

SnapShot

944th Fighter Wing
Luke Air Force Base, Arizona
November 2019 Newsletter



Recognition of the "Goat" or "Anchorman"
5 Functional Foods to Enjoy This Fall
Forging the future with past wisdom
Military Mental Health

Tech. Sgt. Joel Alfaro-Salazar, 944th Maintenance Squadron egress systems, explains the advantages of the locally developed extended-raise process for the F-16 to Maj. Gen. Brian Borgen, 10th Air Force commander, Oct 21 during a tour at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.

944 FW KEY LEADERS

Commander

Col. James L. Greenwald

Vice Commander

Col. Sean M. Rassas

Command Chief

CMSgt. Jeremy N. Malcom

944th Fighter Wing Electronic Monthly SnapShot

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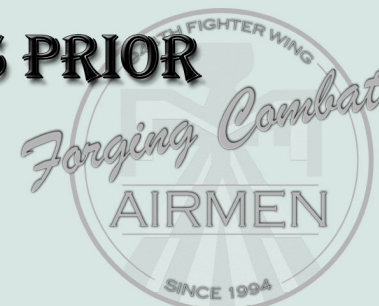
Bringing the Heat

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944TH FIGHTER WING COMMANDER'S CALL
SUNDAY, NOV. 3, 2019 @ 1430 HRS

HANGAR 999
PLEASE BE IN PLACE 15 MINUTES PRIOR
TO START TIME



Resilience doesn't mean invulnerability

By Col. James L. Greenwald, 944th Fighter Wing commander



Welcome to the November UTA! I must say that I've been looking forward to this drill for quite a while - for two reasons.

First, it means the UEI is behind us and we can move on. Congratulations! The IG team was really impressed with your work and they graded us EFFECTIVE overall. I think this is a fair assessment. Even though some areas were graded HIGHLY EFFECTIVE, we do have a few areas for improvement. The good news is that they didn't find any issues we weren't already aware of. Again, great job!

The second reason is that I can finally hold a true Commander's Call. Between the UEI and summer temps, we just couldn't justify pulling all of you out of your workplaces into a sweltering hangar for half a day. But now that you've rocked the UEI and we have cooler temperatures, I can't wait to recognize some folks for outstanding performance and share my vision, priorities and objectives for this wing as we move forward.

I also want to tell you how much Lt. Gen. Scobee and Maj. Gen. Borgen were

impressed with you. They both had great visits and loved talking with you and seeing the great work you do! Thank you to those of you who helped coordinate those visits and who came out to see your senior leaders. They heard your concerns loud and clear, and are working with us to get after them. I hope some of you can be here at Luke next week when CSAF Goldfein visits.

November ushers in the holiday season. I hope you can join our partners in the Thunderbolt Cup events leading into the Thanksgiving break. Thanksgiving also brings "Black Friday," and I hope you'll consider joining me in one company's alternative, "Opt Outside." I'm not endorsing that retailer, just the concept of enjoying some outdoor activity instead of battling the frenzied shopping crowds. This time of year, I'm looking forward to getting back to outdoor running. I hope to see you on the trails out at the White Tanks as I prepare for the Ragnar Relay in January.

Some of us see the holiday season as a time of stress and painful memories. I encourage you to reach out to each other. Let someone know you are hurting. Let someone who's hurting know you are there. Those small personal connections mean a lot. We talk a lot about resilience. It's important to remember that resilience doesn't mean invulnerability. It means that when we encounter stress or adversity, we bend, not break. We bounce back rather than stay down. A wingman or two really helps.

Thank you so much for everything you do for this team and the Air Force. I'm incredibly proud of all of you and I'm humbled to be a member of your team. Have a great UTA! Forge and Fight!

Recognition of the "Goat" or "Anchorman"

By Lt. Col. Hayley Wihongi, 944th Mission Support Group deputy commander

I recently learned about a West Point and Naval Academy tradition. During each graduation ceremony, achievement of outstanding cadets is recognized. The recognition category that caught my attention, was not for being Summa or Magna Cum Laude, or Valedictorian, but rather recognition of the "Goat" or "Anchorman," the last academically ranked Cadet of their class.

Part of the tradition involves the recipient receiving a dollar from each their peers. Most of the time, the cheers and heartfelt accolades given to the "Goat"/"Anchorman" is more than those recognized for academic prowess. Last

year's graduating class at West Point gave \$1000 to the "Goat"/"Anchorman" recipient.

You may wonder why this idea of recognizing the lowest, academically ranking cadet is so extraordinary to me. The story of the conquering underdogs inspires me - maybe it's because I can identify with them (Rocky and Cinderella). When my family and I immigrated to the United States from New Zealand we started with few worldly goods. We were taught to work hard and to get an education and that you could do and be anything you want.

It's not a new story, but it's why my dad

brought us to the U.S. I guess being an immigrant doesn't necessarily make you an underdog. It's more like I feel like I have had to make the most of the great opportunities I have had living in this country.

So I am awed by them - those men and woman, who despite the odds and systems they found themselves in, displayed character traits of perseverance, resilience, and grit despite HARD trials. Our Air Force heritage is built on typical people acting and not being acted upon. The strength that the "Goats" and "Anchormen" bring to the game is priceless.



(Photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.)

The 944th FW Warrior of the Month: Airman Antonio Zozaya



(Photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.)

The October 944th Fighter Wing Warrior of the Month is Airman Antonio Zozaya, fire team member for the 944th Security Forces Squadron. The Warrior of the Month program is a way to recognize and spotlight the Airmen of the 944th Fighter Wing for their positive impact and commitment to the mission.

Time in Service: Two years.

Time with the 944th Fighter Wing: Eight months.

Civilian Job: Security

Hometown: Phoenix, Arizona.

Hobbies: My hobbies include watching movies and working out.

Home-life: My home life includes cleaning and spending time with family.

Why did you join the Air Force?

I joined the Reserve so I can serve my country and still be there for my family to help them with financial issues or help around the house.

How does your job support the mission of the 944th Fighter Wing?

By enforcing the law, protecting and defending the assets and personnel on base because we are the base's frontline and we will defend the base and the people behind us at all costs.

If you were on a deserted island...?

If I could only bring three items with me I would bring a bible, a knife, and 100 foot paracord. A knife to build shelter, feed yourself, and defense. Paracord to assist with the same purposes as the knife, A bible because it's a moral guide.

October 2019 promotions:

From Airman:

Airman First Class Rylee Pruitt, 944th MDS
Airman First Class Miguel Sullivan, 944th CES
Airman First Class Analisa Wright, 944th MSG

From Airman First Class:

Senior Airman Hailey Alfaro, 924th AMXS
Senior Airman Ryan Bass, 944th LRS
Senior Airman Amara Biquelet, 944th AMXS
Senior Airman Cristian Canales, 924th AMXS
Senior Airman Trenton Cluff, 944th MXS
Senior Airman Jairo Hererra, 414th MXS
Senior Airman Philip Liles, 944th MXG
Senior Airman Ky Nelson, 944th FSS
Senior Airman Brett Oldham, 414th MXS
Senior Airman Jordan Phillips, 944th AMXS
Senior Airman Alejandro Rosas Gaxiola, 944th AMXS
Senior Airman Christopher Samaniego, 944th AMXS
Senior Airman Christopher Santana Ramos, 924th AMXS
Senior Airman Michael Scullion, 944th AMXS
Senior Airman Michaela Zapata, 944th ASTS

From Senior Airman:

Staff Sergeant Joshua Arbeiter, 414th MXS
Staff Sergeant Karen Champlain, 69th FS
Staff Sergeant Tre Clymer, 944th CES
Staff Sergeant Gavin Green, 944th MDS
Staff Sergeant Michael Miller, 944th AMXS
Staff Sergeant Tanner Ramsay, 944th AMXS
Staff Sergeant Nicholas Rivers, 944th MXS
Staff Sergeant Michael Rosenberger, 924th MXS
Staff Sergeant Jose Vargas Guadalupe, 944th AMXS

From Staff Sergeant:

Technical Sergeant Shaun Brown, 944th AMXS
Technical Sergeant Alexis Chadbourne, 924th AMXS
Technical Sergeant Taurus Cooper, 944th FSS
Technical Sergeant Jonathan Daniels, 944th AMXS
Technical Sergeant Lydia Grill, 944th FSS
Technical Sergeant Tyneka Kearse, 414th MXS
Technical Sergeant Shane Loggins, 944th MXG
Technical Sergeant Todd Martin, 944th LRS
Technical Sergeant Jesse Smith, 944th AMXS
Technical Sergeant Matthew Snyder, 924th AMXS
Technical Sergeant Jason Viator, 944th AMXS

From Technical Sergeant:

Master Sergeant Gerardo Ayala, 944th AMXS
Master Sergeant Kayla Barrickman, 414th FG
Master Sergeant Renelle Connor, 944th MDS
Master Sergeant Elliot Denney, 944th FW
Master Sergeant Alex Torres, 944th FW
Master Sergeant Michael Womack, 944th FW

From Senior Master Sergeant:

Chief Master Sergeant Michael Infante, 414th MXS
Chief Master Sergeant Jason Schultz, 414th MXS

Forging the future with past wisdom



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

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “We are not makers of history. We are made by history.”

This is never truer than within military culture steeped in heritage and tradition.

Jessica Johnson, 944th Fighter Wing historian, is the wing’s first full-time historian whose primary responsibility is to advise the commander and his staff on historical issues as they pertain to current decision making.

“We preserve the history of the wing,” said Johnson. “We write a yearly history of the wing to include who the commanders were, lineage, and honors. We document wing accomplishments and milestones for future reference and manage a lot of heritage based items and answer historical inquiries.”

Col. James Greenwald, 944th FW commander, expressed the benefits of having a full time historian.

“The historian position is important because it connects us with our past and also with our future,” he said. “It’s easy to say ‘Things were different back then,’ or ‘Studying the past will just prepare us for the past. The reason we look back is to find those visionary leaders who ‘got it right’ and made us the Air Force we

are today. We look back so we can emulate the characteristics that enabled them to deal with the challenges of their present and prepare for an uncertain future.”

Johnson, a U.S. Air Force veteran with a background in graphic design and public affairs, graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History focusing on the American Revolution and World War II.

“This is my dream job,” said Johnson. “I’ve always wanted to be a historian, and to be the historian for a unit like the 944th who’s had so much history in such a short period of time is an honor. It’s a privilege to preserve this legacy so that future generations can read about and learn from the things we have done.”

Johnson’s natural curiosities and interests about the past began at a young age.

“When I was little, I took a trip to colonial Williamsburg with my family and it made me want to figure out how people lived in the past,” said Johnson. “When I started studying history, I wanted to understand the cultural impact of events in history and how society bloomed from what it was then to what it is now.”

Greenwald consistently speaks about the importance of understanding heritage and the impact an individual can have on the big picture.

“It’s important that we understand where we came from, what kind of people brought us to where we are, and what lessons they learned along the way,” said Greenwald. “Sometimes we might wonder how much our service matters in the big scheme. Looking back at our heritage helps us see the big picture. Those folks didn’t know they were making history. They were just serving like you. Sometimes the importance of their actions didn’t become apparent until we looked at it years in the future. Knowing our heritage connects us to it and reminds us that we have a role in something important.”

As the new historian, Johnson is seeking assistance from each squadron or group within the 944th to help with accurate documentation.

“Each squadron or geographically separated unit can assign a unit historian to collect information on big events like deployments or awards,” said Johnson. “Any after action reports are valuable to historians because they have all the numbers like flying hours and aircraft records which are really important to have in the archives.”

According to Johnson, most of the historian’s work goes to the Air Force Historical Research Agency, at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, that anyone can access online.

Johnson’s enthusiasm for her new role resonates from her philosophy of the past.

“You can’t learn how to go forward without looking at your past,” Johnson concluded. “You have to look back and see things humanity has done and try to better ourselves from that.”

Military Mental Health

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Chris Moore, 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Around the world, the month of October is recognized as National Mental Health Month. For the Air Force, it's a reminder to take a moment and evaluate yourself as well as your fellow wingmen. Is effective resiliency being practiced?

To help Airmen who may be struggling or those who just need to talk, the 944th Fighter Wing's Director of Psychological Health is at the ready to address mental health concerns faced by Airmen and their families.

As a Doctor of Behavioral Health and Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Dr. Julie Reese, has been working with military families for over four years, with three of those years right here with the 944th Airmen and their families. Dr. Reese works as a clinical provider for the 56th Mental Health Clinic on Luke AFB and is also an expert witness for child sexual, physical and mental abuse trauma for the State of Arizona, as well as for the 56th Fighter Wing Judicial System. Serving as the DPH, Dr. Reese not only takes care of home station Airmen here at Luke but also provides services for the 944th's geographically separated units at Seymour Johnson, Eglin, Davis-Monthan, and Holloman Air Force Bases.

"I function within an integrated behavioral health framework, and utilize solution-focused strategies to ensure crisis stabilization, therapeutic recovery, and mission readiness as well as family health," said Reese. "Airmen readiness is not just about the member, it is also about their family's health and stability. It is important that we treat the family as a whole system, ensuring that the member can focus on the mission fully and effectively."

Dr. Reese, in her role as DPH for the 944th, also supports the command structure by ensuring mission readiness. She provides consultation to commanders on mental health trends, national statis-

tics, and programmatic updates and oversight, along with unit training and education, morale boosters, clinical oversight and acting as a subject matter expert for all issues related to psychological health.

"Dr. Reese's role to provide consistent pulse checks of our units is invaluable," said Col. James Greenwald, 944th Fighter Wing commander. "This enables us as leaders to intercept and fully support Airmen who are struggling, whether it be themselves or their family members, keeping me informed continually while maintaining the upmost confidentiality. With these components closely monitored and supported by Dr. Reese, we are able to support our Airmen's welfare and total force readiness, which is a top priority for this wing."

In her position, Dr. Reese has access to many community providers in Arizona, as well as some other states, enabling her to provide assistance to any Airmen, no matter where they reside.

Dr. Reese provides clinical services consisting of an initial evaluation and short-term solution-focused counseling. She connects and builds a strong rapport with inpatient and outpatient community providers, ensuring Airmen and their families receive priority placement and appointments which support the efficacy of the mission. In 2018, the 944th FW DPH program conducted over 250 short-term counseling sessions for Airmen and their families, and made contact with over 6,000 Airmen. Wingman awareness and buddy checks revealed over a dozen sui-



cidal ideation incidents over the past year and their investment, along with therapeutic interventions, changed the trajectory of those Airmen's lives.

"Dr. Reese provides an emotionally safe environment to seek support and guidance on any issues Airmen may have in their lives," said Greenwald. "She ensures all Airmen and their families have the resources they need for stability and success in the Citizen Airmen Family."

Dr. Reese credits the amount of Airmen seeking help to their informed and involved leadership.

"This significant impact is due primarily to commanders, first sergeants, chiefs and supervisors supporting the mental health of our Airmen and investing in the DPH program," said Reese. "Education, coping mechanisms, strong connectedness and support can create resilience and success in our Airmen." *Story continued on page 11...*

Air Force observes National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

By Tech. Sgt. Armando A. Schwier-Morales, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

October is not all skeletons and jack-o-lanterns, there are also scary things that live in cyberspace. October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month with this year's theme, "Be Cyber Smart."

The awareness month is a collaborative effort between the Department of Defense, along with the Department of Homeland Security and its public and private partners. It is up to the total force to stay vigilant, keep learning and be ready for any potential cyber threat.

The Air Force Office of Information Dominance and chief information officer worked to develop themes that align with the DoD weekly themes. These weekly themes are meant to assist with changing the culture of cybersecurity throughout the Air Force:

- **Week 1: Cybersecurity is everyone's responsibility**
- **Week 2: Defending the family – Cybersecurity practices at home**
- **Week 3: Privacy, PII and FOIA – Reducing mission cyber risks by protecting information**
- **Week 4: Phishing – Continuous training makes a difference**

An already scary cyber world can be scarier when one common threat, identity theft, comes knocking, seeking a reward. However, like other threats, being cyber smart can help the Air Force family be prepared and resilient. There are eight common types of identity theft:

- **Financial identity theft**
- **Driver's license identity theft**
- **Criminal identity theft**
- **Social security identity theft**
- **Medical identity theft**
- **Insurance identity theft**
- **Child identity theft**
- **Synthetic identity theft**

The most well-known is financial identity theft, classified in one of two ways: when a thief maxes out credit, steals the victim's money or when thieves open new credit cards and loans in the victim's name.

Two more types of identity theft are driver's license and criminal identity theft. Driver's license theft is when a thief poses as the person, possibly damaging the victim's driving record. Criminal identity theft takes place when the victim's identity is used with police, resulting in a criminal record being created in the victim's name. When this occurs, the victim of criminal identity theft can have problems with law enforcement or be unable to gain employment.

Another form of identity theft involves social security numbers and benefits. Most government benefits require a social security number to obtain. Social security number thieves can falsify official documents when they have access to a victim's social security number.

Medical identity theft can be used to commit fraud involving health insurance and medical coverage. Related to medical identity theft is insurance identity theft. Thieves leave the victim with the problems after they use the victim's identity, including difficulties in settling payments, potentially higher insurance premiums and quite possibly trouble in acquiring medical coverage later on.

Even children fall victim to cyber threats and identity theft. A child's information can be used to defraud the government, create documents, commit crimes and apply for loans. Additionally, when thieves can't get a victim's complete information, they can still use parts of an identification to create a synthetic identity.

Thieves can create scary problems for potential victims and leave them with problems. Knowing each common type is just the beginning of being cyber smart.

For tips, tricks and more information on identity theft, follow this year's theme, #BeCyberSmart. For events happening at a specific location, contact the local information protection office. Visit <https://www.safcioa6.af.mil/Organizations/CI-SO-Homepage/NCSAM-2019/> for more information.



5 Functional Foods to Enjoy This Fall

By Senior Airman Jovante White, 944th Medical Squadron diet technician



(Courtesy photo)

Grocery stores are filled with a wide variety of foods that provide optimal health and help to reduce the risk of disease. These special foods are called “functional foods”. Functional foods have a potentially positive effect on health beyond basic nutrition. Proponents of functional foods say they promote optimal health and help reduce the risk of disease. Don’t let this season pass by without trying these 5 fall functional foods:

Pumpkins: Pumpkins contain beta-carotene which is an antioxidant that neutralizes free radicals in the body. Vitamin A is also found in pumpkins which helps support the function of white blood cells, promote bone growth, and helps to regulate cell growth and division.

Apples: Apples have many health benefits such as reducing cholesterol, improving bowel function, and lowering the risk of type 2 diabetes.

Sweet Potatoes: sweet potatoes contain many vitamins and antioxidants that reduce the risk of many diseases.

Nuts: Research suggests that eating 1.5 ounces of most nuts per day as part of a low saturated fat diet may reduce the risk of heart disease.

Mushrooms: Mushrooms contain selenium which is a mineral that plays a role in liver enzyme function, and helps detoxify some cancer-causing compounds in the body.

Enjoy any of these fall fruits and vegetables in stews, soups, dishes, and desserts while also reaping the health benefits they provide. For more information please visit <https://foodinsight.org/5-functional-foods-to-enjoy-this-fall/>. Happy Fall!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

From the 944 Fighter Wing

Sunday December 8th 9:44am-Noon

Location: Hanger 999

Bring your families to enjoy:

Corn Hole
Craft Stations
Cookie Decorating
Fingernail Painting
Cars / Motorcycle Display
Itty Bitty Pony Rides
Christmas Tree Decorating Contest

Clowns
Sumo Wrestling
Face Painting
Bounce House
Cross Fit Fun
Trackless Train Rides
Yard Jenga
Petting Zoo



Andrew Gutierrez

944th Fighter Wing Honorary Commander



Full Name: Andrew Gutierrez

Commander assigned to: : Major Robert Terrazas, 944th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander

Duty title: Phoenix Internet/President/CEO

City where you reside: Mesa, Arizona

Where you were born/grew up: Phoenix, Arizona

Family members or significant other: Christine Gutierrez

Please tell us a little about Andrew in your own words:

I am the husband of Christine Gutierrez an elementary school principal and a father of two, Summer and Jack Gutierrez, both who attend Arizona State University. I helped start a company called Phoenix Internet in late 1996 while I was attending ASU. With the help of my brother, Gilbert, we have been able to grow it into the 10th largest fixed-point wireless Internet company in the nation. When I am not at work, I am either wrenching, riding, or racing on my motorcycles and dirt bikes. I currently compete in the Arizona State Championship Enduro series throughout the year looking to one day soon bring home the senior championship. In addition to motorcycles I am working to restore a military trainer airplane that is currently hangared at Deer Valley Airport. I am involved with my local church and give back to the community through my Rotary Club. My friend Tony Cerato, thought I might be a good fit and asked if I would be interested in submitting an application to be in the HCC program. I jumped at the opportunity because since I was a kid I have been fascinated with airplanes and jets. This gave me an opportunity to learn more about what happens on the base and I get to see how real professionals maintain these birds since being attached to the Aircraft Maintenance Wing. Maybe I can learn a few things that will help as I finish up my trainer.

What is an Honorary Commander?

An Honorary commander is a member of the local community who is assigned to each of the 944th Fighter Wing's five groups, 11 squadrons, wing commander, vice commander, and command chief. The program provides a great community outreach program and the ability to foster relationships between local and civic business leaders. For more information, contact the 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 623-856-5388.

Words from our Honorary Commander...

I want to be able to tell the community about the dedication and sacrifice our local service men and women make to keep Luke Airforce Base mission ready. Being able to hear and witness their stories will allow me explain how awesome this base is to our community.

The 69th FS thwarts attack, saves base during WWII

By Jessica Johnson, 944th Fighter Wing historian

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, America found itself plunged into another world war. This time, the war would quite literally be a world war, as it would be fought not just in the European theater but also in the Pacific as well. The war in the Pacific encompassed the ocean and the islands from Hawaii to the Philippines. The need for capable and efficient fighter squadrons was crucial to the war effort against Imperial Japan.

The 69th Fighter Squadron was activated on January 15, 1941 as the 69th Pursuit Group. They, like so many other squadrons at the time, were originally a training squadron. For the first two years, the 69th began training elite pilots to send to the fronts, both in Europe and the Pacific. However, in November of 1943, they received their mobilization orders to the Pacific Theater. The squadron was transferred to Brisbane, Australia, under the command of the 58th Fighter Group in 5th Air Force.

Their original mission was to escort bombers over New Guinea and sea convoys that were headed to the Admiralty Islands. Soon, however, they were tasked with attacking Japanese airfields as the 5th Air Force began the trek north, toward the Philippines. This is where the 69th Fighter Squadron would have their chance to shine.

On December 26, 1944, 69FS intercepted a Japanese strike force team that was heading to attack the Allied air base on the Philippine island of Mindoro. Only a week and a half before, this island was under Imperial Japanese control. Whether the Japanese were there to try to reclaim the island or just attack the airfield is unknown, but that night the 69th Fighter Squadron thwarted this attack by destroying the strike force. This decisive action saved the base at Mindoro.

The location would eventually become the jumping off point for the US Army

Air Forces, the US Navy, and their allies to attack and reclaim the island of Luzon in the northern Philippines. The liberation of Mindoro would allow the allies to take back the capital city of Manila.

This round of island hopping was able to clear the path for the Allied naval and ground forces to stage the largest amphibious assault of the Pacific theater. The Battle for Okinawa was fought over an 82 day period and after the island was taken, the 69th Fighter Squadron was relocated to Kadena Air Base to begin preparations for the planned invasion of the home islands of Japan. This invasion never happened on the full scale it was planned. With the creation of the atomic bomb, the war ended with a conclusive Allied victory.

Today the 69th Fighter Squadron, has returned to its roots by training the world's greatest fighter pilots while keeping with their traditions of honor, bravery, and, above all, the adventuring spirit of The Fighting 69th.



(Courtesy photo)

FORGE & FIGHT

944TH FIGHTER WING

Forge & Fight morale stickers and car/window decals now available for purchase in the Public Affairs office. Various prices include:

- 5" Sticker (white, black, or combo) - \$3.
- 6" White decal - \$7
- 10" White or Silver decal - \$12
- 20" White or Silver decal - \$20

Gratitude

From Dr. Julie Reese, 944th Fighter Wing director of psychological health



Welcome November UTA! In the early 1600s, Pilgrims celebrated and gave thanks as they had finally received rain, ending their drought, and providing them with a grand harvest (www.timeanddate.com). As you prepare for this weekend and the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday filled with unique family traditions, consider your grand harvest of life and how your seeds of personal and

professional growth are flourishing. Take a moment to reflect upon your accomplished goals and lessons learned, and remember to show gratitude to family and friends, for without them, we may not have been as successful. Let's set a plan for the next season of growth through hard work and perseverance, so we may continue to experience a grand harvest.

None is more impoverished than the one who has no gratitude. Gratitude is a currency that we can mint for ourselves, and spend without fear of bankruptcy. — Fred De Witt Van Amburgh

If we have gratitude in our hearts and lives and we freely give appreciation to others, our path will be full of strong connections and positivity. Be sure to connect with your fellow Airmen every day, especially during the upcoming holiday season. Ensure every member has a family environment to enjoy as we continue to forge and fight for greatness together!

Military Mental Health continued...Dr. Reese encourages anyone who feels like they may have any concerns about themselves, their families, or a fellow wingman to reach out to her any time. She believes that no issue is too big or too small and will make it a priority to help get Airmen the support they deserve.

"Being a civilian doctor for the 944th FW is truly one of the greatest honors in my life," said Reese. "Supporting this fighter wing is fulfilling, fun, and is incredibly humbling, and I am proud to be part of this amazing military family."

Airmen and their family members are welcome to walk in any time to the DPH office in building 988 room 102, call 623-856-2289, or email Dr. Reese at julie.reese.1@us.af.mil.

944TH FLIGHTER WING TREE DECORATING CONTEST!

GEAR UP FOR THIS YEAR'S

Table-Top Tree Decorating Contest

All squadrons are welcome to join the table top Christmas tree decorating contest. On 8 December, please bring 1 tree from each squadron to building 999 (Hanger) by 0900. The judging will be held between 0944-1100. The winner will be announced at 1130.

The winning squadron will receive bragging rights and a surprise gift.



Air Force announces new officer developmental categories

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs and Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

In an effort to enhance the officer talent management system and enable tailored and agile development, the Air Force is expanding the single Line of the Air Force promotion category into six distinct developmental categories, senior officials here announced Oct. 21.

“This is an important step forward in the way Air Force leaders are developed,” said Secretary of the Air Force Barbara M. Barrett. “The team has done exceptional work to get us to this point and I look forward to implementing this together.”

Over the summer, Air Force officials traveled to more than a dozen bases to hold 42 town hall sessions. They talked with more than 3,700 Airmen about the proposed developmental categories change and captured feedback.

The Line of the Air Force category will be expanded into six categories: Air Operations and Special Warfare, Nuclear and Missile Operations, Space Operations, Information Warfare, Combat Support, and Force Modernization. Categories for judge advocates, chaplains and medical personnel will remain unchanged. For the regular Air Force, the change will take effect in March 2020 with the lieutenant colonel promotion board.

“This change is about ensuring we maintain a winning team,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. “The existing Line of the Air Force category has served our Air Force well and molded the excellent leaders we have today. As we look to the future of warfighting, we must have an agile system that allows for a wider range of development paths to ensure officers have the needed skills and expertise to fight and win. This sets us on that path.”

“Our Air Force Reserve is following lock-step with our regular Air Force teammates,” said Lt. Gen. Richard Scobee, chief of the Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command. “This is not just about promotion boards. It’s about developing our officer corps with more transparency and a better understanding of what is expected of them.”

“Tailoring our promotion boards for officers to more precisely meet our needs at the next higher level is a large part of this change, but this is more. It is about the

agility of our mentors, career field managers and developmental teams who can now use this to tailor career paths and expectations.”

The Reserve’s plan is to implement these new categories with its lieutenant colonel selection board scheduled for June 2020.

Before the change, the Line of the Air Force category was comprised of more than 40 different officer Air Force Specialty Codes and accounted for about 80% of the officer corps. The Line of the Air Force category has remained virtually unchanged since the establishment of the Air Force as a separate service in 1947.

Now, rather than competing for promotion against 40 different career fields with varied job requirements, officers will compete against officers in other fields that have similar progression milestones, experiences and mission area focus.

The new categories will allow each career field the freedom and agility to better tailor officer development to meet job demands without compromising competitive position at a promotion board.

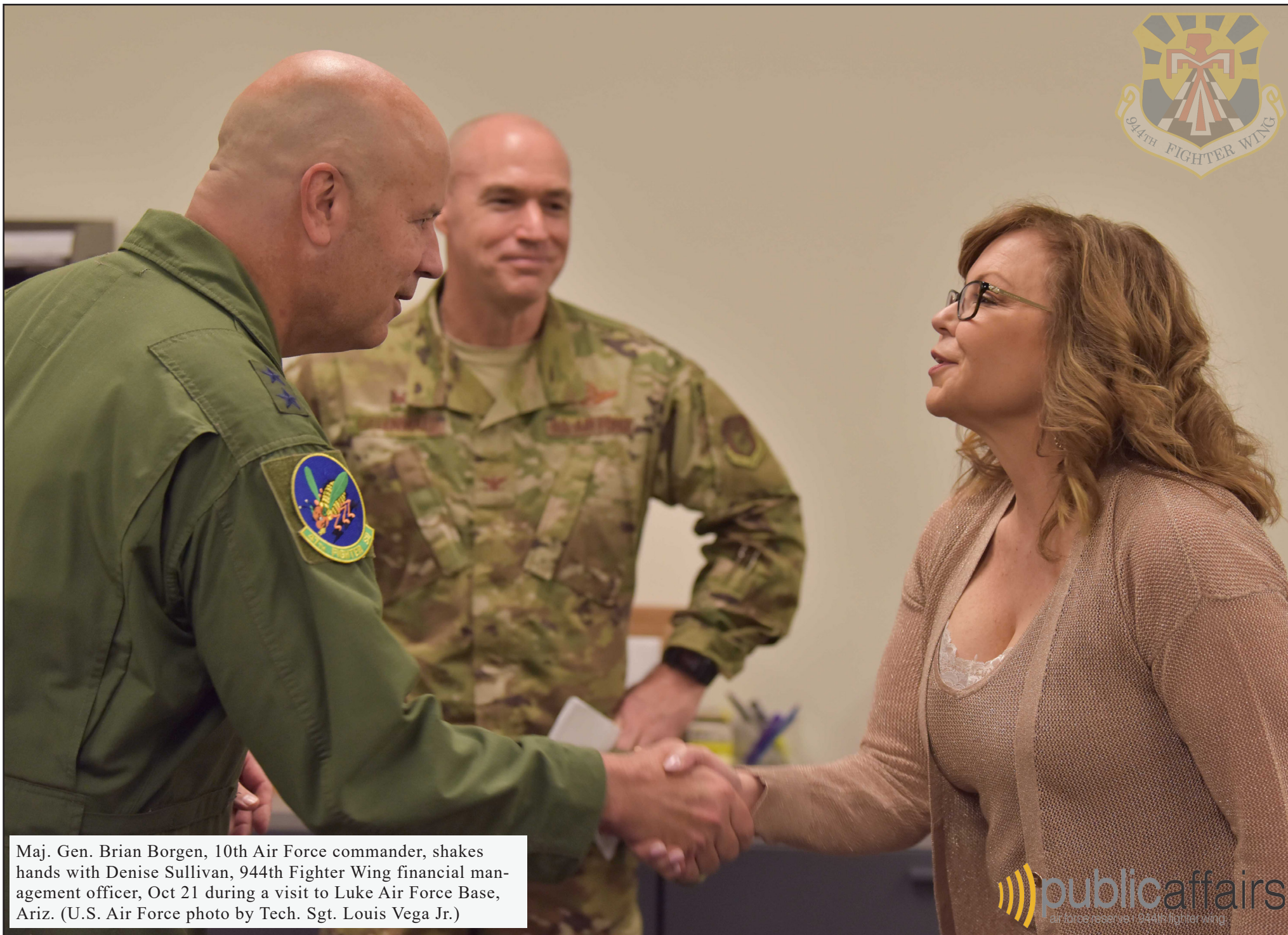
The Air Force has released several reforms over the last couple years as part of a larger talent management system reform. Goldfein said the next phase of the reforms will address performance management.

“We believe maximizing the development of all Airmen is about having the right education, training and experiences. Getting this right enhances individual and unit performance,” Goldfein said. “Our goal through these efforts, and others, is to unleash the capabilities of our people to be ready for tomorrow’s fight.”

“We have some details to be worked out for some AFSCs and careers unique to the Air Force Reserve and we will find the best fit within these six developmental categories for everyone on our team,” Scobee said. “We’ll publish more information and details in the coming weeks.”

A list of the new developmental categories and associated Air Force Specialty Codes is available on the MyPers website.





Maj. Gen. Brian Borgen, 10th Air Force commander, shakes hands with Denise Sullivan, 944th Fighter Wing financial management officer, Oct 21 during a visit to Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Louis Vega Jr.)