

CDCR Joins 60th SFS for...

# K-9 TRAINING



**TAILWIND**





Raymond Semko, security educator and a professional public speaker, delivers a security awareness briefing during an Air Mobility Command Treaty Workshop at Travis Air Force Base, California, May 10, 2021.

# Travis AFB hosts AMC Treaty Workshop

Heide Couch  
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — The International Treaty Compliance Office hosted the Air Mobility Command Annual Treaty Compliance Workshop, May 10-13, here.

The four-day workshop covers a variety of topics where subject matter experts from Headquarters Air Force and AMC come together to provide

education and training for wing-level personnel. Their duties involve arms control responsibilities through orientation materials and relevant briefings.

“Execution of treaty activities are critical missions since treaties have the status of Federal Law with the added impact of politics,” said Salvatore Pampinella, 60th Air Mobility Wing Treaty Compliance officer. “The provided training and exercises ensure that we are fully-prepared to support

short-notice treaty team visits by foreign diplomats”

The annual training has been reoccurring since 1994.

“Without this training we run the risk of causing an international incident in the form of a diplomatic challenge or treaty violation,” said Pampinella.

The International Treaty Compliance Office ensures the requirements for implementing and complying with international arms control and non-proliferation agreements.



Boeing photo/John D. Parker

A KC-46A Pegasus refuels an A-10 Thunderbolt II, July 15, 2016.

# Newest KC-46A Pegasus candidate bases announced

Secretary of the Air Force  
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The Department of the Air Force selected the candidate locations to host the next Reserve and active duty main operating bases for KC-46A Pegasus aircraft, May 13.

The candidate locations to host the next KC-46A Reserve component are Beale Air Force Base, California, Grissom Air Reserve Base, Indiana, Joint Base Andrews-Naval Air Field Washington, Maryland, March ARB, California, Niagara Falls ARB, New York, and Tinker AFB, Oklahoma.

The candidate locations selected for the next KC-46 active-duty component are Fairchild AFB, Washington, and MacDill AFB, Florida.

A total of 12 KC-46As will replace Air Force Reserve Command KC-135

Stratotankers at one of the six candidate locations and 24 KC-46As will replace active-duty KC-135s at one of the two candidate locations.

The KC-46A brings many enhanced capabilities over the legacy KC-135, including boom and drogue refueling on the same sortie, worldwide navigation and communication, airlift capability on the entire main deck floor, receiver air refueling, improved force protection, and multi-point air refueling capability.

Site surveys at each candidate main operating base will be conducted this summer and will be assessed against operational requirements, potential impacts to existing missions, housing, infrastructure and manpower.

The preferred locations are expected to be selected in fall 2021.

# Travis Partnership springs USAF forward with new Aerial Porter Exoskeleton

Senior Airman Cameron Otte  
60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — The Air Force Life Cycle Management Center and Air Mobility Command partnered with Arizona State University to develop the Aerial Port Exoskeleton, a new piece of equipment set to be used in an official capacity May 17, 2021, at Travis Air Force Base.

The Aerial Port Exoskeleton helps aerial porters perform their duties with less strain.

“Aerial ports have a high injury rate in the Air Force,” said Tech. Sgt. Landon Jensen, Air Mobility Command innovations, systems and future command manager. “That’s why we are looking into this kind of solution to help porters perform their duties more safely while also helping reduce the risk of injuries, so they are not suffering later in life.”

Travis AFB is currently serving as the test base for the new exoskeleton equipment. If the equipment proves to be beneficial, it will be utilized throughout the Air Force.

“We began looking into this equipment because of the outcome of the 2019 Volpe study,” said Jensen. “The Volpe study was a department of



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Cameron Otte

Airman 1st Class Xavier Archangel, 60th Aerial Port Squadron aerial porter, left, and Airman 1st Class Kyle Sunderman, 60th APS ramp serviceman, showcase the capabilities of the Aerial Porter Exoskeleton May 14, 2021, at Travis Air Force Base, California. The Aerial Porter Exoskeleton is a piece of equipment designed to reduce strain when lifting various items.

transportation study that focused on why retired aerial porters alone were costing upwards of \$31 Million a year on disability benefits.”

Following the results of the 2019 study, the 60th Aerial Port Squadron leadership looked into working with external parties to develop a

solution that would reduce the number of Airmen leaving service in such a rough state.

“This project would have been impossible without the help of Arizona State University,” said 2nd Lt. Aaron Cox, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center program manager. “They focused on the

development and manufacturing of the exoskeleton, and without their partnership we wouldn’t have been able to develop this technology.”

After a month-long testing period, the Airmen expressed that the suits are a good investment and significantly reduces

See EXOSKELETON Page 12

# DAF releases update on telework, remote work guidance

Secretary of the Air Force  
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The Department of the Air Force recently released updated guidance concerning the use of telework and remote work for all civilian employees and service members worldwide, to include active duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen and active duty Guardians.

The DAF guidance memorandum, DoDI1035.01 DAFI 36-816 Telework Program, provides necessary clarification and expands the Department’s use of telework and remote work based on current lessons learned, pending a comprehensive review of the Department of the Air Force telework program.

“The Department of the Air Force is using lessons learned about teleworking and remote work during the pandemic as an opportunity to grow,” said John Fedrigo, acting assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs. “The pandemic has shown we can be successful using telework in many areas of our mission, and it helps to bridge our current force structure to the force we need for the future.”

Position eligibility is determined by the squadron

See TELEWORK Page 16

# Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif. | 60th Air Mobility Wing

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60th Air Mobility Wing commander

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Chief of command information

Senior Airman Cameron Otte  
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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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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 Staff Sgt. Anna Weaver, 60th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, rewards MWD Pako with a toy during an exercise course at Travis Air Force Base, California, April 27, 2021.

USAF photo/Airman 1st Class Alexander Merchak



U.S. Air Force photo

# WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: AIC Connor Schummer  
Unit: 9 ARS/ DOB  
Duty title: Boom Operator  
Hometown: Ludington, Michigan

Time in service: 1 year  
Family: Mom (Emma), Dad (Tom), Brother (Kyle Gracia - Navy MP)  
What are your goals? Instructor boom, bachelor’s degree, officer training

What are your hobbies? Snowboarding, golfing, hiking  
What is your greatest achievement? Being a boom in the world’s greatest Air Force!!

# AGILE FLAG 21-2 experiment: US Airpower from anywhere

1st Lt. Teri Bunce

633RD AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NAVAL OUTLYING LANDING FIELD CHOCTAW, Fla. (AFNS) — Air Force Airmen and Space Force Guardians from across the country recently came together to participate in Air Combat Command's Agile Flag 21-2 experiment at Naval Outlying Landing Field Choctaw, April 26 – May 7.

The exercise, aimed at testing a host unit's mission generation, command and control, and base operating support-integrator elements, aimed to prepare warfighters from multiple installations and major commands for what they may encounter in a deployed setting.

"Successful operations and combat support in a contested environment demand maximum delegation, trust, and empowerment of Airmen before conflict starts," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr. "We must empower Airmen at all levels, delegating to the lowest capable and competent level possible."

As the lead wing, the 4th Fighter Wing, assigned to Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina, tested its ability to provide operations support and deliver combat effects in a deployed environment from its simulated home base at Tyndall AFB, while also supporting two additional locations, like the forward operating base constructed at NOLF Choctaw.

The planning for NOLF Choctaw aligned capabilities from different units under a single commander to deliver Agile Combat Employment using the Air Base Squadron concept of operations.

"The Air Force, and specifically ACC, needs to refine and clearly articulate expectations for the role of a lead wing as an instrument of air power in support of strategic national



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Sarah Dove

**U.S. Air Force members of the utilize computer communication systems during the Agile Flag 21-2 experiment at Naval Outlying Landing Field Choctaw, Florida, May 3, 2021. Air Combat Command developed the Agile Flag 21-2 experiment to create a lead wing, aligning squadrons from different locations under a single commander, enhancing their readiness as a team before deploying into a contested environment.**

objectives," said Lt. Col. Andrew Frasch, ACC Operations Dynamic Force Employment chief.

Nearly 200 personnel from five ACC bases worked together, as an ABS, to support simulated joint force air component commander missions with combat and mobility aircraft.

"It (Agile Combat Employment) allows a pick-up-and-move capability that provides combatant commanders with task-organized, trained, prepared and ready forces to deploy and immediately generate combat power from positions of advantage on a very short timeline," said Lt. Col. Douglas Kabel, ACC/A35 Agility, Force Generation and SAP Integration chief.

Maintainers from Seymour Johnson AFB's 4th Maintenance Group and the 27th

See **AGILE** Page 18



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Sarah Dove

**A military working dog attached to the 4th Fighter Wing, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, waits during the Agile Flag experiment at Naval Outlying Landing Field Choctaw, Florida, May 3, 2021.**

## AFMC Autism at Work program open to students on spectrum

Estella Holmes

AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) — The Air Force Materiel Command's record of hiring and supporting workers with disabilities is further emphasized by a Workforce Recruitment Program initiative for those with a diagnosis on the autism spectrum.

Autism at Work, a collaborative effort between AFMC and Wright State University, is approaching its third year. It is designed to give the college student, or recent graduate, the opportunity to gain work experience in a paid summer-intern work program as an Air Force civilian.

"Autism at Work is one of a kind initiative with the power to launch a student or pending graduate into a work environment which might be otherwise out of their reach," said Kristine Billings, AFMC Affirmative Employment Program strategic advisor.

Wright State provides the number of students who fall on the autism spectrum and have an interest in pursuing an internship and pairs the student's education with the available summer Air Force civilian positions.

The AFMC Workforce Recruitment Program recruits a mentor for each intern.

"We like to pair each participant in the program with a mentor who has a relationship with autism, meaning there is a family member, co-worker or friend with the condition," said Rebecca Traynor, Human Resources Disability program manager.

Mentors are not a requirement of the Workforce Recruitment Program, but "something we like to do," Traynor said.

Throughout the program, the intern works with an experienced mentor who has agreed to invest extra time to smooth

See **AUTISM** Page 20

# Palliative care provides comfort to COVID-19 patients, families

Terry J. Goodman

MHS COMMUNICATIONS

When COVID-19 was spreading across Italy in February 2020, all eyes at David Grant U.S. Air Force Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, California were fixated on the unfolding pandemic, realizing their hospital may potentially be one of the first to be impacted.

Air Force Lt. Col. Laurie Migliore, acting director, Clinical Investigation Facility and director of Biobehavioral Research, along with essential medical personnel were charged with reviewing Grant's Crisis Standards of Care, particularly the availability of palliative care for potential COVID-19 patients.

Migliore said it became evident from seeing the death rates in Italy that DGMC may be impacted with unprecedented numbers of critically ill and potentially dying patients. They had to be ready to provide both medical and palliative care.

"Our goal was to develop a point of care tool that was targeted, practical and easy to use by frontline medical providers," said Migliore, who is also a registered nurse. "As the pandemic began to spread throughout the country, the volume of information evolved from scarce to the point of overwhelming."

Migliore developed a toolkit to provide guidance and information to medical personnel in four areas:

- Basic understanding of palliative care and palliative care principles
- Communication strategies and resources (getting on the same page, scripts)
- Symptom management (alleviating pain, breathlessness, anxiety, etc.)
- Support for caregivers (dealing with blame, guilt, anger, grief, death/dying)

Palliative care is specialty medical care for individuals with serious illnesses and is often provided by specially-trained teams of doctors, nurses, social workers, chaplains, and therapists.

Air Force Reserve Col. Stephen Hernandez, who was activated and deployed to New York City in April 2020, supported FEMA-led operations in New York. During his deployment, he served as the deputy team lead at Lincoln Medical Center in the Bronx, New York. He became a wealth of knowledge for Migliore with direct exposure to COVID-19 patients and their palliative needs.

During Hernandez's six weeks at the medical center, palliative care for COVID-19 patients was almost non-existent. He stated if the frontline medical staff had access to something similar to the toolkit the Grant team is developing, they could have focused more on providing palliative care rather than only life-prolonging care.

"Palliative care is important during a pandemic to optimize patient and family quality of life and to mitigate suffering among people with a serious illness," said Hernandez, who served as the chief nurse for more than 60 other reservists providing care at Lincoln. "It also has the potential to maximize and conserve limited resources to focus on seriously ill patients who have a higher likelihood of recovery."

Based on the evolving pandemic and feedback from Hernandez, Migliore and the staff supporting the project began a PICO (Population, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome and Time) analysis, literature review and toolkit development.

They also submitted a grant proposal to purchase tablets and other technology required to provide communication between patients and their families.



Photo by: Army National Guard photo illustration by Staff Sgt. Eddie Siguenza

**Air Force 2nd Lt. Aundrea Temple, assigned to the 60th Medical Group, 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base, California, cares for a patient at Dameron Hospital, California.**

Migliore said that the PICO analysis and literature review identified three primary needs by staff and patients during the pandemic.

- Critical need for frontline/primary care staff to receive rapid palliative care training
- Access to existing palliative care specialists as consultants and subject matter experts
- Need for regular palliative education and training

About a year after the project began, the toolkit is now available, empowering frontline medical staff and bridging the gap in palliative care.

"The toolkit focuses on palliative care, communication, symptom management, and support of caregivers," said Migliore, who was personally affected during the pandemic and benefited from information the toolkit provided to the staff, taking care of her husband and using the means of communication the tablets provided.



Photo by: Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Eddie Siguenza

**Air Force Maj. Alisha Florence and Senior Airman Rachael Tuczynski, nurses assigned to the 60th Medical Group, 60th AMW, Travis Air Force Base, California, perform patient checks at Adventist Health Lodi Memorial hospital in Lodi, California, July 29, 2020.**

Her husband was admitted to Grant's ICU with cardiac issues during the pandemic.

"When I brought him to the emergency room I wasn't prepared for him to be admitted, I thought that he would get some medications, stabilize, and return home," she said.

Instead, he was admitted from the emergency room to the intensive care unit and the only means for them to communicate was through the tablets provided by the pilot program.

"The nurse taking care of my husband learned that I was

See **CARE** Page 15

# Why does my kid's school need to know we are military?

Lt. Col. Christina Karvwnaris  
AIR UNIVERSITY

Every year my kid's school asks me - multiple times - if we are military. It doesn't matter where we live, they always want to know ... during registration, enrollment, and mid-semester! Why do they care? Why does it matter? Should I tell them? For the longest time, I answered "No," because I figured it was none of their business. It turns out I was WRONG! There are at least three reasons why schools ask for military affiliation.

First, teachers want to know. Most are genuinely concerned about their students. They want to understand the children, so they can support them better.

Military students are considered "highly mobile," meaning they move every few years. According to the Department of Defense Education Activity, "The average military family will move six to nine times during a school career. That's... three times more frequently than non-military families." Teachers who know some of their students in their class are military kids can help ease their transition into the new school.

Second is money. President Truman established the Federal Impact Aid program in 1950 to reimburse school districts for the lost revenue and additional costs associated with nontaxable Federal properties,

See MILITARY KIDS Page 9

# Congratulations Class of 2021

Graduation time is here. With the extended length of time due to the pandemic, most graduation ceremonies will again this year be virtual. The Daily Republic would like to help the class of 2021 capture their memories for a lifetime.

On Sunday, June 13th the Daily Republic will publish our annual Graduation keepsake section which will include photo pages honoring this year's graduates, from Preschool through College/Tech Schools.

Make sure your graduate is memorialized in this special section.

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## Class of 2021



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Yourtown High School

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# Deployment Transition Center resumes in-person services

Senior Airman Daniel Sanchez  
86TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Ramstein Air Base, Germany (AFNS) — The Deployment Transition Center remained active in multiple ways during the COVID-19 pandemic, and continues its mission of providing services for military members returning home from deployment.

The DTC is a unique active duty Air Force detachment of the 86th Mission Support Group based at Ramstein Air Base, with an objective to enhance post-deployment outcomes of service members and government civilians.

"The main mission is to provide reintegration skills and decompression opportunities for deployed personnel who are transitioning out of the deployed environment back to home life," said Tech. Sgt. Jessica Martinez Santana, 86th MSG Detachment 1 mission set manager.

The center was determined to be logistically and geographically as the best location to receive military members returning home from



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Daniel Sanchez

**U.S. Air Force Technical Sgt. Jessica Martinez Santana, 86th Mission Support Group Detachment 1 mission set manager, far left, shows Deployment Transition Center participants some free donated items at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, May 4, 2021.**

deployments overseas.

The DTC's goal is for returning personnel to focus on relaxation, decompression and reintegration strategies designed to reduce post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms. Under normal operations, the DTC offers classroom events with group discussions and a facility with extensive recreational and relaxation equipment. It also offers local

outings to visit German cultural centers and historical landmarks.

When Germany closed borders in March of 2020 due to COVID-19, the DTC adapted and developed a static virtual DTC program with supplemental materials designed to meet the needs of 1,200 personnel who were nominated

See DTC Page 8

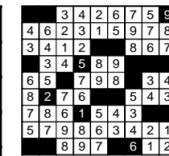
## Puzzles

### STR8TS

No. 543 Tough



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



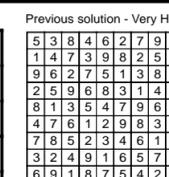
How to beat Str8ts - Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5]. 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. 543 Easy



The solutions will be published here in the next issue.



To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely. For many strategies, hints and tips, visit [www.sudokuwiki.org](http://www.sudokuwiki.org). If you like Str8ts, Sudoku and other puzzles, check out our books, iPhone/iPad Apps and much more from our store at [www.str8ts.com](http://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.  
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# Military medicine heroes recognized for COVID-19 pandemic response

Travis Airman among honorees

Janet A. Aker  
MHS COMMUNICATIONS

The COVID-19 pandemic will have a lifetime impact on how military medicine is conducted, Defense Health Agency Director Army Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Ronald Place told the Henry M. Jackson Foundation (HJF) for the Advancement of Military Medicine "Heroes of Military Medicine" awards ceremony May 6, in Washington, D.C.

"The events of the past year will have profound effects on medicine, military medicine, for years to come in how we prepare for threats, how we organize, who we organize alongside of in making the system better for everyone," Place said.

Of the honorees and the whole-of-America effort to detect and mitigate the impact of the virus, he said, "Success requires shared commitments and shared responsibilities." Readiness, he said, "means being ready for anything. This is what our future looks like."

"That's what the Military Health System does best," Place said, with "medical teams coming together to improve health care for those we serve, whether that is caring for a wounded soldier in Afghanistan or a retired Marine battling a novel infectious disease."

"Dr. Terry Adirim, acting assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, told attendees: "As the complexity of bringing health care to all military members around the globe has increased, so too has our appreciation for the broad spectrum of skills that make military medicine truly world class. Tonight, we just don't recognize clinicians, we recognize laboratory expertise, logistics professionals, and acquisition specialists."

"This is a total team effort that exemplifies military medicine's potential during the COVID-19 pandemic," Adirim

said. "Perhaps more than ever before, we have pushed laboratories to deliver more results faster, we've asked acquisition systems to produce equipment at a wartime scope and scale, and we've relied on our logisticians to figure out how to get vaccines delivered around the world. These are unprecedented facts."

The foundation recognized as its senior leader honoree Army Gen. Gustavo Perna, the chief operating officer for the federal COVID-19 vaccines/therapeutics operation (Operation Warp Speed). He co-leads the partnership to accelerate the development, manufacturing, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics.

Said HJF president and CEO, Dr. Joseph Carvalho of Perna: "There was no individual in this country better positioned to lead the whole-of-government, public-private logistics operation to ensure every eligible American had ready access to the newly developed vaccines. History will show this critical aspect of supply chain logistics was accomplished with precision. For that, the nation owes a debt of gratitude to this senior leader and his management team."

In his previous assignment, Perna served as the 19th general commander of U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC), one of the Army's largest commands.

Introducing Air Force military medicine honoree Lt. Col.



Courtesy photo

**DHA Director Dr. Ronald Place tells HJF awards ceremony that the COVID-19 pandemic will have a lifetime impact on how military medicine is conducted.**

Patrick Kennedy was Air Force Maj. Gen. Dorothy Hogg, surgeon general of the Air Force. She quoted poet/writer Maya Angelou about who is a hero - "a person really intent on making this a better place" - and said "this is exactly was Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Kennedy has done."

Kennedy is the director of the 60th Medical Group's Clinical Investigation Facility at Travis Air Force Base, California. He supports the Air Force Medical Service line and readiness mission research requirements by addressing medical capability gaps to improve health outcomes.

Discussing the pandemic, Kennedy said: "The ambiguity of COVID-19 drove my team on every front to learn more."

Having worked on the

See HEROES Page 15

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## DTC

From Page 7

to attend the program in the coming months. While local restrictions and a stop movement order from the Department of the Defense prohibited travel into Germany, the center found creative ways to remain active supporting Ramstein AB personnel.

"As the months of lockdown and negative COVID-19 news mounted, the opportunity to utilize the DTC's three master resilience trainers and over 20 resilience training assistants presented itself in the form of an on-base resilience outreach program," said Lt. Col. Ken Sterling, 86th MSG Det 1 commander.

Ramstein personnel were invited to the center for resilience classes and small group sessions. According to Sterling, the center has now hosted more than 1,250 personnel and delivered more than 2,800 resilience classes. These sessions, Sterling said, even helped to prevent three suicides.

A live virtual DTC program was also developed to facilitate a more interactive experience. This provided members globally with a more in-classroom experience, usually held during their post-

deployment quarantine.

"Returning deployers who came into the live virtual DTC with an open mind had a generally positive experience during the program and exited with a broader understanding of available resources, and willingness to ask for help if needed," Santana said.

By adjusting to the challenges brought on by the pandemic, the DTC developed new programs that expanded their capabilities and left an impact on those who would have otherwise missed this opportunity.

"Both the outreach program and virtual DTC were implemented as a means to provide support to service members in need while the traditional in-person program was too risky to utilize during COVID-19," Sterling said.

In-person services for returning deployers resumed in January, and the staff works hard to remain flexible and satisfy all health requirements to remain open for the foreseeable future. In April, new guidance made it easier for fully vaccinated arrivals to make use of the center's services. These individuals can take part in DTC off-base German outings and take advantage of all available COVID-19 compliant on-base recreation, shopping and dining opportunities.

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## Military Kids

From Page 6

like a base or a VA facility. According to the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, most public school districts are funded primarily through local taxes and fees. When you live in military housing, shop at the Exchange, or fill up your gas tank on base, you aren't paying local taxes or fees, reducing funding for the community's schools. The Federal Impact Aid program offsets this lost revenue, but school districts can only apply if enough families disclose their military affiliation, each fall.

Third is the Military Student Identifier. The Federal Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 established the MSI. The ESSA sought to improve academic achievement for vulnerable sub-populations. Military children are included because of their frequent moves. Most military families have their own tale of how PCSing has disrupted their children's learning.

Your child started studying French? Great, except the new school only offers Spanish. Your child struggles with a learning disability and you finally have a good support system in place? Get ready to start all over again, because you are moving to a new state with different policies and a new school with different programs.

Frequent moves can also present military children with emotional challenges. How often has your child been the "new kid"? Sometimes little things, like finding kids to eat lunch with, can be an issue. Some military children thrive on being the "new student," but others struggle with it. The MSI may sound abstract, but it can help monitor the performance of military students as a group, without identifying them individually. When problems or trends appear for "MSI students," schools or the installation can establish programs designed just for military kids. But this is only possible if enough military families disclose their military affiliation.

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# 60th SFS and CDCR complete K-9 training



U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Alexander Merchak

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jennifer James, 60th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, gives a command to MWD Daria during a joint training exercise April 27, 2021, at Travis Air Force Base, California. California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation K-9 officers came to Travis AFB to train with the 60th SFS MWD handlers. The collaboration advanced the MWD capabilities on multiple levels and improved the relationship with the CDCR and other law enforcement agencies.

## Nicholas Pilch

60TH AIR MOBILITY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — K-9 correctional officers from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation trained with the 60th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handlers, April 27 – 29.

The CDCR conducted three separate, three-day training events at three different site locations throughout Northern California, with Travis AFB as one of the sites.

“With this joint training and partnership, we will be facilitating some of the training to help advance the CDCR

dog teams as well as our own, said Staff Sgt. Roniel Tolentino, 60th SFS, MWD trainer.

The CDCR brought in 25 dog teams, each specializing in different abilities to find contraband, i.e., drugs, bombs or other materials that could be dangerous or illegal.

“The end goal of the training is twofold,” Tolentino said. “First, it enhances our MWD capabilities on multiple levels and second, it improves our relationship with the CDCR and other law enforcement agencies – not only for 60th SFS/MWD sections, but with all sections within the 60th SFS.”

Two MWD handlers, staff sergeants Jennifer James

and Anna Weaver, from the 60th SFS participated in the training.

“This training was a great opportunity to not only get more experience, but to also see how outside law enforcement (and) K-9 handlers operate,” Weaver said.

Weaver echoed Tolentino explaining that the joint-training was beneficial for both agencies because they were able to learn from each other which builds for stronger interagency relationships.

“It was nice to see where they were training-wise,” she said. “We can help each other, it makes for great relationships on the outside and both of us benefit in the long run.”



Left: U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jennifer James, 60th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, and MWD Daria, search a mannequin during a joint training exercise at Travis Air Force Base, California, April 27, 2021.

Bottom left: Daria, 60th SFS military working dog, searches a room during a joint training exercise at Travis Air Force Base, California, April 27, 2021.

Bottom right: U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Anna Weaver, 60th SFS military working dog handler, gives a command to MWD Daria during a training course at Travis Air Force Base, California, April 27, 2021.





U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Cameron Otte

**U.S. Air Force 2nd Lt. Germaine Seisa, 60th Logistic Readiness Squadron officer in charge of vehicle management, tries on the Aerial Porter Exoskeleton at Travis Air Force Base, California, May 14, 2021. The Aerial Porter Exoskeleton is a piece of equipment designed to reduce strain when lifting various items.**

### Exoskeleton

From Page 3

load bearing.

“This suit’s core function is to help us lift, but can also be used in other ways,” said Airman 1st Class Kyle Sunderman, 60th Aerial Port Squadron ramp serviceman. “During a load, fatigue can be a real issue and these exoskeletons really take a lot of the strain away.”

However, as with any new piece of equipment, it is not without fault, but the Airmen say that they still feel safe.

“There are small things here and there where the suits

can be improved to make them more user friendly,” said Airman 1st Class Xavier Archangel, 60th APS aerial porter. “But there is no danger and these suits don’t have the strength to overpower the user so I feel completely safe in it.”

“These suits are pretty light,” said Archangel. “You hardly notice you are wearing them aside from the bulk around the waist. “But other than that, I could honestly wear these for an extended period with no problems if necessary.”

The Aerial Porter Exoskeleton is still in its prototype stage and will continue to be updated as data is recorded.



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## Heroes

From Page 8

Ebola crisis, Kennedy said: "I was aware of the potential of a large-scale respiratory pandemic from the onset. Particularly of concern was the high transmissibility rate."

Kennedy manages more than 50 human/animal research protocols, a \$31.8 million budget, and a 45-member staff that includes physicians, nurses, scientists, and support personnel, according to HJF. In addition, he oversees regulatory compliance with federal/DOD/Air Force research guidelines.

He has been honored for his work on the Ebola outbreak, for improving wounded soldier outcomes at Bagram Air Field

in Afghanistan, and for his work on an advisory committee to convey and assess biosafety security risks to the Assistant Secretary of Defense on nuclear, biological, and chemical entities, HJF said.

The annual awards "recognize outstanding contributions by senior military leaders and medical professionals, as well as civilians who have distinguished themselves through excellence and dedication to advancing military medicine and enhancing the lives and health of our nation's wounded, ill, and injured service members, veterans, and their families."

Also honored during the ceremony were COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, Janssen, AstraZeneca and Sanofi-Pasteur.

## Care

From Page 5

one of the team leads for the project," Migliore added. "She told me how grateful the staff was for the tablets and how helpful they were for patients and staff during the visitor restrictions."

The toolkit is now available to all DHA medical professionals on the organization's internal website.

According to Migliore, the pilot is concluding soon and the results and lessons learned will be published and made available to military hospitals and clinics, incorporating the COVID-19 Palliative Care Toolkit into inpatient practices.

"We worked out some significant challenges despite constantly deploying staff and issues with inpatient internet capability," she said. "We

incorporated feedback from the field to refine the contents for a simple yet relevant and practical resource."

The short-term goal of the pilot was to provide immediate palliative care resources to medical staff based on evidence and vetted by palliative care subject-matter experts for immediate use during the pandemic. The long-range objective is to develop centralized, standardized resources for palliative care use throughout the Military Health System.

"The enterprise would benefit from standard order sets, protocols, and simulation training for staff/patient communication for goals of care during high-stress crisis situations," Migliore said. "Ultimately, the impact (of palliative care) is improved quality of life, decreased suffering, and satisfied patients and families."

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U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Dylan Nuckolls  
**Airman 1st Class Paul Olexa, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion apprentice, pitches an idea called the Mag Rug during a Spark Tank competition at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Oct. 9, 2020.**

## Whiteman Airman creates smart maintenance mat to prevent foreign object debris

**Senior Airman Parker J. McCauley**  
 509TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE, Mo. (AFNS) — Foreign object debris, or FOD, can come from a variety of sources and presents a major hazard to aircraft around the world, costing the aviation industry an estimated \$4 billion in repairs each year.

One Whiteman Air Force Base Airman took it upon himself to try to prevent these maintenance costs after learning about the risks of FOD and the importance of having good attention to detail on the flight line.

"From the moment I walked onto the flight line, I was blown away by the sheer power of the B-2 (Spirit)s and the Airmen who work around them," said Airman 1st Class Paul Olexa, 509th Bomb Wing Innovation Office assistant, originally assigned to the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "I began to learn the process for removing, inspecting, and installing parts. I watched how Airmen handled tools, parts, and where they placed objects."

Seeing the trends for item placement and the chance of losing parts or tools, Olexa realized something needed to be done to keep track of these items. Originally he focused on the magnetic aspect of many parts and tools as a way to keep track of them.

Before joining the military, Olexa worked as an area manager within a factory, this industrial background exposed him to a variety of floor mats that serve a variety of purposes. This experience helped him develop a floor mat that would potentially reduce FOD. The concept started as a magnetic floor mat and evolved to incorporate smart technology in order to analyze and track FOD.

"The FOD mat is a durable polymer mat capable of detecting and locating metallic and non-metallic objects using a variety of sensors," Olexa said. "Doing so will allow users to easily find FOD thus reducing the risk of damage, property damage, labor hours, and mission delays."

With up to eight hours of battery life, the mats will be able to be used throughout various maintenance tasks and will record data for the items that fall on them.

"Each item dropped on the mat will be assigned a unique

See FLOOR MAT Page 18

## Telework

From Page 3

commander, or equivalent, with input from supervisors. Commanders, or equivalent, will consider the nature of the work performed, and assess whether permitting telework or remote work would diminish the ability to perform successfully or negatively impact the mission. Even if a specific position is determined ineligible for telework or remote work, there may be circumstances when the Airman/Guardian in this position may be considered for telework on an emergency or situational basis.

"Telework and remote work provides additional tools and options to help us recruit and retain the right talent to compete in the high-end future fight," said Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, Air Force deputy

chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. "With remote work, we can now attract someone with the specialized skills we need and not require them to relocate when it makes sense for the mission, the individual and a member's development. We recognize the value these flexible work arrangements can have, in some circumstances, to enhance work-life balance and maximize organizational productivity."

The duties and tasks of staff positions are generally more suited for full-time telework and remote work.

"Although not everyone will be a candidate for tele and remote work, allowing this flexibility to those who are makes it easier to serve," Kelly said.

Remote work differs from telework in that it is a permanent arrangement in which employees perform official duties at an approved

alternative location, but not necessarily in the vicinity of the unit to which they are assigned. For civilians, this location may be in or outside of the local commuting area of the regular worksite, but they aren't required to report to the regular worksite on any frequent, regular or recurring basis. For service members approved to work remotely, they will perform work in an operating location that is geographically separated from their assigned unit. Arrangements would be made to gain support from the closest installation.

The updated guidance also outlines conditions for designation of an official worksite, equipment and office supplies, emergency situations, work schedules and compensation, time and attendance, telework training, performance management, and telework and remote work denial and termination.

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## Floor Mat

From Page 16

ID and will be recorded in a database," Olexa said. "Metrics recorded on the database will be the item location, time of drop and time of retrieval. It will also include a machine learning model for object identification."

While the FOD mat was developed for use during military aircraft maintenance, Olexa stated there will be a public version with Wi-Fi and Bluetooth capabilities along with a variety of sizes to fit the needs of different industries.

The mats will be modular and will be able to be connected to form larger mats. They can also be stacked for storage and charging.

The initial prototype, which will be no larger than a pizza box, is undergoing development by Texas A&M University engineering students for their capstone project. The capstone project partners students with innovators and industry professionals, giving them the opportunity to use the skills and knowledge they've acquired to produce and design real-world projects.

"Innovation is the method by which we maintain or in some areas, regain our competitive edge in every warfighting domain," said Capt. Benjamin Fogarty, 509th Bomb Wing Innovation Office director. "It is the diametric opposite of complacency; innovation requires us to take the initiative and not accept the status quo, but

instead strive for something better."

Fogarty added that innovation comes to play in the lives of Airmen by improving efficiency, quality of work and providing new insight to units that choose to innovate.

"What we are finding is that better forms of communication and the ability to understand data in real-time is a cross-enterprise obstacle now for the Air Force and we are pursuing numerous parallel lines of effort to solve this ubiquitous problem," Fogarty said.

The 509th BW Innovation Office along with innovation teams across the Air Force are working together to solve problems and overcome obstacles in more efficient, cost effective and creative ways by opening the door for new ideas and technology.

"AIC Olexa has so far been unique in his success, and has done an extraordinary thing by putting himself out there and having the persistence to carry his idea to fruition," Fogarty said. "He had good leaders who pointed him in the right direction. We need more of our leaders to step up and do the same for their Airmen. We need them to tell their Airmen, 'That's a great idea and the innovation office can help you make it a reality. I've seen them do it.'"

## Agile

From Page 4

Fighter Squadron from the 1st Fighter Wing at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, worked alongside Airmen from the 4th Logistics Readiness Squadron to receive, refuel and rearm aircraft participating in the experiment.

"This experiment mimics a deployed environment," said Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Newson, 336th Air Maintenance Unit chief. "My team knows how to turn jets all day. [But] having a FOB (forward operating base) like this presents the most realistic training environment. It's truly testing our ability to work and win in any environment."

Participating support personnel from Seymour Johnson

AFB's 4th Civil Engineering and 4th Force Support Squadrons, also tested their combat capabilities by constructing deployed FOB staging facilities at NOLF Choctaw for contingency operations over a three-day period.

"It was found in earlier versions that there had to be a robust support aspect to the exercise to ensure mission success and the units came together under the ABS and delivered efficient and flexible support to a variety of air combat capabilities," said 1st Lt. Brett Gaumont, 4th CES.

Defenders from the 322nd Base Defense Squadron at Moody AFB, Georgia also joined in by providing perimeter security and asset defense for aircraft to telecommunications Airmen from the 51st Combat Communications Squadron, Robins

AFB, Georgia. "[This experiment] is larger than anything that we've done in the past, logistically and asset-wise," Gaumont said.

Airmen and Guardians, who slept in tents, worked long hours in wet or dirty conditions, dealt with heat, humidity and insects while eating Meals-Ready-to-Eat for almost a week agreed the scope and scale of Agile Flag 21-2 tested their readiness and lethality in new ways while also preparing them for future contingency operations.

"Any time we have the opportunity to use a dedicated venue to address and experiment with both force presentation and agile combat employment concepts and tactics, techniques and procedure development, it's a victory for our Air Force," Frasch said.

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**Left:** Left to right, U.S. Air Force Capt. Tom Neuman, 60th Air Mobility Wing Staff Judge Advocate chief of general law, Tech. Sgt. Andrea Abdi, 60th AMW SJA noncommissioned officer in charge of general law, Chief Master Sgt. Jesenia Ortiz, 60th Operations Support Squadron superintendent, and Col. Corey Simmons, 60th AMW commander, participate in a will execution ceremony, during Leadership Rounds at the base legal office at Travis Air Force Base, California, May 14, 2021. The Leadership Rounds program provides 60th AMW leadership an opportunity to interact with Airmen and receive a detailed view of each mission performed at Travis AFB.

**Bottom left:** U.S. Air Force Capt. Dayna Cheek, 60th AMW Staff Judge Advocate chief of military justice, briefs Col. Corey Simmons, 60th AMW commander, during Wing Leadership Rounds at the base legal office at Travis Air Force Base, California, May 14, 2021.

**Bottom right:** U.S. Air Force Capt. Andrew Loynaz, third from right, 60th AMW Staff Judge Advocate chief of non-judicial punishment, briefs Col. Corey Simmons, center, 60th AMW commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Jesenia Ortiz, front left, 60th Operations Support Squadron superintendent, during Wing Leadership Rounds at the base legal office at Travis Air Force Base, California, May 14, 2021.

U.S. Air Force photos by Nicholas Pilch

# Leadership... MAKING ROUNDS



## Autism

From Page 4

challenges for the new worker with the autism challenge. This could mean anything from explaining tasks in greater detail, to providing instructions more times than might be required of another intern.

Traynor explained that working for the federal government versus the civilian realm is very different and can be daunting. Some interns are not familiar with the many facets of federal service or a military installation. Therefore, a mentor contributes to the positive experience for the intern.

"It's satisfying for the intern and the mentor when the supervisor can say, 'I really like this intern's work ethic' and would like to make this a permanent position to extend past the initial summer hire," Traynor said.

The AFMC Workforce Recruitment Program is starting to recruit for 2021 summer intern positions now by polling organizations to determine which have a need for interns and are prepared to make the greater commitment of providing an opportunity for a student who falls on the Autism spectrum.

The Autism at Work program is funded through the Workforce Recruitment Program, an internship initiative co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor and the Department of Defense. Candidates with disabilities have the chance to work in offices in the Department of Defense at no cost to the organization.

Summer intern positions run from June through September.

The Air Force currently has a 1.57% participation rate of individuals with targeted disabilities, which is approaching, but still short of, the federal goal of 2%.

"Autism at Work currently only exists on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, but we are hoping other bases within the command will use the model and pick up the program," Billings said.

An advertisement for Travis Credit Union. At the top, there is a logo with a star and the text "TRAVIS CREDIT UNION". Below the logo is a photograph of a man in a military uniform smiling and holding a young child. The background of the photo shows a house with an American flag. Below the photo, the text reads: "YOUR SERVICE MATTERS AT TRAVIS CREDIT UNION" in large white letters, followed by "Go with a recognized financial leader serving the military and their families since 1951." in smaller blue letters.

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