

Travis names facility in fallen Airman's ...

MEMORY

PAGES
16-17



Airman possess responsibility to dissent

I am nearing the end of my 20-year career with the Air Force. As I prepare to walk proudly away from service to my country, I can't help but spend a few moments reflecting on my years.



Commentary by Lt. Col. Nate Flint
571ST MOBILITY SUPPORT ADVISORY SQUADRON

There are many things I'm proud of: the teams I served with to accomplish big and difficult things, the wingmen I supported through trials or tribulations and of the Airmen I've had the distinct pleasure of leading. But there will be a few regrets. Of all my regrets, the one that stings most sharply is this: I

did not always resist the temptation of being a "yes-man".

We often talk about leadership training, but the Air Force also spends countless dollars and hours creating assertive followers. We are trained as followers to challenge principles and ideas that run afoul of our good senses and our library of experiences. We are instructed to seek out inefficiencies implement simple or innovative solutions to address them. The Air Force wants our brains involved in our daily activities. It is our brains that make us

Commander's Commentary

powerful, not just our brawn. Why, then, do we so easily ensnare ourselves in the trap of silence?

It's true. Our leaders' priorities should become our priorities, and we should salute smartly and carry on. But the time for those actions should come following discourse when necessary. Looking back, I think there were times when I took the easiest course only because it was the easiest. I didn't challenge and I didn't push back, because challenging and pushing back smelled

like extra work. Maybe the effects were far away or not directly impacting myself so it was easy to shirk the responsibility of dissent. Maybe I didn't have skin in the game. Maybe the person impacted by a poor decision was nameless or faceless or on another continent or in a different uniform. Maybe it was because I thought I knew what the answer was going to be, so I quit before I tried. Maybe it was because I was scared of looking stupid if I was wrong. Maybe my boss was temperamental and unapproachable. Maybe he didn't take criticism well. Maybe I didn't take criticism well. There are 10,000 reasons, or excuses, to keep quiet. All of

them are wrong. All of them.

And fellow commanders, let me kindly remind you of something: you may not be as smart as you think you are. Silence may not equal consent. When your people are not offering solutions, opposing viewpoints or alternate courses of action, it may not be because you are always right. It may be because you're often wrong and won't accept it. We ask our Airmen to be open to course corrections. We better be open to the same. When dissent is squashed, so, too, is innovation, creativity and improvement. I often say, "I'm persuadable." I love when an Airman can persuade me

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Life is short: Choose to maintain positive attitude

Commentary by Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Minnifield

571ST MOBILITY SUPPORT ADVISORY SQUADRON

I had an opportunity a few weeks back to be a part of an Airman Speed Mentoring forum. While excited about the chance to meet Travis Air Force Base, California, Airmen, I was nervous about the questions I would be asked. I attended and quickly realized I overthought the intent behind the forum.

The Airmen in attendance were outstanding and asked a lot of questions. The one question that came up numerous times was how to motivate an unmotivated or negative Airman. That was a

Enlisted Commentary

great question, but also a challenging one. I answered the question, but without any background, I could not speak to specifics.

After much reflection, I could not get past why a young Airman in U.S. Air Force would be unmotivated or negative. Is he or she unhappy with their job, location, or supervision? Are there other issues going on? Perhaps their negativity is driven by family, financial or mental problems. The reasons could be numerous. Hopefully, those affected use

the support services available to them. A part of me would bet some of those Airmen are looking at the glass as "half empty". The Air Force has a lot to offer: the ability to see the world, numerous education and medical benefits, job security and, most importantly, genuine friendships you make along your journey. Why, then, is there sadness?

My belief is life is too short, so be happy. With all the problems we face on a day-to-day basis, do we really have anything to be truly upset about?

Take a minute and think about what's going on in the world around you. Within the last two months, the U.S. has experienced hurricanes in Florida, Texas

and Puerto Rico; a tragic mass shooting in Las Vegas; fires in Northern California and the unfortunate loss of life of four U.S. Army soldiers killed in action. Don't lose sight of the true freedoms you enjoy each and every day. You belong to the greatest fraternity of Americans the world has ever known; a true band of brothers and sisters who support you, not because they know your name, but because this fraternity understands the sacrifices we all make as men and women in uniform. Once again, is there really anything to truly complain about?

See MINNIFIELD Page 24

Travis DDRP wins drug awareness award

Staff Sgt. Nicole Leidholm

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 60th Air Mobility Wing Drug Demand Reduction Program received the 27th annual Department of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award Oct. 11 for best drug demand reduction program in the Air Force for fiscal year 2016.

The award is presented annually at the Pentagon to the best drug demand reduction program for previous fiscal year accomplishments for each branch of service, the National Guard, the Defense Agencies and Field Activities.

"I feel a sense of achievement and appreciation, knowing we won this award," said Timothy Finney, 60th AMW DDRP manager. "The DDRP is a thankless job. I don't think anyone understands what goes into doing this job. People only see the one side of it."

According to Finney, Travis Air Force Base, California, is required to collect 100 percent of the base's end strength, or approximately 6,200 samples for the fiscal year.

"Every year, we collect close to 7,000 or more urine samples," said Finney. "This year, we collected close to 8,000. Each sample must be quality checked to ensure there are no discrepancies before being shipped to the lab. The Air Force has a less than one percent error rate."

At Travis, the demand reduction mission targets the base itself and the communities near the base where Travis families live. Finney works to educate the community on the dangers and effects drug use has on families while Timothy Vanderhoof and Edmond Diaz, both 60th AMW DDRP drug testing

See DDRP Page 23



Timothy Vanderhoof, left, and Edmond Diaz, second from left, drug testing program administrative managers, stand with Timothy Finney, drug demand reduction program manager, while presenting an award given to the program by the Pentagon. The award is given annually to the best drug demand reduction program for previous fiscal year accomplishments for each branch of service, the National Guard, the Defense Agencies and Field Activities.

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

Tailwind

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60th Air Mobility Wing

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On the cover

David Wieger, Office of Special Investigations special agent, sits in a Humvee in an undated photo in Baghdad, Iraq. Wieger died in 2007.

Courtesy photo



U.S. Air Force photo/Quis Bricease

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: Staff Sgt. Charles Palmer.	C-17A instructor loadmaster.	to Officer Training School and earning a commission.
Unit: 21st Airift Squadron.	Time in service: Five years.	What are your hobbies? Basketball, football, bowling and reading.
Hometown: Norfolk, Virginia.	Family: None.	What is your greatest achievement? Being selected as an instructor loadmaster.
Duty title: Training NCO in charge,	What are your goals? Pursuing a business administration degree and plans on applying	

Officer DE picks released

Kat Bailey

AIR FORCE'S PERSONNEL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The Air Force has selected more than 800 officers for intermediate and senior developmental education during the 2017 Developmental Education Designation Board held at the Air Force's Personnel Center Sept. 26.

The board designated 786 line and 38 non-line officers to attend in-residence DE during the 2018-'19 academic year.

"Developmental opportunities are designed to educate and professionally broaden individual officers into strategic leaders who can provide innovative solutions to the future complex challenges facing the Air Force," said Kris Hunter, deputy chief of officer developmental education at AFPC.

Officers selected for DE will attend intermediate- and senior-level development programs such as Air Command and Staff College, Air War College, National War College and more. Continuing the policy from last year, officers will again have the opportunity to decline DE at any point without the implications of the seven-day option policy. This means that regardless of when the officer declines the DE opportunity, the officer will not be subject to the 7-day option policy and will not be forced to separate or retire.

Additionally, officers who develop a personal or family hardship can be removed from DE at any point. Officers can also make a "personal choice" to decline the DE opportunity up until the class start date.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following these instructions.

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

David H. Grout, Pride Industries food attendant and cashier, readies his work station for an imminent lunch rush Nov. 1 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Grout has worked at Travis for four years.

Civilian motivates Airmen

Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad

GOTH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Ring out high above the indistinct, murmuring conversations of the bustling throngs of Airmen moving hurriedly through the dining facility at Travis Air Force Base, California, is a familiar phrase of encouragement.

"All right. You stay awesome."

The loud, genial tones with which the phrase is said invite smiles and, in some

instances, bewilderment from those within earshot.

The words come from David Grout, a food attendant and cashier with Pride Industries, a civilian company contracted to assist in managing food sales in the base DFAC. The words are a means of goodbye from a man keenly aware of life's struggles and the importance of finding the resilience to overcome them.

"At first, the words were just a play on Ron Burgundy's, 'you stay classy, San Diego,' from 'Anchorman,'

but as time went on, it developed a deeper meaning," said Grout. "The idea that you can tell someone to 'be awesome' is great, but by telling them to 'stay awesome,' you remind them that, yes, they already are awesome, but that even on their worst day, they're ultimately better than it – that they can overcome it."

In offering such a subtle gesture of encouragement to all those that come through his line, Grout has helped contribute to the resiliency of an entire generation of new Travis Airmen.

Airman 1st Class SaiAnni Hyatt, a 60th Dental Squadron dental assistant, feels Grout is an integral part of the mission.

"(Grout) evokes a lot of positivity in the Airmen who he reaches with his words," said Hyatt. "I think we all sometimes have those days where we don't want to get up or be where we need to be, but when someone offers some kind words as he does, it makes you feel that you're at least doing something

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Commentary

Civic leader program instills pride

Commentary by Mark Lillis
THE LEAVEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

George Washington, father of our nation, said, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace."

As part of the Air Mobility Command's Civic Leader program, I have been given a deeper glimpse into the preparation of our military – and specifically Travis Air Force Base – to secure our nation and help spread peace across the globe.

Thomas Randall and I, both civic leaders, recently observed the efforts of nearly 3,500 service members, representing 25 nations, during an exercise at the Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, home of the I Corps and 62nd Airlift Wing.

The training exercise, known as Mobility Guardian, was designed to test and enhance the skills of the joint Army and Air Force personnel as they trained side-by-side with partner nations in complex, simulated scenarios of various threats. The Contingency Response Wing practiced rapidly setting up and securing airfields, conducting air evacuation exercises, making air drops, and midair refueling by a Travis KC-10.

As a participant in the Air Force's Civic Leader program, I was struck by the professionalism and durability of our airmen who are flying airplanes, some of which are long past their expected lifespan. I saw first-hand how they responded when the entire C-5 Galaxy fleet was affected during the exercise due to a mechanical issue, requiring them to change their strategy "on the fly" and load their cargo on smaller C-17 Globemaster III planes.

"Professionalism" and "resilience" – these are two words that aptly sum up the men and women who participated in this

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Goldfein puts focus on Airmen

Staff Sgt. Rusty Frank
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

WASHINGTON — Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein addressed the importance of taking care of Airmen and their families Oct. 25 during the 2017 ThanksUSA Treasure our Troops Gala in Washington, D.C.

"Within the profession of arms, much of what we do relies upon the military family ... because this is truly a 'family business,'" said Goldfein. "Our nation is strengthened by our communities, and our communities are strengthened by our families."

Military life presents unique challenges, specifically for military families, a lot of them currently have at least one family member deployed.

"They move all around the globe," the CSAF said. "They get dropped into new neighborhoods, jobs, circle



U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein honors scholarship recipients during a gala hosted by ThanksUSA, an organization dedicated to supporting families of fallen service members with educational benefits Oct. 25 in Washington, D.C.

of friends. They balance personal passions with long hours of separation, family demands and hardships. They learn to expect the unexpected."

Recognizing these strains, Air Force senior leaders are engaged and focused on taking care of Airmen and their families, while remaining committed

to building and maintaining a strong Air Force community. This approach allows the Airmen to be more resilient to the challenges military service brings.

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Honor guard brings new perspective for Airman

**Airman 1st Class
Suzanna Plotnikov**

81ST TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — Some people see the honor guard when they're performing their duties; attending funerals, parades, presenting colors and firing their rifles. They may not know what goes on behind the scenes, or what goes on in their minds.

For Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Graham, Keesler Air Force Base Honor Guard Delta Flight noncommissioned officer in charge, the year-long honor guard contract was not what he expected it to be.

"When I joined honor guard I didn't know a lot about it," said Graham. "I just saw the face of the Air Force Honor Guard; them doing shows, performing and twirling rifles. Now that I've gotten into it, it means a lot more."

Each Keesler AFB Honor Guard member goes through several months of training to be proficient in posting the colors, flag folding, firing party and pallbearer skills but despite their training to have a stoic persona, precise facing movements and meticulous uniform, they face difficulties as well.

Arriving to his first funeral at a dark, cloudy rain-filled New Orleans cemetery Graham had to focus on keeping his military bearing to present the proper funeral military



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Suzanna Plotnikov
Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., Honor Guard members practice flag folding procedures before a funeral ceremony Oct. 26 at the Biloxi National Cemetery in Biloxi, Miss. The mission of the Keesler AFB Honor Guard is to represent the Air Force by providing military honors at the request of families for fallen military members.

honors for a grieving family.

"It was raining several days prior to the funeral so the cemetery was run down, the tombstones were folded over and weeds were growing everywhere," said Graham. "There was two inches of muddy water throughout all the gravesites so it gave it a really disturbing look. The whole group was

trying to get our bearing to figure out each honor guard's position."

The final handing off of the flag to the next of kin can be one of the most remembered parts of a military funeral. Like some parts of life, not every situation goes to plan and for Graham, handing the flag to the mourning family at his first

funeral was no exception.

"The family showed up to the funeral 30 minutes early so we had to improvise," said Graham. "There were tons of people in a small area so it gave me a claustrophobic feeling. There was nowhere for the family to sit so I had to hand the flag to someone who was standing up instead of the norm of them

sitting down."

Looking into the eyes of someone you don't know and handing them the U.S. flag may bring a sense of sadness to anyone but according to Graham, this last moment of each military funeral reinvigorates each honor guard's mission to perform better at each funeral.

"They're crying and they're thankful; you're kind of healing their sadness a little bit," Graham said. "It's something I've been very appreciative of and I think that's what reignites the fire into most of the honor guard teams whenever they're handing off that flag."

Graham wouldn't have had a chance to experience the sense of pride and patriotism that comes with performing honor guard duties if it weren't for his superiors. After speaking to his mentor, a prior chief master sergeant, Graham realized he was going to be a part of something much bigger than himself and possibly the last time some families have contact with the military.

"Most people who aren't affiliated with military don't really know what to expect from military members and this might be the first and last time they see a military member," said Graham. "They can see how passionate we are and it instills some sense of pride in America and gives them hope that there are people who are still willing to do what needs to be done ... even as an honor guard's mission."

Fairchild modernizes KC-135, saves 200K



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Ryan Lackey

Master Sgt. Gavin Douglas, 92nd Maintenance Group Air Force Repair Enhancement Program manager, tests an iPad mount on the steering column of a KC-135 Stratotanker Oct. 16 at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.

Senior Airman Nick J. Daniello
92ND AIR REFUELING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. — Two Airmen from the 92nd Maintenance Group Air Force Repair Enhancement Program here have saved the Air Force more than \$200,000 since March.

"The basis of the AFREP program is to save money and is categorized into two separate categories: cost savings and cost avoidance," said Master Sgt. Gavin Douglas, 92nd MXG AFREP program manager. "Cost savings is taking aircraft items that are typically thrown away and instead refurbish them. (Instead) we can spend probably \$2,000 to repair an item to put a \$10,000 asset back into the Air Force inventory."

Not only does AFREP locate aged equipment and revitalize it for further service, they also reinvigorate and modernize fabrications to better serve Airmen and their missions.

Most notably, the two-man

AFREP team has led the initiative in developing tablet mounts for the KC-135 Stratotanker flight deck and boom pods for aircrews to operate more safely and effectively. By doing so, AFREP has streamlined aircrew access to checklists, maps, line of sight for gauges and flight equipment, and allows aircrews to operate more safely and effectively.

"The mount we have now is a prototype and was designed especially for our aircraft. It has a quick release mechanism so aircrew can remove the tablet and take it with them," said Staff Sgt. Tyler Ferris, 92nd MXG AFREP technician. "Its also adjustable, so if they change tablets in the future, they'll be able to put the new ones in."

From working with sheet metal and metals technology to receiving feedback from pilots and boom operators, Douglas and Ferris have worked tirelessly to engineer the streamlined tablet mount that will better serve the overall flying mission.

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Wright talks indefinite enlistment with Airmen

**Air Mobility Command
Public Affairs**

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Air Force's top enlisted Airman provided updates on the status of issues affecting the enlisted force Oct. 27 at the 2017 Air-lift/Tanker Association Symposium here.

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright addressed hundreds of mobility Airmen, current and former Air Force leaders, joint and combined forces partners and industry representatives, as part of the three-day professional development event focused on the rapid global mobility enterprise and the Airmen who execute the mission.

Wright's remarks highlighted initiatives nearing completion and fielding, such as adjustments to awards program

timing and process requirements. He also brought news of options, like a possible indefinite enlistment timeline, which are earlier in the consideration process.

He began by addressing the culture of Air Force units and how leadership and the establishment of positive culture impacts retention. Retention of enlisted aircraft maintainers and other Airmen with skills key to operational success remains a key challenge and focus in the Air Force and in Air Mobility Command specifically.

"My question to you is 'how do we keep them?' Wright said. "Not just how do we retain them, but how do we keep them motivated, how do we keep them encouraged, how do we keep them inspired? Because that's how they come to us.

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317th AW prepares for tomorrow's fight

Master Sgt. Kristine Dreyer
AIR MOBILITY COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DYESS AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – After 26 years of combat operations, the Air Force continues to answer the nation's call. As adversaries change and evolve, Mobility Airmen not only continue to respond to today's fight, but also improve readiness for tomorrow's potential threats.

To prepare for tomorrow, the 317th Airlift Wing conducted a full spectrum readiness sortie Oct. 19 and 20 at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas.

During the full spectrum readiness sortie, aircrew, maintenance and support personnel worked together to conduct a local training sortie in a simulated high-threat environment.

"Over the years, our focus has shifted away from readiness," said Col. David Owens, 317th AW commander. "The pendulum now swings the focus back to honing skills like operating in a chemical environment, flying in GPS-denied airspace and completing scenario-based training preparing us for possible real-world situations."

Once training gear is



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Kristine Dreyer

First Lt. Garrett Iapicco, 40th Airlift Squadron co-pilot, conducts a full spectrum readiness sortie on a C-130J while wearing aircrew eye/respiratory protection system gear Oct. 20 near Dyess Air Force Base, Texas.

procured, Airmen can be trained and better prepared to face the full spectrum of tomorrow's threats.

"It's been more than a decade since our wing has trained

for a chemical environment," said Owens, "so we need to also procure the training equipment for each individual."

Full spectrum readiness requires leaders to not only

properly equip their Airmen but also ensure they are trained for tomorrow's fight.

"Our crews are flying all over the world in a variety of situations," said Lt. Col. Russell

Parramore, 40th Airlift Squadron director of operations, "We need to make sure they are trained and ready for anything. In order to ensure they are prepared, we put them in situations where they learn to adapt no matter the scenario."

The two-day event included simulator missions on the first day and a local training sortie on the second. While flying the sortie, one pilot and one loadmaster from the 40th Airlift Squadron, experienced the challenges of operating in a chemical environment by wearing the aircrew eye/respiratory protection system (AERPS) while performing their duties. The crew chiefs also wore their protective gear while marshalling aircraft and performing maintenance on the aircraft during the event.

"The gloves are my biggest challenge," said Senior Airman Jack Rohan, 317th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief. "Fitting into places like the nose gear is more challenging because you get stuck on everything. Holding exercises like these isn't fun but it's good to be proficient. None of us want to be in a real world situation like this, but if we practice

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A 317th Airlift Wing crew works with air transporters from the 612th Air Base Squadron to offload pallets during a routine global channel mission Oct. 18 to Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras.

C-130Js resupply Honduras

Master Sgt. Kristine Dreyer
AIR MOBILITY COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DYESS AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Being stationed in the middle of Central America can bring unknowns, but one thing the Airmen at Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras, can rely on is

Air Mobility Command to deliver anytime, anyplace.

A 317th Airlift Wing C-130J Super Hercules crew at Dyess AFB completed a routine global channel mission to provide sustainment and supplies to Airmen supporting U.S. Southern Command Joint Task Force-Bravo

Oct. 18 in Honduras.

“As a wing, we provide tactical airlift worldwide,” said Col. David Owens, 317th AW commander. “While we specialize in austere locations by going where not all aircraft can go, we also provide strategic airlift by completing channel missions to bring supplies and equipment to our teammates stationed in remote locations such as Honduras.”

The 317th AW alternates the resupply mission with the 19th AW at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas. Planners at the 618th Air Operations Center at Scott AFB, Illinois, plan each channel mission and balance mission requirements before determining what aircraft will be best suited for the mission.

“C-130Js are usually the aircraft of choice for these weekly channel missions,” said Robert Gilmore, 618th AOC, Global Channel Operations planner. “They use less fuel than a C-17 (Globemaster III) or C-5 (Galaxy), and the amount of goods or supplies in the sustainment cargo pipeline doesn’t require a larger aircraft. At the end of the day, mission effect is what

See HONDURAS Page 22



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Music strikes chord as Airman’s stress relief

Airman 1st Class Tristan Biese
633RD AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va. — Sitting on the edge of her stool, staring out at a sea of faces staring back, she tunes her guitar. Once the guitar is just right she takes a sip of her drink, grabs her pick, takes a deep breath and begins playing.

Senior Airman Hannah Walker, 633rd Force Support Squadron food service journeyman, is performing live at the Langley Marina. She occasionally does this to help destress and recenter herself.

“When you’re in the military and you don’t have a hobby or something to do outside of work, it can make you go insane,” said Walker. “I wear this uniform every day and I am an Airman whether I’m in uniform or not in uniform, but there is a time to take the uniform off and put it away and be who you’re called to be, whether that’s to be a husband, a wife or a musician. Those are the

things that are going to keep you grounded.”

Walker has been singing for as long as she can remember and music has always been a part of her life. However, Walker didn’t realize how much she needed music until tragedy struck at home.

Only a month after her high school graduation, doctors found a tumor in her father’s brain and needed to perform surgery. To help cope with the storm of emotions she was feeling, Walker started writing and produced 14 songs, jump starting her musical path.

“When I’m stressed, I write it down,” said Walker. “You can get all your anger, all your frustrations out on paper and it stops there. Nine times out of ten, when I’m done writing it all down, I don’t feel stressed anymore.”

Walker continued writing music and later enlisted into the Air Force and is now stationed at JB Langley-Eustis, Va.

See CHORD Page 24



Senior Airman Hannah Walker, 633rd Force Support Squadron food service journeyman, sings Sept. 23 at the Langley Marina on Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.

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Pediatric nurse speaks up, exemplifies trusted care



Capt. Kelsey Pilcher, 48th Medical Group pediatric nurse practitioner, performs a check up on a newborn Oct. 24 at RAF Lakenheath, England.

Senior Airman Abby L. Finkel
48TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH, England — Trusted Care is a core component of Air Force medicine. There are nine principles, one of which is speaking up.

This critical principle was exemplified by 48th Medical Group attending pediatric nurse practitioner Capt. Kelsey Pilcher in the case of two newborns recently brought into her care.

The babies, both less than a week old, came into the clinic for their newborn visits within

20 minutes of each other. While at the clinic, both had standard bloodwork drawn to check their bilirubin levels at the medical laboratory. High bilirubin levels can lead to jaundice and if not treated can have long-term consequences including brain damage.

When the test results came back, Pilcher thought something was wrong.

"When I got the results," she said, "I realized it didn't quite match the clinical picture."

The first baby, who was visually showing all the signs of having high bilirubin levels, had normal test results. The

second baby, who showed signs of having normal levels, had test results indicating high bilirubin levels.

"It made me question if the bilirubins were actually associated with the right baby," she said.

Pilcher trusted her instincts, spoke up, and had the tests redone.

"In the medical field it's so necessary (to speak up)," Pilcher said, "If something goes unnoticed, or if your technician or nurse notices that something doesn't seem quite right, but they don't say anything, there

See NURSE Page 22

AF recognizes F-35 data programmers

1st Lt. Jessica C. Risma
53RD WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — The 53rd Wing's 513th Electronic Warfare Squadron was awarded the Outstanding Scientist/Engineer Team of 2017 for their work on the F-35A Lightning II Initial Operational Capability delivery Oct. 25 at Eglin Air Force Base.

"I'm extremely proud of the work these Airmen, military, civilian and contractors alike, do every day with their Navy teammates," said Col. David Abba, 53rd Wing commander. "Winning this award is a testament to the incredible work they are accomplishing together for the warfighter."

This Air Force Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

annual award recognizes the efforts and achievements of scientists and engineers who make significant contributions to technology and engineering.

For the last seven years, 513th EWS Airmen and Sailors of the F-35's U.S. Reprogramming Laboratory have been doing just that. They make the F-35 the fighter every aspiring pilot dreams of flying. How they accomplish that feat is quite complex.

While impressive to behold, the aspects that make the F-35 a multi-role fifth generation aircraft and provide the warfighter global precision attack capability against current and emerging threats, are not its looks. It's what's on the inside that counts.

Supercomputers, referred to

See PROGRAMMERS Page 22

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Process to leave TRICARE ready to change

TRICARE.mil Staff

As part of the changes coming to TRICARE on Jan. 1, 2018, there will be new rules affecting disenrollment.

Beginning in 2018, if you're eligible for TRICARE and enrolled in a health plan, there are three ways you can be disenrolled:

- If you no longer wish to continue TRICARE coverage, you can voluntarily disenroll.
- If you fail to pay enrollment or premium fees.
- If you or your sponsor lose TRICARE eligibility.

On Jan. 1, 2018, TRICARE Standard will transition to TRICARE Select. Under TRICARE Select, beneficiaries will need to be enrolled if they wish to use the program, and disenroll if they no longer wish to use this health plan. In order to disenroll from TRICARE Select, you will need to fill out a change form.

This is different from the current disenrollment process. Currently, you can disenroll or be disenrolled from TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Premium Based Plans TRICARE Young Adult, TRICARE Retired Reserve, TRICARE Reserve Select, US Family Health Plan, TRICARE Prime then you're still automatically covered by TRICARE Standard. Once TRICARE Standard transitions to TRICARE Select, you will not have this automatic coverage—you must actively enroll.

The best way to prepare is to update your information in DEERS, sign up for TRICARE benefit updates and visit the TRICARE Changes page.

Online patient portal can save time

Military Health System Communications Office

Air Force Maj. Stephanie "Jill" Raps is a busy nurse.

Before departing for advanced schooling at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Raps was assigned to the Defense Health Agency where she developed digital tools to help patients, doctors, and other health care providers access information in the Military Health System.

Raps spends her "free" time chasing around a 2 year old and a 4 year old.

One evening as she waited outside her older daughter's ballet class, she remembered she needed to make an appointment for a physical for her daughter's day care.

"I looked at my watch and realized, 'Shoot, the appointment line just closed!'" said Raps.

Air Force Maj. Stephanie Raps uses her smartphone to access the TRICARE Online Patient Portal.

Air Force Maj. Stephanie Raps uses her smartphone to access the TRICARE Online Patient Portal.

Rather than wait to call the next day – or worse, forget to call at all – Raps used her smartphone to access the TRICARE Online Patient Portal, a secure website that connects registered users with online health care information and services at military hospitals and clinics.

"You can access the [TOL] Patient Portal with any device, including your smartphone,"

said Army Col. Richard Wilson, a division chief in the Health Information Technology Directorate at the Defense Health Agency. "Users can manage appointments for themselves and their authorized family members."

Wilson believes patients who can more easily access their own health information using TRICARE Online will be more inclined to use the health benefit.

"Beneficiaries can use the service 24 hours a day, seven days a week, instead of trying to call and book appointments at times that might not be the most convenient for our beneficiaries," said Wilson. "This makes our patients better engaged in their own health care, which tends to produce better

health outcomes."

To access the mobile TOL Patient Portal, beneficiaries will need to register for a Department of Defense Self-Service (better known as DS) Logon account through the Defense Manpower Data Center.

The TOL Patient Portal also has a mobile prescription refill function. Soon, another feature will be activated that will provide patient access to personal health information, such as lab results, vital signs, and immunizations, to name a few.

"What we really want patients to realize is they have these awesome tools out there," said Wilson, "that speed things up, help them become more informed, and ultimately, let them be more healthy and have a better quality of life."

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Staff Sgt. William Banton
386TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SOUTHWEST ASIA — For many Airmen, being deployed to Southwest Asia can quickly become an endless cycle of working, eating and sleeping, forcing them to become creative in the ways they choose to spend their free time.

The 386th Expeditionary Forces Support Squadron Education Center aims to help these Airmen use this time to further their military and civilian education.

These resources are important for deployed Airmen so they won't have to put their careers on hold while deployed, said Senior Master Sgt. Jeremy Hudson, 386th EFSS education superintendent, deployed from the 507th Air Refueling Wing, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. Enrollment in professional military education and career development courses don't always cease for a deployment.

For example, officer boards still continue even though people are deployed, so the Armed Forces Classification Test, a test used in the selection process for Officer Candidate School, is important to provide access for people who are striving for a commission, Hudson said.

Therefore, the Education Center provides a wide variety of testing and resource opportunities for Airmen working toward continuing their professional development. These include:

- The Armed Forces

Qualification Test – the test used to determine an applicant's aptness for the military, service members can take this to try and increase their Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery score.

- Defense Language Aptitude Battery – a test used to examine an individual's potential for learning a foreign language.

- Defense Language Proficiency Test – a test which measures the general language ability of native English speakers.

- College Level Examination Program – this allows students to demonstrate their mastery of introductory college-level material and earn college credit.

- Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support – a system which helps service members and veterans pursue their education goals.

"I think it's important to give the service members an opportunity to advance in their careers, not only in their PME and CDCS but, on the flipside, the Education Center also has the University of Maryland," Hudson said. "They are here to provide on-site (college) courses for members and help give the CLEP and DANTES tests so people can get through their Community College of the Air Force associate degree."

The Education Center works hand-in-hand with the installation Learning Resource Center to ensure all members' needs are being met, said Tech. Sgt. Andrea Grabner, 386th EFSS test control officer, deployed from the Michigan Air National Guard, 127th Wing, Selfridge, Michigan.

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Travis AFOSI names facility after deceased agent

Ceremony held on 10th anniversary of Wieger's death



Courtesy photo



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

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

"Ten years ago today, David Wieger and his brothers-in-arms, Thomas Crowell and Nathan Schudheiss made the ultimate sacrifice," said Chief Master Sgt. Karen Beirne'flint, U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Investigations, Collections and Operations Nexus. "Their selflessness and dedication to our way of life assured a huge estimate of their integrity and their commitment."

Wieger was a technical services agent at Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 303, Travis Air Force Base, California, from September of 2004 until his death on Nov. 1, 2007. Wieger was killed in Baghdad when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device.

"David had a passion for the Air Force, the AFOSI mission, people he worked with and his family," said Beirne'flint. "He is missed every single day. In naming this building after David, all who work and will work here and that enter through this door will know the highest standard he set and the sacrifices he has made"

The AFOSI held a building dedication event Nov. 1, 2017, exactly 10 years after Wieger's death. This building dedication will forever hold the meaning of which Wieger has presented and given to his nation.

Many family members and service members gathered at Detachment 303 to reminisce and honor special agent David Wieger.

"Ten years ago today we received the worst news our family could possibly receive. Dave was killed in action," said Michael Wieger Jr. brother of special agent David Wieger. "That night, we had a great number of family and friends visiting the house and calling us to show their support. When we received the news about the building being named in David's honor, we could not believe it. I can see him now looking down and smiling with that great big smile of his."

The Wieger family receives a call from Gen. Simmons every year on Nov. 1. Not only has Gen. Simmons properly maintained the pledge, "Dave will never be forgotten," but Gen. Simmons has also invited the Wieger family to attend different annual events to demonstrate how Dave will not be forgotten, said Michael.

"Every year we are invited to and proudly attend the annual memorial service for all the OSI fallen heroes at the headquarters," said Michael. "Yet again, Dave was not forgotten by the name of the road at Travis AFB Wieger Way. A local soccer field has been named after him. Participants are involved in runs and rucks in remembrance of Dave."

At 10:55 a.m., the banner was released to show the new building name.

"I thank all the people who are here today," said Loreene Wieger, David Wieger's mother. "David was very humble and kind. If he knew who all was here today and why, he would want everyone to know how thankful he is."

1) Loreene and Michael Wieger, the parents of Office of Special Investigations agent David Wieger, pull down the banner revealing the name of their son during a ceremony Nov. 1 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. David Wieger was killed in 2007 when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device during his deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. 2) Peter Depue provides remarks about David Wieger. 3) Family members of David Wieger are escorted to their seats. The Office of Special Investigation, 12th Field Investigation Squadron, unveiled the renaming of their building to the fallen OSI agent. Wieger was stationed at Travis at the time.

4) Office of Special Investigations agent David Wieger is seen in an undated official photo. Wieger was killed in 2007 when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device during his deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. 5) Maj. (Ch.) Tony Wade, 60th Air Mobility Wing chaplain, provides remarks during a Nov. 1 ceremony honoring Wieger at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. 6) Loreene Wieger, mother of David Wieger, weeps during the ceremony honoring her son. Wieger was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, AF Commendation Medal and AF Combat Action Medal.

Swap Ads

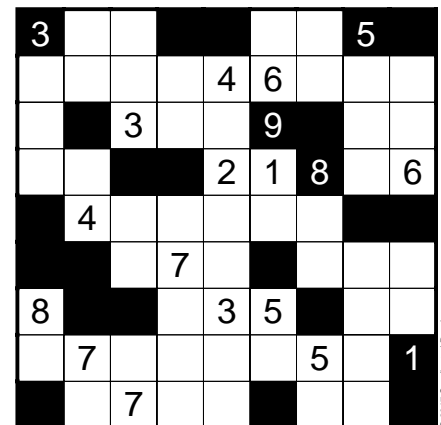
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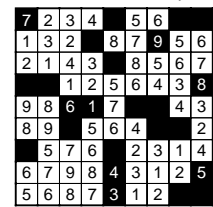
Puzzles

STR8TS

No. 358 Medium



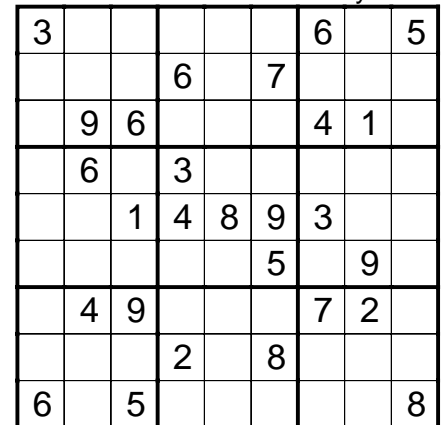
Previous solution - Easy



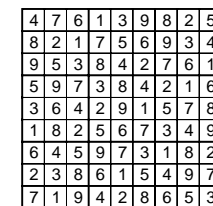
How to beat Str8ts – Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5]. 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. 358 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

Exchange expansion adds 225,00 shoppers

DALLAS — With less than a month until the much-anticipated official launch of the veterans on-line shopping benefit, more than 225,000 honorably discharged veterans have been verified to shop through an earned lifelong online military exchange shopping

benefit beginning this Veterans Day. This new program, the first military exchange benefits expansion in nearly 30 years, will allow America's 18.5 million veterans to shop online at the military exchange websites: Shop-MyExchange.com, shopc-gx.com, mymcx.com, and mynavyexchange.com.

— Air Force News Service

News Notes

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.

Commissary. Operating hours from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 11 for Veterans Day.

Chapel programs

Recurring events

Catholic Twin Peaks Chapel

- Roman Catholic Mass: 9 a.m. and noon Sunday.
- Children's Church: 10:15 a.m. Sunday.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday or upon appointment.
- Infant Baptism Prep Class: Two classes. Registration Required. 6 to 7 p.m., 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.

In the next week...

fri

Roadwork. Work will resume at the intersection of Air Base Parkway at Clay Bank Road starting Oct. 30. All work will be completed Nov. 3. Traffic control will be limited to one lane in each direction with potential of delays. For more information, 707-428-7478.

sun

Authors Luncheon. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 5, The Clubhouse at Rancho Solano, 3250 Rancho Solano Parkway, Fairfield. 421-8075.

Four-Eyed Jacks Audio Productions. Radio plays, 8 p.m. Nov. 3-4, 10-11 and 2 p.m. Nov. 5 and 12, Bay Area Stage Broadway Theatre, 515 Broadway St., Suite H, Vallejo. 649-1053.

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.

60th FSS

Events and information

Gift cards. Win gift cards on Facebook this Halloween. Think you have Travis' best Halloween costume? For details and to enter, "Like" us on Facebook and stay tuned to Facebook.com/60FSS.

Work-from-home training. Family Child Care is looking for nurturing individuals who want to work from home. From 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Nov. 13-16, they are offering training to become a child care provider. Child Care Providers choose their own rates and hours. Free. To register, call 707-424-4596.

Huddle up for football. Did you know the Delta Breeze Club offers the NFL Ticket for free every Sunday, Monday and Thursday? You could even win Super Bowl 2018 Tickets. For more information, call 707-437-3711.

\$1 Bingo at Travis Bowl. Travis Bowl is now offering daily \$1 Bingo. Win up to \$200. Each bingo card is \$1 and participants must be 18 to play. For more information, call 707-437-4737.

Online language courses. Mitchell Memorial Library is offering Mango Languages for free. Learn Dutch, Spanish, French, Korean, Japanese, Italian and more at your own pace. For more information, call the library at 707-424-3279.

Custom vacation packages. Leisure Travel located inside Outdoor Recreation books travel destinations like Hawaii, Mexico, Las Vegas and more. Options include rental car, lodging, excursions, airfare and cruises. For more information, call 707-424-5250.



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

Recurring

Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

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

Air Force Sergeants Association "Walter E. Scott" Chapter 1320. General membership meetings are 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 travstopcombatptsd@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://pftform.state.gov> and/or <https://travel.state.gov>. For more information, call 707-424-5324.

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

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

Mare Island Museum. Now a Blue Star Museum, which means active-duty military, reservists and their family members are eligible for free admission from Memorial Day to Labor Day. 1100 Railroad Ave. on Mare Island in Vallejo. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 707-557-4646.

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

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

Montezuma Shrine Club. Meets every third Thursday of the month at the Masonic

Center, 412 Travis Blvd., Fairfield. For more information, call Mike Michaels at 707-427-2573 or Cal Gitsam at 707-425-0060.

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

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

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

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

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

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 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

THE FLIP SIDE

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.

City Sports Bar and Grill. Music begins at 9 p.m.: The Spazmatics, Friday; DJ Aaron, Saturday; Strange Brew Nov. 10-11; 155 Browns Valley Parkway, Vacaville. 455-7827, www.starsrecreation.com.

Downtown Theatre. Con Funk Shun, 6 and 9 p.m. Nov. 11; 1035 Texas St., Fairfield. www.downtowntheatre.com.

Empress Theatre. 1st Avenue, 8 p.m. Nov. 3; King James, 8 p.m. Nov. 4; Jinx Jones and the Kingtones, 8 p.m. Nov. 8; Film Club screening of "Cinemania" with Sharr Matusek, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 9; Mindi Abair and the Boneshakers, 8 p.m. Nov. 10; 7th Sons, 8 p.m. Nov. 11; The Reunion: Beatles Fantasy Tribute, 8 p.m. Nov. 12; 330 Virginia St., Vallejo. 552-2400, www.empresstheatre.org.

First Street Cafe. Open mic, 7 p.m. Nov. 4; Bryan Girard, 2 p.m. Nov. 5; Stevie Mello, 8 p.m. Nov. 10; Tune Riders, 8 p.m. Nov. 11; 440 First St., Benicia. 745-1400, www.firststreetcafe.com.

Gordon's Music and Sound. Live music, 7:30 p.m. Fridays, 810 Texas St., Fairfield. 422-0313.

Messiah Chorus Rehearsals. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Nov. 5 through Nov. 26, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 311 Alamo Drive, Vacaville. 429-1329.

The Relik Tavern. Strange Brew, 9 p.m. Nov. 3; Fog City Stompers, 9 p.m. Nov. 4; Highwater Blues, 9 p.m. Nov. 10; The Bonedivers, 9 p.m. Nov. 11; 726 First St., Benicia. 746-1137, www.thereliktavern.com.

Music and dance
Barkissimo. Dave Anderson Monthly Jam, 4 p.m. Nov. 5; Rubicon Boys, 4:30 p.m. Nov. 12; 600 Solano St., Suisun City. www.barkissimo.com.

City Sports Bar and Grill. Music begins at 9 p.m.: The Spazmatics, Friday; DJ Aaron, Saturday; Strange Brew Nov. 10-11; 155 Browns Valley Parkway, Vacaville. 455-7827, www.starsrecreation.com.

Downtown Theatre. Con Funk Shun, 6 and 9 p.m. Nov. 11; 1035 Texas St., Fairfield. www.downtowntheatre.com.

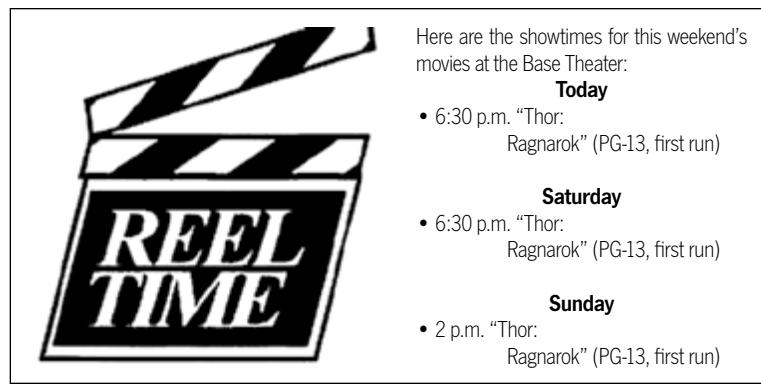
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Here are the showtimes for this weekend's movies at the Base Theater:

- | Today | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| • 6:30 p.m. | "Thor: Ragnarok" (PG-13, first run) |
| Saturday | |
| • 6:30 p.m. | "Thor: Ragnarok" (PG-13, first run) |
| Sunday | |
| • 2 p.m. | "Thor: Ragnarok" (PG-13, first run) |

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 • 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
 • 10:30 AM * MORNING WORSHIP
 • KID'z CHURCH Grades K-5th
 • 10:00 AM WEDNESDAY SENIOR PRAYER
 • 7:00 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT Adult Bible Study
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 www.1agff.org
 email: info@1agff.org

BAPTIST

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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



Southern Baptist Convention
 401 W. Monte Vista Ave., Vacaville
 707-448-5430
 www.tbvacaville.com
 Greg Davidson, Senior Pastor
Sunday:
 Worship Service & Bible Study.....9:00 am
 Worship Service & Bible Study..... 10:30 am
 Evening Worship & Prayer.....6:00 pm
Wednesday:
 Dinner (Sept-May).....4:45 pm
 AWANA (Sept-May).....6:00 pm
 Youth.....6:00 pm
 Choir.....6:30 am
 Bible Study...10:00 am, 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm & 6:30 pm
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Fairfield Campus
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 T.N.T. Bible Study
 Tuesday Night Teaching 7:00 p.m.
 AWANA Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
 Sunday Worship 7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.
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 707.448.5848
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 Worship..... 11:00 am
CORE Bible Studies 12:30 & 5:00 pm
 (2nd & 4th Sunday)
WEDNESDAY
 Adult Studies.....2:00 pm
 AWANA for Kids6:15 pm
 Adult & Youth Studies.....6:30 pm

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Sunday Morning Worship 10 AM
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 425-4481

Sunday Services:
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 Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:15 a.m.
 Pastor's Forum
10:00 a.m.
 Holy Eucharist Rite II
Tuesday Service:
10:00 a.m.
 Healing Eucharist
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Pastor Gregory Stringer
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 451-6678
 bethanypreschool@pacbell.net
 www.gobethany.com
Bethany Lutheran School
 1011 Ulatis Drive
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NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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 11:30 AM
WEDNESDAYS
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 2641 N. Texas St.
 Fairfield, CA 94533

Awesome

From Page 4

right. Sometimes it's those seemingly unimportant choice words that can bring about the biggest changes."

When someone in a squadron is feeling a certain emotion very strongly, it's easy for that emotion to spread to everyone around them, said Hyatt. It's Grout's mission, he says, to try to make that emotion a positive one.

"Bad things will eventually happen to you," said Grout. "That's just a fact of life. It's not about ignoring them, though. It's about not letting them overtake you. Having a good or bad day isn't always a choice, but the ways in which we move forward from those bad days or what we do with the feelings they might cause is something that's always in our control."

In addition to his demeanor, Grout also encourages a positive attitude by hosting a YouTube channel called Neon

Renegades that aims to spread positivity through palatable topics like video games and cocktail recipes. More significant than this, however, is how Grout turns every facet of his life into an opportunity to encourage, fortify and lift up those around him.

"I hope that in whatever small interactions I have with the Airmen who come through my line, I'm able to make some sort of impact on them and they, in turn, attempt to make that same impact on others," said

Grout. "I've had the chance to talk to some of the Airmen here and others I've managed to even build a dialogue with, and I've become aware of how easy it can sometimes be to feel stuck in the mud. But I also know how easy it is to be pulled out of it, and I try to offer that hand when I see someone who looks like they might need it."

At a time when many Airmen are far away from their families, Hyatt says the importance of a helping hand can never be understated.

"If you don't foster a support system, it can make it hard to do your job to the best of your abilities," said Hyatt. "In a sense, you are your thoughts, and when those thoughts are bad, there's a tendency to produce bad work. I think we just have to all hold tight to the idea that we're one force and whether the motivation to be good to one another comes from religion, thoughts of the weekend or David Grout, we need to stick by one another. Especially when one of us inevitably stumbles."

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NON-DENOMINATIONAL



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 Phone: 707-446-4051

Main Worship Services
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 (Childcare at all services)

Ministry Activities thru the Week
 Youth Ministry.....Tues. 7:00 pm
 AWANA (Sept-May).....Wed. 6:30pm
 Women of Hope.....Thurs. 6:30pm
 Men's Bible Study.....Thurs. 7:00pm
 Numerous Bible Studies call church office
Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9am to 3pm
 Website: newhopev.org

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Vacaville Church of Christ

401 Fir St., Vacaville, CA 95688
 (707) 448-5085

Minister: Garrett Sander
Sunday Morning Bible Study
 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship
 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship
 6:00 PM
Wed. Evening Bible Study
 7:00 PM
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Nursery care is available during both Worship Services
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 10:00 am Contemporary Celebration with Youth Education
Wednesday Evening
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 United Methodist Women
 Sunday Morning Bible Studies at 9:00 A.M.



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 Classifieds
 at (707) 427-6917

317th AW

From Page 9

more often, we will learn how get past those challenges, so it becomes more natural.”

Learning how to work around the challenges of operating in a chemical environment doesn't start on the flightline. The 317th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment flight works to ensure aircrews are educated on how to properly wear the AERPS gear by holding weekly classes.

“Aircrew are required by (Air Force Instruction) to attend the training every two years,” said Staff Sgt. Faith Rogers, 317th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment. “Because this is becoming a real world issue, we are having classes every Tuesday and require

every individual dresses out. We are also typically required to have only a couple people dress out during the class, but we want to make sure they understand how to properly wear the gear and conduct buddy checks.”

Full spectrum readiness doesn't happen overnight. For the 317th AW, the goal is to work up to a full scale phase two fly away exercise by spring 2018.

“At the end of the day, this will make us better,” said Owens. “We are not stopping what we normally do here at Dyess. We are still deploying, running channel missions, supporting the Army and Marines. The AMC mission doesn't stop. It is time for us to become smarter when we prepare for tomorrow's fight, and we become ready by conducting training missions like these.”

Nurse

From Page 12

can be consequences, both long-term and immediate.”

In this case, not speaking up would have resulted in the baby who actually needed additional medical care being sent home. The second lab results matched what Pilcher had observed in the babies, and resulted in the correct baby being admitted to the hospital.

Programmers

From Page 12

as sensor fusion, make up the F-35's brain. That brain provides the fighter with unique capabilities, making it more lethal, survivable and adaptable than any fighter aircraft on Earth, according to the Secretary of Air Force

“Captain Pilcher's great catch highlights just how important it is for all Airmen, regardless of position, to speak up if they recognize something that they feel may jeopardize patient safety and to stand by that conviction until a satisfactory explanation or solution is presented,” said Capt. Adam Hotz, 20th Medical Operations Squadron medical director of pediatrics.

The duty to speak up fosters a mindset that values alternative perspectives. It helps Air

Force medical leaders build deeper organizational trust, remove barriers and reinforce a mutual respect.

“At the heart of duty, to speak up is the recognition that we all are human and capable of making errors, and none of us wants one of those errors to adversely affect the patients we are working so hard to help,” Hotz said. “It empowers everyone involved in a patient's care to advocate for that patient's safety and ensures there are no barriers to that end.”

Public Affairs.

However, without 513th EWS personnel inputting critical mission data into the F-35, sensor fusion wouldn't work as intended. The aircraft wouldn't know what threats to search for or when.

“America, our allies and coalition partners need the F-35's unmatched capabilities, so we can fight and win in highly

contested areas,” said Abba. “The 513th Electronic Warfare Squadron allows the F-35 to realize its potential.”

In the electronic warfare world, engineers refer to this ability to understand the world, the ability to sift through stimuli and make informed decisions about how to react, as mission data software.

Honduras

From Page 10

matters, but the 618th AOC planners also do their best to make sure the aircraft is efficiently utilized.”

When 618th AOC Global Channel Operations plan their channel missions, they also determine routing, plan for weather, coordinate diplomatic clearances, determine airfield ramp space, and check for fuel availability, in addition to determining the most efficient aircraft for the channel cargo requirement. Aircraft commanders like Capt. Michael Mayor, 40th Airlift Squadron at Dyess AFB, ensure the mission is executed.

“One of the biggest challenges is coordinating with all the different agencies required when completing a mission like this,” said Mayor. “The 618th AOC provides the big picture planning, but as the aircraft commander, I ensure the needs of the crew are taken care of, and we, as a crew, are communicating with all necessary agencies to make this run smoothly.”

Putting his words into action, Mayor and his team delivered the pallets to the Airmen in Honduras ensuring they too have what they need to complete their mission in Central America.

DDRP

From Page 3

program administrative managers, administer drug testing across the base.

“I have personally seen how drug use and abuse can destroy families and people's dreams,” said Finney. “This is why I'm so passionate about the program.”

The goal of the Travis DDRP is to provide education, awareness, deterrence and community outreach to safeguard the health and wellness of the large and diverse military community.

The program became important after the Vietnam War, said Finney.

“The military recognized an increase in the use of heroin amongst troops returning from Vietnam,” said Finney. “The program was later expanded to personnel on active duty, becoming a large-scale drug testing system. Many positive drug tests were used for medical cases to receive treatment, without punitive consequences.”

In May 1981, a Marine

Corps EA-6B Prowler crashed on the USS Nimitz, killing 14 crew members and injuring 48.

“Many crew members tested positive for marijuana after the accident, drawing attention to the prevalence of drugs in the services,” said Finney. “The DoD implemented a zero tolerance drug policy, making a positive drug test a punishable offense. Once implemented, a dramatic drop was seen in the positive test rates in the military drug testing program.”

The award was later established in 1990 to promote community drug awareness efforts in the DoD community.

The Travis DDRP hosted red ribbon week activities and other prevention programs, which contributed to their award.

National Red Ribbon Week is a drug-prevention program in which children wear red ribbons as a pledge to stay away from drugs with this year's theme “your future is key, so stay drug free.” Red ribbon week ran from October 23-31,

Parents and youth in communities across the country

began wearing red ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the killing and destruction caused by drugs in America in response to the murder of Drug Enforcement Agency Special Agent Enrique Camarena in Mexico in 1985, according to redribbon.org. After Camarena's death, hundreds of people from his hometown of Calexico, California, pledged to live drug-free lives.

In 1988, these pledges led to the launch of National Red Ribbon Week. National Red Ribbon Week was recognized nationally with President Ronald Reagan and first lady Nancy Reagan serving as the first honorary chairs.

The DDRP hosted a door decorating contest at the youth center, a drug prevention carnival and booths at Trunk or Treat and Zombie Week.

“This is the most recognized drug campaign nationwide,” said Finney. “It's important for our youth to show they are committed to a drug free lifestyle.”

For more information on National Red Ribbon Week, visit www.nfp.org.

Lillis

From Page 5

exercise, and who are the front line of defense for our nation.

It was an honor to see these men and women preparing for the worst possible situations both conflict and humanitarian crises can bring. In a day and age where it is easy to detach from the world around us, it was reaffirming to observe men and women from 25 countries coming together to share knowledge and best practices aimed at protecting nations and helping their most vulnerable citizens.

Solano County-based Travis Air Force Base provided much of the heavy lifting that was needed to ensure that the exercise was a success, once again demonstrating the key role this Air Force base plays in our military defense.

As executive director of The Leaven, a Fairfield-based organization, I am repeatedly reminded of the professionalism of the base personnel as they have generously supported our programs and served as much-needed role models to our students. From touring the base

to meeting air personnel, our students are reminded what it means to be a hero – the sacrifice, hard work and dedication – and are inspired to emulate these men and women.

After a recent “joint exercise” where the students interacted with Travis personnel, nearly all the children expressed an interest in pursuing a career in the military. While this may ultimately not be the career path many choose, the inspiration to work hard in school is invaluable.

As a father raising a young son, I am grateful for other parents' children who have answered the call to defend our nation and share in the responsibility of helping other nations in their defense. While we hope and pray that the skills that the airmen practiced at this training exercise are never needed, we can be confident that what stands between us and threats is a prepared, trained and highly motivated military.

◆◆◆
Mark Lillis is a civic leader with Air Mobility Command representing Travis Air Force Base and an honorary commander with the 60th Maintenance Group.

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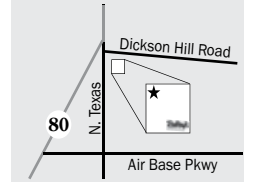
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Chord

From Page 11

where she performed live for the first time.

Walker's first live performance did not go very well, but that didn't stop her. She continued to perform at open mics every night during the week, slowly improving her confidence and skill.

"Once I got over caring what people thought and when I told myself that the people watching me are here to support me, I got over my stage fright," said Walker. "It's crazy because three years ago I would sing in a room with ten people and I would be super nervous, but now I've sang in front of hundreds of people and it feels amazing."

A little more than a year

after Walker's first performance she had to put performing on the back burner due to her daughter being born. Even though she wasn't able to perform as much anymore, Walker filled that time by writing more music and spending time with her biggest motivation.

"One of my biggest inspirations is my daughter and I want her to know that no matter what your dream is, or no matter what you want to do with your life, you can do anything," said Walker. "Even if your dreams sound crazy and other people tell you that it's not realistic, if you want something and you put your mind to it, you can do anything."

Using her dream of being a singer, Walker continues to perform and use her music as an outlet for the stressors in her life.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Tristan Biese
Senior Airman Hannah Walker, 633rd Force Support Squadron food service journeyman, poses for a photo Sept. 23 at the Crossbow Dining Facility at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.

Flint

From Page 2

with a well-crafted, intelligent argument that makes me feel foolish for not having seen the light earlier. Let your Airmen disagree with you. Sometimes you'll lose, and everyone else, including the organization, will win.

Air Force brothers and sisters, let me kindly remind you of something: your Airmen, your unit, the taxpayers, the people we protect all depend on you to be courageous and assertive followers. They count on you to stop being quiet when you know the way is wrong. They want you to stand up and give your view. They want you to cast aside your trepidations, or excuses. You were hired for

your brains. Use them.

But here's an even harder part of the assertive follower responsibility: your job is to follow. There comes a time when pushing back must end as long as the issue isn't immoral, illegal or unethical. There comes a time when the clock has expired and the leader's plan must be executed. After the decision to press forward is made, own your part of the plan. Be all in. Make it work. Don't doom it to failure just because you don't agree with it. This is not easy, but you didn't sign up for easy. Being an Airman is hard.

I hope when you look back after your period of service, you'll walk away proudly knowing you contributed all that you had to contribute. Follow boldly, Airmen.

Minnifield

From Page 2

I think too often we get caught up focusing on our own problems without really appreciating how truly fortunate we really are. As I write this, I realize everyone is entitled to a bad day and no one should be classified as being negative or unmotivated based on one occurrence. But we all have those Airmen, noncommissioned officers and senior NCOs who, for whatever reason, always seem to view things through a negative light. This problem is not limited to those within the military.

On a daily basis, on social media platforms, people email, tweet, Facebook, message and Instagram negativity out to others. I wish I had a solution

for those individuals, but I do not. I would like to remind everyone problems are temporary and normally get better over time. Our attitude, emotions and judgment project our feeling out to others. So, please consider the men and women you influence on a daily basis. I appreciate every day above ground and try to find the good in all situations. The fact that you have supervisors, mentors and leaders within your organization willing to help and provide assistance cannot be overstated. Being unmotivated and negative is undue hard work on others. Who has time for that? I state again, life is too short.

Don't let negativity and lack of motivation prevent you from appreciating all the opportunities and freedoms we enjoy. Be happy and smile always, as it could make the difference between a good and bad day.

Wright

From Page 7

They come to us motivated, encouraged, inspired, agile, innovative, ready to roll. They come to us feeling a sense of connection. They come to us feeling a sense of purpose.

"But, somewhere along the way, something happens," he said. "Some of it has to do with the nature of our business; some of it has to do with our extremely high ops tempo, which I don't perceive decreasing any time soon. Some of it has to do with what we as an Air Force have to get after: some of the additional duties, computer-based training, and moving things out of the way. We are doing a lot of work in that arena. But most of it has to do with the level of leadership and encouragement you provide... the environment you create as leaders in our Air Force. That's how we get Airmen to stay, how we keep them motivated and inspired. That's how we keep them resilient; how we utilize them and keep them thinking and being innovative."

Wright then provided updates on the ongoing changes intended to reduce administrative burden, increase mission focus, give Airmen time back and enhance quality of life. Noting that upon return to the Pentagon, one of the first things he has to do is arrange to reenlist, Wright received a round of applause from the gathered Airmen.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Brad Tipton

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright speaks about the enlisted perspective to Airmen attending the 2017 Airlift Tanker Association Symposium for professional development. A/TA provides military and industry partners the opportunity to collaborate and enhance the impact that more than 124,000 total force Mobility Airmen have on the global mobility mission.

Fairchild

From Page 7

"Before, pilots used a strap on their knee, which was causing us to look completely away from our instruments; some pilots would even take it off their knee and put it on the ground which keeps them from constantly looking at the control plate," said Capt. Sarah Cipolla, 92nd Air Refueling Squadron pilot.

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Fri., & Sat. 8am-3pm Sun. 8am-noon RAIN OR SHINE MULTI-FAMILY SALE Baby items & clothes, furn., entertainment ctr., futon, desk, chairs, hshld. clothing & more! 3109 Evergreen Dr.

0606 AREA 6



Sat., & Sun. 9am-4pm Lots of new in box hshld. items, misc. tools, used working W/D, etc. 1136 Kellogg St.

0677 PETS & SUPPLIES

Searching for AKC Registered Male Rottweiler for breeding w/2 1/2 yr. old Female German blood line Rottweiler. Call: 707-363-6338 Pls. lv. msg.

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0827 HONDA



14 Accord Sport. All pwr., black inter., new tires, oil, etc. 31K mi. Clean in/out \$16,500 obo. DLR #42203. (707)280-6816 Quinterosautosales.com

0841 NISSAN



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0841 NISSAN



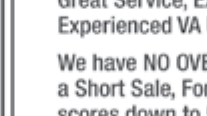
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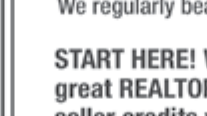
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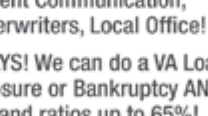
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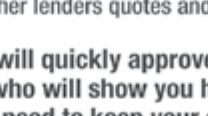
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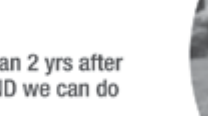
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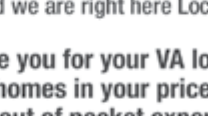
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Volunteers stand in front of their trunk display during a "Trunk or Treat" event held Oct. 27 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. This year's event marked the seventh annual iteration the base has hosted.

Trunk-or-Treat event celebrates ... HALLOWEEN

U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

The U.S. Air Force invites you to review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and attend Public Hearings for the Proposed Beddown of KC-46A Tanker Aircraft for Main Operating Base #4

PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Air Force (Air Force), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review that analyzes the potential environmental consequences associated with the proposal to beddown the KC-46A Main Operating Base #4 (MOB 4) mission at one or more active duty installations in the continental United States. The MOB 4 beddown requires infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, and personnel.

The Air Force's Preferred Alternative is to beddown the MOB 4 mission with 24 KC-46A aircraft at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL), New Jersey; or Travis Air Force Base (AFB), California; or both. Fairchild AFB, Washington and Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota are reasonable alternatives for the MOB 4 beddown. Along with the No Action Alternative, all four installations and the option to beddown either 36 or 24 KC-46A aircraft for the MOB 4 mission are evaluated as alternatives in the Draft EIS. Depending on the installation, the KC-46A would either add to existing non-tanker missions or would replace the current active duty tanker mission.

OBTAIN AND REVIEW THE DRAFT EIS. The Draft EIS is available for for download at www.KC-46A-MOB4.com and may be viewed at the following libraries:

Fairchild AFB Area: Fairchild AFB Library, Spokane Public Library

Grand Forks AFB Area: Grand Forks AFB Library, Grand Forks Public Library

JB MDL Area: Burlington County Library, Pemberton Community Library, Ocean County Library- Manchester Branch

Travis AFB Area: Fairfield-Suisun Community Library, Suisun City Library, Mitchell Memorial Library, Vacaville Public Library

PUBLIC HEARINGS- PLEASE ATTEND. The Air Force requests comments from interested local, state, and federal agencies; federally recognized tribes; and interested members of the public. The Air Force is holding public hearings to provide the public with the opportunity to learn more about the proposal and provide input. The public hearing venues will open at 5 p.m. and begin with an "open house" style format and poster stations. At 5:30 p.m., the Air Force will give a brief presentation about the proposal. Formal public testimony will begin at approximately 6 p.m. The hearing venue will close at 8 p.m. All members of the public are invited and encouraged to attend. **Written and verbal comments will be accepted at all hearings; your input is valuable and assists the Air Force in making more informed decisions.** Dates and locations for each hearing are provided below:

Date	Installation	Location
November 28, 2017	Travis AFB	Northern Solano County Association of Realtors 3690 Hilborn Rd, Fairfield, CA 94534
November 30, 2017	Grand Forks AFB	Alerus Center, Hawk Meeting Room 1200 S 42nd St, Grand Forks, ND 58201
December 5, 2017	JB MDL	North Hanover Township Municipal Building 41 Schoolhouse Road, Jacobstown, NJ
December 7, 2017	Fairchild AFB	Shriners Event Center 7217 W Westbow Blvd, Spokane, WA

PUBLIC COMMENT. Comments on the Draft EIS can be submitted electronically at www.KC-46A-MOB4.com; verbally or in writing at the public hearings; or via postal mail at the address below. For further information, please contact:

Capt Matthew Smith, AFCEC/CZN
Attn: KC-46A MOB 4 EIS
2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155; JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853

To ensure the Air Force has sufficient time to consider public input in preparation of the Final EIS, please submit comments by December 18, 2017.



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