

SnapShot

944th Fighter Wing, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona

April 2016 Newsletter



Senior Airman Steven Mendivil, 944th Security Forces Squadron member, holds an ASP training pad Mar. 6 while a Girl Scout swings at it with a foam training baton at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.)

Headlines:

Tuskegee 75th Anniversary

Miller nominated as next Chief of Air Force Reserve

There is a new IG in town

Air Force, Army build partnership for energy assurance





944th Fighter Wing Monthly SnapShot

www.944fw.afrc.af.mil

Bringing the Heat

April 2016

944 FW KEY LEADERS

Commander

Col. Kurt J. Gallegos

Vice Commander

Col. Bryan Cook

Command Chief

CMSgt. Rhonda L. Hutson

944th Fighter Wing Electronic Monthly SnapShot

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944 FW Mission

Train and provide combat
ready Airmen.

Anytime, Anywhere

Airmen from the 944th Fighter Wing prepare a table for the Women's Empowerment Luncheon in March during the unit training assembly at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. (U.S. Air Force photo by Maj. Elizabeth Magnusson)



Command Commentary

Provide positive experiences

By Colonel Kurt Gallegos, 944th Fighter Wing Commander

I would like to thank those who helped make this year's air show a success. Over 425,000 people attended which ranks this one as the largest ever and we couldn't have done it without your help.

The air show was just the beginning of what is shaping up to be a busy month. This month, the Air Force Reserve will celebrate its 68th birthday and the theme for this year's celebration is "stationed locally, serving globally."

The Air Force Reserve was created as a separate component on April 14, 1948, when the Army Air Corps Reserve was transferred to the Air Force. However, the Air Force Reserve lineage dates back 100 years to when Reserve Airpower was established in the National Defense Act of 1916.

As Citizen Airmen, we have a great responsibility and our contribution to the best Air Force in the world doesn't go unnoticed. I want to thank you and your families for what you do and the sacrifices you make. Happy Birthday to the Air Force Reserve and to you.

April is also the Month of the Military Child. As a brand new grandfather I have a renewed appreciation and concern for the

development of our youth and the future of this country.

This awareness program was established to underscore the important role children play in the Armed Forces community. According to the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) there are approximately 2 million military children, ranging in ages from newborn to 18 years old; 1.3 million military children are school-aged.

The Air Force offers summer programs, camps, and after school activities to keep our children actively involved in productive endeavors. Let's do our part in providing positive experiences and opportunities so that they may develop the skills necessary to one day establish themselves as leaders in their communities.

Finally, it is also Sexual Assault Awareness month. Chief Hutson wrote a great piece on our stance here in the 944th on this issue so make sure you read it (see below). The bottom line is sexual assault is criminal conduct that falls well short of the standards America expects of its men and women in uniform and is a violation of our Air Force Core Values. It is everyone's

responsibility to do their part and take action when needed.

Thank you for being part of this Wing and I look forward to seeing you all this weekend.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Nason

Stop the disease

By Chief Master Sgt. Rhonda Hutson, 944th Fighter Wing Command Chief

944th Warriors! I try not to repeat my messages to you but this one is so important I'm going to break my own rule. I will be short because this is real simple.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This year's theme is 'Prevention is Possible.' Some people argue prevention is too lofty a goal as the problem is too pervasive, so this year we have boldly posed the possibility that prevention just might be possible.

Really? We're going to be aware? We're going to suggest that maybe, just maybe, prevention is possible? So why are we still talking about sexual assault? Is there a single Airman among us that doesn't know sexual assault is a problem? Then why do we have an awareness month? Why are we satisfied with debating whether it is preventable? You should be insulted. People think we aren't aware that there is a problem and they believe we can't fix it. How does that make you feel? I know it upsets me. Every evil-doer in the world fears us, except those in our ranks.

When I walk around the Wing how often do you think someone raises their hand and yells, oh, oh Chief, watch me assault someone? The answer is zero; never happens. Know why, because they know the justice I will bring down on them. So why does it happen in front of any of us?

The Air Force recently rolled out their new program called 'Green Dot.' This is a whole new dynamic approach to influencing a cultural shift in our Air Force that includes all forms of interpersonal violence to include sexual assault. The premise is that if everyone does their part to change the culture and intervenes on some level we will work to eradicate this reprehensible conduct in our Air Force. The new program teaches our Airmen intervention techniques from very subtle to overt, as well as strategies to create a safer environment for everyone. I have attended this course and the tools are a simple way for us all to get involved.

You know what I want the theme for this month to be? Knock it off. Stop looking away. Stop this cancer in our Air Force. Hopefully nobody doubts how your leadership team feels about this. So, at the start of this article I said I would be simple. Here it goes...fix it! Stop being made aware. DO SOMETHING! Never ever look the other way. Everyone can do their part and it starts at the top with us communicating the message across the Wing.

I look forward to your attendance at one of the upcoming Green Dot training opportunities, it truly is a paradigm shift in how we work together to eradicate this ugly disease from our Air Force. 'Til next time, Stop this disease!



Wing News

Tuskegee 75th Anniversary



Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr., 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A ceremony honoring 75 years of the Tuskegee Airmen experience and the great heritage of the “Red Tail” warriors from the 302nd Fighter Squadron took place March 24 during the Third Annual Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona.

The commemorative ceremony, held at the Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Air Park, highlighted the incredible bravery, commitment, and expertise of the Tuskegee Airmen who signify sacrifice, the struggles of overcoming adversity in the face of racial discrimination, and a strong legacy of pioneer aviators.

About 80 people attended the ceremony including Lt. Col. (Ret.) Robert Ashby, Lt. Col. (Ret.) Asa Herring, and Tech. Sgt. (Ret.) Rudolf Silas, three of the original Tuskegee Airmen, members of the Archer-Ragsdale Arizona Chapter (ARAC) Tuskegee Airmen, the Honorable Jerry Weirs, City of Glendale mayor, and leadership from the 56th and 944th Fighter Wings.

During the ceremony, a wreath was laid at the base of the red tail by the original Tuskegee Airmen while the Luke AFB Honor Guard performed Taps and rendered the proper military honors.

“The ceremony was a remembrance of what happened in the past and an opportunity to see what I think has been the most important accomplishment of the Tuskegee Airmen, the integration of the Armed Forces,” said Ashby. “Believe in yourselves, and put forth the ef-

fort needed to accomplish your goals,” he continued as a message to today’s youth and a blueprint for success.

ARAC is named for Fred Archer, who was the first African American to earn the rank of Chief Master Sgt. and Lincoln Ragsdale, a pilot with the 99th Fighter Squadron in World War II and later a civil rights leader here in Phoenix during the 1950’s and 60’s.

“Over 50 Tuskegee Airmen chapters are established nation-wide with a twofold purpose,” said Bernard Bruce, 56th

Fighter Wing occupational ground safety manager and chapter historian for ARAC. “The first is to honor the accomplishments of those who trained and performed as Tuskegee Airmen during World War II. The second is to inspire youth to outstanding achievements in leadership through social and educational activities, science, technology, engineering and Math. That is our passion and that is our challenge.”

In July of 1987, the 944 FW re-activated the 302nd Fighter Squadron and a few years later, in March of 2000, they re-activated the 301st Fighter Squadron. Both these units belonged to the 332nd Fighter Group during WWII. The units have since transitioned to the F-22 mission and are located at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska and Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico respectively. However, the 944 FW still embraces the proud tradition of the Tuskegee Airmen.

“Not only do I get to lead the 944th Fighter Wing with its strong ties to the Tuskegee Airmen but I have served under its flag while deployed with the 332nd Fighter Air Expeditionary Group four times in Iraq,” said Col. Kurt Gallegos, 944th Fighter Wing commander.

“Through the enormous sacrifices and accomplishments that made them legendary, these brave Airmen lived up to the core values of ‘Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do.’ I can assure you that our future aviators and maintainers will always remember the ‘Red Tails.’”

April 2016 promotions:

Congratulations to the following

944th Fighter Wing promotees

From Airman:

A1C Desiree Araujo, 944 ASTS

A1C Megan Mccall, 944 CES

From Airman First Class:

SRA Matthew Gaziala, 924 MXS

SRA Erika Godwin, 414 MXS

From Senior Airman:

SSgt Shalonta Bryant, 924 MXS

SSgt Robert Gonzalez, 944 CES

SSgt James Kennaugh, 944 ASTS

SSgt Robert Reggio, 924 FG Det 2

SSgt Paulsaun Sikora, 944 ASTS

SSgt Kimberly Villalobos, 944 ASTS

From Staff Sergeant:

TSgt Williams Cory, 944 CES

TSgt Monica Falcon, 924 MXS

TSgt Jeff Gronemyer, 924 MXS

TSgt Joshua Jacobson, 924 MXS

TSgt Kirlon Kerr, 47 FS

TSgt Thomas Starr, 924 MXS

TSgt Steven Steward, 414 MXS

Several pivotal milestones happened in the month of March from 1940 to 1949 for those who participated in the Tuskegee Airmen experience, including when the first Tuskegee Airmen ground crews began training, the first flying unit, the 99th Pursuit Squadron was activated, and the first Tuskegee aviation cadets received their pilot wings. In April 2013, former Governor Jan Brewer signed into law Senate Bill 1128 that designates the fourth Thursday in March as Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day in the state of Arizona. Currently, Arizona is the only state to have a designated day set aside to honor the Tuskegee Airmen.

BRINGING THE HEAT

944 FIGHTER WING



DOD/Air Force Reserve/Wing News

Miller nominated as next Chief of Air Force Reserve



From Air Force Reserve Command

President Barack Obama has nominated Maj. Gen. Maryanne Miller for a third star and assignment as Chief of Air Force Reserve and Commander, Air Force Reserve Command, replacing Lt. Gen. James F. Jackson.

Miller is currently deputy to the chief of the Air Force Reserve, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. She assists the chief of the Air Force Reserve who serves as the principal advisor on Reserve matters to the secretary of the Air Force and Air Force Chief of Staff.

After Senate confirmation, she will become the first female Citizen Airman to achieve the rank of lieutenant general, the first female chief of Air Force Reserve, and first female commander, Air Force Reserve Command during a ceremony in July.

"She is a proven leader and will continue to lead our Citizen Airmen to the next level of excellence," said Jackson.

Miller, a graduate of The Ohio State University, has received many distinguished awards and decorations in her 35-year career and is a command pilot with more than 4,800 hours in numerous aircraft.

To find out more about the Air Force Reserve Command please visit website at <http://www.afrc.af.mil/>

DSPO suicide prevention communication report



By Department of Defense Suicide Prevention Office

The Department of Defense considers one loss to suicide too many. We will continue to do everything possible to prevent suicide in our military.

Our most valuable resource is our people. We are deeply concerned about suicide in the military and believe it is one of the most urgent problems facing the department.

The complete breakdowns of suicide numbers and other resources are posted at www.DSPO.mil.

While there has been a decrease in the number of deaths by suicide from fourth quarter 2014 to fourth quarter 2015 in the Active Component and a slight increase in the number of deaths by suicide in the Reserve Component, further analysis considering the size of the force is necessary to assess whether this represents a statistically significant change.

Warrior of the Month



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lausanne Kinder

Senior Amn. Glendra Bruno-George

944th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Command Support Staff

Time in Service: 2 years 6 months

Time with the 944th Fighter Wing: 2 years 6 months

Civilian Job: Cosmetologist

Hometown: New Orleans

Hobbies: Kids (my kid's hobbies are my hobbies) and shopping

Commander's comments: Senior Amn. Bruno-George is the first Airman in the 944th Fighter Wing to complete the 3A151 upgrade training.

This is a unique accomplishment as it is the combination of two career fields involving a training process from two separate and distinct work centers. She has also shown outstanding persistence and motivation in challenging her peers and trainers to accomplish the tasks, Computer Based Training and on the job training needed to successfully upgrade her to a fully qualified 5-level.

Additionally, Bruno-George has guided the UTAPS process into a functional and streamlined manner which has helped garner the alternate Unit Training Assembly reschedules, man-days, and members in Inactive Ready Reserve status. This has provided the squadron with an accurate account of assigned members attendance and/or whereabouts.

Bruno-George achieved this milestone by proactively reaching out to the work centers and building relationships with the flight chiefs and members assigned to LRS. Outstanding Airman!

Why did you join the Air Force Reserves? I joined because I wanted to help motivate my family. I wanted to show them that it's never too late to pursue a dream.

How does your job support the mission of the 944th Fighter Wing? As a CSS, I support the commander and leadership to help the office run smoothly. I make sure that everyone in my squadron is accounted for daily operations.

If you were on a deserted island...? I would be a bohemian goddess with a great tan and wild hair.



Know your benefits

By Senior Master Sgt. David Merriis, first sergeant

Everyone should be familiar with your SGLI benefits and know that you are automatically insured under full-time SGLI as a Member of the Ready Reserve or National Guard as long as you are scheduled to perform at least 12 periods of inactive training per year. However you may not be fully aware of the TSGLI program. Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection (TSGLI) provides automatic traumatic injury coverage to all Servicemembers covered under the SGLI program. It provides short-term financial assistance to severely injured Servicemembers and Veterans to assist them in their recovery from traumatic injuries. TSGLI is not only for combat injuries, but provides insurance coverage for injuries incurred on or off duty.

This benefit is also provided retroactively for Servicemembers who incurred severe losses as a result of traumatic injuries incurred between October 7, 2001 and November 30, 2005, regardless of the geographic location where the injury occurred, and regardless of whether coverage was in effect at the time of injury. Effective October 1, 2011, the Veterans' Benefit Improvement Act of 2010 removed the requirement that injuries during the retroactive period be incurred in Operations Enduring or Iraqi Freedom.

Although there is a list of what is covered and what the compensation is for

each, my experience was the result of a Traumatic injury resulting in inability to perform at least two Activities of Daily Living (ADL). The ADL's according to TSGLI are

(1) Physical assistance - when a member requires hands-on assistance from another person.

(2) Stand-by assistance - when a member requires someone to be within arm's reach because the patient's ability fluctuates and physical or verbal assistance may be needed.

(3) Verbal assistance - when a member requires verbal instruction in order to complete the ADL due to cognitive impairment. Without these verbal reminders, the member would not remember to perform the ADL.

Without this physical, stand-by, or verbal assistance, the member would be incapable of performing the task. If eligible and depending on the members individual circumstance, \$25K payments may be made at the 30th, 60th, 90th and 120th day of consecutive ADL's not to exceed 100K per incident. This can be a long process and requires a significant amount of documentation and not everyone will qualify however if you are willing to brave the paperwork the payoff will be worth your effort. Did I mention that the payments are tax free?

For more information go to the following sites: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/tsgli.asp> or http://www.militaryonesource.mil/casualty?content_id=270926



Courtesy photo



Courtesy art

Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2016

DoD Theme – Know Your Part! Do Your Part!

Calendar of Events:

- **Contest – "Walk A Mile In Their Shoes"** w/Pedometers
Prizes awarded to Male /Female & Squadron w/ greatest number of steps
56 FSS last year Squadron winners
- **Movie Showing on Wednesdays** @ SAPRO Office (Bldg 1150, Room 1052) – April 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th showing 1130-1300
Brown Bag Lunches will be provided by SAPRO Office
Limited seating available, please call ex6-4878 for sign ups & movie listing
- **Unmasking Sexual Assault** – Mask provided by SAPRO Office for decorating and placed on "The Wall of Mask" located outside the SAPRO Office
- **Hands Across Luke** – Commencement – 30 April from 1500-1512
Place/Time: Across the bridge (North & South side), we will need to be in place by 1510, with a moment of silence from 1511-1512.
Attire: We encourage all squadrons to wear their Squadron T-Shirts.



Top Three Meeting!!!

Sunday,
April 10, 2016
at
11:30 to 1230
in
Dining Facility



Wing News

Airmen infiltrated by Girl Scouts



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.

By Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr. 944th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs

Military discipline in regards to diet and weight control went out the window during the Unit Training Assembly in March.

Girl Scout Troop 1308 was given a tour of the 944th Fighter Wing and brought over 240 boxes of Girl Scout cookies for Airmen to enjoy.

"Everyone was so welcoming to all of us," said Ms. Sherry Conway, troop leader.

During the tour they visited as many sections as possible and welcomed the opportunity to show and tell the Airmen how much they appreciate their service.

The group was given colorful hands-on presentations and shown a glimpse of what being a United States Air Force Reservist entails.

"We thought it was great that some of the ladies talked to us about their duties as Airmen," said Conway. "We all were quite impressed and had that, 'wow girls can do that too' feeling."

The sections that participated in giving presentations included security forces, emergency management, the development and training flight, detachment 1 maintenance, and the tour ended with a visit and group photo with Col. Kurt Gallegos, 944 FW commander.

"We aren't going anywhere and you are always welcome to come back," said Gallegos when asked by a Girl Scout if they could come back to visit. Girl Scout troop 1308 is located in north Peoria.

"One of the troop mothers who visited Luke AFB prior during a Girl Scout tour said that this was the best one," said Conway. "Thank you for everything you all do each and every day to protect our freedoms."

Join The Fun...
discovering your hidden strengths

AFR/ANG TEENS!

Application Deadline:
1 May 2016



Teens (ages 14 - 18) enjoy a week-long adventure designed for the youth of Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members. These leadership camps strengthen self confidence and resourcefulness needed in today's challenging and ever changing world. Interactive team building exercise, high adventure activities develop and improve endurance. You'll learn the value of pulling together to accomplish tasks. Our goal is to shape the leaders of tomorrow, so what are you waiting for?

It's free to participate. Transportation and camp are funded through Air Force Youth Programs.

Classic Summit: 17-22 Jul - Dahlenega, GA

Adventure Summit: 9-14 Aug - Estes Park, CO



www.georgia4h.org/AFRANGTeenSummit

LRS goes to cort

By Staff Sgt. Nestor Cruz, 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Think back to when you were ten and how good it felt to play outside, fire cap guns and get dirty. Now imagine getting paid for that and it's called "training."

Members of the 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron partnered with the 944th Security Forces Squadron to conduct Convoy Operational Readiness Training March 3 - 6. The training incorporated classroom instruction and a hands-on exercise.

"The exercise gives our vehicle operators a chance to put into practice what was learned in the classroom," said Senior Master Sgt. Stephen Brook, 944th LRS transportation manager. "It's a critical part of CORT training."

CORT is a bi-annual requirement for all LRS vehicle operators and maintainers, Brook said.

Prior to the exercise, LRS vehicle operators and maintainers learned about several expeditionary topics including convoy security, expedient repairs in the field and medical evacuation. Training was also conducted in land navigating and the proper use of a radio.

The training culminated with an operational exercise conducted at Luke Auxiliary Field. LRS Airmen with the 944th Fighter

Wing as well as a handful from the 56th Fighter Wing locked and loaded paintball guns and headed into the exercise area in a convoy of off-road vehicles.

SFS members ambushed the LRS vehicle operators at random points along the route, creating a realistic training experience.

"The exercise has evolved over the years, every year we add a piece to make it better," said Senior Master Sgt. Michael Orso, 944th LRS vehicle maintenance superintendent. "Having SFS play the role of aggressor adds to the deployment mentality and sets us up for a real-world experience."

The convoy exercise provided LRS members the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of vehicle intervals, communicating in the field and reacting to attacks.

"The biggest take-away from CORT training is the hands-on experience because multi-sensory training is the best way to learn," said Orso. "When we mobilize, that training will kick in and our vehicle operators will be able to trust in the training they received."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Nestor Cruz



Wing News

There's a new IG in town

By Tech. Sgt. Barbara Plante, 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

New to the office but not the wing, Maj Christopher Bisdnack is the 944th Fighter Wings' newest Inspector General.

This new job is a natural fit for him. Having served with the 944 FW for 20 years; he was first an enlisted member in the Logistics Readiness Squadron then after completing his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management he became an officer under the Deserving Airman Commissioning Program working in the Equal Opportunity Office.

Originally from Bellingham Mass., Bisdnack always wanted to serve in the Air Force as he was growing up, "after two years of college, I joined the military for travel and education."

He spent almost five years on active duty serving in both overseas and stateside assignments as well as deploying in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, NORTHERN WATCH and PROVIDE PROMISE. After a brief break in service the major made the decision to continue his military career by joining the 944 FW in 1996.

In his civilian career he currently serves as Postmaster for Gilbert, Arizona, for the United States Postal Service. In this position he oversees all postal operations for over 250,000 residents with a staff of 200 employees.

He enjoys spending time with his family, supporting their goals and volunteering with them in the community. He also loves all sports but golf is currently his number one interest.

While discussing his goals for the IG office Bisdnack said, "I want to continue with the growth of the wing and the F-35 mission. Continue to be the eyes and ears of the wing commander and ensure wing members are mission ready, and make the IG program a place where all members, commanders and first sergeants feel free to use the IG office as a resource to make their jobs easier."

The 944 FW IG's office is the focal point to respond to complaints that cannot be resolved at unit level. Members can get help quickly and fairly under the Air Force IG Complaint Program and can make complaints at any level in the IG system without fear of reprisal.

According to the Air Force Website any Air Force military or civilian member can file an IG complaint. Anyone, including civilians with no Air Force affiliation, may file Fraud, Waste, and Abuse complaints and depending on the circumstances, the IG may also accept complaints from dependents or relatives of military members and retirees and their dependents. However, it is always best for the actual "victim" or person who witnessed the alleged wrongdoing to file the complaint.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lausanne Kinder

The types of complaints that are appropriate are any FWA and violations of law, Air Force instructions, or policy and should be against an Air Force program or person. However, just because a person does not agree with management styles or potentially have a "personality conflict" with their supervisor does not constitute any injustice or mismanagement.

Bisdnack mentioned that before filing an IG complaint members should use their chain-of-command and try to resolve the issues at the lowest level. However, if a member has a valid complaint that they are not able to resolve at lower levels it should be filed with the IG, command, or other grievance channels in a timely manner. An IG may dismiss a complaint if there is no FWA, recognizable wrong or violation of law, regulation, or policy. Note that complaints which are more than one year from date of occurrence will normally be dismissed, unless there are extraordinary circumstances or special Air Force interests to justify an investigation.

If you are not sure your concern is valid or unsure if you should file a complaint, contact Bisdnack at the IG office for additional guidance. The office is located in the building 988, room 113, or call 623 845-6682.

Note: IG services are available between UTA's through the 56 FW IG office. Their phone number is DSN 896-8433.

If you feel your issue is related to your civilian position, you will need to contact the DOD IG Hotline below.

DOD IG Hotline Phone: 800-424-9098 (Toll-Free), 703-604-8799 (Commercial), 664-8799(DSN).

Join Us!

HRDC

Lunch & Learn

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC:

Conflict Resolution Skills

Speaker: TSgt Gaona, 944FW/EO

Date: 9 April 2016

Time: 1200-1300

Where: DFAC

The SUM of all AIRMEN

Support • Unify • Mentor

BRINGING THE HEAT

944th FIGHTER WING

Wing PT Challenge

"Combat Fitness"

30 April 2016

1500 @ Base Track

4-PERSON TEAM

COED RECOMMENDED

Sign Up Now!

Who will take the trophy HOME?

POCs: TSgt Goreski, 944SFS, 6-7464

SSgt Tapia Cordero, 69FS, 6-9771



Air Force/Air Force Reserve News

Air Force, Army build partnership for energy assurance

By Tech. Sgt. Joshua DeMotts, Secretary of the Air Force Command Information

The military's ability to accomplish its missions -- whether executing today's fight or training for future ones -- is dependent on electricity that powers installations. The Army and Air Force have identified energy resilience as a critical objective, advancing the capability for their systems, installations, and personnel to respond to and recover from unexpected disruptions.

The Air Force recently established its Office of Energy Assurance, which will develop an integrated facility energy portfolio. The Army's Energy Initiatives Task Force was established in September 2011, and became an enduring organization, the Office of Energy Initiatives, in October 2014. The OEI serves as the central management office for implementing large-scale renewable and alternative energy projects, while leveraging private sector financing.

Now, both offices will share support staff, business processes and best practices.

The services formalized this partnership April 6 during a ceremony at the Pentagon. The memorandum of agreement, signed by Katherine Hammack, the assistant secretary of the Army for installations, energy and environment; and Miranda Ballentine, the assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment, and energy, shows the importance both services place on clean, reliable and affordable energy.

Hammack stressed this partnership was vital

for the Defense Department and would continue to push the Army's energy goals.

"The Departments of the Army and the Air Force share a common commitment to securing our installations with energy that is clean, reliable and affordable," Hammack said. "I am pleased that through this agreement, we can share lessons learned and leverage the relationships we have developed with government, industry and utilities for the benefit of both our services."

While the establishment of the Air Force OEA cemented the Air Force's focus on energy resiliency and strategic energy agility, Ballentine said this partnership would advance that capability.

"This Army-Air Force partnership will accelerate our goal of providing mission assurance through energy assurance," Ballentine said. "The Air Force, Army and Navy fight the fight together; we are one joint force, and our jointness is what makes us formidable around the world. Installation energy projects are another area where a joint-approach and strong collaboration can help us do more, faster."

Lt. Gen. John Cooper, the Air Force deputy chief of staff for logistics, engineering and force protection, also signed the memo and said the Air Force is a globally networked force with critical missions and operations that are reliant on access to energy to accomplish the mission.

"We execute almost all our missions from our air bases, so building partnerships like this will ensure our resources and approaches are



Courtesy photo focused on mission assurance and resiliency," he said.

Lt. Gen. David Halverson, the Army assistant chief of staff for installation management, also signed the memo on behalf of the Army.

"This agreement is a framework for collaboration between the Army and the Air Force on policies, procedures and partnerships that support our energy missions," Halverson said. "We are excited to work with the Air Force in this effort. This partnership will identify and expand potential renewable energy opportunities across Army and Air Force installations."

According to the memo, the partnership provides a framework for cooperation and support in the development of renewable energy projects, establishes the expectations and requirements of each service, and demonstrates both services' focus on achieving energy assurance.



Air Force Reserve 68th Birthday Celebration

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

Happy birthday! As we celebrate the 68th birthday of the Air Force Reserve this April, please reflect upon your admirable service to our communities and nation. Our theme for this year's celebration is "stationed locally, serving globally."

The Air Force Reserve was created as a separate component on April 14, 1948, when the Army Air Corps Reserve was transferred to the Air Force. The Air Force Reserve lineage dates back 100 years to when Reserve Airpower was established in the National Defense Act of 1916.

But history is constantly in the making as the old adage goes, and you are doing so each day as a combat-ready force composed of about 70,000 Citizen Airmen stationed locally in over 66 communities throughout the United States and overseas and serving globally for every Combatant Command in air, space and cyberspace.

Our Air Force Reserve mission is to provide combat-ready forces to fly, fight and win. You provide the speed, precision, lethality and payload of airpower through some 30 aircraft types to fulfill our combatant commander requirements. You also offer agile combat support, space operations and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities day in and day out. Be proud of your innovation, experience and strengths as part of our Total Force team.

Innovation is in our DNA and it comes from the diverse experiences you bring to the mission. In the words of Jackie Cochran, the award-winning Citizen Airman pilot and director of the Women's Airforce Service Pilot Program, "I might have been born in a hovel but I am determined to travel with the wind and stars." And in the words of Ronald Reagan, former Citizen Airman and 40th President of the United States, "While I take inspiration from the past, like most Americans, I live for the future."

Let us continue our proud heritage as innovators, community members, and Citizen Airmen. Thank you for answering the call of duty and contributing to the best air force in the world. Happy birthday Air Force Reserve!



Wing News

LRS recognized as best in AFRC

By Tech. Sgt. Barbara Plante, 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Through innovated management and sheer hard work the 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron was recognized at the Air Force Reserve level as LRS of the Year (Non Flying Unit) for 2015.

"Luke Air Force Base is a very exciting place with the addition of the F-35 training mission and the unprecedented growth of the 944th Fighter Wing. We are partnering hand-in-hand with the active duty in multiple Total Force Initiatives," said Lt. Col. Kip Schlum, 944th LRS commander.

Including the LRS commander, who had the opportunity to serve as the 56th Fighter Wing Mission Support Group deputy commander since June of last year, the LRS squadron has supported the active duty locally to backfill shortfalls due to deployments for the last nine months in all facets of LRS.

"To be honest, this recognition comes as no surprise to me. They are a very diverse squadron with many specialties which is key to the success of the group and the wing at large," said Col Paul Theisen, 944th Mission Support Group commander.

"There are few finer or harder working airmen in our wing. They expertly execute a broad range of support from fuels delivery for flying operations, packing and creating, specialty vehicle maintenance and repair, passenger support, moving personnel and equipment through the air and over land, manage complex deployment and redeployment operations, and the list goes on and on. They are the absolute best at what they do. My hat is off to LRS and a job continually well done."

As a total force enterprise poster-child the squadron provided 10 Airmen and over 1,500 days of support to Air Education and Training Command, Air Combat Command, and Air Force Materiel Command.

The unit orchestrated eight Air Expe-

ditionary Force and seven Deployment Review Boards training deployments moving 343 passengers to seven world wide locations with zero discrepancies noted.

With direction from the LRS commander the Quality Assurance section was overhauled. They trained two new evaluators and a superintendent, conducted 97 inspections, as well as streamlined training which increased capabilities by 40 percent. The squadron also has a stellar training program which has become the benchmark for the wing. In addition, the training office drafted and finalized training guidance for unit deployment managers which vastly improved deployment operations thus providing mission ready Airmen for AEF tasking's.

"The best part of my job is visiting the shops our folks are in and hearing all of the great things they are doing. Their counterparts typically don't even know that these fellow Airmen are Reservists. This award is purely a testament to the outstanding Airmen we have the pleasure to lead here in the 944th LRS," said Schlum.

By volunteering for a 13 month deployment with 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, Staff Sgt. Julia Juvera-Silvain, 944th LRS traffic management craftsman, is excited she was able to contribute to the squadron receiving this award.

As a work lead in the packing and shipping section, she provided support to the largest military aircraft boneyard in the world. Her direct support helped salvage over 60 aircraft parts and saved the Air Force 10 million dollars.

"It's exciting to be part of the LRS and I feel honored. It took a lot of hard work and dedication from everyone to win this award. Our unit does so many great things that go unrecognized, so it is really a great feeling when your efforts are recognized," said Juvera-Silvain.



Airman Outing @ Falcon Field

29 April 2016
0930 - 1400



Deadline for applications is COB 10 April 2016.

For any questions and/or to submit application, contact SSgt Perla Tapia-Cordero at 623-856-2283 or email her at perla.tapia_cordero@us.af.mil

*Launch and transportation will be provided.

AIRMAN'S CREED

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
I AM A WARRIOR.
I HAVE ANSWERED MY NATION'S CALL.
I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
MY MISSION IS TO FLY, FIGHT, AND WIN.
I AM FAITHFUL TO A PROUD HERITAGE,
A TRADITION OF HONOR,
AND A LEGACY OF VALOR.
I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN,
GUARDIAN OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE,
MY NATION'S SWORD AND SHIELD,
ITS SENTRY AND AVENGER.
I DEFEND MY COUNTRY WITH MY LIFE.
I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN:
WINGMAN, LEADER, WARRIOR.
I WILL NEVER LEAVE AN AIRMAN BEHIND,
I WILL NEVER FALTER,
AND I WILL NOT FAIL.

**CITIZEN AIRMEN: STATIONED
LOCALLY, SERVING GLOBALLY**





Surviving an Unknown Battle

By Jaclyn E. Urmey, 514 AMW Wing Director of Psychological Health

April is the month of many things. It is the Month of the Military Child, Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, Alcohol Awareness Month, STI Awareness Month, and National Child Abuse Month, among many others. Do you ever wonder why so many causes get their own months and/or weeks during the year? The answer is simple: survivors.

Every single person on earth has been involved in some adverse event that tested the ability to survive. Fortunately, there are many survivors who are creating awareness of their adversity in order to relay strength and hope to others who may be in a similar situation. Others who are negatively impacted by adversity, do not desire to change it and instead perpetuate it are known as victims. When given the choice of being known as a victim or survivor, most people would choose the latter.

"We're all human, aren't we? Every human life is worth the same, and worth saving." - J.K. Rowling.

Some may argue that simply choosing to identify with survivors is not going to promote change; however, change begins in our minds, as the power to believe that there is something better than this situation and that one has the strength to make change happen. Change begins with a thought and a belief: I'm a survivor and I'm still strong, for instance.

Without positive beliefs and thoughts, change is unlikely. We face many possible negative beliefs and thoughts while suffering through adversity (such as sexual abuse, alcohol abuse, or child abuse). However, once the realization hits that one can posi-

tively influence outcomes in his or her life, the belief that change is possible gains strength and momentum. Often times, this is done with the assistance of another, such as a wingman or friend. Other times, we are fighting battles that are unknown to others.

When we haven't succumbed to losing faith and hope that life can change for the better, we are survivors. The desire for change exists and is the powerful force that may keep us going through the bad times. But the desire for change must evolve into action if that change is going to happen. What holds so many people back from advancing their efforts in order to change adversity? Fear, pride, shame, embarrassment, and feeling unworthy are some, but there are countless other reasons that convince people that things are better as they are, even if they wish for a better situation, and even if it means death.

If you fall into this category, take some time to think about the following suggestions that may help you move forward:

1. Check your sources - From where are you getting your information? Are your sources reliable? Consider peer pressure and family values. Consider if the source causes you pain. Are you being uplifted and supported, or torn down and oppressed? If your thoughts are the culprit, think of evidence that supports that you are stronger than you think.

2. "Shoulda, woulda, coulda" - Are you stuck in this type of thinking? Do you blame yourself for the adversity in your life? Our ideals can be unrealistic and wishful, instead of reality-based. Consider how others may handle the situation. If you hold yourself to a different standard that only sustains adversity, it's time to change your thinking.

3. Be compassionate - We all have a need for kindness and patience. Treat yourself with



Courtesy Photo

respect and dignity, even if you don't feel that is how you are being treated. Forgive yourself. Recognize your humanness. You can't save the world, but you can save your life or maybe the lives of others.

4. Ask for help - Many people believe that others can't understand or don't want anyone to know what they are going through. But there are countless people who know what you are going through and there are just as many who want to know what you are going through so they can help you. Survivors lend a hand to others who need it. Don't be a victim. Be a survivor.

Too often, news headlines tell horrific stories of preventable tragedies and much of the time neighbors and friends say "I never knew" or "I had no idea" that the individual was suffering and that they wished they had done something.

The heart of the matter is that most of the people in our lives want the best for us. It makes sense that we lose sight of what the best actually is when we are stuck in a situation or faced with adversity. In those times, close friends or family can provide us the insight we may not have and can help us make the decision to put gas in our automobile of change and get moving in a better direction.

For more information contact Ms. Jessica Paul, 944th Fighter Wing family advocacy outreach manager at 623-856-2289.

Det 1 produces Graydon Williams Award winner



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.

By Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr., 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

As the 944th Fighter Wing Detachment 1 Maintenance Unit continues to grow they show the quality Airmen they possess as one of their own was selected for the coveted Graydon Williams Award.

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee presented the 2016 Graydon Williams Award to Tech Sgt. Timothy Rosio, 944th FW Det 1 MX, weapons load crew chief, during a luncheon Mar. 16 at Club Five-Six.

"I am truly honored and grateful to have been selected for this award," said Rosio who started working as an Air Reserve Technician in November 2014.

This year, eight members of Tech. Sgt. Graydon Williams' family attended the event including his son Kelley and wife Amy, their two daughters ...**story continued on page 13.....**



Wing News

Airman sprints past record

By Tech. Sgt. Barbara Plante, 944 Fighter Wing Public Affairs

By shaving 14 seconds off the current record for the 1.5 mile run, Staff Sgt. Christian Enriquez, 944th Fighter Wing Detachment 1 Maintenance, F-16 avionics craftsman, ran into the Luke Air Force Base history books Sunday.

Running 1.5 miles in 8 minutes 10 seconds, secured his success of beating the current record of 8 minutes 24 seconds, which was set at Luke on June 25, 2014.

As an avid runner who averages 18 to 20 miles per day Enriquez said he was tired and hungry but felt great about breaking the record.

"Running is something I love; part of running for me is being the best at something and doing the best that I can." With a smile he added, "I will be one of those 70 or 80-year-olds still out there running."

Initially from Chicago Illinois, Enriquez began running 13 years ago as a freshman in high school and said it has always been something that he is good at.

In 2008, after spending his entire life in Chicago, he joined the Air Force to travel and see the world. He spent most of his active duty career in maintenance at Luke AFB but left the Air Force to go to school full time. He made the decision to continue his military career with the 944th FW in 2015. As a full-time student at Arizona State University he is currently studying Kinesiology, the scientific study of human movement, with a goal to become a physician's assistant.

"Training to break the record was just part of my regular workout; I run two to three hours a day because one of my goals is to participate in the 'Javelina 100,' which is 100 mile race through the desert, set for

October 2016."

His personal goal is to run that race in 24 hours or less. Having run one marathon and five half marathons he believes anyone is capable of running. "You just have to do it, you have to get out the front door, I know that that's the hard part but by just going out three to five times a week and spending 30 minutes, you can meet your goal."

"Staff Sgt. Enriquez has great moral character and is very regimented with everything he does in his life, between balancing being a full-time student and his commitment to the Air Force Reserve. Between his strict physical training routines and his constant desire to be better at everything he does, he makes everyone around him want to be better Airmen," said Tech. Sgt. John Sullivan, Air Force Reserve recruiter.

"These are unquestionably the types of individuals that we are always looking for to bring into the AF Reserve. As a recruiter it is a tremendous feeling to see the name of someone you helped access into the Air Force Reserve doing great things and I am very excited that he is a member of the 944 FW"



Airman protects woman from explosion



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.

By Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr., 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A 944th Fighter Wing Airman put his training and experience to work and provided medical assistance during a vehicle accident earlier this year.

Two men saw a burning car on the side of the road with a woman inside. The car had struck a power line and caught on fire just moments before. As good Samaritans, they stopped and pulled the trapped woman out. That was right

before Tech. Sgt. Thomas Navarro, 944th Medical Squadron medical technician, saw the burning car on his way home from dinner on that Friday night.

Navarro, a registered nurse in his civilian career, pulled over to see if he could help and noticed the woman lying on the ground close to the vehicle.

He quickly took control of the situation and jumped into action, assessed the woman from head-to-toe for injuries and took note that she had no obvious injuries but was in and out of consciousness.

Taking no chances, he stabilized the patient in an improvised c-spine. However, flames from the car continued to grow, so he decided to move the patient further away from the car. The surrounding area was wet and muddy because of recent rains. While moving the woman through the mud, a large explosion occurred, luckily, inflicting no further injuries.

Once he relocated her, he began to reassess the patient, again looking for any signs

of trauma.

"The woman remained responsive, but with a notable decrease in her level of consciousness," said Navarro. "She was able to tell me that no other passengers were in the vehicle."

After a short time he decided to move the patient once again even further from the burning vehicle in fear of another explosion. His instincts and quick thinking were life-saving because a second explosion occurred, this time, completely engulfing the car in flames.

After moving the woman further from the burning vehicle Navarro noticed an improvement in her level of consciousness.

"When Emergency Medical Services arrived I stayed with the patient and assisted them in securing her to a backboard and placed an actual c-spine device on her," said Navarro.

To ensure she was properly taken care of, he helped rescuers carry the patient through the mud to an awaiting gurney and ambulance before he left the scene and continued home.

Navarro has been a 944th FW Reservist with the medical squadron for 11 years.



Wing News

944th kicks-off Green Dot program

By Staff Sgt. Lausanne Kinder, 944 Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Commanders, chiefs, first sergeants, and superintendents were among the first group from the 944th Fighter Wing to receive Green Dot training during the March Unit Training Assembly.

Green Dot is a comprehensive prevention training program designed to address sexual and domestic violence. The Air Force has contracted with Green Dot to provide this prevention training to its Airmen to address interpersonal violence throughout the Force.

The training was implemented by Chaplain (Capt.) Matthew Wilson, 944 FW, and Capt. Lisa Breiterman, 944 Medical Squadron. The focus was on an introduction to preventing power-based personal violence across the service. It gave members an overview of their rolls as leaders and provided them with a preview of the training their Airmen will be receiving.

"The new Green Dot training format is leaps and bounds ahead of what it's been in the very recent past," said Chief Rhonda Hutson, 944th FW command chief. "The all-inclusiveness of it will bring us closer together as well as use the team concept to combat one of the biggest challenges still looming over us."

Hutson was among the first to receive the training which will be held every UTA until the end of the year.

"Our current norms that sustain the current rates of sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence in our Air Force and communities are not acceptable," said Breiterman. "...in order to decrease those rates we need to change the norm and create a different culture."

The concept of 'green dots' (good dots) and 'red dots' (bad dots) placed on a map was introduced to illustrate positive and negative actions someone makes towards another person.

"Reducing the numbers of those on our bases and communities who experience violence can really happen if we each do one or two 'green dots' both proactively and reactively," said Breiterman.

The implementers then discussed the three types of barriers; personal, relationship or social, and organizational barriers, which would stop someone from intervening in certain situations.

"We want [people] to understand that no matter what your barriers are, it is normal to have them," said Breiterman. "However, you can still become involved in ways that you feel comfortable with by using one of the '3 D's': direct, delegate, or distract techniques."

Direct: do something yourself.

Delegate: if you can't do something directly because of your barriers, ask someone to help.

Distract: If you don't want to address the situation directly or even acknowledge you see it, try to think of a distraction that will diffuse the situation or calm things down in the moment.

"Collectively we can make a difference," said Breiterman.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lausanne Kinder

...Det 1 produces Graydon Williams award winner story continued from page 11... Caitlyn and Isabella, sister, Alma and husband Harry Shappell, sister, Doris Gingerich, and his brother Neal Williams, honoring an Air Reserve Technician who has followed in Williams footsteps of going above and beyond in service to the unit.

"I am very proud that a maintenance person was selected as this year's winner," said Maj. Karwin Weaver, 944 Det. 1 MX commander. "After hearing his [Graydon Williams] son speak about his father's drive and motivation to keep airplanes flying it makes me even more proud."

Rosio transitioned from active duty with the 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron and has been with 944 FW Det 1 from the start of the new unit. He also serves as a facilitator for Det 1 and the 756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; the first Total Force Integration maintenance unit at Luke AFB.

"Tim has done an awesome job setting up the Weapons Section," said Chief Master Sgt. Scott Jongewaard, 944 Det. 1 MX Unit su-

perintendent. "He has been regularly coordinating with 56th Fighter Wing Senior Non-Commission Officers to establish our weapons loading program. He will also be a key member in making us a fully-functioning successful 400 plus person unit."

Rosio thanked family, friends, coworkers, the family of Graydon Williams, and the Military Affairs Committee of the Tempe Chamber of Commerce. He had a special thanks to Chief Jongewaard for his part in putting him in for the award. "We have grown a lot and have more growing to do and I am excited to see what tomorrow brings," said Rosio.

The Graydon William Award is presented annually to an Air Reserve Technician or Active Guard Reserve member who personifies the character and traits of the late Tech. Sgt. Graydon Williams, a 944th Fighter Wing maintenance ART who died at a young age of cancer. The essence of the award is based on superior performers who do not seek recognition, perform clearly above expectations, and have not been adequately recognized for their overall contributions and impact on the wing.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.



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Staff Sgt. Jonathan Arnold, 944 Security Forces Squadron member, helps a Girl Scout aim and fire a training weapon Mar. 6 at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.)

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