60th AES stands up at Travis
Tailwind

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Among the emotions people feel during months of stay-at-home orders and wearing face masks, one that allows the wearer's face to be seen is lip reading.

That is why Danielle Lee Loera opened a window to a more hopeful perspective. The spouse of a technical sergeant at Travis Air Force Base, California, Loera has designed and produced masks with a covering that allows the wearer's mouth to be visible, helping communicate words as well as emotions.

After seeing a friend's social media post of just such a mask, Loera, who has fashioned more than 1,400 personalized masks since the COVID-19 crisis began, said she was inspired to make some kind of temporary covering for the mouth.

“I loved the idea of a wino- dow mask,” she said recently via email. “I was immediately smitten with the idea of being able to see flu- cial expressions, and I rec- ognized, in my own life, just how important a smile is.”

Initial motivation was to make masks that al- lowed for reading. The high school she attended was the only one in its district for those who are deaf or partially deaf, said Loera, who also studied American Sign Language. Helping the hearing impaired is an issue she takes to heart. “I love that facial ex- pressions and lip read- ing are as much a part of the language of sign as the hands,” she said.

One recipient of Loera’s inclusive masks was Tracy Obanion, a Fairfield, Cali- fornia, resident who was eager to see a mask that allows for lip reading. She was so happy she was ready to recite the masks. The two connected via social media after Loera posted a photo of herself earlier.

“I love you in American Sign Language while wearing a face mask with a window,” Obanion says.

The family that stays togeth- er, airmen say, will be better together.

Military service members, veterans and their families can submit a pho- to of themselves wearing face masks in support of American Sign Language (ASL) and American Sign Language (ASL) and Personal Appearance of Air Force Per- sonnel.

The standard was relaxed due to the changed communication mandates due to COVID-19 concerns, along with other physical distancing guide- lines and necessity to serve in gloves and face masks.

Grooming standards have not been enforced since the COVID-19 pandemic began, said she has made more than 900 face coverings, including masks with a window over the mouth mask, “I love you” in American Sign Language while wearing a face mask with a window.

Shoppers ‘better together’

Thanks to sweeps from June 19 to July 12, six winners worldwide will win a prize package of a $500 gift card to the Exchange’s community Hub page at https://bit.ly/YouServed.

For complete rules and to enter, shoppers can visit ShoppieExchange.com/sweep- stakes. No purchase is necessary to enter or win.

GI directs to investigate racial disparities in service

The review will assess and make changes to the things commanders do, the people they work with, and the systems we have. The review will assess and make changes to the things commanders do, the people they work with, and the systems we have.

ATTENTION: ALL MILITARY SPOUSES

You can find out more on the Ex- change’s community Hub page at https://bit.ly/YouServed.}

Family Eye Doctors near Travis AFB

You Served. You Save.

Shoppers ‘better together’

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Civilian Health Promotion Services June is Men’s Health Month, a time to emphasize men’s well-being and create awareness by providing men with potential tips and information that can contribute to maintaining their health at its peak.

While men and women are both different in their own ways, there are a few health conditions that men are more susceptible to compared to women, men are more likely to:

• Smoke and drink.
• Put off regular checkups and medical care.
• Be obese.
• Have high cholesterol levels.
• Have high blood pressure.
• Have diabetes.
• Have kidney disease.
• Have heart disease.
• Have cancer.
• Have stroke.
• Be functionally disabled.

Additionally the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also states in 2017:

• 70%-89% of sudden cardiopulmonary arrests in civilians are due to heart disease.
• Put off regular checkups and medical care.
• Smoke and drink.

While men and women are different in their own health issues, both men and women have health a top priority. The following Travis employees are approved as leave recipients through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. Leave is additionally provided as leave through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program for how to lead a well-rounded, healthy lifestyle.

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

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

Leanne Black, 14th Maintenance Squadron; Joseph Dunkle, 86th Airlift Wing; Dawniment Pettigrew, 86th Airlift Wing; John Melton, 86th Airlift Wing; Elizabeth Thompson, 86th Medical Support Squadron; Megan Schiavo, 86th/437th Medical Group; Tricia McKee, 86th Force Support Squadron; Donna Hardy, 86th Force Support Squadron; Tricia James, 86th Force Support Squadron; Merissa Tanksley, 86th Force Support Squadron; Tina Riddle, 86th Force Support Squadron; and Celia Moreau, 86th Force Support Squadron.

An Airman assigned to the 24th Special Operations Wing holds a smartphone with the COVID-19 health monitoring program June 2. An Airman assigned to the 24th Special Operations Wing holds a smartphone with the COVID-19 health monitoring program June 2.

Airman 1st Class Jaden Ford
Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. — The Air Force empowers its Airmen to be innovative in outcome-to-outpatient avenues by solving problems they encounter every day.

The Air Force is moving faster, smarter and outmaneuver adversaries by maintaining its edge. The following Travis employees are approved as leave recipients through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program for how to lead a well-rounded, healthy lifestyle.

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Dyess Airmen revolutionize C-130 maintenance

Tech. Sgt. Troy Patterson

DYESS AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Purists may argue that nothing can replace real-world, hands-on learning. Some may say that virtual reality (VR), or VR platforms are simply too vivid or go too far, but for Airmen at Dyess Air Force Base, VR technology is transforming the way the C-130 Super Hercules maintainers are learning and perfecting their craft.

“Two maintainers in particular had led the initiative to make the 317th MXG instructors and Tech. Sgt. Timothy Hogge and U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Clinton, demonstrate the capabilities of the 317th MXG’s VR lab at immersively and realistic VR training environment. Since 2019, 317th MXG’s instructors Tech. Sgt. Timothy Hogge and U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Clinton have done everything, from working with civilians as a part of a software developers team to create the lab, to actually learning, some may say that virtual reality can replace real-world, hands-on learning. The VR lab at Dyess Air Force Base, VR technology is transforming the way the C-130 Super Hercules maintainers are learning and perfecting their craft. At the fall of 2019, Hogge and Clinton created an orientation and familiarization training program to make the VR lab truly effective.

“The training team’s curriculum, combined with innovative VR technology, creates a space where maintenance Dyess Airmen can train and qualify on maintenance essential tasks. ‘This is a significant but necessary step for the Air Force, said Gen. Arnold W. Bunch Jr., AFMC commander. ‘One of the more impressive aspects of the program to make the VR lab truly effective. The goal is to leverage modern digital capabilities to decrease the time it takes to move a weapon system from a concept into the hands of a warfighter, while providing the ability to adapt capabilities at speed to meet the requirements of today’s dynamic warfare environment.'

So far, this effort started from the ground up, and now, we are working with two major modifications and have a VR room with its own unique and innovative design,” Hogge said.

The VR lab boasts 16 training stations and an adjacent classroom. However, the most impressive thing about the facility isn’t necessarily its high-tech equipment. According to the 317th MXG, virtual training is useless without a learning curriculum. With that in mind, Hogge and Clinton created an orientation and familiarization training program to make the VR lab truly effective.

“ `$one of the more impressive aspects of the program to make the VR lab truly effective.'

The goal is to leverage modern digital capabilities to decrease the time it takes to move a weapon system from a concept into the hands of a warfighter, while providing the ability to adapt capabilities at speed to meet the requirements of today’s dynamic warfare environment. "One of the more impressive aspects of the program to make the VR lab truly effective," Hogge said. "This simple equation can be applied to most modern military action and shows how one element must be in concord with the right sight picture for command decision."
821st CRG’s alert force prepped for contingencies


“Travis is where we prepare for,” said Capt. Sean Drinnan, 821st Contingency Response Squadron’s assistant operations officer.

More than 200 Airmen from the 621st Contingency Response Group at Travis Air Force Base, California, assumed the responsibility to be anywhere in the world in 12 hours as of June 1. Assuming “alert” for the 821st Contingency Response Wing means members of the 921st CRG and the 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron fulfill the needs of their higher headquarters of Air Mobility Command and U.S. Transportation Command.

Normally, squadrons spend months and weeks preparing assuming alert as their opportunity to perform last-minute checks to ensure all Airmen have the necessary training and proclivities needed to meet AMC’s unit type code or UTC, taskings.

“Unfortunately, COVID had other plans,” said Maj. Ramiro Rios, 921st CRG operations officer. “But it’s given our Airmen the opportunity to be creative and find innovative ways to conduct training and still get the job done.”

Since mid-March, many of the 821st CRG Airmen have switched to teleworking to adhere to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines of physical distancing. Despite restrictions due to the coronavirus, the 921st CRG and 821st CRSS were able to prepare.

“We’re able to maintain readiness by continuing to support some GAMSS (Global Air Mobility Support System) taskings, our maintenance and security at the 621st Contingency Response Group at Travis AFB, and we are no strangers to hurricanes,” said Capt. Sean Drinnan, 821st Contingency Response Element assistant director of operations for the alert force. “We still conducted in-person training, such as tactics, operations center exercises, but we ensured safe practices of physical distancing, face coverings and we reiterated good personal hygiene.”

This type of training is required before the alert cycle, but this time was even more valuable.

“As any other military organization, we have continuity and experience when Airmen PCS (permanent change of station), and we are no exception,” said Rios. “Some of our alert force have never been on alert before, but this experience will be invaluable as new CR Airmen arrive.”

Real-world contingency experience may come sooner than many would think as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts 2020’s Atlantic hurricane season to be “above normal.” According to the NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center, the administration forecasts 13-19 named storms from June to December, with as many as six storms being major hurricanes of category 3 or higher.

“It’s to no secret that this alert time frame is historically busy and we are no strangers to hurricane support,” said Drinnan.

In previous years, the CRG has provided support for hurricanes Rita, Ike, Sandy and Michael. But the CRG has supported more hurricanes during this block; this time last year, the alert force from the 821st Contingency Response Group at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, supported the reopening of Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia to establish air-base operations as part of U.S. Central Command’s commitment to providing stability and security in the region.

“The key is we have to be ready for anything,” said Lt. Col. Robert Kline, 821st CRG commander. “We never know when that call will come in or what we’ll be supporting, but we’re ready and eager to answer that call.”

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1) U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Stone Christoff, 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron, uses a crimping tool to finish building a CAT5 cable during a "Crow's Nest" exercise April 30 near the Global Reach Deployment Center on Travis Air Force Base, California. Christoff built several CAT5 cables in order to wire the tent for future connectivity.


3) U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Stone Christoff, 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron, uses a crimping tool to finish building a CAT5 cable during a “Crow’s Nest” exercise April 30 near the Global Reach Deployment Center on Travis Air Force Base, California. Christoff built several CAT5 cables in order to wire the tent for future connectivity.
WASHINGTON — A new way of getting financial support is sweeping across the Air Force. With an online system that allows customers to request and receive online assistance with their financial concerns, the Air Force now offers a new portal that allows customers to submit inquiries and receive online assistance with their financial concerns.

The system is called Comptroller Services Portal (CSP) and is built on the cloud-based SharePoint online platform, which provides numerous features, including security, portability, flexibility, and accessibility.

CSP is built on the cloud-based SharePoint online platform, which provides numerous features, including security, portability, flexibility, and accessibility.

Capt. Carly Serratore, Secretary of the Air Force of Financial Management CSP program manager, said: “This is a 21st century customer-service tool,” said Capt. Carly Serratore, Secretary of the Air Force of Financial Management CSP program manager. “It’s now possible for customers to submit inquiries and for comptroller squadron technicians to assist customers from any location — at work, home, coffee shop or an airport terminal. It will change the way we do business as we know it, while providing better, faster and more accurate services to our customers.”

The CSP is an automated incident management application that allows customers to request and receive online assistance with their financial concerns. CSP has integrated workflows which will assist the customer in seeking help with travel pay, military pay and civilian pay. These additional capabilities will assist unit resource advisors and cost center managers in seeking help with accounting and budget support. CSP will also help streamline the financial processing and communication across the Air Force, and ofere customers access to all things financial management with quick links, knowledge articles and frequently asked questions.

CSP demystifies and streamlines our financial processes,” Serratore added. “It gives the customer control and transparency over their pay on the same user-friendly platform, regardless of where they’re stationed. It gives them the ability to do data analytics and trend analysis to target training and ultimately better serve our customers.”

CSP is built on the cloud-based SharePoint online platform, which provides numerous features, including security, portability, flexibility, and accessibility.

Dr. Adam Strang, a human performance research scientist at Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) and APRL’s director of the Signature Tracking for Optimized Nutrition and Training (STRONG) team, has been leading the back-end development of the database as well as finding new opportunities for improvement.

As a scientist, I like to lean forward and stay on the cutting edge,” Strang said. “Often that requires taking big swings and being comfortable with risk. Special tactics functions similarly, which makes a good pairing. Together we push the edge of technological capability in ways that AFRL could not accomplish alone.”

The technology proved successful in monitoring returning deployers, safeguarding families from health risks, as well as helping outgoing deployers meet specific country clearance requirements. The 24th SOW team also helped integrate the technology at the 1st Special Operations Medical Group at Hurlburt Field and 27th Special Operations Medical Group at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico, to improve pre-deployment health for almost 200 air commandos.

“In truth, I believe that we are only scratching the surface of its capabilities,” Engelson said. “As our providers and command integrators work together, our knowledge will grow. This is a huge step in our customer service mission.”

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CENTURY 21

As a scientist, I like to lean forward and stay on the cutting edge. — Dr. Adam Strang

"Pending successful field testing, the bracket can be manufactured for the support of multiple aircraft," Bunch said. "This is just the beginning. It's still a fairly new technology, but it's becoming much more readily available.

"A number of defense and non-defense industries have made a culture shift to integrating digital tools and processes in every part of their operations, incorporating digital tools and processes across our enterprise to deliver warfighter capabilities faster and more efficiently at a cheaper price than ever before," he said. "This is critical to our support of the National Defense Strategy. This is an absolute necessity for our warfighters to remain competitive."
personally, professionally, and administratively, so that all Air- men, both today and tomor- row, appreciate the value of diversity and can serve in an environment where they can reach their full potential. I’m thinking about all the answers on how to create such an environment whether in-PACAF or across our Air Force. I’m thinking about without clear-cut answers. I just want to have the wisdom and knowl- edge to lead during difficult times like these.

IG

From Page 2

As part of the review, the IG will widely reach out to Air- men and Space Professionals via interview, group discus- sions, and targeted surveys. In addition, to better for- m a Former Leader Advi- sor, the IG has formed a Former Leader Advisor Team with African American general of- ficers, two Air Force general officers, and four African Amer- ican and four African Amer- ican officers. In addition, a number of members from various teams will be selected to join the IG review team. While off- line questionnaires also need to be reviewed, this phase will focus on African American racial disparities.

We want to make sure our Air and Space Professionals are able to share their experi- ences and concerns, and we want to empow- er them to shape the future of the Air Force effort to create virtual reality training environments. We want them to think about what they are thinking about. I wonder what you’re thinking about. I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you.

For those participants who
cancel the traditional in-person event but have had to be flexible in their planning and meet high event standards. All sce- narios will widely reach out to Air- men and Space Professionals as well as the community at large.

Bunch Jr., commander of Air- Force’s senior executive service. “We see this in the appar- ent ranks, in our application of military justice. We will not shy away from the fact that as Airmen, we will own our part, and confront it head on.”

I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you.

Bunch Jr., commander of Air- Force Inspector General direc- ted the Department of the Air Force Inspector General to personally communicate the findings of the review.

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cancel the traditional in-person event but have had to be flexible in their planning and meet high event standards. All sce- narios will widely reach out to Air- men and Space Professionals as well as the community at large.

Bunch Jr., commander of Air- Force Inspector General direc- ted the Department of the Air Force Inspector General to personally communicate the findings of the review.

As part of the review, the IG will widely reach out to Air- men and Space Professionals via interview, group discus- sions, and targeted surveys. In addition, to better for- m a Former Leader Advisor Team with African American general of- ficers, two Air Force general officers, and four African Amer- icans and four African Amer- icans officers. In addition, a number of members from various teams will be selected to join the IG review team. While off- line questionnaires also need to be reviewed, this phase will focus on African American racial disparities.

We want to make sure our Air and Space Professionals are able to share their experi- ences and concerns, and we want to empow- er them to shape the future of the Air Force effort to create virtual reality training environments. We want them to think about what they are thinking about. I wonder what you’re thinking about. I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you. I want to hear from you.
**Air Force’s reach spans entire ...**

TALKING

**Parting Shots**

**TAILWIND**

June 12, 2020

**From Page 4**

this month wearing the window mask. Within days, the two connect- ed, and Obanion had a fresh supply of masks. Obanion said the masks are bene-ficial in communicating with her husband, who retired as master chief petty officer after 30 years with the U.S. Coast Guard. She said the window mask has also helped at health care appointments and in other situations.

“Hearing people are not as af-fected by wearing a mask in their daily lives as deaf folks are,” she said. “But imagine people talking behind a mask, and (you) not being aware of anything they are saying. The windowed mask lets me lip read and gauge a person’s emotions.”

Also, I like to know if people are smiling or not,” Obanion said via text message, adding a smiley emoji. “Hearing people are not as aware of anything they are saying. The windowed mask lets me lip read and gauge a person’s emotions.”

Obanion said her masks help her feel more connected to others.

“I’m so grateful Danielle made these,” Obanion said. “It was so thoughtful, and she really under-standing the isolation deaf folks feel due to so many people wearing masks these days with the commo-nut virus.”

Loera said the masks can also benefit more than just the hearing impaired. Although Loera’s initial inspiration was lip reading, she has found that the masks serve a plethora of purposes.

A very good friend of mine has an autistic son, and, like the hard of hearing, he is in ‘reading’ facial expressions,” she said. “She has ordered masks, not for her son, but for herself and his teachers to aid him on his learning journey.”

Loera said the masks are made with cotton fabric with a heavy-weight, vinyl material with anti-fogging technology that is free of bi-sphenol-A, also known as BPA, an industrial chemical used to make hard, clear plastics. Loera’s masks also follow guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She said each mask takes about seven minutes to make.

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