



TAILWIND



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SERVE

PAGES 10-11



Travis spouse sews more than 325 face masks

Nick DeCicco

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When people in the Travis AFB community needed face masks, Jenn Taylor had them covered.

Amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, while simultaneously caring for her three kids during her husband's yearlong deployment, Jenn sewed more than 325 face masks in April for service members in the Bay Area.

It was never her goal to make so many. Inspired by a post she saw on Facebook in early April, Jenn bolted into action with the goal of making 100.

Initially, her aim was to help health care professionals at the base's David Grant USAF Medical Center. But she quickly found demand outstripped supply, especially after the Department of Defense directed the wear of face coverings April 3.

One of Jenn's first sizable requests came from Tech. Sgt. Ryan Padgett, a 22nd Airlift Squadron unit technician, who asked for nine masks within 48 hours before his unit went on a mission to Germany.

And then, Padgett asked for three more.

"At the time, it felt very daunting," she said.

Days later, when Padgett and his fellow Airmen were in Germany, where masks were required, he sent Jenn a group photo of everyone donning her face coverings.

"Oh gosh, it makes me cry," she said. "I felt helpful. I felt proud to be doing something I thought was so small but was actually pretty impactful."

"It was really incredible to see that

See SEWS Page 18



Courtesy photo

Jenn Taylor sits at her sewing machine in her home on Travis Air Force Base, California. Since Department of Defense guidance directed the use of face coverings April 3, Taylor has sewn more than 325 masks for members of the military community, despite the fact that she is simultaneously caring for her three children while her spouse is on a yearlong deployment.

Reserve epidemiologist volunteers for COVID-19 fight

2nd Lt. Daniel Phelps

349TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEW YORK — With more than 160,000 cases and more than 12,000 deaths from the novel coronavirus, New York City has been one of the hardest hit cities in the world.

Due to the overwhelming numbers, the Air Force Reserve called on its citizen Airmen to help ensure hot spots around the country have the support they need.

Dr. (Maj.) Sanjiv Baxi, 349th Medical Group doctor, jumped at the opportunity to help.

Baxi always felt a desire to give back to his country. He was born in California to parents who immigrated to the U.S. from India to provide their family a better life.

"My dad had to borrow money to come here and they built a life in the U.S.," Baxi said. "I've been so grateful for the life we've been able to have and to build because of all the opportunities and freedoms of this country."

Now, Baxi, an infectious disease doctor and adjunct professor in epidemiology at University of California, San Francisco, as well as an internal medicine doctor in the Air Force Reserve, is giving back in a way one would hope would never happen — by helping with the COVID-19 fight in New York City as part of the U.S. Northern Command Department of Defense response to support the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"I had been working on COVID-19 for a few months before it hit," Baxi said. "Because of my background and being a medical provider for the 349th MDG, I felt I had something to bring to the fight."

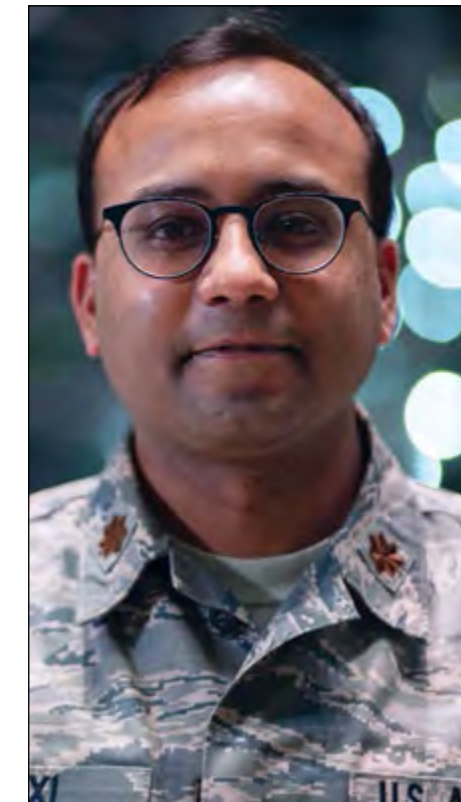
It was apparent that New York City was struggling to identify a set of providers for the imminent surge, Baxi said. Headquarters sought a group of physicians who could volunteer at a moment's notice.

"I quickly put my name down," he said.

Baxi was shocked when he arrived. One can read about how bad it is and see the numbers, but witnessing the amount of suffering is a different experience, he said.

"It's unbelievably bad," Baxi said. "The entire hospital I am at has been converted into an (intensive care unit) is operating at 25 to 30 percent over capacity. It's completely full, plus another quarter. And almost all of them have COVID-19. It's unlike anything I have ever seen."

They converted a lot of the nonclinical



Dr. (Maj.) Sanjiv Baxi, 349th Medical Group doctor, poses April 28 in New York City.

areas into beds and spaces for patients, he said. Places that used to be holding spaces are now medical wards.

"They've been quite creative with converting every square inch to support the care of so many very sick people," he said.

Baxi has worked hard to help out as much as he can. On top of caring for approximately 20 to 30 patients as the attending physician for his team, he's also helped with his expertise in infectious disease.

"I've been working about every day to bring as much value as I can to help provide excess capacity," Baxi said. "Some days I work later. Some days I come in earlier. I take time off when I can. A lot of people are exhausted."

The military training that he and the other Reserve Airmen received helped them quickly integrate with medical teams in New York.

"We are used to going into any environment and any setting and falling back on our core skill sets," he said. "Our core fundamentals are still applicable and are coming across and put on display on a daily basis. We are here to deliver medical care."

While a lot of the patients are very sick and some don't make it, the hospital works to ensure hope for recovery, Baxi said.

See VOLUNTEERS Page 18



Courtesy photos

Dr. (Maj.) Sanjiv Baxi, 349th Medical Group doctor, poses April 28 in his personal protective gear in New York City. Baxi volunteered to help fight COVID-19 when Air Force Reserve Command was looking for Citizen Airmen to support the Department of Defense initiative with Federal Emergency Management Agency. Baxi also teaches epidemiology at University of California, San Francisco.

Tailwind

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On the cover

Airman 1st Class Derek Elliot, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron material management specialist, grabs his lunch inside the Monarch Dining Facility April 24 at Travis Air Force Base, California.

U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman

Emilia Williams, 60th Force Support Squadron child and youth program technician, wipes down a shelf May 1 in a pre-toddler room inside Child Development Center 3 at Travis Air Force Base, California. Since the coronavirus pandemic hit the United States, the CDC staff at Travis AFB implemented more frequent cleaning of surfaces to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Child care centers take precautions

Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"It feels good to give parents some peace of mind with all that's going on," said Emilia Williams, 60th Force Support Squadron child and youth program technician.

Williams is the pre-toddler room leader at Child Development Center 3 on Travis AFB. She is part of a team of 196 childcare professionals and staff members who provide care for children between six weeks and 5-years-old across the base's three child development centers.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at Travis AFB began providing care for only mission-essential workers March 16. Mission-essential workers are those identified by their leadership as supporting critical functions such as security, safety and maintenance.

Staff Sgt. Brian Dixon,

60th Air Mobility Wing safety technician, is one of the mission-essential workers at Travis AFB, home to the U.S. Air Force's largest air mobility wing. He is responsible for helping ensure units at Travis AFB comply with Air Force and Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards.

Prior to the pandemic, he took his son, Julian, 2, to CDC nearly every day. Now, he brings Julian to the CDC only when he cannot telework.

"It's kind of a nice break, actually," Dixon said. "With my wife deployed since January and all the challenges this pandemic is bringing, I typically spend sunup till sundown with my son. I love him but being able to go to work and leave him with people I trust to care for him is incredibly helpful."

The CDC at Travis AFB has implemented several measures to ensure the safety of children in care.

"We have implemented more stringent cleaning schedules in our classrooms than we have in the past," Williams said. "All staff members and parents are required to wear masks while in our facility, and with the reduction of the children in care, we have been able to implement physical distancing."

"We have also ceased some activities where physical distancing was not possible, such as water play and some other sensory activities," she said.

To identify potential carriers of the virus and mitigate its spread, members of the pediatrics clinic at David Grant USAF Medical Center conduct temperature and wellness checks of each child dropped off for care each morning. An advisory was sent to parents March 16 informing them of the symptoms of the coronavirus, which recommended children stay home if they do not feel well.

The CDC at Travis AFB opened back up for all registered families March 30. However, with many service members and civilian

"We are working hard to ensure our environment is safe," Williams said. "We support military families, and they go through so much. To be something constant in their lives, knowing they may not be able to rely on someone else for childcare, to know we can support them and help during this pandemic, means a lot."

Dixon said he appreciates the efforts of CDC staff members doing all they can to keep his son safe.

"They make sure all parents and staff members wear a mask, and they require the use of hand sanitizer before anyone signs their child in for care," he said. "I feel my son is safe while he's there and that enables me to focus on my job."

The CDC at Travis AFB opened back up for all registered families March 30. However, with many service members and civilian

See CHILD CARE Page 12

Course accepts Travis civilian

Maren Kazin
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

A Travis Air Force Base, California, member was one of two civilians recently to complete the Air Force Institute of Technology's Air Force Civil Engineer Basic Course.

Dana Wright entered federal civilian service through the Palace Acquire program, which delivers pathways early in their career that prepare civilians for successful futures in the Department of Defense.

The program provides multiple opportunities for expanded education and training, including enrollment in the CE basic course.

Wright graduated from Virginia Tech in 2018 with a background in architecture and she entered the Palace Acquire program shortly after.

"I didn't know much about the PAQ program, actually," Wright said. "My friend recommended I look on USAJOBS and I looked at locations that my husband and I liked."

She was drawn to the various opportunities for architects offered by the Air Force, as well as the service's reputation.

"I heard that the culture of the Air Force is one of the best," she said. "It's really spectacular."

Additionally, she understood the unique value that the Air Force places on her field of expertise.

"The Air Force treats their real property well," she said. "They really care about the facilities because that's the whole mission. If we don't have the facilities, we can't fly the planes."

Transitioning into federal service requires a steep learning curve, especially in the DoD. But

See COURSE Page 12

5 Measures to Protect Your Health While Moving in a COVID-19 Environment

- You are empowered to make decisions! Work with your chain of command and transportation office to reschedule your pack-out or delivery if you are not comfortable at any point of your move.**
 - Visit <https://www.move.mil/customer-service> to find the contact info for your local shipping office.
- Know the symptoms! If you (or anyone in your family) is ill, contact your transportation office to reschedule your shipment. Your moving company will verify to you—in writing—that their personnel have been screened for illness and will be properly equipped to work in your home.**
 - A current list of symptoms from the CDC can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.
- Limit the number of family members in the residence to those needed to supervise your move.**
 - If this is not possible, prepare a dedicated room where family members can stay while personnel are working.
 - Moving companies have been directed to bring the minimum number of personnel required to handle the shipment.
- Wear cloth face coverings. Anyone in your home during your move, whether on or off a military installation, should follow CDC guidelines on the use of face coverings.**
 - All moving companies have been directed to wear face coverings per CDC guidelines while at your residence.
 - CDC guidance on use and instructions for homemade face coverings can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.
- Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces.**
 - Moving companies will be equipped and prepared to clean surfaces they frequently touched (they will seek your permission first).

USTRANSCOM takes action to protect military families

USTRANSCOM Public Affairs

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — U.S. Transportation Command announced increased safety measures designed to protect Department of Defense members and their families during household goods moves taking place during the global

outbreak of Coronavirus Infectious Disease 2019 that will go into effect immediately.

Secretary of Defense Mark Esper directed implementation of these measures.

Moving industry personnel will be required to adhere to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19

health protection protocols while in the DoD member's residence. That means moving personnel must wear face coverings, clean frequently touched surfaces and sanitize their hands often. They must also minimize the number of

See MOVING Page 15

New Military Star card applicants can save 15%

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

Service members, retirees, veterans and military families can save an extra 15% at the Travis Exchange by signing up for a new Military Star account.

From May 14-28, military shoppers who apply and are approved for a new Military Star account will receive 15% off all purchases made the first day instead of the 10% discount regularly offered. The discount will appear as a credit on the first monthly billing statement.

"Military Star continues to be there for the military community, offering discounts and generous terms," said Phonda Bishop, general manager. "Now's a great time to get extra savings by signing up for a card."

Cardholders receive two points for every dollar spent with Military Star and automatically earn a \$20 rewards card every 2,000 points.

Other benefits of the

Military Star card include:

- Free shipping on all ShopMyExchange.com and MyNavyExchange.com orders.
- The lowest flat-rate APR (10.24%) among store cards—rate is offered to all cardholders upon account approval.
- No annual, late or over-limit fees.
- Reduced-interest deployment plan with no payments required for eligible customers.

New account holders will receive the 15% discount on all first-day purchases at military exchanges and commissaries, as well as online at ShopMyExchange.com, myNavyExchange.com and ShopCGX.com.

Current cardholders who are facing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic can email MilitaryStar@aafes.com for assistance.

The Military Star card is administered by the Army & Air Force Exchange Service and is accepted at all military exchanges and commissaries. For info, visit MyECP.com.

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Airmen conduct new screening at SeaTac

Senior Airman Tryphena Mayhugh
 62ND AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. — Every single wing, squadron and unit in the U.S. Air Force has felt the effects of COVID-19 in one form or another.

Airmen assigned to the 62nd Aerial Port Squadron unit operating out of the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Air Mobility Command Passenger Terminal have implemented a new procedure to ensure the safety of their workers and the passengers who are required to travel during the pandemic.

All passengers traveling through any AMC terminal are now required to be medically screened before being allowed to fly. To fulfill this requirement, the 62nd APS unit operating out of SeaTac requested assistance from their fellow 62nd APS Airmen located at

McChord Field for support with screenings.

“For the first time in AMC history, we started conducting enhanced medical screening in partnership with the 62nd Medical Squadron with hopes of preventing the spread of this horrible virus while still enabling the Department of Defense’s mission to continue throughout U.S. Indo-Pacific Command,” said Master Sgt. Richard House, 62nd APS contracting officer’s representative. “The Secretary of Defense’s stop movement has dramatically reduced the number of passengers we receive and send, so that has to play a role in reducing the spread.”

Before passengers can check in for their flight, they must fill out a medical questionnaire and have their temperature checked to make sure they are healthy enough to travel. A flight surgeon from the

See SEATAC Page 15

Airmen work behind scenes

Tech. Sgt. Jodi Ames
 AIR MOBILITY COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Airmen from the 521st Air Mobility Operations Wing recently supported a Transport Isolation System operation at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — When the tasking came to support the United States’ whole-of-government response to COVID-19 and what would become the first operational deployment of the Transport Isolation System, the 521st Air Mobility Operations Wing answered the call.

While the pandemic has presented new and considerable challenges to navigate, being prepared to support any Air Mobility Command or U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa requirement that comes their way is business as usual for mobility Airmen who execute the wing’s strategic airlift mission day in and day out.

to humanitarian efforts to airlift supporting the warfighter, Airmen assigned to the wing are postured to rapidly respond and support a broad range of missions transiting through Ramstein AB on any given day.

How they do it
 For the teams of Airmen prepared for any mission they may be tasked to support, flexibility is key to mission accomplishment.

According to Maj. Chris Dubois, director of operations for the AMOW’s 313th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, Airmen are accustomed to adjusting on the fly and innovating to meet the demands of any tasking. In addition, the wing continually has crews, maintenance teams and aircraft on alert status. Equipment is also prepositioned for expedient access.

“This level of readiness allows us to respond and launch aircraft within a matter of minutes when the call comes in,” Dubois said.

Contributions to first operational TIS mission
 Despite uncertainty and unforeseen challenges resulting from COVID-19, the one constant for 521st AMOW Airmen is their ability to adapt and improvise no matter the tasking that comes their way.

In terms of execution, that ability hasn’t changed as Airmen have shifted their focus to support the COVID-19 response. “Missions flying through Ramstein and other locations where we operate continually present a variety of requirements and challenges that require crews to innovate and adjust in order to guarantee mission success,” Dubois said. “While the virus is new to us all, the way we approach the dynamic nature of this strategic airlift mission is the norm for us.”

What has evolved as a result of the ongoing pandemic and the growing need for safe and reliable patient movement are the tactics, techniques and procedures Airmen have put in place and further developed since the outbreak began.

What they do
 The wing’s primary mission is support to strategic airlift. From transporting cargo to global patient movement

Puzzles

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

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The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

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Some commissaries introduce shopping limits

Kevin L. Robinson
DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

FORT LEE, Va. – Commissaries in the continental United States, along with Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, will place shopping limits on fresh beef, poultry and pork effective May 1.

The Defense Commissary Agency is implementing these shopping limits in response to anticipated shortages in the supply chain impacted by the closures of various U.S. beef/pork/poultry processing plants, said retired Rear Adm. Robert J. Bianchi, Department of Defense

special assistant for commissary operations.

“There may be some shortages of fresh protein products in the coming weeks,” Bianchi said. “Enacting this policy now will help ensure that all of our customers have an opportunity to purchase these products on an equitable basis.”

The shopping limits are limited to two items each: Fresh beef, fresh pork, fresh chicken and fresh turkey.

There will be some exceptions to the two-item limits, however. In the event the limits are not in line with a store’s supply, the store can increase or

decrease as needed. For example, if a store is extremely short on product they might go to a limit of one per type, or if they have a lot of supply building up, they may extend the limits on some items.

DeCA will post quantity limits at each of its affected locations, similar to how it has been posting limits for toilet paper, sanitizers, canned food items and other high-demand items.

Placing shopping limits on fresh meat will particularly keep commissaries that don’t receive daily meat deliveries from having their meat inventory wiped out because of panic

buying, Bianchi said. These limits will be removed once supply chain operations return to normal.

To date, DeCA has enough quantities on hand in its pipeline at overseas commissaries to avoid any limits for these stores, Bianchi said.

“Our overseas supply chain remains strong,” he said. “In addition, we continue to prioritize quantities for our overseas shipments, so we should be able to support the demand. If we experience any unexpected major hiccups in the pipeline, we will look at expanding shopping limits to other locations.”

The outbreak of the COVID-19 virus caused a significant spike in customers shopping for essential items. On March 14, the agency enacted a

directive instructing its store directors worldwide to use their discretion in placing shopping limits necessary to help maintain stock availability.

The shopping directive gave store directors more authority to quickly tailor shopping limits, as required, to keep more products available for more customers.

From the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, commissaries overseas instituted shopping limits on items such as hand sanitizers, disinfectants and toilet paper.

“We know this is a potentially stressful time for all concerned,” Bianchi said. “But together we will meet these challenges and support our service members and their families throughout the duration of this crisis wherever necessary.”

Travis C-17 arrives in Kuwait



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Alexandre Montes

A C-17 Globemaster III assigned to Travis Air Force Base, California, taxis to a parking spot May 2 after completing a mission at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait. The C-17 is one of the most versatile and flexible airframes within the Air Force, allowing Airmen in the battle area to sustain airlift support with large and heavy equipment to improve response capabilities to U.S. and coalition forces.

Virtual conference unites 19 air forces

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR HICKAM, Hawaii — Air chiefs and leadership representing 19 air forces across five continents came together for a video teleconference hosted by Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., Pacific Air Forces commander, April 29.

“Like the symposium that brought many of us together in person just a few months ago, this gathering is grounded in the shared belief that collaboration is required to meet global challenges,” he said, reflecting on the Pacific Air Chief Symposium held here Dec. 2-6, 2019. “From cooperation to

conflict and, now, through COVID-19, we remain stronger together.”

Discussion focused on sharing lessons learned regarding COVID-19 response, desires for resuming engagement and exercises in a post-COVID world, and a commitment to continued cooperation across the Indo-Pacific region.

“The world is going to be different, how we operate, how we train and how we can connect are going to be different, but opportunities to engage virtually like this and throughout our organizations will be critical in ensuring peace and security in the region,” Brown said.

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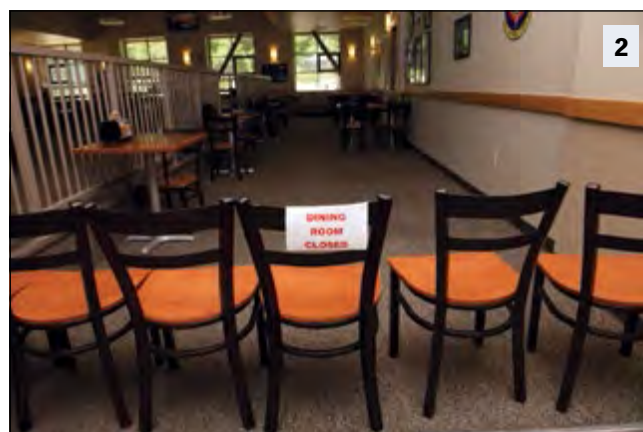
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Feeding the Force: Dining facilities alter operations during pandemic



1) Airman 1st Class Cordell Jacobs, 60th Maintenance Squadron aircraft fuel systems journeyman, waits for his food inside the Monarch Dining Facility April 24 at Travis Air Force Base, California. The Monarch has implemented procedures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus including restricting access to service members only and requiring all patrons to wear masks. 2) The dining room inside the Monarch Dining Facility is closed April 24 at Travis. The Monarch is offering to-go meals to service members only due to the coronavirus pandemic. Both the facility's dining rooms are closed. 3) U.S. Airmen maintain physical distancing during the lunch service inside the Monarch Dining Facility April 24 at Travis. While inside the Monarch, all patrons must maintain at least six feet of separation from one another.

**Story and photos by
Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman**
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Signs on the doors inform people they must wear a mask or face covering to enter.

Markings on the floors remind customers that they must remain 6 feet apart inside the Monarch and David Grant USAF Medical Center dining facilities at Travis Air Force Base, California.

Enjoying conversation during breakfast or lunch in one of the dining rooms is not an option. All meals are to-go only.

The coronavirus pandemic has presented a number of challenges to the U.S. military, including providing service members with nutritious meals while reducing the potential spread of the virus.

"It's important we take care of everyone, so they can do their mission," said Tech. Sgt. Lame-sha Meeks, 60th Force Support Squadron Monarch Dining Facility assistant manager. "Whether that's on the flight line, in the hospital, security forces or elsewhere, all of our service members are important to ensuring mission success."

Since March 16, the Monarch and the DGMC dining facilities have been open for carry-out services only, and between the two establishments, they serve an average of 950 customers a day.

In order to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus, both dining facilities implemented procedures to ensure the safety of staff and customers. In addition to signs and markings reminding customers to practice physical distancing, the Monarch initiated split shifts and installed protective barriers between cashiers and customers.

An Airman is also posted at the door of the Monarch for each meal to advise patrons of the requirement to wear a face covering. Upon entering, customers must wash their hands. The Monarch is also not accepting cash payments. Payment is only possible with meal cards and debit or credit cards. Both facilities are currently only open to

service members.

"Our top priority is keeping people safe while continuing our mission," Meeks said.

Service members choosing to find their nourishment at one of the dining facilities have many of the same options they did before the coronavirus pandemic hit.

"While our salad bar is closed, and service members can no longer dine in, we offer a variety of pre-packaged items including sandwiches and salads," said Senior Airman Halle Joppy, 60th FSS food service shift leader. "Our main line and grill are also open offering a number of meat, vegetable and carbohydrate options including turkey burgers, grilled chicken entrees and popular items like chicken tenders or french fries."

Additionally, the Monarch beefed up its staff to enable the implementation of split shifts. After the Travis Fitness Center closed March 15 to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the fitness center team went to work at the DFAC.

"We now have nearly 100 people working on our team including service members and civilians," Meeks said. "The additional manning has enabled us to split into groups and limit the amount of contacts we have in the dining facility."

While it is important to provide healthy food options for Team Travis, it is also vital to ensure the people providing the food can accomplish their mission, Meeks added.

"Some of our employees have lost family members to COVID-19," she said. "We have implemented daily calls where our noncommissioned officers contact each team member to ensure they are OK. With the split shifts, we are able to give them time to grieve while ensuring the mission continues."

Joppy said she is humbled to be able to support service members during such a difficult time.

"I'm grateful I'm part of a team that can provide the support our military needs," she said. "Providing them with a hot meal can go a long way."



4) Tessie Santos, Aramark Services cook, serves lunch to an Airman April 24 inside the Monarch Dining Facility at Travis Air Force Base, California. The Monarch has implemented procedures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus including restricting access to service members only and requiring all patrons to wear masks.

Course

From Page 4

the PAQ program eased this transition for Wright by providing her with a civilian mentor, Violetta Kaufman, and the opportunity to directly work and learn alongside military personnel.

"On the military side, we have construction managers who go through projects with us and most of them have been at the base longer than I have," Wright said. "They know the ins and outs, so if I have questions, I can walk over and ask them. They have all been welcoming and helpful."

Currently, Wright works as a project manager and architect at Travis AFB. Throughout her first several months in the PAQ program, she has had the opportunity to not only broaden her understanding of the DoD project design process, but she has also taken advantage of numerous educational opportunities to better understand every nuance of the Air Force civil engineer mission.

Most notably, Wright and one other PAQ civilian elected to extend their required training at AFIT to get the full civil engineer training experience.

"WMGT 101 at AFIT is supposed to be five weeks for civilians," she said. "But the other student, Micah Johnson,

really wanted to finish the course. So she asked if we could do it and it was approved for us to stay through the field education. We were the only civilians that chose to stay."

Completion of the full nine-week course allowed these two engineers to gain a broader perspective of the challenges faced by military personnel on deployments.

"Just getting the hands-on experience, even on the mental toughness and physical toughness of Silver Flag, that was really challenging," Wright said. "I think it would be beneficial to any civilian that works closely with the military. It's valuable to get their perspective and to know

what they know."

Wright explained that her experience in the course better prepared her for a career in DoD service than any instructional course she had taken. It honed her understanding of the civil engineer mission and empowered her with the skills needed to succeed as a project manager.

In late January, Travis AFB began to receive repatriated American citizens in quarantine for COVID-19 exposure. With key personnel unavailable and urgent action required to respond to the pandemic, Wright was tapped to help with some initial questions of auxiliary structures in case they would be needed.

"Our civil engineering chief

came over to me and said, 'Hey, you did the course' and had me help with tent sizes, square footage, etc.," she said. "He deals with that stuff more often, but for me to understand those concepts now will benefit me in the long run."

The training she received in the last four weeks of the WMGT 101 experience was already paying off and enabling her to help solve urgent problems.

With roughly one more year left in the PAQ program, Wright will continue to support the Travis AFB mission as a project manager and take advantage of all the educational opportunities that she can.




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Child care

From Page 4

employees still teleworking, the number of children in care has dropped nearly 80%.

"With the smaller room sizes, we can ensure physical distancing is practiced to the best degree possible and spend additional time cleaning the facility, paying extra attention to commonly touched surfaces such as door knobs, handles and shelves," said Dr. Shirley Collins, 60th FSS chief of child and youth services.

"We have also been able to provide a combination of face-to-face and telehealth options with our military family life consultants, so the children in our care have access to them," Collins said.

Military family life consultants support service members and their families with non-medical counseling worldwide. They offer confidential counseling services on a short-term basis, according to the Military One-Source website.

"This pandemic has been a

difficult time for so many and that includes our children," Collins said. "When the news is on at home or mom and dad are driving to the base in the morning and they are listening to the radio, kids are listening and many of them become concerned. It's so important we provide an avenue for them to answer their questions and ease their worries."

With schools and parks closed across the United States, providing a place where children can play and participate in activities can also help ease those concerns, Collins added.

Children at any of Travis' CDCs participate in literacy, emotional and cognitive development activities such as writing, drawing, painting and working with shapes. They are also offered 45-minute play outside and dramatic play opportunities.

"Our staff takes pride in what we do, and we love it," said Sherlita Sarandi, 60th FSS CDC 3 program director. "We are here to provide a healthy and safe environment for children so their parents can continue to perform their mission and serve our nation."

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SeaTac

From Page 6

62nd MDS is on site to make a determination on whether or not a passenger can travel for passengers who have a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, or have been working in a medical facility.

"If a passenger is deemed unable to fly, we politely decline their travel and it's usually a 14-day wait," said Airman 1st Class Nicole Mourik, 62nd APS passenger service agent. "We have had a couple people we had to turn down because they were coughing or sick and the flight surgeon delayed them."

The number of AMC flights that depart from SeaTac have remained the same, but the amount of passengers has decreased by 50 to 75 percent depending on the day. Despite this drop, the 62nd APS Airmen who work there still have quite a large workload.

"Due to ever-changing travel guidance and restrictions intended to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the amount of customer phone calls our passenger service agents are receiving is at an unprecedented level," House said. "Ensuring accurate travel information to our service members and their families requires constant coordination and teamwork between our team and all service components."

In addition to the screenings, another restriction put in place because of COVID-19 is that all passengers traveling through the terminal must wear a face covering, otherwise they will not be allowed to fly. These precautions seem to be having a positive effect against the spread of the virus.

"Our team has screened 23 missions consisting of 1,121 passengers with no cases of COVID-19 traced back to our location," House said. "The job they are doing is outstanding. To learn such a novel process and implement it in such a minimal amount of time is to be lauded. Their positive attitude, professionalism, and eagerness to help us accomplish our mission at SeaTac can't be more appreciated."

Anyone who is preparing to fly out of SeaTac and has travel-related questions can call the



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Tryphena Mayhugh

Senior Airman Kevin Gray II, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron passenger service specialist, takes the temperature of a passenger traveling April 30 to Asia at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in Seattle. Passengers with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher are denied travel as a precaution against the spread of COVID-19.

SeaTac AMC Passenger Terminal customer service number at (253) 982-3504 or monitor their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SeaTacAmcPassengerTerminal/> to stay current with travel restrictions related to this location.

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Moving

From Page 5

personnel at the member's residence in order to meet social distancing requirements.

USTRANSCOM is also requiring moving companies to provide certification that moving personnel have been screened for illness in accordance with COVID-19 CDC guidelines for businesses and employers. Moving companies will provide the member written certification of this screening upon arrival.

Under the new safety measures, the member can deny entry to moving personnel or question them about adhering to health protection protocols. And they can terminate the move entirely if they feel the moving crew is compromising their safety. The move would be rescheduled at a later date.

"Moving is always stressful, and COVID only adds stress and uncertainty to the process. It's important DoD families know they are empowered to make decisions on the spot and that they have a voice in the process. Families also have resources available to them - the military services are leaning forward to verify protocols are followed, and take action on behalf of families if issues arise. Protecting the health of DoD personnel and their families is paramount," said Rick Marsh, director of the Defense Personal Property Program at USTRANSCOM.

The military services (U.S. Army, Navy, Marines Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard and Space Force) are required to verify with 100% of their service members that moving companies are complying with these safety measures during their moves.

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Volunteers

From Page 3

One of the greatest things Baxi's seen is when someone who was sick and required a ventilator, is able to breathe on their own again, Baxi said. Many times, when medical professionals have to go that route, the patient doesn't make it.

But whenever a tube is removed because the patient can breathe again, the hospital will play the sound of applause over the loudspeaker for the whole hospital to hear, he added.

"It really gives people a sense of hope," he said. "It lets them know that good things are happening. Those are the moments we hold on to."

Baxi and other military members may be stateside, but they deployed to the frontlines of a unique fight.

Many families make sacrifices to help their country, Baxi said. It's different than normal. In the past, it was simple enough to go to neighbors and knock on their doors. It's not that easy today.

"I have two little kids and my wife can't ask for help," Baxi said. "This is harder on military families than it's ever been."

He stressed the importance of ensuring people are OK, whether it's by making a phone call, grabbing stuff for people or dropping things off.

"These are incredibly lonely times," he said. "We have to make sure people are OK and taken care of."

Even with the stress, Baxi said that being able to deliver this care to people during these times has been incredibly rewarding. He is happy to be giving back to his country.



Members of the 22nd Airlift Squadron wear face masks April 11 during a deployment to Germany. The masks were made by Jenn Taylor, a military spouse who sewed more than 325 masks in April for the Travis Air Force Base, California, community. Taylor's spouse, Tech. Sgt. Adam Taylor, a Travis AFB Airman, is on a yearlong deployment to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey.

Sews

From Page 2

12 people were getting use out of them and being protected. It was a beautiful thing."

Padgett said Jenn's masks saved the crew and the mission.

"She was a godsend," Padgett said. "It made a huge impact for us, and it's special that it came from a military spouse."

As demand has grown, Jenn said neighbors pitched in to help cut, iron and pin material,

but the sewing has been all on her.

While she's bought material, Jenn also said she's using a lot of old uniforms.

"I'm taking requests," she said. "Do they wear OCPs or a flight suit? I try to get something cohesive for them."

Jenn's spouse, Tech. Sgt. Adam Taylor, is deployed as an aerial porter with the 728th Air Mobility Squadron at Incirlik Air Base in Turkey.

The stay-at-home order has complicated what was already a challenging practical and emotional year for Jenn.

Making masks has allowed her to focus her energy on something productive instead of dwelling on a global pandemic with a taxing mental toll.

"It's taken up a large portion of my brain," she said. "It's given me a purpose and something to focus my mind on. It's hard not knowing because of what's going on."

"The unknowing of it doesn't help, but making the masks does."

As word of her work spread, Jenn said she's worked with the Airman and Family Readiness Center and dorm managers at Travis AFB to distribute masks. She's also working with the USO to distribute masks to service members throughout the Bay Area.

"I'm just a lady with a sewing machine and some time on her hands," she said. "I don't know how to say (this) without sounding conceited - I feel as though I'm being helpful, and that's great. If everybody can do something that's a little bit helpful and we work together, we can make it through together."

Jenn said members of the Travis AFB community who need a mask can contact her via Facebook.

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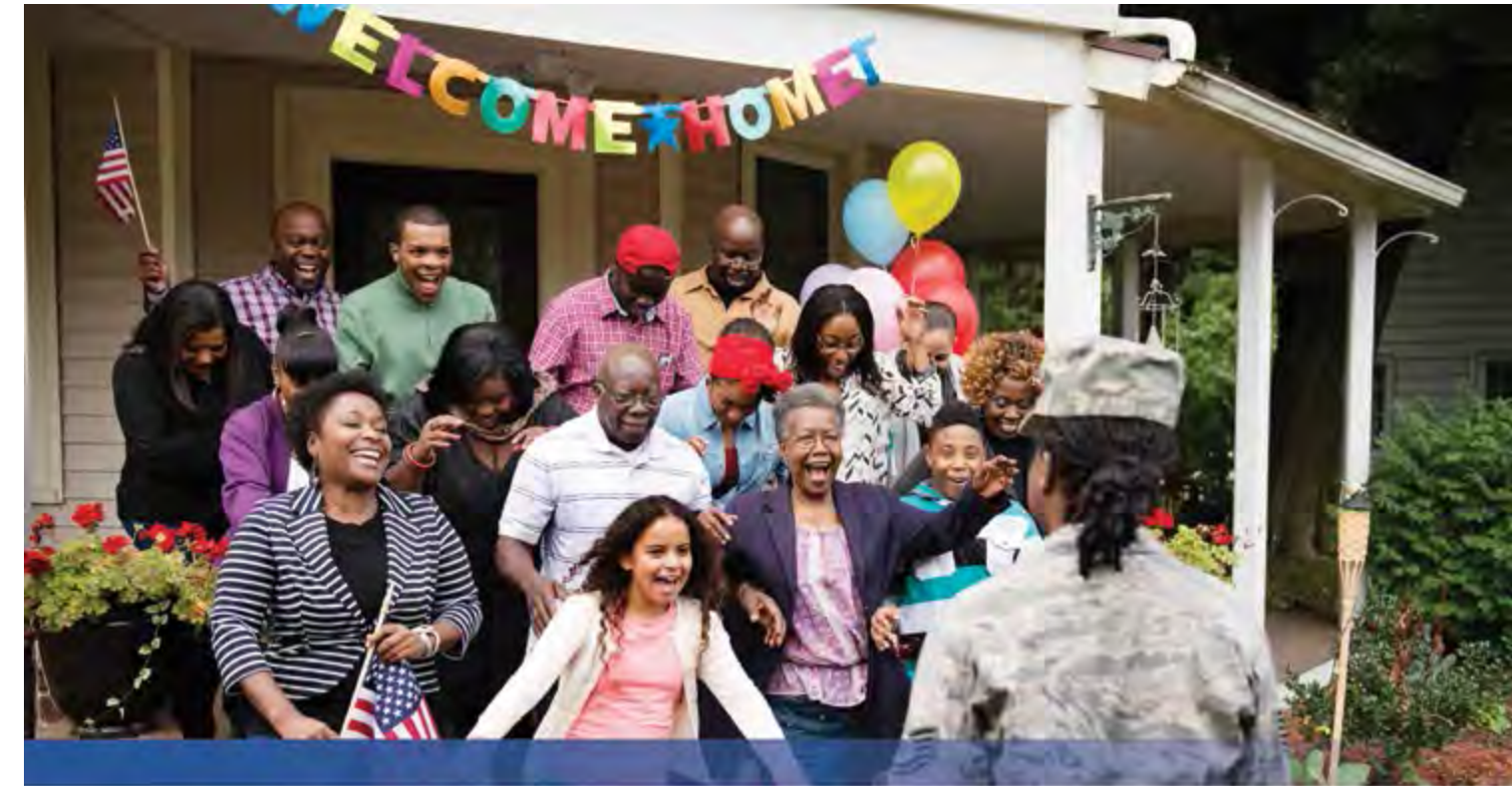
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1) Airman 1st Class Stone Christoff, 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron, double checks the ground on the Small Package Initial Communications Element during a "Crow's Nest" exercise April 30 near the Global Reach Deployment Center on Travis Air Force Base, California. "Crow's Nest" is a three-day contingency exercise that tests the capabilities of CRW Airmen. 2) Tech. Sgt. Phillip Calvert, 821st CRSS, verifies cable connection on the Small Package Initial Communications Element during a "Crow's Nest" exercise April 30 at Travis. 3) Tech. Sgt. Andrew Zecchino, 921st Contingency Response Squadron mobile command and control specialist, uses a land mobile radio to coordinate with personnel during a "Crow's Nest" exercise April 28 at Travis.



CRW Airmen sit comfortably in ... CROW'S NEST

U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. David W. Carbajal



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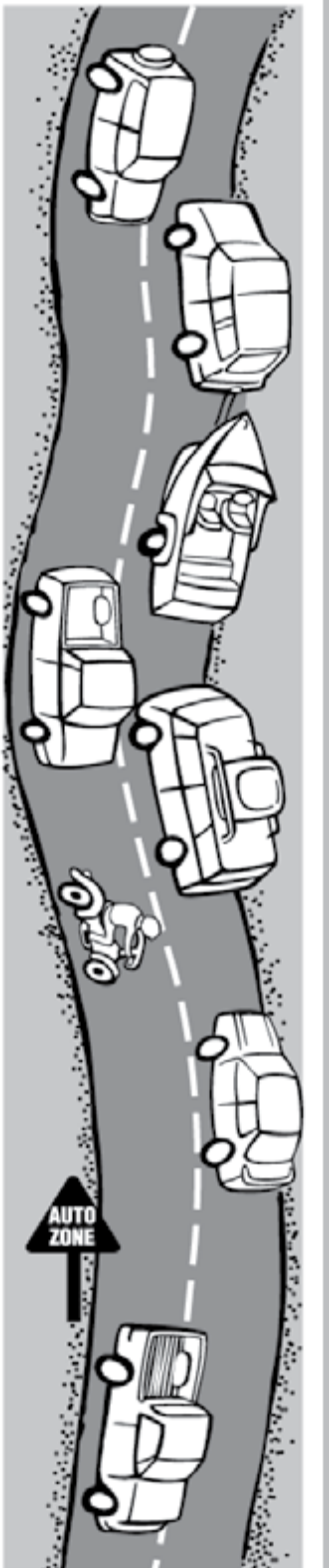
We're also online, so you can easily manage your money and apply for loans and credit. And if you PCS, we're still with you: on your smartphone or computer, or at more than 30,000 ATMs in the Credit Union CO-OP Network.



traviscu.org | (707) 449-4000 or (800) 877-8328

Federally insured by NCUA. Everyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in our 12-county area is eligible to join. Certain membership eligibility requirements may apply. Equal Housing Opportunity. NMLS #643926

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