

All-female heritage flight crew ... **DELIVERS**

PAGES 10-11



TAILWIND

Vaccine open to all beneficiaries

60th Air Mobility Wing
Public Affairs

The COVID-19 vaccine distribution is now open for all Phase 2 beneficiaries at Travis Air Force Base. This means those who are Department of Defense ID cardholders with access to Travis AFB are eligible to register for the vaccine. Beneficiaries must be 18 years or older for the Moderna vaccine.

To schedule a first or second COVID-19 vaccination at David Grant USAF Medical Center, please visit the following web link to access the Defense Health Agency Appointing Portal: <https://informatics-stage.health.mil/COVAX/> or scan the QR code in the graphic at right with your smartphone's camera to schedule a COVID-19 vaccination dose. The code will take users to the DHA Appointing Portal scheduling app.

Individuals should schedule their first dose only and wait to schedule their second dose following the initial appointment. There is a mandatory, 28-day waiting period between the doses.

Open eligibility does not guarantee an appointment. These are booked on first-come basis and the number available are determined by the supply chain flow of vaccines.

To learn more about the DOD's vaccine distribution plan please visit: <https://bit.ly/2Rbn3fr>.

U.S. Air Force graphic

AFRC honors 349th civilian



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Brady Penn

Kimberly Blue, 349th Force Support Squadron has been named the 2020 Air Force Reserve Command A1 Civilian Technician of the Year in the GS-1-8 nonsupervisory/Installation category. Blue led the 349th FSS customer support section in the largest tenant AFRC military personnel flight. “She led her team by herself for three months during a lapse in leadership due to a retirement this past year,” said Maj. Robert Bruce, 349th FSS commander. “She is an absolute pleasure to work with, and embodies one of the core 349th FSS strategic objectives by providing world-class customer service to our wing and mission partners.” Bruce said it was no surprise to him when Blue was also selected as the 349th Air Mobility Wing’s Civilian Category 1 Civilian of the Year for 2020 earlier this month.

Travis part of airlifting patient to Texas

Airman 1st Class Mikayla Heineck
62ND AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. — The 62nd Airlift Wing's quick action enabled a COVID-19 patient to be airlifted from JBLM to San Antonio Military Medical Center, Texas, March 31.

The individual was a patient at Madigan Army Medical Center here. The individual was in severe respiratory distress and had undergone surgery earlier to be hooked up to an extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) system. The system pumps and oxygenates a patient's blood outside the body, allowing the heart and lungs to rest.

Earlier that day, an aircrew made up of Airmen from the 4th and 7th Airlift Squadrons picked up an aeromedical evacuation team from the 775th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation flight at Travis Air Force Base, California. The evacuation team are experts in and caring for patients during flights.

“The timing [of loading and takeoff] is a little more flexible [with an aeromedical flight] than it normally is just based on the needs of the mission,” said Maj. Ian Scott, 4th Airlift Squadron pilot. “The biggest thing we have to be mindful of [with mission planning for an AE flight] is what type of restrictions the patient's condition would have on the environment in the airplane.”

The patient was being transported to SAMMC, where there are more available people who are experts on the ECMO system and will be readily able maintain or repair it if something went wrong.

The patient arrived at the aircraft with several additional medical professionals from Madigan trained in keeping the ECMO system running. Before



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Mikayla Heineck

U.S. Air Force Airmen from the 775th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation flight from Travis Air Force Base, California, don personal protective equipment March 31 aboard a C-17 Globemaster III on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. Aeromedical evacuation personnel are responsible for caring for medical patients in-flight and preparing a safe environment for them as well as the aircrew.

their arrival, the AE crew covered their luggage and equipment in plastic bags to lessen the risk of cross-contamination and everyone on the aircraft wore the appropriate personal protective equipment.

“What we do is to make sure that the patient's transportation goes smoothly and safely,” said Maj. Paul Blycheck, 775th EAEF medical crew director. “We have to consider the safety of the patient, and everyone involved – the AE crew, the pilots, and loadmasters – especially when it's something contagious, like COVID-19.”

The patient was hooked up to a full ventilator, in addition to the ECMO system, so anything they were breathing out was contained, Blycheck said.

The crew successfully took off later that night and transported the patient to SAMMC where they were evaluated.

Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif. | 60th Air Mobility Wing

Air Force

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Correspondence can be sent to the 60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs staff, Tailwind, 400 Brennan Circle, Bldg. 51, Travis AFB, CA 94535-2150 or emailed to 60amwpa@us.af.mil.

Deadline for copy is 4:30 p.m. Friday for the following Friday's issue. Swap ads must be brought to Bldg. 51 by noon Monday for possible print in that Friday's issue. Emailed or faxed Swap Ads are not accepted.

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For information on paid advertising and on base circulation, call 425-4646. Correspondence can be sent to: Daily Republic, 1250 Texas St., Fairfield, CA 94533 or faxed to 425-5924.

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
U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Chelsea Boehme, 22nd Airlift Squadron flight engineer, scans a C-5M Super Galaxy April 1 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.
U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jonathon Carnell

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: Airman 1st Class Patricia Blockmoore.	Time in service: One year.	What are your hobbies? Gardening, hiking, working out and reading.
Unit: 60th Surgical Operations Squadron.	Family: None.	What is your greatest achievement? Completing my Bachelor of Science in information technology and earning the Air Force Honor Graduate Award for Phase I as well as receiving my citizenship.
Duty title: Medical technician.	What are your goals? Apply for Nurse Enlisted Commissioning Program and becoming a nurse.	
Hometown: Agawam, Massachusetts.		

Courtesy photo

Airman dies in crash off base

60th Air Mobility Wing
Public Affairs

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — An Airman assigned to the 22nd Airlift Squadron, Travis AFB, California, was killed April 3 during an off-base motorcycle crash in San Mateo County.

The deceased Airman has been identified as Staff Sgt. Zachary Pyle, 28, of Shawnee, Oklahoma. Pyle entered the Air Force April 3, 2012, and arrived at Travis AFB Nov. 28, 2018. Pyle served as a flight engineer for the C-5M Super Galaxy.

“I am completely heartbroken over the sudden and tragic death of one of our own, and I know this grief extends across the wing,” said Col. Corey A. Simmons, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander. “Our deepest condolences go out to family and friends during this unfathomable time.”

Wing chaplains, mental health professionals and counselors are available to assist those in need.

Information on Travis AFB support services can be found at www.travis.af.mil.

Congrats

Congratulations to the 349th Security Forces Squadron, which recently won the 2020 Air Force Reserve Command Security Forces Outstanding Unit Award for Outstanding SF Tenant Unit of the Year.



U.S. Army photo

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Christopher Colombo, the director of Virtual Health and Telecritical Care and intensive care physician, and Kristina Ieronimakis, a registered nurse, provide oversight for a joint exercise with the Navy for Fleet Week in Madigan Army Medical Center in October 2018. Virtual health care has increased exponentially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pandemic puts telemedicine to test

National Museum of Health
and Medicine Public Affairs

SILVER SPRING, Md. — In the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, the Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center continues to develop technology that increases medical capabilities and provides rapid, flexible critical care expertise at the point of need.

During a recent Medical Museum Science Café, held virtually by the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Silver Spring, Maryland, TATRC director Army Col. Jeremy Pamplin described the implementation of the National Emergency Tele-Critical Care Network (NETCCN) and how telemedicine can improve

outcomes for disaster response.

COVID-19 has led to the need for physical distancing and has overwhelmed the capacities of health systems, compelling many to adopt telehealth solutions. Clinicians discovered how telemedicine can enhance communication efforts, reduce exposure and personal protective equipment consumption, improve efficiency and quality of care, increase access to specialty services, and in some cases lower costs and optimize the use of resources.

However, as Pamplin mentioned, the findings fluctuated due to the complex nature of the U.S. health system, which is an intricate mix of local, state, and

federal policies and diverse expectations, cultures, and belief systems. For example, the implementation of telehealth may improve outcomes for one organization, whereas the same implementation elsewhere may not.

Pamplin described how he and his colleagues studied the implementation of telemedicine in a military environment.

“Telemedicine in the military has consistently enabled military clinicians around the world to work beyond their typical scope of practice while deployed in austere, resource limited environments by providing reach-back capability to military experts working in referral centers across the

globe,” he said.

Pamplin then looked at the potential use of a telecritical health system for large-scale military operations. According to Pamplin, telehealth technology could be adapted to a variety of care contexts including large-scale combat situations or natural disasters that rely on military aid.

Partnering with the civilian sector, Pamplin and his colleagues developed NETCCN, a telehealth system that could consolidate telehealth networks and manage a high patient capacity during an emergency or a national crisis.

When COVID-19 emerged, Pamplin and his team began the

See **TELEMEDICINE** Page 15

Contest honors Travis children

Nguyen Ai Vy Tran
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE
SERVICE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — Family fun creates lifelong memories—and now it can help military families win, too. The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is hosting a worldwide online contest celebrating family game night in honor of the Month of the Military Child.

From April 9 through April 15, military kids can take a photo of their family enjoying a game night and submit it at ShopMyExchange.com/sweepstakes. One worldwide grand-prize winner will receive a \$50 Exchange gift card, while three runners-up will each receive a Rubiks

Cube prize.

“Military kids face unique challenges, including frequent moves and having parents deploy,” said Travis AFB Exchange General Manager Phonda Bishop. “This contest celebrates family time and the resiliency of military kids.”

Military families can visit ShopMyExchange.com/momc for contest details and Month of the Military Child activities, including sweepstakes, coloring pages and more. Month of the Military Child contests are open to kids 17 years and younger, but a parent or authorized shopper 18 years or older must submit the contest photo to at ShopMyExchange.com/sweepstakes.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chad Kotce

Airmen from various units within the 621st Contingency Response Wing play a prototype military strategy game March 25 at Travis Air Force Base, California. The game, called “Kingfish ACE” focuses on a hypothetical situation in the Western Pacific and is a strategy game similar to “Risk” and “Dungeons & Dragons.”

Base boosts military gaming

Senior Airman Chad Kotce
921ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE SQUADRON

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — Military leaders, deep thinkers, and gaming enthusiasts alike can look forward to a new invention that may be coming to tabletop exercises in the near future.

Lt. Col. Troy Pierce, a C-130 Hercules navigator and student at the Marine Corps War College, introduced a game of his own invention, called “Kingfish ACE” to members from the 821st Contingency Response Group at Travis Air Force Base, California, March 25-26.

The 821st CRG Airmen were the first to test out the innovative strategy game designed to help military leaders understand the complexities of planning and mobilizing multi-capable Airmen and contingency response forces in support of Agile Combat Employment operations.

The game focuses on a hypothetical situation in the Western Pacific and contains elements of popular role-playing games like “Risk” and “Dungeons &

Dragons.” Depending on the time available and desired learning objectives, “Kingfish ACE” can be played in casual social settings or delve into day-long campaigns.

Pierce thought of the concept for his final project at the college.

“The Marine Corps War College emphasizes the educational value of gaming,” he said. “We play a lot of war games, and I noticed that this would be a great tool to help Airmen understand ACE concepts.”

While the primary target audience is mid-level

decision-makers, Pierce hopes all Air Force personnel will benefit from playing.

“I would love for our young Airmen to play the game, be excited about it, and learn more about how they contribute to the overall mission,” Pierce said. “Hopefully, they create solutions and new ways of doing business that may inform higher headquarters through the policy decision process.”

To help bring the game to life, Pierce teamed with Master Sgt. Brad Johannes, 921st Contingency Response Squadron

See **GAMING** Page 20

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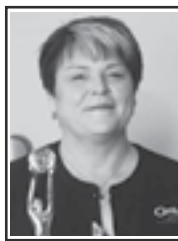
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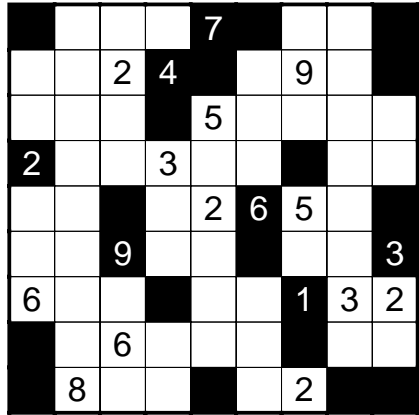
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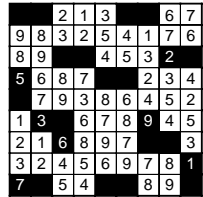
Puzzles

STR8TS

No. 536 Medium



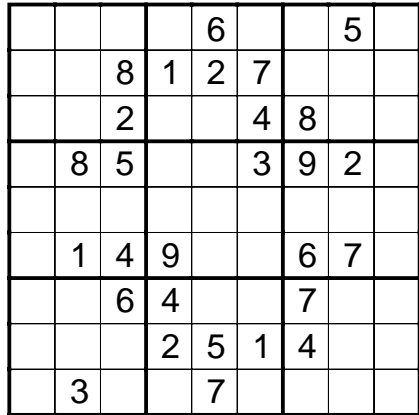
Previous solution - Tough



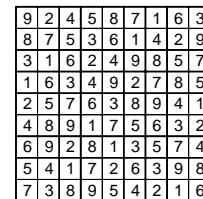
How to beat **Str8ts**—Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into **compartments**. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A **straight** is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order,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

SUDOKU

No. 536 Medium



Previous solution - Easy



To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely.

For many strategies, hints and tips, visit www.sudokuwiki.org

If you like Str8ts, Sudoku and other puzzles, check out our books, iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on our store at www.str8ts.com

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 Thammasen, 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 available paid leave to receive transferred annual leave directly from other employees. For more information, call 707-424-1720.

Airmen complete FTAC



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jonathon Carnell

Congratulations to the latest Airmen to complete the First Term Airman Center course. Alphabetically: Airman Maria Alonso, 60th Air Mobility Wing Command Post; Airman Karem Casiano-Julian, 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Coates, 60th Civil Engineer Squadron; Airman Basic Najee Godwin, 60th AMW/CP; Airman 1st Class Tairiq Gordon, 60th Surgical Operations Squadron; Airman 1st Class Joseph Langlais, 60th SGCS; Airman 1st Class Christopher Martin, 860th AMXS; Airman Devon Peirick, 60th Operations Support Squadron; Airman Tyler Perez, 60th AMXS; Airman Martin Perleberg, 60th Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Sean Pruitt, 860th AMXS; Airman 1st Class Konner Saxon, 60th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Airman 1st Class Lilian Scarborough, 60th Inpatient Squadron; Airman 1st Class Lishaun Shelby, 60th Medical Support Squadron; Airman Mingyo Son, 60th IPTS; Airman 1st Class Nasier Thomas, 60th MDSS; and Airman 1st Class Norman Vanderhorst, 60th SGCS.

F-15EX Eagle II unveiled

1st Lt. Karissa Rodriguez
96TH TEST WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — April 7 marked the unveiling of the name and the official role of the Air Force's newest fighter, the F-15EX Eagle II. Lt. Gen. Duke Richardson, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology Logistics military deputy, presented the F-15EX during an unveiling and naming ceremony at Eglin Air

Force Base, April 7.

“Undeclared in aerial combat, the F-15 Eagle epitomized air superiority in the minds of our enemies, allies, and the American people for over 45 years, but it was not meant to fly forever. We heard the demand signal from our warfighters,” Richardson said. “I’m pleased to say we’ve responded boldly and decisively, with a proven platform that’s modernized and optimized to maintain air superiority now and into the future.”

The ceremony celebrated the historic arrival of the dynamic new fighter aircraft. This process began several years ago, as a combined Air Force effort to bring the best in response capability.

“Team Eglin and the 96th Test Wing are proud to be a part of the rich history of this legendary aircraft,” said Brig. Gen. Scott Cain, 96th Test Wing commander.

See F-15EX Page 15

Site to ease records updates

Tech. Sgt. Areca T. Wilson
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Department of the Air Force debuted a new website for past and present Airmen and

Guardians to correct their military records, April 5. Members, and those submitting on their behalf, can submit applications and supporting documents to four boards: The Air Force Board

for Correction of Military Records, Air Force Discharge Review Board, Department of Defense Discharge Appeal Review Board and Department of Defense Physical

See RECORDS Page 15

821st CRS part of training exercise in Idaho

Senior Airman Aaron Irvin
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

LITTLE ROCK AIR FORCE BASE, Ark. — As part of a multi-week off-station training event, the 61st Airlift Squadron alongside Airmen from the 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 19th Operations Support Squadron and 19th Logistics Readiness Squadron put the Multi-Capable Airmen concept to the test in Boise, Idaho and Key West, Florida, March 8-28.

The MCA concept enhances the Air Force's ability to rapidly deploy forces to austere and contested locations by ensuring more Airmen are trained and qualified to perform duties outside of their specific job description or Air Force Specialty Code.

Echoing Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr.'s “Accelerate Change or Lose” strategy, Capt. Dmytro Pichkur, 61st AS pilot and OST mission commander, said adaptive and agile Airmen, capable of accomplishing tasks outside their AFSC, are vital to delivering agile combat airlift.

“Combined with Agile Combat Employment, MCA allows us to greatly reduce our footprint, by using fewer personnel to accomplish the objectives, which in turn allows us to be more agile,” said Pichkur.

As the Air Force continues to refine and expand upon ACE, the 19th Airlift Wing has aggressively pursued opportunities for Airmen to demonstrate the MCA proof of concept by discovering innovative ways to improve and adapt to the shifting focus on near-peer adversaries.

“Currently, when we move

between austere locations, we have to bring our own support equipment and personnel with us,” Pichkur said. “By training Airmen to be multi-capable, we are able to move between locations more quickly, and do not have to rely on pre-established forward operating bases.

Furthermore, by having Airmen that are trained to a limited proficiency in other duties, we are able to have better insight of what other AFSCs do, allowing for greater understanding and better communication.”

While in Boise, the 61st AS trained with the 821st Contingency Response Squadron out of Travis AFB, California, where pilots, loadmasters and maintainers learned basic set-up and teardown operations of a bare bones FOB.

Over the span of two weeks, nearly 50 Airmen were trained on building and setting up tents as well as receiving training from the 19th LRS on forklift training operations, allowing loadmasters and pilots to load the aircraft themselves.

“The forklift certification was an eye-opening experience for me,” said Lt. Col. Andrew Miller, 61st AS commander. “Our LRS professionals make it look so easy. However, even after watching thousands of iterations of forklift operations, this experience provided a perspective I never had before.”

Miller said that while it's not as easy as it looks, with just a little practice, Airmen gained a capability that has the potential to help get the job done, even in the toughest of circumstances.

“With two weeks' worth of training, we became more self-sufficient,” Miller said.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Aaron Irvin

An Airman from the 821st Contingency Response Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, California, trains Airmen from Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, on how to set up a tent March 10 at Travis AFB. Airmen from the 61st Airlift Squadron trained with the 821st CRS to showcase the Multi-Capable Airmen concept by training them on how to perform duties outside of their specific job description.

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Follow Travis on **TWITTER** at @Travis60AMW

All-female flight crew delivers 120,000 pounds of cargo to Hawaii



1

Story and photos by Senior Airman Jonathon Carnell
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — The 22nd Airlift Squadron from Travis Air Force Base, California, and the 312th AS partnered to load and deliver 120,000 pounds of cargo from Joint Base Lewis-McChord AFB, Washington, to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, March 31 to April 2.

The cargo mission provided an opportunity for 12 aircrew members and two flying crew chiefs to enhance their capabilities for the Air Mobility Command mission.

“The equipment shipped will be assisting training programs for units at Hickam,” said Capt. Heather Denny, 22nd Airlift Squadron instructor pilot and aircraft commander. “When we get to fill a C-5 with as much as we did for this mission, we challenge our aircrew.”

Three Air Force Reserve loadmasters assigned to the 312th Airlift Squadron accompanied the 22nd AS and loaded the C-5M

Super Galaxy with 18 industrial-sized containers that nearly filled the cargo bay of the aircraft.

Denny explained how this mission was unique compared to others.

“When the C-5M Galaxy was first introduced to the Air Force (1970), I doubt there were enough female aircrew members to meet the flight requirements to complete a mission,” said Master Sgt. Kristen Lewis, 312th AS instructor loadmaster. “Today, though, we can man this aircraft and train our younger airmen who will carry on and further our legacy of being female aviators.”

Denny further explained just how rare it is to have an all-female crew and what the experience meant to her.

“I’ve been in the squadron for four years and I’ve never been part of an all-female crew before,” said Denny. “This is a mission I will remember for the rest of my life.”



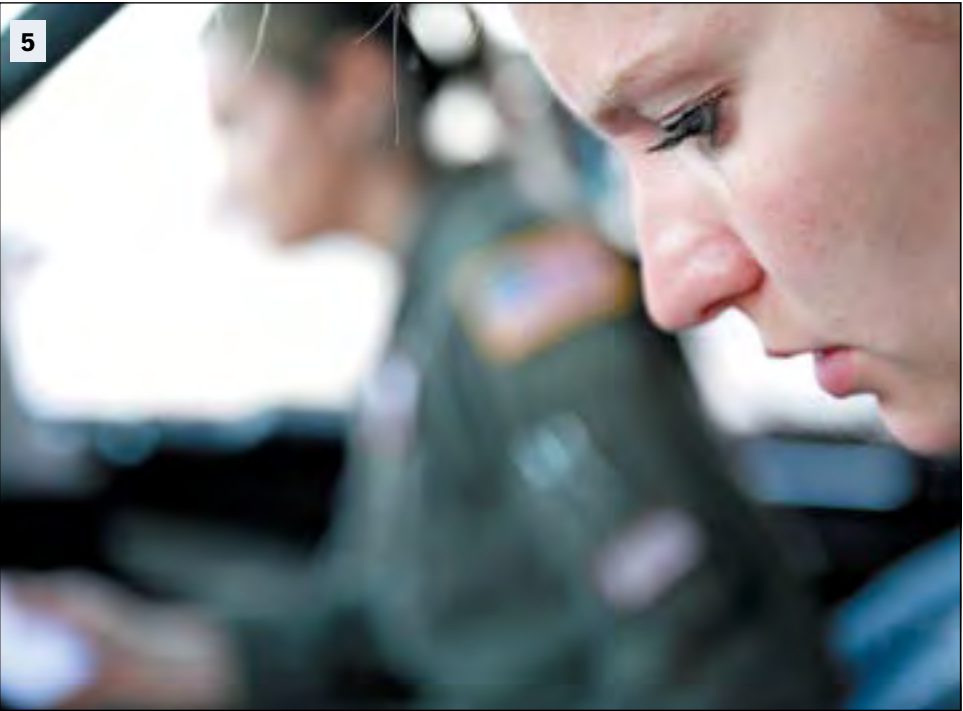
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3



4



5

1) A women’s heritage flight patch is displayed on the uniform of Airman 1st Class Summer Thomas, 312th Airlift Squadron loadmaster student, April 1 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. An all-female crew assigned to Travis AFB flew the C-5M Super Galaxy that delivered 120,000 pounds of cargo from JBLM to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. 2) Thomas tests an oxygen mask and tank in a C-5M April 2 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. 3) U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Chelsea Boehme, 22nd Airlift Squadron flight engineer, calculates aircraft logistics in a C-5M April 2 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. 4) A K loader holding six ISU-90 containers moves toward a C-5M March 31 at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. 5) U.S. Air Force Capt. Heather Denny, 22nd AS C-5M instructor pilot and aircraft commander, works on a preflight checklist April 2 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Tenant feedback drives housing improvement

Zoe Schlott

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION
SUPPORT CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — Department of the Air Force housing program officials are analyzing data from the recently completed 2020 Department of Defense Annual Tenant Satisfaction Survey for trends and ways to improve the enterprise’s privatized and government-owned housing portfolio and tenant experience.

A private contractor distributed the survey to the DAF’s 68 privatized housing locations with an overall response rate of 30.1%. Overall, privatized housing projects scored an average rating of 77.2 in the survey, which concluded Feb. 5. The DAF’s target metric is 75 or higher. In 2019, the average

satisfaction rate was 79.1.

This year’s results reflected more accurate data due to survey revisions. The lower score since last year is likely due to service and maintenance delays from COVID-19 precautionary measures taken by project owners, said Jennifer Miller, Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy acting assistant secretary.

“We expected the improved survey to yield more accurate feedback,” Miller said. “We depend on honest feedback from the tenants to help us assess the performance of the projects and to understand where adjustments are needed to improve the resident experience.”

With DAF financing the survey for the first year, government-owned family housing projects were included in the data pool.

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Aviator reflects on her 20-year career

Annette Crawford

37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — Kathy La Sauce didn't blaze trails during her 20-year Air Force career. She scorched them.

She joined the Air Force in 1972, after receiving one of only two Officer Training School slots for the Long Island, New York area.

"When I graduated from college, I wanted my life to matter so I looked at joining the Air Force," La Sauce said. "Fortunately, the Air Force had just increased the number of women that would be allowed to serve, and it opened up some of the nontraditional career fields."

Her next stop was Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois, where she became part of the first maintenance officer class to include women.

"I spent seven months learning about all the systems of an aircraft — engines, hydraulics, electronics, aerodynamics — and I loved it!" La Sauce said.

Supervising maintenance personnel and coordinating the recovery, repair and launch of C-141 Starlifters, C-5 Galaxies and WC-130 Hercules "Typhoon Chasers" was a great life. She may well have gone on to complete her career in aircraft maintenance were it not for the Air Force announcing a groundbreaking test program. So it was her next "first" that set the course for history — graduating in 1977 as a member of the first Undergraduate Pilot Training class to include women.

"When I learned that they were going to open up flying to women, I was excited about the possibility of the opportunity to learn to fly," she said. "My technical knowledge and my reputation in maintenance was undoubtedly the reason I was selected to be in the first class."

La Sauce said she found pilot training to be "extremely demanding but yet thrilling." While many Americans were celebrating the huge step in equal rights for women, not everyone was on board with the changes.

"Some of our flight commanders didn't want us there," she said. "And some of them even said, 'Well, if I had my way, none of you would graduate.'"

Despite the negativity, La Sauce didn't let it stop her from achieving her goals. She thought of what it would mean if she didn't succeed.

"I realized that opportunities for women in the Air Force might have been limited," she said. "They might not have opened up and removed the combat exclusion laws, so women wouldn't be flying fighter aircraft, women wouldn't be flying combat missions, nor be test pilots or astronauts."

"We were considered a test program — a test program because there were political and military leaders who did not want us to succeed," La Sauce said. "I knew that my success as a pilot and my career progression was extremely important to future generations of women who would follow after me."

She trained on T-37 and T-38 Talon aircraft during UPT, and chose to fly the C-141 cargo aircraft after graduating, giving her the ability to fly around the world. While stationed at Norton AFB, California, she achieved three more "firsts" — first woman to be a C-141 aircraft commander, instructor pilot and flight examiner pilot. She was then selected as the first female pilot to fly in the 89th Airlift Wing at Andrews AFB, Maryland. She flew the VC-135 Stratolifter and upgraded to aircraft commander. After a staff tour at the Pentagon, she returned to Andrews AFB, where she became the first woman to command an aerial port squadron — one that supported the president of the United States.

La Sauce considers commanding the aerial port squadron her most memorable assignment.

"While I was there, there was President Mitterand and Gorbachev and Margaret Thatcher ... an exciting time," she said. "It was an assignment for me to make a bigger difference."

She made some changes during her time at Andrews

AFB, and while they may seem small, they showed La Sauce paid attention to the needs not only of the distinguished visitors, but her Airmen as well. One of the changes was adding items to the supply list specifically for women. Even though there were many Congresswomen who came through as passengers, there wasn't a single item on either the aircraft or in the DV lounge that could accommodate their needs. She also obtained funding to replace a 25-year-old pallet scale with a digital one.

"I could make a difference in cutting out a lot of the unnecessary regulations, and letting the young people give me their ideas on how they would like to do things better," La Sauce said. "My personality was just right for that squadron."



Courtesy photo/Kathy La Sauce

Capt. Kathy La Sauce is shown in her Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 77-08 graduation photo. In October 2020, the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force debuted an exhibit dedicated to the 10 women of UPT Class 77-08, the UPT class that included women.

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Energy

From Page 7

their ideas to expert reviewers from across the government—the largest AFWERX challenge to date. The culminating event was a virtual showcase held Feb. 9. The event was introduced by Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategy, Integration and Requirements Lt. Gen. S. Clinton Hinote, who highlighted the importance of the Energy Challenge, noting, "we need a mind-shift of the way we are thinking about alternative forms of energy" and that "energy is a limiting factor to our operations and the options we can [effectively] provide to our leadership."

The showcase included 1,895 participants from industry, government, academia and advocacy groups, and a program that included six keynote speakers, 10 technical panels, and multiple networking sessions. The breadth and depth of the proposed solutions provided by industry covered a wide range of topics to include: fixed and mobile energy generation and storage, energy transmission and distribution, new warfighting and operational equipment, data availability for improved planning and decision making, and energy culture, policy and education.

The AFRL TCO saw a unique opportunity in the Energy Challenge and is in the process of awarding several contracts in the areas of wireless power distribution, flexible power generation, renewable power generation, battery solutions, and innovative electrical equipment. This is part of a \$6 million campaign that Chris Ristich, TCO director, says, "...will connect emerging energy technology to the challenges of expeditionary air operations, and inspire new approaches to power the Air Force." Additionally, the Energy Challenge facilitated the connection of many of the participating companies with other potential funding organizations and venture capitalists.

In addition to the Energy Challenge, the AFWERX prime initiatives has now established an Energy Prime campaign, modeled on the

Agility Prime electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing, or eVTOL, effort, will leverage the research and interest community built by the Energy Challenge to select a specific concept or technology to drive to commercialization, in partnership with private capital and industry. Concepts currently under consideration are highly efficient airframes and propulsion to reduce overall aviation fuel burn, as well as concepts for drop-in replacement liquid fuels that can be produced at forward operating bases for both jet fuel and installations. Though still in the conceptual phase, Energy Prime holds the promise to accelerate critical, dual-use technologies to commercialization within an approximately 36-month timeframe.

The two initiatives, Reimagining Energy Challenge and Energy Prime, align with President Joe Biden's Climate Plan to "make a historic investment in clean energy and innovation" and "accelerate the deployment of clean technology throughout our economy ... by reducing the carbon footprint." The timing of these efforts proved insightful, providing an incredible opportunity for the DoD to partner with forward-thinking industries and academia to identify, fund and launch new, out-of-the box energy strategies and opportunities.

The Department of the Air Force is committed to accelerating clean energy opportunities, while addressing national security concerns stemming from requirements for energy dense fuels. The ideas generated, and solutions examined as a result of both the Energy Challenge and Energy Prime campaigns, are critical components to those efforts as the department plans for the future, with an eye on reducing its carbon footprint, while maintaining a competitive advantage.

The Department of the Air Force is further committed to expanding its partnerships with the commercial industry, research communities, and government entities to invest in innovative solutions that will shape the future of resilient energy production, transmission, use and storage.



U.S. Army photo/Capt. Joshua Springer

U.S. Army Capt. Stephanie Meno shows her daughter, 1-year-old Imogene, an orange at commissary at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

Colors

From Page 6

leeks, limes, okra, pears, peas, lettuce, spinach and zucchini

Try these recipes from commissaries.com: Steam Baby Bok Choy with a Garlicky Ginger Drizzle; Strawberry and Asparagus Salad; Chicken and Asparagus Bundles; Sautéed Collard Greens; Stove Top Stuffed Collard Rolls; Roasted Brussels Sprouts and Apples; Pressure Cooker Pork Loin with Apples and Swiss Chard; Vegetarian Swiss Chard Frittata; Slow Cooker Pork Carnitas; Chocolate Avocado Pudding; and Curried Cabbage Sauté.

Orange and yellow

Mandarin oranges, carrots, sweet potatoes, peaches, apricots, pineapple, acorn, butternut and yellow squash, cantaloupes, corn, grapefruit, lemons, mango, nectarines, oranges, orange peppers, papayas, pumpkins, tangerines, yams, yellow peppers, pears and yellow apples

Try these recipes from commissaries.com: Mandarin Orange and Basil Smoothie; Mandarin Beef Stir Fry; Pressure

Cooker Beef Roast Dinner; Troy's Sweet Potato Breakfast; Twice Baked Loaded Sweet Potato; Chicken, Sweet Potato and Wild Rice Casserole; Chicken Tacos with Peach Salsa; Navy Chief's Bean Peach Salsa; Grilled Pork and Apricot Skewers; Frozen Apricot Smoothie; Sweet and Spicy Chicken; and Refreshing Pineapple and Greens.

White

Cauliflower, mushrooms, potatoes, bananas, garlic, onions, parsnips, shallots, white corn and white peaches

Try these recipes from commissaries.com: Stir-Fry Cauliflower "Rice"; Shepherd's Pie with Cauliflower Topping; Baby Portobello "Pizza" Bites; Swedish Meatballs with a Surprising Twist; Chef Robert Irvine's Bangers and Mash with Pea Puree; and Crispy Skinned Baked Potato Pierogi Style.

Red and pink

Apples, beets, cherries, cranberries, pink grapefruit, pomegranates, radishes red peppers, red potatoes, rhubarb, strawberries, tomatoes, watermelon, red grapes and cranberries

Try these recipes from commissaries.com: Apple and

Fresh Basil Salad; Roasted Pork Loin with Stewed Apples; Watermelon Chicken Tacos; Stuffed Peppers; Lemon Pepper Chicken with Braised Beets and Beans; Strawberry Mango Salsa; Chicken Stuffed Tomatoes; and Harvest Stew with a Touch of Moroccan Flair.

Blue and purple

Blueberries, blackberries, dates, eggplant, grapes, plums, prunes, raisins and purple cabbage

Try these recipes from commissaries.com: Grilled Eggplant Sandwiches; Blueberry Reduction for Grilled Chicken Tenderloins; No-Cook 48 Hour Steel Cut Oats; Cabbage and Sweet Cilantro Slaw; and Pancakes, Plums and Greek Yogurt.

"Make the most of your benefit by knowing the health benefits of each produce color, building a basket with your favorites and remembering frozen and canned fruits and vegetables count, too," said Harris.

Visit commissaries.com and click on the healthy living link for dietitian-approved recipes, tips and links to assist you in meeting your health and wellness goals, and for help with planning meals.

Kuwait

From Page 7

and Deputy Combined Forces Air Component Commander. “They have done a phenomenal job ensuring air power’s daily contribution to this effort, and though we are honoring the inactivation of this organization today, AFCENT remains fully committed to continuing to support our OIR partners.”

Each of the 9th AETF-L commanders, ranging from the first, USAF Maj. Gen. Peter Gersten, to the last, USAF Maj. Gen. Kenneth P. Ekman, ensured Air Force assets and Airmen fully supported the CJTF-OIR campaign. They set the standard for an AETF, contributing to a highly kinetic air campaign enabling the liberation of designated areas of Iraq and Syria working by, with and through partner forces.

“We build organizations and capabilities where needed and then as responsible leaders, we must take them down or modify as the environment evolves,” said U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. James E Fitch II, 9th AETF-L command chief.

Despite the 9th AETF-L inactivation, U.S. Air Forces Central will continue to provide operational support to CJTF-OIR as it works with its Syrian and

Iraqi partners in ensuring the enduring defeat of Daesh in the region. Portions of Air Force support to CJTF-OIR that previously reported to 9th AETF-L will now realign under to the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing.

“The success of this campaign, along with the growing requirement to focus U.S. Air Forces Central units on regional threats, promoted this change in command and control of U.S. Air Force forces in the U.S Central Command area of responsibility,” said Maj. Gen. Kenneth P. Ekman, 9th AETF-L commander and deputy commander for Operations, CJTF-OIR.

Despite its brief history, 9th AETF-L has distinguished itself in support to coalition ground forces and partner nations, enabling the liberation of 8 million people and 110,000 square kilometers of territory. For these contributions, the task force has garnered the Meritorious Unit Award three times, attesting to the positive lasting impact of the 9th AETF-L Airmen.

“While we close this organization and transfer duties... it may seem sad, but in reality, this is what winning looks like,” said Fitch. “We would not be here today without the amazing effort of thousands of Airmen over the past six years.”

Telemedicine

From Page 4

implementation of NETCCN to help respond to the current stressed health care system. According to Pamplin, the network brings remote critical care expertise to the point of care, providing e-consult support, remote home monitoring, relief coverage, tiered staffing, and specialty services.

“The NETCCN addresses the lack of critical care clinicians across our nation by shifting these resources where and when needed,” Pamplin said. “In a dynamic, flexible fashion, NETCC links remote expertise to frontline providers, often

working beyond their scope of training, using secure, HIPAA compliant applications on mobile devices, thus bypassing the lengthy process of purchasing and installing expensive hardware packages.

Said Andrea Schierkolk, NMHM’s public programs manager: “TATRC’s efforts to address the benefits and challenges of telemedicine were put to the test during the COVID-19 pandemic, and documenting these innovations in military medicine contributes to NMHM’s mission to share the value of the nation’s investment in programs like those of TATRC.”

For more information on TATRC and its initiatives, please visit at www.tatrc.org.

F-15EX

From Page 8

The EX provides a unique opportunity for the test enterprise as it is the first Air Force aircraft to be completely tested

and fielded through combined developmental and operational test efforts.

The official role of the EX is to meet capacity requirements while bringing diverse technology ensuring the platform’s relevance for decades to come.

The 96th TW and the 53rd Wing are set to begin test and evaluation efforts. The 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron will work closely with the 40th Flight Test Squadron to integrate testing, from start to finish.

Records

From Page 8

Disability Board of Review.

“Across the Air Force, our workload kept increasing with more and more applications for records corrections, but without a corresponding increase in manpower,” said Clifford Tompkins, Air Force Review Boards Agency mission support director. “We had to become more efficient and

one area identified was the amount of physical time that it took to handle hard-copy mail, so the idea of having an electronic way that people can apply, made sense.v”

The Air Force Review Boards Agency has worked on the new website since last year to improve efficiency for record corrections. To make the portal accessible to both current and former service members, the website does not require a Common Access Card.

Instead, a unique e-application number will be provided to track each case.

Despite the launch of the website, members can still submit applications via mail; however, processing times may be slower. Members can use their unique e-application number to check the status of their application, whether it was submitted online or via mail.

Visit the records correction website at <https://Afrba-portal.cce.af.mil>.



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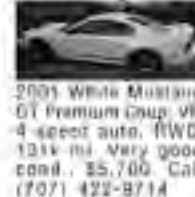


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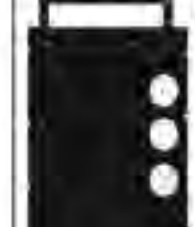
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Metals craftsman delivers light in ... DARKNESS

U.S. Air Force photos by Chustine Minoda



1) U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Christine Desrochers, 60th Maintenance Squadron aircraft metals craftsman, repairs aerospace ground equipment March 15 at Travis Air Force Base, California. Aircraft metals technology specialists are the Air Force's machinists and welders; they are responsible for repairing and creating essential aircraft parts. From troubleshooting to final fitting, these skilled professionals weld, fabricate and custom-make the metal components critical to the functioning of an aircraft. 2) Desrochers poses March 15 at Travis AFB. 3) Desrochers sands down excess material March 15 at Travis AFB.

Gaming

From Page 5

flight chief. Johannes was selected to work on this due to his extensive contingency response background, familiarity with ACE, and experience creating challenging tabletop exercises with his flight. He and his team brainstormed to provide input on making the game more realistic. “When my leadership reached out to see if I could help support this endeavor, I was definitely excited,” Johannes said. “I viewed the project as a creative way to grow future leaders of the Air Force by exposing them to real-world concerns and training in an enjoyable way.”

Since Pierce began working on “Kingfish ACE” in December of 2020, he has been able to play with other classmates, former colleagues and family members, making improvements to the game along the way. Now he wants to get feedback from Airmen at the unit level.

“I have learned the key to game design is to get an early prototype out there and then continually test it, so each time I see the game played, I can make it better,” Pierce said.

Like most games, hearing the rules left the new players a little skeptical at first, but as soon as they started playing, the appeal of “Kingfish ACE” was seen immediately.

“It gives a ginormous overview of the



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chad Kotze

Airmen from various units within the 621st Contingency Response Wing play a prototype military strategy game March 26, 2021, at Travis Air Force Base, California. The game is called “Kingfish ACE” and focuses on real-world responses for Air Force leadership.

planning that goes into CRW operations,” said Senior Airman John Paul Salazar, 921st CRS security forces specialist. “It’s awesome to get to see the big picture and how much effort goes into allocating resources for our missions.”

Although reviews from the 821st CRG were positive, Pierce says he still faces a

few challenges ahead.

“I am not a game or graphic designer, so those are skills I have had to learn along the way,” he said. “Also, I’m developing a game that deals with the ACE concept that is not completely codified, so it’s difficult to make a relevant game when potential variables are shifting as

we speak.”

During the next couple of weeks, Pierce will test Kingfish ACE at the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center, 621st Contingency Response Wing at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, and Headquarters Air Force. He hopes to have a finalized product by mid-May.



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