Maintain your mental, social, physical and emotional fitness

By Colonel Kurt J. Gallegos, 944th Fighter Wing Commander

I hope everyone was able to relax a little after our inspection and celebrate our success and accomplishments, it was well deserved. Now it is time to get back to work. The May Unit Training Assembly promises to be a busy one. Even before you have read this newsletter we have already had a Commander’s Call and I would like to congratulate all the award recipients once again.

It is also Wingman Day and I want us to reflect on the importance of this day. Wingman Day is a day that the Air Force and 944th has set aside to focus on you, our Airman, and the camaraderie that we all share. We are all wingmen and should watch each other’s six. We need to focus on teamwork and looking out for one another. Words like communication and respect are great but they need to be followed with actions to back them up. Today, with the issues of suicide and sexual assault these words are even more important. Maintaining your mental, social, physical and emotional fitness is the key.

Continue to watch, listen, and ask questions of each other. If you are in need of help, please do not hesitate to reach out to someone in our 944th Fighter Wing family. I am confident you can get the help you need to resolve any issue you are having.

Going hand-in-hand with our Wingman Day is Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) training which will be conducted during the September UTA. This training reinforces the Air Force’s commitment to eliminate incidents of sexual assault through awareness and prevention training, education, victim advocacy, response, reporting and accountability. I cannot stress enough that here at the 944th Fighter Wing we have a ZERO tolerance policy. I also want to emphasis that yes folks, summer is near. The 101 Critical Days of Summer will kick off Memorial Day before our June UTA, and go through Labor Day weekend.

Summer can be a great time for all to enjoy, but it can also be dangerous if you do not take the proper precautions necessary. Here are a few things to remember:

- Sun exposure - Wear sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher whenever you spend time in the sun, and reapply as needed. Some sunscreens fade with sweat.
- Heat stroke - To avoid life-threatening heat stroke (a core body temperature above 104°F) avoid strenuous activities during high temperatures. Conduct activities during cooler evening hours. Drink plenty of water or sports drinks for hydration.
- Swimming - Swim only in designated swimming areas, areas patrolled by lifeguards or other rescue personnel and never swim alone.
- To prevent injury to yourself or others, be a responsible drinker and always make sure you have a designated driver. Many boating accidents are also related to alcohol use.

Enjoy your summer with family and friends but remember to keep safety in mind. The 944th Fighter Wing is what it is because of you and what you do. We need you here safe and in the right state of mind. Thank you for all you do and have a great summer.

Welcome Home!!

Senior Master Sgt. David Merris, 944th Force Support Squadron, returned home from Transit Center at Manas
Integrity - What does it mean?

By Chief Master Sgt. Rhonda Hutson 944th Fighter Wing Command Chief
944th Warriors!
Integrity – What does it mean to you?
944th Warriors! With the Air Force recently highlighted in the press under a negative light, it inspired me to really think about integrity and what it means to me; as a person and as an Airman. I started to take a hard look at my life, to see if I am living my life with integrity and honor. The answer was hard to take, but what I found is that I have some areas for improvement. I challenge you to do the same in your personal and professional lives; they should reflect the same things. If not, you have identified some areas for improvement that will only make you better. It’s okay to be human, but own it and fix it.

We are bound by a unique oath which holds us to a higher standard. I expect that of myself and all of you. We are a team, and together we become better through being Wingmen to each other.

Promotions:
The following members were promoted 1 May 2014:

Senior Airman Juan M. Acevedo to the rank of Staff Sergeant, 924th Maintenance Squadron
Senior Airman Matthew Beckerleg to the rank of Staff Sergeant, 944th Security Forces Squadron
Senior Airman Perla A. Tapia Cordero to the rank of Staff Sergeant, 69th Fighter Squadron
Staff Sergeant Andrew S. Edwards to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 414th Maintenance Squadron
Staff Sergeant Ernest M. Melendez to the rank of Tech. Sergeant, 944th Medical Squadron

Wing Quarterly Award Winners
Congratulations to our Wing Quarterly Award Winners for the 1st Quarter!

Airman of the Quarter:
Senior Airman Amber Cruz, 944th Medical Squadron

Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter:
Staff Sergeant Marsi Smith, 944th Force Support Squadron

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter:
Master Sergeant Keona Ross, 944th Fighter Wing

Company Grade Officer of the Quarter:
Captain Jessica Pisano, 924th Fighter Group

Field Grade Officer of the Quarter:
Lieutenant Colonel Shawn Ortiz, 944th Operations Group

Instructor Pilot of the Quarter:
Major Sean Holahan, 69th Fighter Squadron

Weapons Safety Officer of the Quarter:
Major Gary Beckett, 307th Fighter Squadron

Visit http://afrc.wingmantoolkit.org/
Or to get help now call 1-800-273-TALK
Welsh also emphasized the importance of relationships; ensuring that this does not happen on your watch.”

 Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III spoke candidly with top Air Force leaders about sexual assault prevention and response April 14, during the Three-Star Summit here.

“Eliminating sexual assault is a huge priority,” James said. “It is a top priority for me; job one is taking care of people and this is part of that. We need to do everything that we can to protect the sons and daughters of America who come to us for service in the Air Force.”

James thanked the leaders at the summit for the focus they have given in support of sexual assault prevention. She spoke about her effort to speak to local sexual assault response coordinators, special victim counselors and victim advocates during her travels. She said she is encouraged by the increase in reporting, and the firm emphasis placed on both the prevention of sexual assault, and the treatment of survivors.

“What we want is the reports going up and the incidents going down,” James said. “The vision of the future is to have none of this, and that’s what we’re all working toward.” Although there have been exceptional advances in the treatment and care of victims, as well as the judicial process, there is still a lot to learn, Welsh explained.

“Unprofessional work environments, unprofessional relationships and harassment are all things that can lead to sexual assault,” Welsh said. “We are responsible for making sure those things don’t happen.” He lauded the Air Force’s efforts with the Special Victims Counsel Program, which provides individual legal support to victims of sexual assault, calling it a “game changer.”

But, “we need game changers in every part of the spectrum, from prevention to life-long care for the survivors,” Welsh said. “The solution is about focusing on one victim; thinking about the impact on that individual, and multiply that by a couple thousand. We have got to change this.”

Ignoring the issue will not make it go away, he added. Welsh also emphasized the importance of relationships; ensuring commanders, supervisors and coworkers alike truly know the people they work with.

“Why is it that, on the worst day of their life, 84 percent of the people who we swore to fight and die beside, if necessary, don’t feel comfortable coming to us for help?” Welsh asked.

Brig. Gen. Gina Grosso, the Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response director, gave commanders a “where we are” picture, recapping the time from when the SAPR office began in 2005 to the present day.

“Despite our efforts, at the end of the day, we still haven’t been able to prevent this,” Grosso said. As such, she outlined major ongoing and upcoming initiatives her office is leading to ensure victims have the support they need throughout the reporting process and beyond.

Experts from several fields, including law enforcement, legal and behavioral science were present to give their insight and take questions. Two sexual assault survivors were also addressed the group, and took their questions.

“Since the audience is three-star generals, they hold the reigns of leadership,” said Staff Sgt. Noah Lubben, a 25th Intelligence Squadron, Detachment 2, airborne crypto logic language analyst direct support operator. “I hope they execute with precision, and I hope (my story) reaches people who are victims.”

He opened up about how important his leaders had been in empowering him as a victim.

“I hope if there have been victims, they understand the Air Force has their back,” Lubben said. “Somewhere up the chain, eventually (their story) is going to get to someone who cares. These leaders are trying to stop sexual assault, and they’re trying to change the culture.”

Open and candid discussion was the cornerstone of the day, and the top Air Force leaders were recognized for all the work they’ve done so far, and pushed to continue to make sexual assault prevention a top priority.

“As leaders, we have it in our power to put an end to this in our Air Force,” James said. “We ask that each of you take it seriously, and really take it personally every day to do your upmost to make sure that this does not happen on your watch.”

Luke Military & Family Life Consultant available this UTA

The Luke Military & Family Life Consultant, Bill Yates, will be available for counseling on the Saturday UTA, May 3 from 1-3pm at the Family Readiness office, Bldg. 993 Room 32. Drop-ins welcome but appointments appreciated. To reserve a time slot during the UTA, please email linda.flores@us.af.mil.

The MFLC program provides non-medical problem identification and counseling services that address relationships, stress management, grief, occupational and other individual and family issues, providing crisis intervention when needed.

Consultants are Masters or Ph.D. level Licensed Clinical Counselors and work with existing Military Family Support programs to complement services provided. Services are free and anonymous. For more information on the program, please visit Family Readiness for a brochure or visit www.lukeids.com.
Softball the right medicine

by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr., 944th Fighter Wing

During the April unit training assembly the 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron and the 944th Medical Squadron got together for a friendly softball game.

There was a lot of friendly ribbing going on prior to the game. On the line was bragging rights and a bed pan trophy for the winner. The game was soundly won by the 944th ASTS.

The “ringers” for the game were Col. Kurt Gallegos, 944th Fighter Wing commander, Col. Curtiss Cook, 944th ASTS commander, and Lt. Col. Alfred Rossum, 944th MDS commander.

The game was part of a team building day Gallegos awarded to the Wing for all their hard work throughout the year and their success during the CAPSTONE inspection. The crowd held up signs and banners and cheered for their squadrons which made the game more intense for the competitors and exciting for the spectators watching.

Much fun was had by all. Senior Master Sgt. James King, 944th ASTS First Sergeant, was an umpire during the game and said, “The calls were bad, especially by me against ASTS but it did not affect the outcome. ASTS beat the pants off MDS!”

The idea for the game was conceived by Col. Cook and Lt. Col. Rossum as a way to build esprit de corps and unify the squadrons as well as the Wing.

“We needed to decompress, our squadron missions and personalities are different but our goal to strengthen the 944th Fighter Wing is the same,” said Rossum. “Now we are ready to go back to work.”

Coordination and the organizational details were handled by Master Sgt. Henry Ruiz, 944th MDS diet therapy technician, and Staff Sgt. Kevin Maiorano, 944th ASTS medical technician. The bed pan trophy idea originated from the duo when they were brainstorming on what the two squadrons had in common. According to Maiorano, “What we have in common with the MDS is our hearts; our desire to help others and to serve them even in their most vulnerable state.”

The ASTS won the game 27 to 22. The trophy was presented to Cook and Maiorano by Gallegos.

Both squadrons have decided to make this an annually battle for the bed pan trophy. Each year they will add the winning squadron, month, year, and event to the trophy hopefully making this a long lasting tradition.

“After all the hard work it was nice to get out there and enjoy ourselves and we look forward to other joint activities,” said Maiorano.

944 FW SharePoint site moving in new direction

Staff Meetings, training information, calendars, squadron and program specific information, etc., are moving in a new direction on the 944 FW SharePoint site.

What is SharePoint? I’m glad you asked! SharePoint is an internal website that provides a central storage and collaboration space for documents, information, and ideas. SharePoint is being more widely utilized in AFRC, a great interactive tool for members to contribute their own ideas and content as well as comment on or contribute to other’s people content to improve effectiveness. This can significantly reduce emails and duplicative work in an organization as well as increase engagement, centralize process management, reduce costs (e.g., enable remote inspections for the UEI), and act as a means to capture and share knowledge.

So go check it out and get informed with all the good things we are doing within the Wing! SharePoint site: https://afrc.eim.us.af.mil/sites/10th_AF/944FW/SitePages/Home.aspx.

Happy Mother’s Day!

May 11, 2014

Order your cake pops
April 6 - May 3
$ 5 for 3

Pick up May 4 (UTA)
2 p.m. in the
Public Affairs Office
DSN 896-5683

Send orders to:
SrA Jackson
brendajackson0315@gmail.com

Proceeds will go towards the 944th FW Annual Awards Banquet
DOD releases estimated impacts of sequestration-level funding report

WASHINGTON -- Today, the Department of Defense released a report that documents the damaging cuts to military forces, modernization, and readiness that will be required if defense budgets are held at sequester-levels in the years beyond fiscal 2015. This report fulfills a commitment made by Secretary Hagel to provide details on the effects of these undesirable budget cuts.

As the report says, sequester level budgets would result in continued force-level cuts across the military services. The Army would be reduced to 420,000 active duty soldiers along with 315,000 in the Guard and 185,000 in the Reserve. The Marine Corps would drop to 175,000 active duty personnel. The Air Force would have to eliminate its entire fleet of KC-10 tankers and shrink its inventory of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The Navy would be forced to mothball six destroyers and retire an aircraft carrier and its associated air wing, reducing the carrier fleet to 10.

Modernization would also be significantly slowed. Compared to plans under the fiscal 2015 budget, the department would buy eight fewer ships in the years beyond fiscal 2016 - including one fewer Virginia-class submarines and three fewer DDG-51 destroyers - and would delay delivery of the new carrier John F. Kennedy (CVN-79) by two years. The services would acquire 17 fewer Joint Strike Fighters, five fewer KC-46 tankers, and six fewer P-8A aircraft.

There would also be sharp cutbacks in many smaller weapons programs and in funding for military construction. In addition, the department would invest about $66 billion less in procurement and research funding compared with levels planned in the fiscal 2015 budget. The report notes that sequester-level budgets would worsen already existing readiness shortfalls across the force and delay needed training to prepare the joint force for full-spectrum operations.

Overall, sequester-level cuts would result in a military that is too small to fully meet the requirements of our strategy, thereby significantly increasing national security risks both in the short- and long-term. As Secretary Hagel has said, under sequester-level budgets, we would be gambling that our military will not be required to respond to multiple major contingencies at the same time.


Island Lake Camp Scholarships, Child and Youth Summer Program

Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC), Directorate of Services, Child and Youth Programs announced the availability of scholarships for military youth at Island Lake Camp in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania during the weeks of 5-18 Aug 2014. Active Duty Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve youth, 8-13 years old or 3rd-8th grades as of Sept. 2014, are eligible to apply. Eligible, selection priority will be given to youth of wounded and fallen warriors or whose parent is currently deployed. Interested youth must submit a Scholarship Application and Essay on “The reasons why I should be selected to attend Island Lake Camp.” The application is due electronically no later than 9 May 2014 to Ms. Penny Dale at penny.dale@us.af.mil. Selections will be announced 23 May 2014. Information about Island Lake Camp is available at www.islandlake.com. Please contact my POC, Ms. Penny Dale at DSN 395-7251 or penny.dale@us.af.mil with any questions or for more information. Thank you for supporting our Air Force youth!

Hero2Hired matches jobs for those who serve

by Tech. Sgt. Elizabeth Moody, 440th Airlift Wing, Public Affairs

Searching for a new job is a big undertaking. That’s why the Family Readiness Center here added a new resource to help Citizen Airmen explore career paths and find jobs with the recent addition of a new Hero2Hired kiosk in their lobby.

Created to make it easy for Reserve Component service members to find jobs, H2H is a powerful, comprehensive employment program that includes a focused marketing component. It contains everything a job seeker needs including job listings, career exploration tools, education and training resources, tips for resume writing and interviewing, and networking and mentoring opportunities.

Additionally, H2H gives military-friendly companies access to job-seeking service members, allowing employers to post job openings, search for candidates and invite them to apply, and participate in hiring events.

“This is a great resource for reservists as well as their spouses to search for civilian careers and job vacancies,” said Master Sgt. Barbara Hedman, 440th Force Support Squadron Readiness NCOIC. “All armed forces can use this website, but reservists and guardsmen have an advantage of being assigned an Employment Transition Coordinator, who in a sense acts as a head hunter in helping the member or spouse find a job. ETCs are veterans who are well connected with employers within the community,” Hedman said.

H2H is a multi-component program that uses an electronic job and career web platform, mobile job store, virtual and physical career fairs, mobile application, Facebook integration and armory/reserve center kits and kiosks to provide means for service members to explore its influential services with support through the Department of Defense’s Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program.
The debate over force structure reductions outlined in the Air Force’s fiscal year 2015 budget should be about capabilities and missions, not aircraft, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III told the Senate here April 10.

Testifying alongside Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James at a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Welsh addressed the service’s decision to divest the A-10 Thunderbolt II fleet.

“The great thing about this is we have a lot of people passionate about what they do, about the airplane they fly, about the mission we perform, and that’s a wonderful thing,” Welsh said. “I don’t see anything wrong with the debate. But I am concerned that we’re talking about perhaps some of the wrong things, because this isn’t about whether or not the A-10 is a great aircraft or whether it saves lives on the battlefield. It is a great aircraft, and it does save lives.

So the focus, Welsh said, should be about the service’s overall ability to meet the combatant commanders’ requirements, not about which airframe performs the mission.

“The issue really isn’t about the A-10 or even close air support. It’s about all the things we provide as an air component to a ground commander,” Welsh said. “For the last 12-and-a-half years, we’ve been doing CAS; that’s what’s visible.”

But Welsh said the Air Force’s most significant role in saving lives is much greater than close air support.

“Where you save big lives on a battlefield … is by eliminating the nation your fighting’s will to continue the fight by eliminating their logistical infrastructure, their command and control capabilities, their resupply capabilities; by providing air superiority so your ground and maritime forces are free to maneuver and are free from air attack, which we have never had to deal with because we’re good at this,” Welsh said. “The other thing you have to do is eliminate the enemy’s reinforcement capability. And then, of course, you have to do close air support.”

But the challenge, officials say, is that there are a lot of other aircraft that do CAS that also do those other missions.

Like the F-16 Fighting Falcon, “which, in fact, has flown more CAS sorties than the A-10 all by itself over the last eight or nine years,” he said. “So does the F-15E (Strike Eagle), the B-1 (Lancer), the AC-130 (gunship), the B-52 (Stratofortress). They’re all great, and they’ve all saved lives on the battlefield.”

“The comment I’ve heard that somehow the Air Force is walking away from close air support I must admit frustrates me,” Welsh said. “CAS is not an afterthought for us; it never has been. It’s a mission. It’s not an aircraft. It’s our mission and we’ll continue to do it better than anyone on Earth.”

The analysis
To better understand the Air Force proposal, officials explained that the decision to cut those assets provide,” he said.

The number one shortfall combatant commanders identify year after year is intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, so they would not support more cuts than already planned in that mission area.

“I spoke with Chief of Staff of the Army Ray Odierno to ask what he thought about reductions in the airlift fleet. His view was that a smaller Army would need to be more flexible, more responsive and able to move quicker,” Welsh said, so the idea of cuts to airlift assets beyond those already planned were not considered.

Divestiture of the KC-10 Extender as part of the air refueling fleet was considered, but an analysis revealed that mission impact in that area was too significant. As an alternative, service officials looked at KC-135 Stratotankers, “but we would have to cut many more KC-135s than KC-10s to achieve the same level of savings,” Welsh said. “And with that many KC-135s out of the fleet, we simply can’t do the mission.”

This left officials turning to the strike mission area for consideration. Divestiture of the A-10 fleet would save $3.7 billion and another $500 million in cost avoidance for upgrades that wouldn’t be required.

“To achieve the same savings would require a much higher number of either F-16s or F-15Es, but we also looked at those options,” Welsh said. “Even if an additional $4 billion became available, I believe the combatant commanders would all tell you that they’d rather have us fund more ISR and airborne command-and-control capability than retain the A-10 fleet.”

The Air Force ran an operational analysis on several options for savings. Officials compared divestiture of the A-10 fleet to divestiture of the B-1 fleet, to reducing the F-16 fleet and to a deferred procurement of a number of F-35 Lightning IIs. They also looked at standing down fighter squadrons, resulting in further decreases in readiness levels.

“We used the standard (Defense Department) planning scenarios, and the results showed that from an operational perspective, cutting the A-10 fleet was clearly the lowest-risk option,” Welsh said. “And while no one is happy about recommending divestiture of this great old friend, it’s the right military decision and representative of the extremely difficult choices that we’re being forced to make.”
By 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 944th Fighter Wing gave 25 prominent Arizona business men and women and Luke Air Force Base honorary commanders an adventure they will not soon forget.

The two day civic leader tour to Fort Worth, Texas was hosted by Col. Kurt Gallegos, 944th Fighter Wing Commander, and allowed the group an inside look at the different units within the Air Force Reserve.

“It was a true honor and privilege to be on the Civic Leader Tour 2014 as a representative of both the Arizona business sector and Luke Air Force Base,” said Mr. John Echeverri, EJ Engineering Group Owner and 944th Fighter Wing Honorary Commander. “I absolutely loved it. I found it very informative and fun.”

The first day started with a mission brief at the 944th Fighter Wing detailing the tour events. After a group photo, everyone loaded the KC-135 and headed for the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base. For most of the members on the trip, this was a first time experience.

During the flight, everyone witnessed mid-air refuelings with Luke AFB F-16 aircraft and the operations inside the cockpit of the KC-135.

Upon arrival, the group was greeted by Col. John Breazeale, 301st Fighter Wing Commander, and given a brief on their mission, structure and the layout of the NAS JRB. Other stops included the 73rd Ariel Port Squadron and a brief by Tech. Sgt. Kayla Leabo, 301st Maintenance Group, on the operational specifics of maintaining the F-16.

The tour then proceeded to the 10th Air Force where Col. William Lyons, 10th Air Force Vice Commander, gave a brief on the breakdown of the many units and responsibilities of 10th Air Force. Visiting the 10th Air Force Headquarters allowed the participants to gain new insight into where the 944th FW fits into the big picture and what the foreseeable plans were for the Wing.

The final stop at NAS JRB was a visit to the 457th Fighter Squadron and a brief on their mission. To end the day, the Arizona team met with local Ft. Worth civic leaders and military members for dinner.

The second day, everyone loaded onto a bus enroute to the Lockheed Martin Plant for a tour of the facility where they witnessed first-hand the process of the assembly of the F-35.

“I thought the trip was very well organized and while there were countless opportunities for things to go astray, it all worked like clockwork. I guess that is the hallmark of the 944th FW in action,” stated Mark Ellis, 1 to 1 Ventures Managing Partner and 944th FW Honorary Commander. “I was impressed that the 944th FW and Col. Gallegos could pull off such a trip with so many diverse elements from so many parts of the armed services.”

According to Gallegos, “The Civic Leader Tour 2014 turned out better than I expected and I think everyone had a good time. I hope our honorary commander’s learned a little more about the Reserves and how important we are to the Air Force. We will take what we’ve learned about the trip and make the next one, even better.”

A look back in history - AFRC and 944 FW make their marks

Air Force Reserve Command

Lt. Gen. James Jackson, commander Air Force Reserve Command

President Truman founded the Air Force Reserve on April 14, 1948. As we celebrate our birthday, we salute the dedicated Citizen Airmen that serve today, and have served our nation over the last 66 years. Together, we share a proud history of innovation which enables us to stay on the technological cutting edge in air, space and cyberspace.

As America’s Citizen Airmen, you contribute to our tradition of excellence through your professionalism and willingness to answer our nation’s call. I am honored to serve with you and look forward to seeing your accomplishments in the years to come.

To read more about our AFRC history visit: AFRC History at http://www.afrc.af.mil/library/history/index.asp.

944th Fighter Wing

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Turner, 944th Fighter Wing Historian

We know that history repeats itself and when it comes to success, that’s a good thing. The 944 Fighter Wing has a history of acing our inspections. In May 1992, back when we were the 944 Fighter Group, we were well above average in all major areas and there were nine areas of “Best Seen to Date.”

These areas were: Immunization/Physical/Clinical Examination, Operations Resource Management, Analysis, Materiel Control, Armament Systems, Disaster Preparedness, Planning and Management, Equipment, and Fuels Management. Overall, 63% of the 944 FG scored at least excellent and 18% scored Outstanding. Doesn’t that sound just like the wing we’re in today?

Although the inspection process has changed our wing is still putting forth excellence in all we do.

L. G. Jackson, commander Air Force Reserve Command
101 Critical Days of Summer

944th Fighter Wing Safety Office

- May is National Electrical Safety Month. It’s a good time to look around your home and eliminate overloaded electrical outlets, worn or damaged electrical cords, and appliances that spark.

- Children don’t always know -- or remember -- what can be dangerous, so it’s up to adults to watch out for their safety.

- Electricity and toddlers don’t mix. Help protect your child by placing protective covers on all unused outlets within the child’s reach.

- The No. 1 electrical safety rule for anyone to remember is this: Don’t touch a power line or anything that’s touching the power line such as a tree limb, kite string, or model airplane. No one can tell by looking at a line whether it is energized or not, and contact with a power line can be deadly.

- Keep liquids, such as soft drinks, away from electrical items, including TVs, VCRs, and computers. They could spill and cause dangerous shocks and fires.

- When there is lightening, stay away from trees and get inside.

- Summer activities include tossing footballs and playing badminton. Teach your children the importance of getting help from adults if they need to retrieve balls or anything from a power line.

- Help children learn to stay away from transformers and other ground-mounted electrical equipment.

- Remember; keep power tools and electric lawn tools away from swimming pools and sprinklers. Water and electricity don’t mix!

- Power tools should never be used when children are in, or are around, the area.

- Keep children well away from lawnmowers, weed-eaters, and other products that may throw objects, such as rocks and sticks.

- Little boys love tree houses. Remember; don’t build tree houses in trees near electric lines. Never allow your children to climb trees growing near power lines.

KEY NOTES:

**Build a Bike:** This Armed Forces Day, May 17, there will be a build a bike event where children will be able to build a bike at Fowler Park at 10am. There will also be an obstacle course for the children to test out there new bike, along with getting fitted for a helmet and receiving some valuable safety instructions. Eligibility: All Military Families! Child ages 6-.9

If your child is eligible please email your info to Gary Ferreri at gferreri@goldenstatefoods.com.

**944 FW Rising Six Presents:**

**SALSA SHOWDOWN**

Where: Bldg 993 Back Open Bay

When: Saturday, 3 May, 1530 – 1630

Your $3 entry fee includes:

- Salsa tasting w/chips
- Small drink
- 1 voting ticket

Want to make sure your favorite salsa wins? Buy extra voting tickets for a $1 each!!

**Teen Leadership Camps announced**

Registration for the Air Force Reserve/Air National Guard Teen Leadership Camps is open through May 31. These summits are available to youth ages 14-18 who have a parent serving in the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard nationwide. Registration closes May 31, 2014. Selected participants will be notified no later than June 11.

Register on line at [https://secure.caes.uga.edu/4h/camp preg/login/login.cfm?clientID=4](https://secure.caes.uga.edu/4h/camp preg/login/login.cfm?clientID=4). This year's camps and locations are:

- **Camp 1:** AFR/ANG Teen leadership Summit -Classic July 20-25 at the Wahsega 4-H Center, Dahlonega, Ga.
- **Camp 2:** AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summit - Adventure Aug. 12-17 at Cheley Colorado Camps, Estes Park, Colo.

For more information, contact Alan Ray, Services Executive advisor to HQ AFRC, at DSN 497-0215, or commercial 478-327-0215.