



CRW Airmen aid in fight against ...

**COVID-19**

**PAGES 10-11**



**TAILWIND**





The air traffic control tower is seen Oct 19, 2017, at Travis Air Force Base, California.

U.S. Air Force photo/Heide Couch

# Travis begins phase two of reopening

## 60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

On June 1, the 60th Air Mobility Wing commander implemented phase two of a three-phase approach to reopen the base.

Col. Jeffrey W. Nelson, 60th AMW commander, also decrease the base's Health Protection Condition to BRAVO to continue protecting Travis while allowing some base services and facilities to reopen.

Travis' three-phase approach, designed by medical experts and base leadership, is in alignment with California Gov. Gavin Newsom's recovery plan.

"I am incredibly appreciative of our Airmen, civilian employees, contractors, retirees and family members being so patient and flexible during this unprecedented time," Nelson said. "We are ready and eager to begin the long transition to normal operations."

The change in HPCON level and implementation of phase two will allow some base facilities and services to reopen once

they meet state and county requirements.

HPCON BRAVO is a moderate health protection condition in response to public health risks in the local community. All Travis AFB personnel should continue to practice strict hygiene measures such as frequently washing and/or sanitizing hands, wiping common-use items with disinfectant, covering mouths and noses with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing and staying home when sick. Additionally, base members should continue to practice social distancing, remaining 6 feet apart from others at all times, refrain from physical contact such as hand shaking, fist bumps, etc. When members cannot practice social distancing, they are required to wear appropriate face coverings. For updated information on base facility openings, visit <https://www.travis.af.mil/Coronavirus/>.

For more information, contact 60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs at 707-424-2011 or email 60AMWPA@us.af.mil.

**Tailwind**  
Travis AFB, Calif. | 60th Air Mobility Wing

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Visit the Travis public web site at <http://www.travis.af.mil>. Read the Tailwind online at <http://tailwind.dailyrepublic.net> or by accessing the Travis SharePoint.

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### On the cover

Members assigned to the 44th Medical Brigade, line in formation to receive an award certificate at the Javits Center in New York City, before their departure ceremony, May 24.

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Xavier Navarro

# Travis captain forges connection to Silicon Valley

## AFWERX Public Affairs

SAN FRANCISCO — In early 2020, the inaugural AFVentures Fellowship brought together 21 Airmen for a six-week immersion with technology and venture capital firms in San Francisco.

Among the group was Capt. Justin Poole, director of staff and C-17 evaluator pilot at Travis Air Force Base, California.

The fellows were trained in investment and risk management to strengthen their ability to develop and deliver essential capabilities to the Air Force's mission from Feb. 10 to March 20.

"In addition to the government, venture capitalists and investors are a key component of accelerating innovation in sectors we rely on to accomplish our mission," said Maj. Tony Perez, AFWERX Spark Cell lead and the fellowship's brainchild. "To better collaborate and understand the different roles we play, we need Airmen who understand the world of startups, investing and technological advancement."

To meet this growing need for Airmen who speak the language of entrepreneurship, Perez enlisted the help of Shift, a talent development company that supports career shifts for military veterans.

Through a Small Business Innovation Research contract and in coordination with AFWERX, the company developed a fellowship that would expose Airmen to concepts including design thinking, leadership, innovation and entrepreneurship.

"As a small business owner and Navy veteran, a major benefit from the SBIR program is its focus on developing dual-use technologies that serve a need for the private sector and defense community," said Mike Slagh, Shift chief executive officer. "The AFVentures



U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. Stacie N. Shafran

Air Force AFVentures fellows take part in a meeting with Brian O'Malley, a partner at Forerunner Ventures March 4 in San Francisco. The fellows learned about the firm's portfolio and how to make successful investment and risk management decisions, so as to better deliver essential capabilities to the Air Force's mission.

Fellowship is built upon Shift's proprietary matching technology, which we initially developed to help transitioning veterans find private-sector jobs. For the fellowship, it powered our selection and matching process with venture capital hosts, and I couldn't be happier with the results."

The fellows were competitively selected and comprised a diverse mix of officers, enlisted and civilians, across the active duty, Air Force Reserve, and Air National Guard, and came from a

variety of Air Force mission sets including cyber, space, intelligence, special operations, legislative affairs, and software development.

The fellows were then embedded with an organization to receive first-hand experience in the private sector, which was augmented by weekly educational sessions, group projects, and reading assignments.

"I've long been intrigued by the optimism and ambition Silicon Valley is known for," said Maj. Stacie Shafran,

Air Force Personnel Center public affairs officer who spent her fellowship with Offline Ventures and Brit + Co, learning how a venture capital firm and venture capital-backed company operate, make investment decisions, and manage risk. "I also fostered conversations with venture capitalists at the cutting edge of healthcare innovation – specifically mental health care – so as to improve the quality of life for our

See FORGES Page 18



Courtesy photo

## WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

**Name:**  
Staff Sgt. Will Johnson

**Unit:**  
60th Air Mobility Wing Occupational Safety

**Duty title:**  
Safety journeyman

**Hometown:**  
Clover, South Carolina

**Time in service:**  
Seven years

**Family:**  
Single

**What are your goals?**  
Increase rank, eventually commission

**What are your hobbies?**  
Target practice, outdoor adventure, motorcycle

**What is your greatest achievement?**  
Operating in CENTCOM in a master sergeant capacity in the safety career field



# Contracting aids contingency response mission

**Tech. Sgt. David W. Carbajal**  
621ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"I really have nothing to compare it to. This is unlike anything I've ever done before," said Master Sgt. Ronald Abbate, from the 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, California. "Some days, it's one of the most frustrating jobs someone can have. But other times, it's one of the most rewarding jobs anyone can have."  
"This job can be a giant pain in the butt, but I love doing it," said Master Sgt. Ryan Fowler, from the 621st Contingency

Response Support Squadron at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. It may be difficult to imagine, but they're both describing the same job: contracting. Abbate and Fowler are two of only four contracting officers who work to support the dynamic mission of the 621st Contingency Response Wing. As Devil Raiders, these contracting officers are prepared to acquire whatever is needed to keep the mission going during any unplanned or unexpected operation. These "6Cs" as identified by the Air Force Specialty Code, remain on alert with their unit every day of the year. Abbate was the 6C to go to Tyndall Air

Force Base, Florida, with the contingency response element to assist the base's recovery from Hurricane Michael in October 2018. "I grew up in Florida, but when we first got there, it was crazy how much damage there was," said Abbate, who is a Jacksonville native. "Hangar doors were blown off; trees were snapped like twigs; it was crazy."  
After he arrived at Tyndall, Abbate did what he always does when arriving at any CRW location: make the unit as self-sustaining as possible, he said. That's when Abbate's previous experiences and exercises helped him move forward.

"After getting settled, we start thinking about what the career fields will need," said Abbate, who has worked in contracting for more than 13 years. "Anything from aircraft parts and lumber to bolts and spray paint."  
During contingencies, things that are normally easy to find can be a challenge, said Abbate. "Many stores in Florida were closed because of the damage," said Abbate. "So, we had to be creative. Some things had to be flown in from other states or regions in order to get what we needed."

See **CONTRACTING** Page 18

# TRANSCOM brings home Americans

**Michael P. Kleiman**  
U.S. TRANSPORTATION COMMAND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Since its formation on March 27, the U.S. Transportation Command's Repatriation Coordination Cell organized the stateside return of more than 3,900 Americans stranded abroad due to tightened COVID-19 travel limitations imposed by numerous countries.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Daniel Owen

**U.S. citizens board a U.S. Air Force C-130J Super Hercules March 25 at Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras. The aircraft was used to transport 78 evacuees from Honduras to Naval Air Station Norfolk, Va.**

Supporting the Department of State's efforts to bring American citizens home as the pandemic spread across the globe, the USTRANSCOM unit, which stood down in mid-May, contracted 14 separate commercial charter airlift missions, transporting many thousands back to the U.S. from five different African and Asian nations. The process to achieve these repatriations began with the command's Repat Coord Cell receiving a request from DOS' Repatriation Task Force. Following validation of DOS' requirement, they verified the number of passengers and provided the information to USTRANSCOM's Directorate of Acquisition

for commercial air carrier response. Next, after confirming mission details with DOS, the Repat Coord Cell, comprised of a dozen core members, submitted the finalized package to USTRANSCOM's air component, the Air Force's Air Mobility Command (618th Air Operations Center), for further synchronization with

the contracted charter airlift. "Leading the Repat Coord Cell has been a unique and rewarding experience, as I had not worked with the command's Directorate of Acquisition or any of the commercial air carriers before. I also learned how DOS attacks problems from the whole-of-government

approach," said U.S. Army Col. Aaron Angell, chief, Joint Operational Support Airlift Center Division, USTRANSCOM's Operations Directorate. "During the cell's seven-week existence, our priority was administrative oversight of the command's repatriation operations, as well as to serve as a link between

USTRANSCOM and DOS."

During the workweek, the Repat Coord Cell normally operated from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., but also executed its duties on the weekend, when required. To ensure unity of effort, they participated in two daily teleconferences – morning and afternoon – with DOS' Transportation Cell and attended another midday phone session with USTRANSCOM. A majority of the Repat Coord Cell's primary participants also continued to serve in their regular jobs, and in this capacity, they provided the expertise and experience for the command's assistance to DOS.

"USTRANSCOM's Repat Coord Cell quickly formed with command and AMC professionals who provided DOS with responsive commercial airlift supporting movement from different parts of the globe," stated U.S. Air Force Maj. Christopher Moyano, Commercial Industry Branch, USTRANSCOM's Operations Directorate. "The combined efforts of USTRANSCOM, AMC, DOS, and commercial industry saw the safe return of over 3,900 Americans on chartered airlift,

See **HOME** Page 15

# 19th AW receives final C-130J

**Staff Sgt. Dana J. Cable**  
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

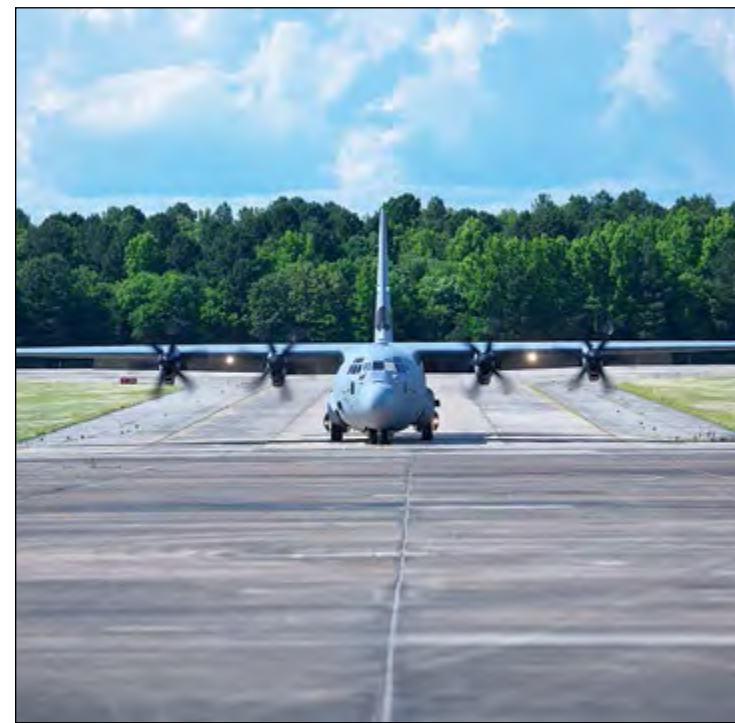
LITTLE ROCK AIR FORCE BASE, Ark. -- A brand new C-130J Super Hercules was delivered to Little Rock Air Force Base May 27, marking the last C-130J delivery for the 19th Airlift Wing and Air Mobility Command.

With the historic aircraft delivery, which is the final C-130J to arrive from the Lockheed Martin facility in Marietta, Georgia, LRAFB continues to be the largest C-130J operator in the world —Home of Herk Nation.

LRAFB now boasts a C-130J fleet of 47 aircraft between both the 19th Airlift Wing and 314th Airlift Wing.

The 19th Airlift Wing began transitioning from older C-130H cargo aircraft to newer C-130J models in 2004. The airframe conversion enables Airmen to improve strategic and tactical airlift capabilities.

"It's an honor to be part of the team of Airmen that welcomed the final C-130J to the Home of Herk Nation," said Col. John Schutte, 19th Airlift Wing commander. "This latest addition to the world's largest C-130J fleet will be put to immediate use as we continue to



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jayden Ford

**A new C-130J Super Hercules arrives at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, May 27, 2020. The historic aircraft delivery to LRAFB serves as the final C-130J for the 19th Airlift Wing and Air Mobility Command.**

project and sustain agile combat airlift, globally."

The J-model airframe offers a longer fuselage with additional pallet positions for added airlift capacity, an updated cockpit with digital avionics, more efficient engines and propellers, which increase range and speed and many

other improvements.

The C-130J enables LRAFB to quickly provide humanitarian airlift relief to disaster victims and airdrop supplies and troops into the heart of contingency operations in hostile areas of Central Asia, South America and the Horn of Africa.

# Shoppers generate \$555,436 at Travis

**Lorraine Harris-Ortega**  
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Travis Air Force Base - Service members, retirees, Veterans and military families know it pays to shop their Exchange.

In 2019, authorized Travis Army and Air Force Exchange shoppers generated \$555,436 of critical support for military quality-of-life programs in the form of earnings-based dividends, such as Child and Youth School Services, Armed Forces Recreation Centers and other programs that support the military.

One-hundred percent of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's worldwide earnings are invested in the military community, with 59% going to dividends supporting quality-of-life programs and the remaining 41% used to improve the experience in stores and at ShopMyExchange.com. "The Exchange is Family Serving Family," said Phonda Bishop, Travis Army & Air Force Exchange general manager. "Exchange earnings improve the lives of Travis Army and Air Force Base heroes and their families."

The Travis Army and Air military. See **GENERATE** Page 12

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# Defense launches effort to collect COVID-19 convalescent plasma

**Military Health System Communications Office**

Patients who have recovered from COVID-19 may hold treatment in their veins that could help others who are critically ill with the respiratory infection.

The Department of Defense has begun an effort to collect 8,000 donated units of plasma from patients who have recovered from COVID-19 to support the development of an effective treatment against the disease.

"We may want to ask you to stick your arm out and donate blood," Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Mark Milley said in a May 28 virtual town hall. "What that can then do is help others who are severely ill, and if we can do that, then we'll be on a good path toward getting some really powerful therapeutics."

Donations will be accepted at 15 Armed Services Blood Program centers across the



Courtesy photo

**Donald Perry, a civilian employee at Fort Bragg, California, recently recovered from COVID-19 and donated his plasma May 7 at the Fort Bragg Blood Donor Center.**

continental United States, and in Hawaii, Guam and Germany. (A complete list of centers accepting donations appears at the end of this article, and is available online.)

Patients fully recovered from COVID-19 are the only ones who qualify to be a COVID-19 convalescent plasma donor, said Army

Col. Audra Taylor, chief of the Armed Services Blood Program. DOD personnel and their families, as well as non-DOD civilians with access to collection facilities on installations, are welcome to donate.

"Our goal as a lifesaving program is to always provide a safe

**See PLASMA Page 15**

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# Experts address COVID-19 effects on mental health

**Military Health System Communications Office**

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how people live, interact and cope with new stressors. However, military psychological health experts emphasize making small changes to address problems early can have a big impact.

"Aside from worrying about the contracting the virus, we worry about the many ways it impacts our lives and for how long," said Dr. Holly O'Reilly, clinical psychologist at the Defense Health Agency's Psychological Health Center of Excellence. "Taking small steps to address problems early on can make a big difference, especially during the current pandemic."

O'Reilly and three other Department of Defense experts on psychological health discussed the mental health effects of COVID-19 and tools to address them during a media panel May 27 as part of May's national Mental Health Awareness Month observance. Each year, the Military Health System joins the nation to raise awareness of psychological health concerns. This year's MHS theme of "Need a Little Help" is especially important,

because "sometimes a little bit of help is all we need to improve our mental health and stay mission ready," O'Reilly said.

O'Reilly says that one of those small steps is to "bright side" anxieties during the pandemic. "Instead of catastrophizing and imagining that this will be terrible forever, take a step back and think about how you will successfully navigate this situation, even though it's difficult," she said.

For example, bright siding can help health care workers with the growing anxiety they may feel due to the ambiguity of the novel coronavirus and limited medical knowledge of its impacts. Dr. Stephen Cozza, associate director of the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress at the Uniformed Services University for Health Sciences, encouraged senior clinicians and medical leaders to frame expectations for their workers and help them understand the limits of what they can do in the challenging environment that COVID-19 presents.

This also extends to families of health care workers. "Many of the families of health care workers are both faced by long

**See MENTAL Page 12**



**U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Stephanie West, 60th Aerial Port Squadron ramp operations section chief, wears a cloth face covering April 14 at Travis Air Force Base, California.**

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christian Conrad

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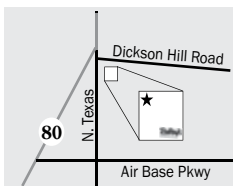
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U.S. Air Force photo/Samuel King Jr.

An HH-60W Jolly Green II parks by an AH-64 Apache, May 19, at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. The Air Force and Army aircraft completed a joint test of the HH-60W systems leveraging the unique configuration of the Apache to provide capabilities normally not available at Eglin AFB.

## Jolly Green II, Apache complete test

Samuel King Jr.

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Those common, vibrating “thwip” helicopter sounds arrived well before they showed up, as 413th Flight Test Squadron personnel turned to look to the north at Eglin Air Force Base, May 19.

Seconds later, two helicopters appeared and the sounds and vibrations intensified. The Air Force’s newest combat search and rescue helicopter, the HH-60W Jolly Green II, led the way down the Duke Field runway. It was followed by the Army’s multi-role combat helicopter, the AH-64 Apache.

The two aircraft landed at Eglin AFB completing their first flight and combined test mission together.

The Apache, from Redstone Army Test Center, Alabama, flew in for system testing with the HH-60W.

“The unique configuration of the AH-64 Apache gave our team the opportunity to test capabilities of the HH-60W in ways normally not possible here,” said Christopher Martin, 413th FLTS HH-60W lead test engineer “Tests like these will ensure the Jolly Green II will be able to perform its critical combat search and rescue mission



U.S. Air Force photo/Samuel King Jr.

An HH-60W Jolly Green II taxis on the flightline followed by an AH-64 Apache, May 19, at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

when fielded in the joint warfighting environment.”

The joint service test effort marks another milestone in Jolly Green II’s development. This year, the new helicopter has completed extreme environment, communications and defense system testing just to name a few.

The 413th FLTS leads the HH-60W integrated test team along with members of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, 88th Test and Evaluation Squadron,

Detachment 2, and Air Force Operational Test Center.

“We are very proud of the work our integrated test team accomplished in 2020 despite a myriad of operational restrictions due to COVID-19,” said Shawn Hammond, HH-60W test program manager. “The team’s success is due to a mission-focused mindset to ensure the crews flying the Jolly Green II into combat have the most reliable and capable helicopter for the job.”

## Final changes set for song

Charles Pope

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ARLINGTON, Va. — All stanzas of the Air Force song have been updated to better capture and represent the valor and heritage of the 73-year-old service, while also recognizing the diversity and contributions of today’s

total force regardless of gender.

The announcement by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein, completes a two-step process in which male-only references were revised to capture the distinguished service, the high standards, and central role that women play in every facet of the modern United States Air Force.

### Puzzles

#### STR8TS

No. 493

Easy

Previous solution - Medium

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9	3	2	8	7	6	5	4	1
3	2	1	6	7	5	4		

How to beat Str8ts – Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a ‘straight’. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5]. Clues in black cells remove that number as an option in that row and column, and are not part of any straight. Glance at the solution to see how ‘straights’ are formed.

You can find more help, tips and hints at [www.str8ts.com](http://www.str8ts.com)

#### SUDOKU

No. 493

Tough

Previous solution - Medium

		7	6	8				
			5	9				
5			4				3	
	3	1	5			8		
2	4			7		5		
1		4	8	9				
3			5				9	
		8	2					
	1	3	2					

1	6	3	4	7	5	9	8	2
4	9	2	8	1	3	5	7	6
5	7	8	2	6	9	4	1	3
9	8	5	1	2	7	6	3	4
2	4	7	5	3	6	1	9	8
6	3	1	9	8	4	2	5	7
8	5	4	3	9	2	7	6	1
3	2	6	7	5	1	8	4	9
7	1	9	6	4	8	3	2	5

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](http://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](http://www.str8ts.com)

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

## Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

The following Travis employees are approved as leave recipients through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program: Rebecca Austria, 60th Maintenance Group; John Butler, Special Tactics Training Squadron; Jaqualynn Cabanlit, Travis AFB Commissary; Neftaly Clark, 1st Special Operations Force Support Squadron; David Duncan, 319th Reconnaissance Wing, Grand Forks AFB; Rabiye Hamilton, Travis AFB Commissary; Patrick Hodge United States Transportation Command, Scott AFB; Mark Holmes, 10th Contracting Squadron; Dina Patterson-Steward,

60th Aerial Port Squadron; Jason Perkins, Grand Forks AFB; Gina Silva, Air Force Academy headquarters; Jean Sommer, Travis AFB Commissary; Maria Thammassen, 60th Force Support Squadron; and Dennis Weaver, Air Force Manpower Agency.

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.

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# CRW Airmen aid Reserve medics combating coronavirus hotspots



1



2

**Tech. Sgt. David W. Carbajal**  
621ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, N.J.** — Two Airmen from the 621st Contingency Response Wing have supported the Department of Defense's effort to combat COVID-19 since March.

Lt. Col. Curt Haase and Master Sgt. John Huck, from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, have been embedded with the 64th Air Expeditionary Group to help bring Air Force Reservists into the fight against the pandemic.

Huck has been the lead for the four-person personnel support for contingency operations team, made up of Reservists from New Jersey and Pennsylvania, as they processed a total of nearly 300 Airmen from various units across the United States within the last eight weeks. Once they were processed through the Joint Reception Center on JBMDL, they were sent to regional hospitals throughout New York City, Connecticut and Massachusetts to assist civilian medical providers.

"Many of these Reservists arrived and were eager to hit the ground running," said Huck. "Without much time to prepare, they've gotten here and are out there making a difference."

The majority of the Air Force's personnel contributing to the COVID fight have been medical professionals to include doctors, medics, nurses, respiratory technicians and behavioral health experts, according to Huck.

"My job is just to get them where they need to be," said Huck. "Right now, they're going into the thick of things and dealing with some very sick patients."

The Airmen, working in tandem with the Army's 44th Medical Brigade, have been supporting U.S. Northern Command, which remains committed to providing flexible DOD

support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the whole-of-nation COVID-19 response.

"I have a newfound respect for Reservists and medical professionals," said Haase, the 64th AEG deputy commander and the 621st Mobility Support Operations Squadron commander. "They have been fearless and incredibly adaptive since they've arrived."

Haase, currently working out of a hotel in Manhattan, is providing the command and control function to ensure the health and welfare of the Airmen working in the AEG.

"This has been an incredible opportunity for me to see this team of Airmen from across the U.S., from 29 different wings, come together and get after it," said Haase.

Hospitals in the northeast were tasked to manage increased patient populations despite staff shortages due to illnesses.

"Some of the hospitals were down to 60 percent manning," said Haase. "These Airmen had to own entire wards of patients because of COVID."

Despite the efforts of the AEG medics, many patients they cared for were not able to recover from coronavirus.

"The stress put on these Airmen day in and day out is unbelievable," said Haase. "Many of them were at the patients' bedside when they passed. Some of them even volunteered to video conference with families so they could say goodbye."

"We may not have won every battle, but New York City is in a better place because of their efforts," said Haase.

Haase attributes the success of the team to their commitment to the job.

"(Air Force Reserve Command) was the contingency response force of this pandemic," said Haase. "Many of them responded to the call within hours of notification and they pushed through every obstacle. I'm proud to be a part of this total force team."



3

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Xavier Navarro  
1) U.S. Air Force Airmen assigned to the 64th Air Expeditionary Group prepare to pack and return their Joint All-Domain Command and Control devices May 27 at a hotel in New York City. Armed forces personnel collaborate as an integrated system in support of the New York City medical system, as part of the Department of Defense COVID-19 response. U.S. Northern Command, through U.S. Army North, remains committed to providing flexible Department of Defense support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the whole-of-nation COVID-19 response. 2) U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 63rd Expeditionary Signal Battalion assist U.S. Air Force Airmen, assigned to the 64th Air Expeditionary Group, reset their Joint All-Domain Command and Control devices May 27 at a hotel in New York City. 3) U.S. Army Sgt. Johnny Autry, assigned to the 63rd Expeditionary Signal Battalion, confirms serial numbers of returned Joint All-Domain Command and Control devices at a hotel May 27 in New York City.



## Mental

From Page 7

and extended absences of their loved ones who are working under varying circumstances and putting themselves at risk by being at close exposure to the virus," Cozza said. "That can also lead to concerns for the health and safety of the health care providers as well as...the family members."

Army Col. (Dr.) David

Benedek, chief of Psychiatry at USU, encourages everyone to engage in continuing self-care habits to promote resilience and a more healthy response to the challenges their confronting. These include getting good sleep, maintaining good nutritional and hydration habits, and remaining devoted to appropriate exercise.

"The things that we consider self-care are really important, not just for hospital workers and healthcare workers

and other front liners, but all of our society ... things that we can do to promote our general physical health and also promote our mental health," Benedek said. His includes staying socially connected through physical distancing and staying in touch with loved ones. "Families should talk honestly about fears and worries, but also share in positive family experiences," he said.

While looking at things from the bright side is a start

to addressing mental health issues, seeking care from a mental health professional is always encouraged for anyone who feels that they need a little bit of help. Benedek noted a national increase in patients making appointments for mental and physical health, which decreased significantly in the early stages of the pandemic. He attributed that increase to changes in the worries that people are having, and to the increase in telehealth or virtual health services for mental health care.

"One can make a phone call and get a tele-mental-health appointment and not have to worry about coming into a higher risk environment," Benedek said, "and people are starting to take advantage of that. So I think we will see increased utilization in the weeks and months ahead."

Although May offers opportunities to emphasize and reinforce resources and programs, mental health is a year-round focus with the DoD, O'Reilly said. "We constantly advance our research and analysis to improve prevention and treatment for the beneficiaries of the Military Health System."

The MHS offers a number of mental health tools and programs to help patients, service members, and health care providers address their mental health concerns. From free mobile applications to expansions in telehealth capabilities, access to mental health care is always a priority for MHS.

Under one program, the Real Warriors Campaign, Dr. Nicholas Polizzi, Ph.D., with

the Psychological Health Center of Excellence, leverages social media and other forms of multimedia to provide mental health materials to patients no matter where they are. The Real Warriors Campaign encourages the military community to reach out for help dealing with stress and anxiety.

"If you're looking for evidence-based, self-guided interventions that one can do, be they be a front-line worker, a medical professional, or family member, I would encourage folks to check out the Real Warriors Campaign," Polizzi said. "Real Warriors is cell-phone compatible and has tons of information in a variety of formats for people to digest on their own and learn more if they're dipping their toe into the self-care psychological health world."

The long-lasting mental effects of the pandemic, like heightened anxiety and potential post-traumatic stress disorder, remains uncertain, according to the experts. Returning to the workplace can add another layer to both conditions. However, all of the experts agree that measures can be taken to promote resilience and a healthy response to the challenges of COVID-19.

Mental health is essential not only to mission success, but to quality of life. The Military Health System will continue to prioritize mental health and combat threats to mental health like the COVID-19 pandemic. For more mental health resources, visit the MHS website.

## Generate

From Page 5

Force Exchange dividend is a part of the \$217 million the Army & Air Force Exchange Service generated worldwide in 2019. In the last 10 years, the Exchange has contributed \$2.2 billion to morale, welfare, and recreation programs integral to Army and Air Force recruiting, readiness and resiliency.

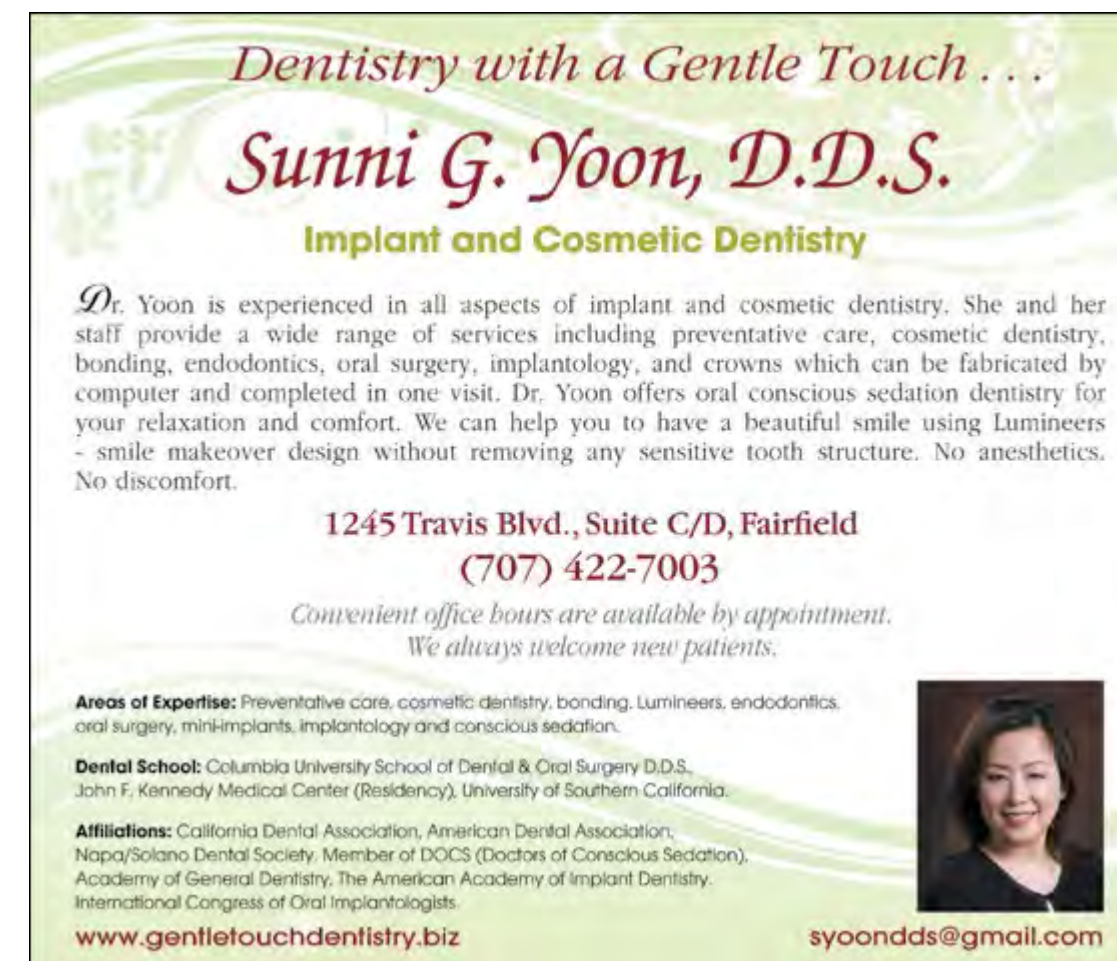
Part of the Exchange's dividend was generated by Veterans. On Jan. 1, 4.1 million Veterans with service-connected

disabilities and certain caregivers were welcomed home with in-store shopping privileges. Since 2017, all honorably discharged Veterans have been authorized to shop the Exchange online. Veterans can find out more about their earned benefits on the Exchange's community Hub page at <https://bit.ly/Vets4Life>.

Despite the upheaval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the ever-changing retail landscape, the Exchange remains dedicated to supporting troops and their families, wherever the military mission takes them.



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# DIRECTORY OF local worship services

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 • 10:30 AM \* MORNING WORSHIP  
 • KID'z CHURCH Grades K-5th  
 • 10:00 AM WEDNESDAY SENIOR PRAYER  
 • 7:00 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT Adult Bible Study  
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## BAPTIST



**Worship With Us... St. Paul Baptist Church**  
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 Fairfield, CA 94533  
**Rev. Dr. Terry Long, Pastor**  
**Sunday**  
 Sunday School: 11:00 a.m.  
 Morning Worship Service: 12:00 p.m.  
 Children's Church: 11:30 a.m.  
**Tuesday**  
 Prayer Meeting: 6:30-7:00 p.m.  
 Bible Study: 7:00-8:00 p.m.  
**Web Site:** [www.stpaulfairfield.com](http://www.stpaulfairfield.com)  
**Email:** [stpaulbfairfield@comcast.net](mailto:stpaulbfairfield@comcast.net)  
**Church Phone:** 707-422-2003

## BAPTIST



### MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Clayton Lea, Jr. - Senior Pastor  
**Fairfield Campus**  
 1735 Enterprise Drive, Bldg. 3  
 Fairfield, CA 94533  
 Sunday Worship Services  
 7:00am & 9:30am.  
 Bible Study  
 Tuesdays @ 7:00pm (Youth Sanctuary)

**Suisun Campus**  
 601 Whispering Bay Lane,  
 Suisun City, CA 94585  
 Sunday Worship Services, 11:00am  
 Bible Study  
 Tuesdays @ 12:00noon  
 707-425-1849  
[www.mcbcfcs.org](http://www.mcbcfcs.org) for more information  
 Live Stream on:



### First Baptist Church of Vacaville

*The All Together Different Church*  
**Senior Pastor Wyatt Duncan**  
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 Awana on Wednesdays at 6pm  
**1127 Davis Street, Vacaville 707-448-6209 [www.fbcvv.com](http://www.fbcvv.com)**

## BAPTIST



### Orchard Baptist Church

**Live stream at: [itsallaboutfamilies.org](http://itsallaboutfamilies.org)**  
 301 N. Orchard Ave., Vacaville  
 707.448.5848

**SUNDAY**  
 Classes for all ages..... 10:00 am  
 Worship..... 11:00 am  
 CORE Bible Studies 12:30 & 5:00 pm (2nd & 4th Sunday)  
**WEDNESDAY**  
 Adult Studies.....2:00 pm  
 AWANA for Kids.....6:15 pm  
 Adult & Youth Studies.....6:30 pm

*Come and worship with us*



### Elmira Baptist Church

**Live Stream on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/elmirabaptistchurch77)**  
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 Independent Baptist Church - KJV  
 Scott Dean - Pastor  
 6111 California Pacific Rd.  
 Vacaville, CA 95687  
**Sunday School 9:45-10:45 a.m.**  
**Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.**  
**Sunday Evening Worship 5 p.m.**  
**Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 7 p.m.**  
 (Nursery is provided in all services)  
**Website:** [www.elmirafamily.com](http://www.elmirafamily.com)  
**Email:** [elmirabaptistchurch77@gmail.com](mailto:elmirabaptistchurch77@gmail.com)  
**Phone:** (707) 430-3529

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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 Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10 AM  
 Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6 PM  
 Wed. Evening Bible Study ..... 7 PM  
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 Rescue Mission 1st Friday of month 6-8 PM  
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 1571 Marshall Road, Vacaville, CA 95687  
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 9:50 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship  
 5:30 p.m. Sunday Evening Worship

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 Fairfield, CA 94533  
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 9:15 a.m. Pastor's Forum  
 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II  
**Tuesday Service:**  
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 Vacaville, CA 95688  
 (707) 451-6675  
 Live stream at: [gobethany.com](http://gobethany.com)

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 Sunday: 10:00am with Bible Studies and Sunday School for all ages at 9:00am  
 Fellowship: 11:15am  
 Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month @ 621 S. Orchard Ave., VV

Reverend Phillip Pledger Senior Pastor  
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[www.gobethany.com](http://www.gobethany.com)

## BETHANY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

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 Rev. Dr. Dan Molyneux, Pastor

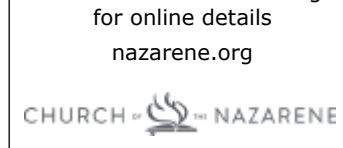
## NAZARENE



### SonRise Community Fellowship

10am Sunday  
 310 Parker Street  
 Vacaville, CA 95688

Please visit [sonrise-vv.org](http://sonrise-vv.org) for online details  
[nazarene.org](http://nazarene.org)



## NON-DENOMINATIONAL



### Church of Christ

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[office@vacavillebiblechurch.com](mailto:office@vacavillebiblechurch.com)

Live Stream on: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/vacavillebiblechurch)

## NON-DENOMINATIONAL



**Vacaville Church of Christ**  
 401 Fir St., Vacaville, CA 95688  
 (707) 448-5085

Minister: Ryan Brewer  
 Sunday Morning Bible Study  
 9:30 AM

Sunday Morning Worship  
 10:30 AM  
 Sunday Evening Worship  
 6:00 PM

Wed. Evening Bible Study  
 7:00 PM  
[www.vacavillecofc.com](http://www.vacavillecofc.com)

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**Sundays**  
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 Member of Gospel Coalition  
[www.thegospelcoalition.org](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org)

## NON-DENOMINATIONAL



### THE FATHER'S HOUSE

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 4800 Horse Creek Drive  
 Vacaville, CA 95688  
 (707) 455-7790

[www.tfh.org](http://www.tfh.org)

Service Times  
 Saturday: 6pm  
 Sunday: 9am & 11am

Live Stream at [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/tfh.org) [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/tfh.org)

## UNITED METHODIST



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# Plasma

From Page 6

and ample supply of blood products. The need is now," Taylor stressed. "We are calling for all who are healthy, able, and eligible, to donate today to help us all stand mission ready and save lives."

Why convalescent plasma is collected

When a person contracts SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, their immune systems create antibodies to fight the virus. These antibodies are found in the plasma - the liquid part of blood, Taylor explained.

Plasma with infection-fighting antibodies is called convalescent plasma, she said. Through the blood donation process, this plasma is collected from a donor who has recovered from COVID-19 and may be transfused into a sick patient who is still fighting the virus, if they qualify for this type of treatment. The procedure may boost the immune system of the patient and help with the recovery process, Taylor said.

The collection process for this type of plasma is the same

as standard apheresis collection, she noted. It is being investigated for the treatment of COVID-19 because there is no approved treatment for the disease at this time, and there is some indication that it might help some patients recover from COVID-19.

Several COVID-19 patients in the Military Health System have received convalescent plasma transfusions as part of their treatment, Taylor said. The treatment, which must be carried out under an approved protocol, is used for those hospitalized and severely ill with the disease.

Donating CCP is the same as a standard platelet or plasma donation and must meet specific requirements set by the Food and Drug Administration. Donors must be at least 17 years and older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in good health. Women who have ever been pregnant may need additional testing for specific human leukocyte antigen antibodies that may be present in their blood.

In addition to these standard requirements, those who have fully recovered from COVID-19 must be symptom-free for at least 14 days.

# Home

From Page 4

overcoming an unprecedented restricted environment."

USTRANSCOM-contracted, commercial charter airlift supporting DOS' repat endeavors consisted of Atlas Air, Delta Air Lines, and Omni Air International. Occasionally, the command's Repat Coord Cell also organized military aircraft transport of Americans from overseas locations. To date, approximately 522 U.S. citizens returned stateside via gray-tail opportune airlift.

"The emerging requirements associated with the COVID-19 global pandemic highlighted the importance of USTRANSCOM's long-standing relationship with

U.S.-flagged, Civil Reserve Air Fleet carriers and also showcased their unmatched flexibility and keen responsiveness throughout," said U.S. Army Maj. Keith Shanklin, Commercial Industry Branch, USTRANSCOM's Operations Directorate.

Throughout April 2020, commercial airlift missions, administered by USTRANSCOM's Repat Coord Cell, departed from Abuja and Lagos, Nigeria; Yangon, Myanmar; Dakar, Senegal; Dhaka, Bangladesh; as well as Islamabad and Karachi, Pakistan, transporting 3,915 Americans and lawful permanent residents stateside to Dulles International Airport, Dulles, Virginia.

"DOS undertook a herculean effort to repatriate tens of thousands of Americans, and working with them to do our

part was rewarding. This experience showed how quickly the team of professionals at USTRANSCOM can adapt operations to support another agency's effort," stated Angell. "This team of teams came together and accomplished the mission despite the challenges of operating in a COVID-19 environment."

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## Contracting

From Page 4  
For exercises or contingencies, contracting officers have the same things on their minds.  
"Doesn't matter where we go, we always have to think about food and fuel," said Abbate. "You wouldn't think getting food and fuel would be a challenge, but it can be."  
When CR forces are tasked during a contingency, the unit brings enough food for a short period of time, which gives the contracting officers the opportunity to find a long-term solution.  
"When we went to Tyndall, the base provided meals for us, but that's not always the case," said Abbate. "In other countries or more austere environments, we have to find other solutions."  
On top of these necessities, contracting officers also have to consider other critical items.  
"Tents, cots, potable water ... basic human needs," said Fowler. "These 'life support' items are important to sustain operations wherever we are."  
The challenge for these items is some can't be acquired locally, said Fowler.  
"Our large tents, showers and equipment aren't commercially available at many of the locations we go," he added. "So we rely on major military hubs to bring us what we need if we can't get it locally."  
One item that regularly can't be brought in is restrooms.  
"When we were in PSAB



U.S. Air Force graphic

English into local language to communicate in order to get the necessary items.  
"Sometimes broken English works. It's not ideal, but it gets the job done," said Fowler, who has been in the contracting career field for more than nine years.  
Despite the challenges imposed to contracting in the CRW, Fowler still has strong feelings for what he brings to the mission.  
"Every single time we go out the door, there are always different issues that we have to deal with and then we have to come up with our very creative solutions for it," said Fowler. "This is the type of stuff I love doing."

[Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia], restrooms can be tricky too," said Fowler. "For many contingencies, we use porta poties, but in Africa or the Middle East, we have to find 'western' style, ones that Americans are most familiar with."  
Acquisition is a major aspect of the contracting AFSC, but in order to fulfill the obligations of a contracting officer, translators are key.  
"If we're with our air advisors, many of them can communicate in local languages, but other times we have to use the tools at our disposal," said Fowler.  
Fowler, equipped with a worldwide cell phone, will use translation websites to translate

AlphaBridge co-founder and managing partner. "As we enter a new era of great power competition, it is absolutely vital we rebuild broken bridges. I, for one, intend to invest much more heavily in national security-related technologies going forward and I have the AFVentures program to thank for that."  
By strengthening ties between the Air Force and Silicon Valley, the AFVentures initiative aims to increase collaboration between the often different worlds and accelerate national innovation.  
Anyone interested in following along with the fellowship or applying for future cohorts can learn more at <https://www.shift.org/afv>.

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1) Ninth Expeditionary Bomb Squadron B-1B Lancer mechanics take selfies as a B-1B flies overhead May 21 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. The 9th EBS, along with 200 Airmen assigned to the 7th Bomb Wing, deployed to Guam from Dyess AFB, Texas, as part of a Bomber Task Force supporting Pacific Air Forces' strategic deterrence missions and commitment to the security and stability of the Indo-Pacific region. 2) Members of the 177th Fighter Wing and 108th Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard, conducted a retreat ceremony for residents of the Veterans Memorial Home May 22 in Vineland, New Jersey. 3) Daniel Hughes, an Air Force basic training trainee, runs through an obstacle course May 21 at Joint Base San Antonio-Chapman Annex, Texas. Hughes is one of three brothers from Tucson, Arizona, who were in the same basic training flight.

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman River Bruce

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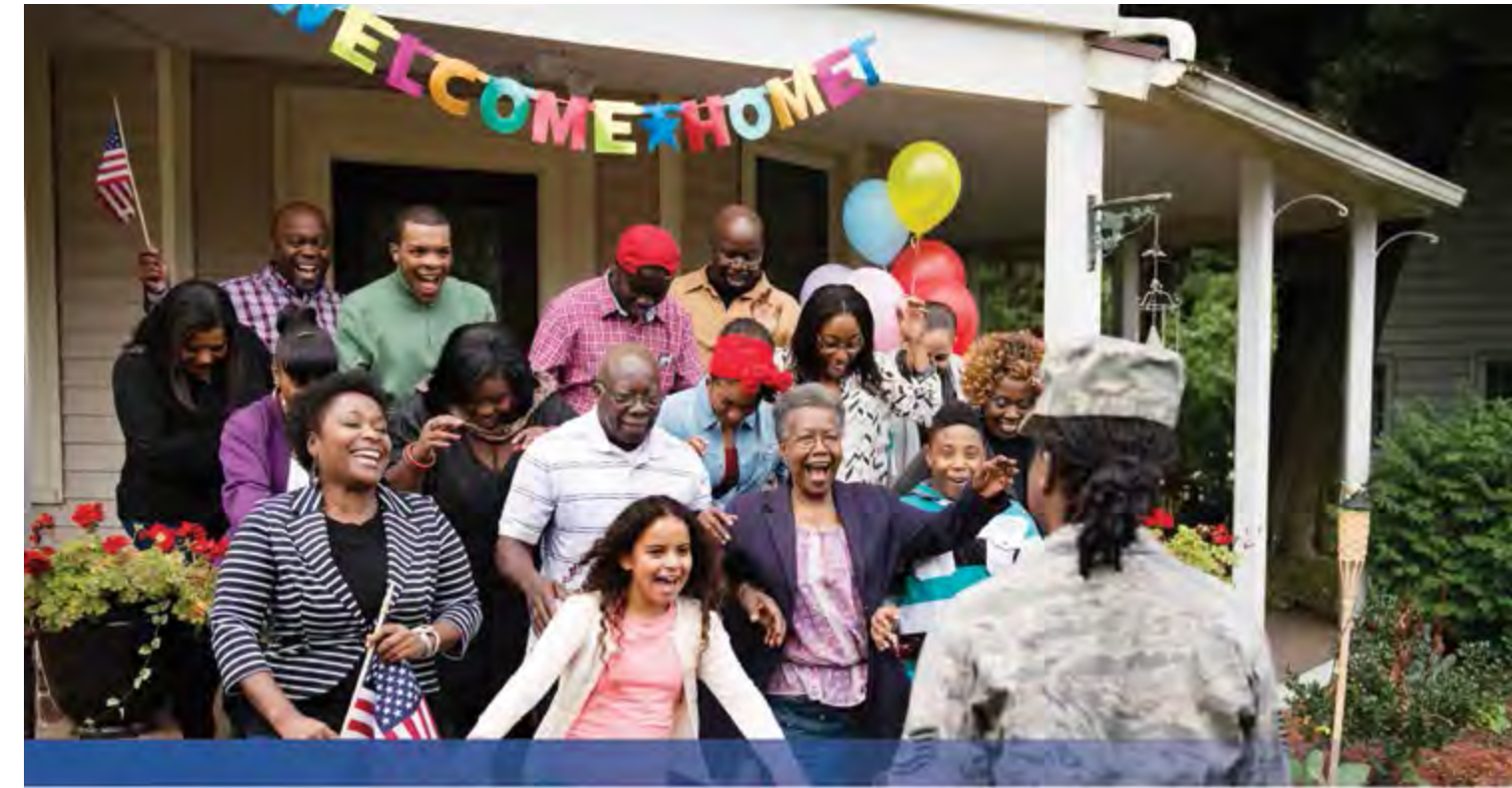
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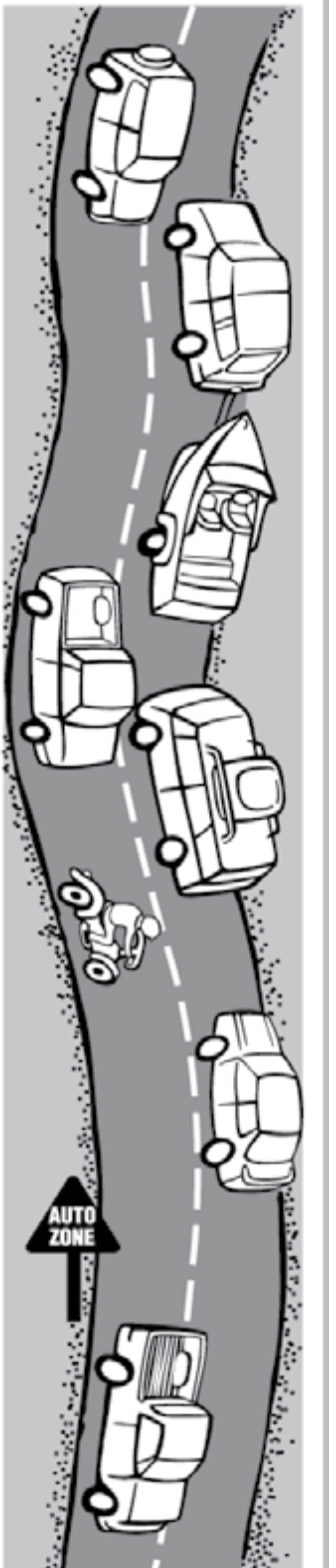
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