



TAILWIND



SEARCHING

Mission brings Hurricane Hunters to Travis

PAGES 12-13

Berlin's Candy Bomber visits Travis Airmen



U.S. Air Force photo/ Tech. Sgt. Liliana Moreno

Retired Air Force Col. Gail S. Halvorsen, the Berlin Candy Bomber, speaks to Airmen assigned to the 821st Contingency Response Squadron during his visit Jan. 31 to Travis Air Force Base, California. Halvorsen spoke about the importance of being a part of the airlift team and told Airmen there was no greater service than to save the lives of others.

Tech. Sgt. Liliana Moreno
621ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The famed Candy Bomber, a 99-year-old war hero, recently visited Travis Air Force Base in California to share his amazing story with the Airmen and families around the base.

As part of his visit, retired U.S. Air Force Col. Gail Halvorsen visited the 821st Contingency Response Squadron where he spoke about the importance of being a part of the airlift team and told Airmen there was no greater service than to save the lives of others.

As soon as he walked into the room, he was greeted by an outburst of clapping hands from the crowd.

"Well, it is good to see you all," he said with a big smile on his face. "I've never had a handclap like that before."

During Halvorsen's visit to the squadron, Master Sgt. Christopher Swartz, 821st CRS aerial port flight chief, had the opportunity to share the history that made the Candy Bomber so beloved amongst Berliners.

"This part of history has fascinated me," Swartz said. "My very first base was Rhein-Main Air Base in Frankfurt, Germany, and the history of the airlift was all over the base."

In 1948, the 11-month Berlin
See CANDY Page 18

43rd AES tactical combat casualty care course

Nicholas Pilch
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Airmen from the 43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron Detachment 1 participated in a tactical combat casualties care course Jan. 29-31 at Travis Air Force Base, California.

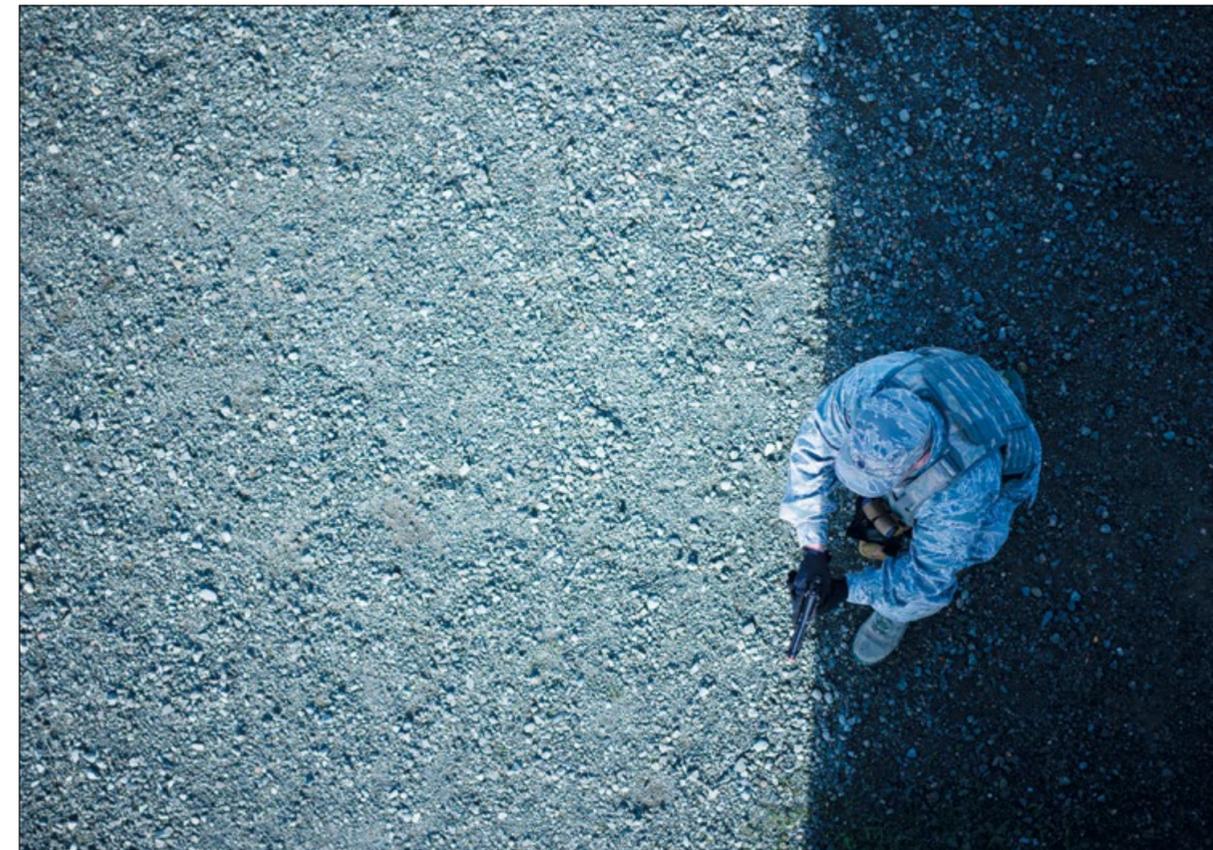
"Over three days, we trained 22 different modules for tactical combat medics to be able to perform in any combat situation," said Staff Sgt. Brendon Bowman, 43rd AES Detachment 1 AE flight instructor.

The training is a new Department of Defense standard. Though similar to self-aid buddy care, it is adapted and will replace the SABC course in April.

"This training allows us to train members to be prepared for a combat zone and injuries they might find there," said Master Sgt. Connor Olney, 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron air advisor. "The training consists of a one-to two-day classroom lecture, then a day in the field to practice medical skills under a combat-like environment, hands-on."

In the classroom, participants learned the different modules and were tested on each module before being able to continue to the field portion of the training. In the field, training participants encountered aggressors with airsoft pellet guns.

"The training is really important for us because, as AE, we don't get to see the tactical



U.S. Air Force photo/Nicholas Pilch

Lt. Col. David Hernandez, 43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron Detachment 1 chief nurse, checks for threats around a wall during a combat training scenario Jan. 31 at Travis Air Force Base, California. Airmen participated in a three-day tactical combat casualty care course that trained aeromedical personnel to manage effective healthcare during different combat situations.

part in these trainings, usually," said Staff Sgt. Cali Lutz, 43rd AES Det. 1 AE technician. "Learning the skills for more

tactical maneuvers and what needs to be done, even if I'm not the one that is securing the area, I at least know what the support

team is doing and how I can better help them instead of getting in the way."

The 43rd AES brought in

members from the 571st MSAS so the Airmen participating in the training would have additional survival skills and training.

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

Nicholas Pilch
Tailwind staff

Daily Republic

Nick DeCicco
Tailwind editor

Todd R. Hansen
Copy editor

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On the cover

Tech. Sgt. Victoria Kinman, 403rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, inspects the wings of a WC-130J Super Hercules aircraft prior to an atmospheric river mission Jan. 27 at Travis Air Force Base, California.

U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christopher Carranza



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

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: Senior Airman Brian Parra.	Hometown: Wilmington, California.	Family: None.
Unit: 22nd Airlift Squadron.	Time in service: Seven years.	What are your hobbies? Hiking, swimming, running, traveling and motorsports.
Duty title: C-5M Super Galaxy flight engineer.	What are your goals? To become an instructor flight engineer.	What is your greatest achievement? Becoming a C-5M flight engineer.



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

Karis Carbajal, right, 60th Medical Operations Squadron Family Advocacy nurse, hands Jack Mitchell, son of U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Lance Mitchell, 60th Aerial Port Squadron handling supervisor, a toy tractor during a Family Advocacy playgroup event Jan. 23 at Travis Air Force Base, California. The playgroup offers Travis AFB families with young children an opportunity to socialize on a weekly basis.

Airmen receive help through Family Advocacy

Airman 1st Class Cameron Otte
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. Matthew Willerick wasn't sure of what he should be doing. After all, his newborn didn't come with a manual. He wanted to be a good father. He wanted to raise his child the right way, but he didn't know how. Perplexed by the reality of parenthood, he began to feel stressed.

The 60th Medical Operations Squadron clinical psychologist was going through his medical residency training when he first discovered the Family Advocacy office at Travis AFB, an office designed to provide a

wide range of support to Airmen and their families. Family Advocacy offers several services, including parenting classes and victim advocate support.

"Back when my first child was born, eight years ago, I wasn't sure how I should be investing my time with my child," said Willerick. "I felt a little lost, and it was really starting to stress me out. I recalled that Family Advocacy had a class called Boot Camp for New Dads, and I decided to give it a try. It turned out to be exactly what I needed."

The class provided a foundation for Willerick to build off. During the class, he was able to ask questions

about parenting. When his third child was born, Willerick participated in the Love and Logic program which taught him parenting techniques he can apply to every day situations while raising his children. He said he no longer wonders if he's making the right decisions, and believes he's giving his kids the best start in life.

This is only part of Family Advocacy's mission.

"Our mission is to educate Travis AFB about unhealthy behaviors such as domestic violence, child abuse and risk factors," said Latrise Muchison, 60th MDOS Family Advocacy intervention specialist. "We also host

classes on how to prevent and identify these issues to help keep the community as healthy as possible."

Family Advocacy programs are available to all Airmen and civilian employees assigned to Travis AFB.

"Just last year we had 797 people participate in 51 family violence education and prevention trainings," Muchison said. "Another 1,960 people participated in the prevention services we hosted. Those included playgroups, classes and outreach events."

The Family Advocacy office is here to support anyone at Travis who may be struggling with something, said

See **ADVOCACY** Page 19



Courtesy photo

Jeff Switkowski, left, Sacramento Fire Department instructor, instructs firefighters from various local fire emergency services during a live burn training Jan. 14 at Travis Air Force Base, California. Travis Fire Emergency services and 10 other fire departments used four buildings at Travis AFB for live-fire training before conducting a final controlled burn to remove them.

Controlled burns include 60th CES

Nicholas Pilch

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 60th Civil Engineer Squadron capitalizes on the rare opportunity to burn dilapidated and unused buildings on Travis throughout January and February.

"The primary objective is training," said Master Sgt. Cody Nelson, 60th CES assistant chief of training. "Three old buildings on Hangar Avenue and Bldg. 927 on West Street were originally slated for ordinary demolition.

Instead, Travis Fire Emergency Services will utilize them for live-fire training before conducting a final controlled burn to remove the structures."

This arrangement increases the training opportunities for local firefighters and saves the Air Force normal expenses associated with demolition. Coordination began last September to conduct this training. The

buildings being demolished are dilapidated and no longer inhabitable. Before burning, the structures needed to be made safe. Then notification was given to both on- and off-base environmental agencies for approval.

The Fire Control 3A live-fire training is designed to provide both volunteer and career firefighters with hands-on training in specialized areas such as firefighting, extrication, rescue and pump operations.

"The course is designed to develop fundamental skills in combating structure fires by providing the students with a thorough understanding of fire behavior," said Nelson. "Classes are being delivered through registered instructors and are tailored to meet the needs of the student."

The opportunity to reinforce the student's knowledge of fire behavior is provided in all the exercises. In many cases, this will be the firefighter's first

exposure to live structural firefighting, yet it can also serve as an educational tool for the seasoned firefighter.

Around 100 personnel from surrounding fire departments are participating in the training; Squaw Valley, Sacramento City, Santa Clara, Winters, Vacaville District, San Ramon Valley, Camp Parks, Atascadero, and 932nd and 349th Reserve firefighters.

"Working to serve locally with our off-base agencies prepares us for a faster overall response time for any event where an agency would be needed here or one of our agencies being needed there," said Nelson. "The instructors and CES leadership hope for more training opportunities and burns like this in the future."

Nelson also said this was the first opportunity for Travis Airmen to participate in a training like this and the CES trainers hope for more trainings and burns like this in the future.

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"The Travis Army and Air Force Exchange is all in to promote a Be Fit lifestyle focused on the health and well-being of Soldiers, retirees, military

See GREEN Page 19

'Live2Lead' training hosts familiar face



U.S. Air Force photo/Dennis Santarinola

Retired Command Chief for the Air Force Reserve Command and the 349th Air Mobility Wing, Ericka Kelly speaks to Airmen Feb. 6 as the keynote speaker at the Dr. John Maxwell Academy's "Live2Lead" Leadership training event held on at Travis Air Force Base, California.

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AMC makes 2021 budget recommendations

**Air Mobility Command
Public Affairs**

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Illinois — Among the key features announced in the Air Force Fiscal Year 2021 President's Budget Request released Feb. 11, Air Mobility Command is projected to face several recommended force structure adjustments to its aerial refueling and Total Force tactical airlift fleets.

"The FY21 budget makes hard choices in the Air Force between retaining legacy force

structure and making capital investments to ensure we have an Air Force capable of meeting future requirements to defeat and deter great power competitors," said Gen. Maryanne Miller, Air Mobility Command commander. "Air mobility force structure was part of those choices."

For tactical airlift, the FY21 budget recommends a reduction of 24 Total Force C-130H Hercules in Fiscal Year 2021, removing the oldest aircraft from the fleet. Simultaneously, the TF tactical airlift fleet will grow by 19 C-130Js. At the time of the

FY21 PBR release, no decision has been made on what units will be affected by C-130 force structure adjustments.

For aerial refueling, the FY21 budget proposes reductions to the legacy tanker fleet, including 13 KC-135R Stratotankers and 16 KC-10 Extenders in Fiscal Year 2021.

"AMC and U.S. Transportation Command's capacity to support Joint Force aerial refueling requirements is affected by proposed tanker force structure adjustments in the FY21 PBR," said Miller. "The effect

of legacy tanker reductions is compounded by the fact that the KC-46A remains unable to accomplish its primary mission. This increased risk to executing our operational aerial refueling mission is a matter of concern that has been raised by the Commander of USTRANSCOM."

"As we incur additional warfighting risk with legacy tanker force reductions and reduced aerial refueling capacity, it further increases the importance of fielding a KC-46A Pegasus capable of performing all

operational missions as soon as possible," said Miller. "Correction of major deficiencies in the KC-46A, especially with the Remote Vision System, are a necessary condition to ensure that Joint Force aerial refueling requirements can be met within the bounds of acceptable risk over the long-term."

AMC's future tanker force is envisioned to consist of a mix of upgraded KC-135s and KC-46s.

For more information about the FY21 Air Force Budget, visit <https://www.saffm.hq.af.mil/FM-Resources/Budget/>.

Scholarships honor Tuskegee leader

Kevin L. Robinson
DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

FORT LEE, Va. — The history of the Tuskegee Airmen speaks of the bravery, dedicated service and demonstrated skills of African-American fighter pilots during World War II.

In observance of Black History Month, commissary and exchange patrons will be eligible to enter a social media contest that honors the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen commander, Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., who would become the Air Force's first three-star general.

Through the "Share Your Service Story" contest, sponsored by Coca-Cola in partnership with the USO and Mondel z International, authorized commissary and exchange patrons can tell their military service story or that of a family member for a chance to win one \$5,000 scholarship or one of three \$1,000 scholarships. Winners may transfer their prize to a family member or other person. For more information on contest rules, go to Coca-Cola's "Tell Us Your Story" webpage.

To enter, authorized participants must submit their stories on either Twitter or Instagram from Jan. 30 to March 2. The submission must include a photo or video (maximum two minutes in length) using #ShareYourServiceStoryContest.

Military resale patrons will see contest displays in their local commissaries and exchanges.

"Gen. Davis' historic career is an inspiration to us all, being the commander of the illustrious Tuskegee Airmen and the military's second African-American general," said Army Command Sgt. Maj. Tomeka O'Neal, senior enlisted advisor to the DeCA director. "It's an honor for us to engage in a program that acknowledges him and his pilots, and allows our military community to share their service stories and compete for scholarships."

The "Tell Us Your Service Story" contest is Coke's way of giving back to the military sales channel, said Michael R. Pelletier, Coca-Cola North America senior shopper, marketing manager. He feels the contest is part of a company mindset that goes back to former Coca-Cola President Robert Woodruff. He built 64 bottling plants throughout the theaters of operation during World War II, so that all service members could have Cokes for a nickel — no matter where they were in the world.

"Anyone from Coca-Cola who touches the military channel and supports the military channel feels a sense of servitude and we're proud to serve those who serve," Pelletier said. "We feel a program such as 'Tell Us Your Service Story' enriches the lives of our service members and their families. A

program like this supports education and helps bring together the military community."

Davis is the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., noted in history as the first African-American general officer in the U.S. military. Living up to his

See TUSKEGEE Page 19

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H&R Block provides deal on tax preparation

Lorraine Harris-Ortega

ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Travis Army and Air Force Exchange is making filing season less taxing by teaming with H&R Block to offer tax preparation services to Military Service Members and their families at a 10% discount at select locations worldwide.

“The Exchange helps take the guesswork out of tax preparation for Military Service Members and their families,” said Phonda Bishop, General Manager. “These professionals are well-trained to assist with Exchange shoppers’ tax preparation needs.”

Besides the discount, H&R Block at the Exchange is offering:

- A free second-look tax review program in which H&R Block reviews last year’s returns to determine whether filers are entitled to additional money that was not claimed.
- One-hundred percent accuracy guarantee in the event of an audit.
- In the event of an error, H&R Block will pay the penalty and interest at no

additional cost to the filer.

The discount is also available to all authorized Exchange shoppers, including disabled veterans and eligible caregivers who became eligible to shop with the Exchange again on Jan. 1

Military shoppers can visit ShopMyExchange.com/hrblock to locate an office.



U.S. Air Force photo/Roland Balik

C-5M Super Galaxy 9th Airlift Squadron aircrew members pose Feb. 4 at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. From the left are five of the 12 Reach 190 members: Capt. Geoffrey Howard, aircraft commander; Tech. Sgt. Alexander Barnes, flight engineer; Master Sgt. Joshua Cutrer, loadmaster; Staff Sgt. Teagan Young, 436th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron flying crew chief; and 1st Lt. Eli Parsch, pilot.

Quick thinking saves C-5M crew

Roland Balik

436TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. — A C-5M Super Galaxy aircrew consisting of 9th Airlift Squadron and 436th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron personnel started on a mission Jan. 13 only to return to Dover 15 days later after encountering numerous challenges and an in-flight medical emergency.

The 12-strong REACH 190 aircrew consisted of the following members of the 9th AS: aircraft commander Capt. Geoffrey Howard and pilots 1st Lts. Douglas Gifford and Eli Parsch; flight engineers Tech. Sgt. Alexander Barnes and Staff Sgt. Emily O’Neil;

loadmasters Master Sgt. Joshua Cutrer, Staff Sgt. Jesse Garza, Senior Airman Bret Noble, Airman 1st Class Joshua Johnson, Patrick Jones and Tylre Labreck. Staff Sgt. Teagan Young from the 436th AMXS was their flying crew chief. Together, they tackled an unscripted chain of events and challenges, which altered the length and itinerary of their extraordinary mission.

Communication and coordination among the aircrew as anomalies arose was critical to the success of this mission.

During the initial aircrew briefing prior to departing Dover, Howard emphasized the importance of safety and communication.

“Really, the two things that I preach and harp on in the initial aircrew brief is communication and crew resource management,” said Howard. “Those are the two biggest things about flying this airplane with three different crew positions [pilots, flight engineers and loadmasters] by all operating together in order to accomplish the same mission.”

The first leg of the mission took them to Barksdale AFB, Louisiana, where they would spend the first four and a half days on the ground before making an unscheduled return to Dover to fix an inoperative weather radar before

See C-5M CREW Page 22

Commissaries focus attention on boosting health

Kevin L. Robinson

DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

FORT LEE, Va. — A quarter of the deaths in the United States are caused by heart disease, making it the number one killer in the nation, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

With February being Heart Health Month, the Defense Commissary Agency wants to help educate its customers about foods that can help lower their risks for heart attack and stroke.

“We are committed to helping our customers make the best shopping decisions possible to prevent heart disease,” said DeCA Health and Wellness Program Manager Deborah Harris, masters

of public health, registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator. “So for their ultimate heart health, it matters what they put in their shopping cart.

“Commissaries are good sources for products that support heart health – products featuring whole grain, leafy green vegetables, certain berries, lean protein foods, good sources of omega-3 fatty acids via fish and nuts, green tea and dark chocolates – at significant savings compared to commercial retail stores.”

For help to plan weekly menus, customers can find dietitian-approved recipes on the DeCA website, commissaries.com, that help weekly meal planning. The site’s sales flyer also includes Thinking Outside the Box recipes that offer

healthy, economical choices for cooking at home.

Commissaries also feature the nutrition guide program, a point of sale information system that highlights key nutrient attributes of store products. The NGP, with its color-coded shelf tags, serves as an easy-to-use guide for grocery shopping choices highlighting the nutrition attributes of low sodium, low fat, whole grain, no added sugar and great source of fiber.

“We want our customers to be aware of the measures they can take to lower their risk of heart disease and protect their heart health,” Harris said. “These include meeting the recommendations for physical activity, knowing your numbers (total cholesterol, blood sugar, blood

pressure and body weight) and following the 2015-20 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.”

As DeCA delivers the commissary benefit, the agency wants to help fuel service members to perform optimally to meet readiness needs while in uniform, and as they age help them continue living their best life as it relates to health and wellness, Harris added.

“Preventing heart disease just doesn’t happen from one day to the next; it’s a lifetime of choices one makes while young adults and into their 30s, which may impact them later in life,” Harris said.

For more information about preventing heart disease, check out the CDC website.



U.S. Air Force photo/Shannon Carabajal

2020 Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center Innovation Rodeo panel members Chief Master Sgt. Edwin Ludwigsen, Brig. Gen. Stewart Hammons, Maj. Gen. Tom Wilcox, Lorna Estep and Brig. Gen. Alice Trevino deliberate following a presentation Feb. 7 in San Antonio.

Child care app wins innovation rodeo

Shannon Carabajal

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION SUPPORT CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SAN ANTONIO — An idea to centralize and streamline the subletting of short-term slots at military child development centers won the 2020 Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center Innovation Rodeo Feb. 7 in San Antonio.

Maj. Jacque Vasta, executive officer for Air Force Materiel Command’s deputy commander at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, will receive a share of \$1 million in

funding from AFIMSC to develop her idea for potential implementation across the Air Force and Department of Defense.

Vasta came up with the idea for a mobile application or web-based platform three years ago when she had her first child. The concept, called Kinder-spot, helps parents of children enrolled in military Child Development Centers sublease their child’s spot to eligible families with short-term child-care needs. Her family’s first experience with subleasing a

See APP Page 18

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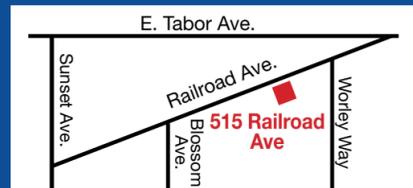
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is open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



U.S. Air Force photo/J.M. Eddins Jr.

Between 5,000 and 8,000 blood serum, fecal, urine, viral and respiratory samples arrive six days a week from U.S. Air Force hospitals and clinics worldwide, as well as from some other Department of Defense facilities, for analysis at the Epidemiology Laboratory Service, also known as the “Epi Lab” at the 711th Human Performance Wing’s United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine and Public Health at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. The lab is a Department of Defense reference laboratory offering clinical diagnostic, public health and force health screening and testing.

Lab aids vaccine development

Bryan Ripple

88TH AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — The United States is in the midst of influenza season, but the medical readiness of service members across the world is being supported by a DoD-wide respiratory pathogen surveillance program located at the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is reporting 19 million cases, 180,000 hospitalizations, and 10,000 deaths in the U.S. alone.

The USAFSAM Epidemiology Lab, part of the Air Force Research Laboratory’s 711th Human Performance Wing, is the sole clinical reference lab for the Air Force. It provides force health screening, as well as clinical diagnostic testing for its customers around the world.

Dr. Paul Sjoberg, a program manager with the Department of Defense Global Respiratory Pathogen Surveillance Program at USAFSAM’s Epi Lab, and his colleagues monitor influenza to provide the CDC and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration with critical data to facilitate the creation of the influenza vaccine each season.

Sjoberg explained how the surveillance program works to identify changes in viruses.

“We’re actually out globally at military installations and collecting specimens from individuals that are ill. We are looking for certain symptoms that would help us potentially identify a respiratory virus and specifically, influenza. Do they have a fever or a cough and a sore throat?”

Sjoberg continued, “We work with military installations here in the United States and abroad to see if something

is occurring and work with the CDC and FDA here in the United States and the World Health Organization globally to provide that change, if necessary.”

Sjoberg explained that as they look at the changes within the virus to determine if there are mutations occurring, they are also looking for anything unique that stands out.

“We share the information with the CDC and help push this potential change to the influenza vaccine each year. The virus is always changing throughout the world,” he said.

“Because the U.S. military has service members and civilians all over the globe, the DoD Global Respiratory Pathogen Surveillance Program conducts more extensive monitoring than any other domestic surveillance system does to address those changing environments that service members

See VACCINE Page 15



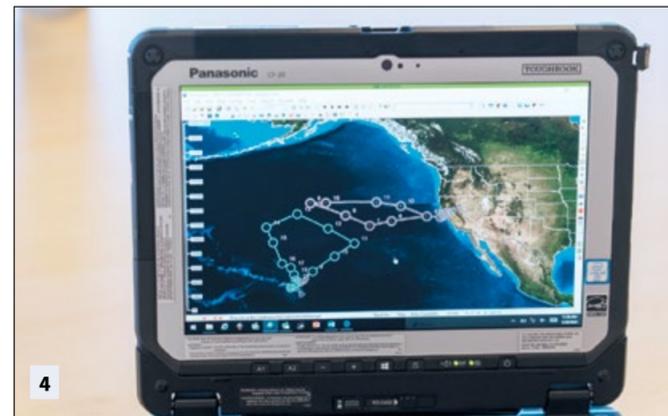
U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christopher Carranza



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christopher Carranza



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Karla Parra



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christopher Carranza



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christopher Carranza

1) From left to right, Maj. Grant Wagner, 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron navigator, F. Martin Ralph, principal investigator for the Atmospheric River Recon program and director of the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes and Lt. Col. Ryan Rickert, 53rd WRS aerial weather reconnaissance officer, work on a flight plan for the next atmospheric river mission Jan. 30 at San Diego, California. 2) A WC-130J Super Hercules aircraft from the 53rd WRS sits on the flight line prior to an atmospheric river mission Jan. 27 at Travis Air Force Base, California. 3) A WC-130J aircraft from the 53rd WRS sits on the flight line prior to an atmospheric river mission Jan. 28 at Travis. 4) Proposed flight paths for the next atmospheric river missions Jan. 30 at San Diego. 5) Maj. Jesse Rosal, 53rd WRS pilot, talks over the radio communications system during an atmospheric river mission Jan. 28 over the Pacific Ocean.

Hurricane Hunters stage at Travis to fly Atmospheric Rivers

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Carranza
403RD WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — The 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, commonly known as the Hurricane Hunters, are the cornerstone for data gathering efforts within storm environments. When they're not flying into hurricanes, they are providing aerial weather reconnaissance for atmospheric rivers over the Pacific Ocean.

"There is no off-season for us. After the Hurricane season is done, we roll into the Winter Storm season and part of that is providing support for

atmospheric rivers off the West Coast," said Lt. Col. Ryan Rickert, 53rd WRS aerial reconnaissance weather officer. "ARs are flowing columns of water vapor that produce vast amounts of precipitation when they make landfall. The heavy amounts of precipitation can turn into extreme rainfall and snow, which then can cause flooding and mudslides."

The Hurricane Hunters are slated to perform "AR recon" from January through March. Scientists led by Scripps Institution of Oceanography at University of California, San Diego, working in partnership with the 53rd WRS, National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service, and Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, who will be on standby to fly through these ARs over the Pacific to gather data to improve forecasts. Approximately twelve storms will be flown during that period and deploying up to three planes per storm.

"We're trying to improve the forecast of atmospheric rivers on the West Coast, because it matters to the people who manage water and deal with the hazards of flood and debris flows," said F. Martin Ralph, principal investigator for the AR Recon program and director of

the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes at Scripps. "We're all working together to try and figure out how to make the forecast better and AR recon's data gathering is a vital part of that."

There are two WC-130J Super Hercules aircraft from the 403rd Wing which have staged at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., then moved to Portland, Ore., and U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point in Hawaii. One Gulfstream IV from NOAA's Air Operations Center is also staged out of Portland.

"In many cases ARs are great for the state of California, because they bring 90 percent

of the state's annual precipitation," said Ralph. "But when the ground is already saturated and more water is added, it can cause hazards, so knowing what is coming helps people to prepare."

ARs have a great economic impact on California and its residents, said Ralph. They are the dominant cause of flooding and play key roles in drought in West Coast watersheds. Flood costs average about \$1 billion a year and produce 25-50 percent of the water supply in key areas of the West.

During AR missions, the 53rd WRS fly up to 30,000 feet to capture as much atmospheric data

as possible. The data compiled by dropsondes can create a vertical profile from the aircraft to the surface of the ocean for the research team and forecasters to input in their models.

"We have somewhat of a void in collecting data over the ocean. Satellites have trouble seeing through clouds, thus having an aircraft releasing dropsondes in those areas significantly improves our data and the forecast models," said Anna Wilson, field research manager of the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes. "We have a lot of room for accuracy and prediction improvements, and aerial weather reconnaissance

is vital to gathering data from within the atmospheric rivers with lead times of about three days to help improve our weather models."

The data that is collected from the aircraft is uploaded to forecast models, but the three primary models utilized by the research teams are the Naval Global Environmental Model, the European Center for Medium Range Weather Forecasts and NOAA's Global Forecasting System, which is produced by the National Centers for Environmental Prediction.

"The observations gathered by the WC-130J definitely help bridge the gaps in data," said

Wilson. "It would be great to have more aircraft, because we have found in our results that all the spatial coverage helps make the impact larger, which helps predict where an atmospheric river will make landfall."

An AR can be hundreds of miles wide and have their own categories from 1 to 5, the higher the number the increased hazard. An AR can range from 250-500 miles wide on average, said Ralph.

"Having the Air Force here on site doing the flight planning with us is extremely helpful on both sides, it makes us more effective and efficient. It's awesome being able to have them

here in person," said Wilson. "We have a robust team with national and international participation that use the gathered data and input for three of the global forecast models."

While the aircraft and aircrews can be staged at different locations, there is an additional team working hand-in-hand with the research team at Scripps who are in charge of mission development and coordination with the flying aircrew.

"Being on site really helps prevent miscommunications between the research team and the assets the 53rd has to offer," said Rickert. "As soon as the research team finds an area

of interest for weather observations, we immediately start coordinating a flight plan that is feasible for our crews and make adjustments for times and fuel."

Rickert said that gathering data from any weather flight ultimately helps the people on the ground who are going to be affected.

"Gathering data from within storm environments is inherently dangerous, but we perform this service all the same, whether it is flying into a CAT 5 hurricane or an AR 5, we collect data in hopes to improve the weather forecast and in turn save lives in the process," said Rickert.

Puzzles

STR8TS

No. 477 Easy

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

Previous solution - Medium

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

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

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

SUDOKU

No. 477 Tough

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

Previous solution - Medium

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

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

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

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

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

News Notes

Scholarships for Military Children.

Defense Commissary Agency program underway. The program is administered by Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization that helps service members and their families, and is funded primarily through the generosity of manufacturers and suppliers whose products are sold at military commissaries worldwide. For scholarship year 2020-21, Fisher House Foundation will award 500 scholarship grants of \$2,000 each. Applications accepted through Feb. 24. All rules and requirements for the program are available via the website. For more information and to apply, visit <https://militaryscholar.org/sfmc/index.html>

Chapel programs

Recurring events

Catholic

Twin Peaks Chapel

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

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

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

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

- Catholic Women of the Chapel: 6 p.m. first Monday of every month, Annex.
- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Annex.
- RE Classes: 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, RE Wing.

First Street Chapel

- Mom's Group: 9 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday and Friday.

DGMC Chapel

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

- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Sacrament services: 9 and noon Sunday at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Fairfield Stake Center, 2700 Camrose Ave., Fairfield.

DGMC Chapel

- Latter-day Saints Service: 4 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at DGMC chapel.
- For all other inquiries, call LDS Military relations representatives at 707-535-6979.

Protestant

First Street Chapel

- Protestant Community Service: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday.
- Gospel Worship Service: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday.
- Children's Ministry is provided for 6-month-olds through fifth grade.

— Health.mil

- Protestant Men of the Chapel, 6 to 8 p.m. every second and third Tuesday of the month at First Street Chapel Annex, vice 8 to 9 a.m. first Saturday of the month.
- Moms Group. Jesus Cares ministry, EFMP children's ministry, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., every third Saturday of the month at First Street Chapel Annex.

Twin Peaks Chapel

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

DGMC Chapel

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

Airmen's Ministry Center

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



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

Recurring

Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

To report a crime, get a foreign travel brief or request information on joining AFOSI, report to Bldg. 380B, second floor. Send correspondence to AFOSI Detachment 303, 510 Airlift CR, Travis AFB, DSN: 837-3115.

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

- Air Force Sergeants Association "Walter E. Scott" Chapter 1320.** General membership meetings are at 2 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at Wingman's in the Delta Breeze Club and include a free breakfast. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Reynoldo Rios or Master Sgt. Rosel Agapay.

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

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

- Base emergency numbers.** Mobile phone users must dial 707-424-4911 if they have an emergency on base. Those using government or home phones can call 911. For more information, call the Travis Air Force Base Fire Prevention Office at 707-424-3633.

- Base illicit discharge number.** To report sewage/water leaks or illegal dumping, call

707-424-2575. For hazardous chemical/material spills, call the base emergency numbers.

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

- Combat Arms Firing Range.** Bldg. 1370, located 200 yards northeast of perimeter road in the northeast corner of Travis is off limits to all personnel. Trespassing is not only illegal, but extremely dangerous due to live weapons firing. Anyone requiring entry into the area or needing further information should contact the base Combat Arms Section at 707-424-2122 or visit at 700 Vandenberg Drive, Bldg. 1219, Travis AFB, CA 94535.

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

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

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

- Family Advocacy Parent/Child play groups.** Toddlers to the Max play group for children ages 1 to 3 meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the First Street Chapel Annex. The Rattles to Raspberries play group for infants 8 weeks to 1 year meets 9:30 to 11 a.m. Thursdays at the First Street Chapel Annex. For more information, call 707-423-5168.

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

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

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

- Mare Island Museum.** Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. 1100 Railroad Ave. in Vallejo. For more information, call 707-557-4646.

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

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

- MPF self-renewal program.** Did you know that dependents can now renew their ID cards online? To participate in this program, visit <http://bit.ly/2mR1gJ2>. This program is limited only for renewing dependents' IDs. For all other services, visit MPF during duty hours or call 707-424-8483.

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

- Photocopying of military identification.** The prohibition of photocopying of U.S. government identification Common Access Card announced by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, dated Oct. 27, 2011, does not apply to medical establishments, applying for government-issued, no-fee passport and other U.S. government agencies in the performance of official government business. This requirement does not apply to minors ages 16 or younger. However, it applies to sponsors. For more information, call 707-424-5324.

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

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

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

- Travis Community Thrift Shop.** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Ongoing need for volunteers to organize, sort and price

donations. For more information, contact the Thrift Shop at 707-437-2370.

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

- Travis Air Force Base Heritage Center.** Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Bldg. 80, 461 Burgan Blvd., Travis Air Force Base. Escorts required for general public, call center to arrange. Free. 707-424-5598, www.travisheritagecenter.org.

- Travis Legal Office.** Power of attorney and notaries are walk-ins from 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:

- Rebecca Austria, 60th Maintenance Group.
- John Butler, Special Tactics Training Squadron.
- Jaquelyn Cabanlit, Travis AFB Commissary
- Neftaly Clark, 1st Special Operations Force Support Squadron.
- Bradley Griffith, 60th Maintenance Squadron.
- Rabiye Hamilton, Travis AFB Commissary.
- Patrick Hodge USTRANSCOM, Scott AFB.
- Mark Holmes, 10th Contracting Squadron.
- Dina Patterson-Steward, 60th Aerial Port Squadron.
- Jason Perkins, Grand Forks AFB.
- Gina Silva, Air Force Academy headquarters.
- Jean Sommer, Travis AFB Commissary
- Maria Thammasan, 60th Force Support Squadron
- Dennis Weaver, Air Force Manpower Agency.

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 3 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

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

Local events

Events

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

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

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

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

- Music and dance**

- City Sports Bar and Grill.** Music begins at 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 7155 Browns Valley Parkway, Vacaville. 455-7827, www.starsrecreation.com.

- Downtown Theatre.** Love Notes: A Tribute to Luther Vandross, 8 p.m. Feb. 14; 1035 Texas St., Fairfield. www.downtowntheatre.com.

- Empress Theatre.** Paul Taylor, Brian Simpson and Blake Aaron, 8 p.m. Feb. 14; Sonniebo & All American P, 9 p.m. Feb. 16; Jack Pollard, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19; The Young Fables, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20; Skynnyn Lynnnyd, 8 p.m. Feb. 22; 330 Virginia St., Vallejo. 552-2400, www.empresstheatre.org.

- First Street Cafe.** Open mic, 7 p.m. Feb. 15; Palindrome: The Bryan Girard/Graham Bruce Quintet, 2 p.m. Feb. 16; Tuneriders, 7 p.m. Feb. 21; Americana Songbook, 7 p.m. Feb. 22; Jack Pollard, 2 p.m. Feb. 23; 440 First St., Benicia. 745-1400, www.firststreetcafe.com.

- The Rellik.** Johnny Favorite, Feb. 14; Neon Velvet, Feb. 16; Doug Houser, 6 p.m. Feb. 19; Strange Brew, 8:30 p.m. Feb. 21; Austin Mo Experience, 8:30 p.m. Feb. 22; 726 First St., Benicia. www.therelliktaavern.com.

- Solano Symphony.** World's Greatest Classics, 3 p.m. March 29, Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre, 1010 Ulatis Drive. www.solanosymphony.org.

- Solano Winds.** "Blue Notes," 8 p.m. March 13, Downtown Theatre, 1035 Texas St., Fairfield. www.solanowinds.org.

- Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre.** Valentine's Day with Ron George and Bob Green, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14; Foghat, 8 p.m. Feb. 21; 1010 Ulatis Drive. 469-4013, <https://vpaa.net>.

- Vallejo Jazz Society.** Ray Obiedo Sextet,

THE FLIP SIDE

- 5 p.m. March 15, Empress Theatre, 330 Virginia St., Vallejo. <https://empresstheatre.org>.

- Vallejo Symphony.** "Iconclast," 8 p.m. Feb. 29, 3 p.m. March 1, Empress Theatre, 330 Virginia St., Vallejo. <https://vallejosymphony.org>.

- Verismo Opera.** "L'Elisir d'Amore," 3 p.m. Feb. 16, Bay Terrace Theatre, 51 Daniels Way, Vallejo. www.facebook.com/events/1203605126696572.

- Places to go**

- BackRoad Vines.** Open 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, 221 Julian Lane, Fairfield. www.backroadvines.com.

- Benicia Capitol State Historic Park.** Open noon to 4 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday, 115 W. G St. 745-3385, www.parks.ca.gov.

- Children's Wonderland.** Open 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, contingent on weather, 360 Glenn St., Vallejo. 980-0004.

- GV Cellars.** Wine tasting, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, 1635 Mason Road, Fairfield. 864-2089, www.gvcellars.com.



U.S. Air Force photo/J.M. Eddins Jr.

Staff Sgt. Gerald Gatlin prepares serology samples in the immunodiagnostic section of the Epidemiology Laboratory Service, also known as the "Epi Lab," at the 711th Human Performance Wing's United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine and Public Health Jan. 30, 2018, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Vaccine

From Page 10

are in," Fries said.

However, responding to changes in the virus does take some time.

"Our vaccine manufacturing process takes a long time - six to eight months from when you make decisions about what you think the population should be vaccinated against in the coming flu season," Fries said.

Fries explained that in February, in the northern hemisphere, the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control, Food and Drug Administration, and the Defense Department get together and make decisions on the upcoming season according to what has been seen thus far.

"At that point, you characterize and do your best effort to take a very educated guess from a lot of data that have been accrued to say to the industry reps that are sitting at the table with you, 'These are the candidate viruses that we think you should take back to your labs. We want you to grow those in mostly egg-based systems and amplify it and grow it enough that we can then mass distribute it across the globe to the benefit of the prevention of influenza.'"

"If we get that guess wrong, we are then months behind in the generation of an emergency vaccine for instance. This is another emphasis as to why we watch this so closely. Overnight, these could change and

go a different direction than what a lot of forecasters think these are going toward," he said.

These health officials ask questions such as, "Are we seeing something starting to arise that is more than what is normal, but what we haven't seen in the past? Is there enough of the population globally that would be impacted by this?"

"We all see things a little differently and that sometimes helps make that final decision," said Sjoberg.

Sjoberg shared a success story for the DoD surveillance program at the Epi Lab that relates to the concern with the pandemic influenza virus that emerged in 2009.

"In 2009, there was the (swine flu) pandemic. Because of what we were able to do in our lab and in our partner lab in California (the Naval Health Research Center), we identified the first H1N1 viruses in the United States in California and Texas. The CDC asked for that virus, and that virus was then utilized as a seed virus for that pandemic vaccine. Our program provides the ability to quickly identify something that is occurring in the population that is responsive to the needs of not only the U.S., but globally," Sjoberg explained.

"The public should know that the vaccine in and of itself is the best method for protection against flu," Fries emphasized. He went on to explain that the vaccine can reduce the likelihood of contracting the virus by 30 to 80 percent."

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<p>2018 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5 SL</p> <p>STK# 22702 VIN# 183034</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">\$16,818</p>	<p>2011 CHEVROLET CORVETTE BASE</p> <p>STK# 22699 VIN# 109425</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">\$27,987</p>

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Base Sacrament Services
DGMC Chapel
(1st Floor North entrance)
Sunday 1600-1630
Inquires: Call LDS Military Relations Missionaries
707-535-6979

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• KID'z CHURCH Grades K-5th
• 10:00 AM WEDNESDAY SENIOR PRAYER
• 7:00 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT Adult Bible Study
Girl's Club
Royal Rangers
Revolution Youth
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www.tagff.org
email: info@tagff.org

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Fairfield, CA 94533
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7:00am & 9:30am.
Bible Study
Tuesdays @ 7:00pm (Youth Sanctuary)
Suisun Campus
601 Whispering Bay Lane,
Suisun City, CA 94585
Sunday Worship Services, 11:00am
Bible Study
Tuesdays @ 12:00noon
707-425-1849
www.mcbcfs.org for more information

BAPTIST


itsallaboutfamilies.org
301 N. Orchard Ave., Vacaville
707.448.5848
SUNDAY
Classes for all ages..... 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am
CORE Bible Studies 12:30 & 5:00 pm
(2nd & 4th Sunday)
WEDNESDAY
Adult Studies.....2:00 pm
AWANA for Kids6:15 pm
Adult & Youth Studies.....6:30 pm

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Sunday Evening Worship 6 PM
Wed. Evening Bible Study 7 PM
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Rescue Mission 1st Friday of month 6-8 PM
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9:15 a.m.
Pastor's Forum
10:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II
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at 9:30am
Awana on
Wednesdays at 6pm
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707-448-6209
www.fbcvv.com

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Vacaville, CA 95687
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Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 5 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 7 p.m.
(Nursery is provided in all services)
Website: www.elmirafamily.com
Email: elmirabaptistchurch77@gmail.com
Phone: (707) 430-3529

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Fajr-Dhuhr-Asr-Maghrib-Isha
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http://www.fairfieldmasjid.com
Email: Fairfieldmasjid@gmail.com
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Fellowship: 11:15am
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Pastor Dann Eitner
Bethany Lutheran Preschool
451-6678
mypreschool@gobethany.com
www.gobethany.com
Bethany Lutheran School
1011 Ulatis Drive
Vacaville, CA 95687
451-6683 ph • 359-2230 Fax
myschool@gobethany.com
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Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 PM
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Sunday: 9am & 11am

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www.vacavillefaith.org

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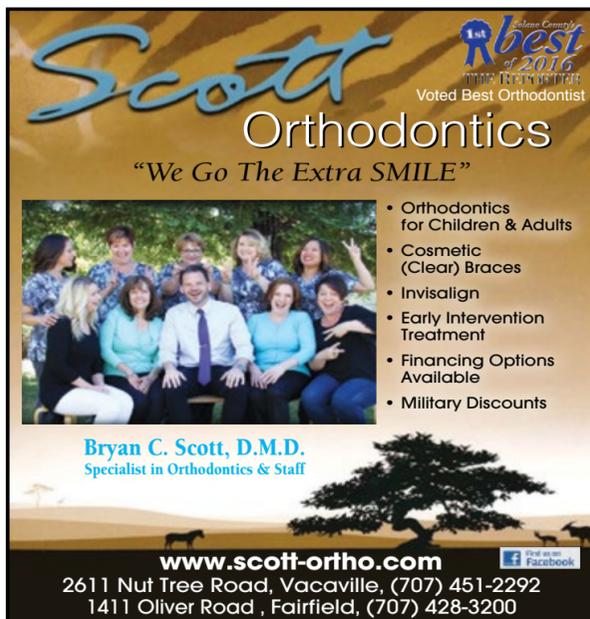

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Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Gail S. Halvorsen, the Berlin Candy Bomber, is greeted by a crowd of clapping hands from the crowd during his visit Jan. 31 to Travis Air Force Base, California. As part of his visit, Halvorsen visited the 821st Contingency Response Squadron where he spoke about the importance of being a part of the airlift team and told Airmen there was no greater service than to save the lives of others.

Candy

From Page 2

Airlift started in response to the Soviet blockade of land routes into West Berlin, allowing the United States and allies to airlift food, water, and medicine to the citizens there.

During the Berlin Airlift, then-1st Lt. Halvorsen flew missions to Berlin and gained fame for dropping candy to the German children during "Operation Little Vittles" from 1948 to 1949.

"For him to take it upon himself and get the other airlift

pilots involved is monumental," Swartz said. "Halvorsen and the other airlift pilots are all great humanitarians who always put the citizens of Berlin first. Berliners will always remember what he and the other airlift pilots did for their city."

As a tribute to his legacy, Halvorsen was inducted into the squadron's "Super-Howl" hall of fame. The Super-Howl was initiated by the squadron as a way to recognize military veterans who visit their unit and have played an important role in the nation's history. The squadron displays this honor on a plaque at the unit where they add the

name of the inductee next to the operation he or she served in.

Swartz said he has met Halvorsen several times over the years during conventions.

"He is always in good spirits and loves telling the story," Swartz said. "My favorite memory of Col. Halvorsen during this visit was when a lady asked how old he was and he just looked at her and said, 'I'm already married.' For being 99 years old, he is still witty."

Halvorsen said he was thrilled to be at Travis, and concluded by saying, "I'm honored to be part of the Air Force. I'm not retired yet."

App

From Page 9

spot at her local CDC didn't go smoothly. The process wasn't standardized, and CDC users were subleasing in an ad hoc manner using Facebook sites. It just "didn't feel right," Vasta said.

"There are a lot of other people out there with this problem too, so I knew it was an enterprise problem I could solve," she said.

In 2019, Vasta began developing her idea and looking for ways to get Air Force support. An opportunity to pitch her

idea at the AFIMSC Innovation Rodeo helped her get the support she was looking for, and she's now eager to get her idea developed and fielded for military families.

"It feels amazing to win," Vasta said. "I'm excited to see where this can go now that it has the backing of AFIMSC. It feels awesome to be the voice of (a service) we all need."

This second annual AFIMSC Innovation Rodeo concluded the center's call-for-topics campaign that ran Air Force-wide Nov. 1-Dec. 31.

"Innovation is the future. If we ever stay stuck in our ways, we can never move forward," said Maj. Gen. Tom Wilcox,

AFIMSC commander. "Innovation Rodeo reaches out to those people who have great ideas. We are able to grab those ideas and walk them all the way to reality. That's what's special about the AFIMSC Innovation Rodeo."

The campaign received more than 150 submissions from around the world, from every mission support group, said Marc Vandever, AFIMSC chief innovation officer.

"The caliber of this year's ideas are phenomenal," he said. "We had 2,000 active comments and votes in our Ideascale online ideation platform. These eight teams are the best of the best."

Tuskegee

From Page 7

father's legacy didn't seem to bother Davis Jr. His military career is marked by several historic achievements of his own:

He is the fourth African-American graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

In 1938, Davis graduated from the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and later assumed duties as professor of military science at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama.

In May 1941, he entered advanced flying school at Tuskegee Army Air Base and earned his pilot wings in March 1942.

Davis first became commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron in May 1942, and later the 332nd Fighter Group in October 1943. The combat record for this group of African-American pilots, known as the Tuskegee Airmen, is legendary: They flew more than 15,000 sorties, shot down 112 enemy aircraft, and the pilots were awarded 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 744 Air Medals, eight Purple Hearts and 14 Bronze Stars.

Davis was promoted to brigadier general in 1954, making him the nation's second African-American general officer. He would go on to make lieutenant general before retiring from active service.

His awards and decorations include the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, Army Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf



Tuskegee Airmen commander, Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., would become the Air Force's first three-star general.

clusters and the Philippine Legion of Honor.

On Dec. 9, 1998, President Bill Clinton advanced Davis to general and pinned on his four-star insignia.

"We are telling General Benjamin O. Davis Jr.'s story because there was a Coca-Cola connection that the family told us about," Pelletier said. According to an interview with Davis' great nephew, Doug Melville, published in the Feb. 15, 2020, edition of Family Magazine, Davis would pass out Cokes to his men during World War II after successful missions.

"This program (Tell Your Service Story) will only be run in the military channel, and therefore we're trying to give service members and their families a reason to shop inside the gate vs. outside the gate," Pelletier said, "by infusing the commissaries with amazing displays that connect with consumers in meaningful ways during Black History Month."

Green

From Page 6

families and veterans" said Phonda Bishop, Exchange general manager. "Saving money on smarter food choices can help military shoppers make their healthy lifestyle a reality."

The Exchange is a partner in the Healthy Army Communities under the Office of the Secretary of Defense,

Operation Live Well. All Exchange restaurants offer better-for-you menu choices to support warfighters' readiness and resiliency.

Military Star cardholders receive even greater savings on Salad Wednesdays. Diners who pay with Military Star get an additional 10% discount.

Exchange restaurants are open to anyone - whether military, civil service, contractor or visitor - per Army Regulation 215-8.

Advocacy

From Page 4

Muchison.

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"We are here to equip Airmen with the skills needed to deal with mentally taxing situations, so they can be more resilient and push past the hard times," Muchison said. "We have helped lots of people, and we can help you too."

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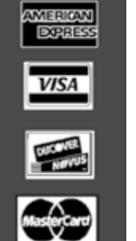
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SERVICE SOURCE



C-5M crew

From Page 8

continuing to their scheduled overseas location with 68 duty passengers and cargo.

"The weather radar was inoperative, which would've endangered the mission and the crew if the issue wasn't corrected," said Howard.

A few minutes into Jan. 18, the Super Galaxy had departed Barksdale and was heading back to Dover, ascending through an altitude of 18,000 feet above sea level, when a "press door open" warning indication appeared simultaneously on the pilot's, copilot's and flight engineer's Multifunctional Display Units, requiring the aircrew to level off at their current altitude.

"It's a warning system, so we have to treat everything as a real problem," said Barnes. "We suspected it was an indication problem only, but we had to follow procedures," said Barnes.

Sitting at the flight engineer's panel, Barnes determined the aircraft's cabin air pressure was stable as the

aircrew initiated the 1C-5M-1 or "Dash 1" checklist for a "Pressure Door Unlocked Indication" that directed the aircraft be descended below 10,000 feet to reduce the chances of hypoxia and ensure the safety of aircrew and passengers.

Shortly after initiating the checklist, an intercom call from the troop compartment notified the aircrew on the flight deck that one of the duty passengers was experiencing a seizure and had lost consciousness.

"We had one of the passengers come up, leave their seat and come forward to let us know what was going on," said Cutrer.

With the help of others, Cutrer rendered aid to the stricken passenger while keeping Howard abreast of what was unfolding in the troop compartment.

"(My) initial assessment was that he (passenger) really wasn't conscious," said Cutrer. "We cleared the area around him, laid him down and made him comfortable as possible."

Based on observation of the passenger, Cutrer recommended to Howard that he divert the



U.S. Air Force photo/Roland Balk

A simulated crew door "not locked" light is illuminated on the C-5M left-hand forward loadmaster control panel trainer Jan. 28, 2020, at the 373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 3 on Dover Air Force Base, Del. During a recent mission dubbed Reach 190, an aircrew from the 9th Airlift Squadron had this light illuminate, causing a "press door open" warning to appear on the pilot's, copilot's and flight engineer's Multifunction Display Units.

Super Galaxy to the closest airport with a nearby 24/7 medical facility.

"Memphis International Airport, Tennessee, was right in front of us on our flight path; it was not too far away, and we were able to land in about 15 minutes," said Howard. "Air Traffic Control helped us out

greatly by providing us immediate vectors to Memphis International."

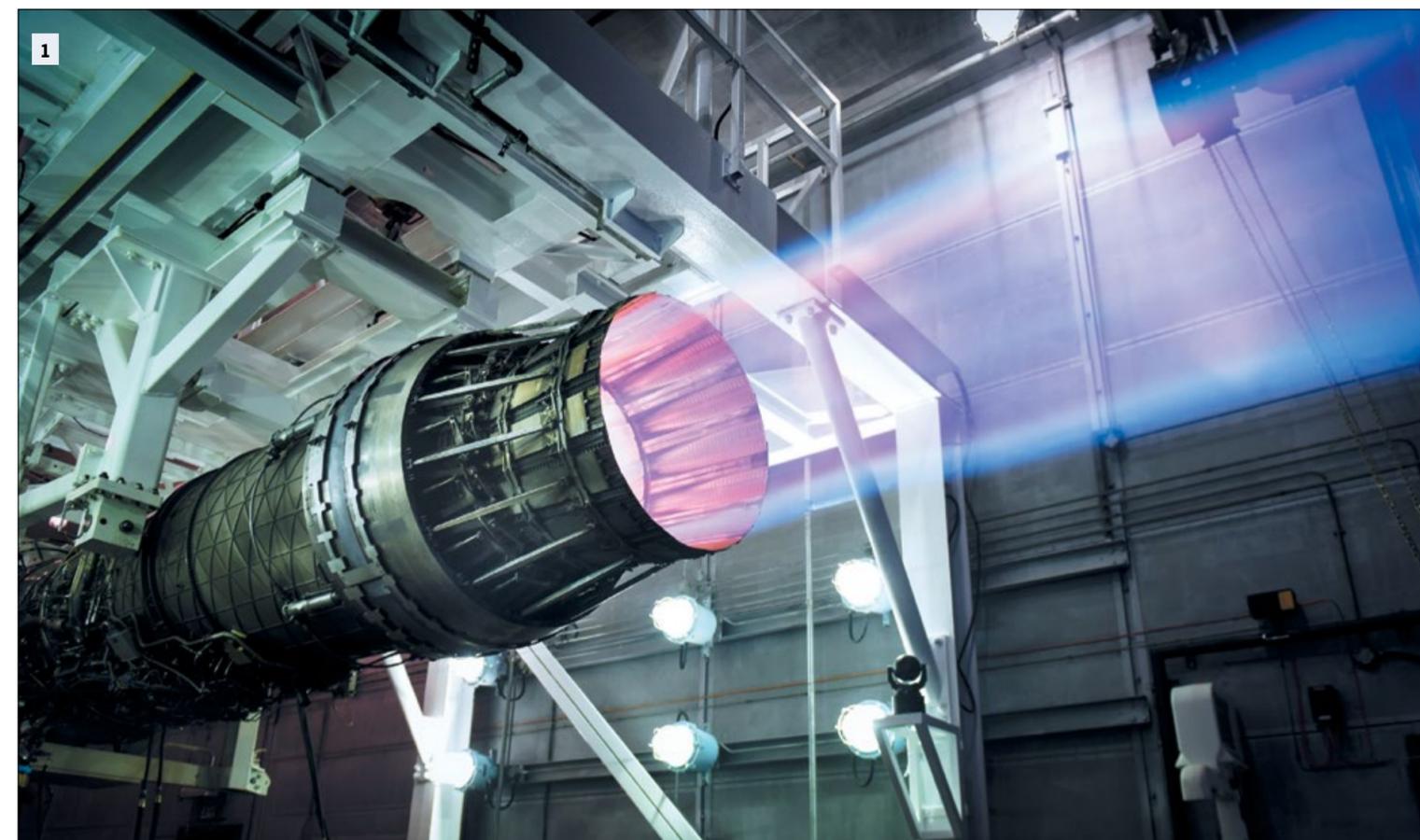
Due to the weight of the aircraft (770,000 pounds) and the need for medical support, Howard made the decision to declare an inflight emergency and diverted the aircraft to Memphis, which has a runway

more than 11,000 feet long, having served as a former C-5 base for the Tennessee Air National Guard's 164th Airlift Wing.

Commenting on the teamwork of his aircrew and the successful outcome of the incident, Howard also said "Air Traffic Control was a big part of this by getting us a place to land immediately."

After an uneventful landing, the stricken duty passenger was escorted off the aircraft under his own power and taken to a nearby medical facility by first responders for evaluation and treatment. Two and a half hours later, the Super Galaxy continued its journey back to Dover for needed maintenance prior to continuing on its overseas mission the next day.

"The character of our Airmen, the character of everyone onboard that evening - We performed admirably, and I'm proud of every single one of them," said Howard. "Our training is exceptional, some of the best training in the entire world, if not the very best, and it certainly came together that evening. And teamwork - I can't say or preach enough about teamwork."

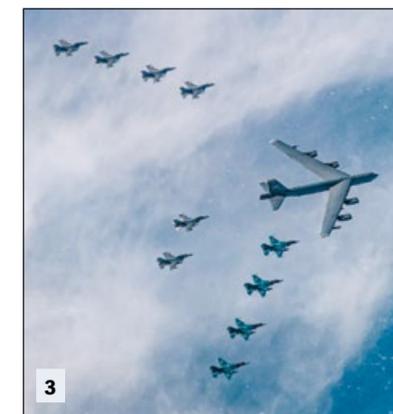


U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Madeline Herzog

BLAZING Air Force fired up around globe



U.S. Air Force photo/Samuel King, Jr.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Melanie A. Bulow-Gonterman

1) Aerospace propulsion technicians assigned to the 48th Maintenance Group test an F-15 Eagle engine Feb. 5 at RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom. Engines are tested inside of "hush houses" to minimize noise and provide a safe area for maintainers to inspect them. 2) Staff Sgt. William Coleman, 96th Civil Engineer Squadron, practices ascending a four-story vertical wall as part of the rescue technician course Jan. 16 at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. 3) A B-52H Stratofortress from Minot Air Force Base, N.D., and six F-16 Fighting Falcons from Misawa Air Base, Japan, conduct bilateral joint training Feb. 4 with four Japan Air Self-Defense Force F-2s off the coast of northern Japan.



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