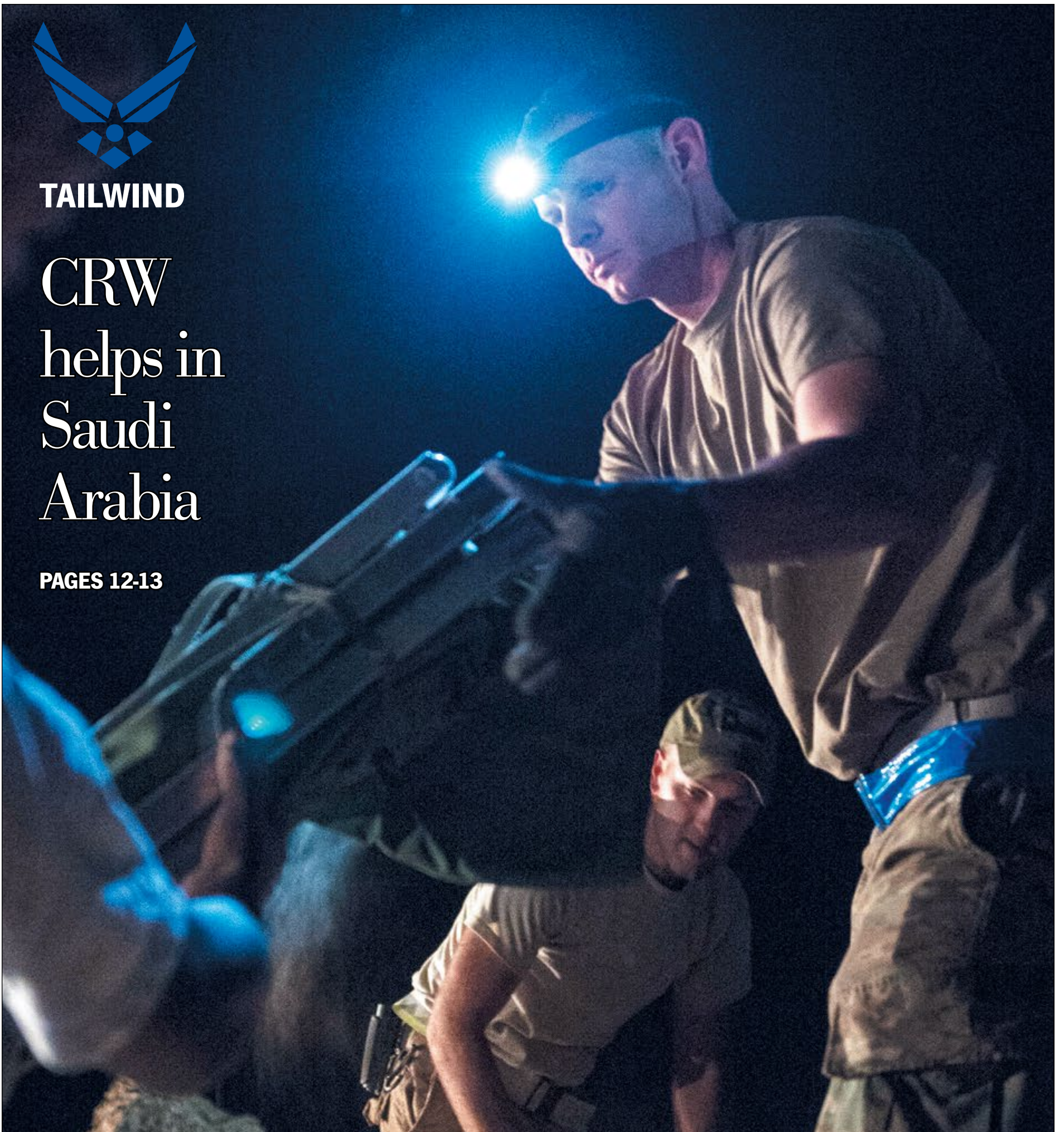




TAILWIND

CRW helps in Saudi Arabia

PAGES 12-13



Federal Voting Assistance Program aids voters

Claudette Roulo
DEFENSE.GOV

WASHINGTON — Voting season is fast approaching, and the Federal Voting Assistance Program is ready to help service members and families exercise the right to vote.

“The Federal Voting Assistance Program works to ensure service members, their eligible family members and overseas citizens are aware of their right to vote, and have the tools and resources to successfully do so — from anywhere in the world,” said David Beirne, FVAP director.

Voting is a personal choice, Beirne said, but he noted that many in the military community don’t realize the Defense Department has a program designed to assist them if they choose to vote. While FVAP is not a “get out the vote” program, he said, the program offers resources for the military community if they want to participate in the election process.

“There are many myths surrounding the military voting process, so the most important thing for military voters and their eligible spouses and dependents to know is that there are absentee voting resources on FVAP.gov designed to meet their voting needs when they are deployed or stationed overseas,” Beirne said.

He recommends service members start the absentee voting process early, because it takes more time than voting in person.

Don’t know your state’s absentee rules?

FVAP.gov has information on state and national voting guidelines, registering to vote, using the Federal Post Card Application, and requesting absentee ballots. You can also use the site to check on the status of your voted ballot.

The Federal Post Card Application is a form military and overseas voters can use to register to vote and request absentee ballots for the year. Eligible voters should submit a new postcard every year and with every move to a new address. Many states allow you to submit the FPCA electronically. The FPCA can be completed by using the FPCA online assistant, filling out

See **ABSENTEE** Page 22



Voting season is fast approaching, and the Federal Voting Assistance Program is ready to help service members and families exercise the right to vote.

Department of Defense courtesy graphic

Travis hosts 178 evacuees from China

Coronavirus quarantine held at lodging facility for two-week period

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For the first time in 50 years, federal health officials are quarantining Americans to protect the nation against an infectious disease and Travis Air Force Base is playing a major role.

On Feb. 5, officials with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention welcomed home 178 Americans returned from Wuhan, Hubei Province, China where a new virus is spreading.

The returning passengers will spend their 14-day quarantine period at Westwind Inn on Travis Air Force Base.

Additionally, the base was a stopover for other aircraft carrying passengers from Wuhan to other military installations in the United States.

“We at CDC are truly proud to be a part of this mission to return our fellow Americans,” Dr. Henry Walke, the CDC official leading the quarantine team here at Travis. “We are very appreciative to Col. (Jeffrey) Nelson and his team for all of their support during this challenging time and are committed to working with his staff as we safely and compassionately observe and care for these returned passengers while simultaneously protecting the health of the Travis community.”

The repatriation missions are a part of an aggressive effort to prevent sustained transmission of the virus in the United States.

This new virus is categorized as a coronavirus. Coronaviruses are named for the crown-like spikes on their surface. Human coronaviruses were first identified in the mid-1960s. People



Daily Republic photo/Robinson Kuntz

Dr. Henry Walke, of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, answers questions at a press conference Feb. 5 at the Solano County Events Center in Fairfield, California, about coronavirus evacuees who were put into quarantine at Travis Air Force Base, California.

around the world commonly get infected with certain types of human coronaviruses (like the one that can cause the common cold). Sometimes coronaviruses that infect animals can evolve

and make people sick and become a new human coronavirus, which is what is thought to have occurred with the new virus in China.

Much is unknown about how this new

coronavirus spreads. Current knowledge is largely based on what is known about similar coronaviruses. Most often, spread

See **CORONAVIRUS** Page 15

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif. | 60th Air Mobility Wing

Air Force

Col. Jeffrey Nelson
60th Air Mobility Wing commander

Tech. Sgt. Traci Keller
NCO in charge of command information

Senior Airman Amy Younger

Airman 1st Class Cameron Otte

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Deadline for copy is 4:30 p.m. Friday for the following Friday’s issue. Swap ads must be brought to Bldg. 51 by noon Monday for possible print in that Friday’s issue. Emailed or faxed Swap Ads are not accepted.

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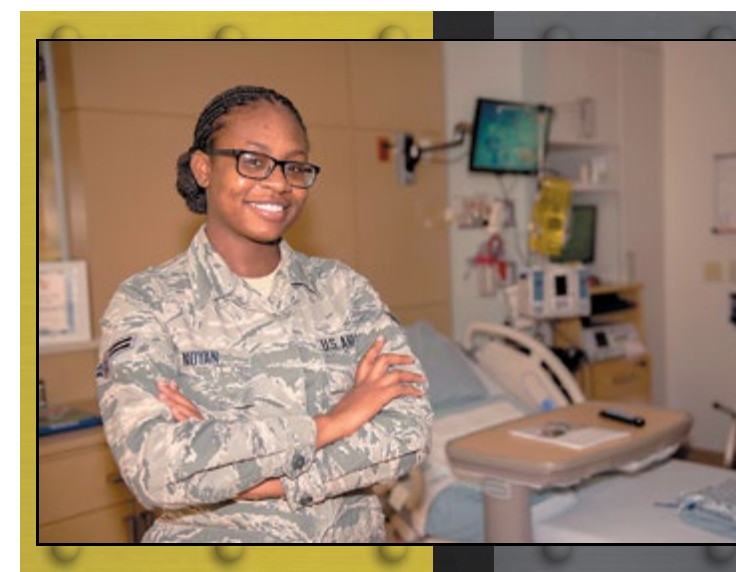
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On the cover

Airmen from the 621st Contingency Response Group pack supplies onto a pallet July 27, 2019, in preparation to redeploy at Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Sarah Brice



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Cameron Otte

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: Airman 1st Class Jodi-Ann Noyan.	technician.	Family? Mom, Maxine; dad, Lloyd; sister, Jada.	Time in service: One year.
Unit: 60th Inpatient Squadron.	Hometown: Jackson, New Jersey.	What are your hobbies? Painting, shopping and cooking.	What is your greatest achievement? Becoming the first person in my family to join the military.
Duty title: Aerospace medical	What are your goals? To become a dentist and join Doctors Without Borders.		



Official White House photo/Shealah Craighead

President Donald J. Trump participates in the promotion pinning ceremony for State of the Union Gallery guest and Tuskegee Airman, retired Brig. Gen. Charles McGee, Feb. 4 in the Oval Office of the White House.

Tuskegee Airman receives promotion to O-7

Staff Sgt. Jeremy L. Mosier

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON — Celebrating a 100th birthday is monumental in itself, but for retired Col. Charles E. McGee, shortly after this celebration he would reach yet another milestone in his successful career.

On Feb. 4, he found himself in the Oval Office at the White House being promoted to brigadier general by President Donald Trump.

“At first I would say ‘wow,’ but looking back, it would have been nice to have had that during active duty, but it didn’t happen that way,” McGee said. “But still, the recognition of what was accomplished, certainly, I am pleased and proud to receive that recognition and hopefully it will help me carry on as we try to motivate our youth

in aviation and space career opportunities.”

McGee’s successes started early on in his career, when on June 30, 1943, he earned his pilot’s wings as one of the Tuskegee Airmen, the decorated unit of African American Airmen famous for not only their combat successes, but the impact they had on the cultural shift in the military.

His military career spanned across three decades, where he flew 409 combat missions during three different wars – World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War. While serving, McGee was presented with the Distinguished Flying Cross, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Air Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation.

After he retired in 1973, McGee has continued to leave his mark in history. In 2007, he was presented the

Congressional Gold Medal by former president George W. Bush, and in 2011, he was enshrined in the National Aviation Hall of Fame. Then in 2019, the Tuskegee Airmen’s legacy was cemented in the naming of the T-7A training aircraft, the “Red Hawk,” in a tribute to the airplane they flew.

“Charles McGee is a genuine American hero whose courage in combat helped save a nation, and whose legacy is felt to this day across the entire U.S. Air Force,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. “It was an honor to witness his promotion and to thank him yet again for paving the way for today’s Air Force. The Tuskegee Airmen continue to inspire generations of Americans.”

The evening after he was promoted, McGee attended the State of the

Union as a guest and was recognized by Trump. “General McGee, our nation salutes you. Thank you, sir,” Trump said.

Trump wasn’t the only one to recognize McGee this week; on Sunday, McGee, along with three other veterans, each 100 years of age, participated in the coin toss at the Super Bowl in Miami.

He has credited all these achievements to a simple formula.

“I’d like to pass on what I call my four ‘P’s’ – perceive, prepare, perform, persevere – dream your dreams but get the good education to accomplish the desires and needs of the country,” he said. “Always seek excellence and always do your best in things that you do. Finally, don’t let the negative circumstances be an excuse for not achieving.”

Commissary can help ahead of Valentine’s Day

Defense Commissary Agency Corporate Communications

FORT LEE, Va. — If saving money and acknowledging the love of your life are the goals, your commissary has everything from candy to flowers to special heart healthy recipes.

“Before you break the bank, there are plenty of less expensive and more heart healthy ways to show your love on Valentine’s Day,” said Deborah Harris, Defense Commissary Agency Health and Wellness Program Manager. “For that candlelight menu, check out our dietitian-approved recipes.

They help support heart health by featuring whole grain products, lean protein foods, and good sources of omega-3 fatty acids via fish and nuts.

“Of course, that romantic dessert could include dark chocolate in appropriate amounts, which are also great for the heart and even recommended at 1 ounce per day. For example, try our recipe for dark chocolate strawberries.”

Dietitian-approved recipes can also help parents as they prepare special Valentine’s Day treats for their children to take to school.

Patrons are also reminded

to check the ends of aisles in their store for themed items with extra low pricing. Commissary customers can save even more time and money by accessing the current sales flyer on the DeCa website.

Overseas stores may have substitute events for certain promotional programs. Customers should check with their store for details or visit their store page to verify what’s available. Here are a few February promotions to consider for extra commissary savings:

- Commissary beef and

See VALENTINE Page 18



Courtesy photo

If saving money and acknowledging the love of your life are the goals, your commissary has everything from candy to flowers to special heart healthy recipes. Check www.commissaries.com for more.

Scholarships for Military Children deadline Feb. 24

Mike Perron

DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

FORT LEE, Va. — The Feb. 24 deadline to apply to the Scholarships for Military Children program, administered by the nonprofit Fisher House Foundation, is quickly approaching.

A total of 500 scholarship grants, each for \$2,000, will be awarded for school year 2020-21. There will be at least one recipient selected at every commissary location where qualified applications are received, and additional recipients will be selected based on a prorated basis, so more applicants will be selected from those commissaries with larger numbers of applicants.

“As of Jan. 23, there had been just over 1,000 completed applications submitted, but from experience, we anticipate somewhere near 5,000 by the deadline,” said Jim Weiskopf, Fisher House Foundation vice president.

All rules and requirements for the program, as well as links to frequently asked questions and the application, are available at MilitaryScholar.org.

The Scholarships for Military Children Program is now in its 20th year. Through the

generosity of Defense Commissary Agency business partners and others, a total of 11,314 students, all military children, have shared \$19,126,000 in scholarship grants. They were selected from a pool of over 100,000 applicants.

The program was created in 2001 to recognize the contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force, and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military family community.

Eligibility for the program is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current military dependent ID card.

The applicant must also be planning to attend or already be attending an accredited college or university full time, or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applicants who are awarded a full scholarship to attend a college or university or receive an appointment to one of the military academies or affiliated preparatory schools are not eligible to receive funds from

See SCHOLARSHIPS Page 19

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AMC promotes heart month

Greg Chadwick
AIR FORCE HEALTH & WELLNESS TEAM

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — February is American Heart Month, and Civilian Health Promotion Services will be offering educational briefings throughout February focusing on how to lower your risk factors for developing heart disease.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 640,000 Americans die of heart disease each year.

Heart disease describes a range of conditions that can affect the heart. Diseases under the heart disease umbrella include blood vessel diseases, vessels that provide oxygen and nutrients to the heart and brain; heart rhythm problems, or dysrhythmias; and heart defects people are born with, or congenital heart defects.

The most common type of heart disease in the United States is coronary heart disease, also known as coronary artery disease. CHD is caused by plaque buildup inside the coronary arteries. Plaque is primarily made up of cholesterol and calcium, and this buildup causes the inside of the arteries to narrow over time. This could partially, or totally, block blood flow. This process is called atherosclerosis. If the



Courtesy graphic

plaque ruptures inside of the artery, a blood clot can form on its surface. Blood clots can partially or completely block blood flow through a coronary artery.

If blood flow to the heart muscle is reduced or blocked it can lead to chest pain called angina, or a heart attack. A heart attack occurs if the flow of oxygen-rich blood to a section of the heart is cut off. If blood flow isn't restored quickly, that section of heart muscle begins to die. Without quick treatment, a heart attack can lead to cardiac arrest and death.

Many CHD risk factors can be prevented and controlled with heart-healthy lifestyle choices. The CDC lists the following lifestyle behaviors to lower your risk for heart disease:

- Don't smoke – Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States. Both smoking and regular exposure to other people's smoke increases your risk of heart

disease. If you smoke, quitting will lower your risk for heart disease. All Federal Employee Health Benefits plans offer 100% coverage of tobacco cessation treatment options. Additional information about this is available at www.opm.gov.

- Maintain a healthy weight – If you have too much body fat, especially at the waist, you have a higher risk for heart disease. A high-risk waistline is 35 inches or more for women and 40 inches or more for men. Also, a higher body mass index increases the risk for heart disease, especially for a BMI that is greater than 30. Healthy weight range is 18.5 to 24.9 on the BMI height & weight chart. Additional information about this is available at www.nhlbi.nih.gov.
- Be physically active – The CDC physical activity guidelines recommend adults should engage in moderate-intensity aerobic activity at least 150

See HEART MONTH Page 18

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MTIs to return to Academy

Jennifer Spradlin

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — For the first time in a decade, the Academy will have permanent military training instructors on the Cadet Wing staff to enhance the military training program.

"I want this to be the nation's most disciplined, professional and future-focused military training organization," said Brig. Gen. Michele Edmondson, the Academy's commandant of cadets.

In 2004, the Academy created the Academy Military Trainer program. The role of AMTs quickly evolved into a mentorship and leadership support function to squadron air officers commanding. After 2009, when the last MTI transitioned from the Cadet Wing, their role in training was reduced to weeklong training sessions before Basic Cadet Training.

As part of ongoing training evaluation, Edmondson, who previously commanded the 737th Training Group at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, identified the need for MTIs to bring their expertise back to the Academy.

"The Air Force has invested significant training in our MTI corps and as a result, the MTIs we develop today have incredible maturity, leadership experience and a deep understanding of what training 'right' looks like," Edmondson said.

Five MTIs are scheduled to join the Cadet Wing by March as preparations for BCT ramp up. Master Sgt. Marcus Coley, the first MTI stationed at the Academy since 2009, is working with cadet training officers to improve their squadron training sessions.

"I see our role as providing guidance to the cadets and making sure accountability is

See MTIS Page 18



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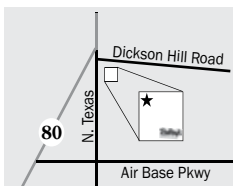
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U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Scott Mathews

Members of the 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron train Feb. 1 on a C-17 Globemaster III in flight to Honduras. They received required in-flight training while the aircraft carried donated humanitarian cargo to Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras, as part of the Denton Cargo Program.

315th Airlift Wing delivers aid

Master Sgt. Scott Mathews
315TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SOTO CANO AIR BASE, Honduras — Airmen from the 315th Airlift Wing deployed a C-17 Globemaster III Feb. 1 to deliver donated humanitarian aid to Honduras in support of the Denton Program.

The Denton Program is a Department of Defense transportation program that moves humanitarian cargo, donated by U.S. based non-governmental organizations, to developing nations. The program helps move donations to ensure proper delivery while simultaneously providing training hours for aircrews.

On this flight, the 701st Airlift Squadron delivered more than 11,000 pounds of mobility healthcare items such as wheelchairs, wheeled walkers, pick-up walkers and crutches. The charity, Helping Hands for Honduras, picked up the items from the jet just after landing at Soto Cano Air Base for delivery to a local public hospital in Danli.

The Denton Program office said once the hospital receives the donated items, they will be

able to start using them immediately. The majority of the patients that need these mobility items aren't able to buy these types of equipment and the hospital doesn't have the resources to get them.

"The Denton Program is a great mission that helps our charity distribute donations of much needed medical items from all over to patients and organizations who can't afford them," said Ronald Roll, co-founder and executive director of Helping Hands for Honduras. "We've received a lot of shipments through the Denton Program, helping many people in Honduras, and are so very appreciative to all associated with the program including the Air Force."

The donating agencies, Interfaith Services to Latin America and Mano a Mano International, are both based out of Minnesota. All the donations were brought in from Minnesota and then transported to Honduras.

Most of the donations come from Goodwill-Easter Seals. Two groups out of Minnesota have volunteers that go to the Goodwill warehouses to sort

and select the surplus equipment, and volunteers pack up the shipment for Honduras.

According to the Denton Program office, approximately 700 men, 700 women and 100 children in Honduras will benefit just from this load of cargo.

Also on the flight were 16 Airmen from the 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron who were to conduct an aeromedical readiness mission. "In addition to running medical scenarios, we also need to be familiar with our aircraft," said Senior Master Sgt. Michelle Geers, 315th AES, mission clinical coordinator on this flight. "Running these scenarios helps us stay current and qualified as aircrew and ready to deploy (within continental United States), (outside of continental United States) or for any global humanitarian aid."

Pilots, loadmasters, flying crew chiefs and Aeromedical Evacuation personnel must all fly regularly to stay current on their training. These missions help these Joint Base Charleston Reserve Airmen get their required training while delivering items to those in need.

Air Force, Google work to improve IT security

Patty Welsh
66TH AIR BASE GROUP PUBLIC AFFAIRS

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass. — To continue to provide IT best practices to its users, the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center at Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts, awarded a \$2 million experimental Other Transaction Agreement to Google.

The new agreement, awarded in December, is part of a broader Air Force Enterprise IT-as-a-Service, or EITaaS, risk reduction effort to test the technical feasibility of commercial solutions. The effort covers three areas: Network-as-a-Service, End User Services and Compute and Store, and consists of technical assessments to determine if alternative solutions can meet unique Air Force requirements.

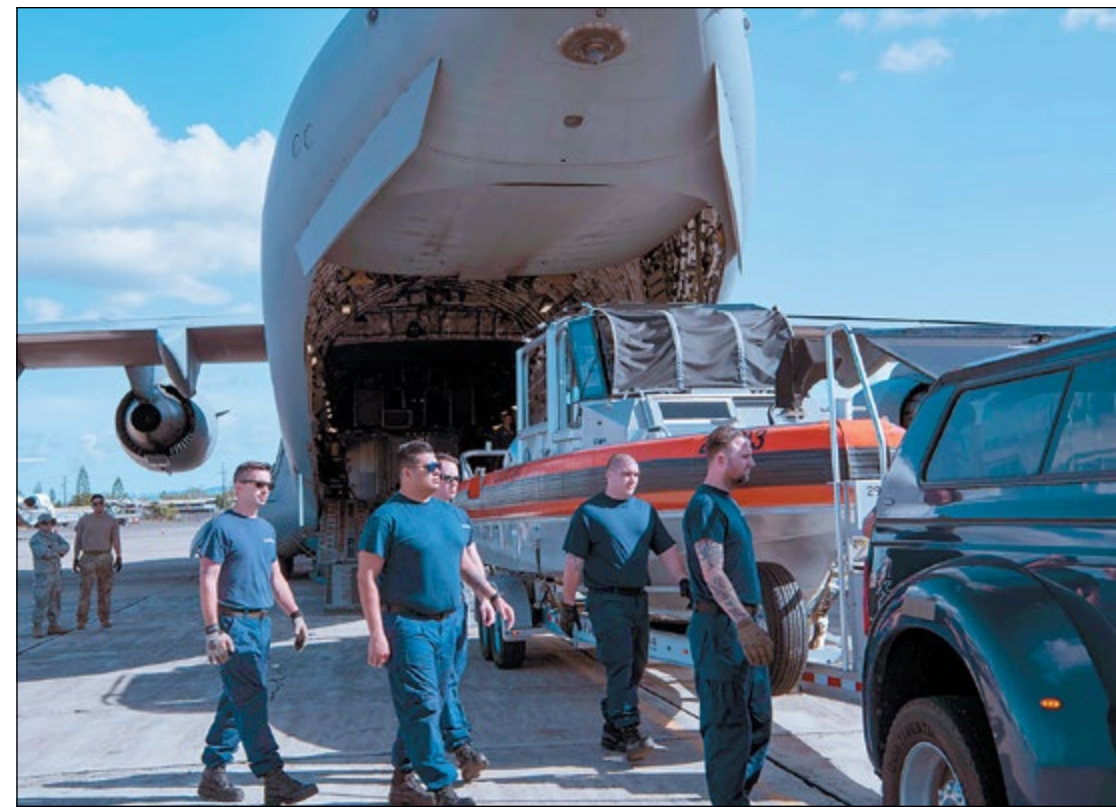
Under the terms of the agreement, Google will provide services that leverage its expertise in IT security, including scalable and secure networking.

"We want to understand how Google provides secure and reliable access to data," said Capt. Trey LaSane, EITaaS project officer in the Command, Control, Communications, Intelligence and Networks directorate. "We ultimately

want to enable a more secure platform, where we are able to identify users and ensure they have the appropriate permissions to connect them with the data they need."

Overall, it should help the Air Force give Airmen the right access to the right data at the right time.

LaSane also said the Air Force wants to incorporate "best-of-breed" industry practices.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Della Creech

Joint Maritime Safety and Security Teams from the Coast Guard load a USCG vessel during exercise Patriot Palm Jan. 30 at Kalaeloa Airport, Hawaii. A team from several military branches participated with the 315th Contingency Response Flight from Joint Base Charleston in support of exercise Patriot Palm.

Patriot Palm enhances joint operability

Tech. Sgt. Della Creech
315TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII, Hawaii — A team of Airmen from the 315th Airlift Wing, Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, trained in rapid response deployment scenarios during exercise Patriot Palm with joint-service members from the Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Army and FBI Jan. 27-30 at Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

One of the key players in the exercise was the 315th Contingency Response Flight, which

is part of the 315th AW. Starting from a bare base, CRF units are meant to set up an operating airfield within only hours.

For example, contingency response units responded to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Hurricane Maria in 2017 and set up bases in Iraq and Afghanistan. These units are how civil authorities such as Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice and others are able to fly equipment and people during disaster responses.

Since the exercise was

focused on rapid response, the CRF provided many necessities such as field communications, amongst other things. With at least half of the flight's annual equipment budget going to new communication technology, it is pertinent to work out any preventable hindrances in the case of an emergency.

Field communication can run into barriers, "the mountainous terrain of Hawaii is difficult to bounce communication signals across," said Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Tyndal, 512th Contingency Response Squadron

See OPERABILITY Page 15

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Global Strike tests Minuteman III missile launch



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Clayton Wear

An unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile launches during a developmental test, Feb. 5 at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. These test launches verify the accuracy and reliability of the ICBM weapon system, providing valuable data to ensure a continued safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent.

Air Force Global Strike Command Public Affairs

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. — A team of Air Force Global Strike Command Airmen from the 341st Missile Wing at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana; the 90th MW at F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming; and the 91st MW at Minot AFB, North Dakota, launched an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile equipped with a test re-entry vehicle, Feb. 5 from Vandenberg AFB, California.

The ICBM's re-entry vehicle traveled approximately 4,200 miles to the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. These test launches verify the accuracy and reliability of the ICBM weapon system, providing valuable data to ensure a continued safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent. Test launches are not a response or reaction to world events or regional tensions.

This test was a developmental test launch, which differs from routine operational test launches. Rather than randomly selecting a fielded ICBM to verify fleet-wide reliability, a developmental test launch uses a spare missile from storage to validate flight worthiness of new or replacement components in an as-near-to operational environment as possible. Flight Test Unit 2 is the second of four FTUs scheduled over the next several years to validate replacement components that will ensure continued Minuteman III viability. FTU 1 occurred in February 2019.

“Developmental testing provides valuable data to Air Force Global Strike Command and Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center for both modernization and

sustainment of the ICBM weapon system,” said Col. Omar Colbert, 576th Flight Test Squadron commander. “The Minuteman III is aging, and modernization programs such as this are essential in ensuring that our nation has a reliable nuclear deterrent through the rest of its lifespan and beyond. Most importantly, this visible indicator of our national security capabilities serves to assure our partners and dissuade potential aggressors.”

The test launch is a culmination of months of preparation that involved multiple government partners. The Airmen who perform this vital mission are some of the most skillfully trained and educated the Air Force has to offer.

Airmen from the 341st Missile Wing at Malmstrom AFB, 90th Missile Wing at F.E. Warren AFB and 91st Missile Wing at Minot, were selected for the task force to support the test launch. The three missile bases have crew members standing alert 24/7, overseeing the nation's ICBM alert forces.

“It's been an incredible opportunity for the combined task force of combat crew and maintenance members from F.E. Warren, Minot and Malmstrom AFB to partner with the professionals from the 576th Flight Test Squadron and 30th Space Wing,” said Maj. Christopher Crommie, task force commander. “I am extremely proud of the team's hard work, professionalism and dedication to accomplish a unique and important mission to prepare the ICBM for test and monitor the sortie up until test execution. The attention given to every task accomplished here

See **MINUTEMAN** Page 15

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Devil Raiders strengthen defense forces in Saudi Arabia



1

Tech. Sgt. Luther Mitchell Jr.

621ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST — When it came to deploying scalable forces to reopen an air base in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Air Force knew just who to call: Airmen from the 621st Contingency Response Group at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.

Their short-notice deployment earlier this year enabled the reopening of Prince Sultan Air Base to establish air base operations as part of U.S. Central Command's commitment to providing stability and security in the region.

Between June 15 and Sept. 13, the Contingency Response Wing helped lay the foundation and put into motion the operations of the 378th Air Expeditionary Group, who took the reins at the base in August. A small contingent of CRW personnel remained through the end of December to ensure the base infrastructure was firmly established to help the AEG accomplish the mission.

Their mission started when a pre-deployment team of contingency response Airmen arrived at PSAB to assess force size and equipment requirements to begin air base opening operations. A week later, the main body of the 621st CRG personnel were on the ground and ready to provide air mobility operational support.

Devil Raiders began servicing the first fighter aircraft on June 24, and continued to support aircraft arriving and departing PSAB including the C-130 Hercules, C-17 Globemaster III, C-5M Super Galaxy and commercial aircraft during their time there. Airmen off-loaded and on-loaded over 1,000 passengers and 4,800 short tons of cargo and supported nearly 200 sorties through the completion of their mission Sept. 13.

Air Mobility Command's Global Air Mobility Support System played an important role in beginning air base operations at PSAB, ensuring en-route and contingency response forces, infrastructure and equipment were equipped to support mobility systems.

Devil Raiders received aircraft carrying Patriot missiles on July 2 that were off-loaded and set up by U.S. Army personnel. This signified a major milestone in defending U.S. and

partner forces while deterring Iranian aggression through defense posture.

CR forces began reducing their footprint on July 31 and transitioned follow-on sustainment on Aug. 2 to the 378th Air Expeditionary Group, who began generating combat airpower by executing a variety of capabilities to include flying strategic bombers and fifth generation stealth fighters.

Within 90 days, the once bare base became a critical hub home to more than 1,000 service members.

By the end of October, the base encompassed hundreds of facilities, including a field hospital, dining facility, gym, Base Exchange, post office and morale tent as well as over 350 tents for service members to live in.

"The opportunity for the CRW to support the U.S. Air Forces Central Command and Saudi Arabia by re-establishing U.S. operations at Prince Sultan Air Base displayed our ability to execute our mission to advise, direct and project airpower ... anytime, anywhere," said Col. James Hall, 621st Contingency Response Wing vice commander and air base opening group commander.

Devil Raiders worked closely with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, rebuilding a working partnership since U.S. forces ended operations there in 2003.

"We were the first boots on the ground to re-establish joint operations and relationships with Prince Sultan Air Base and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia," said Lt. Col. Shane Hughes, 621st Contingency Response Support Squadron commander and CR element commander. "They were gracious hosts and very enthusiastic about renewing that relationship."

Mobility Airmen mentor, advise and instruct partner nations' air forces, enabling continued relations and shared costs and responsibilities when it comes to military operations within and near national boundaries.

Devil Raiders routinely deploy scalable forces that open, operate and close airfields, but not all air base operations are the same. Devil Raiders train using a variety of scenarios and are experts within their fields.

"If you've seen one air base opening, you have seen one air base opening, because every single one of them is different," Hughes said. "We train to create Airmen that are cross

functional and adaptable to any situation, and this mission gave us the opportunity to practice that."

The 621st CRW's unique structure allows it to respond to any contingency and deploy with all personnel, equipment and supplies necessary to execute the mission. Core capabilities include control functions, communications, aerial port, and aircraft maintenance that can be tailored to support contingency requirements. Devil Raiders provided maintenance support and expedited processes alongside KSA partners during this mission.

"We brought each other back up to speed, teaching changes to our processes over the past 16 years which was really huge to the success of our operation," said Tech. Sgt. Joshua Welter, 621st Contingency Response Squadron maintenance flight craftsman and CR maintenance lead.

This deployment was the first air base opening for Hughes, who plans to incorporate lessons learned into the wing's Tactics, Techniques and Procedures manual.

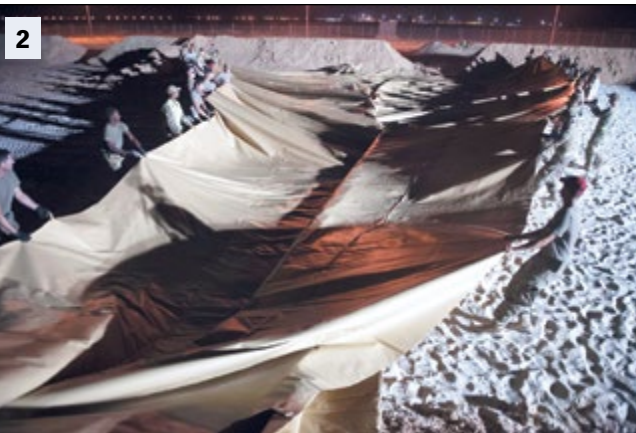
"We have a TTP that provides a guideline of things to consider when conducting air base operations," Hughes said. "What we did was took a lot of input from this deployment, and we are going to incorporate that into the next round so that we are developing exercises and training for the next generation of Airmen to consider some of the things we learned the hard way."

This mission provided the 621st CRW with the opportunity to support Saudi Arabia's critical infrastructure and remain a key partner in defense of safety and stability in the region.

"U.S. Transportation Command, Air Mobility Command and the CRW are committed to providing U.S. leaders the options for deterring adversaries by projecting forces at a time and place of our nation's choosing," Hall said. "Prince Sultan Air Base was a perfect example of the readiness of the CRW. Our ability to launch at a moment's notice ensured a timing and tempo to establish airfield operations which directly contributed to the build-up and operations ongoing still to this day in Saudi Arabia."

U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Sarah Brice

1) An Airman from the 621st Contingency Response Group helps offload cargo from a C-5M Super Galaxy at Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, June 25, 2019. The 621st CRG deployed for an air base opening mission in response to the White House authorization of approximately 1,000 additional troops in U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility for defensive purposes. 2) U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army members build a fuel storage site at Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, July 29, 2019. The U.S. is partnering with the KSA in PSAB to enhance operational flexibility while maintaining security and stability in the region. 3) Airmen from the 621st CRG pack supplies onto a pallet in preparation to redeploy at PSAB on July 27, 2019. 4) Airmen from the 621st CRG help offload equipment from a C-5M Super Galaxy at PSAB on June 26, 2019.



Coronavirus

From Page 3

from person-to-person happens among close contacts (less than 6 feet). Person-to-person spread is thought to occur mainly via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, like how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. It's currently unclear if a person can get 2019-nCoV by touching

a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes; however, CDC scientists suspect this new virus is fragile, does not live long on surfaces, and can be killed using common disinfectants.

"Based on what we know about this new virus, the risk to the base community is low at this time," said Walke. "By taking these aggressive measures, we are working to keep that risk low."

Walke reminded base servicemembers and their families, at townhall meetings hosted by Travis Air Force Base,

that every day, preventative measures are the best ways to prevent transmission.

"Washing your hands and avoiding sick people can help people prevent becoming ill with any virus," said Walke. "Purchasing and wearing face-masks are not recommended considering the low risk to the base community."

Frequently, townhall attendees asked what the Travis community can provide to those under quarantine to improve quality of life. Base personnel are encouraged to drop off comfort items at the Travis Airman and Family Readiness Center.

Operability

From Page 9

radio frequency transitions technician from Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, who joined the 315th CRF for the exercise. "After several years in the Air Force, I'm glad I've had the opportunity to train in a new environment that helps us pin-point issues with our new equipment. We've already solved so many issues in a short

amount of time."

One of the issues that the CRF had to overcome during the exercise was bridging the gap between participating teams, such as the 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron from JB Charleston and the control center. Without the troubleshooting conducted by Tyndal and his communications team, the lines of communication would not have been able to relay information on mock patients during the exercise.

"The overall exercise is to train deploying contingency response units as well as aeromedical evacuation teams and to let the affiliates like the FBI rapid deployment teams, the Coast Guard and Army units, to train on deployment readiness as well," said Lt. Col. Greg Schnurrenberger, 315th CRF director of operations.

Those existing affiliates with the CRF have documented partnerships that allow them to have cargo carried on Air Force aircraft.

Minuteman

From Page 10

reflects the precision and professionalism they – and our fellow Airmen up north – bring every day to ensure the success of our mission out in the missile

fields," he said.

The ICBM community, including the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy and U.S. Strategic Command, uses data collected from test launches for continuing force development evaluation.

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Valentine

From Page 5

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• **Just Add Milk.** General Mills cereals are featured during the “Just Add Milk”

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• **Tell Us Your Service Story.** In observance of Black History Month, you can “Share Your Service Story” on Twitter or Instagram for a chance to win one \$5,000 scholarship or one of three \$1,000 scholarships. This contest is sponsored by Coca-Cola® in partnership with the USO and Mondelez. Applicants can post a photo or video no longer than two minutes to either social media channel, sharing service stories of their own or their relatives. All entries must use the hashtag #ShareYourServiceStoryContest. Military resale patrons will see contest displays in their local commissaries and exchanges. They can also go to Coca-Cola’s Tell Us Your Story webpage for more

information. Contest begins ends March 2.

• **Healthy Heroes.** Unilever will distribute 150,000 coupon flyers offering about \$6 in savings to commissaries for its Seventh Annual “Healthy Heroes” event. These coupons were created exclusively for commissary customers. The company will also host up to 500 in-store demos, give away up to \$60,000 in commissary gift cards and donate up to \$5,000 to Camp4Heroes as part of this event.

Select products from brands like Hellmann’s Best Foods, Lipton, Knorr, Breyers, Klondike, Talenti, Seventh Generation, Dove and Q-Tips, AXE, Caress, Suave, St. Ives, Vaseline, Tresemme, Degree and Nexxus will be on display during the promotion. This promotion runs Feb. 17 through March 1.

Heart month

From Page 6

minutes every week. Activity should be at least 10 minutes in length at a time, and at intervals throughout the week. Do activities that make you breathe harder and make your heart beat faster, like brisk walking. Regular physical activity can reduce your chances of developing heart disease by burning extra calories for weight management, lowering blood pressure, and increasing levels of good cholesterol, or HDL, while lowering levels of bad cholesterol, or LDL. Additional information about this is available at www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity.

• **Eat heart healthy** – Put

together an eating plan that offers the balance of calories that is right for you, including vegetables, fruits, whole grains, low-fat-free dairy products, poultry, fish, lean meats and legumes. Limit sweets, sodium, sugar-sweetened beverages, saturated and trans fat, alcohol, processed meats and red meats. Additional information about this is available at www.cdc.gov/nutrition.

For more information regarding CHPS activities for American Heart Month, visit www.usafwellness.com or contact your local CHPS team. Comprehensive information on how to prevent heart disease can be found on the National Institutes of Health website at www.nhlbi.nih.gov.

MTIs

From Page 7

a core part of their daily interactions,” Coley said. “There needs to be a balance between making corrections and the follow-up, mentorship piece (of leading).”

Coley spent more than three years at JB San Antonio-Lackland training newly enlisted Airmen and military training instructors. He said emphasis on proper wear of the uniform and drill and ceremony is key to establishing self-discipline. He also championed transparency and respect and dignity while addressing infractions.

“There are different ways to get someone’s attention other than doing pushups, and I’m just excited to share my training expertise with the cadets here,” he said.

As part of its new training plan, the Cadet Wing will also leverage experts in the athletic department to lead and plan physical conditioning for recruits during BCT to reduce injuries and better prepare cadets to meet Air Force standards.

“We’re looking to see that consistency in training across the squadrons so that all cadets have the same opportunity to succeed here,” Edmondson said.

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Scholarships

From Page 5

this program. A full scholarship is usually defined as one that provides for payment of tuition, books, lab fees and other expenses.

Among the requirements of the application process is providing a short essay. This year’s question is designed to provoke a thoughtful response: “Imagine you could interview any person, living or deceased. This person must now be making, or has in the past made, a positive contribution to society. Who would you choose and why have you selected this person?”

“It is important to remember that an applicant must possess a military dependent ID card. We require the inclusion of the ‘benefits number’ from the card as part of each application,” said Weiskopf. “Now that the application can be downloaded from the internet, without the unique benefits number we would not have a way to verify that the applicant was a

military child.”

Fisher House also recently added a custom scholarship search engine to the site, tailored to military families, called “Scholarships for Service.” It’s free, easy to use, and formatted for both mobile devices and computers at MilitaryScholar.org.

Students enter brief background information and educational goals and the search tool will identify military-affiliated scholarships they may be eligible for based on their input. Once the search is complete, students receive a list of scholarships with a summary of eligibility requirements, points of contact and links to the scholarship provider’s website.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is managed by Scholarship Managers, a national, nonprofit organization. If students have questions about the scholarship program application, they should call Scholarship Managers at 856-616-9311 or email them at militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com.

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Tailwind (Friday).....Wednesday 5:00pm
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- Put yourself in the reader's shoes. What would you want to know about the product or service you are interested in? Be descriptive.
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Absentee

From Page 2

the PDF or picking up a hard copy version from your nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Is FVAP just for overseas voters?

FVAP resources are designed to assist any service member, voting age dependent and overseas citizens with voting so long as they are absent from their voting jurisdiction, Beirne said.

Service members who are home and registered to vote in their home voting jurisdiction would vote by visiting their voting precinct on Election Day, he explained.

Not sure when your state's elections are?

Check the primary election

calendar for the date of each state or territory's presidential primary, state primary and whether there will be candidates standing for the U.S. Senate and House during the general election.

Need to find your base's voting office?

FVAP.gov can help you there, too, with its list of contact information for voting offices around the world. You can filter the list by service branch, country and base name.

Didn't get your absentee ballot?

Use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. The FWAB serves as a backup ballot if the voter does not receive the requested absentee ballot in time. FVAP.gov offers an online assistant that guides users through the form-completion process, as

well as a fillable PDF form of the FWAB for download.

Worried about sending your ballot by mail?

FVAP coordinates with the Military Postal Service Agency and the U.S. Postal Service to ensure the expedited return of voted ballots from overseas, Beirne said. In previous years, FVAP also worked with the services to ensure their operational conditions factor in the return of voted ballots. This is especially true for Navy ships, he said, who receive reminders to offload ballots before moving on with new operations.

Separating from active duty?

FVAP.gov can help you and your voting-age family members transition your voter registration status in just one or two easy steps.

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CADETS visit from Puerto Rico

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jonathon Carnell
 1) University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 756 cadets watch Senior Airman Cody Preston, 60th Maintenance Squadron aircraft metals technology technician, weld a piece of metal during a tour Jan. 30 at Travis. 2) Krystal Torres, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 756 cadet, puts on an explosive ordnance disposal helmet during a tour Jan. 29 at Travis Air Force Base, California. Ninety-six cadets from the University of Puerto Rico visited the base to better understand what to expect in the operational Air Force. 3) Senior Airman Cody Preston, 60th Maintenance Squadron aircraft metals technology technician, demonstrates welding during a tour Jan. 30 at Travis.

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