system

may keep crews airborne

April 21, 2017

Some patients may have a mass or tumor in front of the Eustachian tube, which must be treated or removed, he said.

"Most of us, at some time, ately understood the applica- will have ETD, like when you have a bad cold and can't clear "This new technology will your ears," said McCusker. keep pilots and crew members "You may feel like you're un-

Before the FDA approved the new rigid plastic balloon gical Operations Squadron at dilation device for ETD, doc-Travis Air Force Base, Cali- tors prescribed nasal steroids as a first course of action to help

"If that didn't work, we had of 103 enlisted aircrew mem- to think about other options." said McCusker.

The traditional option was an ear tube placed through the tionally, five of seven pilot appli- eardrum to bypass the Eustachian tube and equalize the pressure, he said.

> "Ear tubes are safe and they don't cause a lot of complications for patients," said Mc-Cusker. "It's an easy surgery."

Traditional tubes fall out in about a year and must be re-If the tube does not function placed, said McCusker.

"People who need an ear tube, need it long term," he said

Doctors perform about 100,000 ear tube surgeries annually in the United States. Travis ear, nose and throat See SYSTEM Page 22

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April 21, 2017





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Base garners environmental award



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

The 2016 U.S. Air Force General Thomas D. White Environmental Restoration Award was presented during the 60th Air Mobility Wing Stand Up briefing April 12 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The 60th Civil Engineer Squadron used a natural bacterial process over a period of time to eliminate hazardous material from areas of the base.



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Dennis Paul Nutter, D.D.S Irma L. Garcia, D.D.S. Jan Gerber, D.D.S. Pediatric Dentistry

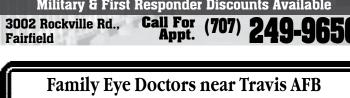
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Take a closer look at images on Travis' **FLICKR** at http://bit.ly/1MwcBSZ

Protecting

From Page 9

Travis offers all victims tools for their uniquely designed tool box: empowering victims by giving control, decision making and offering available resources on and off base.

If you know someone struggling with sexual assault, tell them to contact the Travis SAPR office at its 24/7 hotline, 707-424-7272 (707-424-SARC) or from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 707-424-1098 or 707-424-1105.

Poem

By: Survivors Can vou hear me, can vou see me: I'm a survivor

Did you hear me when I said no? Did you hear me when I screamed, "No!"

Did you see me as a son, daughter, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, friend? Did you even see every detail in front of you? me as a human being?

abuse your power, to exert your queror! will over mine, to control and manipulate?

I came to the military to get an education, to earn a steady paycheck, to help my family, to see the world, to be a part of something bigger than myself, to make a contribution to the greater good.

memories, pain, struggles. I queror!



may have even left behind abuse, poverty, and God only knows what else for a better life, a new beginning.

How did vou find me, why did you stalk me, why did you befriend me?

You're a thief, a coward, a liar, a weakling, a prowler, an attacker, a marauder and more..

You were a co-worker, acquaintance, Airman, sailor, soldier, Marine. More often than not, you knew me and saw me frequently around the base or town

Can you hear me now? I'm saying, "YES." I will report vou, testify against you, endure the retelling of my story.

Can you see me now? When charges are filed against you. you will have to tell everyone why you did this to a human be-

Can you see me now as I sit on the witness stand describing

I'm a survivor; I'm not going Was I just a source for you to to give up! I'm more than a con-I may have battle scars, but

> the wounds have healed. Thank God for His love for me; I am still standing. With Him I can do all things.

I am able to give back to those who suffer in silence until they regain their strength.

I'm a survivor, I'm not going I left behind family, friends, to give up! I'm more than a conApril 21, 2017

VLPAD program adds 51 new jobs

Kat Bailey

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTO-NIO-RANDOLPH. Texas -The Air Force has expanded the Voluntary Limited Period of Active Duty program, adding 51 additional Air Force specialty codes for select air reserve component officers.

Reserve and Air National Guard Airmen from select Air Force officer and enlisted specialties may now serve on active duty in vacant positions for three years and one day.

Rated opportunities have expanded to include 11X-pilot, 12F-fighter combat systems officer and 18X-remotely piloted aircraft pilot, to name a few.

Non-rated opportunities were also expanded to include 15Wweather, 21A-aircraft maintenance, 35P-public affairs, BSCbiomedical science corps and NC-nurse corps. 13C-special tactics and 13L-air liaison officer were also added to the list of Battlefield Airman AFSCs.

Special duty opportunities still remain open for Air University and U.S. Air Force Academy faculty in addition to mission support group deputy commanders. Instructor opportunities also exist for the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, Officer Training School, Air Command and Staff College and the Profession of Arms Center of Excellence.

Opportunities are also available for enlisted Airmen in more than 60 career fields, which include maintenance, aircrew operations, command control systems operations, personnel, aerospace medical services and medical lab technicians.

During their tour, the selected Airmen will receive active

Raven

From Page 8

the passengers and crew get off the jet."

Then the shift work begins. "The Ravens will figure out a work/rest cycle, about 12 hours if the trip is multi-day," said Lopez. "Usually we'll coordinate with a member from the U.S. Embassy there. Half of us stay out there staying vigilant and making sure nothing happens. Then 12 hours later the other half comes, we swap out, give them a quick rundown, and then we'll go back and we'll do the same thing."

board, said Lopez.

sonnel."

throughout the trip, she said.

stone mission, along with another member of the Raven team.

rience," said Senior Airman Joshua Wolf, 60th SFS Raven team member on the capstone mission. "It was definitely eyeopening to have so many generals. Going on a capstone like a little bit."





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their home station.

away was seeing how well they

nel interested in becoming Ra-

vens go through a two-week ap-

prentice course at Travis, where

they are screened for ability

and introduced to the demands

of training. If they are deemed

to have potential, they attend

the three-week Phoenix Raven

Oualification Course at Joint

Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst,

New Jersey. During the qual-

ification, attendees are taught

verbal judo, unarmed self-de-

fense, airfield survey tech-

niques, cross-cultural aware-

who aren't selfish and who are

going to take care of the team."

"We're looking for people

Once a member becomes a

All security forces person-

do their jobs."

ness and more.

said Williams.

In addition to being rare and demanding, capstone missions are extremely high-profile due to the rank of the passengers on

"At first, I would have to say I was a little intimidated," said Tech Sgt. Brooke Williams, 60th SFS former Raven team lead and team member on the capstone mission. "I've been on high profile missions, but I've never been on a mission where I was integrated with the per-

The generals on the trip took interest in the Ravens' mission and interacted with them This was Williams' first cap-

"It was a really good expe-

that that's so high-visibility and maintaining our professionalism really kind of blew my mind

Capstone missions also tend Raven, they serve a minimum to have their fair share of two years of service on the challenges, and Ravens must team.





Cache Creek Casino Resort is committed to responsible gaming. For help call 800-GAMBLER. Must be 21 to gamble.

Travis hosts regional working dog competition



Sheriff's Office runs his dog, Maximus, during the Western State Police Canine Association trials. 3) Carrie Loechlar with the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office runs her dog, Skye, during the trials.

U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

The 60th Security Forces Squadron hosted their fourth annual working dog competition April 14-15 at Travis Air Force Base, California.

The two-day competition had 42 handlers from 26 police departments that completed tasks in narcotics and explosive detection, agility, obedience, search and aggression stages.

"Our overall goal is training," said Staff Sgt. James Miller, 60th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler and competition organizer. "It is a competition. We do hand out trophies, but we're here to learn from each other. Different police departments have different tactics. We're there to learn their tactics and they're there to learn from us."

sion stages

"Agility is our basic obedience course," said Miller. "It incorporates some daily activities we might see in the field. We have stairs, tunnels, A-frames and catwalks just to make sure the dogs can complete the tasks."

it's given, said Miller.

and about-face."

made for a real-world feel.

this case the bad guy, is in."

tractions.

"For distractors, we had a decoy out there with a bunch of toys," said Miller. "A lot of our dogs are toy driven. We literally threw a bunch of toys out for the dog and made sure the dog would run past and attack the de-COV.

ny. "Western States Police Canine Association has rules," said Miller. "Whichever county or department that hosts the competition cannot compete, to make it fair. However, we were able to have our explosive dogs compete; and they won first place overall." Handlers strive to bring new and innovative training

to their four-legged teammates.

"There is more than one way to train a dog," said

4) The Western States Police Canine Association held its fourth annual K9 Trial in a two-day competition hosted April 14-15 by Miller. "Every dog is different. Every dog learns differthe 60th Air Mobility Wing at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Forty-two competitors from 26 police departments competed. Judges ent. If you can find out something that works for their dogs, we can definitely bring it back to home station, and came from varied law enforcement and K9 training backgrounds. 5) Rachel Mally and her sons greet K9 Officer Rohan and Officer Dennis Mally from the San Leandro Police Department in San Leandro, Calif. The K9 team just completed the search try it with our dogs to see if we can develop our dogs to get better." portion of the competition. 6) Chris Oliver from the Placer County Sheriff's Office runs his dog, King, during the trials. The two-The next working dog competition is scheduled to be day event featured competition in bomb and drug detection that stresses the importance of control, as well as safety tactics while held in Stanislaus County on May 20. encountering scenarios that mimic encounters on the street.

Senior Airman Sam Salopek 349TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Day one was strictly detection, said Miller. Teams were tasked to find narcotics and explosives. Day two was built-in with agility, obedience, search and aggres-

Agility guarantees the dog is capable of performing the task and to verify the dog will listen to the commands

"Obedience is everything you learned in basic," said Miller. "You did marching movements in basic training. We do that same thing with our dogs: left-face, right-face

For the search phase of the competition, efforts were

"When we get a dispatch of a suspect that's hiding in a vehicle lot, at that point you're going to cut your dog off leash," said Miller. "Your dog should go out and search the vehicles and alert on the vehicle that the decov, or in

During the aggression stages task, the dogs faced dis-

The competition ended with a catered award ceremo-







Puzzles

Like Sudoku, no single number can

epeat 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

6 7 5 2 4 9 8

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

7 3 8 4

349285

7 8 9 6 5 2 4 3

To complete Sudoku, fill the board

that each row, column and 3x3 box

For many strategies, hints and tips,

other puzzles, check out our books,

iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on

contains every number uniquely.

visit www.sudokuwiki.org

our store at www.str8ts.com

paid in full. Army Staff Sgt.

Joshua Graser of Tucson,

All three winners used

their Exchange Military

Star cards during the holi-

day shopping season and had

balances less than the prize

of \$2,500, so they received

or these deserving Military

Star cardholders by paying

their account in full," said

Air Force Chief Master Sgt.

Luis Reyes, Exchange se-

nior enlisted adviser. "Ser-

- Air Force News Service

Exchange

"It's a privilege to hon-

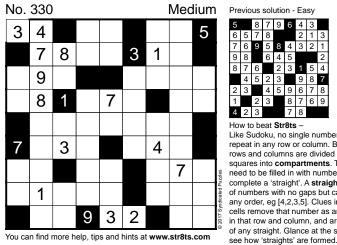
statement credits as well.

Arizona was also a winner.

If you like Str8ts. Sudoku and

by entering numbers 1 to 9 such

STR8TS



SUDOKU

No. 330 Very Hard Previous solution - Tough 5 4 7 3 2 5 2 8 6 4 3 5 6 7 2 5 6 3 9 4 8 6

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Retiree Corner

Two retirees have Military Star Accounts paid in full

DALLAS — Two retired Vietnam veteran Airmen had their Military Star card accounts paid off by the Army & Air Force Exchange Service as part of its third annual Your Holiday Bill Is on Us sweepstakes.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Ralph Barrett of Lakeland, Florida, and retired Master Sgt. Ronald Adams of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, were among the three grand prize winners who geant Graser, Chief Barrett were selected randomly out and Sergeant. Adams are of nearly 5 million entries proof real heroes win at the worldwide to have their Military Star card accounts

Events and info

Give Parents a Break Program. Canceled due to federal civilian hiring freeze until further notice. Travis AFB Wings Over Solano 2017. Air

expo takes places from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 6-7 at Travis Air Force Base. Includes a performance by the Thunderbirds aerial demonstration squadron. For more information, visit travis.af.mil/TravisAirShow.

Case Lot Sale. May 11-14 at the Travis Commissary. Up to 50 percent off regular retail price on a multitude of household products. The sale will take place on the side parking lot of the store.

2017 Valor Games Far West, Volunteers wanted for June 2-5 at Coast Guard Island, Alameda. Helps disabled veterans. Volunteer form available at http://bit.ly/2oKniM1.

60th FSS

Upcoming events

Belay & Open Climb. April 14 at Outdoor Recreation For more information 707-424-0969 Open Play. April 15 at Xtreme Paintball. For more information, 707-424-0970.

Baby Bounce. April 17 at Mitchell Memorial Day. For more information, 707-424-3279.

Dandelion Art. April 17 at Arts & Crafts. For more information, 707-424-2929.

Pre-K Storvtime, April 18 at Mitchell Memorial Library. For more information, 707-424-3279. Children's Hula. April 18 at Arts & Crafts. For

more information, 707-424-2929. Travel & Adventure Fair. April 19-20 at

Outdoor Recreation. For more information, 707-424-0969.

Boater Safety. April 19 at Outdoor Recreation. For more information 707-424-0969

Cake Decorating. April 19 at Arts & Crafts. For more information 707-424-2929

Mystery Easter Egg at Travis Bowl. On April 22. join Travis Bowl for a festive night of bowling. From 6 p.m. to midnight, each lane will receive a free Mystery Egg with goodies inside. One egg per lane with game purchase. For more information, call 707-424-4737

Poetry month gift card contest. Enter to win a \$50 gift card when you submit a personal poem by April 29 at Mitchell Memorial Library. All ages welcome. For contest rules and to enter, visit the library or call 707-424-3279.

VIP air show seating. Premium box seating and VIP flight line seating are available online for the May 6 and 7 air show. Premium box seats are \$25 per person per day and VIP flight line seating is \$125 per person per day. For more information, visit TravisFSS.com/TravisAirShow. *******

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

Chapel programs

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

• Children's Church: 10:15 a.m. Sunday. • Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday or upon appointment

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

• Youth Choir: 1 p.m. Sunday.

- Children's Choir: 2 p.m. Sunday.
- Adult Choir: 4 p.m. Sunday.

• Women's Bible Study: 10 a.m. (at First Street Chapel).

 Catholic Women of the Chapel: 6 p.m. first Monday of every month, Annex.

• Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Annex.

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

First Street Chapel

• Mom's Group: 10 to 11:30 a.m. Monday. DGMC Medical Center Chapel • Roman Catholic Mass: Noon to 12:35 p.m.

Monday through Thursday, except for federal holidavs

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

• Latter-day Saints Service: 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at DGMC Medical Center Chapel. • For all other enquires, call LDS Military relations representatives at 707-535-6979

Protestant First Street Chapel

• Protestant Community Service: 9 to 10:15 a.m. Sundav

 Gospel Worship Service: 11 a.m. to 12:15 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. Tuesdav

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

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

Airmen's Ministry Center

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

 $\bullet \bullet \bullet$

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

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

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

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

Bunco. 6 p.m. every third Wednesday of the month at the USO Daedelion Room. For more information. visit www.esctravis.com.

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.

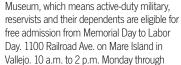
Exceptional Family Member Program **Sensory Play Group.** This group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays at the Balfour Beatty Community Center. For more information, call 707-424-4342 or visit the Facebook page "EFMP Travis AFB."

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 March 2017. 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.

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

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



information, email lgbtalliance707@gmail.com

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.

and fill out the information.

or call 707-424-2486.

For more information, call 707-424-2689. Mitchell Memorial Library, Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9

Saturday and closed Sunday. Montezuma Shrine Club. Meets every third Thursday of the month at the Masonic Center 412 Travis Blvd Eairfield For more information, call Mike Michaelis at 707-427-2573 or Cal Gitsham at 707-425-0060

Motorcycle licensing and training. California Rider Education offers the Motorcyclists Training Course, the Basic Riders Course 2 and the Military Sportsbike Riders Course on base. MTC classes take place most

weekends. Motorcycles and helmets provided. Successful completion gives students a DL389 that waives the skills test at DMV. Course cost covered for active duty, reserves, some DOD and some NAF folks. Dependents welcome but must cover own costs. All registrations done via phone at 1-800-966-3844.

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

Photocopying of military identifica-

tion. The prohibition in photocopying of U.S. government identification Common Access Card announced by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, dated Oct. 27, 2011, does not apply to medical establishments, applying for government-issued, no-fee passport and other U.S. government agencies in the performance of official government



website at https://jhns.release.dma.mil/public

business. This requirement does not apply to

minors ages 16 years or younger. However, it

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-

volunteers. Customers are retired American

RAO's responsibility to maintain open

have three hours or more to give, call

SGLI and vRED. The Record of

Retiree Activities Office. Openings for

service members and their dependents. It is the

communication and to ensure retirees receive

the service and the respect that they deserve. If

you would like to apply for a volunteer slot and

Emergency Data, aka vRED, and Servicemem-

bers 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

as a vital source of information when a crisis

personnel rely heavily on these two documents

occurs resulting in serious injury or death of the

60th Air Mobility Wing Information

through Thursday as well as window hours from

Solano/Napa Habitat for Humanity

recurring events Tuesday through Saturday. For

Toastmasters. The Travis Toastmasters

meets at noon on the first and third Tuesday of

the month in the USO Lounge. Toastmasters is

an organization that helps people practice

communication as well as build on skills they

already have. All are welcome to attend. For

more information, call Nicole Culberhouse at

Travis Community Thrift Shop. 10 a.m.

to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Ongoing need

This organization welcomes volunteers and

supporters from all backgrounds. There are

more information, email Staff Sgt. Mathew

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

Protection Office. The office has the

following walk-in customer service window

8 to 11 a.m. Friday. For emergencies, call

hours: 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday

707-424-5324

707-424-3905

service member

707-424-3114.

478-273-1760

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

Mare Island Museum. Now a Blue Star Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. first and third weekends of the month. For more information

am to 5 pm Friday 10 am to 5 pm

Travis Composite Squadron 22 Civil

donations. For more information, contact the

for volunteers to organize, sort and price

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

Thrift Shop at 707-437-2370

• 6:30 p.m. "Beauty and the Beast" (PG) • 9 p.m. "Logan" (R)

Saturday

• 6:30 p.m. "The Shack" (PG-13) • 9 p.m. "Get Out" (R)

Sunday • 2 p.m. "Power Rangers" (PG-13)

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

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

Travis Legal Office. Power of attorney and notaries are walk-ins 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 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: Linda Claus, 60th Force Support

Squadron.

 Peter Escobedo, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

• Sabina Lopez, 349th Civil Engineer Squadron

 Deirdre Mullin, 60th Medical Operations Squadron

 Robert Simcox, 60th Comptroller Squadron

• Frank Singson, 60th LRS,

• Donald Webb, 60th Communications Squadron

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

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 Wednedsay. For active duty, Guard, reservist and their families.

Local events

Events

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

Ghost Walk, 8 p.m. First and third Friday of each month through September, downtown Benicia, 90 Main St., 745-9791. www. beniciamainstreet org



Airmen complete FTA



Congratulations to the latest Airman to complete the First-Term Airman Center course. Alphabetically: Airman 1st Class Joshua Adolf, 60th Security Forces Squadron; Airman 1st Class Melanie Baluyut, 60th Operations Support Squadron; Airman Basic Chase Bear, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Airman Meagan Beattie, 60th LRS; Airman Thomas Blasquez, 60th Communications Squadron; Airman 1st Class Gavin Burdick, 60th Maintenance Squadron: Airman Khalil Carroll Gilmore, 60th OSS: Airman Basic Joon Choi, 860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Jamal Dedeaux, 60th Aerial Port Squadron: Airman 1st Class Dorian Hawthorne, 60th Surgical Operations Squadron; Airman 1st Class Benjamin Howe, 60th Medical Operations Squadron: Airman 1st Class Austin Hutto, 60th OSS: Airman 1st Class Jason Jacks, 60th APS: Airman Basic Ricarli Jimenez, 60th APS: Airman 1st Class Chase Johnson, 60th OSS; Airman 1st Class Mikaela Keiser, 60th LRS; Airman 1st Class Brandon Lucios, 60th CS; Airman 1st Class Uriel Medina, 60th OSS; Airman Basic Dylan Newman, 860th AMXS; Airman Basic Sahid Olvera, 60th OSS; Airman 1st Class Edgar Pangelinan, 60th MXS; Airman 1st Class Gibran Ruiz, 60th LRS; Airman Jenna Salazar, 60th APS; Airman 1st Class Ryan Somers, 60th MXS; Airman 1st Class Michael Standrod, 60th OSS: Airman 1st Class Brennan Taylor, 60th SFS: Airman 1st Class Aaron Thoemke, 60th MXS; Airman 1st Class Zachary Thompson, 60th MXS; Airman 1st Class Cesar Torres 60th CS: and Airman Devin Wilcox 60th SES

April 21, 2017



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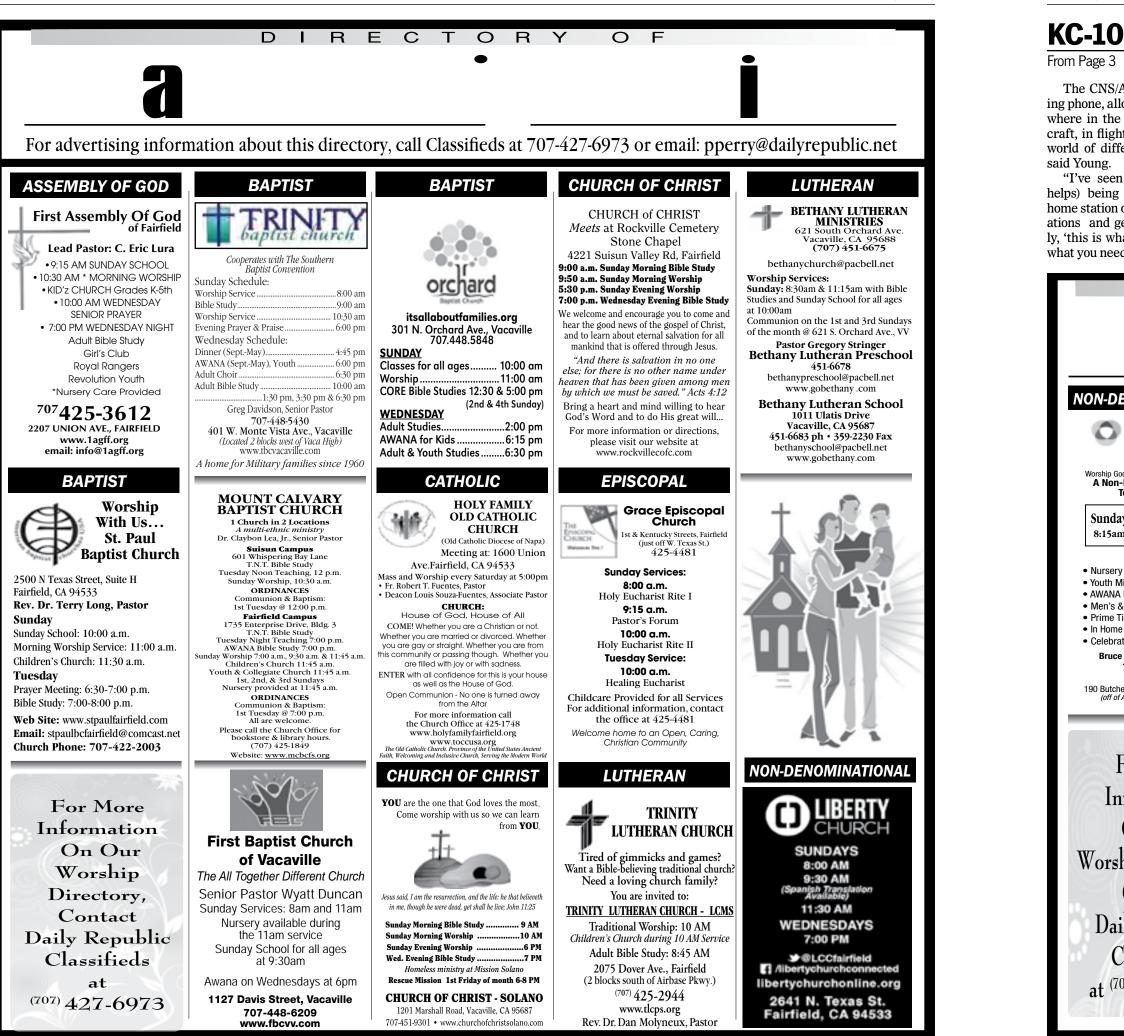


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The CNS/ATM also features a working phone, allowing aircrews to call anywhere in the world right from the aircraft, in flight. This capability makes a world of difference in communication,

April 21, 2017

"I've seen in critical situations, (it helps) being able to call back to the home station or call the director of operations and get the right words instantly, 'this is what needs to happen, this is what you need to do,' from the other side of the world," he said.

Weather can also be requested in flight using the new system.

"We can request weather wherever we're headed to right from the box, and it'll give us the weather for that location like a text message," said Flenniken.

The CNS/ATM is more reliable and decreases workload for both aircrew and maintenance, said Bedell.

Despite initial resistance at having to retrain to a new system with new checklists, personnel are now seeing the payoff, said Flenniken.

"After people started using the CNS box, they found out how much it could

do and now everyone prefers the CNS," he said.

After the final ACF was complete, the aircrew signed for the aircraft, confirming it was fully modified and in working condition.

"It was a bit of a shock when I was asked to sign for possession of the aircraft on behalf of the Air Force and Travis AFB," said Hughes. "There is nothing quite like signing your name for an \$88 million aircraft and being trusted to bring it home from a major upgrade safely."

The aircrew felt humbled to be part of a significant milestone in Air Force

history, they said.

"It's always cool to be a part of a stepping stone in history," said Young. "It was cool to say 'hey, I brought that there and I did that'."

"I'm (moving) this summer, so it was cool for me to be able to make a contribution to Travis AFB and the KC-10 community before I go," said Hughes. "We have been exceptionally busy lately with fighter movements, cargo runs and missions downrange, and we have been struggling with having enough tails available to do these important missions. It was awesome being able to bring another aircraft back to the fight."



System From Page 10

surgeons perform 50 to 100 of these surgeries, mostly in children, said Mc-Cusker.

Although getting an ear tube is not a big deal for most patients, aircrew who require a tube ultimately lose their pilot qualifications, said McCusker.

"I think this is really going to benefit (the Air Force)," said McCusker of the new treatment. "Pilots and enlisted crew members spend a lot of time in a plane. We've spent a lot of money for their training. It's awful to have to say, 'You can't fly anymore'."

After hearing about the dilation device at an otolaryngology scientific conference last year, McCusker began researching the technology. In February, he became one of only two Air Force physicians certified to perform the delicate operation.

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catheter to insert a small rigid balloon through the patient's nose and into the Eustachian tube. Once inflated, the balloon opens up a pathway for mucus and air to flow through the tube, which may help restore proper function. After the Eustachian tube is dilated, the doctor deflates and removes the balloon.

Although the procedure itself takes about five minutes, McCusker was required by the company that manufactures the device to complete an eighthour course, which included hands-on cadaver dissections.

"The procedure is minimally invasive and patients recover very quick-- most are back to normal the next day," said McCusker. "There's no external incisions or scars because everything is done with cameras through the nose

However, the surgery does require the patient to be under a general anesthesia, he said.

"The data says that once the patient heals, 50 to 70 percent are completely During the surgery, a doctor uses a cured with this one simple treatment,"

said McCusker. "Of the 30 to 50 percent who are not cured, almost all improve. Now, for people who had no other option, like pilots, this makes a huge difference."

From all indications, the treatment is permanent and patients only need one treatment. But the technology is new, said McCusker. Patients may need another surgery in five to 10 years.

David Grant USAF Medical Center has three otolaryngology surgeons who can treat patients with ETD. Adults who have had traditional treatments and are still suffering can get evaluated for the dilation procedure with a referral from their primary care provider.

"This is a way to address the issue instead of bypassing it," said McCusker. "I think this is going to be a big part of our business when word gets out and people realize how powerful this technology is."

DGMC has everything needed to perform the new procedure.

"We just need a qualified patient," said McCusker.

VLPAD

From Page 12

duty benefits but remain on the Reserve Active Status List and meet Reserve promotion boards when eligible.

VLPAD information is available and continuously updated on myPers. Click "Officer/Enlisted Voluntary Limited Period of Active Duty Program" from any Air Reserve component assignment landing page to find the complete VLPAD AFSC list, detailed eligibility criteria and application procedures for each specific VLPAD program.

The VLPAD program, launched in early 2016, provides an opportunity for Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve officers to become active-duty Airmen for a period of time.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following these

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Munitions

April 21, 2017

From Page 5

and sound."

heat signature of the aircraft.

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60th MXS commander.

vacci.

Everyone on this team is ful-99 percent scheduling effectiveness and 100 percent quality asly qualified to do what's asked surance pass rates," said Coof them, whether that's inspecting munitions, taking account-"I am very impressed with ability of munitions or transour munitions specialists' high porting those munitions to the





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The countermeasures Cotter speaks of consist of hundreds of flares positioned at specific points on C-17 and C-5 aircraft. Each flare burns at 2.000 degrees Fahrenheit, producing a heat signature that mimics the

If a C-17 or C-5 were to be fired upon, the aircrew could deploy one or several flares to avoid getting hit. In 2016, Travis aircrews flew 8,956 sorties and amassed 45,929 flight hours, delivering more than

The munitions flight helps Travis project American power, anytime, anywhere; ultimately advancing Air Mobility Command's rapid global mobility and global reach capabilities, said Lt. Col. Claudio Covacci,

"The Travis ammo flight has AMC's largest munitions inventory and supports all three Travis aircraft; the C-5, C-17, and KC-10 Extender while sustaining 100 percent accountability,

level of attention to detail and extreme care with the handling, storage, transportation and inspection of ammunition and explosives," he said. "Our ammo Airmen provide Travis with pyrotechnic flares for aircraft on the flightline, smoke signal flares for aircrew survival kits, C-4 for explosive ordnance disposal teams and small arms ammunition for organizations like security forces, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and the Contingency Response Wing. This small, yet significant unit ensures the safety of our Airmen and mis-

sion success." Tech. Sgt. Anthony Castilstockpile management and a senior munitions inspector, oversees munitions flight operations

"We follow a weekly schedule, but every day is different," said Castillo. "We may be required to provide munitions for security forces, assist the 60th Civil Engineer Squadron's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight or the 621st Contingency Response Wing with emergency issue of ammunition because they frequently leave on shortnotice missions."

flightline, he said.

Accountability of the 60th MXS munitions stockpile is taken daily and inspections are conducted on all munitions pulled from one of 22 storage facilities prior to delivering those munitions to customers.

Castillo also said his team maintains a large supply of flares as they may be required to replace them at a moment's notice. From January 1 to April 6. the munitions flight has performed 129 flare movements, nearly 25 percent of all such movements in 2016.

"We maintain a surplus of flare because when an aircraft needs flare, we need to provide lo, 60th MXS NCO in charge of it quickly," said Castillo. "An aircraft may only have one hour on the ground and we need to replace the flares in that hour so we always have flare available for our aircraft."

He said his Airmen have a significant impact on the mission every day.

"Ensuring the safety of our brothers and sisters of arms and knowing that with what we do, we are supporting the fight. that's a big deal," he said. "Our mission has a big impact."

"Safeguarding the aircraft that are transporting munitions to service members on the ground makes me feel like I'm in the fight, even though I'm stateside," said Staff Sgt. Philip Downs, 60th MXS munitions inspector.



From Page 6

structural maintenance section chief.

"We have to fill out documentation every time we use a laser on a piece of equipment, then we use the traditional way on another piece of equipment," said Horak. "We document what we save for hazardous waste and how much time we saved, if we saved anything at all, and then send that up to the Air Force."

The lasers offer the Air Force other capabilities on top of a healthier and safer work environment

didn't have an effective way to ture.'

take rust off and this addresses that need to extend the life of equipment," said Horak.

Currently, the 60th MXS is not using the lasers to accomplish work tasks until the results from initial testing comeback detailing information to determine safety and operational requirements, said Rizzo.

"I'm optimistic in the fact that it gives us another capability that we didn't have before, and addresses a lot of needs specific to Travis," said Horak.

"The lasers far surpass the old methods in the hazardous waste arena," said Rizzo. "I think the laser systems are "In the past, we really going to be the way of the fu-

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April 21, 2017

Espinosa

From Page 2

to soften the question by explaining that he had a son with the disorder. That's why he was better able to see the signs. He knew what to look for.

Girls with autism are much harder to diagnose correctly because they often do not fit the stereotype of autism. Rebekah had already been learning everything through mimicry and could fool a lot of people. But, for the first time, she did not fool her doctor

The next few months were stressful for my family. Rebekah began her testing for autism spectrum disorder. She had to see a psychologist, neurologist,

physical therapist, occupational therapist and a speech therapist to be evaluated.

At the end of testing, Rebekah was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder without intellectual impairment. She also received a secondary diagnosis of combined Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. All I could feel at this diagnosis was relief. We finally knew what was keeping Rebekah from speaking and understanding social situations.

With the diagnosis came resources we could finally use for Rebekah's development. We were enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program and Extended Care Health Option. The Airman and Family Readiness Center offered programs for her and an advocate to help

us work with her schools and develop her Individualized Education Plan.

Being in the Air Force family has made all the difference for my daughter's care. The medical care has been great. She can go to different therapies to help her advancement. She is getting excellent education. We can always depend on the A&FRC for assistance with her school if we ever need it.

As we reach the one-year anniversary of Rebekah's diagnosis, she is in kindergarten and making lots of friends. The other kids do not mind that she will often flap her hands and squeeze them. This is one of her stimulations, or stims, that she does to show she is excited. Because of this, you will always know when



Shellie-Anne Espinosa, 21st Space Wing public affairs specialist, helps her daughter, Rebekah, celebrate Halloween in 2015 in Las Vegas.

Rebekah is truly happy.

We still have lots of roadblocks ahead of us as Rebekah grows up. She does not understand that she thinks differently than other people. Someday I will have to explain what autism is to her.

For now, though, Rebekah is happy, sweet and will always have a hug ready for anyone who

needs it. Autism has changed my family's life, but with the right tools and attitude. Rebekah has shown that it will not define who she will become.

And the best part about Rebekah's progression as she comes into who she is - she tells me she loves me at least five times a day, as if she were making up for her silent years.





April 21, 2017









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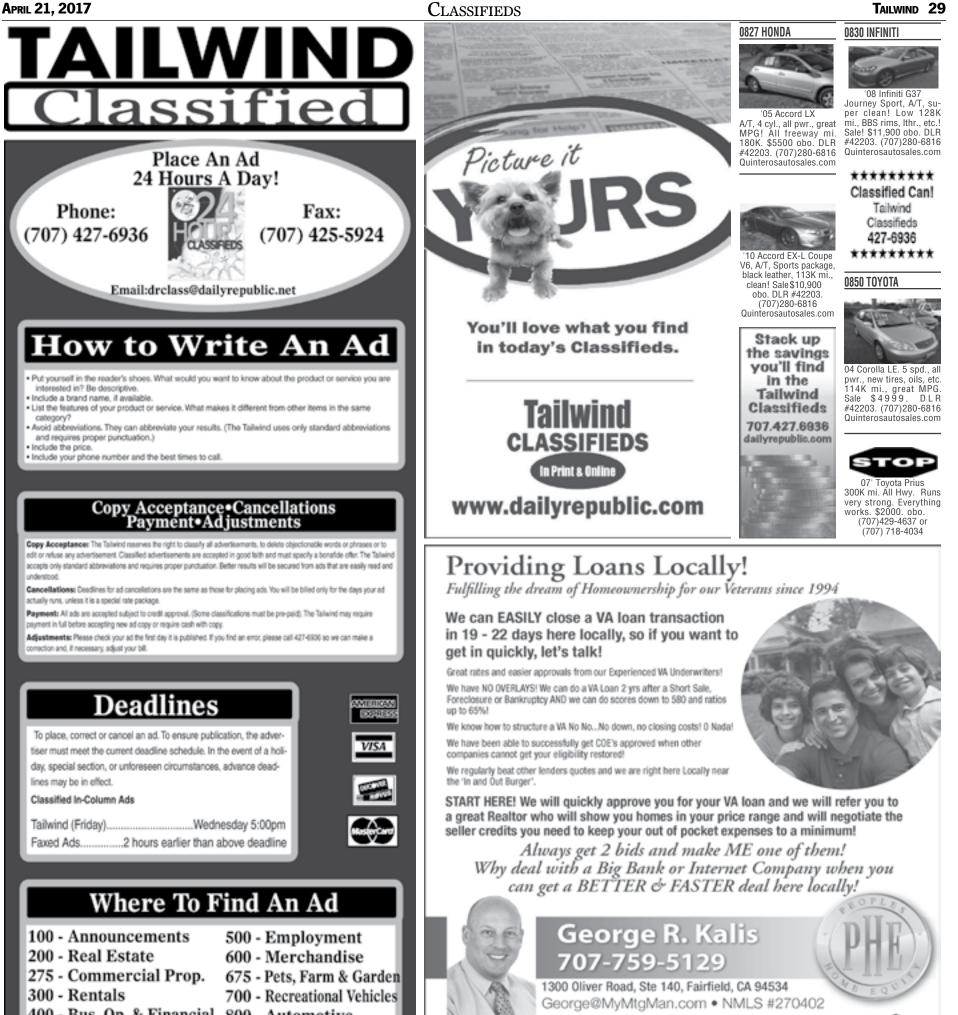
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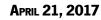






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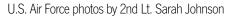


1) Children of 9th Air Refueliung Squadron members pose for a photo and display their certificates and dog tags during "Bring Your Kid to Work Day" April 14 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The annual event aims to celebrate the families of the 9th ARS and thank children for supporting their parents.

9th Air Refueling Squadron celebrates ...

2) Lt. Col. Daniel Mollis, 9th Air Refueling Squadron commander, poses with the child of a 9th ARS squadron member during "Bring Your Kid to Work Day" April 14 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Each child received a dog tag and certificate at an awards ceremony as well as a pizza party afterward. 3) The child of a 9th ARS squadron member salutes Mollis after receiving her honorary "Little Guccis" dog tag and certificate. The 9th **ARS "Bring Your Kid to Work** Day" celebrated children and families of squadron members, who are known as Guccis.

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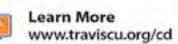


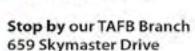
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