

Travis helps transport...

PAGES
16-17

DOLPHINS



Airmen must have plan to get home safely

Last week I used Uber for the first time. As an attorney, I must make it clear that no federal endorsement of Uber should be intended nor implied. However, disclaimer aside, I have to admit it was easier than I thought. For someone who rarely downloads apps, doesn't have Facebook, refuses to tweet and only uses LinkedIn as a business card holder, this was downright easy. I didn't even have to pay for the ride as my first one was free. Had I been required to pay, it would have been less than \$10. Why do I mention all this? In today's modern age, there is absolutely no excuse for



Commentary by Col. David Western
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING JUDGE ADVOCATE

driving after drinking alcohol. From what little I understand about Uber and Lyft, you can even have someone track you while in the car so that your loved ones know where you are at all times. While the legal limit of most states is .08 blood alcohol content (except Utah that just lowered theirs to .05 BAC), returning home with a designated driver, or using a cab, Airmen Against Drunk Driving, or even Uber/Lyft could not only save you money, it could save your career and your life. Did you know the average cost of a DUI incident off-base is around \$10,000? Sometimes you see billboards with

Commander's Commentary

attorneys who represent individuals charged with DUIs. I called one of those attorneys to see exactly how much a DUI costs an individual. With court fees, attorney fees, increased insurance and other miscellaneous expenses, the average cost of a DUI is \$10,000. The cost could easily be the same if a DUI takes place on base. Potential Uniform Code of Military Justice punishment can lead to a loss of rank, forfeitures of pay, and in some cases confinement and possibly, discharge from the Air Force. Since the average cost of an Uber/Lyft might only be \$10 ... that is a \$9,990 savings.

Isn't that worth it? When I arrived at Travis Air Force Base, California, two years ago, I set a goal to do whatever it took to help prevent our Airmen from running into trouble with the law. My staff would very much prefer not being in the courtroom, sending our Airmen to confinement or watching as careers are ended too soon. Much has happened during this time. One program I hope you will get involved with is True North. Like the Green Dot program, it encourages Airmen to learn from others' mistakes to become better bystanders capable of helping others avoid breaking the law. To do this, Airmen are introduced to the local prison and hear stories from convicted

felons with the hope that these stories can prevent others from making similar mistakes. I'm not sure how many will read this article, but if you are reading it today, can you help me make a difference? First, have a plan and help others do the same. If you plan to drink someplace other than your home, know how you and your friends will get home without driving. Volunteer to be the designated driver or choose someone to be the wingman for the night. And second, attend True North, or encourage others to get involved with the program. Everyone who has attended the program has said it is life altering. Lawyers make few guarantees, but I will guarantee you that it will change your life.



Commentary by Master Sgt. Jessica Larsen
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING JUDGE ADVOCATE

Know your Airmen, provide them feedback

Some of us run from confrontation, while others never seem to shy away from it. I like to say I fall somewhere in the middle. Naturally, I'm an introvert, but I have learned that good leaders have to step out of their comfort zones and have uncomfortable conversations with their subordinates. In my 14 years in the Air Force as a paralegal, I have worked on the prosecution and defense sides of military justice. The most challenging was my time spent as a

Chief's Commentary

defense paralegal. Day after day, I met with clients who needed assistance with Letters of Counseling all the way up to those facing general court-martial. Yes, some of the individuals were just not cut out to be Airmen and needed help transitioning into civilian life, but there were many that really needed some stern mentorship and guidance. The trend I saw was these

Airmen lacked supervision or honest feedback. I learned quickly that "sugar coating" was not the appropriate way to help rehabilitate these Airmen, but to candidly address their issues and provide a way to help them take responsibility for their actions and work on a way forward. Unfortunately, this is still a current trend. In these days of technology, we have increased our dependence on electronic devices to communicate and decreased our

utilization of interpersonal relationships. This lack of face-to-face contact makes it easy to convey information, but harder to have the kind of deeper interactions necessary for good mentorship and feedback. In the beginning it may not be easy, but with practice you will become more comfortable in those situations. I have found Airmen generally want someone to help them address shortcomings before they become real

See LARSEN Page 23

Travis, Ramstein team up to repair C-5M

Senior Airman Tryphena Mayhugh

86TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Normally when a C-5M Galaxy is off the ground, it is soaring thousands of feet above the world. For one particular C-5 flying out of Travis Air Force Base, California, that was not the case when a malfunctioning landing gear caused it to be raised only a few feet above the ground inside a hangar.

Ramstein AB and Travis, maintainers worked together to repair the C-5M from Travis after its landing gear malfunctioned here May 2.

"We were coming down to land, the pilots threw the gear down and the number four main landing gear did not extend, so they had to emergency extend it," said Staff Sgt. Cesar Mardirossian, 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron flying crew chief from Travis. "We were able to land safely, and we had to jack the aircraft."

Mardirossian worked alongside Airmen assigned to the 721st AMXS here to jack, inspect, and repair the aircraft's landing gear.

"When it came down, we towed it onto its spot to make sure everything was still good," said Staff Sgt. Brian Crea, 721st AMXS airlift specialist mission maintenance craftsman. "We got it outside the hangar,



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Tryphena Mayhugh

A C-5M Galaxy aircraft rests on six fuselage jacks for main landing gear repair May 3 at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Flying out of Travis Air Force Base, Calif., to Ramstein, the aircraft's No. 4 main landing gear malfunctioned and the crew had to use the emergency backup system to make a safe landing. Airmen assigned to the 721st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and 60th AMXS repaired it.

did our inspection on it to make sure everything was good, and prepared everything to tow it into the hangar and jack it up."

The C-5 required six fuselage jacks to hold it, two in the nose, two in the middle, and two near the tail of the aircraft. Each jack is capable of holding 60 tons, over all providing support for 720,000 pounds. A typical C-5 weighs 415,000 pounds, but six jacks were used for stability.

Upon inspection, the 721st AMXS and 60th AMXS Airmen determined the landing gear needed a new handle. They installed it and proceeded to perform a function check on every gear. For a C-5, the nose landing gear is allowed 20 seconds each to extend and retract, while the remaining four gears are allowed 22 seconds to extend and 17 to contract. "Primarily we were

concerned about the number four gear, but because it's a new handle, we are required to do a gear swing in every single gear," Crea said. "Because it's a C-5, we're only supposed to do one gear at a time for safety purposes. We swung the gears and everything checked out. They met all the time limits." The next step was to check the caster function, which allows gears to turn left or right,

for the nose and aft gears. They turned the nose gear to extreme left and right, and the two back gears were turned left, center, and, right simultaneously and individually to ensure they could reach the required 20 degrees.

"They came to center. They castered. Everything was good, and they worked in unison. Nothing was stuttering," Crea said. "Up to this point, we have no reason to believe the aircraft is not serviceable anymore."

It has been over a year since the 721st AMXS has had a C-5 raised on a full fuselage jack.

"It's always amazing to see the things we do," Crea said. "We lifted this huge aircraft off the ground, and now we're going to swing the gears and everything is going to shake, and it's going to stay up.

"It was a great experience," he continued. "This was my second gear swing on my own, so I was a little nervous, but I was also confident, and I had good training. I have very good mentors. We ran through a lot of stuff with a lot of good people, so I was comfortable with the task we were doing."

Through the combined experience of the pilots, flying crew chief, and maintainers from Travis and Ramstein, they were able to make a safe landing and tow, jack, inspect, and repair a C-5's malfunctioned landing gear together.

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif.
60th Air Mobility Wing

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On the cover

A dolphin from the U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program gets prepared to fly across country April 28 from Key West, Fla., to San Diego. The 301st Airlift Squadron transported the dolphin and its handlers to the NMMP where it will train to assist the U.S. Navy.

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



U.S. Air Force photo

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name:
Senior Airman Gabriel Quinones.

Unit:
60th Operations Support Squadron.

Duty title:
Aircrew flight equipment technician.

Hometown:
Tampa, Florida.

Time in service:
Four years.

Family:
Married with two kids.

What are your goals?
To learn as many languages as

possible, achieve a Community College of the Air Force degree and a bachelor's in business administration.

What are your hobbies?
Volleyball, paintball and boxing.

What is your greatest achievement?
My two children.

Study looks at energy drinks

Merrie Schilter-Lowe

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Do energy drinks boost more than energy? That's the question researchers at the Clinical Investigation Facility at Travis Air Force Base, California, attempted to answer in a study published in the April 27 issue of the Journal of the American Heart Association.

The study reported that energy drinks cause changes in heart rhythm and blood pressure that don't occur with other caffeinated drinks such as soda and coffee.

"This particular study looked at blood pressure and the electrical firing of the heart," said Dr. Bradley Williams, 60th Medical Group, assistant director of medical education and research. "Uncontrolled high blood pressure damages the heart, potentially causing heart attacks and stroke."

According to an Air Force survey in 2012, about 75 percent of military members consumed energy drinks and 15 percent of deployed members consumed up to three cans daily.

"There are two differences between caffeine and energy drinks," said Williams.

He explained that although both initially raise systolic blood pressure, blood pressure normalizes slower after consuming an energy drink. Also, electrical changes in the heart occur with energy drinks that don't occur with caffeine.

Researchers at Travis found that drinking 32 ounces – two cans – of a commercially available energy drink can increase the heart's electrical activity

See ENERGY Page 24



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

Carmen Lopez and retired Master Sgt. Luis Lopez are volunteers at the Base Exchange pharmacy. They've volunteered at the pharmacy for the past 15 years. On July 10, Luis will celebrate his 90th birthday, and Sept. 6, Carmen will celebrate hers, too.

Travis honors volunteers at luncheon

T.C. Perkins

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Hundreds of people were recognized for their volunteer service during a ceremony April 28 at Travis Air Force Base, California.

Col. Corwin Pauly, 60th Air Mobility Wing vice commander, provided opening comments and presented more than 80 certificates and plaques with Chief Master Sgt. Michael Thomas, 60th Operations Group superintendent.

The annual event, known as the Travis Air Force Base Annual Volunteers Luncheon, featured Col. (Dr.) Michael Higgins, 60th Medical Group commander, as guest speaker.

"We recognize and celebrate the spirit, tradition, legacy and impact of selfless heroes who donate their time

and other resources to improve the lives and performance of our team and the environments we work and live – they set a tone and culture of selfless service as volunteers," said Higgins. "Travis volunteers span a variety of agencies and are part of the fabric of nearly every group and unit on this installation and the civilian community. You provide expertise, mentorship, wisdom, energy and vitality into our valued programs and operations."

"Outdoor recreation volunteers are the 'lifeline' to the Adventure and Tour Program," said Higgins. "You bring energy and vitality to these programs that help our Airmen remain resilient with healthy and fun activities at a price that can only be offered because of the volunteer services provided."

April was National Volunteer Month, a time when the United States celebrates more than 62 million people – a quarter of the population – who give nearly 8 billion hours a year to numerous causes and programs.

At Travis, volunteers support a variety of organizations including the largest Air Force medical facility, David Grant USAF Medical Center, base chapels, youth sports programs, squadrons and the Fisher House. In 2016, Airmen and their families contributed several thousand hours volunteering to support the base or the local community. Some have served as volunteers for more than 15 years. Volunteers from the Military Retirees Activity Office at Travis accumulated more than 34,600 hours of volunteer service.

Retired Master Sgt. Luis Lopez and his wife, Carmen Lopez, have served as volunteers at Travis for the past 15 years. Every Tuesday afternoon, the couple hands out medical prescriptions and refills at the Base Exchange Pharmacy. Luis and Carmen soon celebrate their 90th birthdays.

"We ran into an old friend we hadn't seen in a while and she asked if we wanted to volunteer some time to the Red Cross," said Luis. "So we filled out the applications and started right away. Carmen handed out books and reading materials in another part of the Medical Group for awhile and later joined me in the pharmacy."

"We love the people we work with in the pharmacy as well as the customers we serve," said Luis.

Coin forever links Airman, AMC command chief

Louis Briscese

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It's not every day you get an opportunity to make a favorable first impression on an Air Force leader.

When individuals capitalize on these situations, a positive outcome is usually the result.

For one Travis Airman, his first impression developed a bond that may pay it forward for generations to come.

During a distinguished visitor tour here at David Grant USAF Medical Center, Airman 1st Class EJ Kevin Sto. Domingo, a medical laboratory technician with the 60th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, received a coin from Chief Master Sgt. Shelina Frey, command chief of Air Mobility Command.

This was not the command chief coin Frey typically hands out to exceptional performers during her visits with AMC units, this coin was much more meaningful.

"This coin held a special place in my heart, it was the one coin I carried with me every day," said Frey.

As a young Airman, Frey received a coin from a chief who she made a favorable first impression on.

"This chief saw something in me that I didn't see in myself – he recognized my leadership potential," said Frey. "That coin meant a lot to me and when I was promoted to chief, I vowed to one day find an Airman who I recognized strong leadership traits in and pass it along to."

On a rainy day in February 2017, Frey found the Airman with the leadership traits she was looking for. Sto. Domingo had only been in the Air Force about two years and said he was surprised he stood out from the thousands of Airmen Frey previously met.

"She's met thousands of Airmen, great Airmen who've done amazing things," said Sto. Domingo. "To be singled out among so many means a great deal to me."

Like any great leader, Sto. Domingo knows he's only as good as the people around him.

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Airman 1st Class EJ Kevin Sto. Domingo, left, 60th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, receives a coin Feb. 10, 2016, at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., from Chief Master Sgt. Shelina Frey, Air Mobility Command command chief, Scott Air Force Base Ill.

U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

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U.S. Air Force photo

Pictured are the Harchaoui triplets, from left: Myriam, 436th Supply Chain Operations Squadron at Scott AFB, Ill.; Rabah, 56th Security Forces Squadron at Luke AFB, Ariz.; and Warda, 60th Medical Operations Squadron at Travis AFB, Calif.

Algerian triplets join Air Force

1 member of trio stationed at Travis

Airman Chad Gorecki
375TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — For one Algerian family, 6,600 miles was the distance between a life of struggle, promise and opportunity.

Their journey has carried them over thousands of miles, from a barren region in Africa to California's Simi Valley where eventually the Harchaoui triplets — Myriam, Rabah and Warda — would join the U.S. Air Force. Scott Air Force Base is now home to Myriam, who recently reflected on her

unique journey.

"Growing up we were very poor," said Airman Myriam Harchaoui, 436th Supply Chain Operations Squadron C-130 stock control apprentice. "Our mom fought for us to move to the states because of life (in Algeria). It was like the movies—a desert with a ton of beat-up buildings."

Her mother, Brigit Wilcox, arrived in California at first with just the three boys in the family, leaving Myriam and

her sister, Warda, in the care of grandparents. They were not able to come at the same time because the government only allowed the boys to leave, but when the girls reached age 5, they were able to join their family.

When they arrived they didn't know how to speak English and had to adjust to the different culture. Myriam said she was able to pick up the language

See TRIPLETS Page 13

Brass delivers air power for anthem

Travis Brass performs the national anthem May 6 at Raley Field in West Sacramento, Calif., before the Sacramento River Cats baseball game. The group was there in honor of Salute to the Armed Services night.

U.S. Air Force photo/ Master Sgt. Anna Andrew



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Wilson swears in as nation's 24th SecAF



U.S. Air Force photo/Wayne A. Clark

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson thanks family, friends and colleagues during her ceremonial oath of office May 16 at the Pentagon.

Master Sgt. Bryan Franks
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Jim Mattis ceremoniously swore in Heather Wilson as the 24th Secretary of the Air Force at the Pentagon May 16.

“If we wanted to do one thing to Webster’s Unbridged Dictionary to define a Patriot with no words, we could put up Heather Wilson’s picture right next to the word, and we would explain what a patriot truly is,” said Mattis. “On behalf of the

entire Air Force community, on the behalf of the Department of Defense – welcome home.”

Wilson, who was administratively sworn in as secretary May 12, has more than 35 years of professional experience in a range of leadership and management roles in the military, higher education, government and private industry.

Mattis called Wilson well suited to lead the Air Force and said he needs her ideas and wisdom as the Air Force begins a new chapter.

Mattis said he, Wilson and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen.

David L. Goldfein are committed to restoring the readiness of the force, modernizing and advancing new capabilities to meet future threats, and developing exceptional leaders to command the finest combat force in the world.

“History is not predetermined or static. History hangs on a hinge. Air supremacy is not America’s ordained right and there are other hands pushing on history’s door,” said Mattis. “By Secretary Wilson’s leadership, by the superior service of America’s Airmen ...

See **WILSON** Page 21

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African Air Chiefs Symposium kicks off

Staff Sgt. Krystal Ardrey
U.S. AIR FORCES IN EUROPE
AND AIR FORCES AFRICA

KASANE, Botswana — The seventh annual African Air Chiefs Symposium began May 16 in Kasane.

The African Air Chiefs Symposium is an annual forum for air chiefs from across the African continent to come together with the U.S. to discuss important regional and continental issues, and how African air forces can best work together to respond to challenges and create solutions. This year’s symposium includes representatives from 29 nations and will focus on the training aspects of force development.

The opening ceremony featured remarks from Maj. Gen. Gotsileene Morake, the Botswana Defence Force deputy commander; Maj. Gen. Innocent S. Phatshwana, the BDF Air Arm commander; Earl R. Miller, the U.S. ambassador to Botswana; Gen. Tod D. Wolters, the U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa commander; and an

See **SYMPOSIUM** Page 21

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McConnell Airman finds 'sweet' hobby with bees

Airman 1st Class Erin McClellan
22ND AIR REFUELING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan. — During his studies as an environmental science major, a McConnell Airman became interested in beekeeping, which led him down the path to a somewhat unusual hobby.

Tech. Sgt. Garrett Wright, 22nd Operations Support Squadron Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape and Personnel Recovery specialist, obtained his first honeybees last year after attending workshops and doing heavy research on

beekeeping.

His first hive was acquired when he and another Airman volunteered to remove a swarm from a Wichita man's yard. Swarming occurs when the hive raises a new queen. When she emerges and takes control of the hive, and the old queen will leave with half the bees. They will then fly to a tree and stay in a cluster around the queen until they find a new home. Garrett said that bees are very docile while swarming.

Removing the swarm was Garrett's first real interaction

with bees. He even had to stop on his way there to buy a suit.

"There was this cluster of bees like 20 feet up in a tree, and I mean a big old ball of bees," he said. "I climbed up in the tree in my bee suit and lowered the branch down to (my partner). He held a box to put the bees in, and I shook them from the branch into the box, dumped them into my hive and put on the lid.

"At that point, as long as the queen is in the box, the rest of the bees will come into the box to follow her, and they'll start up their own hive in this box that I introduced them into. They just kind of lined up, all came into the box, and I taped all the holes shut, put that in the back of my (car) and we drove it away."

Since then, Garrett's bee collection has grown. He now has five hives, one of which he procured by removing it from base housing, and plans to move them to a rural area soon.

"There's too many bees for a residential area right now," he



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Erin McClellan

Tech. Sgt. Garrett Wright, 22nd Operations Support Squadron Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape and Personnel Recovery specialist, inspects emergency cells in one of his honeybee hives April 24 in Derby, Kan.

said "I didn't know they would multiply the way they did, but they did. So I'm trying to move a lot out to the country. Each one of those hives has between 30,000 and 70,000 bees at peak season. So probably right now, I have (around) 150,000 bees in

my backyard."

Fortunately, honeybees are not typically aggressive. All those bees actually make pretty good neighbors.

"I think everyone experiencing this with us is realizing

See HOBBY Page 23

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AF Repair Enhancement Program saves millions

Staff Sgt. Samuel Morse
366TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, Idaho — The smart phone you've had for a while just died. You've tried everything in the user manual, and it's just not working. As you walk it to the trash can, defeated, wondering where you're going to get \$300 for another phone, someone stops you, and asks to take a look before you throw it away.

After a few minutes, the good Samaritan pulls a paperclip from their pocket, inserts it into the phone, puts the phone

back together, powers it on and hands it back. It works perfectly again. Astonished, you ask what you owe, and they reply, "\$4 should cover my time and the paper clip."

This might sound too good to be true, but the Air Force Repair Enhancement Program at Mountain Home Air Force Base performs marvels like this all the time.

Recently, the four-person shop repaired a \$20,000 power supply headed for the trash by replacing a \$5 resistor, the equivalent of fixing a \$300 phone with an 8-cent paper clip.

"We've got a really cool and unique mission," said Master Sgt. Mark Bergmann, the AFREP manager. "Basically, our job is to save the Air Force money by supporting the flying mission, but we're also getting parts back to the unit a little bit quicker."

Last year, the small shop saved the 366th Fighter Wing approximately \$1.3 million combined between cost savings and cost avoidance, and Bergmann said his team is on-track to save an estimated \$2.5 million this year.

See MILLIONS Page 13



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Samuel Morse

Staff Sgt. Zachary Dowd, an Air Force Repair Enhancement Program circuit card technician, replaces a resistor on a power supply May 8 at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.

AF drops F-35 rule on weight

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force leaders recently removed the restriction that kept pilots weighing less than 136 pounds from flying the F-35A. The restriction was imposed in 2015 due to concerns about the risk during ejections in a portion of the flight envelope.

After rigorous testing to ensure the escape system works reliably and safely in all planned conditions and across all pilot weights, three distinct modifications were implemented. A switch was installed on the seat that slightly delays parachute deployment at high speeds and decreases parachute opening forces for light-weight pilots.

Additionally, a head support panel has been mounted on the rear risers of the parachute to prevent the pilot's head from moving backwards during an ejection.

Finally, the helmet weight has been reduced through both the reduction of internal strapping material and the removal

See F-35 Page 23

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Special tactics builds partnership with Jordan

Senior Airman Ryan Conroy
24TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AMMAN, JORDAN — Explosions reverberate throughout the city, and rapid gunfire echoes off the stucco buildings as a joint nation special operations force fast-ropes onto a three-story building to infiltrate the hostile city.

Air Force Special Tactics teams, Jordanian Armed Forces Special Task Force and Italy's 17th Stormo Incurisori

special operations forces secure each building in the compound -- searching for a missing U.S. service member and rendering aid to casualties along the way.

This wasn't a real-world mission; it was personnel recovery training at Eager Lion 2017, an annual U.S. Central Command exercise in Jordan designed to strengthen military-to-military relationships between the U.S., Jordan and more than 20 different international partners.

"This is a combined fight just about everywhere you go," said

Lt. Col. Rodger Jennrich, the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron and Special Operations Task Force CEDAR commander during this exercise. "We have to learn to work with our partners in training -- so that when we go into real combat scenarios, it's not the first time we've seen it."

Behind the scenes of these complex military operations is the Air Force's ground special operations forces, Special Tactics--training to command and control joint coalition forces in a SOTF.

"Future conflicts and crises will continue to require interdependence between air and ground forces, and it's in Special Tactics' DNA to integrate those two," said Col. Michael Martin, 24th Special Operations Wing commander.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Ryan Conroy
An Air Force Special Tactics Airman with the 24th Special Operations Wing rappels into the Al Biadia Cave Complex during a personnel rescue mission for Eager Lion May 13 in Mafraq Province, Jordan.

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Triplets

From Page 6

quickly, and Warda, now an Airman assigned to the 60th Medical Operations Squadron at Travis AFB, California, said she learned the language through the Boys and Girls Club.

Their brother, Rabah, who is an Airman assigned to the 56th Security Forces Squadron, at Luke AFB, Arizona, was age 2 when he moved so it's all he's really known.

"Growing up here gave me a lot of opportunities and it has been a blessing so far," he said.

After graduating high school, the Harchaouis saw the Air Force as a good option

because their older brother, Sofiane, had served six years as an F-16 avionics specialist.

Additionally, the triplets were a part of their high school's Junior ROTC, so they were introduced to the idea of the military early.

In 2016, they each raised their right hand in commitment to the Air Force, and they each had their own reason for doing so.

Myriam said, "When I was younger I always wanted to join since the government had done so much for us and getting my family to the states, that I saw it as a way to give back."

Warda and Rabah said they saw the opportunities the military lifestyle offered.

"Even though we aren't under the same roof, we are still together in heart."

— Airman Rabah Harchaoui

"Having a single mother with five children, we couldn't all be put through college," said Warda. "I wanted to avoid the mistake of going through college right away and not knowing what I wanted to do, and I saw what the Air Force was able to offer."

For Rabah, the military was

a stepping stone for life after high school that could also provide college opportunities.

Even with all of the benefits the military life has offered, Myriam said this has been the longest they have been apart since those early years, and it has been difficult for them and especially their mother. Still, she has remained very supportive of their decisions.

"It went from all of us being together at home to everyone being gone," said Myriam. "It was a fast change for her, but she is OK with it because having our brother already serve, she knew the military would take care of us. It has been hard, but she has been very optimistic because she has always

wanted the best for us and she pushed us to be successful."

The distance that comes with being members of the military has been tough on the family, but it has also helped strengthen the bond between them. The triplets stay in touch with each other through a group chat where they talk every day, said Myriam.

Rabah added, "We always communicate which has made it easier to get through some of the tough times in the military so far. Communication has been key."

"We can all motivate each other, and we are in this together. Even though we aren't under the same roof, we are still together in heart."

Millions

From Page 11

Staff Sgt. Zachary Dowd, an AFREP circuit card repair technician, replaced the resistor on the power supply. The replacement only took a few minutes, but finding out what was wrong and how to fix it took a bit longer.

Dowd had to look up the schematics for the power supply, some of which were hand-drawn, inspecting and testing each part to find where the problem was. This isn't uncommon; the team frequently works on decades-old, custom-made equipment, some of which only had a single manufacturing run.

Once the problem was found, Dowd used the general maintenance technical order used by AFREP and consulted the manufacturer to determine how to repair the part. AFREP has to get maintenance proposals approved by engineers before the repair can be made and the part returned to the customer.

And what do AFREP's customers think about this program?

"We've got a countless number of parts that we cannot fix because we're not coded to, so having AFREP as a valuable resource on base to be able to take that burden rather than throwing a part in the trash is a big deal," said Tech. Sgt. Aaron Steinberg, a 266th Range Squadron ground radar technician.

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1) Airmen from the 301st Airlift Squadron and 945th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron learn about Maya, a dolphin from the U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program, as they prepare for a mission April 28 from Naval Air Station Key West, Fla., to San Diego, Calif. 2) Staff Sgt. Suzannah Grant, 301st Airlift Squadron, looks for a way to tie down a government vehicle during an April 28 mission from Key West, Fla., to San Diego. The 301st AS transported four Bottlenose Dolphins and their handlers to the U.S. Naval Marine Mammal Program where they train to assist the U.S. Navy with locating mines and enemy swimmers.

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

Travis brings dolphins to San Diego

Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Citizen Airmen from the 301st Airlift Squadron transported four bottlenose dolphins and their handlers April 29 from Naval Air Station Key West, Florida, to the U.S. Naval Marine Mammal Program in San Diego, Calif.

The dolphins were moved to NAS Key West in March where they spent the last month operating before returning to San Diego.

“The dolphins need to be challenged and get experience in different waters,” said Brit Swenberg, MMP biological technician. “It also gets them used to traveling and working out of deployable vehicles.”

The MMP trains dolphins and sea lions to assist the U.S. Navy with locating mines and enemy swimmers.

The dolphins use their sonar and have the ability to make repeat dives without experiencing decompression sickness, according to Swenberg.

The flight back to San Diego presented numerous challenges for the pilots because they needed to have shallow take offs and landings, maintain an altitude of 30,000 feet, have a pressurization below 6,000 feet and ensure the cargo area was kept at 50 degrees Fahrenheit, all while flying as smoothly as possible for the dolphins’ comfort.

“The sensitivity of the cargo posed a unique challenge for us,” said Lt. Col. Alex Salogub, 301st AS pilot and aircraft commander for the mission. “We don’t normally need to worry about pressurization or temperature issues with most cargo. With the C-17 (Globemaster III) flexibility and capability as a multi-role aircraft, we are (able to) successfully complete these unique challenges.”

Throughout the flight, the dolphins’ handlers splashed water on them, ensuring their skin didn’t dry out.

U.S. Army Capt. Drew Henschen, MMP veterinarian, checked the dolphins throughout the flight to make sure they were OK and ensured no issues developed with them.

“They are expensive assets for the Navy and take a long time to train,” said Henschen. “We want to ensure they are well taken care of.”

Henschen explained that the MMP team came with a full vet clinic to tend to the dolphins’ well-being. The team was capable of performing ultrasounds, X-rays and endoscopies, if needed.

“We make sure the dolphins are well taken care of and maintain their health,” said Henschen. “They can only do their jobs to the best of their abilities, same as humans. We want to make sure we are sending healthy animals and they stay healthy.”

Because of the versatility of the C-17, Travis Airmen stand ready to move anything, anytime...anywhere, whether it’s tanks for the Army or dolphins for the Navy – something the Airmen aboard won’t forget.

“As loadmasters, we always swap stories about what was the coolest thing you moved,” said Staff Sgt. Suzannah Grant, 301st AS loadmaster. “Most are helicopters or tanks, but how many people can say they moved dolphins?”

Chief Master Sgt. Jenn Pope, 301st AS loadmaster, added how the dolphin movement was a first for her.

“This was pretty cool, I’ve never moved dolphins before,” said Pope. “This is definitely one of the most satisfying missions, knowing what the dolphins do and being able to help out.”

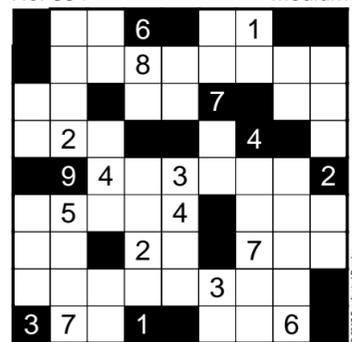


3) A dolphin, from the U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program, gets prepared to fly across country April 28 from Key West, Fla., to San Diego, Calif. 4) A dolphin from the U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program is loaded into a C-17 Globemaster III to fly across country. 5) U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program dolphin trainers tend to their dolphins before a flight from Naval Air Station Key West, Fla., to NMMP. The dolphins are trained to find mines because of their excellent sonar and ability to perform many repeat deep water dives.

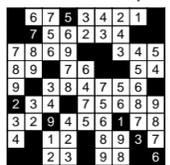
Puzzles

STR8TS

No. 334 Medium



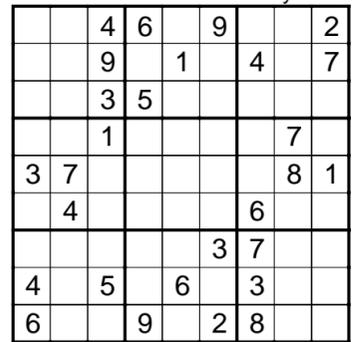
Previous solution - Easy



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

SUDOKU

No. 334 Very Hard



Previous solution - Tough



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

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

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

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Retiree Corner

TRICARE makes changes to Nexium coverage

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Starting June 28, the drug Nexium will no longer be a TRICARE preferred, or formulary, drug. This means it will no longer be available in military pharmacies, and users will pay more to get it through TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery or a retail network pharmacy.

Nexium is a brand-name prescription drug often prescribed to treat gastroesophageal reflux disease. To prepare for the change, patients can switch to one of three preferred drugs

for the treatment of GERD: Omeprazole, Pantoprazole or Rabeprazole.

Your doctor may determine that the preferred drugs are not right for you and Nexium is medically necessary. In that case, TRICARE will cover the cost of Nexium. The normal copays for brand name formulary drugs through home delivery and retail network pharmacies will apply.

To get medical necessity, your doctor must submit a prior authorization request to Express Scripts that includes a reason why Nexium is deemed medically necessary for you.

— Air Force News Service

Events and info

Give Parents a Break Program. Canceled due to federal civilian hiring freeze until further notice.

2017 Annual LOA Golf Tournament. 7 a.m. registration, 8:30 a.m. shotgun start May 26 at Cypress Lakes Golf Course. Four-person scramble. \$55 all ranks. For more information, contact 1st Lt. Mitchell Pryzbocki by phone at 707-424-2220, 845-800-9439 or via email mitchell.pryzbocki.1@us.af.mil.

2017 Valor Games Far West. Volunteers wanted for June 2-5 at Coast Guard Island, Alameda. Helps disabled veterans. Volunteer form available at <http://bit.ly/2oKnIM1>.

Chapel programs

Upcoming events

Cave Quest Vacation Bible School. 9 a.m. to noon June 5-9 at Twin Peaks Chapel. For ages 3-12. Free. Volunteers welcome. For more information, call Eugene Dingle at 202-351-9292 or Roger Olaes at 707-631-0167.

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., offered quarterly.
- Youth Choir: 1 p.m. Sunday.
- Children's Choir: 2 p.m. Sunday.
- Adult Choir: 4 p.m. Sunday.
- Women's Bible Study: 10 a.m. (at First Street Chapel).
- Catholic Women of the Chapel: 6 p.m. first Monday of every month, Annex.
- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Annex.
- RE Classes: 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, RE Wing.

First Street Chapel

- Mom's Group: 9 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday and Friday.
- DGMC Medical Center Chapel
 - Roman Catholic Mass: Noon to 12:35 p.m. Monday through Thursday, except for federal holidays.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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

DGMC Medical Center Chapel

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

Protestant First Street Chapel

- Protestant Community Service: 9:30 to

In the next week...

fri

Travel & Adventure Fair. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 19 and 20 at the Delta Breeze Club. Participants will find details about upcoming events, travel destinations and tips, participate in contests for prizes, as well as

have a Magical Disney Experience. For details, call Outdoor Recreation at 707-424-0969.

MPS closure. Due to Wingman Day on May 19, the Military Personnel Section will be closed. The facility will resume operation on May 22. For more information, call 707-424-8483.

sat

Free Fishing Derby. On May 20, the free 2017 Fishing Derby will be held at the Travis Duck Pond on Burgan Boulevard. Registration is completely full,

however, interested participants my contact the Youth Center for details on how to join in on the fun. The event starts at 9 a.m. and registered participants should arrive at 8 a.m. to receive their gear. For more information, call 707-424-5392.

Armed Forces Day. May 20 is Armed Forces Day. Let's remember to thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

thu

Kids Color Run. Registration for the free Kids Color Run is underway. On May 24, children ages 5-13 can participate in the fun. Free T-shirts are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parents may register their children at www.AmericasKidsRun.org. For more information, call the Youth Center at 707-424-5392.

10:30 a.m. Sunday.

- Gospel Worship Service: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday.
- Children's Ministry is provided for 6-month-olds through fifth grade.
- Protestant Men of the Chapel: 8 to 9 a.m., first Saturday of every month.

Twin Peaks Chapel

- Protestant Women of the Chapel: 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday.
- DGMC Medical Center Chapel
 - Protestant Traditional Service: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday.

Airmen's Ministry Center

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

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

60th FSS

Upcoming events

Run, Ride, Row Across America Challenge. Join the Fitness Center for a super fun challenge that's free. Run, ride or row your way across the states from the west coast to the east coast. Register and track your mileage at the Front Desk. For details, call 707-424-2008.

Club members' breakfast. On May 25, club members can enjoy a free savory breakfast starting at 6:30 a.m. Nonmembers are welcome to join for \$7.95 plus tax. For details on club membership or the event, call the Delta Breeze Club at 707-437-3711.

Ten-minute swing evaluation. On June 3, head to Cypress Lakes Golf Course for a free golf swing evaluation from a PGA Pro. While there,

meet PGA Pro instructors who provide private lessons, receive professional club fittings and see top brand-name demos. For more information, call 707-424-5797.

\$1 summer bowling. Starting May 29, bowling games at Travis Bowl are only \$1. Discounted games are available 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shoe rental is not included. For details, call Travis Bowl at 707-437-4737.

\$10 whitewater rafting. The Single Airmen Initiative and Outdoor Recreation announce \$10 whitewater rafting. Enjoy the rush of the south fork of the American River as you are guided through Class IV rapids. Eligible dates are May 21. To reserve your spot to get a non-SAI price, call 707-424-0969.

Contests

Designer Handbag Bingo. June 30 at Cypress Lakes Golf Course. Doors 5 p.m., gaming 6 p.m. For more information, visit TravisFSS.com/HandbagBingo.

Win cash for photos. Do you enjoy taking photos? MyAirForceLife.com is offering \$3,000 in prizes for the 2017 AF Photo Contest. This year the theme is travel destinations. For more details, visit www.MyAirForceLife.com/Arts/Photo-Contest/.

Upcoming events

Breakfast at the Breeze. May 21. Delta Breeze Club. 707-437-3711

Whitewater rafting. May 21 at Outdoor Recreation. 707-424-0969.

Scuba class. May 23. Delta Breeze Club. 707-437-3711.

Kids Fun Run. May 24. Youth Center. 707-424-5392.

Wing Wednesdays. May 24. Wingman's. 707-437-3711.

Kayak Roll Class. May 24. Outdoor Recreation. 707-424-0969.

Women In Wilderness Surf Trip. May 25. Outdoor Recreation. 707-424-0969.

Whitewater rafting. May 28. Outdoor Recre-

ation. 707-424-2929.

Late Nighter. May 28. Wingman's. 707-437-3711.

Wing Wednesday's. May 31. Wingman's. 707-437-3711.

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

Recurring

Air Force Office of Special Investigations. To report a crime, get a foreign travel brief or request information on joining AFOSI, report to Bldg. 380B, second floor. Send correspondence to AFOSI Detachment 303, 510 Airlift CR, Travis AFB, 94535. For more information, call 707-424-3115 or DSN: 837-3115.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Exceptional Family Member Program Sensory Play Group. This group meets from

2 to 4 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays at the Balfour Beatty Community Center. For more information, call 707-424-4342 or visit the Facebook page "EFMP Travis AFB."

Fairfield/Vacaville Train Station Project. Located at Peabody Road and Vanden Road in Fairfield with a six-lane overpass. Construction is scheduled for completion in October. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1yNIBwW>.

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

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

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

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

LGBT Alliance. General membership meetings take place at 6 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. For more information, email lgbtalliance707@gmail.com or call 707-424-2486.

Mare Island Museum. Now a Blue Star Museum, which means active-duty military, reservists and their dependents are eligible for free admission from Memorial Day to Labor Day. 1100 Railroad Ave. on Mare Island in Vallejo. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through

Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 707-557-4646.

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

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

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

Motorcycle licensing and training. California Rider Education offers the Motorcyclists Training Course, the Basic Riders Course 2 and the Military Sportsbike Riders Course on base. MTC classes take place most weekends. Motorcycles and helmets provided. Successful completion gives students a DL389 that waives the skills test at DMV. Course cost covered for active duty, reserves, some DOD and some NAF folks. Dependents welcome, but must cover own costs. All registrations done via phone at 1-800-966-3844.

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

Photocopying of military identification. The prohibition in photocopying of U.S. government identification Common Access Card announced by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, dated Oct. 27, 2011, does not apply to medical establishments, applying for government-issued, no-fee passport and other U.S. government agencies in the performance of official government business. This requirement does not apply to minors ages 16 years 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 dependents. It is the RAO's responsibility to maintain open communication and to ensure retirees receive the service and the respect that they deserve. If you would like to apply for a volunteer slot and have three hours or more to give, call 707-424-3905.

SGLI and vRED. The Record of Emergency Data, aka vRED, and Servicemembers Group Life Insurance form are two of the most-critical documents a service member is responsible for maintaining throughout a military career. Commanders, Casualty Assistance personnel and Mortuary Affairs personnel rely heavily on these two documents as a vital source of information when a crisis occurs resulting in serious injury or death of the service member.

THE FLIP SIDE

Airmen complete FTAC



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Scott Taylor

Congratulations to the latest Airman to complete the First Term Airman Center course. Alphabetically: Airman 1st Class Adejoke Akodu, 60th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Airman 1st Class Jonathan Bates, 60th Operations Support Squadron; Airman Jacob Beck, 860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Airman Nina Beverly Belen, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Airman 1st Class Imani Boyd, 60th Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Daniel Brickeen, 60th OSS; Airman 1st Class McKenzie Cassell, 60th MXS; Senior Airman Mark Cobangbang, 60th Medical Support Squadron; Airman 1st Class Kenneth Essman, 860th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Jariel Gonzalez-Feliciano, 60th AMXS; Airman Zulema Gonzalez-Romero, 60th Surgical Operations Squadron; Airman 1st Class Dorion Griffin, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron; Airman 1st Class Alisha Hafemeister, 60th LRS; Airman 1st Class John Hamilton, 60th OSS; Airman Hakeem Higgins, 60th Force Support Squadron; Airman Basic Dalton Hutt, 60th Communications Squadron; Airman 1st Class Adam Myrick, 860th AMXS; Airman Bao Nguyen, 60th Aerial Port Squadron; Airman Adrian Ocon, 60th APS; Airman Tatiana Orr, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Lisa Robinson, 60th CS; Airman 1st Class Steven Schwab, 60th MXS; Airman 1st Class Roman Simonov, 660th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Wilson Tran, 60th CS; and Airman 1st Class Maxamillan Ulycsni, 660th AMXS.

Coin

From Page 5

He credits his fellow Airmen, leadership, and duty section for shaping him into the Airman he is today.

“My chief told me that we could have really chosen any one of us to brief Chief Frey and they would have done a great job,” said Sto. Domingo. “That’s what team Travis is all about, we help each other prepare for whatever comes our way.”

Receiving such a treasured memento comes with a certain amount of responsibility and expectation, which doesn’t go unnoticed by Sto. Domingo.

“The fact that I’m holding this coin now gives me a responsibility to do the job that she thinks I can, and become the leader she knows I can be,” said Sto. Domingo. “It’s a motivation and expectation that I’m excited to live up to.”

Frey said she knew right from the moment she met Sto. Domingo that he was a different Airman.

“Airman Sto. Domingo is in a separate class; as soon as I met him, I could clearly see he exudes professionalism,” said Frey. “I can see that though he’s junior in rank, he’s already a leader, he’s the type of Airman who makes me want to work for him.”

Sto. Domingo says the feelings are mutual about Frey and that he credits her for the successful first impression.

“I was nervous up to the moment I met Chief Frey; she immediately put me at ease, made me feel comfortable and confident,” said Sto. Domingo. “She was so friendly, and I felt like I could be me, she hugged me and said, I’m going to stick with you all day.”

Frey isn’t the only one who sees the leadership potential Sto. Domingo possess. His direct supervisor Master Sgt. Johndale Lilly, 60th MDTS, already knows he’s well on his way to accomplishing great things.

“He takes initiative I don’t have to worry about him at all, he’s the best troop I’ve ever had,” said Lilly. “Sometimes I feel like I’m not doing enough because he takes care of everything first impressions are a

big deal and he obviously made a great one.”

When Sto. Domingo listened to Frey discuss the importance of the coin during the presentation, he realized this coin was going to be very special to him.

“For the most part I keep the coin at home because I’m proud of it and I like showing it to friends and family,” said Sto. Domingo. “I did have it on me when I took my physical fitness test and my career development course end-of-course exam, it’s like a good luck charm for me.”

Receiving the coin has also instilled a sense of confidence, an extra bounce in his step since receiving the coin.

“I’m used to being second and third place all my life, although this wasn’t a contest, this made me feel like a winner,” he said.

Frey is confident Sto. Domingo will one day be Chief Sto. Domingo and pass the coin on to keep the tradition going. But she also wants Sto. Domingo to know it’s about much more than just being a chief.

“I want Sto. Domingo to remember that regardless of his rank, he is a leader; if he continues down this path, he will

continue to grow into a great leader,” said Frey. “We need Airmen like him in our Air Force – he will carry us into the future and ensure we remain the world’s best Air Force.”

Sto. Domingo hopes to be a chief one day, but also knows the importance of recognizing an Airman with the potential that was shown in him.

“I will pass this coin to

someone else, not necessarily when I’m a chief because you never know what will happen,” said Sto. Domingo. “Whoever I see fit, who deserves this coin, I will hand it down to them.”



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Web Site: www.stpaulfairfield.com
Email: stpaulbcfairfield@comcast.net
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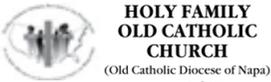
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Wilson

From Page 8

they push in vain ... the U.S. Air Force must be better than anyone else."

Goldfein and Wilson first served together as cadets at the U.S. Air Force Academy where they both took the oath of office for the first time as members of the same class.

"Here we stand together again as you repeat these same sacred words. What a

journey it has been, and what a journey it will be," said Goldfein. "We follow in the footsteps of service secretaries and chiefs of the past who have put their heart and their soul into building the most combat capable and lethal Air Force the world has ever known."

From the start, Wilson said she is focused on not taking air and space power for granted.

"We have got a lot of work to do under the guidance of Secretary Defense Mattis and with the support of the United

States Congress we will restore the readiness of the force so that we can win any fight, anytime, anywhere," said Wilson. "We're going to cost effectively modernize the force and drive innovation to bring new capabilities to the service of liberty, and underpinning it all will be a commitment to people. Thank you to the Airmen who protect the freedom we enjoy. You and your families represent the best of what it means to be an American."

Symposium

From Page 8

introduction by each air chief.

"It is indeed humbling and a great feat to see the air chiefs from the various corners of the African continent gathered here for this forum in Botswana for a common cause," said Morake, who opened the symposium. "I believe I speak for all of you when I say that such a forum creates a unique opportunity to renew contacts and discuss

issues of mutual interest among participating air forces."

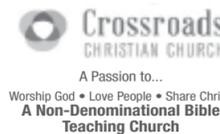
The event drew a record number of air chiefs and military leaders, making it the largest symposium to date.

"This is an exciting opportunity to share our thoughts with other air chiefs on professional development as it applies to training events and the enlisted force that day after day provides us with the tactics, techniques and procedures for our air forces' to do so much in the future," Wolters said.

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Larsen

From Page 2

problems or obstacles to their career and life goals.

Take a minute to ask yourself, "Are you 'sugar coating'

your Airmen? Do you get to know them? Do you have open dialogue to provide critical feedback or do you hide behind your desk or your cellphone?" The answer may be yes, no or even sort of.

What is important is what

are you going to do now? To this day I fight the urge to take the hands-off approach and I make the conscious effort to have face time with my Airmen. They are my Airmen, they are our future and they are worth it.

F-35

From Page 11

of an additional external visor, which decreases injury risk during parachute opening.

"I have personally briefed every single F-35 pilot in the United States Air Force about these changes to their ejection seat, and I'm confident our pilots are no longer concerned with the safety of the F-35 ejection system. I've flown in this seat myself and believe, with

these modifications, this is the safest ejection seat I've ever flown," said Brig. Gen. Scott L. Pleus, the F-35 Integration Office director.

In July 2015, during the manufacturer's ongoing testing, analysis identified an unacceptable risk of neck injury during parachute deployment/opening for pilots weighing less than 136 pounds. The requirement is for the seat to be certified for any pilot weighing between 103 and 245 pounds.

Air Force headquarters and

wing leadership took immediate action to ensure pilot safety and work with the manufacturer to meet requirements for the seat. The F-35 Joint Program Office has been working in concert with contractors to develop options to reconfigure the ejection system.

The new ejection seats are already being retrofitted into the existing fleet, and the lightweight helmets are available in pre-production now, while full production starts later this year.

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Hobby

From Page 10

honeybees are not nearly as aggressive as some other types of bees," said Emily Wright, Garrett's wife. "Neighbors are continuously surprised to learn that we've had honeybees for over a year, which is usually followed by asking when we'll have more honey.

"Thankfully, Garrett always tries to keep bees in the safest way possible, but the more you're around honeybees, the more you realize a lot of the common fears are likely a result of how you were

raised, which may mean decades of misunderstanding honeybees."

Honeybees have a huge impact on the environment. Not everyone is willing or able to take on beekeeping, but there are other ways to help out honeybees.

"The average person can always plant bee-friendly flowers in their yard," Garrett said. "Some flowers are utilized by bees, others are not, so just understand what bees like. A lot of herbicides, in addition to pesticides, can damage insects. Be mindful of what you put on your yard, because the implications could be fairly far-reaching."

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Energy

From Page 4

more than drinking 320 milligrams of caffeine – about 4 cups.

“We chose a dose of 32 ounces as it is possible for some consumers to consume two cans on a social night out,” said Maj. Emily Fletcher, 377th Medical Support Squadron at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. “The caffeine content was below the general safety threshold of 400 milligrams.”

Fletcher, the pharmacy flight commander at Kirtland, designed the study while assigned to Travis.

Eighteen “healthy” active-duty men and women ages 18 to 40 years participated in the study. Half of the group were given a serving of an energy drink and the other half were given the same amount of a control drink containing caffeine, lime juice and cherry syrup in carbonated water.

Researchers switched the drinks given to each group after a six-day “wash out” period. Participants were not allowed to consume caffeine or energy drinks 48 hours before each evaluation.

Researchers found that while both the caffeine and energy drink groups had an increase in systolic blood pressure, the systolic pressure of the control group had returned closer to the original number six hours later.

“Those who consumed the energy drink still had a mild elevated blood pressure,” said Fletcher.

Additionally, the QTc interval (interval between heart beats) was longer in the energy drink group two hours after consumption when compared to the caffeine group, which can increase the risk for triggering an abnormal heart rhythm.

“The resulting arrhythmia can be life threatening,” said Fletcher.

Energy drinks may adversely affect some people because they contain ingredients other than caffeine.

“We can’t assume that energy drinks are safe for everyone,” said Williams. “People who consume energy drinks may not realize sometimes that their blood pressure is elevated or feel changes in their heart rate.”

Energy drinks also may cause dizziness, irritability, chest pain and insomnia, said Williams.

People with underlying cardiac disease or high blood pressure may want to avoid energy drinks or use caution, especially when taking part in activities that also increase blood pressure and heart rate such as exercise and sports, said Fletcher.

The researchers concluded that larger clinical trials controlling for limitations of their study are warranted.

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U.S. Air Force photos by 2nd Lt. Sarah Johnson

Children and families enjoy Military Spouse Appreciation Day May 12 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The event was hosted by the Airmen and Family Readiness Center and celebrated the contributions of military members' families with free food, games, music and prizes.



Event celebrates Military Spouses

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2007 Chrysler PT Cruiser STK#H170177A, VIN# 027120	\$8,267	2013 Hyundai Accent GLS STK#H16026, VIN# 012745	\$10,984	2013 Hyundai Elantra GLS STK#H175003A, VIN# 030001	\$13,462

1. All this offer for all vehicles. Plus tax and license and any dealer fees with approved credit thru Ally Financial. All rebates and incentives applied. Offers on select vehicles. Must see dealer for complete details on all offers. All photos shown for illustration purposes only. 2017 Hyundai Accent SE \$3,999 due at lease signing, 36 months, 12,000 miles per year, \$0 security deposit on both. 2016 Hyundai Tucson: \$2,000 cash back includes Sales Event cash + Sun and Safety Equipment incentive. 0% APR for up to 60 months. \$16.67 per thousand financed. Offers cannot be combined. Not all will qualify. Offers expire at month end.

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