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THIS ISSUE

Travis Celebrates 75 Years

The "Gateway to the Pacific" handles more traffic than any other military air terminal in the United States.

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The Voice of Business for Fairfield and Suisun City, California

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a message from our chairman

Thank You for Productive and Rewarding Year



t is hard to believe that almost a year has elapsed since I penned my first column for The Voice of Business as your incoming Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce chair. In that column, I shared my commitment to helping the Chamber advance its key goals: to continue to find ways to bring local businesses together and grow our membership; to enhance our voice with local, state and national decisions makers; and to develop future strong leadership on the Chamber Board of Directors.

This past year, through two separate membership surveys, your Board of Directors and I solicited guidance from you on how best to achieve these goals. In the initial survey, you told us you valued business relationships as the most important benefit of your Chamber membership. Approximately 62 percent of you cited this aspect of Chamber association as the pre-eminent advantage of membership. As a result, we instituted two new opportunities to enable you to better network with one another. The first is our monthly "Lunch Mob," where we choose a restaurant that is a Chamber business, have lunch and network with one another about important community issues. We are also about to launch a program dubbed Chamber 101. Meeting one morning a month, this program allows you to increase your knowledge of Chamber resources and services that can help you grow your business. Included in the program will be hands-on training on how to use the Chamber website to advertise your business and enhance your B2B relationships in the Fairfield-Suisun communities.

Because more than 60 percent of you told us you valued Chamber advocacy with local and state government and political groups and business connections with local workforce development efforts, we expanded our efforts in these important areas as well. We continue to work with CalChamber on pro-business legislative measures, and we were a key partner in the first countywide Candidates Forum. This forum allowed Solano voters to hear the views of candidates for a number of county offices and Boards of Supervisors, at a single event. On your behalf, we also advocated on mixed-land-use issues and spoke on behalf of Suisun Valley wineries and the Board of Supervisors.

I am extremely proud of the work we have all done to enhance our Advocacy Council's work with local organizations on workforce development. In addition to helping develop tools for creating a stronger workforce, we have increased our representation on multiple county workforce development boards and strengthened our Work Ready Certification Program and Job Squad.

The Chamber also grew its partnership with the Solano County Office of Education and local school districts in the programs, "Inspire: Dreams Start Now" and "Inspire: Dreams Move Forward." These programs began with a passionate philosophy to unite Solano County's workforce initiative in K-12 public school districts to help guide students in career exploration. Through age-appropriate interactions with local businesses and community organizations, this innovative initiative allows students to gain valuable knowledge concerning future employment options. Begun as a partnership between your Chamber, the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District and The Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Center, the partnership has now grown to include the Vacaville, Travis and Dixon Unified School Districts, those respective communities'

Continued on Page 26



2017-18 board members

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Nav Khanna Travis Credit Union P.O. Box 2069 Vacaville, CA 95696 707-449-4000 nkhanna@traviscu.org



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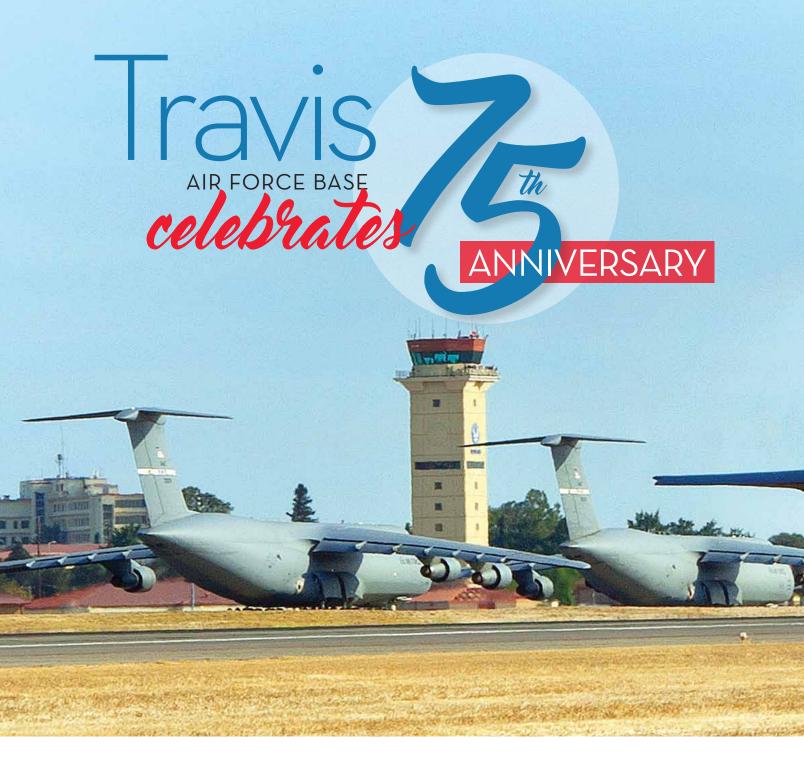


calendar

ΜΑΥ	
] TUE	AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING 8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.
4 FRI	5TH ANNUAL BUZZ AWARDS FEATURING COMEDIAN MYLES WEBER 5:30 to 9 p.m., Suisun Harbor Theatre, 730 Main St., Suisun City. Contact Melissa Manry at 707-425-4625 for details. Tickets \$75 per person
8 TUE	ADVOCACY COUNCIL MEETING 8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.
9 WED	CHAMBER LUNCH MOB 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Jelly Belly Candy Company, One Jelly Belly Lane, Fairfield. All are welcome, no RSVP required.
IO THU	JOINT MIXER WITH VACAVILLE CHAMBER 5:30 to 7 p.m., NorthBay Healthcare, 4500 Business Center Drive, Fairfield
11 FRI	CHAMBER'S ANNUAL BOARD RETREAT Chamber office closed
17	RIBBON CUTTING - SELECT STAFFING Noon to 1 p.m., 1261 Travis Blvd., Suite 290, Fairfield
21	TRAFC EXECUTIVE MEETING 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Fuddruckers, 1750 Travis Blvd., Fairfield
	TRAVIS REGIONAL ARMED FORCES COMMITTEE Noon to 1 p.m., Fuddruckers, 1750 Travis Blvd., Fairfield
23 WED	LEADERSHIP TODAY GRADUATION LUNCHEON Noon to 2 p.m., location to be announced
31 THU	TRAFC'S NCO NIGHT 5 to 8 p.m., McNaughton Park, 754 Great Jones St., Fairfield
JUNE	
5 TUE	AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING 8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.
	RIBBON CUTTING - BRANDMAN UNIVERSITY 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., 2450 Martin Road, First Floor, Fairfield
6 WED	GOOD MORNING FAIRFIELD-SUISUN BREAKFAST: CYBER SECURITY 5:30 to 7 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 2200 Gateway Blvd., Fairfield. Tickets \$30 per person. Call Melissa Manry for more information at 707-425-4625.

JUNE, CONTINUED

7	TRAFC'S CONTRACTOR BREAKFAST 8:30 to 10 a.m., Hampton Inn & Suites, 800 Mason St., Vacaville. Contact the Chamber for details.
12 TUE	ADVOCACY COUNCIL MEETING 8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.
13 WED	CHAMBER LUNCH MOB Main Avent Cafe and Catering, 628 Parker Road, Suite A., Fairfield. All are welcome, no RSVP required.
14 THU	CHAMBER MIXER & RIBBON CUTTING 5:30 to 7 p.m., hosted by SERVPRO of Fairfield, 393 Watt Drive, Suite B, Fairfield
18	TRAFC EXECUTIVE MEETING 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Fuddruckers, 1750 Travis Blvd., Fairfield
	TRAVIS REGIONAL ARMED FORCES COMMITTEE Noon to 1 p.m., Fuddruckers, 1750 Travis Blvd., Fairfield
26 TUE	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.
JULY	
3 TUE	AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING 8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.
4 WED	HAPPY 4TH OF JULY! Chamber office closed
10 TUE	ADVOCACY COUNCIL MEETING 8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.
11 WED	CHAMBER LUNCH MOB 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Dickey's Barbecue Pit, 1586 Gateway Blvd., Suite C-7, Fairfield. All are welcome, no RSVP required.
12 THU	JOINT MIXER WITH VACAVILLE CHAMBER 5:30 to 7 p.m., Vezer Family Vineyard, 2522 Mankas Corner Road, Fairfield
16	TRAFC EXECUTIVE MEETING 9 to 10 a.m., Fuddruckers, 1750 Travis Blvd., Fairfield
	TRAVIS REGIONAL ARMED FORCES COMMITTEE Fuddruckers, 1750 Travis Blvd., Fairfield
24 TUE	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.
25 WED	CHAMBER 101: DO YOU KNOW YOUR CHAMBER BENEFITS? 8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, 1111 Webster St.



nown around the world as the "Gateway to the Pacific," Travis Air Force Base celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2018.

Located just outside the city of Fairfield on more than 6,300 acres of land, Travis Air Force Base handles more cargo and passenger traffic through its aerial port than any other military air terminal in the United States.

The base is home to the largest Air Mobility Wing (the 60th) and Air Force Reserve Associate Wing (the 349th) in the country, as well as the 621st Contingency Response Wing. Altogether, Travis serves 9,494 active duty and reservists,



3,018 civilian employees,10,241 military dependents and100,000 military retirees.

Locally, the base has a regional and economic impact that is immeasurable. Travis has long been the largest employer in all of Solano County, with a total workforce of 26,205 personnel. The base creates an estimated 4,839 jobs in the local community of more than \$249.6 million. The total economic impact of the base is estimated at \$1.65 billion.

TEAM TRAVIS -WE SALUTE YOU. A 22-aircraft "freedom launch" took place at Travis Air Force Base, Sept. 11, 2013. Seven C-17 Globemaster IIIs, 11 KC-10 Extenders and four C-5B Galaxies from the 60th Air Mobility Wing lined up in what is historically referred to as an "elephant walk," then launched consecutively over 36 minutes to take part in Air Mobility Command missions. The first plane in the lineup, a C-17, launched at 8:46 a.m., the same time terrorists crashed American Airlines Flight 11 into the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City 12 years earlier.



A HISTORY OF 75 YEARS OF TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE



The runways were completed at Fairfield-Suisun Army Air Base on June 1, 1943. (USAF photos)



Brig. Gen. Robert Falligant Travis

Fairfield-Suisun Army Air Base began ferrying occupation troops to Japan and returning liberated POWs to the USA. Flying activity at Fairfield-

1940s

April 22, 1942: The recommendation to build an Army airfield on 945 acres of pasture land near Fairfield and Suisun, California, was approved by the Army's Office of the Chief of Engineers in Washington, D.C. The project received top wartime priority and \$998,000 in funding. The construction of two runways and a few temporary buildings began. Suisun Army Air Base actually increased following the end of WWII.

Jan. 13, 1948: Base renamed Fairfield-Suisun Air Force Base following the creation of the U.S. Air Force on Sept. 18, 1947.

May 1, 1949: The Strategic Air Command (SAC) took control of Fairfield-Suisun Air Force Base where it activated the 9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing equipped with Boeing B-29 and RB-29 Superfortress aircraft. Brig. Gen. Robert F. Travis became the 9th SRW's commander and base commander.

June 1, 1943: Fairfield-Suisun Army Air Base officially opened with Maj. Arthur Stevenson as its first base commander. Its role as a preparation facility for overseasbound tactical military aircraft began.

July 1, 1943: The first hospital at Fairfield-Suisun Army Air Base – Station Hospital – was activated with Lt. Col. Archibald Laird as first commander.

Fall 1945: Following Japan's surrender, C-54 aircraft from



The wreckage of the crash that killed Brig. Gen. Robert Travis at Fairfield-Suisun Air Force Base in 1950.

19503

June 25, 1950: Korean War begins. Fairfield-Suisun AFB played a significant role with aircraft, airmen and material coming and going to and from the Pacific.

Aug. 5, 1950: Brig. Gen. Robert F. Travis and 18 crewmembers, passengers, base firefighters, and volunteer rescuers were killed when a Boeing B-29-MR crashed near the end of the runway five minutes after takeoff while attempting to make an emergency landing.

Oct. 2, 1950: The Air Force officially renamed Fairfield-Suisun AFB as Travis Air Force Base in honor of the late Brig. Gen. Robert F. Travis.

Aug. 12, 1953: The first group of repatriated U.S. Prisoners of War from the Korean Conflict, released under Operation Big Switch, arrived at Travis AFB.

1957: Runways at Travis AFB were strengthened, lengthened, and widened in preparation for the arrival of Boeing B-52 bombers.

Feb. 13, 1959: The first B-52 bomber, christened the "Spirit of Solano County" arrived at Travis AFB, marking the beginning of the Jet Age at the base. The B-52s left Travis in late July 1968.

Dec. 12, 1959: Boeing KC-135 tanker aircraft arrived at Travis marking the beginning of the base's long history with an aerial refueling mission.



1964: Travis-based C-130E aircraft (and soon after C-141s) took over responsibility for Operation Deep Freeze, an annual mission in support of the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Navy in Antarctica. Travis aircraft and crews handled the Antarctica mission through 1997.

April 23, 1965: The first Lockheed C-141A Starlifter aircraft assigned to an operational unit arrived at Travis AFB – nicknamed The Golden Bear – in a formal welcoming ceremony. C- 141s flew out of Travis through December 1997.

Aug. 3, 1965: Daily C-141A channel airlift service began between Travis AFB and Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam.

1966: New direct channel routes were opened from Travis AFB to DaNang and Cam Ranh Bay, Republic of Vietnam, as the Vietnam Conflict escalated.

Jan. 8, 1966: 60th MAW (now 60th Air Mobility Wing) activated at Travis, replacing the 1501st ATW as host unit.

July 1, 1966: Travis Hospital was renamed David Grant USAF Hospital after the first Surgeon General of the Air



The Golden Bear, the first Lockheed C-141A Starlifter to be delivered to an operational Military Air Transport Service unit, arrived at Travis on April 23, 1965. (USAF photo)

> Force, Maj. Gen. David Norvell Walker Grant.

July 25, 1969: The Air Force Reserve's 349th Military Airlift Wing moved to Travis.

1970s

Feb. 14, 1973: C-141A jets from the 60th MAW returned the first 20 U.S. POWs from Clark Air Base, Republic of The Philippines

to Travis AFB in Operation Homecoming. Over the next 6 weeks, 280 POWs were returned to Travis AFB to be reunited with their families and to receive medical care.

April 29, 1975: From April 29 through Sept. 16, 1975, Operation New Life and Operation New Arrivals brought refugees from Vietnam to the U.S. after Saigon fell to Communist North Vietnam. Travis aircraft flew many of the humanitarian airlift missions, while Travis was one of the bases through which the Vietnamese refugees came to America.

1980\$

Mai, Gen, David Norvell

Walker Grant

Nov, 1985: The new Travis AFB Commissary opened. Construction began in April 1984 and cost \$7.1 million. The old commissary building became the Travis Air Museum in January 1987.

Oct. 21, 1988: The new USAF David Grant Medical Center (DGMC), an 808,475-square-foot, \$206.2 million facility



under construction since Aug. 22, 1984, was presented to the Air Force by the contractor. The first official day of business at the new DGMC was Dec. 19, 1988.

Oct. 1989: 60th MAW crews from Travis airlifted relief supplies and personnel to the nearby San Francisco South Bay region devastated by the Oct. 13th Loma Prieta earthquake.



Aug. 2, 1990: Operation Desert Shield began in response to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's invasion of neighboring Kuwait. The airlift phase of the operation was called "Volant Wind" that started at Travis on Aug. 7.

Nov. 1, 1991: The 60th MAW was re-designated as the 60th Airlift Wing.

May 11, 1994: Dedication of Fisher House at TAFB next to the David Grant Medical Center. May 30, 2014, marked the opening of the Fisher House II.

June 2, 1994: Vice President Al Gore served as keynote speaker for the groundbreaking ceremony of joint venture between the Veterans Administration and 60th Medical Group.

Oct. 1, 1994: The 60th Airlift Wing was re-designated as the 60th Air Mobility Wing following the addition of the KC-10 tanker mission starting on Sept. 1, 1994.

20003

Sept. 11, 2001: Al-Qaeda terrorists attacked the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon near Washington, D.C., and attempted to attack other U.S. government targets using hijacked airliners as cruise missiles. The Global War on Terrorism began. The 60th AMW airlifted 240 passengers and 12 tons of equipment to Ground Zero and the Pentagon vital to the search, rescue and recovery



Col. Steve Arquiette, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, and Col. Robert Millman, 349th AMW acting commander, unveil the "Spirit of Solano" C-17 Globemaster III at Travis Air Force Base on Aug. 8, 2006. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Staff. Sgt. Matt McGovern)

operations. The 60th Aerial Port Squadron loaded and unloaded hundreds of relief workers and their equipment en route to the disaster scene.

Oct. 7, 2001: Operation Enduring Freedom began and Travis AFB units rapidly deployed combat forces to Southwest Asia to topple the Taliban regime in Afghanistan and destroy al Qaeda forces responsible for the 9/11 attacks.

March 19, 2003: Operation Iraqi Freedom began and the 60th AMW

provided airlift, aerial refueling and medical support to topple Iraqi President Sadaam Hussein and the Baathist regime.

June 7, 2004: From June 7-12, 2004, Travis hosted the first Russian Open Skies Treaty observation mission to the U.S. The team flew to Travis in a TU-154M.

April, 2005: 615th Contingency Response Wing activated at Travis.

Aug. 8, 2006: Travis received the first of its 13 Boeing C-17A Globemaster III aircraft named "The Spirit of Solano."

20103

March 22, 2011: From March 22-28, 2011, nearly 1,000 service members, family members, civil service workers and local community leaders at Travis AFB supported the arrival of approximately 2,600 passengers and 150 pets voluntarily evacuated from Japan as a result of the March 11 earthquake- tsunami-nuclear disaster.

May 29, 2012: The 615th Contingency Response Wing inactivated and transferred command to the 621st Contingency Response Wing.

Jan. 8, 2016: 50th anniversary of 60th AMW as Travis's base operating unit.

Jan. 12, 2017: Travis was chosen to receive the new Boeing KC-46 tanker aircraft.



Attendees socialize at the 38th Annual Military Recognition Night that took place at Green Valley Country Club in Fairfield, Nov. 14, 2014.

Community leaders, military personnel get together to support Travis

nce a month, more than 100 community leaders from throughout the region gather at Travis Air Force Base to recognize the accomplishments and offer their support to the men and women who are the heart of Solano County's largest economic driver.

The group, known as the Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee, or TRAFC, is comprised of representatives from every city in Solano County, elected officials and countless business professions and industries.

Their respect for Travis Air Force Base is what brings them all together as one, and they serve proudly as ambassadors between the base and the local communities, supporting projects, events and mission support activities that enrich the lives of military members and their families.

"Travis AFB is Solano County's largest employer and

biggest economic engine for the region, but it's the men and women who serve it that make the magic happen," said Sandy Person, the Industry Engagement Officer for the Solano Economic Development Corporation and an active member of TRAFC since the early 2000s. "Getting to know these outstanding airmen is the secret sauce that makes being part of the TRAFC team so awesome."

The Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee was formed in 1997 from the Solano County Armed Services Committee and the Military Affairs Committees of the Fairfield-Suisun and Vacaville Chambers of Commerce. It was designed to combine similar but separate Travis Air Force Base support groups into a more effective, single, regional voice to establish a relationship between civic leaders and military personnel at Travis Air Force Base. Today, TRAFC consists of approximately 150 members. They meet once a month for lunch, where they hear remarks from the commanders or vice-commanders of all three wings at Travis – the 60th Air Mobility Wing, the 349th Air Force Reserve Wing and the 621st Contingency Response Wing – as well as presentations from special guests connected to Travis. These may include visiting generals, historians and current base leaders.

"Travis serves locally and engages globally," said Col. John Klein, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander. "(We) are fortunate to have enduring partnerships with our local community partners."

In addition to the work done locally, TRAFC also lobbies with one voice on behalf of Travis Air Force Base and its airmen at the state and federal levels.

TRAFC hosts three annual events for Team Travis – Commander's Night is a black-tie event that celebrates Travis commanders and their spouses; NCO Night Barbecue is for non-commissioned officers and their spouses, and Military Recognition Night is a formal gala that honors Travis leadership. TRAFC also partners with local businesses to help support and operate a deployed families monthly event and an annual veteran vechicle give-away. The committee also

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FAIRFIELD FINANCIAL CENTER 1455 Oliver Road • 425-2900 www.thatsmybank.com supports Operation Cookie Drop, base air shows, the base family block party and many other events and activities.

"Because of TRAFC and the honorary commander program and my involvement with the base, it's given me a whole new perspective," said Monte Hoover, the past chair on the TRAFC executive board and a member of the committee for the past decade. "Even though I've lived here for 50 years, it wasn't until the last 10 that I really began to appreciate what we have out there and our partnership with them. Those people out there, they are amazing. They know the mission, they have a lot of pride in their mission and their team. No matter which squadron you go to, each person plays a part in that mission. It's inspired me to bring that same type of leadership into our own community."

Committee membership is open to any individual employed by a business that is a member in good standing with a Solano County Chamber of Commerce. The committee is also open to any current Honorary Commander and retired military personnel. Annual membership is \$150, and that fee is included of members are a Fairfield-Suisun or Vacaville Chamber business sponsor.

"You have to go to lunch – why not go and listen to some very powerful leaders, the leaders of the Air Force base,"

Hoover said. "Being a part of TRAFC also really helps you build relationships, not only with military leaders but also civic leaders and community leaders. You have all of these people in one room."

While TRAFC's membership numbers are strong, leaders say they would love to see more millennials come on board. Beginning this spring, TRAFC will host its monthly luncheons outside the base, eliminating the need to obtain a base pass to attend. People are welcome to attend the luncheons as guests to learn more about TRAFC before joining.

It is always rewarding, too, Hoover said, to see the airmen attending the TRAFC meetings. These men and women want to be involved in their local community, he added, and TRAFC is often how they learn about activities and events happening in and around Fairfield and Solano County.

"I hear them say all the time, that out of all the bases they have been stationed at, they've never seen an area that is so supportive of the base as Fairfield, Suisun and Solano County," Hoover said. "They say it's the best community partnership they've ever experienced in their military careers."



Released prisoner of war Lt. Col. Robert L. Stirm is greeted by his family at Travis, as he returns home from the Vietnam War on March 17, 1973. In the lead is Stirm's daughter Lorrie, 15; followed by son Robert, 14; daughter Cynthia, 11; wife Loretta and son Roger, 12. (The Associated Press/Sal Veder)



'BURST OF JOY' Photograph captures reunion of a POW and his family

n an overcast day in March 1973, Associated Press photographer Slava "Sal" Veder captured an image of a POW being greeted by his family. The image, which became the quintessential homecoming photograph of the Vietnam Era, was aptly titled "Burst of Joy." The photograph was sent around the country, running in countless newspapers. It also won a Pulitzer Prize in 1974. But what of the family? How did they come to be racing toward each other on a tarmac in California? What happened after the "burst" of Veder's camera's flash?

The hotly contested Vietnam War concluded with the signing of the Paris Peace Accords on January 27, 1973. One of the provisions addressed the issue of U.S. POWs. Once U.S. troops began to withdraw, POWs would also be released and allowed to return home. In early 1973, Operation Homecoming started. From Feb. 12 to April 4, 54 flights saw the return of 591 American POWs home. One of these flights included Lt. Col. Robert L. Stirm, the soldier in the famous photograph.

Born in San Francisco, Stirm joined the Aviation Cadet Program before graduating as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force in November 1954. On Feb. 6, 1955, he married his wife, Loretta. Together they had four children: Lorrie, Robert, Roger and Cynthia ("Cindy"). He deployed to Vietnam in August 1967. He wasn't there long before getting shot down two months later over Canal Des Rapides Bridge in Hanoi. That night, he was captured by North Vietnamese troops. His story as a POW mirrors that of other POWs during Vietnam. Stirm survived torture, starvation and more than 280 days of solitary confinement. In the six years he was held as prisoner, Stirm moved through several different camps, including the infamous Hanoi Hilton (where he spent some time in the same cell as Sen. John McCain).

Operation Homecoming was Stirm's way out of the conditions of North Vietnamese prison camps. On March 17, Stirm arrived at Travis Air Force Base in California with around 20 other POWs. In addition to the press, a large crowd of family members and supporters came to welcome the POWs home. Upon landing, Stirm gave a short speech to reporters on behalf of the flight's POWs. Across the tarmac, his family waited for him to finish the formalities in the family's station wagon. Once his speech concluded, his family got out of the car and raced to greet him. After six long years, they were finally reunited. Lorrie, on remembering the moment, later stated, "I just wanted to get to Dad as fast as I could." Lorrie, as shown in the photograph running down the runway with her open arms, was only 9 years old the last time she saw her father. Following only steps behind Lorrie in photograph was her mother and her three younger siblings. "We didn't know if he would ever come home," Lorrie says. "That moment was all our prayers answered, all our wishes come true." •

new chamber members

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estimonials



" 'Are you a member of the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce?' Let me tell you why you should become a member." This is something I say quite regularly. The Chamber is my go to spot on many things; business education, community information, business development and referrals. Several years ago, I was wanting to go grow my business and I found

that the Chamber was the best way to do that. The Mixers are always a wonderful way to meet new people and exchange business cards with potential customers, plus you're having a lot of fun doing so. I've become a true believer. So, let me ask 'YOU' are you a member of the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce?!"

LINDA PINE BAY AREA AIRSTREAM

"I decided to join the Fairfield Suisun Chamber of Commerce in 2015 after visiting several other local chambers. Every time I attended a mixer or event with the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber I felt very 'welcomed' and many would remember meeting me and coming over to catch up! Since I am an



Independent Contractor and was just starting as a Boisset Wine Ambassador, it was an expense I needed to justify and hope it would help my goal to grow my business! I cannot say enough about how supportive everyone is at our Chamber office! I can call them anytime and they have an answer for me! They totally support me, and my favorite part is that the other businesses/Chamber members have helped me grow my custom label business by ordering some for their business as well as providing referrals to me! I also enjoy our activities like Mob Lunches, Ribbon Cuttings, Buzz Awards, Black and White Ball, Wine, Food & Brew, etc! I got so involved I ended up joining the Chamber Ambassador Team and while it is more additional work, it is very organized, and our events go smoothly due to the outstanding dedication of our Team! I was honored to be selected as the February Ambassador of the Month and will continue to support our Chamber since they continue to support me. I refer my Chamber to everyone, I love it!"

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Physical and occpational health share a 6,400-square-foot space that includes private treatment rooms, exercise equipment and treatment tables.

Patient experience comes first at NorthBay's new orthopedic center



NorthBay Healthcare's Center for Orthopedics and Rehabilitation, 2500 Hilborn Road, in Fairfield .

elebrating an improved patient experience with fanfare, balloons, speeches and tours, physicians, staff, board members and invited guests heralded the opening of NorthBay Healthcare's Center for Orthopedics and Rehabilitation, 2500 Hilborn Road in Fairfield on March 15.

Work began on the \$5.9 million project in 2016, when architects, engineers, patients and teams from orthopedics, rehabilitation and X-ray services came together to brainstorm an efficient and effective facility to best serve patients.

A year-and-a-half later, about 25 employees and five providers have moved into a 14,300-square-foot facility

community

that saves most patients more than 170 steps per visit, which is quite a lot if you're dealing with a broken leg.

"This facility represents our latest achievement in re-engineering health care, making it accessible and convenient to our patients – when they want it, where they want it, delivered the way they want it," said B. Konard Jones, president and CEO of NorthBay Healthcare during the grand opening festivities.

Fairfield orthopedics staff, providers and rehabilitation therapists made the move from the NorthBay Health Plaza and Rancho Solano to the Hilborn Campus.

The new facility offers a bright, cheerful reception area, where patients and guests can get a cup of coffee or charge their cellphone.

"Open space with natural light from windows and skylights is designed to provide a sense of nurturing wellness," said Aimee Brewer, president of NorthBay Healthcare Group.

The orthopedic side of the house is approximately 7,250-square-feet and features a teamwork area for staff, as well as 10 exam rooms, a procedure room, a casting room and a paramedic bay.

"The teamwork area will foster better communication and collaboration between physicians, therapists and medical assistants, for better clinical outcomes," Brewer noted.

"The floor plan was designed to serve the needs of the patient, and was reinvented in collaboration with patients, care providers and support teams," according to Justine Zilliken, NorthBay Healthcare assistant vice president of Specialty and Surgical Services. "By inviting our patients to have a say in how we designed the space, inconveniences were identified and remedied. You may say we walked a mile so the patient doesn't have to!"

Physician specialties include hand surgery, trauma surgery, joint replacement and sports medicine.

Physical and occupational health share a 6,400-square-foot space that includes six private treatment rooms, several pieces of exercise equipment and five powered treatment tables. Physical therapy equipment includes a stove and microwave to help stroke and head injury patients relearn daily living activities.

An onsite X-ray room means patients won't have to travel to a nearby physician's office or hospital to get their orthopedic specialist the diagnostic information they need.

Three orthopedic physicians took turns at the grand

opening event to sing the praises of the new facility and those who made it a reality. Jay Parkin, M.D., told the crowd it was an "amazing" space after years of being in a much smaller work space. "We are so impressed with those who spent so many hours planning it and seeing it completed," he said. Cornelis Elms, M.D., agreed. "This is the most beautiful and technically sophisticated orthopedic center I've ever seen," he said. "It is a wonderful facility." Podiatrist Kevin Miller, DPM, couldn't disguise his pleasure. "As you can see from the smile on my face I am very happy with this place. For our patients, I say this is for you."

The building is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with plans to soon add Saturday hours for Rehabilitation Services.

The building is just across the parking lot from the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, and joins two other NorthBay buildings on the same campus: The Hilborn Center for Primary Care and the Hilborn Administration Building, which also houses NorthBay Occupational Health and NorthBay Employee Health.

For information or to book an appointment, call 707- 646-5599.



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Joint Mixer with Vacaville Chamber at Solano Community College





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Joint Mixer with Vacaville Chamber at Solano Community College









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Fuddruckers Mixer



Lunch MOB at Legends at Paradise Valley Sports Bar & Grill and JJ Fish and Chicken



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Ribbon Cutting: Walmart in Suisun City





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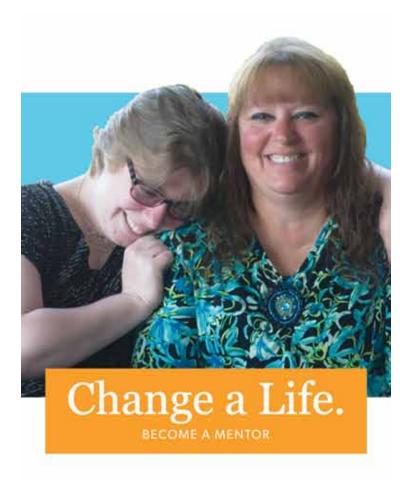
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CHAIRMAN FROM PAGE 5

Chambers of Commerce and the Workforce Development Board of Solano County.

It has been a distinct pleasure for me to serve as your Chamber chair this past year. I am proud of what we have accomplished together in the past 12 months and, personally, I have benefitted greatly from the knowledge I gained from all of you and reinforcement of my belief about the important role we can play as business leaders to benefit people in the communities we serve. I thank our Volunteer Board of Directors for their engagement in making our local business community strong and vibrant!

I want to close by thanking you for your support and friendship this past year. The heart and soul of this chamber continues to be our President and CEO Debi Tavey, our Director of Operations, Melissa Manry and our Director of Membership, Tonya Dretzka and I am so grateful for their passion and commitment. They are true community angels! I hope you view the Chamber, as I do, as a valuable forum in which to promote your ideas and discuss your concerns. We all know the demands of growing a successful business are more than a full-time job. But, I encourage you to make your active participation in the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce a priority in your business efforts. Working together, we are a powerful voice in making a difference with our political leaders and improving the business outlook within our communities. We are definitely stronger together!

Nav Khanna

Chairman, Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce





to all of our Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce Investors:

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