

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019

SPACE OBSERVER

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE

Airmen honored for quick thinking



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Emily Kenney)

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — (From left) Staff Sgt. Branden Smithwick, 21st Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, Airman 1st Class Matthew Huff, 21st SFS installation entry controller, and Airman 1st Class Anthony Bustamante, 21st SFS armorer, pose for a photo, Feb. 12, 2019 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. Smithwick, Huff and Bustamante reacted quickly and efficiently to an off-base vehicle rollover, ultimately saving the life of the driver. They will be presented with the American Red Cross Hometown Heroes Military Hero Award for their actions above and beyond the call of duty.

By Erinn Callahan | 21ST SPACE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Nothing seemed out of the ordinary at Peterson Air Force Base the evening of Nov. 20, 2018, as Airman 1st Class Matthew Huff, 21st Security Forces Squadron installation entry controller, Staff Sgt. Branden Smithwick, 21st SFS military working dog handler, and Airman 1st Class Anthony Bustamante, 21st SFS Armory, prepared to close down the Peterson AFB East Gate at about 6:15 p.m.

Their job was interrupted when a vehicle pulled up near their patrol cars. A Jeep had rolled over into a ditch on Marksheffel Road, near the perimeter of Peterson AFB, the driver said.

“The individual let us know that a vehicle did an illegal U-turn and the victim ended up swerving to miss the vehicle,” Smithwick said. “Her wheels caught a patch of grass, causing the vehicle to flip over.”

The first thing Bustamante saw after arriving on scene was an older-model Jeep lying on its side near the fence line, he said. The second thing was a pair of Converse sneakers pinned against the fence.

Possible consequences never entered Huff’s mind when he decided to jump the fence to reach the woman pinned beneath the Jeep, he said. Bustamante and Smithwick soon followed.

“I understood there could be consequences for me jumping that fence, but the fact that someone’s life was in danger – I didn’t really care,” Huff said. “I would have taken whatever consequences that would have come my way in order to save her life.”

Smithwick and Bustamante both had similar thought processes, they said.

“I just remember thinking, ‘Let’s lift this vehicle off of her,’” Bustamante said.

Using Bustamante’s knife, Smithwick cut the woman free from her seatbelt before they lifted the Jeep off her. The Airmen’s training took over from there.

“No one was told to do something,” Huff said. “Everyone just kind of knew what to do.”

Smithwick covered the woman with jackets to keep her warm and provided Self-Aid Buddy Care until the Peterson Fire Department arrived on scene. Bustamante kept dispatchers apprised of the situation via radio, and Huff helped direct traffic so emergency vehicles could safely enter and exit the scene.

The gravity of the situation did not sink in until after the woman was taken to the hospital, Huff said.

“After, I was in shock, like, ‘I just did this?’ Then I was thinking, ‘I hope she’s OK,’ because she is someone’s daughter,

so I wanted her to be able to go home to her family,” Huff said. “It was a rollercoaster of emotions. Everything was going through my head.”

The Airmen were able to meet the woman they saved three days later once she had come out of surgery. They exchanged hugs and handshakes with the woman’s parents before sitting down to talk to her.

“You could see the tears coming. Everybody was super emotional,” Bustamante said. “We were happy to see that she was OK. It was a breath of fresh air.”

Situations like these underscore the importance of training, Bustamante said.

“Between flights and our weekly training, we constantly trained, and that’s what we do it for,” he said. “We can look back and say, ‘Oh, we should have done this differently,’ but at the end of the day, we did save a life, and I think that the training that we do have – we couldn’t be any better.”

The three Airmen will be presented with the American Red Cross Hometown Heroes Military Hero Award during a ceremony at 6 p.m. today, March 14, at The Broadmoor, 1 Lake Ave. in Colorado Springs.

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21ST SPACE WING

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Failure is fine



By Maj. Donald J. Thomas | 16TH SPACE CONTROL SQUADRON

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — “Perfection is the standard; there is no room for incomplete knowledge or substandard performance.” This phrase resonates with the men and women who have pulled intercontinental ballistic missile crew duty, performed work as a missile security forces troop or worked in the world of missile maintenance. These individuals understand the idea that they must be perfect in every aspect of their job. Failure is not allowed, nor an option. This same idea is also found in everyday society; the idea that we must be perfect and failure is something that should be feared – we must never fail.

Failure is a key part to the growth and success of an individual and a team. Coach Tony Dungy compares failure and

“Failure is a key part to the growth and success of an individual and a team.”

the growth that can occur from it to weight lifting. When lifting weights, the fibers of the muscles are torn down due to the stress of the weight. The muscle fibers then repair themselves, which leads to the strengthening and growth of the muscles. Growing and learning from failure can be painful; just like the day after a hard workout, egos are bruised, pride is hurt and the disappointment from failing sets in. It is in those days and moments post-failure that the most growth can occur, allowing us to stand a little taller, be a little stronger and, just as important, grow those around us.

Changing how failure is viewed is a key component in how we learn from our failures. Do we look at failure as the end-all, be-all? Or do we look at failure as a springboard to greater success? A first sergeant once told me that failures lead to another opportunity to

excel and he is exactly right. Each time we fail, we have opened ourselves up to another opportunity to excel, if we want to. Taking the time to sit down, review why we failed and work through how we will fix this failure is crucial for future successes.

Don't be afraid to discuss failure. One of the best ways to learn from failure is to identify the reasons we failed and use them as teachable moments for those around us. Showing the willingness to share failures and what you learned shows others that it is OK to fail as long as you take the time to understand why you failed and how not to repeat that same failure.

Learning to use failure productively can foster an environment where people will be more inclined to present new ideas, push the envelope and seek greater achievement as an individual and as an organization. As leaders, we must foster environments that appreciate the opportunity to learn from failure. In the words of Henry Ford, “Failure is the opportunity to begin again, only this time more wisely.”

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Area Dental Laboratory aims for 100 percent lab tech certification

By Tech. Sgt. Michael Wykes | 21ST SPACE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Dental readiness is an important aspect of keeping the Air Force fit to fight. Despite this, the dental lab technicians responsible for ensuring your readiness are not required by the Air Force to hold a certification from the National Board for Certification in Dental Laboratory Technology.

While dental lab technicians across the Air Force are qualified through the Medical Education and Training Campus dental program, the Peterson Area Dental Laboratory is working hard to raise the number of certified dental technicians throughout the force.

“Our drive is to get 100 percent lab technicians certified,” said Master Sgt. Joshuwa Steel, ADL superintendent. “So when we hold the annual dental symposium, I also hold a certification exam after it’s over.”

In order to help the lab technicians prepare for this exam, the ADL hosts a prep course just days before the certification tests begin, Steel said.

“We have two instructors from the 5-level upgrade training program and myself who will be monitoring their progress.” Steel said. “They only

get four hours to take their test, in which they have to make about five prosthesis.”

To help facilitate these exams, the NBC sends three examiners to proctor and grade the tests on the same day. According to their mission statement, the NBC believes that becoming a Certified Dental Technician demonstrates a significant mastery and knowledge of applied skills needed in dental technology.

“The drive for our dental techs to want to get certified is high,” Steel said.

Since initiating this exam program, the Air Force has seen an increase in certified dental technicians, raising their percentage from just six percent to 19 percent in the last few years, Steel said.

Whether it’s a dental symposium to explore new technology, certification exams to expand skillsets, or producing fixed and removable dental prosthesis for more than 3,000 providers at 343 facilities worldwide, the ADL contributes to keeping the Air Force at a high level of mission readiness keeping Airmen in the fight, and out of the dentist’s office.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael E. Wykes)

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — (Above / below) Tech. Sgt. Monique Chamberland, 48th Medical Dental Squadron, dental laboratory technician, practices making a dental prosthesis at the Area Dental Laboratory on Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, Feb. 6, 2019. The National Board for Certification in Dental Laboratory Technology sends three exam proctors to the ADL to help facilitate certification exams for dental technicians across the Air Force.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael E. Wykes)

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — U.S. Air Force dental technicians practice making multiple types of dental prosthesis in preparation for their certification exams at the Area Dental Laboratory on Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, Feb. 6, 2019. The ADL’s goal is to have all Air Force dental technicians earn their certification, increasing from 19 percent to 100 percent.

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BASE BRIEFS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND SOUP SUPPER

The Chapel will be having Stations of the Cross and Lenten soup suppers every Friday at 6 p.m. from March 8 — April 12. Attendees are encouraged to bring a meatless soup and/or bread to share.

PETERSON RETIREES ACTIVITY

The Military Retiree Activity Office holds its monthly meeting for all military retirees and their spouses on the second Thursday of every month at 11:30 am at the Peterson AFB Club, followed by lunch at 12:45 pm (for those interested). The guest speaker for Thursday, March 14 will be Lee Mizer who will talk about Rebuilding Together, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

SOCIETY OF MILITARY WIDOWS

The Society of Military Widows is open to all Military Widows of any branch of military service, regardless of the spouses rank. The Pikes Peak Chapter 15 of the Society of Military Widows meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am at the Peterson Air Force Base Club. Please call 719-331-6689 or 260-8172 for more information.

12 WEEK WEIGHT LOSS CLASS

The 12-week weight loss class starts March 6, 2019.
Time: 11:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Where: Health Promotion Classroom, 2nd floor of fitness center in Rm 206
Who: All DoD ID Cardholders, 18 yrs and older
For questions or enrollment, contact: Dana Johnson; Dana.L.Johnson12.ctr@mail.mil or 719-556-9642
Ongoing classes also offered on Thursdays at noon and 5 p.m.

SUPERVISOR SAFETY TRAINING

Supervisor Safety Training is a required one-time training for all supervisors. The 21st Space Wing Safety Office has 11 classes available per year on the third Wednesday of every month except December. The classes are located at building 845 in room 219. For those who haven't taken the course, please contact Staff Sgt. Michael Whitley at 719-556-6345.

QUARTERLY RESOURCE CONSERVATION & RECOVERY ACT (RCRA) TRAINING

Required annually by users of hazardous materials/waste and universal waste/facility managers
March 27, 2019 @ 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. (two available sessions, 30 minutes each)
Summit Center, Building 890
No pre-registration required
POC – Misty Howell @ 719-556-7707 or misty.howell.2@us.af.mil

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT?

According to the United States Department of Labor Occupational Outlook Handbook, the employment outlook for medical careers continues to increase annually, with Certified Nursing Assistant projected at an 11 percent growth rate (much faster than average).
Peterson Air Force base received the 2019 Spouse Employment Training grant from the Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) allowing us to offer our 5

spouses the opportunity to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). The Air Force Aid Society is the official charity of the U.S. Air Force and has been meeting the unique needs of Airmen and their families since 1942. AFAS works to support and enhance the USAF mission by providing emergency financial assistance, educational support and community programs

We found a top rated CNA program that is very close to Peterson AFB. This program provides students with the opportunity to acquire state-of-the-art skills, knowledge and work habits that will help them succeed in the workforce. It is approved by the Colorado State Board of Nursing and has an experienced and professional nurses and staff. They offer both daytime and evening courses for those with various schedules.

The CNA program is a 4 week program (84 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION/LAB and 20 HOURS OF CLINICALS), which prepares students to work in a hospital, clinical, or laboratory setting. Upon successful completion of the CNA course, the student is eligible to take the National Registry Examination.

If you are the recipient of the Grant you will receive: Lecture & Practical Training, Text book, CPR & First Aide Certification, Background check, TB testing, Flu shot, Scrub top, Gait belt, Facility usage and State licensure test voucher.

In order to be eligible to apply, you must be a spouse of an Air Force Active Duty member assigned to Peterson AFB. Pick up an application from Airman & Family Readiness Center, Bldg. 350, 1203 Dover St. Suite 1203, Peterson AFB, CO 80914. If you have questions or would like to receive a copy of the application please email Rhonda.sargent.1@us.af.mil. The applications are due March, 21 2019 and winners will be announced on March, 27 2019.

TAPS MOUNTAIN STATE REGIONAL GOOD GRIEF CAMP

The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) is the national nonprofit caring for the families of America's fallen heroes. At the Mountain State Regional Military Survivor Seminar and Good Grief Camp, surviving military family members from across the region will come together and connect with others who have experienced similar losses. Current and former service members are eligible to volunteer for this opportunity. After a group training session with TAPS Youth Programs staff, mentors are paired with their own mentee and work in small groups facilitated by an experienced leader. The one-on-one time with mentees gives them the companionship and support needed to feel comfortable connecting with peers and engaging in lessons. All activities will take place in Colorado Springs.

MILITARY MENTOR SCHEDULE:
Friday, March 29 5:30 — 9:30 p.m. Good Grief Camp Kid Zone (OPTIONAL)
Saturday, March 30 6:30 — 8:15 a.m. Mentor training - MANDATORY FOR ALL MENTORS
8:15 a.m. — 7p.m. Good Grief Camp
Sunday, March 31 7:45 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. Good Grief Camp
HOW TO REGISTER: 1. Go to taps.org/militarymentor and complete the registration 2. Immediately log back into your new account and complete the background check release 3. You'll receive an email when background check is completed, and THEN you can sign up for the Good Grief Camp.



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PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE



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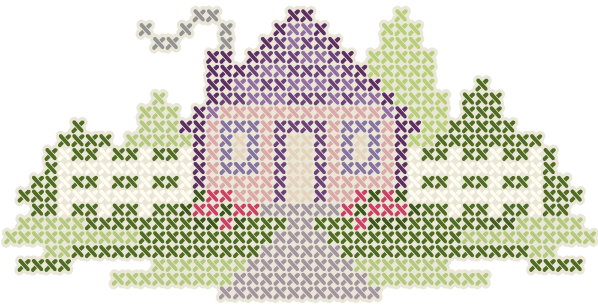
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HOME
SWEET
HOME



**FIND YOUR
DREAM
HOME!**
in our Welcome Home
section on page 21

JAAGA award-winning Airman fortifies Japanese-American relations

By Senior Airman Sadie Colbert | 35TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan (AFNS) -- Approximately 2,300 enlisted service members live at Misawa Air Base with an opportunity to interact face-to-face with their local Japanese neighbors.

On March 6, the Japan-American Air Force Goodwill Association recognized Airman 1st Class William Raley, a 610th Air Control Flight weapons director technician, who dedicated his time to build bonds and partnerships with Japanese nationals.

“I want to thank these Airmen for their contribution to JAAGA and our wing,” said Col. Kristopher W. Struve, 35th Fighter Wing commander. “Misawa AB is the best example of the Japan-U.S. alliance. Thanks to organizations like JAAGA who make us better friends as well as partners.”

Starting with a desire to be a well-rounded Airman, Raley dedicated time investing in his partners around him, getting to where he is now.

“I’ve always liked helping out people,” Raley said. “I just thought, ‘why not take the extra step?’ to really adopt the whole-Airman concept, so I started getting out, volunteering, taking school and did my best to be physically healthy.”

Raley added volunteering put his foot in the right door to be a nominee for the JAAGA award.

“One of the main things I do here is conduct four English classes with the Misawa International Center and any units dealing with command and control,” Raley explained.

Raley said both on and off base classes range anywhere from six to 14 people at one time.

“Many off-base Japanese speakers do not have talking opportunities with English-speakers, which I believe is a crucial part of learning,” Raley said. “Having them speak face-to-face gets them out of their comfort zone and helps everyone get accustomed to discussing different topics, expanding each other’s vocabulary.”

One of his students, Japan Air Self-Defense Force Capt. Yasutaka Shimizu, 601st Squadron, Airspace Warning Control Wing operator, said there’s a language barrier between the 601st SQ and 610th ACF.

“The 601st SQ and the 610th ACF have a great relationship and we constantly work together,” Shimizu said. “Having the English class helps break down the language barrier, enabling both units to work more cohesively.”

Raley said he took the time to make friends with Japan Air Self-Defense Force members and eventually pushed himself to interact with the Misawa City community by talking with the locals.

“I’m stationed in Japan and I’m going to take advantage of the time I have here,” Raley stated. “I like getting to know people, their culture and their lifestyle. Even when I’m not volunteering, I’m hanging out with the Japanese friends I’ve made.”

Raley offered some advice for those interested in the JAAGA award by highlighting the many volunteer opportunities, like the Misawa Special Olympics, for Airmen to participate in and network with their Japanese counterparts.

“Get into contact with the right people, talk with your JADSF counterparts and get your face out there,” Raley said. “The local community really appreciated what I was willing to do for them and I’m grateful they let me teach English and be a part of the MIC. They recognized my efforts as a way of thanking me.”



(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Sadie Colbert)

Airman 1st Class William Raley, left, a 610th Air Control Flight weapons director technician, receives the 2019 Japan-America Air Force Goodwill Association award from Japan Air Self-Defense Force Ret. Gen. Shigeru Iwasaki, the JAAGA president, at Misawa Air Base, Japan, March 6, 2019. Raley received the award for continuously bolstering the U.S.-Japan alliance on and off base.



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Inaugural Air Force Pitch Day: New contracts, new partners



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Anthony Nelson Jr.)

NEW YORK (AFNS) — Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Stephen W. Wilson speaks to a crowd of small businesses, venture capitalists and Airmen during the inaugural Air Force Pitch Day in New York, March 7, 2019. Air Force Pitch Day is designed as a fast-track program to put companies on one-page contracts and same-day awards with the swipe of a government credit card. The Air Force is partnering with small businesses to help further national security in air, space and cyberspace.

By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

NEW YORK (AFNS) — The Air Force awarded 51 companies contracts with a total initial value of \$8.75 million in a matter of minutes at the Inaugural Air Force Pitch Day event held March 6-7, in New York City.

Air Force Pitch Day is modeled after commercial investment pitch competitions to deliver a faster, smarter approach to compete for ideas in the accelerating technology ecosystem. The process is a major departure from the lengthy contractual processes typically expected of the military. It focuses on rapidly awarding Phase I Small Business Innovation Research, or SBIR, contracts to companies based on a simpler streamlined evaluation of white papers and in-person presentations.

Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Stephen W. Wilson emphasized that lowering barriers to access and empowering people — whether small businesses, industry, research labs or academia — allows the Air Force to deliver speed of capability to the battlefield.

“Events such as Pitch Day allow us to connect small businesses to the operator, then to a real problem and bring those two together to build a partnership,” Wilson said.

Air Force contracting officials reviewed 417 submissions received during the 30-day application period and then invited 59 businesses to pitch their proposals in person March 6.

Of those 59 businesses, 51 received an initial award of up to \$158,000 with initial payment within minutes of their presentations.

The average amount of time to award contracts and pay companies via government credit card following a successful pitch at Air Force Pitch Day was 15 minutes. The fastest award occurred in only three minutes. Previously, the fastest award of a contract of this type was approximately 90 days – a period of time many small businesses and startups cannot survive through without funding.

Developing a same-day payment method via government credit card is key to helping businesses see the Air Force as a preferred partner to growth according to Dr. Will Roper,

assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition, technology and logistics.

“The fact that these small businesses don’t have to go get loans, or bridges, waiting for that 120 days to get on contract is a big deal. It means they can focus immediately on working with us, understanding our users, delivering for the warfighter,” Roper said. “For those who think using a credit card is a gimmick, they need to come down and work with companies for whom money matters. And for the size companies we saw this week, that paycheck today means they are now focused on our mission and not making payroll.”

More than 500 attendees from government, industry, academia, venture capital and investment communities also participated in Air Force Pitch Day March 7, which served as an open event that delivered a broader platform for invited companies to pitch to a larger community than just the Air Force.

“We are at the beginning of a big culture shift in the government. We woke up and said we are not the only funder or inventor of new technology anymore ... we are a partner with those who do,” Roper said.

Roper explained that the Air Force community prepared for Pitch Day the week prior through a series of rapid contracting sprints, awarding 122 Phase I SBIR contracts totaling \$6 million. They also awarded 69 Phase II SBIR contracts totaling \$60 million, 11 of which featured government matching contributions and five contracts with private matching.

During the entire week, including Pitch Day, the Air Force awarded 242 SBIR contracts valued at \$75 million.

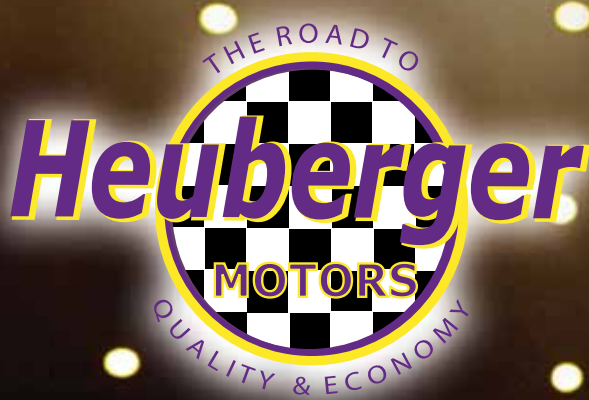
Roper said the next challenge for the Air Force is to organize to do this type of activity at scale.

“We have to do this across the country, across all places that do Air Force acquisition,” Roper said. “Now that we’ve wrung all the lessons out of the process, we’re ready to box it up as a tool that can be executed by the work force out in the field.”

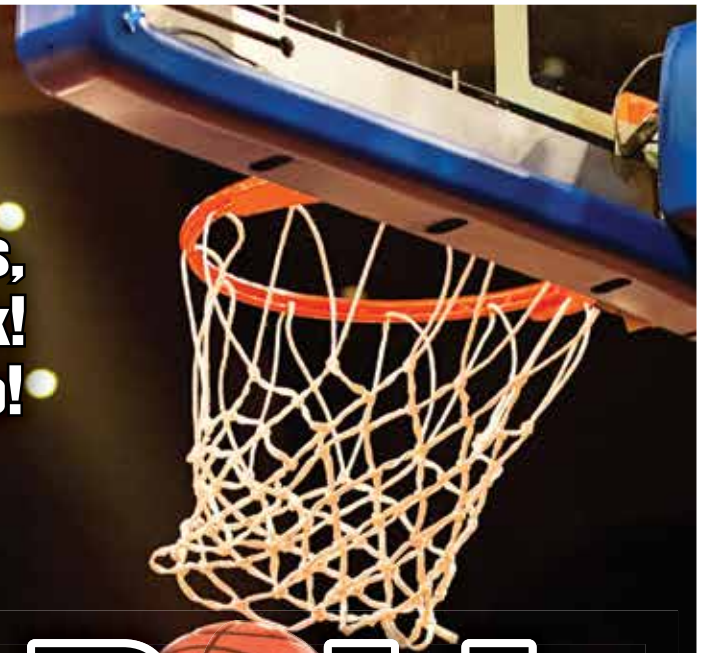


(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Anthony Nelson Jr.)

NEW YORK (AFNS) — Halimah Najieb-Locke, House Armed Services Committee professional staff member, listens to small businesses pitch solutions to the Air Force during the inaugural Air Force Pitch Day in New York, March 7, 2019. The Air Force is partnering with small businesses to help further national security in air, space and cyberspace.



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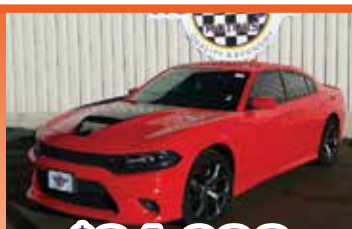
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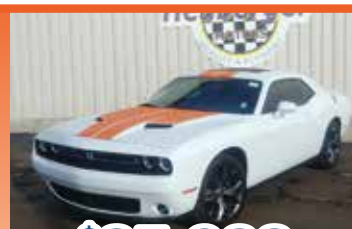
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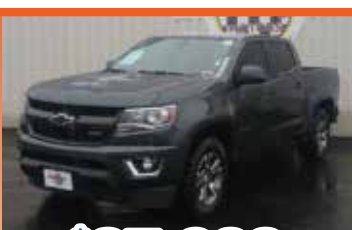
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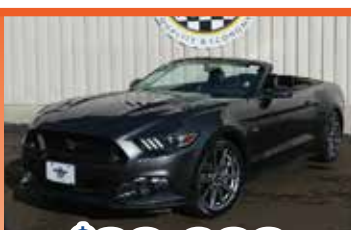
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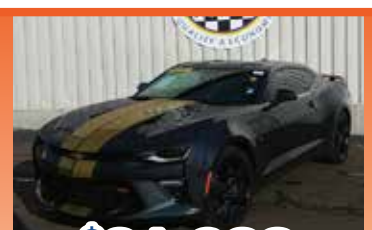
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Military leaders pledge ‘Tenant Bill of Rights,’ other reforms to address substandard military housing



(U.S. Air Force photo by Wayne Clark)

Arlington, Va. (AFNS) — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein and Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson provide testimony to the Senate Armed Services Committee in Washington, D.C., March 7, 2019. The committee examined privatized military housing for service members and their families.

By Charles Pope | SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Arlington, Va. (AFNS) — The civilian and military leaders of the Air Force, Navy and Army attempted March 8 to convince skeptical senators that they are working aggressively – and effectively – to correct poorly maintained military housing that has left some homes coated in mold, infested with rodents and with other problems affecting health and safety.

“Our military families deserve good housing,” Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson told the Senate Armed Services Committee. “And when there’s a problem with a house, it should be fixed promptly and competently. Moreover, our Airmen should be comfortable that they can identify problems without any fear of retaliation.”

Wilson was joined by Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper and Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer as well as the military chiefs of each service — Air Force Chief of Staff

Gen. David L. Goldfein, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley, Marine Commandant Gen. Robert B. Neller and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John M. Richardson.

Each was alternately contrite and outraged, apologizing for the not attacking the problem sooner but promising swift and decisive action. The responses followed blunt assessments from a number of senators.

James Inhofe, R-Okla. and committee chairman, said reports of substandard housing are “heart wrenching.” Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., who is the ranking Democrat on the committee, said the current state of housing on some bases is the result of “systemic failures on the part of contractors and Department of Defense.”

The service secretaries and chiefs each acknowledged the problem.

“In too many cases, it is clear the private housing companies failed to uphold their end of the bargain, a failure that was enabled by the Army’s insufficient oversight,” Esper said. “We are determined to investigate these problems and to hold our housing contractors and chains of command ... accountable.”

To underscore their response, leaders of each service described their services’ review of base housing. Wilson told senators that the Air Force completed its review on March 1 and that she personally visited housing at MacDill, Tinker and Shaw Air Force Bases. Goldfein saw housing and met families at Keesler and Maxwell AFBs.

Each found problems and substandard maintenance that “were very consistent with the testimony that you heard from the families that came forward,” Goldfein said. “And I’ll second what the secretary said, that the most concerning to me that I found was the breakdown in trust that we’ve got to rebuild.”

A major part of the corrective effort, the officials told senators, is creation of a tenant bill of rights. An early version of the document has been released. It provides service personnel who live in military housing more authority and stronger tools to alert the chain of command to problems and force action.

Foremost is the ability of renters to withhold payment if problems are properly reported to the private companies that manage the homes but are not addressed or resolved.

“Excitement in the near term based on hearings is interesting, not compelling,” Goldfein told senators. “We are going to have to keep our boot on the throat of the underperforming contractors and our command chain and leadership to make sure we get after this for the long term. And we’re committed to do so.”

How long it will take to enact the tenant bill of rights, however, is unclear. Spencer said it could take 90 days because it requires contacting each company that manages military housing to inform “and educate” them about new expectations and consequences for not complying.

Beyond the bill of rights and stronger commander involvement, the service secretaries and chiefs said they will work to ensure that base housing authorities are sufficiently staffed and trained. Wilson said she as part of her review,

at bases where housing is well maintained and satisfaction ratings are high, the housing authority is strong.

“One of the bases that I went to was one that was rated as performing well and when you have a contract housing office where the contractor is performing well, we probably have enough people in that housing office,” Wilson said. “But when performance starts to slide that’s when it becomes overtaxed. So how we put the people back (to) give support to the base commanders where it’s really needed is ... going to be the key decision point.”

Wilson, Goldfein and the other leaders also said that commanders must work harder to understand the state of housing on their bases and to respond aggressively and quickly. In addition, each secretary and service chief said there would be “zero tolerance” for retaliation when problems are reported.

“If people feel that if they act there will be retaliation, people will not act,” Wilson said.

When asked by Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., to speak directly to active-duty service personnel who are living in substandard housing, Goldfein said the issue was a “mirror check” moment for him and other commanders.

“We have a moral obligation,” he said. “We are not going to stop until we have the system right and we can take care of all of them.”

The Air Force and other services are also looking at the terms of leases to determine if universal language might be used. They also are examining building codes and how building inspectors from local governments are used to ensure that safe and most up-to-date standards are used.

While the hearing was for the most part cordial, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., focused on the role that commanders play to ensure that rules and standards are enforced. She also said they must be more assertive in rejecting bonus payments to contractors that fail to meet high standards.

A contract can have “perfect language,” she said, but “If leaders don’t enforce the rules, at the end of the day, we’re not going to be delivering for our military personnel.”

Sen. Martha McSally, R-Ariz., agreed. “This is ultimately a commander responsibility.”

McSally should know. A retired Air Force colonel and fighter pilot, McSally said her experience is that the record of commanders is “very patchwork.”

By the end of the 3-hour hearing, senators said they believe the actions and plans of the services are well designed and will make a difference.

But they also warned that their attention will not wane and that each of the services is expected to show real and lasting improvement.

“We will have another oversight hearing with the chairman’s blessing to see where the progress is,” Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., said. “And I’m not talking about next year. I’m talking on fairly short intervals because if you look at this, this is not rocket science. We can fix this. And it starts by doing what every branch has said they’re going to do.”



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Higher, further, faster: ‘Captain Marvel’ embodies the warrior ethos



ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) — Actor Samuel L. Jackson poses with Gen. Jeannie Leavitt after receiving a challenge coin from her during a media event for "Captain Marvel" at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., Feb. 20, 2019. Leavitt, the first Air Force female fighter pilot, was a consultant on the movie, and Jackson reprised his Nick Fury role.

By Staff Sgt. Jannelle McRae | SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) — Less than one percent of the American population will know what it’s like to serve in the Air Force. However, major motion pictures give the global audience a glimpse into the service’s history of breaking barriers and a taste of its fighting spirit.

To ensure an accurate depiction of military service, filmmakers and actors immersed with Airmen from across the Air Force during the filming of “Captain Marvel,” starring Brie Larson as Carol Danvers.

Larson’s character is a young Air Force pilot in the late 1980s. After graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy, she excels in pilot training, flies the F-15 Eagle and moves quickly to the world of test flight. A flight test incident leaves Carol infused with extraordinary powers.

“When I graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1982, there were about 150 women pilots in the United States Air Force, and none of them were fighter pilots because it was actually against the law for women to fly fighters,” said Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson during the showcase of “Captain Marvel” at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., March 7. “Today, we have 850 women flying for the United States Air Force and the defense of this country, and about 80 of them are fighter pilots.

“I’ve talked to Airmen who have helped with the technical assistance on this film and they were pleased that the co-directors had really captured what it means to be an American Airman ... that ethos of going higher, further, faster,” she added.

Airmen partnered with Marvel Entertainment through the Air Force Public Affairs Entertainment Liaison office, which offered direct access to resources including personnel, aircraft and equipment, technical assistance and military advice and locations. This ensured the portrayal of the Airmen and missions were plausible and realistic.

“Our mission is to project and protect the image of the U.S. Air Force through entertainment media,” said Lt. Col. Nathan Broshear, Air Force Entertainment Liaison Office director. “Major motion pictures, like ‘Captain Marvel,’ provide an incredible platform to educate and inform the American public about the people, culture and heritage of the U.S. Air Force ... inspiring the next generation of Airmen.”

Ryan Fleck, who co-directed the movie with Anna Boden, expressed his appreciation for every Airman’s professionalism and respect.

“Everyone we met in the Air Force was so selfless and giving to our process, and I was really impressed,” he said. “We couldn’t necessarily figure out what an intergalactic space warrior was up to, but we could come to the Air Force and see what it was like to be a pilot. Every detail, every phase of the process was huge, not only for us in the writing, but for Brie as well when she is playing the character ... from how she held her helmet to how she walks.”

Additionally, materials collected from Airman Magazine Archives and consultations with Air Force Materiel Command, Edwards Air Force Base, California, and U.S. Air Force Academy historians resulted in period-correct 80s and 90s hardware, uniforms and details.

The Air Force’s involvement also impacted character development and storylines. In December 2017, Larson, Boden, Fleck and producer Jonathan Schwartz visited Nellis AFB, Nevada, and spent one-on-one time with Brig. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt, Air Force Recruiting Service Commander and the Air Force’s first female fighter pilot.

“We put Brie Larson in the backseat of an F-16 (Fighting Falcon) so she could experience being in a high performance fighter aircraft firsthand. I think that helped her understand what it was like,” said Leavitt. “I appreciated the fact that they wanted to get the characters to be an accurate portrayal of a female fighter pilot in the Air Force.”

Continuing cooperation between the Air Force and Hollywood has resulted in support of hundreds of films and television programs to include “Sully,” “Bridge of Spies,” “Man of Steel,” “Godzilla,” “Lone Survivor” and multiple “Transformers” and “Iron Man” films.

“It’s important to know these partnerships are conducted at no cost to the taxpayer—studios reimburse bases for any expenses incurred as a part of the military unit’s participation in selected projects—but our investment of time and energy provides an incredible return on investment for all involved,” Broshear said. “Airmen are able to be a part of cinematic history, ensuring audiences see an accurate portrayal of lives dedicated to excellence, integrity and service before self.”

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Mt. Carmel celebrates team member Mimi Chough who volunteers 15-20 hours each week at Mt. Carmel conducting behavioral health counseling for our clients – veterans, transitioning service members and their families. The Marriage and Family Therapist Candidate for licensure serves on a team of licensure candidates and master’s degree-level interns who provide more than 8,000 hours of care each year at Mt. Carmel through traditional and alternative therapies.

Mimi has been with Mt. Carmel since completing her master’s-level clinical internship here in 2018. She was drawn to the behavioral health field by an interest in people and a passion for the stories unique to each person’s life. Today she helps veteran and military couples through workshops, retreats and counseling services to improve communication, increase connection and assist with transitions in marriage.

“I’m drawn to serve the veteran population to honor my father, Daniel R. Costello, who served two tours with the Navy during Vietnam,” said Mimi. “I grew up around veterans; most of my Dad’s friends were veterans and my brothers and I were never far from a veteran mentor to teach us the ‘Army way’ or ‘Navy way’ to do something.

“My father was deeply touched by his time in the military and was impacted by the people he met, and he always passed his pride in being an American to his children. We lost my father several years ago but I recognize his spirit in the veterans, young and old, that I meet each day at Mt. Carmel,” said Mimi. “I’m proud to serve veterans of all eras and branches and honored be a part of an organization that reaches so many. I volunteer to give back to those who have given to our country, and to bring healing and fulfillment to service members and their families, for they are my family too.”

EVENTS CALENDAR

- | | |
|---|--|
| Mar 16: PTS/Trauma relief-focus Tai Chi, 10-11 am | Mar 20: Mock Interview Event, 9 am-Noon |
| Mar 16: Boy Scout ADA Badge Event, Noon-3 pm | Mar 20: Creating your Best Resume, 1-3 pm |
| Mar 18: Spiritual Coverage, meet with a chaplain, 10 am-2pm | Mar 20: Warriors First, support group for justice-involved veterans, 4-5 pm |
| Mar 18: One Family Parenting Class, 6-9 pm | Mar 20: Art Therapy promoting stress relief and self-healing, 5-7 pm |
| Mar 19: Spiritual Connection Group, non-denominational discussion of spirituality, Noon-1 pm | Mar 21: PTSD Support Group, 10-11 am |
| Mar 20: Employer Day: U.S. Census, 11 am-2 pm (*2,000 jobs) | Mar 21: Free tax-preparation/electronic filing for all, 11 am-4pm |
| | Mar 21: Neutral Zone Bible Study/ Brown Bag Lunch, 1-2:30 pm |

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LINDA WEISE

May 9

Linda Weise is the CEO and founder of the Colorado Springs Conservatory, which she established in 1994 to bring world-class performing arts education to the region. Weise is a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory in piano and vocal performance. Weise and the CSC have been recognized throughout the state and across the country with numerous awards.



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Heightened focus on the Arctic brings attention, challenges to the Air Force

By Charles Pope | SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Arlington, Va. (AFNS) — There's no mystery — or surprise — surrounding the Arctic's strategic importance, a vast and foreboding expanse where the United States has maintained a resolute and unblinking presence for decades.

While that reality is long-frozen in place, a host of new and emerging factors ranging from climate change to intensifying global commerce to a generation of advanced weapon systems is triggering fresh attention and activity in the region.

No organization is feeling the shift more than the U.S. Air Force.

With installations scattered across Alaska, Canada and Greenland that include large air bases, training complexes, and a constellation of more than 50 radars, early warning and missile defense stations, the Air Force has the largest U.S. defense presence in a region that is a cornerstone of the country's defense.

As North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command's forward operational commander in Alaska, as well as an assortment of other senior responsibilities, Lt. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere is playing a central role in knitting the assorted efforts into a cohesive whole and navigating the region's increasingly complicated security and geo-political realities.

"Once you present the clear, objective facts, people quickly realize the strategic importance of this region," he said. "It's why we are taking this challenge very seriously."

Indeed, where once the Arctic was the providence of a stable and identifiable set of countries and interests, it is suddenly far more crowded.

China, for example, is active in the region. Russia, meanwhile, is moving forward with plans to build a new generation of nuclear-powered icebreakers that are twice as powerful as the current generation. If realized, the new icebreakers would be a key part of plans to maintain year-round operations and ship 80 million tons of cargo through the North Sea Route by 2024.

A collection of smaller nations and commercial interests have migrated to the region that now has more open shipping lanes that make its once unreachable natural resources more accessible. Landlocked Kazakhstan, for example, has expressed interest in using the Ob-Irtysh river system to reach the Arctic port of Sabetta.

The Arctic's repositories of oil, minerals and immense fish stocks are spurring "other nations seeking advantage of the diminishing ice environment," concluded senior military and government leaders who took part in an Arctic summit in January in Washington, D.C.

The senior leaders were blunt in their analysis for what that means for the U.S. and its allies. "The rapidly changing environment in the Arctic and the increased presence of great power competitors, along with malign non-state actors challenge U.S. security interests in the region."

The attention — and rhetoric — are broadly based. "Both a northern approach to the United States, as well as a critical location for projecting American power, its geo-strategic significance is difficult to overstate," Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein wrote in a January op-ed.

Actions are also following the words. By 2022, for example, Alaska will be home to

more advanced fighter jets than any place on Earth.

At the same time, an increased emphasis on joint operations will be underway across Air Force installations ranging from Thule Air Force Base in Greenland to Alaska's two major Air Force bases Elmendorf and Eielson as well as facilities operated by the National Guard. Mixed in is the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, one of the largest instrumented air, ground and electronic combat training range in the world. That space is important for training pilots today, especially those flying 5th generation aircraft.

It means working more closely with Army and National Guard units that have expertise working in, and surviving, the Arctic's difficult conditions. It means locking arms and even participating in joint exercises with allies, especially allies from Nordic nations that have deep experience in the Arctic.

"The strategic value of the Arctic as our first line of defense has reemerged and USNORTHCOM and NORAD are taking active measures to ensure our ability to detect, to track, and defeat potential threats in this region," Gen. Terrence O'Shaughnessy, recently told the Senate Armed Services Committee. He is the commander of NORAD and USNORTHCOM.

As the combatant commander charged with homeland defense, O'Shaughnessy is seeing the front line of homeland defense shifting north, making it clear the Arctic can no longer be viewed as a buffer. In a recently published commentary, O'Shaughnessy stated, "The Arctic is a potential approach for our adversaries to conduct strikes on North America and is now the front line in our defense."

Bussiere carries a distinct perspective to the job, which is a crucial part of the larger NORAD effort. A decorated pilot and experienced commander, Bussiere understands on an intellectual level the Arctic's strategic importance in achieving his primary mission of defending the U.S. and Canada, especially along the northern approaches. Like almost everybody who's served in the Air Force, he is familiar with Gen. Billy Mitchell's aging but still valid quip, "Whoever holds Alaska will hold the world."

Congress recognizes it too. The defense authorization signed into law last year requires the Secretary of Defense to submit "no later than June 1, 2019 ... a report on an updated Arctic strategy to improve and enhance joint operations." The report requires a summary of U.S. national security interests in the Arctic, including the threats and security challenges "posed by adversaries operating in the Arctic region" — especially Russia and China.

Driving all of the activity is the updated understanding about the Arctic's strategic value.

"When we think about the high north, we think about the value that the high north represents to all of us," Gen. Paul J. Selva, Joint Chiefs of Staff vice chairman, told the international audience at January's Arctic summit.

That value, he added, spans more than simply national security. The Arctic, he said, is "valuable" to environmental security, to expanding each country's economy and to serving as "the pathway to trade for the future. Stability and security in the high north benefits us all."



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan DeCook)

Arlington, Va. (AFNS) — Air Force senior leaders hike on a glacier near Illulissat, Greenland, Sept. 12, 2017. The senior leaders were in Greenland, Canada and Alaska, as part of Operation Uggianaqtuq, an Arctic Security Expedition to better understand the challenges of working in the climate and to build relationships with allies and partners there.

African Partnership Flight Rwanda concludes, connecting militaries through safety

By Tech. Sgt. Timothy Moore | USAFE-AFAPRICA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KIGALI, Rwanda (AFNS) — The African Partnership Flight Rwanda concluded with a closing ceremony in Kigali, Rwanda, March 8, 2019.

Hosted by U.S. Air Forces Africa and the Rwanda Defence Force, the weeklong event allowed 45 air force delegates from Rwanda, Cameroon, Ghana, Senegal and Zambia to learn from and share ideas with each other and the U.S. Air Force about their safety programs, particularly flight.

"The African Partnership Flight is (U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa) premiere military-to-military engagement program, and the goal is primarily to build partnerships with various African nations and get them used to working with the United States as well as each other," said Maj. Daniel Stephens, African Partnership Flight Rwanda mission commander.

Throughout the week, participants discussed various aspects of safety investigations, with each country discussing how they conduct them, culminating in a field familiarization exercise with teams investigating a simulated aircraft crash.

Each team was able to walk the scene and examine the damage to try to determine the cause of the aircraft mishap. To add a further step of realism to the scenario, the scene was littered with actual aircraft parts provided by the U.S. Air Force and the Rwanda Defence Force.

"We spent the past four days giving briefs, talking how to conduct a mishap investigation, and today is a culmination of that," said Chief Master Sgt. Joe Winfield, USAFE-AFAPRICA Safety functional manager.

After investigating the scene, each team presented their findings, giving what they

believed to be the cause of the crash and recommendations on how to prevent similar future incidents.

"We look at safety as a force multiplier," Winfield said. "It's always 'mission first, safety always.' From any safety incident, you learn to better yourself essentially. So, when we do these mishap investigations, the cause and recommendations lead to better mission enhancement."

To further help the sharing of ideas and cross-communication between the countries, teams consisted of delegates from multiple nations.

"The benefit of that is they don't do a lot of cross-talk," Winfield said. "Having them all in a room and talking about the safety programs they have increased the whole because some nations have a fledgling safety program and some nations have a very robust safety program. Bringing us all together to exchange ideas can bring everybody up."

It is through creating opportunities to work and collaborate together that the African Partnership Flight program aims to build aviation capacity, enhance regional cooperation, and increase interoperability.

"I enjoyed the interactions with other countries, learning how they do (safety) in their home (countries) and them learning from us how we operate about air safety," said Rwanda Air Force Lt. Fernand Ruzigana. "That was the best experience throughout this week."

"To the other countries that participated in this forum and the United States, we are honored to have hosted this event and hope, next time, to be invited to (future events)," Ruzigana added. "As we go on, we would like to have more cooperation with them but also with the U.S. Air Force."



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Timothy Moore)

KIGALI, Rwanda (AFNS) — Participants in the African Partnership Flight Rwanda work together during an ice breaker - the marshmallow challenge - in Kigali, Rwanda, March 4, 2019. The challenge is designed to facilitate communication within teams and get them to look at a task from various perspectives. The African Partnership Flight program aims to build aviation capacity, enhance regional cooperation, and increase interoperability by creating opportunities for African nations to work and collaborate together.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Timothy Moore)

KIGALI, Rwanda (AFNS) — Senegal Air Force Capt. Mar Fall takes a photo of an aircraft part during the African Partnership Flight Rwanda field familiarization exercise at the Rwanda Military Academy in Gako, Rwanda, March 7, 2019. Throughout the weeklong African Partnership Flight, participants discussed various aspects of safety, with each country discussing how they conduct their programs, culminating with teams investigating a simulated aircraft crash in the field familiarization exercise.





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(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Austen R. Adriaens)
Senior Airman Daniel Hall, a 133rd Aircraft Maintenance squadron crew chief, cleans the front window on a C-130 Hercules in Yuma, Ariz., Feb. 28, 2019. This year's Operation Snowbird exercise consisted of a multi-state aviation partnership between the 133rd and 182nd Airlift Wings, in preparation for future overseas deployments.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. David Long)
Retired Capt. Lawrence Hufford escorts the 2019 Air Force Trials team during opening ceremonies at March 1 at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. During the trials, 107 wounded warriors are displaying their resilience through adaptive sports and competing for a spot on the Air Force Team for the upcoming 2019 Warrior Games.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Wayne Clark)
Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson gives remarks during the Air Force Association's Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando, Fla., Feb. 28, 2019.



(U.S. Air Force Photo by Tech. Sgt. Carlin Leslie)
F-22 Raptors from the 1st Fighter Wing and 192nd Fighter Wing taxi during a total force exercise at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., Feb. 28, 2018. Both wings partnered with 633rd Air Base Wing during the Phase 1 exercise to showcase their readiness and deployability of the F-22s.

Air Force



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Cory W. Bush)
The United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron "Thunderbirds" prepare to fly over Hollywood in celebration of the upcoming film Captain Marvel March 4, 2019, at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. The formation featured six F-16 Fighting Falcons, the Air Force's premier multi-role fighter aircraft, soaring over Hollywood from 12:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Samuel King Jr.)

Staff Sgt. William Coleman, 96th Civil Engineer Squadron, inspects a folded flag during the Team Eglin Honor Guard graduation ceremony March 1, at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. Approximately 18 new Airmen graduated from the 120-plus-hour course. The graduation performance includes flag detail, rifle volley, pall bearers and bugler for friends, family and unit commanders. The graduating flight size increased because Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field Honor Guard teams are supporting part of Tyndall AFB's funeral area of responsibility.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Theanne Herrmann)

Senior Airman Eunel John Castaneda and Staff Sgt. Alexandria Davis, members of the Air Force Reserve's 624th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, carry a simulated patient, Chief Master Sgt. Danyell Stoutamire, during an aeromedical staging and aerial port training at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, March 3, 2019. The event was a collaborative effort to build working relationships between the Hawaii Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve and focused on both medical and aerial port functions, to include enroute patient care and staging, and cargo preparation and loading.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jensen Stidham)

Staff Sgt. Justin Warren, F-16 Viper Demo Team public affairs, walks on the flightline during the Heritage Flight Training Course at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., March 2, 2019. The five-day training prepares Air Force demonstration team pilots, maintenance and public affairs members for the upcoming 2019 air show season.



(Air National Guard photo illustration by Senior Master Sgt. Beth Holliker)

Senior Airman Haelie Egbert is an aerospace propulsion technician assigned to the Ohio Air National Guard's 180th Fighter Wing. Her role as an F-16 jet engine mechanic is to maintain the wing's Pratt & Whitney 229 engines through time-sensitive inspections, repairs and test runs, providing the highest quality engines for the mission, while ensuring the safety of pilots. In 2019, the 180th FW will celebrate Women in Aviation, highlighting female Airmen from across the wing who play a critical role in aviation and the success of the 180th FW's flying mission.

Force week in photos



Ramstein wraps up Exercise Operation Varsity 19-01

By Senior Airman Devin M. Rumbaugh | 86TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) — The giant voice system echoes throughout the installation. The children running around the house hear only one phrase, “EXERCISE, EXERCISE, EXERCISE.” As the kids echo the bits and pieces of what they understood to each other, they begin to mimic exercises, by running up and down the stairs in their house. While it might be all fun and games for the kids, their parents are out and about, hard at work.

The first iteration of Exercise Operation Varsity wrapped up March 1, after a jam-packed week of training.

“It has been an amazing opportunity to see the entire wing, across all seven groups, and four different countries, come together to participate in the largest readiness exercise ever,” said Brig. Gen. Mark A. August, 86th Airlift Wing commander.

“We got to do an entire year’s worth of inspections required by Air Force Instruction in a five-day period. It doesn’t get any better than that for the entire team,” August said.

Base agencies on Ramstein Air Base and Vogelweh Military Complex, fired on all cylinders to push their Airmen throughout the week.

“We learned a lot in this exercise,” said

August. “We have a tremendous group of soloists who are masters at what they do. Whether it’s security forces members with their M4 (carbine), firefighters with their fire engines, or fuels Airmen with their fuel trucks, you are amazing at what you do. But what we learned though, is that we have a little bit of work to do to come together as an orchestra.”

Ramstein Air Base members responded to simulated events like a mass casualty event, an aircraft mishap, an active shooter and a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive attack.

“Regardless of the circumstances and what we put our Airmen through, they outperformed what we expected of them. We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of the team,” said Chief Master Sgt. Ernesto Rendon, 86th Airlift command chief.

The first iteration of Exercise Operation Varsity may have come to an end, but the second iteration is scheduled for May.

“You get a sense of pride that you put 100% out on the field and delivered results,” August said. “We did some amazing things, but just wait for the next one, we’re just going to bring even more.”



(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Devin M. Rumbaugh)

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) — Tech. Sgt. Danny David, 786th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal team lead (center), returns from the site of a simulated car bomb during Exercise Operation Varsity 19-01 on Kapaun Air Station, Germany, Feb. 25, 2019. The exercise tested EOD’s capability to respond to a vehicle-borne threat.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Devin M. Rumbaugh)

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) — An 86th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter helps a simulated aircraft crash victim during Exercise Operation Varsity 19-01 on Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Feb. 27, 2019. Ramstein first-responders were tested on their ability to respond to a large-scale disaster.

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(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Devin M. Rumbaugh)

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) — An 86th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief launches a C-130J Super Hercules aircraft during Exercise Operation Varsity 19-01 on Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Feb. 28, 2019. 86th MXS crew chiefs continued to launch real-world aircraft during the week-long exercise.

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Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, Colo. — Here we go again. That annoying sound.

While at work, we have all heard fire alarms sound during fire safety drills, annual system tests, or maybe even from an actual emergency. The sound is unmistakable, loud, and dare I say annoying. It certainly gets your attention and hopefully gets your adrenaline flowing because you need to act fast when you hear it.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, U.S. fire departments respond to over 3,000 office property fires each year. These fires cause an annual average of four civilian deaths, 44 civilian fire injuries and \$112 million in direct property damage.

Fire alarms sound for a reason. “You should always assume a fire alarm is a real emergency unless you have been advised prior by a competent authority,” said Guy Chastain, Cheyenne Mountain

Air Force Station Fire Department assistant chief for fire prevention. “Sure, it’s possible someone got careless microwaving popcorn in the employee break room, or someone accidentally bumped the fire alarm pull station, but now is not the time to second guess why the alarms are sounding. This is the time to find the closest designated exit and get out.”

NFPA statistics show fires in office properties have fallen 71 percent over the past 30 years, but that is not a reason to get complacent. Any single fire in the workplace can injure you or take your life.

Regardless of where you are or what you are doing when the fire alarm sounds, you should stay alert, get ready to evacuate and do not panic.

“Don’t worry about grabbing valuables or taking time to deal with your computer, because when it comes to life safety, every second counts,” said Chastain. “Your impulse should be to look for an exit sign,

and if you’re above the ground floor take the stairs, not the elevator. Get out as soon as possible. Things are replaceable. Your life isn’t.”

Chastain says now is a good time to review your facility’s emergency action plan, including knowing primary and secondary escape routes for the entire building.

Contact your supervisor or facility manager if you need a copy of the plan and verify where your predetermined gathering point is located.

The CMAFS Fire Department is increasing efforts this year to educate everyone on the importance of knowing their facility emergency action plan, practicing it during scheduled fire drills at work and taking appropriate action whenever the building fire alarm sounds.

To learn more about fire safety, visit www.nfpa.org, contact your local fire department, or call the CMAFS Fire Prevention Office at 474-3355.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Robb Lingley)

CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN AIR FORCE STATION, Colo. — Fire alarms at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, Colorado, provide warning of annual system tests, safety drills, or actual emergencies. The Cheyenne Mountain Fire Department is increasing efforts to educate personnel on the importance of knowing their fire emergency action plan, practicing it during scheduled fire drills at work, and taking appropriate action whenever the building fire alarm sounds.

Air Force STEM event inspires next generation of innovators, explorers prior to ‘Captain Marvel’ screening



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Rusty Frank)

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) — Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson tours the STEM demonstration prior to a screening of the movie “Captain Marvel” in Washington, D.C., March 7, 2019. The demonstration was held to inspire children to serve in the Air Force or STEM-related careers.

By Staff Sgt. Victoria H. Taylor | SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) — The Air Force hosted a STEM outreach event to lead into the screening of Disney’s “Captain Marvel” at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum March 7, in Washington, D.C.

STEM, or science, technology, engineering and math, careers are projected to be the fastest growing sector in the coming years and this event aimed to inspire young adults to consider the Air Force or STEM-related vocations while increasing understanding of the military.

Hundreds of young girls and boys alongside their families flooded the public event.

“All of us have been inspired by moments in history and films that we’ve seen in our lives to be something, and do something — to stand up,” said Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson. “I’m hoping this event reaches young

people about who they can become and particularly I’m glad to see so many young girls here.”

Multiple Air Force organizations including Air Force Research Lab, Air University, AFWERX and Air Force Recruiting Service, created hands-on activities, interactive displays, engagement tables and provided a flight simulator all within reach.

“(Here) we celebrate ideas that defy, we tell the story of the people that defy preconceptions, of innovation that defied the odds, and of air and space craft that literally defy gravity,” said Chris Browne, Smithsonian Air and Space Museum deputy director.

The event not only built upon the Air Force’s legacy of cooperation with Marvel, but also offered a chance for Disney, the Smithsonian, Air Force leadership and con-

gressional attendees to celebrate the great strides women have made within the military branch.

“(In 1982) there were about 150 women flying aircraft in the United States Air Force and not one was a fighter pilot — the law kept that from happening,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. “How far we’ve come. Today we have about 850 female pilots in our Air Force, 80 who are fighter pilots and we’re growing every day.”

Following the hands-on STEM event, Airmen and their families were invited to watch a special screening of Disney’s “Captain Marvel” in the Lockheed IMAX Theater within the museum.

“I hope this film will inspire all of us, and especially young women, to see themselves in us, because we need you,” Goldfein said.



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ART EVENTS

The 5th Annual Through a Glass Darkly Symposium, with scholars and artists gathering to deliver presentations and engage in dialogue. Includes musicians Pablo Gómez and the Veronika String Quartet. Fri., March 15, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Mon., March 18, 3:45-9 p.m. and Tues., March 19, 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Free. UCCS Heller Center for the Arts and Humanities, 1250 N. Campus Heights, 255-5134, uccs.edu.

Tourist Boredom, a collaboration by photographers, filmmakers and one designer. Viewers will have a dark and eccentric visual experience meant to foreshadow the futures to come and reflect a satirical angle on nostalgia. Opening reception, March 15, 5:30-9 p.m. Viewable by appointment on March 16 and 17. Tim Gill Center for Public Media, 315 E. Costilla St., facebook.com/PikesPeakArtsCouncil.

ART EXHIBITS

Boulder Street Gallery Artists, 206 N. Tejon St., 636-9358, boulderstgallery@gmail.com, boulderstreetgallery.com. March Featured Artists, showcasing watercolorist Cindy Welch and oil painter David Barber, with a guest artist: abstract watercolorist Rob Grishow. Through March 30.

The Bridge Gallery, 218 W. Colorado Ave., 269-7055, thebridgegallery@gmail.com, thebridgeartgallery.com. *Eclectic*, an exhibit in various media which highlights the artists' personal methods of using metal, light, cement, paint, fiber, ink, pastels, graphite or wood. This exhibit is an exploration of unrelated ideas and individual styles. Through March 30.

City Hall, 107 N. Nevada Ave., 428-9797, creativeincolorado@yahoo.com, springsgov.com. *What Comes Naturally*, an exhibit by Colorado native Rhonda S. Van Pelt, focusing on flora, fauna and mountain landscapes. Rhonda loves celebrating the state's beauty through her photographs. Through March 29.

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, fac@coloradocollege.edu, csfineartscenter.org. *Scenes from Life: Drawings by Bernard Arnest*, a series of 51 large drawings that encapsulated this artist's reactions to a world that he decided was essentially tragic. Through June 2. *Amos Kennedy and The Press*, the work of this Detroit-based letterpress printer, as well as zines and other prints made by his students at The Press at Colorado College. Through April 7.

Commonwheel Artists Co-op, 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, marketing@commonwheel.com, commonwheel.com. *Eclectic Expressions*, featuring two painters, Frances Dodd and Mariya Zvonkovich; a glass artist, Kay Hall; and a potter, Josie Quick. Through April 1.

COPPER (Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region), 121 S. Tejon St., #111, 634-2204, info@cultural-office.org, peakradar.com. *LIMINALITY: Works by Claire Swinford*, 2015-2018, a solo show of artwork by this local artist. These works are united by their exploration of the concept of "liminality," defined as a transitional period when an idea or identity is in flux. Through March 29.

Coquette's Bistro and Bakery, 616 S. Tejon St., 520-1899, liaison@cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com, coquettesbistro.com. *Art of Gary Snyder*, a Colorado based artist who works in oils and acrylics, depicting animals, landscapes and cityscapes in a charming and haunting impressionistic style. Through April 2.

Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com. *Writing is Art*, a joint exhibition of writing by members of Pikes Peak Writers, displayed alongside the Cottonwood artwork that inspired each piece. Through March 30. *Drip, Dribble, Splash*, a juried show composed of artists of all mediums, coming from within Cottonwood and from across the region. These artists have brought their best depictions of visual art in the style of abstraction. Through April 2.

Dale J. Miller Center for Guitar Studies, 3617 Betty Drive, suites D & E, 573-0575, JilIMSpear-FineArts@aol.com, DaleJMiller.com. *Visions of Nature*, featuring regional artists Jill M. Spear, Irene Braun and Laura "Gates" Brown exploring themes of nature. Through March 30.

Downtown Studio Gallery at Pikes Peak Community College, 100 W. Pikes Peak Ave., 502-4040, ppcc.edu. *Fauna & Mosaics*, featuring the work of Pueblo artist Radeaux, who takes the beautiful natural world and mimics its patterns in his paintings; and David Caricato and his Trompe L'oeil sculptures. Through March 14.

Ent Center for the Arts, 5225 N. Nevada Ave., 255-3232, gallery@uccs.edu, uccspresents.org. *Time: Biannual UCCS Visual Art Faculty Exhibition*, investigating work of contemporary artists serving as educators at UCCS. Works span a broad range of media and concepts including painting, drawing, sculpture, sound installation, kinetic works and more. Through May 12.



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First Presbyterian Church, 219 E. Bijou St., 884-6200, mail@firstprescos.org, first-pres.org. *The Cross of Christ: A Lenten Experience*, a multi-sensory experience of the events of the last week of Jesus' life. This temporary exhibit features American and European art from the late 19th/early 20th century, including several impressive works by Cleveland Woodward. March 13 to April 11.

G44 Gallery, 1785 S. Eighth St., Suite A, 720/951-0573, g44gallery@gmail.com, galleryg44.com. Phil Lear Exhibit, the work of this narrative figurative painter, whose mission is to create work that embodies a classical ideal while capturing the imagination of his viewers and making a personal connection. This series of work is done entirely with palette knife. Through March 30.

Gallery 113, 125 1/2 N. Tejon St., 634-5299, gallery113cos.com. featuring 20+ local, juried artists, presenting two- and three-dimensional pieces including paintings, photography, silk, wood, pottery, sculpture and jewelry. Stop by seven days a week to see the ever-changing artists' work, meet the artist on duty and enjoy the delightful space. Gallery 113 participates in First Friday art walks. Ongoing.

The Gallery Below, 718B N. Weber St., 347/961-4789, jonb@thegallerybelow.com, facebook.com/thegallerybelow. Womxn's Art Show and Showcase, a beautiful gallery of paintings, sculptures, poetry, music and more. Support womxn artists. Through March 31.



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InfoZone Theater at Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., Pueblo, 562-5600, socolophoto@gmail.com, facebook.com/southerncoloradophotographysociety. 2019 Southern Colorado Photography Society Show, an annual photo show judged this year by John Johnson. Through March 31.

Kreuser Gallery, 125 E. Boulder St., 464-5880, kreusergallery@gmail.com, abigailkreusergallery.com. *Staring and Observing*, collaborative works Of Brian W. Tryon and Dustin Hansen. Through March 28. Artist talk, March 21, 5:30 p.m. *In the Landscape*, paintings by Michael Baum and Chris Alvarez, teamed up for an outstanding exhibition of paintings focusing on the landscape. Through March 28.

Laura Reilly Fine Art Gallery, 2522A W. Colorado Ave., 650-1427, laura@laurareilly.com, facebook.com/laurareillyfineart. *Stolen Moments*, sharing Laura Reilly's luminous view of the city at night with intense, vivid color. Her intimate paintings are impressionistic snapshots that capture the hidden energy and motion that Old Colorado City only reveals after dark. Through March 30.

The Machine Shop, 4 S. Wahsatch Ave., #120, 359-6966, work@jointhemachine.com, jointhemachine.com. *Design As Art*, celebrating the art and skill in graphic design and showcasing the talent of the local design community. Through March 31.

Manitou Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, manitouartcenter.org. *1st Amendment Gallery*, including works that promote free speech through artistic expression. Ongoing.

Pikes Perk Coffee & Tea House, 5965 N. Academy Blvd., 522-1432. The art of Marlene Kort, sharing her pastel and oil artwork, which seeks to communicate a positive energy. Through March 31.

Plaza of the Rockies, 121 S. Tejon St., 520-1899, liaison@cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com, norwoodinteractive.com/plaza. *The Art of Al B Johnson*, displaying the work of this latter-day expressionist. Working with heavy texture and bold composition, his work historically has been object-oriented. Through April 2.

Rawlings Library, 100 Abriendo Ave., Pueblo, moremoart@gmail.com, pueblolibrary.org. *Woman. Art. Animals. and Sit. Stay. Read.*, celebrating Women's History Month with the art of Mo Keenan-Mason; celebrating the library with art by Steve Mason. Through March 28.

Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, mail@sdca-arts.org, sdca-arts.org. *The Color of Light*, a National Pastel Exhibition, featuring original pastel paintings from Pikes Peak Pastel Society members and pastel artists nationally. Through May 5. *Southwest Immersions of Gene Kloss*, exploring how such topics as religion, architecture, darkness and American Indian ceremonies fit into this artist's larger view of the American Southwest in the 20th century. Through May 12.

Steel City Art Works, 216 S. Union Ave., Pueblo, 542-6838, steelcityartworks@gmail.com, steelcityartworks.com. *Think Green*, St. Patrick's Day-themed art, plus upcycled/recycled (green) art. Through March 31.

Tap Traders, 3104 N. Nevada Ave., #100, 434-2954, taptraders@gmail.com, facebook.com/taptraders. *Textiles As Art*, featuring artists Rhonda Denney, Laura Reilly, Tracy Cook Wein and Sharon Stephenson. Through March 30.

The Modbo, 17C E. Bijou St., 633-4240, the-modbo@gmail.com, themodbo.com. *Floating Through the West*, a show of Patrick Kochanasz's lovely, homey pastel landscapes. Immaculately rendered and with a very interesting compositional and edge treatment, these works are sure to resonate with anyone who loves the west. Through March 29.

Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 481-0475, info@trilakesarts.org, trilakesarts.org. *Visions of Light* Photography Exhibition, aiming to challenge photographers to go beyond producing a technically correct photographic image, and demonstrate their use and control of light to help define the subject. Through March 31.

BUSINESS & TECH

Cyber Capture the Flag Monthly Events, a cyber security training competition, wherein teams attempt to attack each other's systems. Laptops are provided by PPCC for up to 25 participants. Food and drink provided. Fri., March 15, 5:15-9 p.m. PPCC Centennial Campus, 5675 S. Academy Blvd., 502-2432, ppcc.edu.

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[illegible]

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The Transcript

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D	A	B			A	M	A	S	S			T	A	P
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Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.

- Aldous Huxley

Every day, the government makes decisions that can affect your life. Whether they are decisions on zoning, taxes, new businesses or myriad other issues, governments play a big role in your life.

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2515 Constellation Drive – Skyway - \$885,000



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7482 Little Chief Court
Fountain Valley • \$39,500
Land

20282 Lansent Court
Fountain Valley • \$39,500
Land

14655 Irwin Drive
Park Ridge • \$44,000
Land

1710 Aldrin Place
Park Ridge • \$45,000
Land

124 Neeper Valley Road
Crystal Park • \$48,000
Land

0 Upper Sun Valley Road
Crystal Park • \$50,000
Land

14705 Irwin Drive
Park Ridge • \$55,000
Land

1655 Aldrin Place
Park Ridge • \$65,000
Land

1715 Aldrin Place
Park Ridge • \$65,000
Land

1740 Aldrin Place
Park Ridge • \$65,000
Land

6055 Big Horn Road
Crystal Park • \$70,000
Land

0000 Waterfall Loop
Crystal Park • \$75,000
Land

545 Sunrise Peak Drive
Crystal Park • \$85,000
Land

Steep Road
Crystal Park • \$105,000
Land

111 N 14th Street
Old Colorado City • \$150,000

1675 Monterey Road #210
Spring Creek • \$185,000
Condo

1535 Monterey Road #230
Spring Creek • \$185,000
Condo

1535 Monterey Road #110
Spring Creek • \$185,900
Condo/Under Contract

350 Longhorn Cattle Drive
Ellicott • \$199,900
Commercial

710 Hathaway Drive
Powers • \$225,000
Commercial Land

5373 Prominence Point
Stetson Hills • \$248,900
Town Home/Under Contract

606 Leta Drive
Security • \$279,500
Under Contract

7566 Indian Village Heights
Sandcreek Preserve • \$299,900
Under Contract

7304 Evening Moon Court
Sandcreek Preserve • \$299,900

7245 Cotton Drive
Cottonwood • \$315,000
Under Contract

14420 Club Villa Drive #D
Gleneagle • \$329,900
Town Home

10216 Antler Creek Drive
Meridian Ranch • \$425,000

14395 Westchester Dr
Gleneagle • \$444,900

15805 Teak Place
Woodlake • \$599,900

15590 Castlegate Court
Kingswood • \$609,900
Under Contract

1545 Blueberry Hills Road
Woodmoor • \$650,000
Under Contract

65 Woodmen Court
Woodmen Mesa • \$675,000
Under Contract

8470 Aspenglow Lane
Cascade • \$799,900

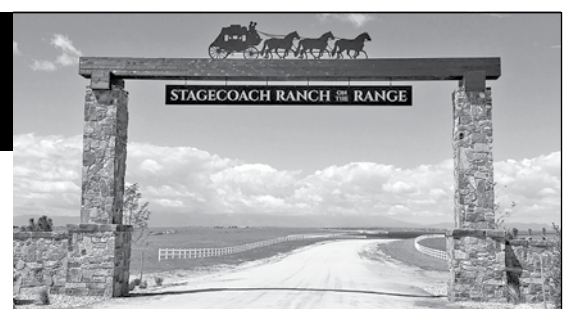
2515 Constellation
Skyway • \$885,000

6 Las Piedras Escondidas
Garden of the Gods • \$1,275,000

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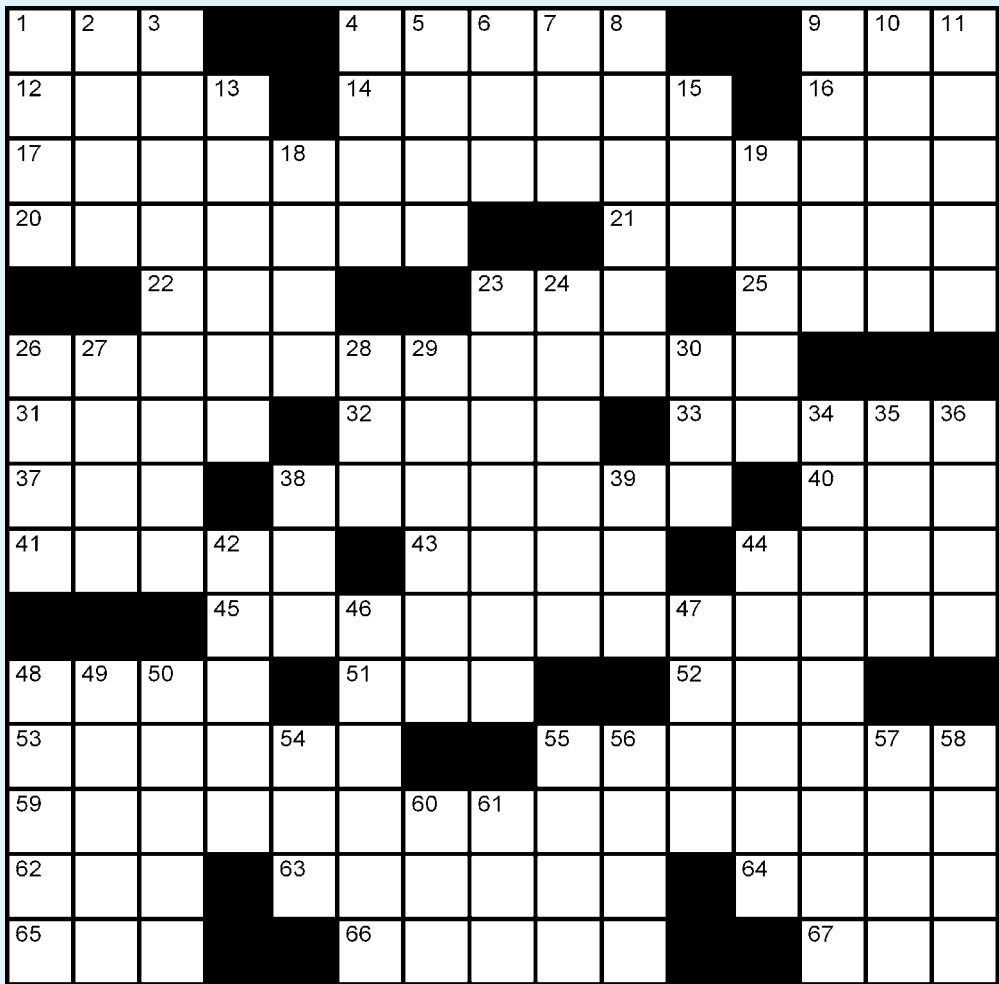


The person pictured is not an actual service member

More of an Art

UNIVERSAL CROSSWORD

By Ross Trudeau



ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

Edited by David Steinberg ©2019 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.upuzzles.com 03/17

ACROSS

- 1 Little bit of glue
- 4 Stockpile
- 9 Spy's bug
- 12 Bruins' sch.
- 14 Exfoliation stone
- 16 Messenger molecule: Abbr.
- 17 Study of a TV chef's behavior?
- 20 Annual Car and Driver list
- 21 Not actually smitten
- 22 Jan. preceder
- 23 Neutral Korean area, for short
- 25 ___ von Bismarck
- 26 Study of DJs' physical structure?
- 31 The "E" of QED
- 32 Santa ___ (desert winds)
- 33 Draw out
- 37 Cave dweller
- 38 Apt medical image for a vet?
- 40 Upper limit, informally
- 41 Amazon assistant
- 43 "Nope"
- 44 Up to the job
- 45 Study of a Houston batter's swing?
- 48 ___ jacket (denim top)
- 51 Toron to's prov.
- 52 Watercolor alternative
- 53 Infuse with oxygen
- 55 Charge in court
- 59 Fields that aren't precise, or a hint to 17-, 26- and 45-Across
- 62 ___-Manuel Miranda
- 63 Soon-to-be parents' task
- 64 Hang ten, say
- 65 Harden
- 66 Cone sources
- 67 Stitch together

DOWN

- 1 Heating passage
- 2 Long (for)
- 3 Romantic setup result
- 4 Instagram and Tinder
- 5 Requirement
- 6 Funny Poehler
- 7 (Someone else's mistake)
- 8 Split: Prefix
- 9 Sometimes-rainbow fish
- 10 Brooding teen's feeling
- 11 Words on a check
- 13 Notwithstanding
- 15 Long, long time
- 18 Art ___ (retro design style)
- 19 Actor Bridges
- 23 Have some tequila, say
- 24 The LA Galaxy won it five times
- 26 Country's McEntire
- 27 Shrunken Asian sea
- 28 Sweetheart, in slang
- 29 One after another
- 30 Next-___ (cutting-edge)
- 34 Navel
- 35 It may follow trig
- 36 Previous partners
- 38 Dads
- 39 "That's the spot!"
- 42 Anti-anxiety drug
- 44 Indians and Bangladeshis
- 46 Work boot tip
- 47 Long ago
- 48 Places with cells
- 49 Counting rhyme start
- 50 "___ we all?"
- 54 Sun-kissed
- 55 Pimples
- 56 Semis
- 57 Richard of "Pretty Woman"
- 58 (Don't open at the office)
- 60 Texter's "You're oversharing!"
- 61 Gluttony, for one



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