



BIRDS

... take flight over Travis

PAGES 14-15

Month targets cybersecurity awareness

October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month, an annual campaign designed to engage and educate Americans on cybersecurity.

NCSAM also provides tools and resources useful to expand communications, community and content in cyberspace to increase resiliency during a cyber-incident.

Increased cybersecurity awareness is paramount to assuring the Team Travis mission. It maximizes our ability to expand capabilities, enhance communications and



Commentary by Lt. Col. Matthew Suhre
60TH COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

inter-connect digital communities. As we become more dependent on information technology, cyber threats are also increasing and posing even greater challenges. Threats come from a variety of sources and are constantly evolving with increased sophistication. Cybercriminals as well as state and non-state entities employ malware by way of phishing attacks, viruses, Trojans and the

use of removable media. Consequences from these attacks greatly endanger our safety, security and impact our way of life. Being aware of these

Commander's Commentary

threats and practicing good cyber hygiene can decrease the likelihood that an incident will occur and reduce the impact if an incident does occur.

A prime example of a serious threat to Travis' cyberspace is a Negligent Discharge of Classified Information. NDCI incidents involve unauthorized disclosure of classified information onto unclassified information systems, unaccredited systems and other lower classification systems. Travis AFB has processed 10 NDCIs in the past twelve months.

It is imperative to promptly report data spillage incidents to your unit security manager or cyber security liaisons to avert further data spillage. The unit security manager is responsible for addressing the incident in accordance with the Security Classification Guide and in close collaboration with the 60th Air Mobility Wing Cybersecurity Office. The team will perform a thorough investigation to assess and report damage.

Loss of control over sensitive and protected data poses a serious threat to national security, the Air Force and could impact the 60th Air Mobility Wing mission. These incidents occur from a lack of judgment,

inadequate end-users' security awareness, accountability and failure to follow data handling policies. As a result, the majority of classified data spills spread from unintentional user error or negligence. We must safeguard classified information from unauthorized disclosure by following all applicable precautions and report each and every security incident.

Commemorating the 15th year as an annual initiative to raise awareness, NCSAM's primary objectives are to promote opportunities for training, enable new capabilities and provide proper handling and reporting procedures of

See **SUHRE** Page 22

Practice personal password security to stay safe



Commentary by Senior Master Sgt. Clifford Nairn
60TH COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

In what seems like a vicious cycle, we get the news alert of yet another huge data breach potentially affecting millions of accounts.

Next, we get the reminders, prompting people to change passwords to something increasingly longer and more complex, making them more and more difficult to remember. And yet these simple character strings protect access to our money, social media accounts and much of our private data.

Security and ease of use occupy space at opposite ends of the spectrum. We want our lives to be easy and stress free, so many of us slide

Enlisted Commentary

the proverbial slider towards the easy side and use the easiest possible password. Believe it or not, many surveys list "123456" as the most popular password for several years. Even worse, password reuse, or sharing the same password across multiple accounts is a very common, and a very dangerous practice.

So what should we do about it?
• First, enable two-factor authentication everywhere possible. Similar to our work computers,

2FA uses two different ways to verify that you are who you say you are. Think about your common access card, something you have, and your Personal Identification Number, something you know. Enabling this extra layer of security significantly decreases your vulnerability to attack. More and more websites are enabling 2FA including Google, USAA, Amazon, Facebook and the list is growing every day.

• Second, when you choose a password, stay away from patterns, commonly words or common themes. Also, incremental changes such as password01or password02

can leave you vulnerable to hackers, especially if your old password was compromised.

• Finally, protect your passwords. Never write your password down, in fact, consider using a password manager or software solution to keep your accounts safe and away from prying eyes.

The online world we live in leaves us vulnerable to the predators out there. Is the only thing protecting your money and photos of your children a username and a flimsy string of characters? Be a hard target and do everything you can to keep your precious data safe.

Team looks to solve fatigue issues for C-5 crews

Holly Jordan

AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURING DIRECTORATE

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — An aircraft seat may seem inconsequential, but when a simple seat can enhance the safety and well-being of a flight crew, it can be a very big deal.

Researchers from the Air Force Research Laboratory Materials and Manufacturing Directorate are leading a design and prototyping effort to ensure C-5M Super Galaxy flight crew members are able to execute a mission-essential task safely and comfortably. And it all centers on a seat.

When a C-5 aircraft is flying in contested airspace, one crew member is positioned in the lower cargo bay to visually scan the surroundings so that he or she can notify the crew of potential threats. This task requires the crew member to crouch for potentially long periods of time, looking through a porthole located at approximately body level in the side door. The job is tiring and potentially hazardous, especially if the aircraft is required to perform quick, evasive maneuvers.

In an effort to ease the burden and make this job easier and safer, personnel from Phoenix SPARK, a grassroots innovation group based at Travis Air Force Base, California, reached out to the AFRL Small Business office, who then connected them to the Junior Force Warfighters Operations in RX, or JFWORX, team. Leaping into action, the JFWORX personnel, headed by AFRL engineer JD Bales, traveled to Travis to get a good look at a C-5 and offer assistance.

There, Bales and the team, along with personnel from the Wright



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman
Tech. Sgt. David Bass, 22nd Airlift Squadron C-5M Super Galaxy loadmaster, affixes armor Sept. 12 to the inside of one of the troop doors of a C-5 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The armor is required to ensure air crew safety while the aircraft fly's through hostile environments.

Brothers Institute, boarded a C-5 to view the porthole area, take 3-D scans of the cargo bay catwalk, and look for features on the aircraft that they could use to their advantage when crafting designs. They noted spaces where units could be kept for easy storage and retrieval. They also discussed relevant needs, requirements, and constraints

with C-5 loadmasters from the 60th Air Mobility Wing and brainstormed some initial ideas.
"We went over a couple of different solutions that we thought could work with the loadmasters on site, and then came back and met as a team to brainstorm on how to proceed and build some prototypes for testing," said Bales.

He explained that the JFWORX team's goal was to design a seat or a similar support device that would enable C-5 crew members to take the weight off their legs as they were performing their duties. However, this task wasn't as easy as it may seem on the surface. A number

See **FATIGUE** Page 18

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif.
60th Air Mobility Wing

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On the cover

An adult male belted kingfisher keeps a sharp eye out for small aquatic prey at a permanent pond Sept. 13 at Travis Air Force, Calif.

U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch



WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: Staff Sgt. Marcus La Rue.	Hometown: Chicago, Illinois.	What are your goals? To attend Officer Training School.
Unit: 60th Communications Squadron.	Time in service: Four years.	What are your hobbies? Playing music and video games and watching movies.
Duty title: Communications focal point supervisor.	Family: Parents, David and Linda; siblings, Dana and Lynda.	What is your greatest achievement? Joining the Air Force.

U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Amber Carter



Courtesy photo

Master Sgt. Jaqueline Carlson and Tech. Sgt. Tadeo Villarreal instruct medical logistics techniques and processes to Colombian air force medical and logistical personnel. The 17-member mobile training team, including members of the Wyoming Air National Guard and the Colorado Air Force Reserves, executed a four-week joint training mission with the Colombian air force, designed to promote regional stability by fostering key relationships and enhancing partner nation capabilities.

Airmen, Colombian air force team up

Tech. Sgt. Darlene Byers
571ST MOBILITY SUPPORT
ADVISORY SQUADRON

The 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron from Travis Air Force Base, California, recently conducted a Building Partnerships Capacity mission in Bogota, Colombia.

The 17-member mobile training team, including members of the Wyoming Air National Guard and the Colorado Air Force Reserves, executed a four-week joint training mission with the Colombian air force, designed to promote regional stability by fostering key relationships and enhancing partner nation capabilities.

Organizations like the 571st MSAS have provided

critical instruction that have allowed the Colombian air force to become more capable and self-sufficient.

Since 2012, air advisors have worked hand-in-hand with the Colombian air force, increasing their medical and airlift capabilities. This particular mission also included firefighting and combat search and rescue skills.

"This MTT is the epitome of what the MSAS stands for, and what they are capable of," said Maj. Noelle Deruyter, 571st MSAS air advisor. "Our air advisors and the Colombian air force have worked hard together to build a solid foundation of interoperability between our countries."

During the four-week

mission, more than 204 hours of instruction took place at four geographically separated locations across Colombia, graduating 87 Colombian military personnel from several career specialties.

"With seven courses taking place at four separate locations, this MTT had such a broad scope, with many moving pieces," said Tech. Sgt. Giancarlo Reyes, 571st MSAS air advisor. "It is a testament to how advanced and eager to learn the students here are. Every trip (to Colombia) we find that we learn as much from them as we hope they learn from us."

Maj. Michael Adams and Master Sgt. Jacqueline Carlson, from the 187th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron,

Wyoming ANG, instructed courses on medical logistics and medical planning.

"Medical planning and logistics is a critical step in any deployment," Adams said. "This course has helped prepare the students for upcoming deployments to Africa where they will be using what they have learned firsthand. You can see how seriously they are taking this class, knowing that this information could help them save lives."

Additionally, Colombian students were able to practice their language skills, giving their final presentation in both English and Spanish.

"These students already have a high level of fluency

See **COLOMBIA** Page 18



Courtesy image

Mobility promotes Downsized Challenge

Air Force Material Command Health & Wellness Team

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio - Reshape your life this fall with Air Mobility Command's Downsized Challenge.

The challenge encourages participants to lose and maintain a healthy weight by learning healthy lifestyle habits for nutrition and physical activity. Participants who enroll and complete the official weigh-in will receive a free digital kitchen food scale. Civilian Health Promotion Services will conduct the challenge.

How to participate in the Downsized Challenge:

1. Enroll online at AFMC-wellness.com by Oct. 19.
2. Complete the official weigh-in by Oct. 19 and receive the free Digital Kitchen Food Scale enrollment award.
3. Lose 2 percent of your initial weigh-in weight through healthy lifestyle behavior from Oct. 22 to Dec. 4.
4. Attend the CHPS education class, "DOWNSIZED" from Oct. 22 to Dec. 4.
5. Compete the official weigh-out from Dec. 5-14 to receive the free Flexi-Freeze Lunch Cooler completion award.

To receive the Downsized completion award, each participant needs to enroll in the challenge, lose at least 2 percent of initial weight and attend the CHPS class titled "Downsized."

For more information, visit AFMCwellness.com or contact your local CHPS team.



Courtesy image

Travis to host blood drive with Halloween festivities

60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Blood Centers of the Pacific will join Travis Air Force Base, California, to host a Halloween-themed blood drive from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Delta Breeze Club.

The goal is to collect 120 life-saving units. Donors will have opportunities to paint a pumpkin while they wait. The pumpkins will be donated to the Oakland Children's Hospital.

Volunteers are needed from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. to set up and run the blood drive. Volunteers can work in one-hour shifts.

To sign up, email your name, rank and squadron to Capt. Jessica Cruz-Fehr at jessica.l.cruz-fehr.mil@mail.mil or Steven Pignataro at SPignataro@bloodcenters.org.

Blood donors can schedule an appointment at <https://bit.ly/2ycv1HQ>.

Blood Centers of the Pacific provides more than 3,000 blood products to the David Grant USAF Medical Center to help aid in the more than 100 monthly transfusions performed.

Correction

In a story that ran in the Oct. 5 edition of the Tailwind, an incorrect headline was used with a commentary by Lt. Col. Erik Fisher.

Protect self, family from mosquitoes

60th Medical Group Public Health

Just when you think the weather is nice enough to venture outdoors again, those pesky mosquitoes make you re-think that decision. Mosquitoes love the warm, dry summer and fall climate in Northern California.

Mosquitoes can be more than a pesky annoyance, though.

Solano County is home to 21 different species of mosquitoes, which have the potential to transmit diseases including Zika, West Nile virus and encephalitis.

While these vectors may transmit these diseases, they are not endemic to the area and pose minimal risk. However, this means if the diseases are introduced into the environment, the vector is already present to transmit to humans.

There is no magical medication to prevent mosquito bites and the diseases that come from them, however, there are



Courtesy photo

A mosquito bites a human.

steps you can take to ensure you and your family stay safe:

- Repellent and barriers: Use mosquito repellent when outdoors, wear long-sleeved shirts and pants and install screen doors and windows on

your home. Use insect repellent approved by the Environmental Protection Agency such as DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, insect repellent-3535 or para-menthane-diol. Several types of mosquitoes

also feed during the day so protect yourself during day and nighttime activities.

- Reduce standing water: After feeding and mating, adult female mosquitoes

See **MOSQUITOES** Page 22

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Demo highlights ways to train pilots

Gina Marie Giardina AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — The Secure Live Virtual Constructive, Advanced Training Environment, program in the Air Force Research Laboratory's 711th Human Performance Wing, concluded a 40-month effort with a Phase III capstone demonstration in September at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

This final phase, just one of three two-week demonstrations that began in June, showcased live United States Air Force F-15E and U.S. Navy F/A-18/F aircraft; virtual F-16 and F/A-18 simulators; and constructive computer-generated entities within a highly secure virtual environment.

"This training capability will

allow pilots to train like they fight against realistic threats in a secure, high fidelity training environment by combining synthetic and real-world air combat training," said Dr. Winston "Wink" Bennett, AFRL's 711th HPW technical advisor. "Until the SLATE demonstrations, there were only limited and constrained LVC integrated evaluations. The three Phases of SLATE allowed us to fully demonstrate technical capabilities and alternatives to reduce risk for LVC as a future readiness concept."

Bennett lauded the successful demonstration, but also alluded to future improvements in the training, if necessary.

The team was able to record mission performance and enterprise functional data at a level of

See DEMO Page 22

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Week aims to prevent fires



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

Col. Jeffrey Nelson, seated left, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, signs the Fire Prevention Week Proclamation Oct. 3 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Sparky the Fire Dog, Chief John Speakman, seated right, Master Sgt. Jason Jesse, left, and Staff Sgt. Nichols Metz, all a part of Travis Fire Prevention with the 60th Engineer Squadron, were on hand to witness Nelson sign it.

AFIMSC observes 2 years of innovation

Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — Agile, innovative, networked. That's not a list of buzz words from the Air Force Association's 2018 Air, Space & Cyber Conference.

These words serve as the foundation for the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center.

AFIMSC celebrated its second year of full operational capability Oct. 1. The standup represented the Air Force's largest change in more than 20 years as the service centralized 155 installation and mission support functions previously executed by the major commands and Headquarters Air Force into a single, intermediate level command.

Reflecting on the last two years, Maj. Gen. Brad Spacy, AFIMSC commander, said, "We're changing the way the Air Force does everything that involves installation and mission support."

The reorganization created unprecedented synergy amongst I&MS functions.

"If you look at how we prioritize and allocate resources today, it's having a great impact," Spacy said.

From the integrated priority list and associated construction tasking order to full spectrum readiness, AFIMSC streamlined processes to maximize resourcing agility and effectiveness. In fiscal year 2018 alone, the center executed \$6.9 billion supporting readiness, improving infrastructure and enhancing the quality of life for Airmen across the Air Force.

The center for I&MS innovation, AFIMSC is helping reshape the installation from a platform to deliver services into an integrated weapons system of capabilities. In 2017, the center launched the

Installation and Mission Support Weapons and Tactics Conference to tackle current and future I&MS challenges such as adaptive basing, base resiliency and failing installation infrastructure yielding over 50 initiatives. One such initiative is the Combat Support Wing.

The Combat Support Wing is designed to be an on-call agile combat support force of multi-functional Airmen trained and equipped to quickly establish multiple forward operating locations in a nonpermissive environment in order to conduct 5th Gen integrated rearm and refuel combat turns. The concept is already being field tested with positive results and demonstrates the center's extraordinary ability to decrease flash to bang on conceptualizing and field testing innovative ideas, the commander said.

"If this works and two live-fly exercises show great promise, it will give operators a new way to fight. It will turn theory into practice," Spacy said.

Perhaps the most important aspect of AFIMSC is the ability to globally network the I&MS enterprise. Viewing challenges through an enterprise-wide lens has resulted in a number of efficiencies such as category management, which capitalizes on business intelligence and economy of scale to make mass purchases as a single entity.

Efforts to date have saved the Air Force more than \$1 billion in less than two years.

Looking toward the future, AFIMSC is committed to revolutionizing combat support, Spacy said. Leveraging agility, innovation and enterprise networking, the center's future is unwritten, but boundless with the potential to completely reshape delivery of I&MS operations.

"We're in a unique position to do that," Spacy said. "We're changing the way we bring new capabilities to the table and how we fight the war."

Leaders sign proclamation



U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

Col. Raymond Kozak, seated left, 349th Air Mobility Wing commander, signs a proclamation designating October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, as Col. Jeffrey Nelson, seated center, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, Col. Ruth Meyer, seated right, 621st Contingency Response Wing Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the commander, and team members of the Family Advocacy program look on Oct. 3 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. This event highlights Travis' commitment to standing against domestic violence.

Leaders say funding is improving readiness

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein thanked Congress for providing the resources necessary to restore the service's readiness while testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support Oct. 10.

During her testimony, Wilson praised Congress for passing an appropriations bill on time for the first time in nearly a decade.

"With your help, we have made great strides in a short period of time," she said. "We are more ready today than we were two years ago."

After decades of readiness decline, the Air Force is working to accelerate its recovery, ensuring the service is prepared to combat rapidly evolving threats.

Today more than 75 percent of the Air Force's core fighting units are combat ready with their lead forces packages. The service's goal is for 80 percent of those units to have the right number of properly trained and

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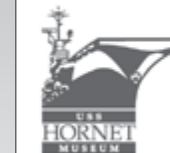


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Putnam brothers carry on family legacy in aviation



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Justin Clayvon

Senior Airman Justin Clayvon
94TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DOBBINS AIR RESERVE BASE, Ga. — Decades ago, a father took his two young sons to the aviation museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Although the father might have known it would be a great vacation for his family, he had no way of knowing the impact the trip would have on his sons' future decisions to join the Air Force.

"I remember that one of the airplanes we stopped at, our dad was like, 'look it's a Hercules,'" said Staff Sgt. Jeremy Putnam, a 94th Maintenance Squadron jet engine mechanic at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia. "We were like that's really cool and they let us in and we climbed around in it. I just remember it being so big! And then, lo and behold, later I'm an engine guy that works on them. We've always been around aircraft and drawn to it."

Jeremy's older brother, Joel Putnam, is a 94th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief at Dobbins Air Reserve Base. The Putnam brothers come from a family legacy of military aviators.

"Our dad was in the U.S. Army air cavalry and he worked on airplanes," said Jeremy. "That was a big inspiration for both of us to work on airplanes. We come from a long line of military aviators. Our grandfather on our dad's side was in the Air Force. On our mom's side, our grandfather was a helicopter crew chief in the Marines and then Army."

The brothers' camaraderie growing up continued into their adult lives as they worked in the military. Joel and Jeremy deployed to Qatar and recently participated in Exercise Swift Response together. Exercise Swift Response is an annual U.S. Army Europe-led multinational exercise featuring high-readiness airborne forces from nine nations.

The brothers spoke about

their unique experience of partnering with each other in real world scenarios of exercises and missions.

"We were doing some re-configurations for the Swift Response exercise, changing from one layout in the cargo department to another," said Joel. "We were setting up seats for the Army paratroopers to jump out, and I look up and Jeremy is there helping me — tag teaming."

"Yeah, I didn't have anything engine related, so I jumped on the airplane to help him set up for the configuration," said Jeremy.

Joel highlighted that between the two brothers they can take care of a whole plane. "We can go on TDY together and he can do the engine work and I can do the crew chief stuff," said Joel.

"We can run the plane, we can get it serviced up, gassed and go, or handle any major issues," said Jeremy.

Joel spoke about completing

See **BROTHERS** Page 22



U.S. Army photo

An Orion test capsule with its three main parachutes touches down Sept. 12 in the Arizona desert. The evaluation was the final test to qualify Orion's parachute system for flights with astronauts.

Unit finishes parachute test support

Kenji Thuloweit

412TH TEST WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — For a decade the 418th Flight Test Squadron has supported NASA by supplying C-17 Globemaster IIIs and personnel to assist with the testing and qualifying of the Orion spacecraft's parachute system.

That support ended Sept. 12 with the success of the final parachute system test over the Army's Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona.

The 34,000-pound Orion test article was pulled out from a C-17 cargo bay to test the spacecraft's Capsule Parachute Assembly System, or CPAS, which ultimately qualified the system for flights with astronauts. In the future, when the Orion spacecraft returns to Earth, the capsule's system of 11 parachutes will slow the manned spacecraft's descent for a splashdown in the ocean. The final test checks off an important milestone on the path to send humans on missions to the moon and beyond, according to NASA.

For participants at the 418th FLTS, it was a bittersweet end to a unique test program.

"The conclusion of the CPAS test program leaves me with a sense of accomplishment and a bit of sadness," said Nhan Doan, 418th FLTS lead airdrop engineer and NASA CPAS program engineer. "I feel accomplished knowing that one day the Orion space vehicle will use the same recovery parachutes that we tested. Those parachutes will deliver the astronauts safely back to Earth. Just knowing that gives me satisfaction in my work. I've worked on this awesome program for a long time so I am a bit sad because the test program is over."

Doan added that Edwards AFB has participated in the CPAS testing since 2008 with the first airdrop test conducted in July 2008. However,

planning and working with NASA began around 2006. The 418th FLTS has conducted more than 23 drops, he said. The airdrops mainly involved two 418th FLTS test pilots, two flight test engineers, two test-qualified loadmasters, two airdrop engineers, two physiological technicians, two aerial photography personnel, and two-three aircraft maintainers.

"Nevertheless, there are many people who also work behind the scene and not directly on the flight," Doan said. "These people may not be part of the 418th, but without them the program would not have a successful completion. I owe thanks to many of them. We

See **PARACHUTE** Page 17

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AFIMSC completes fiscal year closeout

Ed Shannon

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION
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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — The Air Force executed a record \$6.9 billion in the installation and mission support portfolio during fiscal 2018, nearly \$1 billion more than last year, and culminating in a successful, historic fiscal year close out.

"We have the second largest (Operations and Maintenance) account in the Air Force," said Col. Anthony Smith, Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center budget director. "To have a mature process and ability to execute such a large amount of funding is mighty impressive for such a young organization."

Managed by AFIMSC, financial analysts enterprise-wide teamed to fulfill an overarching strategy to place the next available dollar against the next most important requirement which highlighted AFIMSC's close out success, said Monica Anders, director of the AFIMSC

Resources Directorate.

"Our end of year close-out efforts are the culmination of strong processes in place and strategy we implemented from the first day of the fiscal year," she said. "These efforts were strengthened over the year by our new 2.0 structure which truly starts integrating teams and processes to provide a single integrated look across the enterprise. These integrated teams include many, many people,

such as our O&M, Construction Tasking Order, and environmental analysts along with AFIMSC detachment, primary subordinate unit, and installation budget experts."

End of year closeout built on momentum gained from budget execution performance in July when the Air Force exceeded a goal to obligate more than 83 percent of the I&MS portfolio by July 31. Achieving a high execution rate two months before the end of the fiscal year set up the Air Force for a well thought-out and executed end-of-year closeout and a smooth glide path into the next fiscal year, Smith said.

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Hawaii deployment proves B-2's strategic flexibility

Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla

59TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — Three B-2 Spirits and approximately 200 Airmen completed their first deployment to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, in support of the U.S. Strategic Command's Bomber Task Force deployment, Aug. 15 through Sept. 27.

Although bombers regularly rotate throughout the Indo-Pacific, this marked the first deployment of B-2 Spirits to JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

"The B-2 Spirits' first deployment to (Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam) highlights its strategic flexibility to project power from anywhere in the world," said Maj. Gen. Stephen Williams, director of air and cyberspace operations, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces. "The B-2s conducted routine air operations and integrated capabilities with key regional partners, which helped ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific. The U.S. routinely and visibly demonstrates commitment to our allies and partners through global employment and integration of our military forces."

Despite the deployment taking place in the middle of hurricane season, the B-2 pilots



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla

A B-2 Spirit deployed from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, in support of the U.S. Strategic Command's Bomber Task Force deployment is parked on the flightline Sept. 26. The B-2 is a multi-role bomber with a wingspan of 172 feet capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions.

accomplished hundreds of local and long-duration sorties and regional training. Each mission focused on displaying the bomber's flexible global-strike capability and the United States' commitment to supporting global security.

One of the key integrations involved the B-2s and F-22 Raptors

assigned to the 199th Fighter Squadron, a unit of the 154th Wing under the Hawaii Air National Guard. Like the B-2, the F-22 is virtually invisible to threats. This makes them the perfect match for escorting the stealth bomber and providing situational awareness. The training helped polish the cohesion

between the pilots.

"The Bomber Task Force is a total-force integration deployment," said Lt. Col. Nicholas Adcock, Air Force Global Strike 393rd Bomber Squadron commander. "Our active-duty and guard members worked seamlessly together with their counterparts here in Hawaii to

determine the best way for the B-2 to operate from this location in the future."

The 154th Wing also supported the B-2 with the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron's KC-135 Stratotankers. Although the B-2 is capable of flying approximately 6,000 miles without refueling, the KC-135s provided aerial refueling for long-duration missions.

"The training with the Hawaii Air National Guard was invaluable," Adcock said. "Together we refined and exercised multiple tactics that are crucial to the Indo-Pacific Command area of responsibility."

In addition to air operations, the deployment also focused on hot-pit refueling. During this technique, the pilots land and continue to run the B-2's engines while fuels distribution technicians refuel the aircraft. The pilots are immediately able to take off again with a full tank and maximize the amount of time they are in the air versus on the ground. One B-2 conducted hot-pit refueling at Wake Island, a coral limestone atoll in the mid-Pacific, west of Honolulu, Sept. 14.

Finally, weapons load crews exercised loading BDU-50s, inert 500 pound non-explosive practice bombs, into B-2 bomb bays on the JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam flightline.

"This weapons load is the first stepping stone to loading live munitions from this location," said Master Sgt. Nicholas Lewis, 393rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons section chief. "Furthermore, it provides pilots and load crews valuable training necessary to accomplish future BTF missions."

From air to ground support, the first Bomber Task Force deployment to Hawaii has allowed each member to determine what it would take to operate the B-2 from JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam and execute strategic deterrence, global strike and combat support at any time.

"I am very proud of every Airman that was a member of the 393rd Expeditionary Bomb Squadron," Adcock said. "We flew to a forward operating location that the B-2 had never operated out of and overcame numerous challenges."

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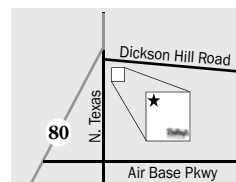
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Travis wildlife prepares for colder temperatures



1

1) A tiny Wilson's warbler inspects twigs and leaves looking for insects, never resting in one spot for more than a second or two, May 27, 2013, at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. These birds make their way through Travis for a short period twice a year: once in the spring and again in the fall. 2) A California scrub jay prepares to store an acorn for the winter Sept. 16 at Travis. 3) A black phoebe watches for anything that moves from a branch overhanging a permanent pond Sept. 13 at Travis. Although it mostly eats insects, the black phoebe sometimes snatches minnows from the surface of ponds. It may even feed fish to nestlings.



2



3

Story and photos by Heide Couch

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

You get up and head out the door for work as you do pretty much every morning.

Finally, fall is in the air and it seems cooler than it has been in a long time. As you get in your car, you see a flash of color in the hedges in front of your house. It's just a glimpse but, no, wait, there it is again. A small bright yellow bird is flitting through the foliage, then it's gone as quickly as it appeared.

What you just witnessed is the beginning of one of the greatest wildlife spectacles to occur in the United States. It's time once again for the fall bird migration.

As fall approaches and the weather begins to cool from the oppressive summer heat, birds begin to form flocks and start moving slowly away from their breeding grounds to warmer climates in the south. Many birds breed in the Canadian arctic and Alaska. They migrate to the lower 48 states in preparation for winter and many continue to Mexico, Central and South America. The same is true for birds that summer here.

According to the Cornell University School of Ornithology, the estimate of the number of birds that fly south from the United States into Mexico, the Caribbean or other points south is 4.3 billion. Sometimes, the flocks of birds are so dense during migration that they can show up on weather radar. This happens twice every year, when the spring migration repeats the process in the opposite direction.

Penn Craig, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron natural resources manager, is responsible for keeping track of resident threatened and endangered species, as well as all the flora and fauna found on the base. Travis Air Force Base, California, located well within the Pacific Flyway, is significantly impacted by bird migration activity.

"Currently, the major issues are the increase in flocks of birds moving across the airfield (e.g. blackbirds and Canada geese) becoming a Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard," said Craig.

The arrival of fall doesn't only affect birds. Other animals that may not migrate have to start gathering food for the winter. Squirrels start building leaf nests high in trees that will withstand winter winds. They also store food by caching acorns and other nuts. Snakes start looking for a burrow to hibernate in during the winter.

Turtles bury themselves in mud and go into a state of torpor where they don't need to eat or drink and barely breathe at all until spring. Foxes, raccoons, opossums and skunks, although they do not hibernate, find safe, warm and dry places to spend the winter.

Other creatures become more active when the rains arrive in late fall and early winter.

"We are concerned about potential movement of adult California Tiger Salamanders from burrows to any of the 17 confirmed CTS breeding ponds on and around the installation," said Craig.

"Rain and temperature are key conditions that trigger such movement. Adult CTS usually leave their burrows at night during a rain event and move to nearby CTS breeding ponds," said Craig.

"Knowing adult CTS movement and the ponds that have been impacted by the CTS will provide essential information that will allow us to prevent CTS from moving across the airfield," he continued.

"Natural Resources management is in the early stages of conducting studies under the Emergency Airfield Operation Biological Opinion which covers a five-year period."

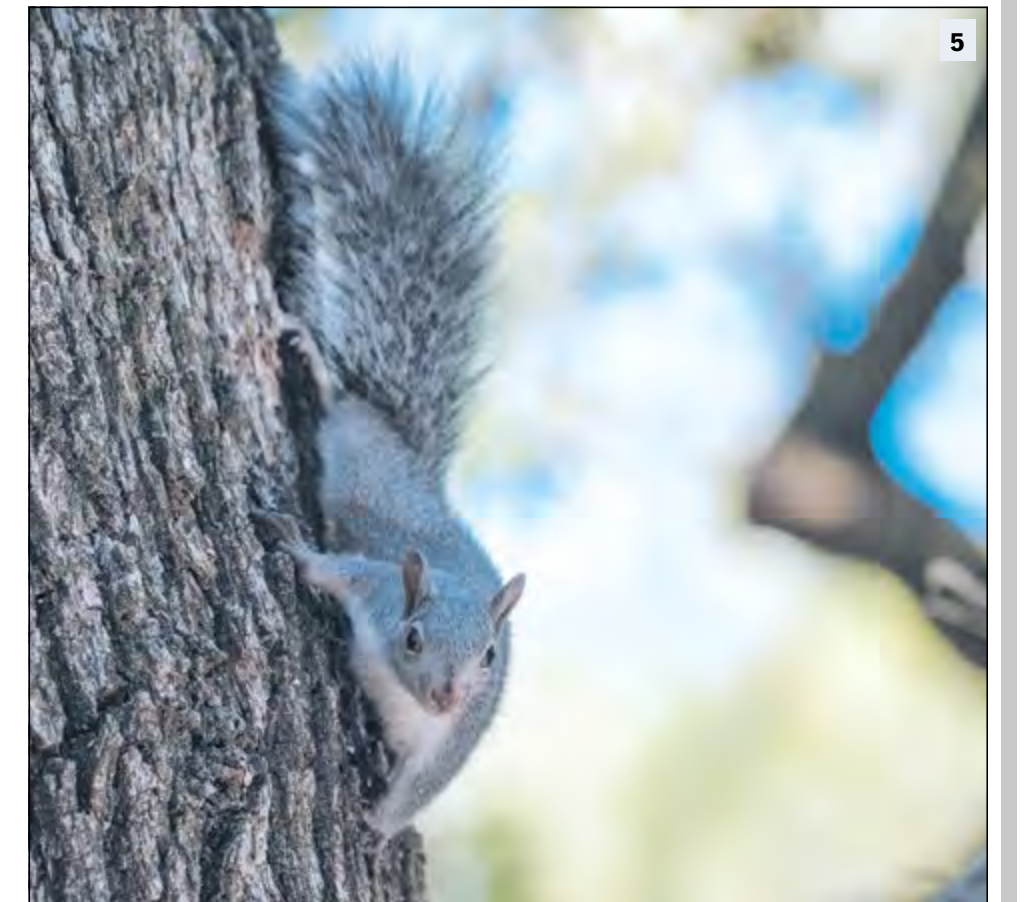
It should also be noted that our Northern California climate during winter is relatively mild. At Travis, freezing temperatures seldom last more than a few days at a time. As a result, many animals that would disappear into a burrow during winter elsewhere may occasionally be seen out looking for food during the winter here.

What was that little yellow bird in your hedges? Well, chances are very good that it was either a yellow warbler or a Wilson's warbler. Both birds are predominantly yellow below and green above. They are similar in size but the yellow warbler is slightly larger and has yellow edging on its wing feathers. The adult male Wilson's warbler is unmistakable in that it has a black cap of feathers atop its head. These are just two of the migrating birds you can see around Travis during the fall. A close look around the fishing pond or the eucalyptus grove north of the track could reveal many others.

For additional information contact the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service at Matthew.J.Stevens@aphis.usda.gov or Matthew.R.Thomas@aphis.usda.gov or Penn Craig, natural resources manager, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron at 424-8354 or 424-5126.



4



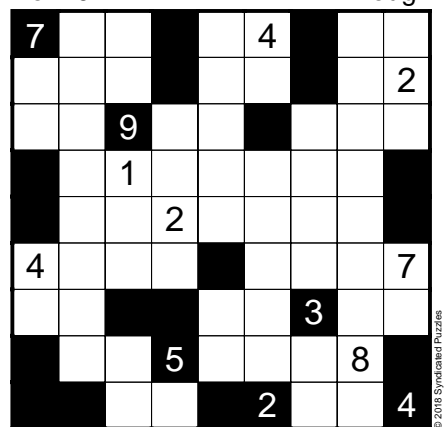
5

4) A Pacific chorus frog emerges from a crack in the earth Sept. 13 at Travis Air Force, Calif. This little creature is more active in the winter, breeding from November to July in a wide array of habitats including marshes, ponds, lakes, ditches and slow-moving streams. 5) A gray squirrel climbs an oak tree Sept. 16 at Travis. A squirrel's preparation for winter is a long process that actually begins in summer. By the time cooler weather hits in fall, it usually has already gathered and stored most of its food supply.

Puzzles

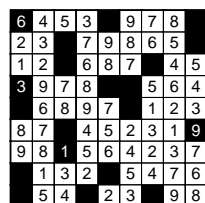
STR8TS

No. 407 Tough



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

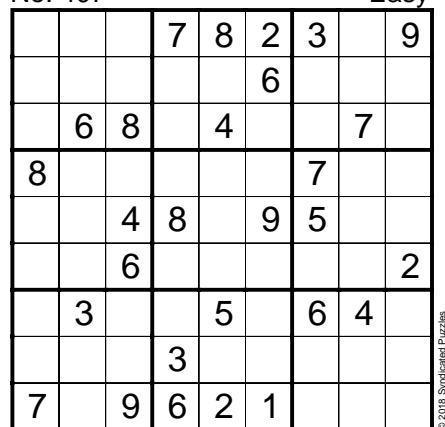
Previous solution - Medium



How to beat STR8TS - Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But...

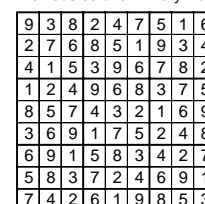
SUDOKU

No. 407 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

Retiree Corner

Compare FEDVIP dental, vision plans before enrolling

In 2019, dental and vision insurance plans for retirees and their families will be available through the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program.

If you're eligible, the first opportunity to enroll in a plan is during the Federal Benefits Open Season. This will take place from Nov. 12 to Dec. 10. Prepare for Federal Benefits Open Season now by reviewing the 2019 FEDVIP plan options and rates. If you want FEDVIP dental coverage in 2019, you must make a plan choice and

enroll during the Federal Benefits Open Season.

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program will only be available until Dec. 31. The last day to enroll in TRDP is Nov. 30.

FEDVIP offers 10 dental and four vision carriers to choose from. Use the FEDVIP Plan Comparison Tool to help you determine what plans are right for you and your family. The tool allows you to compare plans available in your area based on monthly premium rates, benefits, deductibles, and annual maximums. The tool lets you compare up to three plans side-by-side.

— TRICARE.mil

60th FSS

Freebies and fun

Harvest Chili Throwdown. Noon to 2 p.m. Oct. 20. Join us for delicious fun from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Travis Harvest Fest on nearby the Base Chapel parking lot. The chili contest will have a fall twist - contestants must use a harvest vegetable and spice in their chili. To participate, FSS Harvest Festival, forms must be sent to marketing@TravisFSS.com by 3 p.m. Oct. 12. For more information, visit TravisFSS.com.

Monster Dash 5K Fun Run. Oct. 27 at the Fitness Center. Participants must register the day of the event at 9 a.m. and the race starts at 10 a.m. Costume prizes and awards will be given to the following categories: most original, scariest, funniest, cutest, best family theme and best pet costume. All ages are welcome and the event is pet friendly. For details, call 424-2008.

Free Family Child Care Provider training. Want free training and licensing to a new career in child care? Sign up for the next free Family Child Care, scheduled Nov. 13-16.

Events

Half-Day Buffets. On Oct. 13-14, stack and snack at the Half-Day Buffet in Wingman's inside the Delta Breeze Club. Every UTA weekend, enjoy a breakfast buffet from 8-11 a.m. and/or burger bar from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$12.99. ESM card holders are welcome. For more information, call 437-3711.

Youth Halloween Town Costume Party. From 8:30 p.m. to midnight Oct. 26, pre-teen ghouls and gals for children ages 9 to 12 are welcome to "trick and treat" themselves at the Youth Center's Halloween Town Costume Party. Halloween activities and fun include games, crafts, snacks and movies. Youth Center members pay \$7, nonmembers \$10. To register, call the Youth Center at 424-5392. Sign up ends Oct. 25.

Recurring events

Karaoke. 8 p.m. Oct. 12 at the Delta Breeze Club. 437-3711.

NFL Watch Party. 10 p.m. Oct. 14 at Wingman's. 437-3227.

Baby Bounce. 10 a.m. Oct. 15 at the Mitchell Memorial Library. 424-3279.

NFL Watch Party. 4:30 p.m. Oct. 15 at Wingman's. 437-3227.

Dollar Bingo. 8 a.m. Oct. 16 at Travis Bowl. 424-4737.

Pre-K Story Time. 10 a.m. Oct. 16 at the Mitchell Memorial Library. 424-3279.

Steak night. 4:30 p.m. Oct. 16 at Wingman's. 437-3227.

Wing Wednesday. 4:30 p.m. Oct. 17 at Wingman's. 437-3227.

Trivia Night. 6:30 p.m. Oct. 17 at Wingman's. 437-3227.

Throwback Thursday. 4:30 p.m. Oct. 18 at the Delta Breeze Club. 437-3711.

NFL Watch Party. 4:30 p.m. Oct. 18 at Wingman's. 437-3227.

Karaoke. 8 p.m. Oct. 18 at Cypress Lakes Golf Course. 448-7186.

◆◆◆ 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.

- Youth Choir: 1 p.m. Sunday.

- Children's Choir: 2 p.m. Sunday.

- Adult Choir: 4 p.m. Sunday.

- Women's Bible Study: 10 a.m. (at First Street Chapel).

- Catholic Women of the Chapel: 6 p.m. first Monday of every month, Annex.

- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Annex.

- RE Classes: 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, RE Wing.

First Street Chapel

- Mom's Group: 9 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday and Friday.

DGMC Chapel

- Roman Catholic Mass: Noon to 12:35 p.m. Monday through Thursday, except for federal holidays.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

- Sacrament Services: 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Fairfield Stake Center, 2700 Camrose Ave., Fairfield.

DGMC Chapel

- Latter-day Saints Service: 4 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 programs, call Twin Peaks Chapel at 707-424-3217.

Recurring

Air Force Office of Special Investigations

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

Air Force Recruiting Office. Now open at the Solano Town Center mall. Learn more about what the Air Force has to offer, such as up to 100-percent tuition assistance, 30 days paid vacation per year, free medical and dental care, tax-free housing and food allowance and much more. Contact Tech. Sgt. George Yardley at 707-889-3088 or stop by the office located at 1350 Travis Blvd., Suite P2, Fairfield, in the Solano mall.

Air Force Sergeants Association "Walter E. Scott" Chapter 1320. General membership meetings are at 2 p.m. 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.

Base illicit discharge number. To report sewage/water leaks or illegal dumping, call 707-424-2575. For hazardous chemical/material spills, call the base emergency numbers.

Civilian Health Promotion Services. Will perform free wellness screenings from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. every Monday for all DoD federal civilians. Screenings include cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure and body composition analysis. For more information, visit www.AFMCwellness.com or contact CHPS at 707-424-CHPS or CHPSTravis@foh.hhs.gov.

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."

Family Advocacy Parent/Child play groups. Toddlers to the Max play group 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 play group 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 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 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://pfpform.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.

Mare Island Museum. 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.

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 Giltsham at 707-425-0060.

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/2mRlg12. This program is limited only for renewing dependents' IDs. For all other services, visit MPF during duty hours or



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

- Today**
 - 6:30 p.m. "Slender Man" (PG-13)
 - 9 p.m. "The Nun" (R)
- Saturday**
 - 6:30 p.m. "Searching" (PG-13)
 - 9 p.m. "Peppermint" (R)
- Sunday**
 - 2 p.m. "Venom" (PG-13)

In the next week...

sat **Retiree Appreciation Day.** Travis Air Force Base invites all military retirees and their families to attend its annual Retiree Appreciation Day, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Base Theater and fitness center parking lot. The event will feature free food, live entertainment, information booths and guest speakers.

more information, email Staff Sgt. Mathew Clayton at mathew.clayton@us.af.mil.

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.

Tuskegee Airman Lee A. Archer Chapter. Meets at 3 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

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

- Kelley D. Brown, Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, New Jersey.
- Erin Dunniway, 60th Operations Support Squadron.
- Valerie Moore, 60th Aerial Port Squadron.
- Jessica Pope, 349th Air Mobility Wing.
- James Van Nostrand.

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.

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

Local events

Benicia Art Walk. 2 to 7 p.m. and Oct. 13, downtown. www.artsbenicia.org/benicia-artwalk.

Benicia Farmers Market. 4 p.m. Thursdays, through October, First Street between B and D streets. 745-9791.

Events

Benicia Art Walk. 2 to 7 p.m. and Oct. 13, downtown. www.artsbenicia.org/benicia-artwalk.

Benicia Farmers Market. 4 p.m. Thursdays, through October, First Street between B and D streets. 745-9791.

THE FLIP SIDE

Airmen complete FTAC



U.S. Air Force photo

Congratulations to the latest Airmen to complete the First Term Airman Center course. Alphabetically: Airman 1st Class Arron Bautista, 60th Inpatient Squadron; Airman Elise Brown, 21st Airlift Squadron; Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Cruz, 60th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Airman 1st Class Anthony Demler, 660th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Stanley Dinkins, 60th Force Support Squadron; Airman 1st Class Kelcie Edwards, 60th Operations Support Squadron; Airman 1st Class Benjamin Gallagher, 821st Contingency Response Squadron; Airman 1st Class Chris Garcia-Milostan, 60th Maintenance Squadron; Airman Basic Collin Hargreaves, 860th AMXS; Airman Houston Holiman, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Garrett McCormick, 860th AMXS; Airman Joshua Paulino, 60th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Garrett Wilmore, 60th AMXS; Airman Evan Smith, 860th AMXS; Airman Joseph Whit-ed, 21st AS; Airman 1st Class Dylan Willoughby, 22nd AS; and Airman 1st Class Cameron Wood, 60th OSS.



U.S. Air Force photo/Kyle Larson

The NASA Orion test capsule sits Sept. 10 on a K-loader about to be lifted into the C-17 Globemaster III on loan from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. The mock capsule was later pulled out the back of the cargo plane Sept. 12 for its final parachute system test over the U.S. Army's Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona.

Parachute

From Page 11

have test project managers, flight schedulers, technical experts, airdrop riggers, previous airdrop engineers and interns supporting data analysis, safety personnel ensuring the test is conducted in a safe and efficient manner, just to name a few.”

According to NASA, Orion's parachute system is complex. About 10 miles of Kevlar lines connect the spacecraft to 12,000 square feet of parachute canopy material. The lines must not get tangled during deployment. Cannon-like mortars fire to release several different parachutes. All of these elements must be developed to be reliable for the various angles, wind conditions and speeds in which Orion could land.

These elements made conducting the airdrop tests also complex.

“As a loadmaster we are responsible for being thoroughly familiar with the test plan, safety package, technical order waivers, airdrop malfunction procedures/deviations, and principles of test conduct,” said Tech. Sgt. Shane Powell, 418th FLTS evaluator flight test loadmaster. “We are responsible for loading the article on the aircraft and ensuring that it is

properly secured. Additionally, we are responsible for rigging the system for extraction, which involves setting up a drogue parachute, two extraction parachutes, and making nine ties using airdrop rigging materials. We then complete a thorough Joint Airdrop Inspection with an Army rigger. On the day of test, we are responsible for running the system in-flight that enables the airdrop to occur.”

Powell said the C-17 test aircraft then flies up to an altitude of 25,000 to 35,000 feet, depressurizes to open the cargo door and ramp, and then extracts the mock Orion spacecraft test article by using an extraction type airdrop.

“The article greatly exceeds technical order limits leaving only nine inches of clearance on each side of the cargo compartment sidewalls. The test is a huge integration of NASA, Air Force, and Army assets,” Powell said.

According to the space agency, NASA's Orion spacecraft is built to take humans farther than they've ever gone. The craft will serve as an exploration vehicle that carries a crew to space and sustain them during their travel.

When the astronauts inside descend toward the ocean after reentering the Earth's atmosphere on future missions, their lives will be hanging by a

series of threads that have been thoroughly tested and validated to ensure the parachute-assisted end of Orion missions are a success.

“It is always a sight of awe when I see the NASA test capsule on the K-loader about to be loaded onto the C-17 – it just looks stellar,” Doan said. “Definitely something you don't see every day. The most interesting thing about the CPAS test is going up to 35,000 feet unpressurized and getting ready to extract the capsule from the aircraft. There are not a lot of people that can say they have flown at 35,000 feet unpressurized. It is definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience to airdrop the NASA capsule from the C-17 at 35,000 feet.”

The completion of CPAS testing brings NASA one step closer to resuming manned space exploration flights, which will be launched from NASA's new heavy-lift rocket.

“We are very proud of this test team and all the test teams over that last decade that have masterfully executed these missions, they have made a very complex airdrop look easy,” said Lt. Col. Maryann Karlen, 418th director of operations. “We enjoy working on many programs with NASA and congratulate them on this significant milestone.”

NASA contributed to this article.

Funding

From Page 9

equipped Airmen by the end of 2020 – six years faster than projected before the Air Force developed a recovery plan.

“Restoring the readiness of the force is our top priority,” Goldfein said. “And the budget Congress recently passed will have a significant impact for Airmen across our active, guard, and reserve components.”

To do this the Air Force is focusing on three key areas: people, training and cost-effective maintenance and logistics.

People

For the Air Force, readiness is first and foremost about people. In fiscal year 2018, Congress provided funding to allow the Air Force to address a serious shortage of maintainers. In September 2016, the service was short 4,000 active duty maintainers, but by December 2018 that number is expected to reach zero.

“Actions by Congress over the last few years has been tremendously helpful,” Wilson said. “Now we must get these Airmen the experience needed to become craftsman at their work.”

In addition to maintainers, the Air Force has placed an emphasis on addressing the national aircrew shortage, first by addressing quality of service and quality of life issues, and also increasing financial incentives and providing more control over assignments and career paths.

The Air Force is increasing the number of pilots it trains

from 1,160 a year in FY 2017 to 1,311 in FY 2019, building to 1,500 by FY 2022 and steady state, thereafter.

Training

As part of the readiness recovery, the Air Force is focused on providing relevant and realistic training to maintain an advantage over increasingly capable adversaries. To meet this need the service is investing in operational training infrastructure – ranges and airspace – and simulation.

The Air Force is also improving infrastructure, simulators, threat emulators and training ranges to enhance realism and enable Airmen to train locally for a high-end, multi-domain fight.

Cost-effective maintenance and logistics

The third element of restoring the readiness of the force is weapons system sustainment – the parts, supply and equipment – to make sure our aircraft are ready to go when needed.

“There are a thousand fingerprints on every aircraft that takes off. From air traffic control to crew chiefs to weapons loaders to avionics technicians – it is a total team effort,” Goldfein said. “When the plane is twice the age of the team, it makes it harder. So we are looking at new methods across the board for how we are maintaining an older fleet with a younger workforce.”

The Air Force is already seeing improvements in its depots, increasing depot production by 20 percent, completing 75 aircraft per year.

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Colombia

From Page 4

in English and their language skills will be imperative for their upcoming deployments," Carlson said. "Their command felt it was an important part of the instruction that they be able to communicate and understand the medical terminology, not only in their native language but in English as well. It just shows you how highly capable our counterparts here are."

Lt. Col. Richard Pantusa, 302nd Operations Group commander, and Master Sgt. Thomas Freeman, 731st Airlift Squadron, both from the Colorado Air Force Reserves, led the MTT seminar on modular

airborne firefighting system. This critical course helped to bridge the gap between the Colombian air force aircrew personnel and the Bogota fire department personnel on the ground.

"Pilots and fire department personnel don't typically train together, so this exposure opened the dialogue towards creating joint doctrine to be used for future engagements," explained Pantusa. "Through this training, personnel from both sections were able to better understand the part the other plays during MAFFS operations. This course, in particular, addressed a future capability that is in its infancy, and one that the U.S. Air Force will use to help the Colombian

air force grow."

Through the effective work put in by MSAS air advisors, the United States is strengthening relations and cooperation that will meet the challenges of crisis and contingency situations by providing the ability to respond together.

"Missions like this one in Colombia are a small example of the hard work that 571st air advisors are conducting to sustain U.S. and Colombia relations," DeRuyter said. "More importantly, it builds confidence and capability for the Colombian air force which can now conduct certain operations without any U.S. assistance and gives them the ability to 'pay it forward' and instruct other nations in Latin America."

Fatigue

From Page 3

of factors had to be taken into account. First, it needed to be small enough to fit on the cargo bay catwalk, so as not to interfere with the aircraft's load. Secondly, it had to be easily storable when not in use. Thirdly, it needed to be something the crews could disengage from quickly. Bales explained that the reason for this requirement is that the lookout must stay in position until immediately prior to landing, leaving little time to exit the porthole area and safely strap into a seat in the upper portion of the aircraft.

Once the team had a firm idea as to how they wanted to approach the task, they set to work on their designs by developing drawings, analyzing space requirements, and beginning construction along with personnel from the AFRL Maker Hub at the Wright Brothers Institute Tec^Edge Innovation and Collaboration Center. With an eye toward rapid innovation, the JFWORX team emerged with two initial prototypes within the span of about three weeks.

Project manager 1st Lt. Garrett Benner described the two concept prototypes and the considerations behind each. The first is a compact and lightweight folding chair that the team constructed with the assistance of Maker Hub personnel.

"It's a compact seat that they can fold up and set aside when not needed, and securely clamp in front of the porthole when they do, so that they can have a place to sit down," Benner said.

The second concept is a fabric sling that crew members can use to take the weight off their legs as they're looking out the porthole.

"The sling prototype is made of a padded vinyl seat attached to adjustable length polyester webbing with two points where it can be quickly and easily attached to the inside of the aircraft," Benner said. "It's something that can be rolled up for easy storage."

Bales said the team's next step is to present the initial prototypes to the loadmasters from the 60th Air Mobility Wing, who will provide their



U.S. Air Force photo/JD Bales

A lightweight and foldable seat is one of two initial prototype designs created by Air Force Research Laboratory researchers in an effort to implement a safer and less fatiguing way for Air Force crew members to perform flight duties.

assessment and evaluate for form, fit, and function. Once the JFWORX team has collected their input and recommendations, they will further refine the designs.

Once the final design is selected, the JFWORX team will work with Travis personnel to transition the design. Bales said this support could include continuing to modify and tweak the design, finding manufacturers who could produce the units in larger quantities, or simply providing the final prototype unit and engineering drawings with enough details to allow the seats to be made on site.

Bales added that after the project is completed, AFRL can continue to provide assistance in terms of product support. "AFRL owns the technical baseline. We have all the specifications and can speak to the origin of those specifications if a change is desired."

According to Bales, working with the SPARK Innovation Cells that are emerging at various Air Force bases has been rewarding experience, leading to many potential avenues for collaboration.

"We stay in close contact with the SPARKs to talk about projects we can take on to fit user needs. It fits with our mission of providing near-term, low-cost solutions for warfighter needs."

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www.tbvacaville.com
Greg Davidson, Senior Pastor

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Demo

From Page 6

quality and quantity that has never been done before, Bennett said. "We were also able to get solid feedback on what works and needs further work in the concept if it is to move forward."

He also spoke of a specific event during the last phase of the demonstration that was particularly exciting for the future of pilot training and LVC.

"One of the things we demonstrated was something we call 'untethered LVC.' What untethered allows us to do is conduct realistic live and constructive training anywhere we need to. This is because the modified aircraft and pods can host and distribute specific scenarios we can program into the pods

with or without a range infrastructure," Bennett explained. "Moreover, we were able to demonstrate in Phase III that the untethered mode can supplement their actual live training even if the range infrastructure goes down or air to ground infrastructure slows down. One of the aircraft can serve as the host and the other aircraft as clients, but they can all see and tactically work through the same scenario in real time anywhere."

This Advanced Technology Demonstration was established in March 2015 with the specific direction to evaluate critical enabling technologies required to field a live, virtual and constructive-capable training system architecture and structure.

"There are two major pieces of SLATE," explained Bennett. "The first is the secure piece

- we want to be able to train realistically and not give away the things that make us the best in the world to the bad guys. So it has to be a secure way of transmitting information back and forth. The second major piece is the LVC - live, virtual and constructive. The live aspect is the military members actually flying in their operational airplanes, driving in their operational truck or vehicle on the ground, remotely piloted aircraft - they're using their operational equipment. But we're able to tie that to a virtual environment which is a simulation of that operational equipment. And the constructive environment which is computer generated models and entities that allow us to create realistic threats, realistic bad guys and behaviors that our folks can actually go after."

Brothers

From Page 10

inspections at Dobbins ARB. When a plane comes in and is jacked up, as Jeremy works on the motor, Joel will be over in the flaps.

Jeremy works as an Air Reserve technician full time at Dobbins ARB. Joel serves as a traditional reservist, frequently working on orders at Dobbins ARB.

The bond between the brothers carries into their civilian

life as well. The airmen live as roommates and even produce electronic music and disc jockey together. But their favorite experience is working together in the military.

"Going out and doing real world missions together is really cool," said Jeremy.

"When we grew up playing in the backyard together trying to accomplish something, or helping dad work on the cars, it was together, and now being on a much bigger scale, in a bigger family in the Air Force, still being and working together towards the mission is awesome."

Mosquitoes

From Page 5

lay their eggs on the surface of standing water. Drain any stagnant water you find in flowerpots, buckets, bird baths, unused tires, wheelbarrows or small containers.

• Surveillance: Travis Public Health Office has teamed up with the Solano County Mosquito Abatement Office to set traps

to monitor the mosquito population. Public health also sets traps weekly on base to survey the potential risk of mosquito-borne diseases. Mosquito trapping runs annually from May to October.

For more information on the base's entomology program, call public health at 707-423-5470. For information about the Solano County Mosquito Abatement program, call 707-437-1116.

Suhre

From Page 2

security incidents. All are crucial in strengthening our nation's cyberspace awareness

and resiliency, thus enabling Team Travis to achieve global reach through worldwide airlift and air refueling and ensures our ability to fly, fight and win in today's cyber-contested environment.

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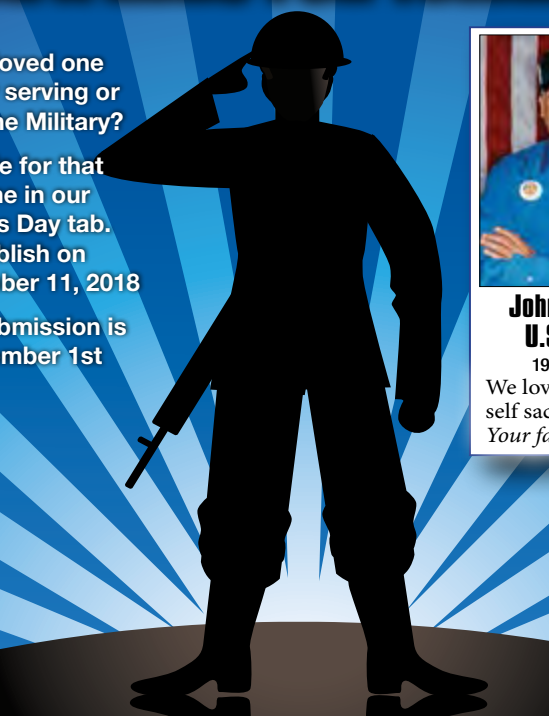
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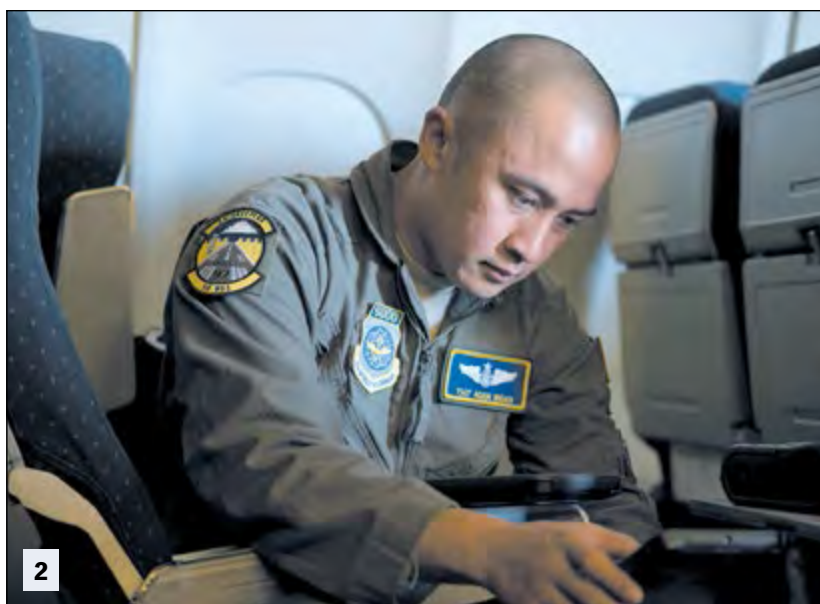


1) Senior Airman Mallory Cook, 9th Air Refueling Squadron boom operator, and Lt. Col. Rob Diaz, 9th ARS chief pilot, discuss the cargo load plan Sept. 28 in a KC-10 Extender at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The cargo was headed to Misawa Air Base, Japan, which demonstrated the 60th Air Mobility Wing's ability to conduct rapid global mobility.

Mission to Japan showcases Travis' ... MOBILITY

U.S. Air Force photos by Lan Kim

2) Tech. Sgt. Adam Ingan, 60th Operation Support Squadron boom operator instructor, verifies pre-flight data prior to a mission in a KC-10 Extender Sept. 28 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. 3) Airman 1st Class Garrett Waltman, 9th Air Refueling Squadron boom operator, conducts pre-flight checks in the boom compartment of a KC-10 Extender Sept. 28 at Travis.



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