

# FLIGHT

... gives family fresh perspective

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# KC-10 community builds family dynamic

Commentary by  
Maj. Chris Smorol

9TH AIR REFUELING SQUADRON

I was recently handed assignment orders and few things get me feeling more nostalgic than a permanent change of station. This one feels different though, because I'm at the point in my career where it's entirely possible that after a decade since my first KC-10 Extender sortie, I will have flown my last mission in "Big Sexy." I truly feel that I could write a book about my experiences and what I've learned. I know only my wife would read it because she's supportive like that, but I could still write it. While

Commander's  
Commentary

I'll spare you the novel for now, I would like to share my favorite part of being a member of a KC-10 squadron. For those who don't know, the KC-10 community is relatively small. With only four active-duty squadrons located at two different bases, KC-10 aircrews are a tight-knit bunch. Even when someone "coast-to-coasts," meaning they're assigned to Travis Air Force Base, California, then assigned to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, and vice versa), they are usually met with familiar faces thanks to the amount of time we all spend together in an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. Another aspect of the KC-10 lifestyle is living the life of an enabler. By that, I mean if there is something happening in the news, it's a safe bet that KC-10s are involved, doing our part to guarantee mission success. This is both a source of pride and stress. It means that every day you show up to work, you don't know where you'll be tomorrow. On any given day, you need to be ready to be gone for a couple days, a couple weeks or a couple months. Trying to plan your life around a dynamic

mission schedule becomes the ultimate exercise in service before self. This can be endlessly exciting and exhausting at the same time. What I really want to highlight is when you combine small group dynamics with the pressures of an enabler lifestyle, the result is a family. Whether they are people I supervise, my peers or my leadership, members of a KC-10 squadron have a shared experience that helps us understand each other. Without a doubt, it's difficult when I think of all the birthdays, funerals, family reunions and weddings I've missed. But I feel fortunate that I got to spend that time with my extended KC-10 family, accomplishing a mission in defense of our great country, all the while, forging relationships and creating memories that will last a lifetime. Whether you're at 30,000 feet over the middle of the Pacific Ocean with four fighters on your wing as you're dodging a volcanic ash cloud and trying to re-calculate the fuel plan for a divert, discovering World War II relics on the shores of Wake Island or enjoying a drink at the Thirsty Camel after a 10-hour combat sortie, you know the person to your left and your right. You know that you're in it together. That's a special bond for which I will always be grateful.

# Take every opportunity career, life can present

Commentary by  
Capt. Garrett Jack

9TH AIR REFUELING SQUADRON

As an 18-year-old basic cadet at the Air Force Academy, I had no idea where my Air Force career would take me. Nine years later, I can say it's taken me across the world a few times and it looks like I'll be traveling around the world again before Christmas ... twice. My name is Capt. Garrett Jack and I am a KC-10 Extender pilot in the 9th Air Refueling Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, California. I've been flying the KC-10 for about two years and I'm beginning to feel pretty comfortable in the flight

Commentary

deck as a first pilot. Getting to this point has been challenging - it's taken a lot of instruction, studying and practice, all of which began almost four years ago at undergraduate pilot training. When I take time to reflect on my years as a young pilot, I'm amazed at all of the unique experiences I've had in a short amount of time. The KC-10 has taken me throughout the world on several occasions to execute missions abroad. Each of these missions has in some way supported our nation's interests and has reaffirmed Air Mobility Command's promise to deliver fuel and cargo wherever it is needed. I'm proud to be an AMC Airman. My role requires constant learning and preparation, but it is rewarding. However, it's not the only role I have in our military. Not many people would guess this if they saw me walking around base in my flight suit, the Air Force also uses me as an asset to language and culture. Going a few years further back in my Air Force career, I remember being a freshman at the Air Force Academy listening to my Portuguese instructor encouraging her students to take the Academy foreign language programs seriously because there were all kinds of great opportunities available to those with language skills. I wasn't particularly

interested in foreign languages at the time, but I figured it couldn't hurt to at least get good enough grades to go on a summer immersion trip or something like that. With continued encouragement and support from my Academy instructors, I graduated with a minor in Brazilian Portuguese and spent over a year of combined time travelling throughout Brazil acquiring its language and learning about its culture. The majority of my time in Brazil was spent while I was still a cadet. However, as a member of the Language Enabled Airman Program, I've been able to continue my studies in Portuguese as

See JACK Page 24

# Travis takes part in disaster relief effort

Ian Thompson

DAILY REPUBLIC

Two David Grant Medical Center critical care air transport teams left Aug. 30 from Travis Air Force Base, California, to help the victims of Hurricane Harvey. "We train all the time for something like this," Maj. Micaela Lewis said Tuesday of the humanitarian mission she and five others got word about Aug. 27. The two teams headed to Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, to meet up with other military humanitarian support elements and stage into the area of eastern Texas that has been hammered with massive flooding. Approximately 60 personnel from the 60th Medical Group were on standby and ready to respond should the situation in Texas need further Travis support. Additionally, a C-17 Globemaster III and its associated crew were put on a 12-hour alert status, according to Travis Air Force Base's Public Affairs Office.

The three-person David Grant USAF Medical Center teams, working with the Texas Air National Guard, would become part of the network that would be moving people requiring medical care out of the flooding area. Cardiologist Maj. Andrew Clark described the teams as "a flying intensive care unit" that could do everything an intensive care unit could do. Clark said the teams could deploy to the area as long as 45 days, depending on how long that area's emergency management system needs them. "We are trying to help where we can," Clark said. This is part of a much larger effort that has included activation of the entire Texas National Guard, about 12,000 troops. The Coast Guard had moved in 39 helicopters and seven aircraft as of Aug. 28. The Army and Air Force have sent in at least nine helicopters, two cargo planes and pararescue teams while the Navy is preparing the amphibious assault ship, the USS Kearsarge, and the landing ship USS Oak Hill to support rescue efforts.



Daily Republic photo/Robinson Kuntz

Travis Air Force Base, Calif., personnel and aircraft were on standby Tuesday to assist with emergency efforts in Texas for the effects of Hurricane Harvey.

## Tailwind

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60th Air Mobility Wing

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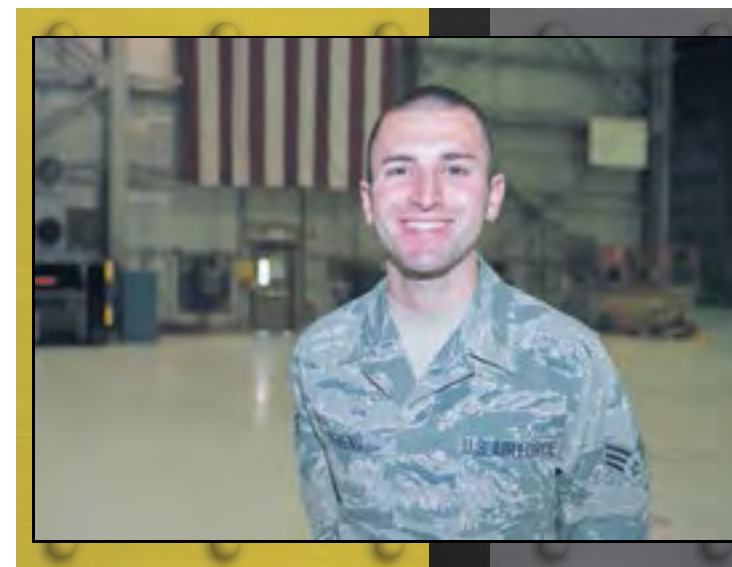
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### On the cover

**Lt. Col. Justin Longmire, 6th Air Refueling Squadron commander, gives a tour of a KC-10 Extender before an orientation flight Aug. 26 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.**

U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Joseph Swafford



U.S. Air Force photo

## WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

<b>Name:</b> Senior Airman Andrew Stevens.	<b>Hometown:</b> Chatham, Illinois.	<b>Family:</b> Spouse, Emma Stevens.
<b>Unit:</b> 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.	<b>Time in service:</b> Three years.	<b>What are your hobbies?</b> Shooting, hiking.
<b>Duty title:</b> Aerospace maintenance journeyman crew chief.	<b>What are your goals?</b> Obtain bachelor's degree in criminal justice, retire from Air Force.	<b>What is your greatest achievement?</b> Enlisting in Air Force.

# Council looks to make difference at DGMC

60th Air Mobility Wing  
Public Affairs

The Patient and Family Advisory Council at Travis Air Force Base, California, is recruiting people who want to make a difference in patient services at the David Grant USAF Medical Center.

The council's goal is to improve the quality and safety

of patient care by incorporating patient and family perspectives into policies, procedures, programs and practices, said Mark Lane 60th Medical Group patient relations coordinator, who stressed that the council is not a complaint session.

"This is not a town hall meeting," said Lane. "What we want to know is what you would

change to improve our services from the patient's perspective. We want people to share their insights, observations and perspectives so we can learn from them."

Anyone age 18 and older is eligible to join the council, which meets the third Wednesday of the month.

Since the council began one year ago, members have made

18 suggestions. Five have been implemented and seven are under consideration, said Lane.

Adopted suggestions include, installing additional vending machines in the snack area so family members visiting after duty hours have a variety of foods and healthier selections since the dining hall no longer serves an evening meal, adding additional

seating and a numbering system at the base exchange pharmacy in the mini mall so patients don't lose their place in line and booking follow-up appointments while patients are in the clinic rather than directing them to central appointments.

For more information, call Lane at 707-423-2388 or email mark.a.lane26.civ@mail.mil.

# Former KC-10 pilot, ALS instructor serve as teachers

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

He has gray hair, wears gray glasses and an inviting smile covers his face. In the Air Force he was an instructor pilot teaching Airmen how to fly aircraft valued at millions of dollars. His job now is focused on much younger Airmen.

After serving more than three decades in the Air Force, Mark Kleinman retired as a lieutenant colonel in September 2012 and decided to become a teacher. His workplace is filled with children, many with big dreams of becoming an architect, astronaut or doctor.

"I became a teacher to work with children, to help them achieve and prepare for the future," he said. "This means helping them persevere when things seem difficult, which is a necessary life skill. I want to use my experience and knowledge to bring real life examples into their learning. I feel it's time to give back some of the good fortune I've had in my life and teaching is my way of doing that."

Kleinman, a native of Bohemia, New York, retired from the Air Force Reserves after 33 years of service with his final assignment as an assistant operations officer for the 70th Air Refueling Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, California. During his military career, he flew the C-141 Starlifter, T-38 Talon and the KC-10 Extender, serving as an instructor pilot for all three airframes.

He earned his teaching credential in September 2015



1) Mark Kleinman, a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel and a teacher at Travis Elementary School, holds a pencil with his name on it Aug. 25 that was given to him by one of his students at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. 2) Nonato Icatar, a retired U.S. Air Force technical sergeant and a teacher at Travis Elementary School, holds a name plate made from Scrabble tiles Aug. 25 that was given to him by one of his students at Travis.

through Troops to Teachers, a Department of Defense program designed to assist former service members in becoming certified teachers. Kleinman has taught math, computer programming and robotics at Golden West Middle School in

Fairfield, California and started teaching at Travis Elementary School, one of nine schools in the Travis Unified School District and one of two on Travis AFB, in August 2016.

"I enjoy teaching people, especially if they have difficulty



getting a concept," he said. "It's rewarding when they get that 'aha' moment and begin understanding something they may have struggled with."

When kids understand things they believe in themselves, which is critical,

Kleinman added.

"I asked the children on the first day, 'How many of you think you can't do math?' So many hands went up. I asked them to put 'yet' on the end of that sentence. Because if you

See **TEACHERS** Page 25

# Total Force Continuum team pays visit to Travis

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

The Air Force's Total Force Continuum team visited Aug. 21-23 at Travis Air Force Base, California, to observe operations and learn how to best implement total force integration.

During the visit, the team conducted focus groups, met with base leadership and held a town hall with 64 Airmen, addressing several topics including retention concerns, preparing for future threats and ensuring the Air Force implements TFI properly.

Total force integration refers to Airmen from different components, such as the active-duty Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve working together to meet mission objectives. Travis AFB is the seventh location to host a site visit and displays TFI daily with the Total Force Support Squadron, which was created when the 349th FSS and 60th FSS merged in March. Since the merger, active-duty and Reserve Airmen have provided ID card and administrative services in one location for all members of Travis; more than 26,000 service members, military retirees, veterans and their families.

It's also common to see Reservists working alongside their active-duty counterparts at

Travis to maintain aircraft and generate sorties. From Jan. 1 to Aug. 24, the total force team at Travis has enabled 4,766 sorties, including missions in support of Air Mobility Command's largest exercise, Mobility Guardian, as well Operations Inherent Resolve and Freedom's Sentinel.

"We are here to try and figure out what the health of (component) associations is, and to learn what the resource challenges we face are so we can maximize the use of all components to create the most warfighting capability we can as an Air Force for combatant commanders," said Brig. Gen. Richard Casto, special assistant to the Chief Air Force Reserve and military deputy to the Total Force Continuum, deputy chief of staff for strategic plans and requirements U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Casto said he was impressed by how well active-duty and Reserve Airmen come together to ensure mission success at Travis.

"The level of integrated partnership at the group level and below here is incredibly noteworthy," said Casto. "It proves for each weapon system, at varying degrees based on necessity, the level of participation required to get the most mission accomplished. If we were going to benchmark something out of

**"If we were going to benchmark something out of Travis, it would be the air operations directive."**

— Brig. Gen. Richard Casto

Travis, it would be the air operations directive; how Travis applies TFI with multiple weapons systems and multiple components, both with operations and maintenance."

Whether it's local flying, deploying a KC-10 Extender or supporting strategic airlift with the C-5M Super Galaxy or C-17 Globemaster III, Travis comes together to get the mission done, he added.

One of the goals for the TFC team is to collect best practices, as well as lessons learned and apply them across the Air Force, said Brig. Gen. Paul Guemmer, military deputy for Total Force Continuum, deputy chief of staff for strategic plans and programs, U.S. Air Force Headquarters, Washington D.C.

"We will apply the lessons we

learn to future associations," said Guemmer. "This is foundational work for how we shape success for future associations which are becoming more and more complex."

"We're (also) seeing (a need) for continued growth in (total force) associations because our warfighting capability as a total force is really dependent on how we organize, train and equip and associations are one way to make that more efficient and (makes us) a more capable fighting force," he added.

A total force association is an agreement between two or more component organizations to share resources to perform a common mission. Currently, the Air Force has 114 formal associations.

The Travis Total Force

Support Squadron is one of those associations and one of five integrated force support squadrons across the Air Force, said Guemmer.

The TFC team will compile what it learned with its visit to Travis and previous site visits with the Air Force Chief of Staff, Secretary of the Air Force and other senior leaders. In the future, the team will help develop an Air Staff level framework that provides guidance for preserving associations across major commands.

"We are looking at Air Force mission sets and where we can balance the Total Force across those mission sets to ensure we have the right component mix and the right full-time, part-time mix, as well as civilians to accomplish the mission," said Guemmer. "There's a lot of actions we need to take at the major command and Headquarters Air Force level to ensure we're setting squadrons up for success."

"It's all about maximizing capacity to the warfighter," said Casto.

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U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman  
Master Sgt. Conrad Lewis, left, 60th Force Support Squadron, and Col. Lance Clark, 60th Mission Support Group commander, unfurl the 2017 Air Mobility Command John L. Hennessy Trophy banner Aug. 29 inside the Sierra Inn Dining Facility at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The award recognizes Travis for having the best food program in AMC and one of the best in the Air Force.

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# Card grants access to Gold Star families

**Senior Airman Jordyn Fetter**  
11TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For the first time, Gold Star Base Access ID cards were issued to three family members of fallen Airmen May 1 at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.

Travis Air Force Base, California, is participating in the program, too, issuing its first card to a Gold Star family member Aug. 29.

These cards are part of an Air Force initiative allowing Gold Star families unescorted access to Air Force installations to visit buried loved ones, attend base events and stop by Airmen and Family Readiness Centers for immediate and long-term emotional support.

"The chief of staff of the Air Force's interest in making sure our Gold Star families remain part of the Air Force community sparked the interest in this initiative," said Carla Diamond, a U.S. Air Force Headquarters community readiness consultant. "Reaching out to surviving family members through different avenues led us to this opportunity. This is a great way for us to make contact and remain connected with them."

The Gold Star ID program

is scheduled for Air Force-wide implementation beginning May 15, 2017, for parents, siblings and adult children of Airmen who were killed in action during international terrorist attacks against the U.S. or a foreign nation friendly to the U.S., or military operations while serving outside the U.S. as part of a peacekeeping force.

"Even though it's been 11 years [since my son passed], some days it still feels very fresh," said Jackie Chavis, a Gold Star mother. "The ability to come on base makes me still feel connected to him. This bridges the gap between families and the Air Force so you can be around people who understand what you're going through or what you've gone through."

To welcome more Gold Star families to base through this program, each member is set to receive a letter signed by the Air Force installation commander closest to where they reside. If members are interested in obtaining the ID card before receiving notification, they can reach out to their local Air Force Families Forever program contact.

Although this access will not authorize holders to use

See GOLD STAR Page 25



Jennifer Serex-Helwig receives the first Gold Star Defense Biometric Identification System ID card issued during a ceremony Aug. 29 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Serex-Helwig is the daughter of U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Henry Serex, whose plane was shot down April 2, 1972, and has been missing in action ever since. The Gold Star DBIDS installation access card is a chief of staff of the Air Force initiative that allows family members of those who perished in a combat theater of operation, or as a result of a terrorist incident, to obtain an ID card.

U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscoe

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## Individual Ready Reserve passes 'muster'



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Christopher Carranza  
 Senior Airman Gina Lopez, 349th Force Support Squadron customer service technician, assists a member of the Individual Ready Reserve with a voucher during the yearly IRR Muster Aug. 28 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Tech. Sgt. Brittney Bankston, Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center representative, said musters occur throughout the U.S. and members are expected to come together and ensure their contact information, readiness and fitness are up to date.

## Air Force cracks down on misuse of prescription drugs

**Capt. Amanda Reeves**  
 AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND  
 PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — In an effort to combat substance abuse and maintain accountability of its forces, the Air Force is cracking down on the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs. Prescription drug misuse is considered any use of a prescription outside of its originally prescribed mandate and

timeframe. This includes obvious abuse, like using prescription drugs to obtain a high, but also includes using an old prescription to treat a new medical illness or using a prescription beyond its expiration date.

On June 22, in the case of United States v. Airman First Class Austin J. Mull, the U.S. Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals overturned precedent set in 1993 and ruled prescription drug misuse constitutes

See MISUSE Page 24

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# Amputee wins battle to serve

**Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Maurice**  
920TH RESCUE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — For most, an amputation would be the greatest challenge they have ever faced in life. But for one Citizen Airman, the real struggle came when he fought to keep serving.

Separation from the service he loved so much was never an option for Senior Airman Kevin Greene, a healthcare management technician with the 920th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, and after a two-and-a-half-year fight, including three rejection letters and an in-person medical evaluation board, he is once again wearing his Air Force blues and loving every minute of it.

"I remember the night of the accident vividly," he said. "I was coming home from work and was stopped at a red light when I looked to my right and see the lady in the vehicle next to me point to her window. As I look to see what she's pointing at, 'Boom!'"



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jared Trimarchi

Senior Airman Kevin Greene, a health care management technician with the 920th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, stretches after a short workout Aug. 8 at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida. Greene lost part of his left leg in a motorcycle accident Dec. 17, 2014.

"Next thing I know, I'm waking up in the hospital," he recalled. "I hear people in the background crying hysterically, family praying and then

the doctor walks in. He said I got into a pretty severe motorcycle accident. He said my brain was fine; there was no spinal damage; however, my left foot was just too severely broken to save and they had to amputate it." Greene ended up going **See AMPUTEE Page 22**

# Air Force suggests renters insurance

**Armando Perez**  
AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION SUPPORT CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND AFB, Texas — Airmen and their families leasing or renting housing on or off the installation need to be aware of the importance of renters insurance.

Unforeseen fires, floods, theft or accidents can occur in anyone's residence and Airmen need to understand the importance of protecting their families from financial hardship should such losses occur.

The Air Force strongly encourages all service members, whether they rent off base or in privatized housing, to purchase renters insurance to make sure valuable items can be replaced in case of loss due to unforeseen circumstances. Property managers will not be responsible for damages to personal property.

For service members living in privatized housing, the Department of Defense announced a policy change in December 2014 that removed the renters insurance portion of a service members Basic Allowance for Housing, or BAH. As a result, the Air Force eliminated any rental insurance requirement from its privatized housing agreements.

The policy change doesn't negate current project obligations to provide renters insurance. It does, however, allow housing Project Owners the flexibility to independently decide if they will continue to provide renters insurance as part of a new or renewed lease. As a result, service members signing a lease to live in privatized homes may no longer be covered by Project Owner-provided renters insurance and should purchase renters insurance out of pocket, as their

**See INSURANCE Page 21**

# Compass call reshapes battlefield landscape

**Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Hehny**  
386TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Often, when people think about how air power is used in the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, many think of cargo aircraft delivering critical supplies and personnel to the frontlines or bombs being dropped onto targets.

What's not often thought of is how the Air Force has the non-kinetic ability to disrupt enemy communications on the ground and therefore the ability to turn the tables on the battlefield.

The 386th Air Expeditionary

Wing has the capability to deliver decisive airpower not only through its C-130 airlift mission but through the highly sought after non-kinetic ability of the EC-130H Compass Call aircraft operated by the 43rd Expeditionary Electronic Combat Squadron. These heavily modified airframes are responsible for a highly specialized, unique mission; electronic warfare.

"The mission of the 43rd EECS is to deliver precision electronic attack effects to deny or degrade enemy command and control, protect friendly forces and to achieve the combatant commander's objectives

to defeat our adversaries anywhere, anywhere in the joint operations area," said Capt. Joshua, a 43rd EECS electronic warfare officer.

Compass Call is an airborne tactical weapon system that uses noise jamming to disrupt enemy command and control communications and deny time-critical adversary coordination essential for enemy force management.

"The 43rd EECS provides the Combined Forces Air Component commander or CFACC, with a critical non-kinetic

**See LANDSCAPE Page 19**



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Hehny

An EC-130H Compass Call receives maintenance at an undisclosed location Aug. 30 in Southwest Asia.

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# Airman fulfills passion to serve, builds future

**Senior Airman Damon Kasberg**  
332ND AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SOUTHWEST ASIA — A squadron of Airmen huddle around a construction site. From a distance they all look identical, same sand T-shirts, same camouflaged pants, and same red hard hats.

Upon a closer look these members of the 557th Expeditionary Red Horse couldn't be more diverse. People of different ages, ethnicities and backgrounds are gathered together building the future living sustainment area for the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, the new generation to Tuskegee Airmen.

Tonight they're pouring concrete.

As trucks line up with thousands of pounds of the wet building material, the

Airmen are in full swing and, the foundation prepared for the next phase. Some people rake and level, while others edge and ensure the surface is smooth, it's an extensive process.

It's at this moment when Senior Airman Brooke Seler, a structural journeyman, stands out. At 5 feet 3 inches, she isn't your typical construction worker, but she holds her own, taking on the messy job of pouring concrete.

While it may not appeal to everyone, trouncing around in wet concrete in the middle of the night is where Seler wants to be.

"I love it," she said. "I love the fact we can do a job and at the end of the day I can see the difference."

At a young age, the Pennsylvania

native started working with her mother remodeling houses.

"Ever since I was little, anywhere I lived, it was always a project," Seler said. "My mom first taught me how to use a roller when I was five and from then on I was painting rooms. As I got older, she allowed me to do more projects. Then I gradually fell in love with it."

"Before I came into this job, everything I base my knowledge off of was all from my mother. She taught me everything. She's my hero," she said.

After graduating high school, Seler discovered her passion for working with animals while employed at a veterinary clinic. This proved to be a dilemma. She didn't know how to pursue her love for building and animals, while fulfilling her

need to serve.

"My dad was a crew chief for 24 years and I admire everything the military stands for," she said. "I wanted to join the Air Force, but I didn't know how to make it fit with everything else. Then I learned about the Air Force Reserve. I talked to a recruiter who told me civil engineer would be a good job for me because I'd been flipping houses my entire life with my mom.

"I figured why not join the military, get my foot in the door, and see what it's like," she continued. "I get to learn more about something I really love and enjoy doing; at the same time I could start school to be a veterinarian."

See BUILDS Page 19



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# SecAF speaks to JAG Airmen

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson addressed Judge Advocate General Corps Airmen during the 2017 Horizons Summer Conference, Aug. 28 in Falls Church, Virginia.

During her speech, Wilson emphasized her priorities including developing exceptional leaders, driving innovation, strengthening alliances, restoring readiness and cost-effectively modernizing.

"(Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein) and I are determined to continue to develop leaders across the force who are values driven, mission focused and people oriented," Wilson said.

Wilson also spoke about her husband's role as a 30-year JAG officer and imparted how important it is for JAG Corps officers to not only advise commanders but also to help mold Airmen to become the future leaders of the Air Force.



# 60th APS conducts joint inspection with FEMA



1) Tech. Sgt. Stacey Murray, 60th Aerial Port Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., and members with California Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 7 examine a case loaded with fuel canisters during a joint inspection training and practical demonstration performance evaluation conducted by Airmen from the 60th APS on Aug. 23 at McClellan Park, Calif. 2) Tech. Sgt. Stacey Murray, center left, and Staff Sgt. Leah Johnson, center right, 60th Aerial Port Squadron, review regulations regarding hazardous cargo with members of the task force during the event. 3) Airman 1st Class Colton Figura, left, 60th APS, checks forms filled out by John Newburger, center, and Brian Luiz, right, members with the task force, during the event.



Heide Couch

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Three Airmen from the 60th Aerial Port Squadron traveled to Sacramento Aug. 23 to perform a joint inspection with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Task Force 7.

Task Force 7 is one of eight FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces based in California and one of 28 in the United States. They specialize in the rescue of survivors from enclosed spaces such as collapsed buildings or crushed vehicles.

"We are tasked to be able to put an 80 person team, live-find search and rescue dogs and all of our equipment on the road within four hours if travelling by ground or on the tarmac, ready to load onto aircraft at Travis Air Force Base, California, within six hours of being alerted to an event anywhere in the United States and occasionally overseas," said Chief Greg Powell, one of the unit's team leaders.

Task Force 7 is one of only a few teams across the country based within a short distance of a major airlift port such as Travis AFB. When the team is going to be airlifted, it is imperative that pallets, vehicles and equipment arrive at Travis completely airworthy as delays getting the task force to its destination can mean the difference between life and death. Past deployments have taken this team to Oklahoma City after the 1995 bombing of the federal building, New York City after the attack on the Twin Towers in 2001, New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and Oso, Washington in 2014 after a major mudslide.

The support provided by the 60th APS has proven invaluable to get the task force where they need to be in the shortest possible time, said Powell.

The JI is usually performed annually and is designed to ensure the task force's cargo complies with U.S. Air Force regulations. This is especially important as the task force's equipment



U.S. Air Force photos/Heide Couch

4) Cargo transport semi-trucks are used to carry equipment utilized by the California Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 7 team Aug. 23 at McClellan Park, Calif. The red truck on the left has a low profile, with removable exhaust stacks, designed to load directly onto either a C-17 Globemaster III or C-5M Super Galaxy aircraft, stationed at nearby Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

includes a number of items that are designated as hazardous cargo such as gasoline and batteries. These items require special packing methods and additional documentation.

Unit Logistics Manager Brian Luiz explained because the unit never knows in advance whether they will be airlifted or travel by ground, their equipment is always packed on the same 463L pallets utilized by the Air Force.

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Stacy Murray, Staff Sgt. Leah Johnson and Airman 1st Class Colton Figura weighed vehicles and equipment, reviewed documentation and provided training on pallet build-up best practices to Task Force 7 personnel.

These three airmen are very passionate about their jobs. This quickly becomes apparent as their

faces light up and their gestures become more animated as they are asked to explain what is involved in the JI and why it is important, said Murray.

"We do a pre-inspection to make sure everything is legit and in compliance," said Murray. "I've seen pallets downrange built by non-aerial porters where it's two drums on one side of the pallet, both weighing about 4,000 pounds, and then you've got a small box on the other side of the pallet. When you take it off of the aircraft you can't do it properly because the pallet wants to tip over as it's coming off."

The APS is approached for advice or training from customers outside the Air Force on a weekly basis, said Johnson. She described the process of recently weighing and finding the center-of-balance

of an amphibious tracked vehicle for a U.S. Marine unit. She said that, while the vehicle was a challenge to weigh, she enjoyed learning from the experience.

Murray and Johnson spent several hours scrutinizing each deployable item's packing list and documentation. Special attention was given to hazardous cargo. Figura spent the day weighing vehicles and trailers while explaining how to properly mark the weight and center of balance.

"I brought out the hazardous items so we can make sure they're compatible with the aircraft," she said. "Then we're going to get the weights for everything and then the CB (center-of-balance) of the vehicles. That way, when it's load planned, the weight will be distributed on the aircraft and it will be safe to fly. Then we'll make sure the

vehicles will fit on the aircraft."

Near the end of the day Murray and Johnson demonstrated correct pallet build-up procedures with an emphasis placed on building balanced pallets and properly securing and tightening cargo nets to prevent load shifting.

A native of Roseville, California, Task Force 7 team member John Neuberger truly personifies the spirit of inter-agency cooperation. He serves as a firefighter with the Sacramento City Fire Department and brings additional skills to the task force as a 349th Air Mobility Wing Tech. Sgt. loadmaster in the 301st Air Refueling Squadron.

"It's been good. It's neat to see the two worlds. Yesterday I was doing a Unit Training Assembly at Travis, and I come in here today to participate in the JI," he said.



## Builds

From Page 14

In December 2015, Seler left for basic training, followed by technical school and then seasonal training at her home station Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina. Along the way she has made life-long friends and learned invaluable lessons.

"I've almost been on active-duty orders my entire career with the Reserve," she said. "I love the people and I love what I do. I think that makes everything a lot easier."

Now Seler finds herself overseas, where she continues to do what she loves. As a member of the 557th ERHS she helps build structures from start to finish.

"On seasonal training we did more patch-up work," Seler said. "We fix things that were messed up in a storm or by someone, more of the things I'm used to doing. Here everything is brand new and that's what Red Horseis, building a base from the ground up. That's literally what we're doing and I think that's the most exciting part of it."

Whether it's pouring concrete, putting up side panels or working steel, Seler doesn't let her gender limit her capability.

"This is definitely a male dominated job," she said. "There are times I really have to bust my butt to keep up with the guys. I don't like to fall short and I don't like for the guys to feel they have to keep up after me."

"I always make sure, if they're swinging a sledge hammer and hitting stakes, I'm right next to them swinging a hammer and hitting stakes," she explained.

It's this outlook that makes Seler an Airman people want to work with.

"She's got a great attitude," said Staff Sgt. Andrew McDonald, a 557th ERHS structural craftsman. "She wants to learn, she wants to work. I can just lay out the task of the day and she's willing to knock it out."

"She definitely knows the job," said Senior Airman Alexandria Mattei, a 557th ERHS structural journeyman. "It's really easy to work with her. She's good at walking you through the steps, especially with someone like me who doesn't have the same experience."

## Landscape

From Page 13

option," said Lt. Col. Matthew Cunningham, an EC-130 aircraft commander. "EC-130H employment of airborne electronic attacks functions as a force multiplier by degrading ISIS command and control. All military operations, to include those of our adversaries, require clear lines of communication between commanders and their forces. When we deny, disrupt or degrade these lines of communications, we reduce the adversary's battlefield effectiveness and give friendly forces a decisive advantage in individual engagements."

EC-130H crews are currently performing tactical command, control and communications countermeasures in support of U.S. and coalition forces throughout the U.S. Air Forces Central Command area of responsibility from the massive re-taking of Mosul to smaller, single-event missions, said Joshua.

The desired effects provided by the EC-130H's unique communications jamming capability make the aircraft and its crew a low density high demand asset in the OIR battlespace. The autonomous electronic attack capability is unique to Compass Call and cannot be duplicated by any other airborne communications jamming assets.

"Compass Call is the Air Force's premier electronic attack platform," said Cunningham. "It is the CFACC's only autonomous communications jamming, electronic attack asset. This unique autonomy is attributed to a crew of about a dozen highly-specialized, competent Airmen."

The EC-130H's flight deck personnel responsible for the aircraft flight and navigation are the same as found in most C-130 variants. In the back of the aircraft, however, are a number of linguists actively monitoring ISIS communications, while electronic warfare officers, or EWO, simultaneously employ the Compass Call's electronic attack weapons system. The EWO,

serving as the mission crew commander, acts as the conduit between the partner forces on the ground and the mission crew to ensure the right effects are being placed on the right targets at the right time.

Because the EC-130H aircraft requires unique and specialized maintenance support to keep the aircraft and weapon systems mission ready, maintenance Airmen from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, deploy with the Compass Call aircraft and aircrews.

"Operations and maintenance work together at home station and we fight together in support of Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve," said Cunningham.



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The purpose of the Five-Year Review is to measure the performance of all remedies and their progress toward achieving site cleanup objectives. This Fourth Five-Year Review will verify if these remedies are protective of human health and the environment.

Upon completion of the review, a report will be issued. The report will provide protectiveness statements and, if needed, will recommend actions to be taken before the next five-year review. A copy of the final report will be available for public review on the Air Force Civil Engineer Center public website (<http://afcec.publicadmin-record.us.af.mil/Search.aspx>) and the Travis AFB public website (<http://www.travis.af.mil/AboutUs/Environment/Document-Library/>). You can also ask for an electronic copy of the report by sending an email to [enviroipa@travis.af.mil](mailto:enviroipa@travis.af.mil).

If you have any issues or concerns about the cleanup actions at 41 restoration sites on Travis AFB, if you have knowledge of the implementation of the active remedies, or if you want to be placed on the Travis AFB environmental mailing list, please contact Ms. Merric Schiller-Lowe, 60 AMWPA, at (707) 424-2011 or via email at [merric.schillerlowe@us.af.mil](mailto:merric.schillerlowe@us.af.mil).

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact Mr. Lennie Duke, the Travis Restoration Program Manager, at (707) 424-2520 or via email at [lennie.duke@us.af.mil](mailto:lennie.duke@us.af.mil). You can also visit the Travis AFB Environmental Restoration Program web site at <http://www.travis.af.mil/AboutUs/Environment/Document-Library/> and the EPA website on Five-Year Reviews at <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-five-year-reviews>.

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## Insurance

From Page 12

colleagues who live off base do.  
"The Air Force Civil Engineer Center) works with installation Housing Management Offices to ensure they provide information on not only the policy change but an understanding that renter's insurance provides coverage for loss, damage, or destruction of property," said Col. Michael Beach, the AFCEC Division chief for Family Housing.

"Living without renters insurance can have a substantial impact on Airmen and their families, although Air Force does not require residents to carry renters insurance on their personal belongings, it is strongly encouraged."  
Before purchasing renters insurance consider the following:  
• Know what the policy covers.  
• Most policies will cover the actual cash value or replacement cost of your personal belongings.

• Know who the policy covers.  
• Renters insurance typically covers spouses and immediate family members who live with you. Some policies even cover dogs.  
• Know how much coverage you need.  
• A general policy may cover most of your belongings, but high-value items such as jewelry, expensive sports or musical equipment, and collectibles may need additional coverage based on appraisal amounts.

• Buy from an insurer licensed to do business in your state.  
• If you are moving to a new location, verify with your insurer that your policy is valid at your new duty station.  
• Look for multi-line discounts. Purchasing renters insurance from a company you already have a policy with can save you money. Start with your car insurance provider, for example.  
• Shop around and compare prices.

• Don't get more coverage than you need and ask for military discount options.  
• Ensure your policy meets any minimum coverage amounts your landlord or Project Owner may require.  
Renters insurance is a smart and inexpensive investment. Prior to your next permanent change of station or if you are currently living in on- or off-base housing, contact your local Housing Management Office by going to http://www.housing.af.mil/.

DIRECTORY OF

# local worship services

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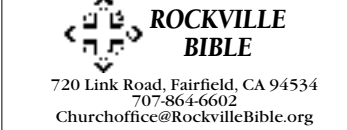
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**Wednesday:**  
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## Amputee

From Page 12

through several more surgeries after his initial amputation on Dec. 17, 2014, as the same leg became infected multiple times. His last surgery in February 2015, left him with three quarters of his left leg.

During his roughly two-month stay at the hospital, Kevin recalled always being surrounded by family, friends and co-workers.

"I definitely felt loved in the hospital," said the Brooklyn, New York, native. "My immediate family was always there of course, but my Air Force Reserve family surprised me. I knew people in the unit cared, but there was no mistaking it on the drill weekends when I'd have like 40 people coming to visit me. The staff didn't even know what to do with that many visitors.

The love and camaraderie I felt within my unit is the driving factor in my wanting to continue to serve."

Greene said the support and mentorship he received from the squadron's superintendent, Chief Master Sgt. Dorlen Martin, was especially meaningful.

"I remember Chief Martin visiting me often and just putting me at ease," he said. "I felt like her energy and positivity was at the root of my support system as she motivated others to rally around me."

Martin said she will never forget that first hospital visit.

"It takes a lot to make me cry," she said. "He's just such a jokester. He's always making light of everything."

"When he told me they took his leg, I thought he was joking. I said 'Kevin that's not funny.' When he pulled back the covers I had to walk out of the room."

Martin said she couldn't let Greene see her cry because he

would have focused on her, when he should be focusing on himself.

"Airman Greene has always been one of our shiny pennies," she recalled thinking back to when he first joined the 920th ASTS in June 2012. "He definitely lives the core values and is always pushing himself to new limits and stepping up to challenges. Even in the hospital, the first thing he wanted to know was when he could come back to work."

Unfortunately, Greene found out the hard way that donning the Air Force uniform again wasn't an easy feat. During his first year of recovery, he had a lot of work ahead of him to get back into top physical shape.

"I went into the hospital at 182 pounds and I left at 120 pounds," he said. "I was in my wheelchair a lot those first few months, and I wasn't eating."

After getting fitted with his first prosthetic in March 2015, he decided the road to recovery was best walked.

"It was a tough first few months out of the hospital," he said. "I knew I needed a change of scenery and to really test out my leg, so a good friend of mine took me on a road trip to my hometown, Brooklyn. We just walked the streets of New York for a week straight. It was exactly what I needed."

After returning to Florida, Greene decided it was time to get a job again, while he continued

to physically ready himself for military service. He followed his passion of working with kids at a local recreation center and coaching youth basketball at a nearby high school.

"Coaching and traveling with the team to different camps that summer was a blessing," he said. "I was able to stop focusing on my problems and focus on developing and training the guys to not only be better athletes, but people and to value their time. I used myself as the example of how to not take things for granted."

After a year in recovery, Greene's unit submitted his first participation waiver to Air Force Reserve Command to be able join them on drill weekends. It was denied. He then faced an initial review in lieu of board in January 2016, which was also denied. But Greene refused to quit.

"Pushing through the boards, we encouraged him not to give up," Martin said. "If you want to serve, fight it. If they say no, challenge it. Just keep fighting, and he did, every single board."

Greene's next step was to submit a world-wide duty request in the spring, which was again denied by AFRC.

"It was discouraging at times; I'm not even gonna lie," he said. "But I knew I was meant to be a Reservist. There are opportunities to be had in the Air Force that you just can't get anywhere

else. I was thriving in the Reserve before my accident, and I just wanted that sense of purpose and pride that comes with the uniform back again."

While Greene continued to fight to serve his country, he discovered another calling along the way – helping autistic children.

"I was interning at the Educational Center of Brevard over the summer as a coach working with autistic children, and I just fell in love with it," he recalled. "I've always enjoyed working with youth, but working with children who really, deeply needed help just spoke to me."

That September, Greene applied for a position at Kaledoscope Interventions, where he works with lower functioning, nonverbal autistic children ages 3-8.

"Kevin's worked here a little over a year, and we absolutely love him," said Pamela Holz, owner and co-founder of Kaledoscope Interventions. "I remember last summer one of our non-verbal children had noticed that Mr. Kevin's leg was a little different than everyone else's and instead of being embarrassed, he owned it."

"He took off his leg and showed the child that this is what Kevin has," she continued. "He explained that he didn't let it stop him. He does that with every single child. He tells them that nothing's going to stop you."

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# Jack

From Page 2

an active-duty officer.

The Air Force Culture and Language Center initiated LEAP in 2009 to develop a cadre of Airmen across all specialties with working-level foreign language proficiency and to lead the U.S. Air Force in building a cross-culturally competent total force to meet the demands of the service's dynamic global mission. As LEAP members, Airmen are offered several avenues for sharpening existing or newly acquired language skills, including online courses, special projects, cultural immersion trips and short-term internships.

While I was on casual status just prior to starting pilot training, I was given my first

opportunity to travel to Brazil as an officer through LEAP. I attended a small language school for three weeks outside the city of Recife, which is situated along the northern coast of the country. There I took classes daily with two other officers, and we were given plenty of time to explore the surrounding area in the afternoons and on weekends. It was an extraordinary opportunity to continue learning Brazil's language and culture while sharpening my skills.

Despite the intense operations tempo of the 9th at Travis, LEAP was able to find a language opportunity for me this coming fall. I will be traveling to Lisbon, Portugal, where I will attend classes and work at the U.S. embassy for three weeks. Apart from an online class and intensive personal study, it will be the first time in

almost four years that I will be re-immersed in the Portuguese language. I'm looking forward to this trip, but there's another trip I need to focus on first – I'll be deploying to Southeast Asia at the end of August for the third time in just over a year in the KC-10.

It's amazing to be involved in such a dynamic organization that requires its members to always be ready for the next challenge. Flying the KC-10 is my primary job and I'm constantly sharpening my abilities as a pilot and as an aircraft commander in training. But I always keep in mind that sometime in the future, I could be called upon to use my other abilities in support of AMC's dynamic global mission. That's why it's not out of the ordinary to see me with a stack of Portuguese flashcards in my hands during rest periods in Southeast Asia.

# Misuse

From Page 1

abuse of a controlled substance in violation of Article 112A of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. In other words, prescription drug misuse and abuse is considered the same category of offense as the use of any other controlled substance, such as narcotics.

The USAF has made it clear, there is zero tolerance on prescription drug abuse and has recently revised its own disciplinary regulations, particularly affecting the officer corps. If any disciplinary action is completed against an officer for drug abuse, including misuse of prescriptions, separation actions will be initiated. The update to Air Force Instruction 36-3206, Administrative Discharge Procedures for Commissioned Officers, further explains that there is no time limitation on separation actions, and the separation will be valid unless a waiver is actively sought and approved.

Officer retirements can also be adversely affected: Any

officer applying for retirement who has received non-judicial punishment in the previous four years will automatically go up for an Officer Grade Determination Board.

These regulation changes reflect the sentiment that prescription drug abuse undermines the good order and discipline of the Air Force. The changes also hold officers to the same standard already in place for enlisted members.

In the military, drug misuse is often identified through random urinalysis screenings. When a member tests positive for a drug not identified in their military records, the member's commander is required to initiate an investigation, not only creating a stressful event for the member, but also straining the unit's and the base's resources.

To avoid accidental misuse, military members should treat every prescription as a controlled substance. Once prescriptions have served their purpose and/or expired, people should dispose of them immediately to avoid confusion or temptation.

# Teachers

From Page 4

say 'I can't do something yet,' then the possibility exists in your mind that one day, you'll get there. It also helps establish a growth mindset. It's a big thing for math and life. It applies to everything."

Across the hall from Kleinman's classroom is Room B-5, where Nonato Icatar, a retired Air Force technical sergeant from the Philippines, who also earned his teaching credential through Troops to Teachers, teaches 5th grade students.

His classroom is decorated with motivating messages and artwork. The next day's classroom schedule is on the board.

Icatar began teaching at TES in August 2016 after a decade teaching math, English language arts, science and more to elementary and middle school students in Vallejo, California.

He said he knew he wanted to be a teacher when he retired in April 2005 after his final assignment with the then 60th Services Squadron at Travis AFB.

"I was an (Airman) Leadership School instructor and I enjoyed being in the classroom," he said. "There are differences when teaching children and Airmen, but I enjoy it. It's challenging, but I don't think of it as work, it's something I want to do."

Airman Leadership School is the first level of professional military education for enlisted Airmen and prepares senior airmen to serve as first line supervisors. Icatar served as a PME instructor at Misawa Air Base, Japan and Travis AFB.

He said, as a teacher, he now looks forward to Mondays.

"I look forward to Mondays now because I'll be back in the classroom teaching the kids," he said. "When I was in the Air Force I hated Mondays and looked forward to Fridays. The students are so energetic and excited to learn. That excitement energizes me."

Helping children achieve their greatest potential and instilling confidence in them is one of the best things about being a teacher, said Icatar.

"Some students may say, 'I'm not good at something like writing,' and the next thing you know they're writing a

five-paragraph essay and they can't stop," he said. "Others start panicking prior to giving a presentation and they're shocked how well they do sometimes. They get this big smile on their faces and you can't erase that smile for an entire week."

"That's where I get my gratification," Icatar added. "Instilling that confidence in the children is so important. That's why I teach."

Instilling confidence is a must, said Kleinman, as well as enhancing understanding and providing examples where children see how classroom concepts apply to life outside of school.

"A big focus this year will be helping enhance the kids' math skills and knowledge," he said. "Many children struggle with understanding the order of operations and working with word problems, while some kids think they don't need math."

"I'll ask them, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?'" said Kleinman.

Some children say they want to be doctors.

"I explain that if you're going to be a doctor, you're going to use math to figure out many

things such as the proper dosage of medication for someone who weighs 150 pounds and someone else who weighs 200 pounds," said Kleinman. "Doctors must also learn organic chemistry and there's a lot of math in that."

Kleinman recalled teaching a lesson on fractions when one of his students asked 'When am I going to use fractions?'

"She said she wanted to be a baker so I used an example of baking a cake," he said. "If you're going to bake a cake you're going to need a half of

something, a quarter of something else and how big of a bowl do you need for all that? You can figure that out with fractions."

It's critical for children to learn as much as they can because they'll likely be more successful in life, added Icatar.

"It's so important to foster a love of learning early and to build upon that year to year," he said. "Once a student has two positive consecutive school years, you have a student for life."




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# Gold Star


From Page 9

recreational facilities, commissaries or base exchanges, it does permit them to receive care through the Air Force Families Forever program. This platform provides military survivor seminars, grief camps for young survivors, peer mentors and casualty care assistance to anyone grieving the death of a loved one who served in the military.

Prior to the implementation of this program, family members had to be escorted on base by an ID card holder, which was not always an option available to them.

"Family members are critical in making sure our Airmen are resilient," said Brig. Gen. Kathleen Cook, the Air Force Services director. "This program reminds family members that they are still part of the greater Air Force family and is just one more way of showing them we value what they bring."


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NEW CONSTRUCTION, COUNTRY LIVING IN BIRDS LANDING 4 brdm. 2.5 ba., L/R, FP, formal D/R, F/R, lg. kit/eating area, SS appl., inside laundry. Fenced yard, 2 car detached gar., cent. H/A. \$2250/mo. + dep., incl. W/G. 415-235-0874

### 0329 VACAVILLE HOMES FOR RENT

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### 0343 ROOMS FOR RENT

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Waterfront extra large room w/private bath. \$700/mo + 1/3 util., off st. prkg. 707-628-4840

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**0818 CADILLAC**  
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1) Capt. Brent Burklo, 6th Air Refueling Squadron, shows his mom, Terri Burklo, the flight deck of a KC-10 Extender Aug. 26 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Both flew as passengers on an orientation flight. This marked the first flight for Captain Burklo since being diagnosed with cancer earlier this year.

# Flight gives family members ... PERSPECTIVE

U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Joseph Swafford

2) A KC-10 Extender takes off for an orientation flight Aug. 26 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.  
3) Capt. Brent Burklo, 6th Air Refueling Squadron, and his mom, Terri Burklo, pose for a photo before the flight.



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