

FITNESS

...brings Travis family together

PAGES 16-17



Generations of time: Oath of enlistment

It doesn't seem like that long ago, but rewinding the clock 18 years – in the hot, summer sun of 2000 – I had joined hundreds of other Airmen on a parade field at what was then called Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

On command, we collectively raised our right arms to the square and repeated what many Airmen had already and would continue to repeat for years to come: the oath of enlistment.

The gravity of the oath in that final moment of execution was more than palpable; its words became self-evident and meant infinitely more having



Commentary by Maj. Joseph Wilson

55TH AERIAL PORT SQUADRON

just survived the crucible that was Basic Military Training and, as a result, earning the coveted title of Airman.

Since receiving my commission, it has been an honor to lead countless Airmen in the same oath as they personally recommit to continued service within the ranks of the world's greatest Air Force. My most recent experience was July 15

in the 55th Aerial Port Squadron when I was privileged to re-enlist two outstanding Airmen. Every time this occurs, my mind's eye returns to that seminal event on the parade field in Texas and generates a

Commander's Commentary

similar rush of feelings.

According to the U.S. Army Center of Military History, the oath was first utilized before our nation's founding on "June 14, 1775 as part of the act creating the Continental Army" and, after declaring independence from Great Britain, was "replaced by Section 3, Article 1, of the Articles of War approved by Congress on Sept. 20, 1776." It went through further iterations over more than 180 years with our current oath of enlistment mandated on Oct. 5, 1962. Imagine the millions before us who have sworn this oath.

As many know, the oath,

which service members take, varies slightly between the enlisted and officer ranks with the former taking an oath of enlistment and the latter taking an oath of office. That said, both oaths require us to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic" and "bear true faith and allegiance to the same." Through these words, we jointly commit to something bigger than ourselves, and by doing so, remain faithful to a proud heritage spanning generations of time.

To be clear, the oath is part of our tradition of honor and our legacy of valor. Please live it every day as you continue to serve at Travis Air Force Base, California, or wherever duty calls.

"The oath is part of our tradition of honor and our legacy of valor."

— Maj. Joseph Wilson

To bloom where you're planted, water closest grass

Commentary by Senior Master Sgt. Faith McNelley
22ND MISSION SUPPORT GROUP

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan. — I love to garden and be outside. This spring, my husband and I decided it was time to start establishing our property and planted over 60 saplings.

We envisioned how our land would look once the trees were fully grown

Enlisted Commentary

and we were excited. We read the planter's manual on proper tree care, watered them daily and gave them everything they needed to have a great start at life.

We thought we were tree masters. We had it all under control. Fast forward three months and we now have only 12 saplings remaining.

Surprisingly, these 12 were planted in the worst soil and, in our trees' subject matter expert's opinion, were least likely to succeed.

Much like trees, people have a tendency not to flourish where they have been planted. We give ourselves permission to be unhappy about where we are stationed or who supervises us. Once we allow this to happen, it influences our attitude and motivation.

It begs the question as to why some

people bloom and others don't. It comes down to one simple answer – choices. Are you choosing to look at your situation negatively or are you choosing to deliberately look at it positively?

It takes a lot of time and effort for someone to change their perspective on life. If you are able to accomplish this, then the next time you think the grass is greener on the other side, try watering the grass where you are planted and you will surely bloom.

Tailwind



Travis AFB, Calif.
60th Air Mobility Wing

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On the cover

Master Sgt. Christofer Galba-dores, 821st Contingency Response Squadron force protection flight chief, stands with his wife, Yasmin, and their three sons, Cain, Maximus and Kingston, July 23 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

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

Barrett takes command of 18th Air Force

Master Sgt. Mike Andriacco

18TH AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Maj. Gen. Sam Barrett took command of 18th Air Force from Lt. Gen. GI Tuck during a ceremony July 31 at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

Tuck will move to the Pentagon, where he will serve as the director for Logistics, J-4, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia.

"It has been my absolute honor to work with some of the highest quality public servants, both military and civilian, within 18th Air Force, Air Mobility Command, and the United States Transportation Command," said Tuck.

Barrett comes to 18 AF from his position as the Director of operations, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB.

"Looking forward, let's keep the focus on our great Airmen clear," said Barrett. "Tell them to continue to do their jobs the same amazing way they have always done so, with integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all that they do."

"And to do so in such a way that any adversary, big or small, anywhere in the world, will have no doubt that in the 18th Air Force, we fly, we fight, and we always win. Let's keep it that way," he added.

Barrett received his commission upon graduation from the U.S. Air Force Academy



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chad Gorecki

Maj. Gen. Sam Barrett, 18th Air Force commander, speaks to the audience during the 18th AF change-of-command ceremony July 31 at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. Barrett comes to 18 AF from his position as the director of operations for the Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, which falls under Air Mobility Command, also headquartered at Scott.

in 1988. He's a command pilot with more than 4,400 hours in several mobility airlift aircraft.

Refueling Squadron at McConnell AFB, Kansas; Vice Commander and then Commander, 15th Airlift Wing, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii; and Commander, Joint Enabling Capabilities Command,

U.S. Transportation Command, Norfolk, Virginia.

"Time and time again, he's proven himself as an exceptional aviator, leader, and one who knows the Air Mobility business inside and out," said Gen. Carlton Everhart, AMC commander and officiant of the ceremony. "(Barrett), you know what our Airmen need. You worked hard to get there. You are the right person for the job."



WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name:
Senior Airman Ashley Ortiz.

Unit:
60th Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron.

Duty title:
Pharmacy vault custodian.

Hometown:
Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Time in service:
Five years.

What are your goals?
To become a pharmacist and travel.

Family:
Sister, Marissa.

What are your hobbies?
Anime, movies, traveling and museums.

What is your greatest achievement?
Joining the U.S. Air Force.

Work/Rest and Water Consumption Table								
Applies to average sized, heat-acclimated Soldier wearing ACU, hot weather. (See TB MED 507 for further guidance.)								
Easy Work		Moderate Work		Hard Work				
• Weapon Maintenance		• Walking Loose Sand at 2.5 mph, No Load		• Walking Hard Surface at 3.5 mph, ≥ 40 lb Load				
• Walking Hard Surface at 2.5 mph, < 30 lb Load		• Walking Hard Surface at 3.5 mph, < 40 lb Load		• Walking Loose Sand at 2.5 mph with Load				
• Marksmanship Training		• Calisthenics		• Field Assaults				
• Drill and Ceremony		• Patrolling						
• Manual of Arms		• Individual Movement Techniques, i.e., Low Crawl or High Crawl						
		• Defensive Position Construction						
Heat Category	WBGT Index, °F	Easy Work		Moderate Work		Hard Work		
		Work/Rest (min)	Water Intake (qt/hr)	Work/Rest (min)	Water Intake (qt/hr)	Work/Rest (min)	Water Intake (qt/hr)	Work/Rest (min)
1	78° - 81.9°	NL	½	NL	¾	40/20 min	¾	
2 (green)	82° - 84.9°	NL	½	50/10 min	¾	30/30 min	1	
3 (yellow)	85° - 87.9°	NL	¾	40/20 min	¾	30/30 min	1	
4 (red)	88° - 89.9°	NL	¾	30/30 min	¾	20/40 min	1	
5 (black)	> 90°	50/10 min	1	20/40 min	1	10/50 min	1	

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DP-325-001

U.S. Army Public Health Command graphic

Take steps to avoid heat stress

341st Medical Group Public Health Office

If you have ever been outside on a sunny day and felt tired, dazed or confused, you may have experienced signs or symptoms of heat stress.

Heat stress occurs when the body has been exposed to excessive heat for a period of time. Signs and symptoms include – but are not limited to – muscle cramps, headache, dizziness, fainting, lack of sweat and even death.

California is notorious for hot summers, and heat

stress is considered an environmental hazard. If you or someone around you experiences signs or symptoms of heat stress, immediately take the following actions:

- Move the individual to a shaded or cool place and have them lie down with their feet elevated. Remove unnecessary clothing and give the person water or a sports drink.

- Hydration is key. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we should drink eight ounces of water, as well

as sports drinks containing electrolytes, every 15 to 20 minutes. Also, limit alcohol or caffeinated beverages prior to spending time outdoors in summer.

- Work-rest cycles are imperative. Learn the base's flag alert system and how it relates to outside activities.

- Dress in light, cool layers and wear a hat. Apply sunscreen frequently.

If signs or symptoms are severe or persistent, seek medical attention immediately.

Don't forget, these recommendations apply to pets. Never leave a pet unattended in a hot vehicle. Check pavement temperatures with your hands before walking your pet and ensure that water is nearby.

If you have any questions regarding heat stress, contact public health at 707-423-5470. If you need medical assistance, call 911 or 707-424-4911 on base. If you find a pet in a hot vehicle, call the law enforcement desk at 707-424-2800 or 707-424-2227.

BX blasts into fun with children's Nerf event

Jessica Jones ARMY AND AIR FORCE EXCHANGE

Set your sights on fun: The Army and Air Force Exchange Service at Travis Air Force Base, California, is hosting a free event for military kids to

test the latest Nerf blasters.

The event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 4 at the Travis Exchange Main Store. Military children eight and older can put their Nerf blaster skills to the test with an assortment of new Nerf toys.

"We love having Travis AFB military brats come to the Exchange for events like these," said Phonda Bishop, Exchange main store manager. "It's a fun way to bring the community together and let the kids try out these great

new Nerf toys."

Participants will receive an Ace Blaster certificate to take home.

For more information, shoppers can contact the Travis AFB Exchange at 707-437-4633.

See RELOCATION Page 26

AMC names 2 sites for simulator relocation

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — The commander of Air Mobility Command selected Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington, and MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, as the relocation sites for the next two KC-135 Stratotanker pilot flight simulators.

KC-135 pilot flight simulators, also known as Operations Flight Trainers or OFTs, provide pilots a high-fidelity, full-motion environment, which enables realistic flying training and emergency procedure practice as well as networked distributed mission operations capability.

"We are preparing for future threat environments by creating the right mix of traditional tanker flying and highly realistic tanker simulation training across the mobility air forces," said Gen. Carlton D. Everhart, AMC commander. "Optimizing simulator capacity and use at these locations provides the greatest operational benefits across the Total Force."

As the command prepares to receive the KC-46A Pegasus, AMC plans to relocate a total of five KC-135 trainers in order to better serve the force.

Relocation decisions for the first three of five simulators have been made with one each going to Pittsburgh and Rick- enbacker Air National Guard bases and one to Altus Air Force Base to address formal student training requirements.

The Air Force operates 19 full-motion KC-135 OFTs distributed across 12 of the 30 active duty, Air National Guard

Actions have consequences

60th Air Mobility Wing Judge Advocate

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

Publicizing this information fosters an atmosphere of good order and discipline by demonstrating how the military enforces standards of conduct.

This feature also serves to educate and inform the public concerning military law and the military justice system:

During the month of July 2018, five Airmen received final review of nonjudicial punishment under Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice

and four Airmen were involuntarily separated.

Nonjudicial punishment (Article 15s)

821st Contingency Response Support Squadron

A technical sergeant received an Article 15 for one specification of wrongful use of cocaine, a violation of Article 112a, UCMJ.

Punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of airman, suspended forfeiture of \$918 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

An airman first class received an Article 15 for one specification of wrongful use of marijuana and one specification of wrongful use of MDMA, both a violation of Article 112a, UCMJ.

Punishment consisted of a reduction to the rank of staff sergeant, forfeitures of \$1,655 of pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

An airman first class received an Article 15 for one specification of underage drinking, a violation of Article 134, UCMJ.

Punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of airman and a reprimand.

60th Logistical Readiness Squadron

An airman first class received an Article 15 for one specification of Driving while Drunk, a violation of Article 111, UCMJ.

Punishment consisted of reduction to the grade

of airman.

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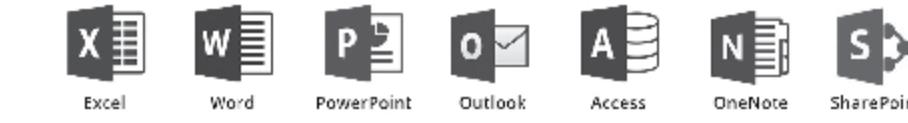
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MacDill parents commission

Staff Sgt. Tori Long

6TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — It's 6 a.m. The house is completely lit. Large boots thump and tiny bare feet patter quickly across the floor.

The Cruz family of four is wide awake whipping up breakfast, preparing lunch and scrambling to get everyone out the door for work and school.

Then-U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brandon Cruz heads off for another busy day as a 6th Medical Operations Squadron aerospace medical service technician while his wife, Chelsea, departs to take their children to school and start her own work day.

Once the work day ends, the sun sets and other families are finally recuperating. The Cruz family embarks on what is nearly another full shift – cook dinner, bathe the kids,



Courtesy photo

Connor Cruz, son of U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brandon Cruz, pins first lieutenant bars on his father's uniform June 12 at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

help their 10-year old, Connor, with homework, then begin their own school work, exams and studying.

The grind is tough when a lifelong dream awaits on the horizon. However, the Cruz

family proved it possible to get there.

After working various jobs without finding career satisfaction, in October 2012 the Palmetto, Florida native,

See PARENTS Page 25



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Travis sergeant helps 'move the fight' in Iraq



Airman 1st Class Joshua Heintzelman, 442nd Air Expeditionary Squadron aerial porter, secures a piece of cargo to a pallet aboard a K-loader, June 7 at Camp Taji, Iraq.



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Staff Sgt. Christopher Stoltz
386TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING

Airmen from the 442nd Air Expeditionary Squadron, located at Camp Taji, manage one of the aerial ports-of-entry for assets in Iraq. This port directly supports a multi-national coalition conducting missions for Operation Inherent Resolve.

Falling under the air transportation career field, these aerial porters are responsible for coordinating the transportation of assets on military aircraft across the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

The 442nd AES supports the fight against the Islamic State group by moving U.S. and coalition assets to and from the battlefield.

In the month of May alone, these Airmen helped distribute more than 117 tons of cargo. In addition to the vital resources they sent directly to the front lines, they also help transport an average of 600 personnel per month.

Tech. Sgt. Clifford Barsabal, 442nd AES aerial port flight chief deployed from the 60th Aerial Port Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, California, said

they move more than just supplies and people – they move the mission.

"I try to get my guys to understand that the pallet they are securing is more than just a box of supplies," Barsabal said. "That pallet you helped secure is going directly to the front lines. That food you just secured is feeding your brothers and sisters in arms. Those weapons you added to the manifest just helped liberate a village from the Islamic State group."

While the team is used to

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IDRC pushes for success of missions around globe

Airman 1st Class Tara Stetler
375TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Deploying service members often have feelings of anxiety and worry, but Airmen at the Installation Deployment Readiness Center work to relieve some of this stress by guiding them through the deployment process.

As deployment managers for all units on Scott Air Force Base, the IDRC processes hundreds of deploying service members each year.

"We put warfighters all over the world," said Dan Detlefson, 375th Logistics Readiness Squadron assistant installation deployment officer. "Any place you can come up with off the top of your head, we could probably say we've deployed somebody there."

"Deployers have to be constantly at a high state of readiness," said Senior Master Sgt. Darren Wiseman, IDRC logistics plan superintendent.

"The IDRC also needs to be at a high state of readiness so we can adapt and overcome any challenges."

The IDRC works to smooth communication, collaboration, timing and travel for deployers, especially those tasked with short-notice deployments.

"We have some people who need to leave out the door

See IDRC Page 24



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Vice CSAF learns about Phoenix Spark



Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Stephen Wilson, right, speaks with Capt. Ryan McGuire, left, and Capt. Jacob Payton, 60th Air Mobility Wing Phoenix Spark program, about the base's innovation initiatives during a visit July 25 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Wilson stopped at Travis for a gas-and-go before flying to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, to attend the commander of Pacific Air Forces assumption-of-command ceremony.

Pence family pays visit to Grand Forks

Airman 1st Class
Elora J. Martinez
319TH AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

GRAND FORKS AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. — Vice President of the United States Michael Pence spoke with Airmen July 25 at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., while Karen Pence, the second lady of the United States, hosted a seminar for military spouses.

Before speaking to the troops, the vice president learned about RQ-4 Global Hawk worldwide intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities, and saw the aircraft in person.

Mike Pence's talk highlighted the important mission Grand Forks AFB serves to national security, and he thanked the Airmen on base, all of whom directly impact the RQ-4 Global Hawk mission.

"The 69th Reconnaissance Group flies the Global Hawks

that give our theater commanders the intelligence, surveillance and target-acquisition data they need to defeat any enemy, anywhere, anytime," he praised. "And the 319th Communications Squadron operates America's High Frequency Global Communications Systems, which ensures our military leaders, including your commander in chief, are able to maintain strategic command and control across the world."

After wrapping up his speech, Pence took time to shake hands with Airmen in attendance.

Col. Benjamin Spencer, 319th Air Base Wing commander, spoke about Pence's visit before introducing the vice president to the audience of Airmen.

"I've only seen three of these visits in my 24 years of service: two presidents and one

See PENCES Page 25

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Students of the Aviation Character and Education Flight Program sit inside a life raft during their tour of Aircrew Flight Equipment, July 19, at Dover Air Force Base, Del. The life rafts hold 25 people and are a mandatory item aboard mobility aircraft.

Program combats pilot shortage

**Airman 1st Class
Zoe M. Wockenfuss**
436TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. — Dover Airmen hosted a group of 24 future pilots as participants of the Aviation Character Education Flight Program for a tour July 19 at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware.

The ACE Flight Program is one of the new initiatives working to combat

the growing pilot shortage affecting the Air Force. The program is a joint effort between the Air Force and Delaware State University to provide students initial flight training in civilian aircraft and a structured environment that provides exposure and education on military aviation careers. It is designed to motivate participants to pursue aviation careers, including the Air Force, through mentorship

See SHORTAGE Page 22

and tangible flight experiences.

The students of the program were hand selected from their units, including Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, civil air patrol, AFROTC, the Air Force Academy and Air Force lieutenants preparing for undergrad pilot training. All of the participants are on a path toward aviation and excelled in their specific

Making it look easy

Chapman enlisted in the Air Force Sept. 27, 1985, as an information systems operator, but felt called to be part of Air Force special operations. In 1989, he cross-trained to become an Air Force combat controller.

According to friends and family, Chapman had a tendency to make the difficult look effortless, and consistently sought new challenges. Dating back to his high school days, he made the varsity soccer squad as a freshman. Also an avid muscle-car enthusiast, he rebuilt and maintained an old Pontiac GTO.

Combat control would prove to be another instance of

See MEDAL Page 22

Airman receives Medal of Honor posthumously

Staff Sgt. Ryan Conroy
24TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. — The White House announced July 27 that Air Force Tech. Sgt. John Chapman will be posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor Aug. 22, for his extraordinary heroism during the Battle of Takur Ghar, Afghanistan, in March 2002.

According to the Medal of Honor nomination, Chapman distinguished himself on the battlefield through "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity," sacrificing his life to preserve those of his teammates.

"One remembers two types of students – the sharp ones and the really dull ones – and Chapman was in the sharp category," said Ron Childress, a former Combat Control School instructor.

Combat Control School is one of the most difficult points of a combat controller's training program, from completing arduous tasks without sleeping for days, to running miles with weighted rucksacks and a gas mask.

"During one of his first days at Combat Control School, I noticed a slight smirk on his face like (the training) was too simple for him ... and it was," said Childress.

Following Combat Control School, Chapman served with the 1721st Combat Control Squadron at Pope Air Force

See PACAF Page 25

"making it look easy." Combat control training is more than two years long and amongst the most rigorous in the U.S. military. Only about one in ten Airmen who start the program graduate.

From months of rigorous physical fitness training to multiple joint schools – including military SCUBA, Army static-line and freefall, air traffic control, and combat control schools – Chapman is remembered as someone who could do anything put in front of him.

Gen. C.Q. Brown Jr. gives his remarks after assuming command of Pacific Air Forces in a ceremony July 26 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. PACAF is responsible for Air Force activities spread over half the globe in a command that supports more than 46,000 Airmen serving principally in Japan, Korea, Hawaii, Alaska, and Guam.

U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jack Sanders

Gen. C.Q. Brown Jr. gives his remarks after assuming command of Pacific Air Forces in a ceremony July 26 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. PACAF is responsible for Air Force activities spread over half the globe in a command that supports more than 46,000 Airmen serving principally in Japan, Korea, Hawaii, Alaska, and Guam.

PACAF welcomes new commander

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — Joining a proud legacy of leaders, Gen. C.Q. Brown Jr. assumed command of Pacific Air Forces during a ceremony July

26 at Joint base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Presiding over the ceremony, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Stephen W. Wilson expressed confidence in Brown

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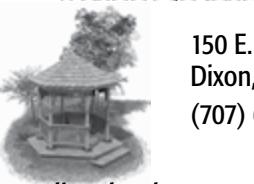
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Robins begins JSTARS maintenance

Robins Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — The Air Force initiated its own depot maintenance here for the E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft July 17 to deliver more aircraft faster, leading to increased readiness for warfighters.

Officials with the JSTARS program office at Robins AFB want to increase the number of aircraft available for operations and training as the service transitions to the Advanced Battle Management System, a capability that will fuse global air and space intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance information.

One way to deliver assets quicker and meet operational need is for the government workforce at Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex to supplement the contractor workload, said Brig. Gen. John Kubinec, commander of the complex.

"We have a tremendously talented workforce of uniformed and civilian Airmen who are excited about the opportunity to prove themselves by working on this first JSTARS aircraft," Kubinec said. "We are leveraging the



Airman 1st Class Amanda Bodony, a broadcast journalist from 116th Air Control Wing Public Affairs, Georgia Air National Guard, films an E-8C Joint STARS towing operation July 17 at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. This is the first JSTARS aircraft scheduled for depot maintenance at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex.

experience of the operational wings and the program office team here at Robins to improve warfighting readiness."

The proof of concept will help the Air Force better understand the costs of performing JSTARS depot maintenance organically. If the

organic maintenance concept is proven successful, the Air Force currently plans to induce one aircraft per year at Robins over the next couple of years.

The Air Force intends to fly JSTARS into the mid-to-late

See JSTARS Page 20

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Technical sergeant promotion corrected

**Air Force's Personnel Center
Public Affairs**

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Following the recent technical sergeant/18E6 promotion cycle release and Airmen expressing concerns about selection rates in the Refueling/Bomber Aircraft Maintenance (2A5X4) Air Force Specialty Code, the Air Force's Personnel Center identified 57 Airmen in that AFSC with an "A" shred-out (C-135/E-3/E-8 aircraft) who were improperly considered for promotion.

No other Airmen were impacted by this error in the 18E6 promotion cycle.

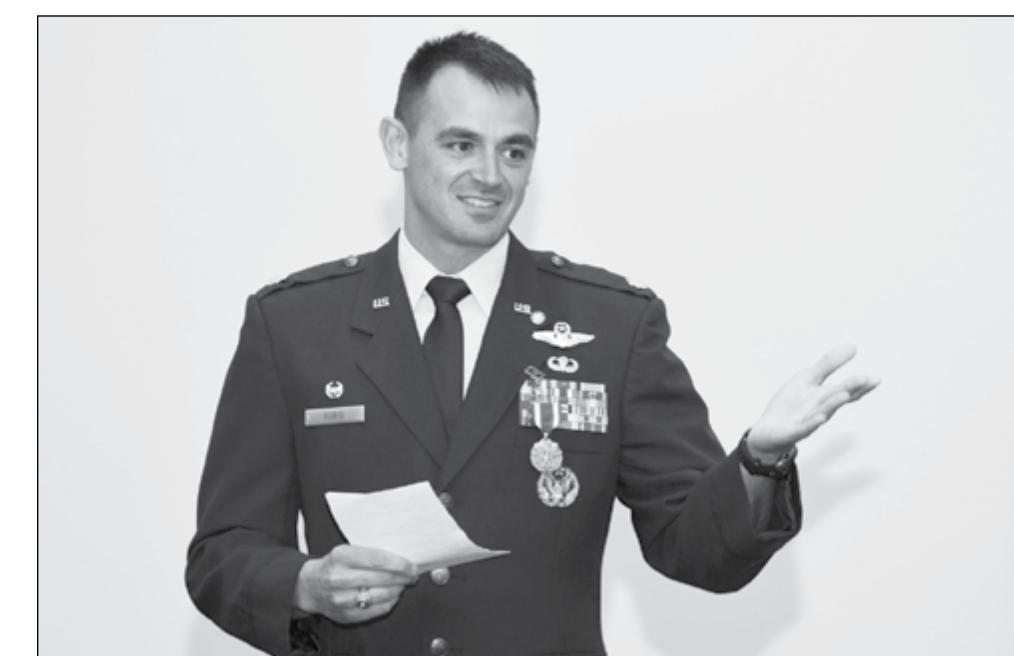
AFPC is directly notifying those Airmen incorrectly considered, and not selected, that they will receive automatic supplemental promotion consideration within the correct AFSC.

"Once we became aware of this anomaly, our enlisted promotions team identified the Airmen affected," said Maj. Gen. Brian Kelly, AFPC commander. "These Airmen will receive automatic supplemental promotion consideration at the original promotion rate within their proper AFSC. This provides a fair opportunity for selection."

Those 2A5X4 Airmen already selected for promotion in the 18E6 promotion cycle will be unaffected.

Earlier this year, a career field initiative for Refueling/Bomber Aircraft Maintenance (2A5X4) Airmen in the 'A' (C-135/E-3/E-8 aircraft) and 'C' (KC-46 aircraft) shred-outs was directed to allow the two shreds to compete for promotion together, but separate from other 2A5X4 Airmen. During the recent cycle, some records for Airmen with the

See CORRECTED Page 19



Lt. Col. Stuart M. Rubio, commander of the Air Force Reserve's 815th Airlift Squadron "Flying Jennies" speaks at his retirement ceremony held July 28 at the Roberts Consolidated Maintenance Facility, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ryan Labadens

Leader returns to service

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

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — The commander of the Air Force Reserve's 815th Airlift

Squadron "Flying Jennies" retired with 20 years of service from the U.S. Air Force in a ceremony at the Roberts Consolidated Maintenance Facility July 28.

Lt. Col. Stuart M. Rubio, an active-duty C-130 pilot who has been commander of the Flying Jennies since January 2016, will continue to serve as the commander,

See RETURNS Page 19

Officials pick eight for fellows program

Richard Salomon
AIR FORCE'S PERSONNEL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

developmental education at the Air Force's Personnel Center.

During the three-month fellowship, participants from each service branch learn about specific technologies that are of interest to them and to their respective services as well as the breadth of DARPA's research and mission.

The 2018 Air Force participants are:

- Lt. Col. David Chaboya, Headquarters Air Force.
- Lt. Col. Nathan Taylor, Air Force Materiel Command.
- Maj. Michael Fritts, Air Force Materiel Command.
- Maj. John Hobson, Air Education and Training Command.

• Maj. John McShane, Headquarters Air Force.

- Maj. John Powers, Air Education and Training Command.
- Maj. Allen Varghese, Air Force Space Command.
- Maj. John Wisecup, Air Combat Command.

For more information, go to myPers and select "Any" from the dropdown menu and search "DARPA."

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Reserve maintainer perseveres with music, art career

Staff Sgt. Shelton Sherrill
403RD WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — From a church pulpit to a stage bar, this former preacher walks into the spotlight. As his fingers dance on the guitar strings, his voice sings tales of pain, perseverance and his journey to exuberance. As if in a trance, the audience hangs on to this every word, and in those moments, this native Alabama Airman is able to live out his dream.

"I'm living the best days of my life right now. Maybe the better days are in front of me, but I know these days are far better than the ones that preceded it," said Tech. Sgt. Abraham Partridge, 403rd Maintenance Squadron intergraded missions systems technician.

Partridge has topped music charts, exhibited paintings at events, and played at exclusive music venues, but his life wasn't always full of happiness. His road to happiness was filled with some tough times wrapped

"I really feel like perseverance has led me here and I have been extremely blessed."

— Tech. St. Abraham Partridge

in despair.

At 18, Partridge moved out to pursue a theological degree. Four years later, he not only earned a degree, but he also met the woman who became his wife. They later moved to the Appalachian Mountains in Kentucky where Partridge said he accepted a pastorate and was in charge of guiding other souls.

Quickly realizing he had the ability to influence people's lives, Partridge began to look deeper into what he was teaching. Partridge said he began to see a different truth than what he was preaching to others. Tormented



U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Shelton Sherrill

Tech. Sgt. Abraham Partridge, a 403rd Maintenance Squadron intergraded missions systems technician, performs April 7 at a venue in Mobile, Ala. Partridge plays folk music and creates folk art.

and conflicted, he said he had to decide to follow his own beliefs, which went against the church's beliefs, or accept this reality and live in an eternal jail.

"It (preaching) became something that I couldn't do anymore," said Partridge. "So, I packed everything I owned, my family, drove back to Mobile, moved in with my mother and started over."

After returning home, Partridge took a minimum wage job and then bounced around doing various manual labor jobs until he joined the Air Force Reserve. During these dark times of doubt and uncertainty, Partridge's pen and paintbrush were a therapeutic guide and outlet that brought him back to happiness.

The more his skills grew, the

He started working a steady civilian job while serving once a month as a reservist until going on a deployment overseas in 2013. Upon his return, Partridge took a full-time position as an Air Reserve Technician. This newly found job security and benefits that the Air Force Reserve provided, allowed him more time to realize what made him happy in life. So he started to perfect those talents which were once his savior: art and music.

"At the same time I started to write songs, I created visual art," said Partridge. "It made me feel good. No one ever appreciated it, so I was secretive about my artwork and songs for a long time."

more he would let other people peek into the artistic world that he had created.

"His passion for music is beyond anything I have ever witnessed," said Tech. Sgt. Ernest Scruggs, a maintainer with the 803rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "For years it was something that he did just for himself, close friends and family. Lucky for us, he started to open to the world a little and let a few more of us hear some of the songs he had written."

As time passed, Partridge

said he finally did his first performance in front of a live audience. It was during a songwriting competition in Gulf Shores, Alabama. A crowd of more than 200 people gave him a standing ovation at the end of the show.

Not only did he gain confidence in his talents, he also met a producer who helped him record his first album. That record provided him notoriety and started him on the road of touring.

"I've been playing shows

from Texas to Key Largo to Cleveland," said Partridge. "All while being an ART, a reservist, a father and a husband, which is really difficult."

Partridge's determination

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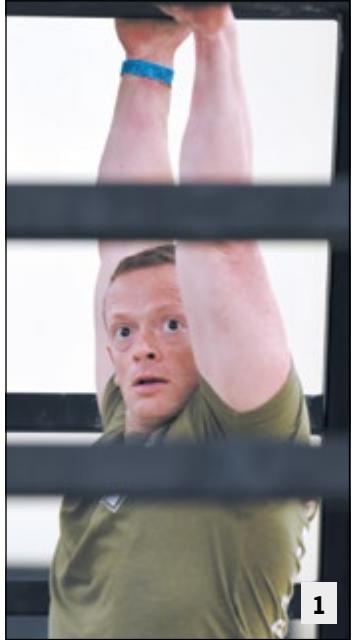


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OPES ADVISORS

See ART Page 21

Travis family bonds during Alpha Warrior Competition



Story and photos by
Airman 1st Class Christian Conrad
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It's hot. In the middle of a summer that came far too early and has a history of staying far too late, Travis Air Force Base, California, is hot.

Inside the base's fitness center, the warm, fluorescent atmosphere is heated to a stifling degree by the straining and frantic energies of those who are working out. The gym is split into distinct groups all huddling under what finite space exists beneath the few scattered air conditioning vents. The space separating them becomes a sort of "temperate no man's land" with gym-goers only traversing its puddles of sweat to fill their water bottles or migrate to a new huddle.

In the middle of all this, though, is a man in a full battle combat uniform fully intent on working out in exactly that, the heat be damned. His name is Master Sgt. Christofer Galbadores, 821st Contingency Response Squadron force protection flight chief and, as of July 23, alpha warrior.

Galbadores, who ran in last Monday's Alpha Warrior Competition, says working out in his uniform is all about readiness.

"I learned that things are a lot easier when you are comfortable with being uncomfortable," he said. "When feeling discomfort is the norm, it reduces the amount of stress I may be exposed to in any situation."

That situation, he continued, may be one where he's alerted to deploy on just hours' notice.

The 821st CRS is a squadron within the 621st Contingency Response Wing whose mission is that of "training and rapidly deploying personnel to quickly open airfields and establish, expand, sustain and coordinate air mobility operations," according to the 621st CRW website.

What this translates to on an individual level is constant upkeep of the four pillars of Comprehensive Airman Fitness, said Galbadores.

The pillars of CAF are ones



long-touted by Air Force leadership as qualities that are pivotal in both an Airman's well-being and their ability to accomplish the mission. They include spiritual, physical, social and mental fitness, and in Galbadores' case, can best be represented by four other pillars in his life: Yasmin, Cain, Maximus and Kingston.

Yasmin Galbadores ended up participating in the Alpha Warrior competition alongside her husband. Their three boys, Cain, Maximus and Kingston, were also present, providing an important facet of fanfare to the competing couple.

According to Yasmin, though, being the mother of three boys isn't always about having your own mobile fan section.

"It definitely keeps you on your toes," she said. "But it's also given me an opportunity to show my boys that women are strong too. Staying healthy is important to us as a family and going through the Alpha Warrior course was just another step in



4) Master Sgt. Christofer Galbadores, 821st Contingency Response Squadron force protection flight chief, goes through the Alpha Warrior "big rig" as part of the Alpha Warrior Competition July 23 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

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

the better of the Galbadores couple whose daily workouts include a minimum of 100 pushups and more recently, 50 muscle-ups.

The high temperature of the room combined with Galbadores' heavy, cotton-nylon blended uniform may have been a factor, though he said the grips of the obstacles themselves didn't treat him any nicer.

"After one of the obstacles, I had ripped calluses off both my hands—both bloody and stinging," said Galbadores. "Ultimately, I fell off. I failed, but that's okay. I took a shot and I know what I need to do now to conquer it next time. With failure comes growth, as long as you continue to move forward."

Yasmin, who was only the second person to attempt the course out of an approximately 50-person pool, had a similar experience.

"I'm so happy that I tried, and regardless of the results, I gave it my best," she said.

More than any sense of personal glory, Yasmin said she hopes her sons saw the value in the display and that they learn what benefits come with staying active.

"A parent is always a child's first role model in every aspect of life," she said. "Showing them that you can have fun while challenging yourself is important because they'll never know what they're truly capable of until they try."

At six, four and one, respectively, Cain, Maximus and Kingston are internalizing the lessons expounded by their parents in ways only a six, four and one-year-old can.

"Why is it important to exercise," Galbadores asked them.

"So I can protect my family," said Cain. "Exercise is good so you don't have a heart attack."

"Because I want to get stronger," said Maximus.

Kingston, the newest addition to the Galbadores family, responded in what is likely a one-year-old's primary mode of communication: flatulence.

"He'll get there," said Yasmin.



1) Maj. Matthew Stillman, 60th Security Forces Squadron operations officer, hangs from the "demon steps," a part of the Alpha Warrior Competition's "big rig" obstacle course July 23 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The obstacle involves traversing a stretch of ascending and descending staggered ledges using only your upper body. 2) Tawnee Leonardo, professional Alpha Warrior athlete, tackles an obstacle on the Alpha Warrior course's "big rig." Leonardo's role during the competition was emcee as well as offering first-hand advice to the athletes through some of the more challenging obstacles. 3) Master Sgt. Khaifaz Gondry, 60th Logistic Readiness Squadron first sergeant, traverses the Alpha Warrior "big rig" during the competition. Gondry was among the group of parents who ran the course with their children. 5) Kevin Klein, Alpha Warrior professional athlete, ascends the "salmon ladder" obstacle as part of a demonstration for Airmen preparing to tackle Alpha Warrior's "battle rig."

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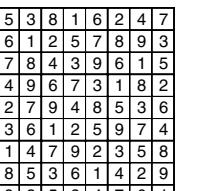
No. 397

Tough



The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Previous solution - Medium



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Retiree Corner

Exchange shoppers can support military relief funds

DALLAS — Army & Air Force Exchange Service shoppers can help support Soldiers, Airmen and military families in need and receive coupons for future Exchange purchases with their donations.

The coupons are valid Aug. 6-11.

— Air Force News Service

News Notes

Death notice. 1st Lt. Cheyenne Rolon is authorized to make disposition of the personal property of Senior Airman Tyler Evan Colvin, deceased, 660th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, as stated in AFI 34-511. Any person having claims for or against the deceased person, contact Rolon by phone at 707-424-2111 or email cheyenne.rolon@us.af.mil.

STEM Workshop. Takes place Aug. 14-18 at the Travis Heritage Center. Explore the principles of physics in aerodynamics, robotics and rocketry. Class size limit 10. Ages 12-17. \$100 fee covers materials. Contact STEM Docent Ken Endrizzi 707-673-7891.

Commissioning briefing. 2 p.m. Aug. 29 in Room 133, the C-17 training room at Bldg. 165.

60th FSS

Upcoming events

MLB discount tickets. Get tickets to the upcoming games: Atlanta Braves at Giants on Sept. 11. For more information, call 707-424-0969.

Summer activities for children

Say It with Music Camp. Aug. 13-17 for ages 9-12 and 13-18. Children will learn everything from music production to music writing and poetry. Space is limited to 35 participants. To register, call 424-5392.

Archery Camp. Sept. 24-28 for ages 9-12 and 13-18. This camp will instruct on and demonstrate the ability to participate in activities to enhance targeting accuracy, strategy, tactical analysis and physical fitness. Space is limited to 35 participants. To register, call 424-5392.

News and notes

Dependent ID card renewal. Dependents can now renew their ID cards online at <http://bit.ly/2C01q9e>.

Closures

NAF Human Resources Office hours. The office will close every Thursday. Business hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. NAF HRO also is closed on federal holidays. For more information, call 707-424-4749.

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

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., quarterly.

◆◆◆
For more information about chapel

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Rock the Block. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 3 at the Delta Breeze Club parking lots. Music, food and family fun.

Rib & Chili Cook Off. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 4, Main Street, downtown Vacaville. 451-2100.

Creekwalk Concert. 6:15 p.m. Aug. 3 at Andrews Park in Vacaville for Travis Air Force Base 75th anniversary night. Free for armed forces personnel. Col. David Hammerschmidt, 60th Maintenance Group commander, will attend.

Museum Summer Series. McCune Collection, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 7, Vacaville Public Library-Town Square, 1 Town Square Place. Free. www.solanolibrary.com.

tue sat

programs, call Twin Peaks Chapel at 707-424-3217.

Recurring

Air Force Office of Special Investigations

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

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

• Sacramento 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 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at DGMC Medical Center Chapel.

• For all other inquiries, 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 Chapel

• Protestant Traditional Service: 10 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. Tuesdays followed at 7 p.m. by Bible study.

◆◆◆
For more information about chapel

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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."

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 Gitshan 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.

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 to 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 travoscombatptsd@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://pfptform.state.gov/>. For more information, call 707-424-8104 or 707-424-4596 or stop by Bldg. 380B.

MPF self-renewal program

Did you know that dependents can now renew their ID cards online? To participate in this program, visit <http://bit.ly/2mR1gl2>. This program is limited only for renewing dependents' IDs. For all other services, visit MPF during duty hours or call 707-424-8483.

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 707-424-3996 or recruiting@squadron22-cap.us.

us, visit during a UTA or check out <http://squadron22-cap.us>.

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.

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.

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 Airmen and Family Readiness Center. For more information, email lgbtalliance07@gmail.com or call 707-424-2486.

Mare Island Museum

Free admission from Memorial Day to Labor for active and Reserve military, National Oceanic and

Professional Loadmaster Association

The Professional Loadmaster Association meets

Atmospheric Administration and dependents with ID cards. Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. 1100 Railroad Ave. in Vallejo. For more information, call 707-557-4646.

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.

60th Air Mobility Wing Information Protection Office

All requests are done on Thursdays and by appointment only. Schedule an appointment by calling 707-424-3114 or by emailing 60amw.ip@us.af.mil. Fingerprinting is only for federal employment and for agencies with a valid support agreement. 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@usaf.mil.

Travis Community Thrift Shop

AUGUST 3, 2018

Returns

From Page 13

but instead as a reservist as part of the Regular Air Force to Air Force Reserve Program.

The 815th AS is a C-130J tactical airlift unit in the 403rd Wing that transports supplies, equipment and personnel in a theater of operation.

"Tomorrow, Stu is going to be back in the same seat, doing the same job, sitting at the same desk, flying the same airplanes," said U.S. Air Force retired Lt. Col. Matthew Wehner, who officiated Rubio's retirement and served with Rubio during many of his career assignments.

Wehner mentioned the reason for Rubio's transition to the Air Force Reserve.

"Family, that's what it's all about," he said. He then went on to highlight the 815th AS commander's career.

Rubio earned his commission in May 1998 through the U.S. Air Force Academy. His first assignment was as a T-1A Jayhawk instructor pilot and student evaluator at the 86th Flying Training Squadron, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas. He then went on to get his qualification in the C-130E Hercules and deployed in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and flew combat missions in the Horn

of Africa. He then transitioned to the C-130J Super Hercules, serving in various roles on that airframe throughout his Air Force career. Prior to taking command of the 815th AS, he served as 48th Airlift Squadron director of operations.

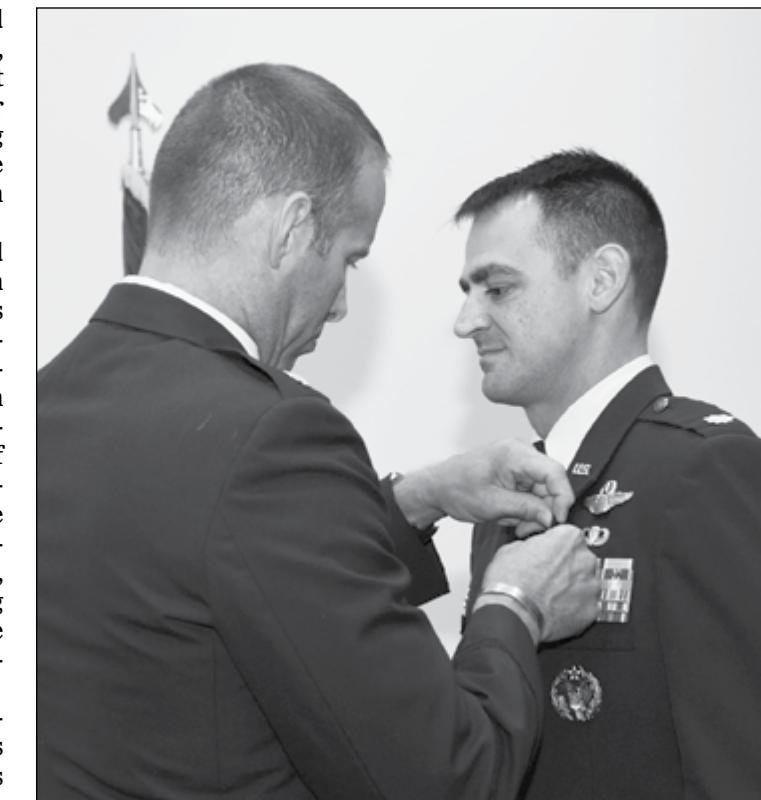
When Rubio took command of the Flying Jennies, the 815th faced many challenges as it was rebuilding after years of uncertainty. As part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2013, the Air Force announced plans to transfer 10 of the 403rd Wing's C-130J aircraft. A 2015 report from the Secretary of the Air Force reversed that recommendation, beginning the programming and budgeting work to restore personnel and mission capabilities at Keesler.

During his change of command, Rubio said his goal was to bring the Flying Jennies back to the forefront of the tactical airlift community. His motto: "Day by day we get better and better until we can't be beat, won't be beat."

And they did.

After a lot of hard work and training, the squadron reached full operational capability in November 2017, a full year ahead of schedule, and deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operations Freedom Sentinel and Inherent Resolve. The Flying Jennies provided combat airdrop, airlift

EAS, an active duty squadron at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, providing supplies to a Resolute Support Expeditionary Advisory Package in Afghanistan. It was the first time two separate units in two countries came together for a single combat airdrop mission.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ryan Labadens

Retired Lt. Col. Matthew Wehner, left, clips the Meritorious Service Medal to Lt. Col. Stuart M. Rubio, commander of the Air Force Reserve's 815th Airlift Squadron "Flying Jennies" during Rubio's retirement ceremony held July 28 at the Roberts Consolidated Maintenance Facility, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

"The squadron has accomplished some Herculean stuff here at Keesler AFB," said Wehner, who referenced a Calvin Coolidge quote which he said encompassed Rubio's career and attitude.

"Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence," he cited.

But Rubio said he didn't do it alone, thanking his family for their support and sacrifice.

He also highlighted his spouse's career, Megan Rubio, who he met at the Air Force Academy. She graduated from the institution with a degree in astronautical engineering and served six years in the Air Force. They have three children.

"Megan, you are the rock in the family while keeping me grounded; thank you for everything and your service," he said.

"This has been an amazing adventure," he said, adding that he learned a lot from each of his assignments, his fellow Airmen and his mentors. "Obviously, I loved it so much, that I can't leave: I'm coming right back in. This next move is the best of both worlds. I get to keep doing what I'm doing, which I absolutely love, but also get to provide some stability for our family. We are super excited for what's to come and to continue to serve."

Corrected

From Page 12

'A' shred-out were not properly updated and, consequently, improperly considered with the broader 2A5X4 group.

To mitigate the possibility of similar errors in the future, AFPC has also strengthened its internal processes.

"Our Air Force's promotion processes are among the most important things we do and we absolutely owe it to our Airmen to get it right. Our goal is, and always will be, 100 percent accuracy," said Kelly. "But if an error occurs, regardless of the number of Airmen impacted, we'll remedy the situation for each Airman, resolve it and review our processes to help ensure it doesn't happen again."

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Reserve team saves man atop Mount Hood

Tech. Sgt. Kelly Goonan
920TH RESCUE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MOUNT HOOD, Ore. — A team of five Reserve Citizen pararescue Airmen partnered with the Oregon Army National Guard on a successful rescue of a climber who called for help atop Mount Hood in the midst of a suicide attempt July 13.

Due to the 11,000-foot altitude, the rescue was performed by an ANG

Chinook helicopter crew landing its two rear wheels on the mountain while a plank was used for the rescuers and climber to walk into the aircraft, according to the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

Tech. Sgt. Joshua Kruse, 304th Rescue Squadron pararescueman, said one of the most perilous issues about this particular rescue was keeping an eye on the helicopter blades. Further complicating the rescue was the rising

temperatures of the summit.

High temperatures are generally foreboding for Mount Hood climbers as rockfall tends to increase as snow and ice melt.

The whole operation, from the time the group took off from Welches until they returned, took 32 minutes and 4 seconds.

The climber was identified as a man in his 20s and was taken to a Portland-area hospital.

JSTARS

From Page 12

situational awareness in combat. The Air Force has said ABMS is needed to provide critical capabilities to survive against adversaries in a contested environment.

The Air Force announced in June that Robins AFB will host the initial elements of the ABMS, paving the way for a long-term mission in Middle Georgia. Selecting Robins enables the Air Force to leverage existing infrastructure and the more than 40 years of experience resident in the Robins' workforce.

Art

From Page 14

fueled him to continuously grab opportunities touring while also recording his second album and getting picked up by a record label.

The success of his music then opened the doors for his artwork. Partridge's publicists and manager came to his house and was captivated by one of the few paintings his wife allowed him to display in the house.

"I brought out all my other pieces hidden in the corner of my house, and they loved all of them," said Partridge. "It was the first time anyone showed any interest in that part of what I do. So, I made my art public and within a month it was international news."

Partridge has had feature articles in the Associated Press, Washington Times and other national publications. His last record debuted at number 19 on the European Americana Music Charts. He represented the Gulf

Coast Blues Society in the 2017 International Blues Challenge and has toured all over the U.S. and the Netherlands. After hiding his talents for over a decade, Partridge transformed his life struggles into art.

"I am not bragging because I didn't have anything to do with it," said Partridge. "I really feel like perseverance has led me here, and I have been extremely blessed."

"Not to take away from his talent, but the most inspiring part of Abe is his drive," said

Scruggs. "He puts himself in front of people, and he delivers every time. That's why he's had so much success in such a short period of time."

Partridge continues to work full-time with the Air Force Reserve while still pursuing his passion for art and music.

Partridge said he doesn't seek fame through all of this. His true happiness continues to bloom as long as he is able to provide for his family, create art and perform.

He is a living proof that a

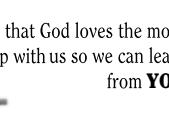
person can follow your dreams while serving as a Citizen Airman. Everyone's path to internal happiness may be filled with obstacles, but he reveals that an important tool needed to build success is perseverance.

"If you're doing anything original, when you first start doing it, everyone is going to look at you wide-eyed like you're crazy," said Partridge. "But if you persevere, believe in your work, put it out there and perfect your craft, eventually things will start happening."

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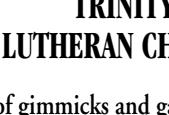
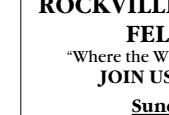
local worship services

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Shortage

From Page 10

had the chance to speak with some of Dover AFB's officers and pilots, and visited the Air Mobility Command Museum.

"It was really nice to see the different aspects of the Air Force, not just the pilot side of things; especially for the high schoolers," said Caleigh McLean, Air Force Academy student, of the tour. "I think it's important for them to see the other options the Air Force has for them."

The ACE Flight Program, whose staff includes Air Force officers and pilots who commissioned from a variety of sources, provide insight to the students and answer any questions concerning the Air Force. The training was tailored to provide a broad overview of all things aviation to cater to the full spectrum of participants' ages.

A key takeaway for the ROTC cadets was the networking connections they received from the officers and enlisted members they met throughout the camp.

"At first I was very overwhelmed," McLean said. "During the first flight the aircraft was flying me; I can't really say I was flying it. I wasn't sure I could do it but the second flight was completely different. I was flying and had total control, it was amazing to see the jump in improvement in just 24 hours."

Of the 24 students participating, there are 11 high schoolers, eight Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets and three second lieutenants.

During the tour of the base the ACE Flight Program students saw the air traffic control tower, radar approach control, aircrew flight equipment, toured a C-17 Globemaster III,

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Medal

From Page 10

Base, North Carolina, where he met his wife, Valerie, in 1992. They had two daughters, who were the center of Chapman's world even when he was away from home – which was common in the combat control career field.

"He would come home from a long trip and immediately have on his father hat – feeding, bathing, reading and getting his girls ready for bed," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael West, who served with Chapman through Combat Control School, a three-year tour in Okinawa, Japan, and at Pope AFB.

"They were his life and he was proud of them ... to the Air Force he was a great hero ... what I saw was a great father."

The Battle of Takur Ghar

In conjunction with Operation Anaconda in March 2002, small reconnaissance teams were tasked to establish observation posts in strategic locations in Afghanistan, and when able, direct U.S. air power to destroy enemy targets. The mountain of Takur Ghar was an ideal spot for such an observation post, with excellent visibility to key locations.

For Chapman and his joint special operations teammates, the mission on the night of March 3 was to establish a reconnaissance position on Takur Ghar and report al-Qaida movement in the Sahi-Kot area.

"This was very high-profile, no-fail job and we picked John," said retired Air Force Col. Ken Rodriguez, Chapman's commander at the time. "In a very high-caliber career field, with the highest quality of men, even then, John stood out as our guy."

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heavy fire from three directions.

Once on the ground, the team assessed the situation and moved quickly to the high ground. The most prominent cover and concealment on the hilltop were a large rock and tree. As they approached the tree, Chapman received fire from two enemy personnel in a fortified position. He returned fire, charged the enemy position and took out the enemy combatants within.

Almost immediately, the team began taking machine gun fire from another fortified enemy position only 12 meters away. Chapman deliberately moved into the open to engage the new enemy position. As he heroically engaged the enemy, he was struck by a burst of gunfire and became critically injured.

Chapman regained his faculties and continued to fight relentlessly despite his severe wounds. He sustained a violent engagement with multiple enemy fighters, for over an hour through the arrival of the quick reaction force, before paying the ultimate sacrifice. In performance of these remarkably heroic actions, Chapman is credited with saving the lives of his teammates.

The upgrade to MOH

"John was always selfless – it didn't just emerge on Takur Ghar – he had always been selfless and highly competent, and thank God for all those qualities," said Rodriguez. "He could have hunkered down in the bunker and waited for the (Quick Reaction Force) and (Combat Search and Rescue) team to come in, but he assessed the situation and selflessly gave his life for them."

Miraculously, the helicopter, although heavily damaged, was able to successfully offload the remaining special operations team members and return to base. Chapman, upon exiting the helicopter, immediately charged uphill through the snow toward enemy positions while under

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U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Tara Stetler
Tech. Sgt. Adam Acosta, Installation Deployment Readiness Cell personnel specialist, gives a deployment briefing July 17 at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. IDRC Airmen include the Installation Deployment Officer, personnel specialists, and logistics planners, and they all work to process deployments for every unit at Scott.

IDRC

From Page 6

within days," said Senior Airman Brian Jackson, 375th LRS logistics planner.

"We make sure that those people get where they need to go to do their job, to make sure the mission keeps going."

Wiseman said that members who are about to deploy are sometimes dealing with feelings of stress, worry, fear, panic, anxiety or even depression, and can be amplified by short notice deployments, said Wiseman.

The IDRC helps ease this anxiety by engaging with them throughout the deployment process.

"We get people in here on short notices who are looking to us to make sure they get everything they need," said Detlefsen. "Especially young Airmen, first time deploying. They roll in here and a lot of the time they

don't even know what to expect, and so we help them through the process."

The IDRC team ensures service members have all of the information they need before they deploy. They spend time researching requirements set by

Air Force Instructions, Department of Defense Instructions, reporting instructions, operation orders, and execution orders, said Wiseman.

As (logistics) planners, if we engage, then deployers feel connected," added Wiseman. "Being alone is stressful, being connected is not as stressful."

Along with short notice deployments, another opportunity the IDRC handles are sudden humanitarian crises, such as the major hurricanes that hit Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico in 2017.

"Knowing that the big picture mission is getting taken care of and some of it has to do with what we do, that's a good feeling," Wiseman said.

The relief efforts required them to coordinate with many agencies on base, such as contracting and legal.

"We step outside our comfort zones ... to coordinate in a very short amount of time," said Detlefsen.

He added that the work was stressful, but it was "a good stress" and "there was a sense of satisfaction at the end of it."

Assisting with warfighting and humanitarian missions is a daily task for the IDRC team, and Jackson said the best part of his job is helping people contribute to the global mission.

"I enjoy helping people," said Jackson, "and, in this seat, at my job, it's helping people at a grander scale."

Wiseman agreed that it's rewarding to support missions around the globe.

Wilson described one of Brown's recent roles as the "operational architect, leading and managing the air war that decimated the Islamic state. As then-General Mattis once stated, 'Put C.Q. in the war and the enemy will pay.'" Wilson went on to describe Brown's role at U.S. Central Command, where he strengthened political-military ties and helped shape issues for key decision makers.

"In your new commander, PACAF has a joint Airman who is recognized as one of the top team builders, warfighting experts, and leaders, not only in the Air Force but in the entire U.S. military. That's why he is the right person at the right time," said Wilson.

being hands on with patients thus far, but with a passion for business I could not have chosen a more suitable career field as MSC."

Cruz and his wife proved they are stronger together - Chelsea simultaneously achieved her doctoral degree in nursing and commissions as a captain this September.

"My family has been the largest support group by far," Cruz explained. "My children Connor and Madelyn were great through all the long weekends of staying inside while Dad and Mom finished homework. It was a continuous effort to balance work, school and family life but we managed and in the end succeeded."

"Lt. Cruz has an incredible work ethic, no task is too small or too big for him to eagerly lead or participate," said Lt. Col. Neva VanDerSchagen, 412th Medical Support Squadron commander.

After excelling in his master's coursework, Cruz earned a direct commission as a medical service corps officer. MSC officers are professional healthcare administrators and executives who play a critical role leading and managing one of the nation's largest, most diverse healthcare systems.

"I have many interests in life and have never been fond of sticking with one thing, as I love change and to learn new things," said now-1st Lt. Brandon Cruz, 6th MOS medical service corps officer. "I have enjoyed being a medic and

PACAF

From Page 11

and his abilities to lead those within his area of responsibility.

"When it came time to pick the new PACAF commander, General Brown was the obvious choice," said Wilson. "He's steeped in the critical role of strengthening our alliances and partnerships in order to deter aggression, maintain stability, and ensure free access to global domains. He is a combat-proven leader, supporting multiple operations. He's gained a tremendous perspective of the Air Force through his operational warfighting experiences and lenses."

Parents

From Page 5

enlisted.

"I enlisted in hopes of discovering who I was as a person, who I really wanted to be and what I wanted to do for the rest of my working career," said Cruz. "My goal was to make the best life that I could for myself and my family."

While working full time at MacDill, Cruz earned his bachelor's degree in public health. He pushed his education further by earning a Master's in Business Administration with a concentration in healthcare management.

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Pences

From Page 7

vice president," Spencer explained. "I told all young Airmen not to take this visit for granted because they could serve 20 or 25 years in the Air Force and maybe not see it again."

Karen Pence met with ten military spouses and listened to the challenges they face.

"One thing we want to do is elevate the position of military spouses," she said. "Our spouses and military children serve right alongside our service members, and that can be challenging. Our goal is to make people aware of the issues that they face."

Karen Pence said the session allowed her to gather useful information about the

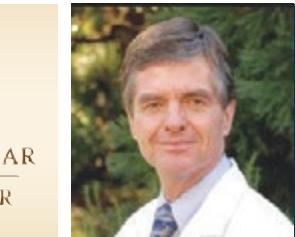


U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Elora J. Martinez

Vice President of the United States Michael Pence, center, and his wife, Karen Pence, left, second lady of the United States, egress the C-32 Air Force Two July 25 at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.

concerns of the spouses she met with. One of the issues mentioned by spouses was the difficulty many Air Force spouses have finding employment and transferring professional certifications between states due to moving frequently.

"We have such respect for military spouses," said Karen Pence. "The spouses we met with today were open and vulnerable and very articulate."



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1) A C-5M Super Galaxy from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., is parked on the ramp July 26 in front of the hangers once used to house the Goodyear Blimp program at Moffett Federal Airfield in an unincorporated part of Santa Clara County, Calif.

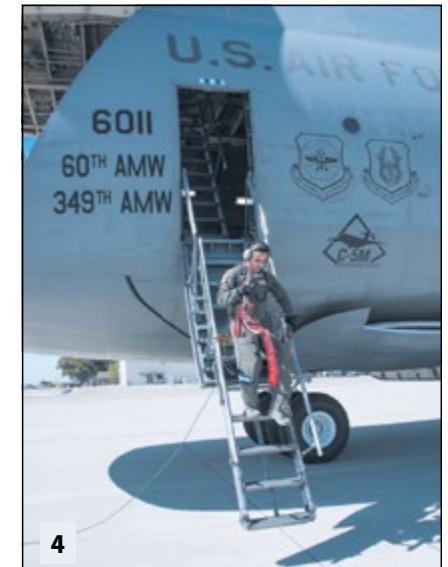
2) Senior Airman Connor Nicholas, left, Staff Sgt. Micah Hurst, center, and Senior Airman Aaron Walker, C-5M loadmasters from the 22nd Airlift Squadron, pause for a photo.

3) Ground crews from Travis work to power up an air conditioning unit July 26 at Moffett. Personnel from Travis were on hand at Moffett to support a joint flight operations mission.

4) Nicholas climbs down the stairs of a Travis C-5M July 26 at Moffett.

Aircrew aids joint flight ops mission at ... MOFFETT

U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch



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