



Travis lends hand in ... **MEXICO**

PAGES 16-17



Simple ‘thank you’ can go a long way

In today’s instant gratification world, we are easily disgruntled if something doesn’t happen immediately. Because we are used to our cell phones and social media, we have become less and less inclined to deal with the human element of the mission. For example, when we have to call in a trouble ticket, most folks are already irritated and tend to take out their frustrations on the already undermanned and underappreciated help desk personnel. I have been guilty of this myself. I recently had to call in my own trouble ticket, which took over a week to resolve. I was definitely



Commentary by Lt. Col. Jasmine Simms
321ST AIR MOBILITY OPERATIONS SQUADRON

frustrated. Worse, when I realized I had to actually go over to the communications focal point, I was dreading it because we all know that means my issue was not going to be resolved quickly. As I waited in the CFP for the senior airman to fix my iPhone, I was amazed at his speed and knowledge. As he tackled many network issues to fix my phone, I watched in awe. It took him over an hour to complete the task. When he finally finished his task, he actually jumped for joy and was very proud to tell me he had closed my trouble ticket. I said thank you and told him how much I appreciated what he

Commander’s Commentary

than we have ever been. We answer the call of our nation not just overseas, but here at home as seen recently with hurricane relief efforts launched to the East Coast and Puerto Rico. I never miss the chance to thank Airmen who work for me and those who help my squadron accomplish the mission. A simple thank you can be the extra kick your Airman needs after a long day on the road or here at home. Thanking your Airmen will let them know you truly appreciate that they had to miss that Little League game or ballet recital. Thanking your Airmen and acknowledging a job well done doesn’t change the fact that they have missed birthdays, first steps or high school graduations, but it surely takes a little of that sting away. To know

what you do is appreciated and that your efforts benefited the mission makes those long hours more worthwhile. Saying thank you lets your Airmen know that you are watching them, that you do notice their efforts and you appreciate their time. I have witnessed many Airman stand up a little straighter, smile after long shifts and beam with pride after hearing a simple thank you. We all have a life outside of the Air Force and we all have our own stresses. So don’t take your Airmen for granted. Take the time to observe their efforts and acknowledge their hardships and successes. Saying thank you is not a participation trophy-type event. It is the surest way to acknowledge what your Airmen do for your Air Force on a daily basis.

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Commentary by Senior Master Sgt. Michael Dean
321ST AIR MOBILITY OPERATIONS SQUADRON

Are you ready? Air Force calls on prepared

Growing up in the Midwest, I loved to play sports. In fact, there wasn’t a sport I wasn’t fond of. However, the sport I loved most and was best at, was football. In middle school, I was on the field the majority of the game because of my boundless, natural gifts and abilities. Oh, and the fact we simply didn’t have a lot of players to choose from. When I got to high school, the competition became much stiffer and I quickly found myself watching

Enlisted Commentary

the game from the sideline. Initially, I was upset as I thought the coaches didn’t know what they were doing. Eventually, I resigned myself to the fact that some of my teammates were simply better than I was at that time. One day, my father gave me some of the best advice I’ve ever received: “Michael, you never know when your number will be called and you have to always be ready to

go.” Internalizing this and taking it to heart, I was driven to be the first one in the weight room in the morning and vowed that no one was going to finish before me during wind sprints at the end of practice. Then, it happened. The starting tight end got hurt and I quickly found myself in the game. All the hard work and preparation were being put to the test. The countless hours memorizing plays and practicing blocking and pass catching soon paid off as we went on to win the game and eventually play

in the state championship. Earlier this year, Air Force senior leaders unveiled five new Air Force priorities; one of which is “Restore Readiness ... to win any fight, any time.” In the 321st Air Mobility Operations Squadron, one of the commander’s priorities is “Always ready.” Recently, the 321st AMOS found themselves quickly pivoting from the Korean peninsula to relief in support of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. A number of members were called

See DEAN Page 23

Twin brothers happy to serve together at Travis

Louis Briscese

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It’s not uncommon for siblings to serve together at the same duty station, but for the Tuazon brothers, their assignment at Travis Air Force Base, California, is a bit more unique. The identical twin brothers, from Alameda, California, are not only assigned to Travis, they are the same rank, assigned to the same squadron and share the same office. Master Sgt. Rico Tuazon, 60th Communications Squadron, client support section chief and Master Sgt. Rolan Tuazon, 60th CS, network operations section chief, have been stationed together since February. “It was cool when I found out Rico was coming to Travis,” said Rolan. “I got my assignment at Travis through a follow-on from a remote I did in Korea and Rico ended up doing the same thing.” Rico was also excited about the opportunity to serve at the same duty station with his brother. “I felt great when I found out I was coming to Travis,” said Rico. “I was excited to get stationed with my brother for the first time ever.” Although they have been serving in the Air Force for 17 years now, this is the first time they have been stationed together. “The closest we had been stationed together prior to Travis was when I was at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas and Rolan was at basic training,” said Rico. “I was able to pick him up on one of his liberty days and take him back to Randolph.” The brothers come from a military background. Their father served 20 years in the Air Force, but he never pushed either of them to follow his footsteps. “Our father was very open to what my brother and I were going to do with our lives,” said Rolan. “He never pushed us to join. He just informed us of the positives and negatives and let us figure it out for ourselves.” Despite their father’s openness, the brothers always felt they would follow the same path



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

Master Sgt. Rolan Tuazon, left, and his twin brother, Master Sgt. Rico Tuazon, assigned to the 60th Communications Squadron, pose for a photo in their office Sept. 20 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The brothers are stationed at Travis, have the same rank, are assigned to the same squadron and share the same office.

of serving in the Air Force. “We’re military brats. The Air Force was such a huge part of our lives growing up” said Rico. “I think in the back of our minds, we always felt that the Air Force would be the place we ended up at.” Rico joined the Air Force right out of high school while Rolan attempted school first. “I finished off a semester at school and realized it just wasn’t for me,” he said. While serving, the brothers communicated often to keep each other informed on matters back home and encourage each

other as they progressed in their careers. “A lot of our communication had to do with family, video games and personal stuff” said Rico. “We didn’t talk much about Air Force stuff unless we got promoted or did something significant.” Throughout their careers, the hope of serving together was always a dream of theirs. “We have always had aspirations to be stationed together,” said Rolan. “Unfortunately, up until now, we never had that opportunity.” Now, 17 years later, the

identical twins find themselves sharing the same office, in the same unit, wearing the same rank. That combination tends to cause some confusion for some people. “There’s sort of a shock value when people come into the office and see us sitting here,” said Rolan. “They do a double take and make sure they aren’t losing their minds.” Lt. Col. Thomas Stady, 60th Communications Squadron, commander, of the gets a kick out of having the brothers in the same unit. “Rolan had been here for a

while,” said Stady. “When I saw the name Tuazon on the inbound chart I joked and asked him if he was coming back here, Rolan told me it was his brother and that, not only were they the same rank, but they are also twins.” Stady has resorted to calling the brothers by their first names during staff meetings so there’s no confusion. His staff, likes to play jokes and refer to the brothers by their last name. “Others in the squadron would joke with me and say Master Sgt. Tuazon is taking care of that,” said Stady. “I’d

See BROTHERS Page 22

Tailwind



Travis AFB, Calif.
60th Air Mobility Wing

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60th Air Mobility Wing commander

2nd Lt. Jessica Ward
Chief of command information

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Jonathon D. A. Carnell
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On the cover

A C-17 Globemaster III from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., arrives Sept. 23 at Benito Juárez International Airport, Mexico City, Mexico. At the request of the Mexican government, the C-17 and its six-member crew assist humanitarian aid to Mexico.

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



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jonathon D. A. Carnell

From left to right, Airman 1st Class Dylan Manning, Airman 1st Class Brendan Picklesimer, Airman 1st Class John Harris and Airman 1st Class Mark Schliner all assigned to the 60th Maintenance squadron fabrication flight, pose for a photo in Bldg. 803. The 60th MXS and the 364th Recruiting Squadron came together to reconstruct and refurbish a model F-22 Raptor, which will be used as a recruiting tool throughout Northern California.

Travis helps restore, refurbish model F-22

Airman 1st Class Jonathon D. A. Carnell
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 60th Maintenance Squadron fabrication flight refurbished and delivered a model F-22 Raptor to the 364th Recruiting Squadron Sept. 21 at McClellan Air Force Base, California.

The project brought the 364th RS and the 60th MXS together, volunteering time and resources to enhance recruiting efforts and save the Air Force an estimated \$10,000.

When the 60th MXS was told about Air Education Training Command's objective with the model F-22 they made

it their own, said Tech. Sgt. Sharron Craft, 364th Recruiting Squadron recruiter.

"The F-22 restoration project is a significant part of displaying the Air Force image while striving to maximize local efficiencies amidst a fiscally constrained environment," said Lt. Col. Claudio Covacci, 60th MXS commander. "Our refurbishment efforts paid dividends in recapitalizing a piece of Air Force equipment for future recruitment events."

After recently obtaining his five-level certification, Airman 1st Class Brendan Picklesimer, 60th MXS aircraft structural maintenance journeyman, was eager to take on

the challenge of refurbishing the F-22.

"This was my first job with minimal instruction," said Picklesimer. "Fiberglass repair, painting and stenciling were some of my major roles on the model F-22. It was a really great experience."

After straightening out the bent attachment rods so the wings could be hung, Picklesimer and his team accomplished a complete overhaul consisting of over 30 fiberglass repairs to the body, a full paint job with decals and all electrical rewiring.

"Working with our Air Force family and having real teamwork has helped us save

time and money on this F-22 refurbishing project," said Craft.

The model F-22 is one sixth the size in size of an actual F-22 and helps display the Air Force image during recruiting events.

"I am extremely proud of our team that volunteered their personal time to restore the F-22," said Covacci. "They fully understand the importance of AETC's mission in recruiting enlisted Airmen, officers and healthcare professionals. Our recruiters not only represent the U.S. Air Force to the public but also recruit the USAF's most precious resource: its human capital."

See DGMC Page 19

DGMC ranks high in surgery programs

Merrie Schilter-Lowe
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Out of 680 hospitals in the nation, David Grant USAF Medical Center is one of 68 to achieve "meritorious" status in the American College of Surgeons National Quality Improvement Program for 2016, according to a Sept. 19 ACS announcement.

The goal of ACS NSQIP is to reduce surgical infection, illness and death related to a surgical procedure and provide a foundation for surgeons to apply the best scientific evidence to the practice of surgery.

This is the second consecutive year that the medical center at Travis Air Force Base, California, has achieved this rating, "and DGMC is the only Department of Defense site to achieve this for two years in a row," said Col. (Dr.) Rachel Hight, 60th Surgical Operations Squadron commander.

Hight called the recognition "an enormous team effort."

Col. (Dr.) Michael Higgins, 60th Medical Group commander, also attributed the recognition to the entire DGMC team of clinicians, support staff and patients.

"This rating is important to our team as an external benchmark and validation of our focus and commitment to the highest standards of care," said Higgins. "While far from perfect, we aim each day to earn trust from our patients through open and transparent communication with a focus on safety and quality."

Hospitals that participate in NSQIP can expect not only to prevent surgical complications, but also save lives and reduce medical costs.

"ACS NSQIP is focused only on the rate of complications following surgery," said Maj. (Dr.)

See DGMC Page 19

Travis ready to host fire prevention week

Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 60th Civil Engineer Squadron fire emergency services flight at Travis Air Force Base, California, is scheduled to host Fire Prevention Week activities, Oct. 8-14.

Travis FES is scheduled to support the campaign through various on-base activities held throughout the week aimed at offering a broader understanding of the FES's role in the Travis mission and the basics of fire safety.

Fire Prevention Week is a nationwide campaign that focuses on educating and training the public in the basics of proactive fire safety. Originally proclaimed by President Calvin

Coolidge in 1925, Fire Prevention Week has become an annual commemoration of the lives lost as a result of fire-related incidents and an opportunity to inform the public of the importance of fire prevention, according to the National Fire Protection Agency website.

"This is our one time of the year to promote what we do as a fire department and fire prevention itself," said Staff Sgt. Scott B. Finan, a 60th CES fire prevention inspector. "Our goal during the entire week is to teach. If a fire were to occur, we want people to know what to do, and if a fire were to possibly occur, we want them to know how to prevent it."

Base activities during the week include static fire truck displays in front of the Travis

Base Exchange, fire safety demonstrations at local elementary schools and fire safety courses at the Travis Mini Mall.

In keeping with this year's Fire Prevention Week theme of "every second counts, plan two ways out," the fire safety courses will teach proactive fire management by illustrating the do's and don'ts of exiting a house fire.

"We feel it's important to instill the principles of fire safety early on in someone's life so that they can carry at least the basic techniques of fire prevention with them throughout their lives," said Finan.

Fire Prevention Week comes amid a devastating year for California in terms of wildfires.

See PREVENTION Page 24



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad

Staff Sgt. Scott B. Finan, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron fire prevention inspector, stands ready to answer a fire emergency call Sept. 21 at Fire Station No. 2 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Fire Station No. 2 is scheduled to host a Fire Prevention Week open house at 10 a.m. Oct. 14.

Defense consolidates shipments for goods, cars

Michael P. Kleiman
U.S. TRANSPORTATION COMMAND

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — The U.S. Transportation Command is now the single manager of the Defense Personal Property Program, or referred to as DP3, which oversees the Defense Department's household goods and privately owned vehicle shipment programs.

For the past eight years, the U.S. Army's Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, a USTRANSCOM component, directed the DP3. During the same timeframe, USTRANSCOM guided the Defense Personal Property System, or referred to as DPS, the DP3's electronic application that offers 24-hour access throughout the entire move process via the website www.move.mil. While administered by two separate units, the DP3 and its web interface, DPS, did

See CONSOLIDATES Page 24



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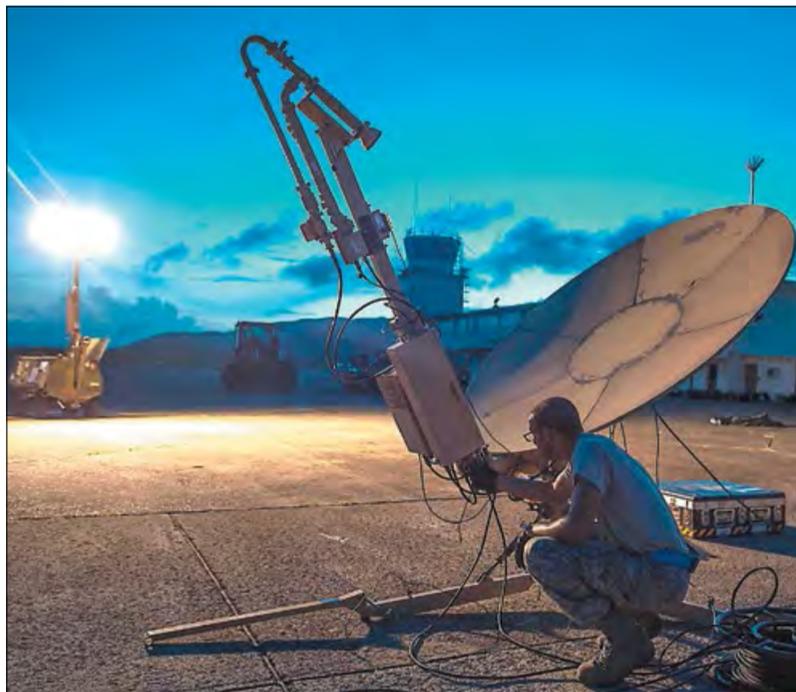
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Travis Airmen aid in Puerto Rico



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Robert Hicks
Staff Sgt. Trevor Black, 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron small package initial communications element technician, checks wires on a satellite communication antenna Sept. 25 at Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. A 70-member contingency response element from the 821st Contingency Response Group stationed at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., deployed to Puerto Rico in support of Hurricane Maria relief efforts.

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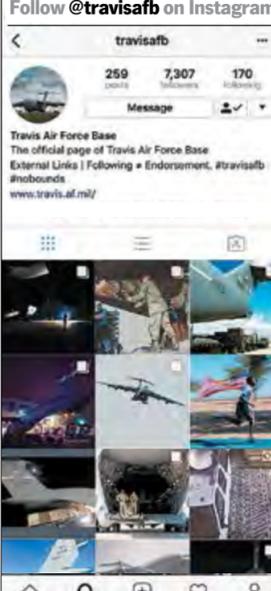


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Superintendent addresses racial slurs at Academy

U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The Air Force Academy superintendent addressed cadets, faculty, staff and cadet candidates Sept. 28 in the wake of racial slurs recently written on the dormitory message boards of five African-American cadets at the Academy's Preparatory School.

"If you're outraged by those words, then you're in the right place," said Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria. "That kind of

behavior has no place at the prep school, has no place at USAFA and has no place in the United States Air Force."

Silveria advised cadets to engage in open discussion on the topic and focus on solutions.

"What we should have is a civil discourse and talk about these issues," he said. "That's a better idea."

He referenced current race issues across the country, to include Charlottesville,

See ADDRESSES Page 21

Actions have consequences

60th Air Mobility Wing Judge Advocate

Law and Order is a recurring feature detailing the previous month's military justice matters at Travis.

During the month of August, one airman received final action from a court-martial, four airmen received final review of nonjudicial punishment under Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice, and 12 airmen were involuntarily separated.

The following are tools used by commanders as a means of punishment, rehabilitation and maintaining unit good order and discipline.

Law and Order



Instruction 90-507, a violation of Article 92, UCMJ. A panel of officers found the member not guilty to the violation of Article 112a and guilty to the violation of Article 92, UCMJ. The sentence consisted of a dismissal from the United States Air Force.

Courts-martial

60th Surgical Operations Squadron

A major from the 60th SGCS pled not guilty to a general court-martial to one specification of wrongful use of marijuana, violation of Article 112a, UCMJ, and one specification of dereliction of duty for failing to comply with Air Force

Nonjudicial punishment (Article 15s)

22nd Airlift Squadron

A senior airman received an Article 15 for assault consummated by a battery, a violation of Article 128, and being drunk and disorderly, a violation of Article 134, UCMJ. Punishment consisted of a suspended

reduction to the grade of airman first class, forfeiture of \$1,062 pay and a reprimand.

60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

A senior airman received an Article 15 for violating a general order, a violation of Article 92, UCMJ. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to the grade of airman first class and a reprimand.

A staff sergeant received an Article 15 for violating a general order, a violation of Article 92; unlawful entry and drunk and disorderly, both violations of Article 134, UCMJ. Punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of senior airman, three days of extra duty and a reprimand.

60th Dental Squadron

An airman first class received an Article 15 for failure to obey an order and dereliction of duty, both violations of Article 92, UCMJ. Punishment consisted of reduction to the grade of airman, 15 days of extra duty and a reprimand.

Administrative separation actions

6th Air Refueling Squadron

An airman basic from the 6th ARS was administratively discharged for minor disciplinary infractions with a general service characterization.

60th Air Mobility Wing Staff Agencies

An airman from the 60th AMW Staff Agencies was administratively discharged for minor disciplinary infractions with a general service characterization.

9th Air Refueling Squadron

A staff sergeant from the 9th ARS was administratively discharged for conditions that interfere with military service with an honorable service characterization.

60th Operations Support Squadron

An airman basic from the 60th OSS was administratively discharged for drug abuse with a general service characterization.

An airman from the 60th OSS was administratively discharged for drug abuse with a general service characterization.

See LAW Page 23

Air Force Band makes Bay Area stop



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

Tech. Sgt. David McDonald of the U.S. Air Force Band's Airmen of Note assigned to Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, D.C., performs Oct. 2 during a clinic with over 200 students from El Cerrito High School in El Cerrito, Calif. The group of 18 active duty musicians, including a vocalist, visited the area as part of their fall tour and educational outreach program.

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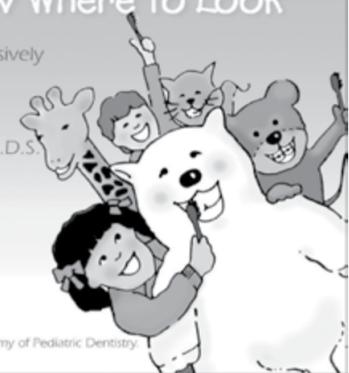
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Plaque prepares to change location



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad

Capt. Sarah M. Wyche, 60th Logistic Readiness Squadron base level broadening program officer, removes a plaque from a pedestal dedicated to Lt. Gen. Glen R. Birchard, located outside the 349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron Sept. 26 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Birchard was the Western Transport Air Force commander at Travis AFB from July 1961 to July 1963. Birchard died in June 1967 near Anchorage, Alaska, when a plane he was on crashed shortly after takeoff. The plaque is scheduled to be displayed along with others in the soon-to-be built Travis Memorial Park.

Air Force psychologist considers social media's role in suicide prevention

Peter Holstein
AIR FORCE SURGEON GENERAL
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Social media connects more people than ever before, but these contacts may not be the type that help build resiliency. Strong interpersonal connections play a critical role in suicide prevention.

Used correctly, social media can be an important tool in the suicide prevention toolbox for commanders, friends, and family.

When people associate social media with suicide, it is often in a negative way. We think of cyber-bullying or lonely teenagers with thousands of virtual friends but none in real life. Those examples do exist and are a serious concern, says Lt. Col. Alicia Matteson, chief of Air Force suicide prevention

programs. However, she says that social media can also play a valuable role in suicide prevention efforts, especially to help officers know the Airmen under their command.

"I recently served as a squadron commander, and I sometimes heard from the leaders in my organization that they were too busy to be connected to their Airmen," said Matteson. "It's true, we are very busy, but it is critical to take the time to know your Airmen, and what's going on in their lives, to ask the questions."

Keeping a finger on the emotional pulse of Airmen is extremely important for leaders to gauge the emotional well-being of their subordinates, and know when they may need additional assistance.

"Social media can be an effective tool to connect leaders

See ROLE Page 22

Innovation saves \$2M annually

Senior Airman Thomas T. Charlton
JOINT BASE CHARLESTON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE CHARLESTON, S.C. — The 437th Airlift Wing began modifying the C-17 Globemaster III aircraft with new mounts for the Electronic Flight Bag Sept. 25.

The new mounts will increase flight safety in C-17s and are estimated to save Air Mobility Command \$2 million in repairs annually.

The EFB allows the aircrew to digitally view aviation charts and publications. Previously, these documents were published on paper. EFBs augmented the paper publications until AMC eliminated the requirement to carry paper publications and allowed the sole use of EFBs for in-flight reference.

"The EFBs were being fastened to the side-view windows using suction cup mounts as a supplement to the original mount which was designed to hold the paper publications," said Lt. Col. Thomas Clark, 437th Operations Group deputy chief of standards and evaluations. "Since the paper version is no longer required, a permanent EFB mounting solution was in order. While requests to



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Thomas T. Charlton

Lt. Col. Thomas Clark, 437th Operations Group deputy chief of standards and evaluations, uses the new electronic flight bag mount modification Sept. 29 on Joint Base Charleston, S.C.

modify the plane with a permanent EFB mount had been submitted to the System Program Office years ago when the EFB was initially approved, they didn't gain traction until paper publications were no longer required and a costly maintenance trend with safety of flight implications was identified."

Lt. Col. Mike Coppola, 437th Maintenance Squadron commander, noted numerous Intercommunication Control Set panels being damaged on a weekly basis. The suction cup mounts were popping

off windows and hitting panels causing a maintenance backlog of repairs for the aircraft. ICS panels are used to communicate to other members on board other aircraft and air traffic control towers. The damage to the panels required costly repairs each year for AMC.

Upon being notified of the damage occurring to the aircraft, Col. Louis Hansen, 437th OG commander, brainstormed a fix with his team and worked with Col. Brian Peters, former 437th Maintenance Group

See INNOVATION Page 21



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Wyoming exercise tests defenders' capabilities



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Christopher Ruano

Airman from the 341st Security Support Squadron defend their position from enemy forces during the annual Road Warrior exercise Sept. 26 at Camp Guernsey, Wyo.

Airman 1st Class Breanna Carter
90TH MISSILE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

F.E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, Wyo. — Airmen from the 90th Missile Wing at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming; 91st MW at Minot AFB, North Dakota and the 341st MW at Malmstrom AFB, Montana, participated in the Road Warrior exercise Sept. 9-28 at Camp Guernsey, Wyoming.

The 20th Air Force's exercise has strategic and tactical benefits that contribute to the security of America's nuclear assets.

Road Warrior is a three-week

exercise that assesses nuclear convoy operations which are regularly conducted by the security forces, maintenance and helicopter groups. A convoy consists of a group of military vehicles secured by trained defenders which transports nuclear components.

"This is a tactical assessment to ensure that convoy personnel are as highly trained as possible to transport and protect the nuclear resource," said Lt. Col. Joseph Mannino, 20th Air Force chief of operations. "This is also an opportunity for us to assess tactics improvement in the execution of operations. It's the most critical thing we do as a missile wing due to the potential vulnerabilities during transport."

The assessment provided

participants the opportunity to apply their skills and tactics in a realistic training environment. During the exercise, teams were evaluated on how they reacted to a number of scenarios.

"When they come out here, they're evaluated on their performance as if they were in a real combat scenario," said Senior Airman Angelique Torrence, 620th Ground Combat Training Squadron formal training instructor. "We put them in the most stressful and most probable situations to see where they are and what can be improved."

Hosting the exercise at Camp Guernsey also allowed defenders from all three missile wings to use unfamiliar equipment in a new environment.

AMC leader seeks enhanced problem solving

Chief Master Sgt. Michael Hammond

AIR MOBILITY COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — The commander of Air Mobility Command spoke with a group of more than 150 airline representatives Sept. 26 to address pilot qualification and retention issues common to the Air Force and the airline industry.

Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II delivered the keynote address for the Regional Airlines Association annual convention at the Palm Beach County Convention Center in Florida. In addition, Everhart participated in smaller group discussion with the RAA board of directors during the event, which brought together executives from 15 regional airlines.

"There is great value in having a two-way, active discussion with industry representatives because getting after the pilot retention problem requires us to understand what the airlines are concerned about, just as we want them to see things from our perspective," Everhart said.

The general received feedback on the airlines' need for increased schedule predictability for pilots serving in the Air Reserve Component while highlighting the broad and continuing nature of Air Force and mobility operations around the world. The group discussed leveraging technology and addressing policy related to building qualified pilots, and further crystallized ways to work together on solutions to the Air Force's pilot retention issues that also consider the industry's need for qualified professional aviators like those with military background.

"One airline received a request to make 45 of his pilots available for duty - which created an unmanageable business strain. This is why we are working to better set requirements and schedules working toward a goal of at least 60 days in advance and examining non-flying deployments through the lens of necessity," the general said. "I did emphasize that we will look to improve in this



U.S. Air Force photo

Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II participated in smaller group discussion with the Regional Airlines Association board of directors during the group's annual convention, which brought together executives from 15 regional airlines.

area, but the world always has a vote. The recent string of hurricanes and the earthquake in Mexico may require reaching out short-notice for support. It is important (that) this is also understood."

Developing a larger pool of qualified pilots was discussed as a foundational necessity to building a better future scenario that can sustain the airline industry and military's need for professional aviators.

The airline executives and the AMC commander talked about ways to enhance educational quality and opportunities, particularly in schools near military installations. They collectively identified the need to partner in ways to reach students and inspire a passion for aviation and aviation maintenance as viable and exciting career choices.

Everhart spoke to the group about the developing concept of

establishing a National Training Academy with military and civilian tracks for attendees. Such an institution would enhance the supply chain of pilots, addressing the shallow

pool that currently contributes to competing for those resources between the Air Force and industry.

"Right now, we're starting to move past the concept stage and more toward making the National Training Academy a reality," Everhart said. "We're examining and refining three primary courses of action from which to decide. If approved at the Department of the Air Force level, I'd envision an initial operating capability in late 2019, with full implementation around the end of 2021."

The aviation industry representatives expressed a primary area of concern in that currently, there is a government-mandated 1,500-hour flight requirement for commercial airline pilots that cannot account for simulator time as flight hours. The sizable expense associated with accumulating the 1,500 in-cockpit flight hours makes the military a recruiting hotbed for the airlines.

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Travis aircrew returns after providing aid to Mexico



1

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

Airmen from the 21st Airlift Squadron and 860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron recently returned to Travis Air Force Base, California, after delivering aid and relief supplies to Mexico City.

At the request of the Mexican government, two C-17 Globemaster IIIs supported three missions to Mexico City and the southern state of Oaxaca to assist in relief efforts after a 7.1-magnitude earthquake struck Mexico Sept. 19.

"It was an absolute privilege to deliver hope to a nation in crisis," said Lt. Col. Erik Fisher, 21st AS commander. "These missions constitute 'grey-tail diplomacy.' When a Team Travis aircraft lands amidst a humanitarian disaster and delivers aid, the feeling of accomplishment is palpable."

One C-17 and six aircrew members from the 21st AS and the 860th AMXS departed Sept. 20 to March Air Reserve Base, California, where they picked up a 60-member U.S. Agency for International Development elite disaster team from the Los Angeles County Fire Department urban search and rescue team. The team included five canines and 62,000 pounds of equipment and medical supplies.

From March ARB, the aircraft continued to Mexico City to deliver the cargo and drop off the teams to aid in search and rescue efforts.

The crew was put into an alert status, where they sat and waited for the call to go and do whatever was required of them to fulfill the needs of the people, providing aid and supplies to Mexico, said Capt. Adam Cooper, 21st AS pilot.

"The Airmen of the 21st Airlift Squadron are always ready to answer the call," said Fisher. "Readiness and preparation is what we do. Our folks are trained to do a myriad of different missions, anything from the mission on the Korean peninsula to the mission in the Middle East, and part of that is preparing for humanitarian missions. Preparedness is a state of mind of being ready and flexible. With good training, our folks are able to be agile and do different mission sets and do them successfully."

A second C-17 departed for Oaxaca Sept. 21, stopping first at Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego, California, to load more than 31,000 pounds of hygiene and medical supplies from the Defense Logistics Agency. Supplies were delivered to Oaxaca the following day, where

they were parceled and redistributed to the most affected regions in Oaxaca and Chiapas.

"I didn't think anything special of it when I was sitting on alert, I didn't think anything special of it when we left Travis, but as soon as we got on the ground there were hundreds of the Mexican military waiting there to receive the aid that we had," said Cooper. "The Mexican military was waiting for us, our jet, specifically ours. When we landed, the ramp was clear and we opened up the back and they came in, taking down pallets and carrying out aid to load it on trucks to get it to the people that needed it."

The same C-17 and aircrew returned Sept. 23 with an additional 100,000 pounds of food and water; however, after a powerful 6.1 aftershock struck Oaxaca that morning and damaged the airport runway, the aircraft diverted mid-flight to Mexico City to deliver the supplies.

"We intended to land and offload our cargo to Ixtepec," said Fisher. "However, we were diverted in-flight to Mexico City, one of the busiest airports in the world, due to runway damage at Ixtepec. The crew efficiently worked together to gather information, devise a plan, and safely execute our arrival in order to deliver aid to those in need."

Logistical coordination, communication and teamwork were a constant throughout the mission. However, considerable flexibility was demanded of the 21st AS and 860th AMXS crew.

"Flexibility is the key to airpower," said Cooper. "Going into a location, you have to remind yourself, 'Hey, we're going here, we don't exactly know what the conditions are like, but we can prepare our best.' We have awesome training, now it's time to apply that training to that situation."

Over the years, Travis has executed countless humanitarian missions around the world. The relief efforts in Mexico are just one example of how the 21st AS and 860th AMXS projects rapid global mobility, providing humanitarian relief supplies anytime...anywhere.

"The men and women of the 21st Airlift Squadron 'set the airlift standard,'" said Fisher. "They trust in one another and our exceptional community is unparalleled. Our squadron makes the difficult seem easy, because of our Airmen's phenomenal effort and incredible attitudes each time they don their uniforms. It's the privilege of my life to work for these incredible Airmen."



2

1) Members of the Mexican army form an assembly line to transfer boxes of hygiene supplies from a U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III to a supply truck Sept. 22 at Ixtepec Airport, Oaxaca, Mexico. 2) Members of the Mexican air force, navy, army and marine corps form an assembly line to transfer boxes of hygiene and medical supplies from a U.S. Air Force C-17 onto supply trucks Sept. 22 at Ixtepec Airport, Oaxaca, Mexico. 3) A C-17 arrives at Ixtepec Airport, Oaxaca, Mexico Sept. 22.



3



4



5



6

4) A C-17 Globemaster III is prepared for cargo downloading after arriving Sept. 22 at Ixtepec Airport, Oaxaca, Mexico. At the request of Mexican civil authorities, the C-17 and its six-member crew from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., assisted U.S. efforts to provide humanitarian aid to Mexico by airlifting over 31,000 pounds of hygiene and medical supplies to the area after a 7.1-magnitude earthquake struck Mexico City Sept. 19. 5) Members of the Mexican air force, navy, army and marine corps push pallets of hygiene items from a C-17 onto supply trucks Sept. 22 at Ixtepec Airport, Oaxaca, Mexico. 6) Staff Sgt. Jeremy Carrillo, 860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron flying crew chief, pushes pallets of cargo onto a C-17 Sept. 22 at Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego, Calif.

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

Swap Ads

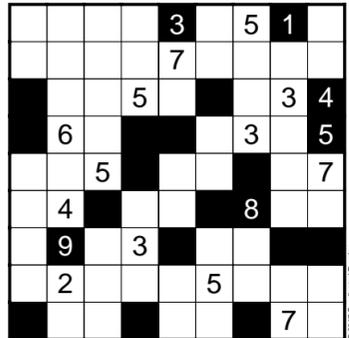
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Puzzles

STR8TS

No. 354 Medium



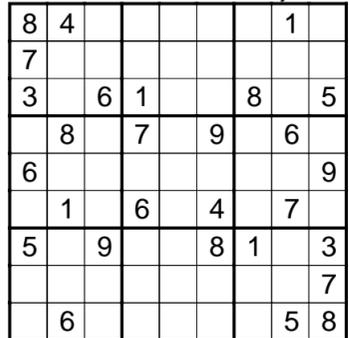
Previous solution - Easy



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. 354 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

Retired AF pilots welcome back on active duty

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Retired Air Force pilots holding Air Force Specialty Code 11X are encouraged to apply for the Voluntary Retired Return to Active Duty Program in order to fill rated staff positions to help alleviate the

existing manning shortages within the Air Force rated pilot community.

The Secretary of the Air Force approved VRRAD for implementation on July 11 as one of a wide range of initiatives the Air Force is pursuing to improve pilots' quality of life and quality of service in order to increase retention.

— Air Force News Service

News Notes

Road construction. Takes place at the intersection of Air Base Parkway at Clay Bank Road from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Oct. 5. Expected delays in each direction, as lanes will be controlled down to one in each direction. Due to this work, Clay Bank Road will be shut down with limited access Sept. 14-16. East and westbound traffic on Air Base Parkway attempting to use Clay Bank Road will be detoured onto Dover Avenue and Peabody Road, respectively. Traffic control and detour sign will be in place to assist drivers.

Flu shots available. Influenza season is rapidly approaching. Active duty members can annual get flu shots beginning Monday at the David Grant USAF Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, California. All other TRICARE beneficiaries can get immunized beginning Sept. 18. Flu shots are available in the Influenza Room, which is located on the first floor across from Internal Medicine. Flu shots are strongly recommended for high-risk populations, which includes children 5 years and younger, adults age 65 and older and pregnant women. For more information, call the Allergy and Immunization Clinic at 707-423-5107.

A Beautiful You. A free mini spa takes place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Travis Family Homes Housing Community Center at 1000 First Street. Open to everyone on base.

Lace Up for Domestic Violence and Breast Cancer Awareness 5k Fun Run/Walk. 4:30 to 7 p.m. Oct. 18 at the Travis Family Homes Community Center. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. and the event begins at 5 p.m. There will be guest speakers and prizes for the participants with the best purple outfit and pink outfit. Participants are encouraged to bring their families.

Hire G.I. event. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 19 at the Delta Breeze Club. Register at hiregi.com.

Travis Heritage Center Behind the Scenes Tour. 9:30 a.m. Nov. 2. Discover what it takes to make a heritage center function, learn about projects under way and find out how the staff preserve static aircraft for future generations to enjoy. Donuts and coffee provided. Free. To attend, call the office manager at 707-424-5883.

Chapel programs

News and information

Position available. The following non-personal service position is open for bid: Catholic parish coordinator. Basic specifications and qualifications can be found in the Statement of Work. No demonstration of skills is required. This contract will be awarded based on the "best value" to the government. Submit sealed bids by noon Nov. 2. Interested individuals should email Ch. Philip Smith to request a statement of work, application procedures letter, and basis of award letter. For more information contact Ch. Philip Smith at 424-3217 or philip.smith.31@us.af.mil

Recurring events

Catholic

Twin Peaks Chapel

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

In the next week...

fri **Ghost Walk.** 8 p.m. Oct. 6-7, Oct. 20-21, 90 Main St., downtown Benicia. 745-9791, www.beniciamainstreet.org.

North Bay Art and Film Festival. 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 6, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 7, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 8, Benicia venues. <https://northbayartfilmfest.com>.

Art, Wine & Chocolate Festival. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 7, Suisun City waterfront, Main and Solano Streets. Free admission. www.suisunwaterfront.com.

Family & Food Truck Fair. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 7, Jefferson and Texas streets, Fairfield. www.fairfieldmainstreet.com.

The Hub. Fantasy roleplaying, noon Oct. 7; Poetry by the Bay open mic, 6:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursdays, 350 Georgia St., Vallejo. www.thehubvallejo.com.

Sunday Supper in the Vines. 5 to 8 p.m. Oct. 8, Wooden Valley Winery, 4756 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield. 709-9022, www.solanolandtrust.org.

Haunted Vacaville Ghost Walk. 8 p.m. Oct. 11, 618 E. Main St. www.napaghosts.com.

wed **Haunted Vacaville Ghost Walk.** 8 p.m. Oct. 11, 618 E. Main St. www.napaghosts.com.

- 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 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 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 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.

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

Recurring

Air Force Office of Special Investigations. To report a crime, get a foreign travel brief or request information on joining AFOSI, report to Bldg. 380B, second floor. Send correspondence to AFOSI Detachment 303, 510 Airlift CR, Travis AFB, 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 at 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/1yNIBwV>.

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

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 travspocombatpsd@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://ppform.state.gov> and/or <https://travel.state.gov>.

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

Today
• 6:30 p.m. "Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets" (PG-13)
• 9 p.m. "It" (R)
Saturday
• 7 p.m. "The Foreigner" (R, free adv. screening)
Sunday
• 2 p.m. "The Nut Job 2: Nutty By Nature" (PG)

applying for government-issued, no-fee passport and other U.S. government agencies in the performance of official government business. This requirement does not apply to minors ages 16 or younger. However, it applies to sponsors. For more information, call 707-424-5324.

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

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

SGLI and vRED. The Record of Emergency Data, aka vRED, and the 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.

60th Air Mobility Wing Information Protection Office. The office has the following walk-in customer service window hours: 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday as well as window hours from 8 to 11 a.m. Friday. For emergencies, call 707-424-3114.

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

Toastmasters. The Travis Toastmasters meets at noon on the first and third Tuesday of the month in the USO Lounge. Toastmasters is an organization that helps people practice communication, as well as build on skills they already have. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call Nicole Culberhouse at 478-273-1760.

Travis Community Thrift Shop. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Ongoing need for volunteers to organize, sort and price donations. For more information, contact the Thrift Shop at 707-437-2370.

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

Travis Heritage Center. The facility is looking to add to its historical collection. It is

THE FLIP SIDE

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

Travis Legal Office. Power of attorney and notaries are walk-ins 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday. Legal assistance for active duty members and dependents are walk-ins from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday. For all wills and retiree legal assistance, call 707-424-3251 to make an appointment.

Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. The following Travis employees are approved as leave recipients through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program:

- Cheryl Brown, 60th Air Mobility Wing.
- Timothy Miller, 60th Medical Support Squadron.

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

Tuskegee Airman Lee A. Archer Chapter. Meets at 1 p.m. third Saturday of the month at Nut Tree Airport. For more information, call James Harris at 707-631-6361.

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

Ghost Tour. 8 p.m. Oct. 20, leaves from Virgil's Bait Shop, 201 Main St., Suisun City and 8 p.m. Oct. 21, leaves from Lawler House, 718 Main St., Suisun City. www.suisunwaterfront.com.

"Lunchtime Laughs." Noon the first Friday of each month, Vacaville Public Library-Town Square, 1 Town Square Place. Free. www.solanolibrary.com.

"Nightmare Island." 5 to 9 p.m. Oct. 6-8, Oct. 13-15, Oct. 20-22, Oct. 27-29, Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve, Railroad Avenue and Mercado Court, Mare Island. www.nightmareislandvallejo.com.

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

Vacaville Farmers Market. 8 a.m. to noon Oct. 7, Oct. 14, 300 Main St. www.downtownvacaville.com.

Vallejo Waterfront Weekend. Live music, car show, rubber duck race and more. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 8, Vallejo waterfront. Free admission. www.vallejowaterfrontweekend.com.

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

Wine Tasting on the Square. 5:30 p.m. Thursdays, through October, 700 Main St., Suisun City. www.facebook.com/SuisunHarborSquare.

Local events

Events

DGMC

From Page 4

Scott McCusker, 60th SGCS. “NSQIP is very much clinically focused and outcomes-based.”

McCusker and Maj. (Dr.) Jane Alston, 60th SGCS, headed the medical center’s NSQ-IP efforts.

The ACS considered a representative sample of surgical cases performed at DGMC and evaluated results for eight outcomes, including mortality, renal failure, cardiac incidents, pneumonia, surgical site infections, urinary tract infections and unplanned intubation, which means a patient’s breathing tube must be reinserted after surgery is complete. Hospitals are required to track this data and analyze the results.

“It gives us a grade on how well we are able to avoid common complications after surgery and we use this data to target process improvement measures so that they can be most effective,” said McCusker.

Since DGMC joined NSQ-IP about seven years ago, there has been “a sustained decrease” in catheter-related infections, which is a common and costly complication, said McCusker.

DGMC currently is focusing on decreasing repeat operations and readmission of patients.

“These are difficult, multifactorial problems that won’t be solved overnight or with one simple project,” said McCusker.

“Our current aim is to standardize and streamline the inpatient phase of postoperative care. This is part of a

multi-year military health service-wide collaborative project called the Surgeons Leading Quality Program.

“The program dovetails with an ACS program to help surgery patients recover quicker so they can get back to normal life sooner,” added McCusker.

By reducing adverse risk to patients, DGMC also can reduce the cost of a hospital stay following surgery. Currently, that is a minimum of \$5,000 per day.

“Our current goal is to reduce average post-op stay by half a day, which may not sound like a lot but translates into multiple millions of dollars over a year,” said McCusker.

With an operating staff of about 40 surgeons and 300 squadron members, DGMC performs about 2,500 surgeries per year.

Attaining ACS recognition means that the medical center “is significantly safer than the large majority of hospitals across the country, including the highest-ranked civilian hospitals,” said McCusker.

“And winning two years in a row shows that we are committed to maintaining this pattern of excellence and that the first award wasn’t just a fluke.”

The recognition also bolsters DGMC’s argument that it is “the flagship of Air Force Medicine as we are the only Air Force site and the only

DOD site to be named twice in a row.”

“Bottom line: We’re not just talking about ‘trusted care,’ we’re delivering it and have objective data to back up that claim,” said McCusker.

ACS is a scientific and educational organization founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical practice and improve the quality of care for surgical patients. The college has more than 80,000 members and is the largest organization of surgeons in the world, according to the agency’s website.

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Lead Pastor: C. Eric Lura

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- 10:30 AM * MORNING WORSHIP
- KID'z CHURCH Grades K-5th
- 10:00 AM WEDNESDAY SENIOR PRAYER
- 7:00 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT

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www.1agff.org
email: info@1agff.org

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Fairfield, CA 94533
Rev. Dr. Terry Long, Pastor

Sunday
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
Children's Church: 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday
Prayer Meeting: 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Bible Study: 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Web Site: www.stpaulfairfield.com
Email: stpaulbcfairfield@comcast.net
Church Phone: 707-422-2003

BAPTIST



Cooperates with The Southern Baptist Convention

Sunday Schedule:
Worship Service 8:00 am
Bible Study 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
Evening Prayer & Praise 6:00 pm

Wednesday Schedule:
Dinner (Sept-May) 4:45 pm
AWANA (Sept-May), Youth 6:00 pm
Adult Choir 6:30 pm
Adult Bible Study 10:00 am
1:30 pm, 3:30 pm & 6:30 pm

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AWANA Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.
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Children's Church 11:45 a.m.
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SUNDAY
Classes for all ages 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am
CORE Bible Studies 12:30 & 5:00 pm
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WEDNESDAY
Adult Studies 2:00 pm
AWANA for Kids 6:15 pm
Adult & Youth Studies 6:30 pm

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Addresses

From Page 8

Virginia, Ferguson, Missouri and the protests in the National Football League, and gave an example of a recent forum the dean of faculty hosted for cadets to discuss Charlottesville.

Silveria went on to talk about the power of diversity.

"It's the power that we come from all walks of life, that we come from all parts

of this country, that we come from all races, that we come from all backgrounds, gender, all make-up, all upbringing," he said. "The power of that diversity comes together and makes us that much more powerful."

Silveria left cadets with what he called his most important thought on the subject.

"If you can't treat someone from another race or different color skin with dignity and respect, then you need to get out," he emphatically

said. "If you can't treat someone with dignity and respect, then get out."

This was not the first time the new superintendent discussed the topics of dignity and respect. In his first address to cadets, faculty and staff in August, he made it clear where he stands, "If you want to find a red line with me, it will be in the area of respect and dignity."

Air Force Academy Security forces are investigating the incident.

Innovation

From Page 11

commander, to execute a trial installation of a concept that Clark proposed. Master Sgt. Andrew Preuss, 437th MXG maintenance engineering superintendent, aided in the demonstration and helped get the modification approved by AMC.

The 437th AW took this idea from prototype to implementation in six months. Approval

for most aircraft modifications takes longer to be approved, but a demonstration for Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, AMC commander, quickened the process.

"Travis Air Force Base (California) also implemented a prototype of our design and demonstrated it for the AMC commander during a visit to their installation," said Preuss. "After General Everhart saw the EFB mount, he pushed for the modification to be implemented on all C-17 aircraft assigned to AMC."

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Brothers

From Page 3

walk halfway down the corridor and realize they didn't tell me which Tuazon brother was working it."

Having the brothers share the same office due to some reorganization in the squadron has been a real benefit for the squadron as well.

"It's been awesome," said Stady. "We needed another Master Sgt. to break the flight up into halves." They just so happened to be the senior ranking, had the right Air Force specialty codes. The idea was to put those section chiefs together to get some synergy and they were the right ones."

The brothers also enjoy working hand in hand with one another because it makes it easier to get things done.

"It makes it a lot easier to tell my brother if I don't like something or if someone isn't doing something they're supposed to," said Rico. "You never know how someone is going to react when you tell them something like that. With my brother, I already know he's going to take it



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

Master Sgt. Rolan Tuazon, left, and his twin brother Master Sgt. Rico Tuazon assigned to the 60th Communications Squadron, pose for a photo in their office Sept. 20 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

to heart and fix it."

Rolan agrees that being brothers provides a bit more sense of urgency when

something needs to get done.

"Being stationed together has been everything I expected and more," said Rolan. "I know when I need something or he needs something, we're going to go out of our way to make sure we get it done because we're brothers."

Meanwhile, the brothers

are grateful to have this opportunity to serve together, especially towards the end of their careers.

"I could see us both retiring from Travis because we are close to the end of our careers," said Rico. "This would certainly be a great way to go out having served with my brother."

Role

From Page 10

to their Airmen, including civilians in the total force," said Matteson. "It can be texting groups, Facebook groups, or something else. It's a good way to get information out quickly, but it's also a means to look at what people are saying and posting."

Social media documents major life events, like the death of a loved one or a divorce that can be triggers for suicidal behavior. Sudden changes in online behavior, negative posts that are out of character, or even explicit contemplation of suicide, can all be warning signs.

"Sometimes, social media is where you will see the first sign that something is going wrong," said Matteson. "If their posts, or the tone of their posts change, if they are saying things that are uncharacteristic of them, or things like 'I'm done, I'm fed up, I hate my life,' it can be a sign that a leader needs to engage immediately."

Although social media can be an effective window into Airmen's inner thoughts, it is not necessarily the best tool to respond, says Matteson. An in-person interaction, or over the phone if that connection is not possible, is more likely to make an impact. The first line of defense against suicide is human interaction, and connecting with something bigger than yourself. Leaders can make their Airmen feel like valued members of the unit, and help build resiliency.

Preventing suicide is the responsibility of every member of the Air Force community, from the highest-ranking military and civilian leadership, all the way to the new enrollees in basic training. Using every tool to build connections strengthens relationships within a unit, and helps build a sense of community that is a valuable bulwark against feelings of isolation, depression, and substance abuse, all of which are major risk factors for suicide.

Visit Travis at [FACEBOOK.com/TravisAirForceBase](https://www.facebook.com/TravisAirForceBase)

Dean

From Page 2

upon to support the 601st Air Operations Center at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. The key to their success was that they were both physically and mentally ready to go when called upon. They did this by being worldwide qualified and having a personal contingency plan.

Are you physically prepared to work as long as needed to accomplish the mission? Are all of your affairs in order? Does your

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We do not plan the future and much of what happens to us is beyond our control. What we can do is prepare to deal with it when it rolls in. Are you ready to win any fight, any time? Are you ready to enter the game when your number is called?

Law

From Page 8

660th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

An airman first class from the 660th AMXS was administratively discharged for failure in the fitness program with an honorable service characterization.

60th Aerial Port Squadron

An airman from the 60th APS was administratively discharged for minor disciplinary infractions with a general service characterization.

An airman from the 60th APS was administratively discharged for minor disciplinary infractions with a general service characterization.

60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

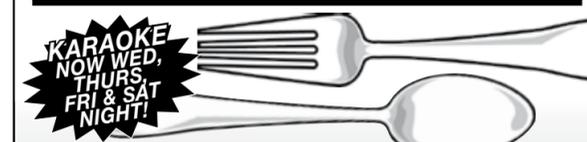
An airman from the 60th AMXS was administratively discharged for failure in the fitness program with an honorable service characterization.

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An airman from the 60th DS was administratively discharged for a pattern of misconduct with a general service characterization.

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Consolidates

From Page 5

not operate as effectively or efficiently as they could, prompting the consolidation of both under USTRANSCOM.

“Although DP3 met customers’ requirements, the program’s consolidation provides the unity of effort and alignment to enhance the relocation experience of military members, DoD civil servants, and their families,” said Army Col. Ralph Lounsbrough, USTRANSCOM’s Strategy, Capabilities, Policy, and Logistics Directorate Personal Property Division chief. “A consolidated DP3 management structure

also offers one entry point for program inquiries, requests, and concerns from the military branches and the moving industry.”

Program improvements will gradually occur, including an update to the www.move.mil website, with most in place for the peak moving season next summer. Planned website upgrades include making critical relocation procedural tips more user-friendly, understandable and accessible, as well as providing accurate key contact information for local assistance.

“In the vast majority of cases, the quickest resolution for move-related issues is through the installation transportation

or traffic management office. This won’t change under the DP3 consolidation,” stated Air Force Lt. Col. Todd Jensen, USTRANSCOM’s Personal Property Division chief of operations. “We don’t want any customer to struggle with the move process. If their questions aren’t being adequately addressed locally, they can elevate their concerns to USTRANSCOM.”

Even with a consolidated DP3, customers should plan ahead for a successful relocation by either visiting their local TMO or registering for a DPS account on www.move.mil prior to, or when they receive, their permanent change of station orders. Planning

ahead is the best way to ensure your move is a success.

“We’re more aware than ever that it’s not about the stuff we move, but it’s about the families we relocate and how you deliver exceptional customer service,” said Air Force Gen. Darren McDew, USTRANSCOM commander.

Observing its 30th anniversary yesterday, the U.S. Transportation Command continues to answer the Nation’s call, whether delivering an immediate and decisive force when and where needed, assuring unrivaled global expeditionary capability, or now, providing more efficient, effective, and customer-first relocation services.

Prevention

From Page 5

Both the La Tuna Fire in L.A. County and the Ponderosa Fire in Butte County have burned approximately 11,000 acres combined, over the course of the last month, according to the state of California’s official government website.

Living in the area that Travis Airmen do, it’s incredibly important to understand that being knowledgeable in fire prevention can be the difference between life and death, said Finan.

“Fires spread,” said Finan. “If you cause a fire, there’s an unbelievable amount of harm you can cause to the people around you. At the end of the day, it’s important to remember that we’re one force, one family. We work better when we work together.”

It’s the FES’s goal to instill in those attending the classes the importance of having at least two exit options when confronted with a house fire.

The week culminates with an open house at 10 a.m. Oct. 14 at Fire Station No. 2. The event is scheduled to include food, raffles, a parade, fire extinguisher training and a children’s play area. Children will have the opportunity to learn life-saving skills “such as stop, drop, and roll,” as well as how to safely exit a smoke-filled environment in the fire safety trailer.

For more information on Fire Prevention Week or about base activities, call Travis’ FES at 707-424-3683 or visit www.NFPA.org.

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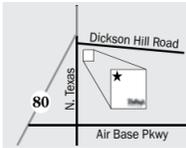
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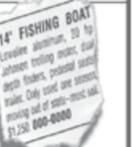
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