



Training keeps 60th SFS in ...

SWING

**PAGES
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Getting to know the ‘giants’ for Vets Day

If I have seen further than others, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.
— Isaac Newton

This weekend, on the 11th day of the 11th month, it will have been 99 years since the armistice was signed that led to the end of the “war to end all wars.” Armistice Day was originally designated to honor the veterans of World War I and in 1954, Nov. 11 was re-designated as Veterans Day to honor all veterans of all wars. The men and women who came before us set the standard,



Commentary by Maj. Jared Mitchell
60TH COMPTROLLER SQUADRON

provided the example and gave us the shoulders to stand on to make us the Air Force we have today. This Veterans Day, take time to truly honor those giants that served to honor our country and get to know their stories. Growing up, I remember a grainy, black-and-white photograph hanging in our house. The photo depicted a young WWI soldier in dress uniform named Robert Stahlecker. After some research, I found that Robert, my great-grandma Anna’s brother, was 23 when he fought and died on the

Commander’s Commentary

battlefields of France in 1917 serving as a private in the infantry. My great-grandma Anna never talked about him, but I know he died to save others. He was a giant. As I researched that photograph, I also came across information on another of my great-grandma Anna’s brothers, Harold R. Stahlecker, a U.S. Marine that served in the Pacific during World War II. Corporal Stahlecker fought in the Philippines during the Fall of Corregidor, May 6, 1942. After the surrender of U.S. forces,

Harold was captured by the Japanese and held as a Prisoner of War. He was sent to a POW camp near Cabanatuan, Luzon, Philippines along with 3,213 other Americans. The last known report on Corporal Stahlecker show him as one of the 1,782 passengers on the Arisan Maru, a Japanese freight ship, or Hellship, used by Japan to transport prisoners of war to Japan to use as slave labor. As it transited towards Japan, the Arisan Maru was hit by a torpedo from an American submarine. Though Harold is considered missing in action, it is believed he died in the sinking of the Arisan Maru on October 24, 1944. Based on these dates,

Harold was a Prisoner of War for at least 902 days. Though I never met him, I know served so others may live. He was a giant. A couple years ago, I had the privilege of spending a week with Col. Bruce Crandall. He flew over 900 combat missions through two tours of duty in Vietnam, earning the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery and heroism during the Battle of Ia Drang Valley. If you have seen the movie “We Were Soldiers,” the actor Greg Kinnear played then-Maj. Bruce Crandall. Known by the callsign “Snake 6,” he earned the reputation as an

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Great appreciation for veterans past and present

Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Pulsipher
60TH COMPTROLLER SQUADRON

Chief’s Commentary

This weekend we observe Veterans Day. It is the perfect opportunity to stop and reflect on the men and women who served in defense of our great nation. In my opinion, our nation’s veterans, as a whole, have accomplished more to bring peace and stability to this world than any other military force or organization. You can look back through our nation’s history and read about the success our military achieved in various wars, conflicts, natural disasters or humanitarian crises. Veterans of our military

are nothing short of heroes and we owe them our appreciation. My last duty assignment was at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. I spent much of my off-duty time traveling Europe. Anyone who studies military history would love an assignment to Europe. I was fortunate to visit some of the sites of World War I and II. You cannot ask for a better lesson on what the war veterans experienced than to see the locations in person. So, while I was stationed in Germany, my wife and I made

it a priority to show our daughters the places most kids in the United States would only read about in books. We walked the grounds of the Dachau Concentration Camp and read about its liberation by US Forces. We spent three days in Normandy, France, walking the beaches of Utah, Omaha, Gold and Juno. I read the accounts of brave men who stormed those heavily fortified beaches in an effort to break through the front lines of German forces. On one excursion, our family drove to Belgium to see the Bastogne War Museum, the site of the Battle of the Bulge. This is a must see location if you ever visit Belgium. The museum sits on a hill

overlooking the area where the battle to counter a massive German offensive occurred. You can walk the grounds and gaze over the woods where thousands of U.S. Soldiers fought against a near unsurmountable military force. Some estimates have the total number of American casualties at 100,000 men and women. You can only imagine what the survivors who made it through that battle must have felt. Their courage was part of the turning point for the war. My family also visited the grounds of American cemeteries at Normandy and in Luxembourg. Walking through

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60th MSG hosts honorary commanders

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

The 60th Mission Support Group hosted a tour for 20 honorary commanders Nov. 3 at Travis Air Force Base, California. The Honorary Commanders program allows individuals from a variety of backgrounds to partner with different commanders to strengthen and foster relationships between Travis and the local community.

The program is comprised of two main objectives: to educate key community leaders about a unit’s mission and to foster a supportive relationship with the community, increase military involvement in civic endeavors and organizations and make members of the local community feel part of the unit. “Back in October 2011, I was first invited to be an honorary commander,” said Scott Farmer, Travis honorary golden bear. “The first two years as an honorary commander were very eye-opening to me and gave me immense respect to Travis’ unique mission.” The vast majority of those serving in the honorary commander position have little to no military experience. For many, the program serves as an opportunity to interact and witness the behind-the-scenes efforts that showcases the installation’s rapid global mobility mission. “Being one of three, the position of honorary golden bear has given me so much appreciation for Travis AFB,” said Farmer. “Just coming onto base, my morale is boosted and I get to see the installation mission.” Travis puts on four honorary commander tours annually which highlights the 60th Maintenance Group, 60th Medical Group, 60th Operations Group and



U.S. Air Force photo/Louis Briscese

Honorary commanders visit the dormitories during a tour of the 60th Mission Support Group Nov. 3 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The purpose of the Travis Air Force Base Honorary Commander Program is to promote relationships between base senior leadership and civilian partners, foster civic appreciation of the Air Force mission and its Airmen, maximize opportunities to share the Air Force story with new stewards, and to communicate mutual interest, challenges and concerns that senior leaders and civilian stakeholders have in common.

the 60th MSG. These tours play a significant role in the community’s engagement and understanding of what the base is doing. On this tour the honorary commanders were able to see the dorms, fire station, the Combat Arms Training and Maintenance mission and other areas of the 60th MSG. “I’ve always been involved in the community which gave me connection of Travis AFB,” said Sheila McCabe, Fairfield and Suisun school district’s assistant superintendent of educational

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Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif.
60th Air Mobility Wing

Air Force
Col. John Klein
60th Air Mobility Wing commander

2nd Lt. Jessica Ward
Chief of command information

Airman 1st Class
Jonathon D. A. Carnell
Internal information staff writer

Airman 1st Class
Christian Conrad
Internal information staff writer

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On the cover

Staff Sgt. Jamie Tovar, left, 60th Security Forces Squadron, tries to take down the “Redman” during Defender Annual Refresher crucible training Oct. 27 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name:

Senior Airman Paul Normand.

Duty title:

Unit deployment manager.

Hometown:

Houston, Texas.

Time in service:

Three years.

Unit:

860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Family:

Spouse, Emily.

What are your goals?

To obtain a Bachelor of the Arts degree in physical therapy.

What are your hobbies?

Most everything outdoors, i.e. camping, hiking, rock climbing, shooting, hunting. I also enjoy video games and training my new puppy.

What is your greatest achievement?

Backpacking across Israel on a high school trip when I was 18.

U.S. Air Force photo



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

A C-17 Globemaster III lands at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The C-17 Globemaster III is the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force and is capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward bases in the deployment area. The aircraft can perform tactical airlift and airdrop missions and can transport litters and ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations when required.

BEEliners showcase commitment

Our profession is often paradoxical. We intimidate, yet we inspire. We deliver combat power to oppose our adversaries, yet also deliver hope to those in despair. I experienced such a paradox on a mission this week.

The plan was simple – deliver a CH-47 Chinook helicopter to Afghanistan to provide combat power to our brothers and sisters engaged in Operations Resolute Support and Freedom Sentinel. Several U.S. Army soldiers accompanied the helicopter. A nine-month adventure, apart from their family and friends, awaited. I spoke with one Soldier, a major, prior to our



Commentary
by Lt. Col.
Erik Fisher
21ST AIRLIFT
SQUADRON

flight from Germany to Afghanistan. His sadness about the absence from his family was juxtaposed by his thankfulness to spend hours talking with his wife and children on FaceTime during our Germany stop-over. The flight was uneventful and we successfully delivered our cargo to the combat zone. In

the words of Defense Secretary James Mattis, we delivered intimidation to our adversaries. Yet, our mission would shift.

The aeromedical evacuation team met us in parking soon after we offloaded the Chinook. A swarm of activity ensued in the back of the airplane. Patient stanchions

Community

were installed, equipment was loaded and people scurried about.

Finally, three patients arrived. Two sustained combat injuries, one was shot in the arm and another was severely injured by a grenade that landed at his feet. It was a miracle he was still alive. At this point, our reason shifted. We were now an instrument of hope, or in the words of the Secretary, inspiration.

It was a long flight back to Germany. The winds were not in our favor. We asked for a waiver for our team of medics to extend beyond their crew duty day limit. There was a lot of time to reflect on our purpose as the medics tended to our injured

comrades. The reflection was individual, but our resolve to deliver care to these individuals was communal. This resolve was palpable.

Nearly 10 hours after takeoff, we landed at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. There, an ambulance along with another team of medics awaited our arrival. We helped the medics offload the patients and their equipment and soon they were en route to the hospital in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany. We loaded up our bags on the crew bus and I noted the time – 24 hours and 30 minutes had elapsed since we began our day.

We dropped our bags in our rooms and huddled together, beers in hand, to debrief the experience. We

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Mobility Airmen ‘re-blue’ at A/TA forum

Capt. Kimberly Erskine

AIR MOBILITY COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ORLANDO, Fla. — The 2017 Airlift/Tanker Association symposium hosted Oct. 26-29 in Orlando, Florida, focused on readiness, joint operations, multi-domain tactics and innovation to further develop the 125,000 Mobility Airmen.

The symposium featured multiple key note speakers from the Air Force and across the Department of Defense who focused on this year's theme of “Mobility Airmen, Ever Present: Agile, Innovative and Ready to Roll.”

Under Secretary of the Air Force Matthew P. Donovan's opening address highlighted efforts currently underway to increase Air Force capabilities and grow capacity and readiness for the future.

“You are all the backbone of the American way of war,” Donovan said. “For decades the United States has relied on the global, strategic and theater mobility that you provide. You give our nation one of its greatest strategic abilities, the ability to quickly project power anywhere across the planet.”

Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, Air Mobility Command commander, later introduced Gen. Robert B. Abrams, U.S. Army Forces Command commander, to introduce the A/TA audience to the effects AMC has on joint partnerships from the Army's vantage point.

Abrams emphasized the importance of AMC's mission sets to the needs of the Army.

“In 35 plus years of service, I have never been on a mission

See RE-BLUE Page 22

Base raises awareness about domestic violence



U.S. Air Force photo/Latrise Muchison

Airman 1st Class Christian Graham, 60th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron medical lab technician, shows simulated bruises on his neck during a domestic violence awareness experience Oct. 24 at Travis Force Base, Calif. The month of October was recognized as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

McConnell comm shop named best in DOD

Senior Airman Chris Thornbury
22ND AIR REFUELING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan. – The 22nd Communications Squadron earned the highest achievement possible by winning the 2016 Category I Defense Information Systems Agency Defense Information Systems Network Facility of the Year.

The 77 Airmen and eight civilians assigned to the squadron make up 13 different specialties. Together they bested all other units in their category throughout the Department of Defense. Despite the name, the award isn't actually based on the facility itself but the efforts of the communications unit.

“The reason it's named a

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Col. John Klein, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, asks an Airman about his training during an all-call Nov. 6 at the Base Theater at Travis Air Force Base Calif. Klein spoke about leadership, pride, maintaining readiness and the Air Forces top priorities.

Klein: 'We are here for a reason'

**Airman 1st Class
Jonathon D. A. Carnell**

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Col. John Klein, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, held wing commander's calls on Nov. 6-8 at the Base Theater at Travis Air Force Base, California.

While walking among fellow Airmen on the theater floors, Klein shared how Travis has maintained mission readiness during all the natural disasters which have taken place since the last commander's call in August.

"We are here for a reason

and we should not forget that," said Klein. "Rapidly projecting American power, anytime, anywhere."

Klein stressed how regular, everyday missions did not stop even though Travis provided relief to hurricanes, an

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Flying Jennies ready for combat mission

Maj. Marnee A.C. Losurdo
403RD WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — In Greek mythology, a phoenix is a bird that obtains new life by rising from the ashes. Many members of the 815th Airlift Squadron might be able to relate to this tale of renewal or resurrection, except their symbol isn't the legendary bird, but a hard-working and practical pack mule – a Flying Jenny.

In 2013, times were uncertain for the 815th AS, a tactical airlift unit in the Air Force Reserve's 403rd Wing that transports supplies, equipment and personnel in a theater of operation. As part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2013, the Air Force announced plans to transfer 10 of the 403rd Wing's C-130J Super Hercules aircraft. However, two years later the Secretary of the Air Force reversed that recommendation,

beginning the programming and budgeting work to restore personnel and mission capability at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.

On Nov. 3, the Flying Jennies completed this quest by reaching full operational capability meaning they are ready to deploy and provide combat-ready Airmen to conduct the combat airlift mission, said Lt. Col. Stuart Rubio, 815th AS commander.

“There have been a lot of challenges, and an enormous amount of work has been done by the squadron to get to this point,” said Rubio, who was assigned to the 403rd Wing in January 2016 to assist with rebuilding the unit, to include recruiting new personnel and establishing their retraining program.

Rubio relates the experience of rebuilding the squadron to a

See JENNIES Page 13

Travis sergeant jumps into hoops action



U.S. Navy photo/Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Emiline L. M. Senn

Staff Sgt. Cinnamon Kava, right, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron unit training manager, dribbles during the 2017 Armed Forces Basketball Championship from Nov. 1-7 at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. Basketball helped motivate Kava during the past year while she battled Hodgkin lymphoma. Navy captured the gold in the tournament with a 79-63 win over Army.

Domed simulator unveiled in USAFE

Senior Airman Devin Boyer
86TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

EINSIEDLERHOF, Germany — The U.S. Air Forces in Europe Warrior Preparation Center held a ribbon cutting ceremony highlighting the delivery and operational status of the new Joint Terminal Attack Controller domed simulator Nov. 2.

A JTAC's job is to direct the action of combat aircraft engaged in close air support. The domed simulator, named Joint Terminal Control Training and Rehearsal System, is designed to support training for JTACs in the performance of terminal control, terminal guidance, close air support and joint fires operations training.

“We're here to mark the significance of an increase of training capability at the Warrior Preparation Center that is represented as a JTAC dome,” said

Maj. Grant Spear, U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa WPC chief of operations. “This allows JTACs in the USAFE-AFAFRICA theater to train at a higher level of fidelity.”

The new training simulator uses multiple 4K projectors to display a 270 degree field of view for the JTACs. They can even use emulated binoculars, night vision and M4 carbine during their training.

“This expands the realism and capabilities of the virtual training systems that we have for JTACs,” said Spear.

Maj. Gen. Jon T. Thomas, Headquarters USAFE-AFRICA Operations, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration director, said the new simulator ultimately enhances capability provided to combatant commanders.

“Our job in the air component is to provide options to our


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Fuels flight keeps mission in the air



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

Airman 1st Class Eric Rotolo, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Management Flight, tests fuel Nov. 2 while refueling a C-17 Globemaster III from Joint Base Charleston, S.C., at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The Fuels Management Flight plays a vital role in Travis's Rapid Global Mobility mission by supplying over 50 million gallons of fuel annually to the Air Force's largest mobility wing.



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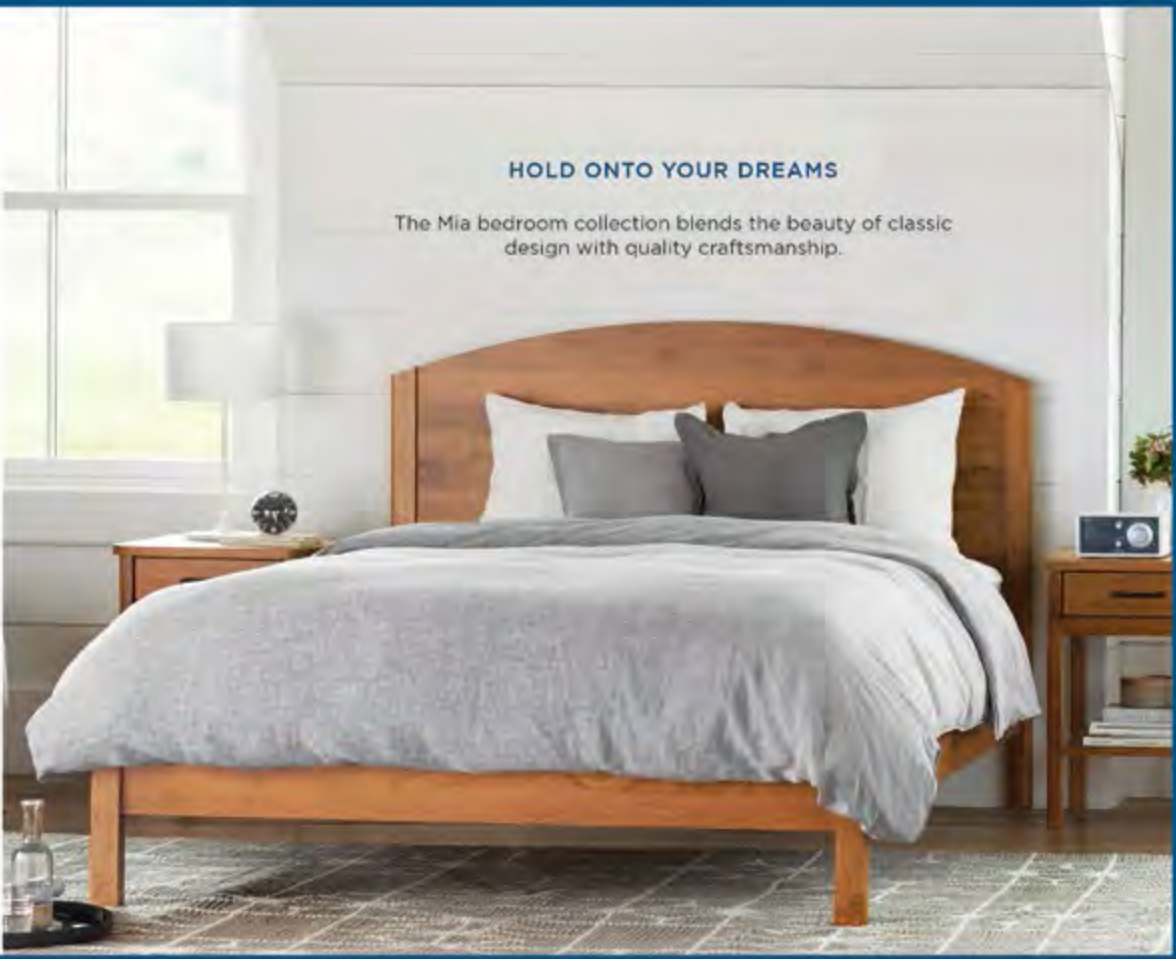
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Brothers in life, brothers in arms reunite downrange

Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.

386TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Saying good-bye to family members before a deployment can be stressful. But rarely does a service member cross paths with a sibling while deployed downrange. This recent uplifting experience was the case for two brothers, both serving in the military on separate paths.

Air Force Lt. Col. Kevin Roche, 737th Airlift Expeditionary Squadron operations director, and Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Brian Roche, G Company, 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment medical evacuation helicopter pilot, found each other at an undisclosed area for approximately three hours to catch

up and enjoy each other's company.

"It was a surreal experience," said Brian. "Had you asked me in January if I would be able to see my brother halfway across the world, I'd have told you flat-out, no. There was a strange sense of normalcy in a region that is anything but."

Their father passed away earlier this year and the last time the brothers saw each other was at their father's funeral. Brian, who deployed at the beginning of the year briefly returned home to be with family during the burial.

According to Kevin, his mother became very emotional after witnessing photos of their reunion.

“The idea of being deployed in a combat environment and crossing each other’s paths never occurred to us,” said

Kevin. "Our missions didn't particularly line up but seeing each other this close to the holidays and sharing our experiences since our dad passed away was very meaningful to me."

Their father served as a Marine for a full career. The Roche brothers knew they were on track for military professions and followed in the footsteps of a long line of relatives who served their country dating back to World War I, Kevin explained.

“Our wives were ecstatic to see the two of us together,” said Kevin. “This was just a reminder that even though we are away from that part of the family, we are not necessarily away from all of the family.”

Kevin has been in the Air Force for

16 years and his home station for the last 10 years has been with the Minnesota Air National Guard. He is the 133rd Operations Support Squadron commander and he pilots the C-130 Hercules.

Brian was one of 70 soldiers who deployed to Southwest Asia with the Oregon Army National Guard. He flies the Sikorsky HH-60M Black Hawk, a four-blade, twin-turboshaft utility helicopter.

Brian has been flying with a folded casket flag in his aircraft since his father's passing. He was able to pass this along to Kevin in person during the reunion, and now it's flown all over the theater, in multiple types of aircraft, and on different missions.

Between the two of them, they share a total of seven deployments.

Facility saves \$13M for AF

**Airman 1st Class
Tessa B. Corrick**

2ND BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. — The nuclear mission cannot be stopped by old or nonfunctioning aircraft components. The solution to this is a trip to a bomber hydraulic Centralized Repair Facility which saves time and money.

The bomber hydro CRF at Barksdale Air Force Base has repaired enough parts from the bomber fleet to save the Air Force over \$13 million in 2017.

“Our CRF is rated number one out of five CRFs across the entire Air Force,” said Tech. Sgt. Joshua Partin, 2nd Maintenance Squadron bomber hydro CRF flight chief. “Having that title means that we are repairing and restoring more parts at a higher rate than anyone else out there.”

To start the process, parts are sent in from the flight service center and disassembled by the CRF. Then they are routed to the fabrication flight for a routine that involves paint removal, a non-destructive inspection and a new paint.

“The CRF reassembles and conducts a function test on the repaired component to ensure it is functioning properly,” said Partin. “If the component

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FALLS CHURCH, Va. — One wounded warrior wanted to amble around the hotel pool during his honeymoon without strapping

on prosthetic legs. Another wanted ice skates to fit snugly onto his prosthetic feet so he'd receive the sensory feedback he'd come to expect when engaging in his

See PRINTING Page 26

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Burn Center offers new approach

Dr. Steven Galvan
U.S. ARMY INSTITUTE OF SURGICAL RESEARCH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Doctors at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston are utilizing a novel method of administering pain medication to burn patients in the burn intensive care unit in hopes to mitigate opioid addiction and other complications associated with burn care.

“It’s something different,” said Dr. Clayne Benson, assigned to Brooke Army Medical Center, collocated with the USAISR Burn Center. “But the promise and benefits are huge.”

The pain medication is managed with the placement of an intrathecal catheter and infusion of preservative-free morphine. The concept is similar to epidural anesthesia used during labor for pain relief, except the catheter resides in the intrathecal space where the cerebrospinal fluid resides instead of the epidural space.

The catheter used is exactly like an epidural catheter used for laboring women.

“It’s an FDA-cleared device for a procedure that a lot of anesthesiologists have done for

other reasons,” Benson said. “It had never been done on burn patients and we presented the idea of the study to the burn center leadership [Drs. Booker King, Lee Cancio, Jennifer Gurney, Kevin Chung and Craig Ainsworth] and they agreed to try this initiative.”

Benson, an Air Force Reserve lieutenant colonel, got the idea of using this technique in the intensive care unit while taking care of polytrauma soldiers at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany from 2009-12. Benson said he is excited about the potential of this new pain management for burn patients.

“The results are amazing,” he said. “The best thing about it is that it only uses one-one hundredth of the amount of pain medication used with the traditional (intravenous) method.”

Intrathecal medication is delivered straight to where it is effective, the spinal cord, thereby minimizing systemic complications of IV medications.

Intravenous medication disperses pain medication throughout the entire body and only a tiny percentage of it gets to where it is needed. This is especially beneficial for burn patients who require numerous painful operations and traditionally

require being placed on a ventilator, with one of the reasons being pain control.

Longer ventilator times lead to complications like deconditioning, delirium and pneumonia, which all impact quality of life and time in the Burn Intensive Care Unit.

“Also, the majority patients who are mechanically ventilated are diagnosed with delirium and are likely to have increased length of hospitalization, increased ventilator days and higher rates of long-term cognitive dysfunction,” Benson said.

Delirium is another complication burn patients experience with exposure to sedatives and pain medications.

“Delirium is when a patient’s awareness changes and they become confused, agitated, or they completely shut down,” said Sarah Shingleton, chief wound care nurse and clinical nurse specialist at the USAISR Burn Center Intensive Care Unit. “It can come and go, and is caused by a number of things to include different pain medications, pain, infections, a disturbed sleep cycle or an unfamiliar environment.”

Members of the USAISR Burn Center Intensive Care Unit will present the data of the initiative at the 2018 American Burn Association meeting in April 2018.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Tessa B. Cormick

Senior Airmen Taylor Davis and Nathan Pennington, 2nd Maintenance Squadron bomber hydraulic centralized repair facility journeymen, work together Oct. 23 to ratchet a bolt into a brake for a B-52 Stratofortress at Barksdale Air Force Base, La.

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From Page 8

football team. He said the last year and a half has been similar to being in a summer training camp without that game to look forward to; however, the 815th team is now ready, not for a game, but for a combat airlift mission.

“The reason we train is so we can do the mission,” said Rubio.

The squadron does this using the C-130J, the newest of the C-130 fleet, said Staff Sgt. Tony DiStefano, 815th AS loadmaster.

“This is the cargo specific version of the aircraft,” he said. “It can carry quite a few tons of cargo. We can load Humvees and smaller vehicles into the back, and we can bring them anywhere around the world.”

The C-130J can land on a dirt or gravel airstrip only 3,000 feet long; however, if there isn’t a safe place to land, cargo can be airdropped to the location, said Rubio.

The squadron trains weekly for this mission, and in honor of the squadron reaching FOC status they flew a three-ship formation. During the low-level tactical flight, they practiced airdrops, flew with night vision goggles and performed other tasks to prepare for missions in a deployed location, said Rubio.

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Domed

From Page 9

joint force commander, General (Curtis) Scaparrotti here in (European Command) and General (Thomas) Waldhauser in AFRI-COM,” said Thomas. “You take it all the way down to effects from the air domain, and the only way we can do that safely and effectively in close proximity to friendly forces is by having a JTAC on the ground, and that JTAC has to be current, qualified, capable and proficient. This system right here makes them better at all of those.”

The WPC plans to involve the dome simulator in their future large scale exercises including their Spartan Eagle exercise which involves JTACs in Europe as well as Airmen stationed stateside.

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Facility

From Page 10

passes the test it is turned back into the flight service center to be distributed throughout Air Force Global Strike Command.”

This newly derived unit, which has only been at Barksdale AFB since 2015, is able to accommodate assets from the B-52 Stratofortress, the B-1 Lancer and the B-2 Spirit. This year the repair rate for this CRF is 96 percent.

“Each day we are saving anywhere from \$60,000 to \$80,000,” said Staff Sgt. Nicholas Geiger, 2nd MXS bomber hydro CRF shift lead. “We are making sure that supply has all the parts they need to deliver them to the flightline.”

After the first of the year, the amount of components the CRF can accommodate will increase by 40 percent thanks to a new

hydraulic test stand.

“Right now with the test stand we have, we can only do certain tasks,” said Geiger. “As soon as we get the new one in it will expand our capabilities to deal with higher pressures and more in depth testing, which will allow us to test more assets across the bomber fleet.”

This new stand will also allow them to cut out a trip to Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, two to three times a year. These trips were necessary because the current hydraulic test stand at Barksdale AFB is not capable of testing B-1 and B-2 parts.

“Cutting out this trip saves around \$70,000 a trip,” said Geiger. “That equates to roughly \$210,000 annually.”

The amount of funds and resources that will be spared thanks to the CRF and the new test stand will continue to increase, ensuring the Air Force’s nuclear capabilities are mission ready at any time.

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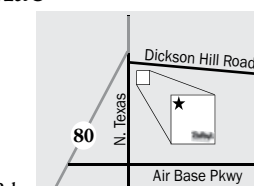
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The graphic features a stylized tree on the left with autumn-colored leaves. To its right, the words "FALL INTO CASH" are written in large, colorful, outlined letters. Below this, the text "'til Nov 26" is displayed. The background is a light blue and green gradient with faint swirl patterns. Several dollar bills are scattered around the text and tree. The bottom section of the graphic has a yellow background with green and red text.

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60th SFS ready for fight with yearly training



1) Col. Matthew Leard, 60th Air Mobility Wing vice commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Erika Scofield, 60th Mission Support Group superintendent, are briefed by James Frazier, 60th Security Forces Squadron, on what to expect during 60th SFS Defender Annual Refresher crucible training. 2) Airman 1st Class Christopher Boone and Staff Sgt. Jamie Tovar, 60th SFS members, search and clear rooms Oct. 27 during training. 3) Boone and Tovar have minutes to disassemble and reassemble a weapon while answering questions being rapidly asked by an instructor. 4) An unidentified 60th SFS member plays the part of a victim during training. 5) Boone and Tovar search and clear rooms. 6) Boone uses a nonlethal taser to take down an armed “assailant” during Defender Annual Refresher crucible training Oct. 27 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. 7) Tovar struggles to maintain his “weapon” during Defender Annual Refresher crucible training.

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

Since August, the 60th Security Forces Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, California, has been conducting Defender Annual Refresher Training on base in order to remain one of the nation’s most effective security forces.

DART consolidates 256 hours of ancillary training into a 30-day course designed to reinforce training integral to the accomplishment of the 60th SFS mission: Providing a safe and secure operating environment for Team Travis.

“The training includes all their core critical tasks that they are required to re-certify on annually,” said James Frazier, 60th SFS security forces training instructor. “Things like drug abuse recognition, field sobriety testing, the use of lethal and less lethal weapons and the use of force are all covered by the training. We make sure our defenders have all their critical certifications to accomplish their job.”

When it comes to a suspect with a gun or a potentially fatal vehicle accident, it’s the mission of the 60th SFS to react instantly to keep base personnel safe. It’s a mission that requires a special type of person, said Staff Sgt. Jaime C. Tovar, 60th SFS standardization evaluations evaluator.

“It certainly takes a particular breed to be running towards gunfire instead of from it,” said Tovar. “Going through this training gives me pride knowing that we [the 60th SFS] are all in the same fight. I can trust the person to the left or right of me to have my back when the situation becomes dire.”

DART is required for all 60th SFS Airmen from the rank of airman basic to technical sergeant and first and second lieutenants. Vital to the training are simulated “real world” and practical scenarios that help the defenders bridge the divide between procedure and instinct.

“When you’re in a life or death situation, there’s no room for mistakes,” said Tovar. “A big part of this training is to drill those mistakes out of us so that when the time comes where we’re the difference between someone living or dying, we can react without hesitation and can get that person to safety.”

While the 30-day course is set up to become a lynchpin in the success of an organization renowned for both its professionalism and effectiveness, Tovar claims that the time spent fostering bonds with his fellow defenders has played as important a role as any training has.

“Working with everyone and being exposed to all these different people from all these different cultures and backgrounds definitely builds up a sense of camaraderie between members of the 60th SFS,” said Tovar. “And when it comes down to it, that’s really what the lifeblood is of what we do here. If you can’t trust the people next to you or if you don’t believe they can watch your back, our operations can completely fall apart. So while DART definitely reinforces our core competencies, it also brings us closer together knowing the capabilities of one another and knowing we’re on the same page. Even the time we spend at the gates for hours in the sun or rain or cold is an important part of establishing that trust with your partners.”

Frazier has seen that trust firsthand, and having been witness to the skills displayed by those who have participated in DART, feels safe in the knowledge that the training has helped to produce a force who has deserved the trust of its community.

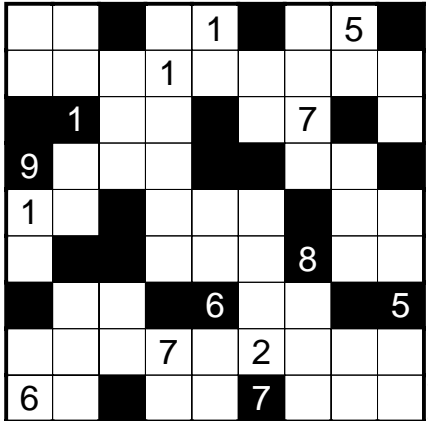
“I have the utmost confidence in these defenders’ skill sets when they leave our training environment,” said Frazier. “I sleep well at night knowing our defenders are on watch and protecting our personnel at all times.”



Puzzles

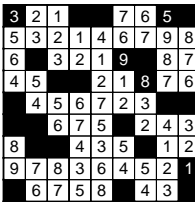
STR8TS

No. 359 Tough



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

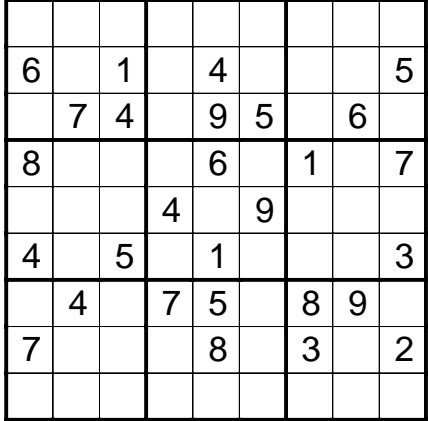
Previous solution - Medium



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.

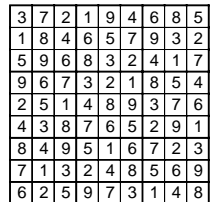
SUDOKU

No. 359 Easy



The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Previous solution - Very Hard



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

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.

Free Thanksgiving Day Dinner. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 23 at Veterans Memorial Building, 549 Merchant St., Vacaville.

Blue Eagles Booster Club 16th Annual Holiday Tree Festival and Auction. 5:30 p.m. silent auction, 6 p.m. start Nov. 30 at Bldg. 31 MXG atrium. Benefits Travis Fisher Houses. Open to all Travis AFB personnel. Acceptable donations include fully decorated artificial trees 6 feet and smaller, stockings filled with items, gift baskets, wreaths and quilts. For more information, call Camille Roland at 707-592-1120, Lori Canon at 707-365-2118 or email bebctreeauction@gmail.com.

Free Christmas Eve Dinner. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 24 at Veterans Memorial Building, 549 Merchant St., Vacaville.

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.

In the next
week...

sat

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

DGMC Chapel

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

Protestant
First Street Chapel

- Protestant Community Service: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday.
- Gospel Worship Service: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday.
- Children's Ministry is provided for 6-month-olds through fifth grade.
- Protestant Men of the Chapel: 8 to 9 a.m., first Saturday of every month.

Twin Peaks Chapel

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

Airmen's Ministry Center

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



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

60th FSS

Events and information

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 travsopcombatpsd@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://jhns.release.dma.mil/public> and fill out the information.

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

Mare Island Museum. Now a Blue Star Museum, which means active-duty military, reservists and their 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 Michaelis at 707-427-2573 or Cal Gisham 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:

- Timothy Miller, 60th Medical Support Squadron.

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

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

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

THE FLIP SIDE

Airmen complete FTAC



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

Congratulations to the latest Airmen to complete the First-Term Airman Center course. Alphabetically: Airman 1st Class Edgardo Acosta-Ponce De Leon, 60th Aerial Port Squadron; Airman 1st Class Nick Anding, 21st Airlift Squadron; Airman 1st Class Stephanie Bano, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron; Airman Holden Branson, 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Ryan Britt, 660th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Anaiah Byrd, 60th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Airman 1st Class Joshua Bytendorp, 660th AMXS; Airman LeDerion Carter, 660th AMXS; Airman Hunter Davis, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Schylar Dolton, 660th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Stephen Forte, 860th AMXS; Airman Ian Freeby, 60th AMXS; Airman Basic Robert Larsen, 860th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Hunter Losen, 660th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Jonathan Mora Doctor, 60th APS; Airman 1st Class Kiaku Naeole, 60th Medical Group; Airman 1st Class Rachel Pearson, 60th AMDS; Airman Carlos Perezizarry, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Dawson Peterson, 60th Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Robert Prankard, 60th MXS; Airman 1st Class Logan Rackers, 21st AS; Airman Basic Justin Richey, 60th CES; Airman 1st Class Troy Rodriguez, 60th Operations Support Squadron; Airman 1st Class Cameron Roelofs, 60th OSS; Airman Casey Rowland, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Christopher Soto, 60th CES; Airman Claudio Teruel, 60th AMDS; and Airman 1st Class Anthony Vazquez, 660th AMXS.

DPAA accounts for 183 missing service members

WASHINGTON — In fiscal year 2017, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency accounted for 183 formerly missing persons from past conflicts. Also, the agency individually identified the remains of 18 additional personnel, who were previously accounted for as part of group burials, reaching another milestone of 201 total identifications for the fiscal year.

"These numbers are an unprecedented achievement in the accounting mission's history," said Kelly McKeague, DPAA director.

"With more than 600 military and civilian personnel stationed and operating around the world, DPAA is staunchly committed to researching, investigating, recovering and identifying U.S. personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. It's through this staunch commitment that we endeavor to bring solace to those who still wait for the fullest possible accounting of their loved ones."

A breakdown by conflict of those whose remains were identified shows that 143 were from World War II, 42 from the Korean War, and 16 from the Vietnam War.

— Air Force News Service

Awareness

From Page 5

checked on him.

“Domestic violence can happen to anyone,” he said. “A lot of people who are victims don’t open up about it, so we need to be aware.”

Staff Sgt. Maria Howe, 349th Air Mobility Wing finance technician, volunteered for the experiment because she personally knows people who have been affected by domestic violence.

“Since I work in customer service, I wanted to see what the responses would be,” she said.

A few people were alarmed when she arrived for work with a giant bruise on her face, Howe said. The citizen Airman received great responses from her chain of command.

Most of the volunteers said

“They would ... avoid eye contact.”

— Staff Sgt. Maria Howe

that they were checked on by those who knew them, Muchison said. However, they often felt ignored by strangers.

“I would distinctly try to make eye contact with people as I was working with them,” Howe said. “They would purposefully look away and avoid eye contact.”

The volunteers said the results from this experience was a bit of a wake-up call, Muchison said. It made them more cognizant of what actual victims go through with all of the looks and stares from everyone.

The overall exercise went well. “Several of volunteers said they would like to do this again next year,” Muchison said.

Best

From Page 5

‘DISA Facility of the Year’ is so that other smaller units can compete such as tenant base and even bigger ones such as network operations centers,” said Chief Master Sgt. William Barnett, 22nd CS superintendent.

The squadron proved to be innovative and reliable. Last year, Gen. Darren W. McDew, U.S. Transportation Command commander, personally recognized the network operations shop with an honorary award, TRANSCOM Innovator Award, and they were lauded as having Air Mobility Command’s best large equipment shop.

“I could not be more proud of the personnel of this unit

and for the recognition this squadron has received,” said Maj. Thomas Grant, 22nd CS commander. “Sometimes it is difficult to get the recognition of all the things we do on base, this highlights some of the great things that my teammates and I have accomplished.”

An example of their innovation and improvement of security is their management of their cell phones.

“Another thing we do differently from other bases are our cell phones,” he said. “When we issue out cell phones to the senior leaders, first sergeants, commanders and chiefs, we to make sure that they are maintained, working right and have their email and certificates loaded email to give that extra finesse.”

Grant credits his front-line supervisors throughout the squadron’s 12 work centers for their accomplishments.

“They really know how to toe the line, support the unit and understand the importance of coming together as a group so we don’t have stove-piped sections,” he said.

One method of bringing more to the base was revamping the communication focal point. Now, there is a member from each back shop at the CFP, so when someone calls for assistance there will be someone knowledgeable on any issue. Throughout the year, the squadron has excelled in many domains, from protecting the base from cyber-attacks to bringing quality customer support which earned them the top spot in the Department of Defense.



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Fisher

From Page 4

discussed the day’s events. It was a long, difficult and emotional day, and the talk was cathartic.

Now, several days removed, it is clear. Experiences such as these connect us. They constitute an unbreakable bond between

BEEliners. This mission illustrates what the black and yellow represent: commitment and community. That day, I saw unwavering commitment to our mission.

Afterward, I saw a community of tired aviators connected by fierce resolve and professionalism. Today, I know I received more than I gave that day. I’m grateful for the ability to serve among my fellow BEEliners.



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Honorary

From Page 3

services and honorary commander. “I always have had an inkling of what takes place at Travis AFB.”

The experience at CATM really captured the feeling of independence and gave a very satisfied feeling of being an American, said McCabe.

“The honorary commander position is hard to capture in words, it captures your heart,” said McCabe. “It gives you pride in your country. Out at the firing range today, we could hear the engines running from the planes in the background and it was really the sound of freedom.”

Re-blue

From Page 4

with Army forces alone,” Abrams said. “I’ve never executed a mission without the United States Air Force. We train and we fight as a joint team and that’s what makes us the best military on the planet.”


Abrams talked about relying on refuelers to execute Army missions saying that tankers operate in the same contentious space delivering critical air refueling support to joint coalition aircraft all over the world.

“Tankers enable the rest of the entire global flying joint force to engage precisely, attack globally and retain our


air superiority,” Abrams said. “They, more than anyone, enable our operational strategic reach, which gives our country decisive advantage across multiple domains against any adversary.”

Referencing the story of an Army officer who suffered major injuries when his aircraft faced a malfunction that led to its crash, Abrams lauded the AMC aeromedical evacuation teams who provided the life-saving care needed to ensure he made it home.

Men and women in the Armed Forces know they will be taken care of if they sustain an injury on the battlefield and to them, aeromedical evacuation has a personal face, Abrams said.



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Pulsipher

From Page 2

these hallowed cites brought to light sacrifices of those who have gone before us. Roughly 15,000 men and women are buried at those two locations. Although that is an overwhelming number to process, to think of the many more thousands who fought in Europe and survived the carnage is truly impressive. Those veterans fought for the liberation of a continent and it came at a heavy price.

As Airmen, we have many reasons to appreciate our veterans. The Army Air Corps had many of the courageous giants who laid the foundation for the future. Our Air Force’s history was formed by brave men and women who pushed the limits of flight, contributing to every major war and campaign since 1947. Those veterans created the force we have today.

As a chief master sergeant, I’ve had plenty of opportunities in my career to study the history of our Air Force. I have

listened to personal accounts of America’s heroes such as Col. Gail Halvorsen, known as the “Candy Bomber.” His accomplishment during the Berlin Airlift is nothing short of awesome. Retired Brig. Gen. Chuck Yeager pioneered high-speed flight and became the first pilot to break the sound barrier. His work played a huge role in developing the fighter aircraft we have today.

Since our beginning, Air Force veterans have contributed to war efforts and supported numerous humanitarian operations. They delivered food, water, emergency supplies and, ultimately, the helping hands of Americans to all corners of the world. Often times, they delivered hope to those who were searching for it. Air Force veterans brought overwhelming power to our enemies and have helped those in need for the past 70 years.

Today, Airmen are engaged now more than ever. Here at Travis Air Force Base, California, veterans continue to serve alongside those of us still in

uniform. They may wear civilian clothing or carry contractor badges, but they are our teammates, helping us deliver American power, anytime, anywhere.

I encourage you to take time this weekend to thank a veteran. We all know one. They may be a parent, family member, close friend, a former supervisor or mentor. Thank them for their service to our nation and for laying the foundation for those serving today. Ask to hear their story of service. Their response may very well surprise you.

To all those who served and continue to serve in uniform today, I thank you. Thank you for the sacrifices you made to defend our country and its interests. This weekend, as the country reflects on your service, please know a debt of gratitude is owed to each of you. A huge thank you is owed to your families as well for their support on your behalf. We cannot perform our mission without them. I salute you and your family.



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Mitchell

From Page 2

honest, straight-talking and outstanding helicopter pilot.

Based on my time with him, I can vouch that he is definitely an honest, straight-shooter. On Nov. 14, 1965, Crandall flew his UH-1 Huey on his first combat mission, transporting troops from a base in Vietnam’s Central Highlands to a rugged jungle landing zone in the valley of the Ia Drang River.

There, American troops faced a tough North Vietnamese force in the first major ground battle of the Vietnam War. The enemy fire was so intense that the ground commander ordered the pilots to abort their mission. Sensing that the ground commander and his battalion would need additional ammunition, Major Crandall relocated his base of operations closer to the fight in order to shorten the distance required to deliver ammunition

and evacuate wounded soldiers.

Crandall volunteered and flew medical evacuation missions in an unarmed helicopter under intense enemy fire with complete disregard for his own safety, flying a total of 22 missions into the battle and evacuating more than 75 casualties over a course of 16 hours. He only stopped when he was sure that every last piece of ammunition delivered and every evacuation was complete. As a soldier, as a person, Bruce Crandall is a giant.

We know that every Airman has a story. This weekend, take time to thank a veteran and learn their story. Knowing the stories of those that have served and learning their sacrifices and accomplishments, helps us better understand what it means to be in the Armed Forces. These men and women, our veterans, are the giants that have paved the way to making our military the world’s greatest.

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The deadline for the following Friday’s issue is Monday at noon.

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Printing

From Page 12

favorite pastime. And yet another wanted to hold a fishing rod while enjoying full use of the hook where his hand used to be.

These requests for custom prosthetic attachments were fulfilled by the 3-D Medical Applications Center, or 3DMAC, at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. There, a small staff of engineers and technicians use advanced digital technology and additive manufacturing, also known as 3-D printing, to design and produce personalized devices quickly and cost-efficiently.

“We’ve made more than 100 unique devices to enable activities that able-bodied people often take for granted,” said Peter Liacouras, the center’s director of services who holds a doctorate in biomedical engineering.

The devices make it easier for amputees to engage in leisure activities they enjoy, Liacouras said, as well as routine things such as drinking a glass of wine or brushing teeth. Returning to their everyday lives helps wounded warriors overcome the physical and emotional trauma of limb loss, health care experts say.

Part of Walter Reed Bethesda’s radiology department, 3DMAC is located in a small suite of offices and computer rooms tucked behind double doors at the end of a long hallway. Although it’s an unassuming-looking place, what’s happening inside is state-of-the-art. Among the center’s many projects are surgical models to produce custom implants used in dentistry and oral surgery; skull plates for blast injuries; and other models to help surgeons prepare to perform intricate procedures, and to train the next generation of dental and medical professionals.

“We also have several research projects going on,” Liacouras said. They include 3-D surveying and mapping of the human face to create a digital archive of facial anatomy. This archive could be used to fabricate implants for reconstruction if a service member

became disfigured in a blast injury. “The face is the most complicated region to reconstruct and, of course, it’s what everyone sees every day,” Liacouras said.

So 3-D printed cellphone and cup holders that attach to wheelchairs or other assistive devices “may sound like they’re on the lower scale of what we do, in terms of importance,” Liacouras said. “But they’re not, because they mean a lot to wounded warriors.”

The center fabricates by request from the Defense Department and Department of Veterans Affairs health care providers. When a request is received, Liacouras usually searches the web to see if the item already exists and can be purchased and adapted. If not, 3-D printing “enables us to create custom devices, making them patient-specific,” he said. The items are made from plastic or titanium.

The center’s first assistive technology project was “shorty feet” for the honey-moon-bound bilateral amputee, in 2002. “Wearing full prosthetic legs can be cumbersome and also, the full prosthesis for pool wear are very expensive and not necessarily 100 percent waterproof,” Liacouras said.

He and his team used computer-assisted design to plan the shorty feet, then printed a plastic prototype for a fit test. They made the permanent pair in titanium alloy.

“They attach to sockets that attach to the stumps,” Liacouras said. “Think of it like walking on your knees.”

And though Liacouras admits “we didn’t fully understand the need at first,” the center has produced more than 70 pairs to date.

“They’ve really taken off,” he said, noting wounded warriors like to use them instead of full prosthetic legs if they need to get up after going to bed, and also to play with young children at the little ones’ level. Physical therapists use them to help new patients feel more comfortable and confident about getting up and moving again.

“Whatever our wounded warriors need, we’ll create,” Liacouras said.

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Travis gives fuel to B-1B Lancers during ...
GREEN FLAG

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



1) A B-1B Lancer from Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., approaches a Travis AFB, Calif., KC-10 Extender during aerial refueling training Nov. 1 near Edwards AFB, Calif. The B-1B was part of exercise Green Flag, which is an advanced, realistic and relevant air-to-surface training exercise preparing joint and coalition warfighters to meet combatant commanders requirements accross air, space and cyberspace and is primarily conducted in conjunction with U.S. Army National Training Center exercises at Fort Irwin, Calif. 2) Tech. Sgt. Bernie Rowe, left, 60th Operations Support Squadron KC-10 Extender programs manager, talks with Tech Sgt. Sean Minnis, 6th Air Refueling Squadron KC-10 flight engineer, about pre-flight inspections of the aircraft prior to a mission Nov. 1. 3) Staff Sgt. Dan Long, left, 6th ARS boom operator, evaluates Senior Airman Mason Wells, 6th ARS boom operator, during his check flight Nov. 1. Wells had the opportunity to refuel a B-1B during Exercise Green Flag, his first time refueling the aircraft.



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