



VOLUME 66 • NUMBER 21 • FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2018

DIGNIFIED ARRIVAL

WWII SAILOR FINALLY RETURNS HOME



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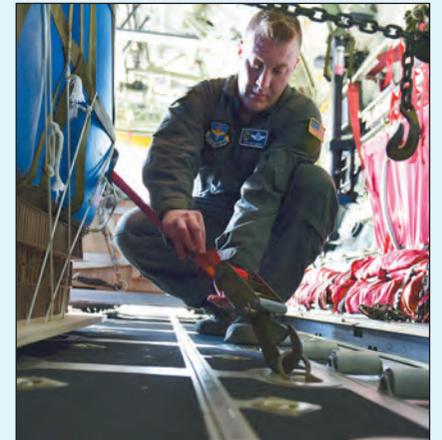
U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS RHETT ISBELL

Aircrew from the 189th Airlift Wing salute the coffin of U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Henry Tipton as it is carried to a hearse by 19th Airlift Wing Honor Guardsmen on June 6 at Walnut Ridge Regional Airport. Tipton died on the USS Oklahoma during the attacks on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

NEW PARENTAL LEAVE POLICY

In accordance with the Department of Defense Military Parental Leave Program, the Air Force announced an expansion to its parental leave policy for non-chargeable leave entitlements following the birth or adoption of a child.

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314TH AW TECH SCHOOL

INSTRUCTOR CREWS COMPETE IN

ANNUAL TURKEY SHOOT

The annual local combat airlift competition, known as the Turkey Shoot, pitted rivals against one another in timed events including heavy equipment airdrops, points of interest, visual points assault landing and backing accuracy June 8 at Little Rock Air Force Base.

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AIR & SPACE SHOW

133 Days

"There's no pillow quite as soft as a father's strong shoulders."

Happy Father's Day!

Don't be late for dinner: Normandy family supper

By Airman 1st Class Grace Nichols

19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

NORMANDY, FRANCE – Before Hitler, Hirohito and Mussolini combined to form the Axis Powers and sent the world to war, people regularly enjoyed commonalities such as family dinners and playing sports with friends.

With the attack on Pearl Harbor, America went to war, quickly transforming their idyllic world into one wrought with conflict.

JUNE 6, 1944, D-DAY

Men stormed the beaches of Normandy, France, with one goal: to liberate the French people who had been held captive for five years.

More than 425,000 allied and German troops were killed, wounded or went missing during Operation Overlord. Many didn't return to their families, never to enjoy another meal with them.

Now, 74 years later, my boots sank into the sandy beaches of Normandy, walking along shores once awash with blood from men who laid down their lives. At the age of 22, I would have been considered seasoned as many of the men who served were as young as 16, whereas now I am just beginning my life.

I wish I had known these brave souls, I hunger to understand the purpose which allowed these service members to so selflessly give their lives for.

I owe my daily struggles of choosing an outfit or worrying about the weather to their undertaking of something much more important in comparison. When given the ability to dine with families of Normandy, I



Jean-Louis Cauvin, a local, speaks to U.S. Army Soldiers in Normandy, France, on May 30 about D-Day. Service members dined with Normandy families as reminder of the sacrifice of those before them.

jumped at the chance to meet the people the brave men fought to liberate.

My yearning propelled me along unfamiliar roads, worrying I would be late for dinner – something my mother always frowned upon. I kept wondering if these men had also thought about their mothers on their way to save these families.

These winding roadsides led me to the town of Sainte-Mère-Église, where families waited to welcome service members into their homes for a hot meal. They embraced us as if we were the very ones to have captured the beaches, ensuring their freedom.

My companions were a United States Army private and a sergeant, and our family for the evening were Jean-Louis and

Yolande Cauvin, a couple with matching wrinkles and smiles who spoke little English.

As we traveled to their home, they transformed the route into war-torn France, describing what it had been like when Yolande's father was a boy. Just 14 years old during the D-Day invasion, he witnessed German soldiers killed in his own garden, and was freed from captivity.

I casually strolled down past the very place he had watched in horror as he finally became a free Frenchman.

Bunkers lining the roads and scattered in cow pastures: these relics are somehow beautiful scars standing as a reminder after 74 years of freedom.

Later I would stand at the bottom of

crater left from the siege, my already short 5' 2" stature dwarfed by the enormity of the devastation. What were to me signs of destruction, were a symbol of hope to my host family.

While the house had been rebuilt, the land bore testimony to its past, once littered with ammunition and smoke.

I would never have envisioned the devastation that occurred here, the home is an idyllic French countryside to me, complete with a cheerful donkey, geese and a curious cat. The donkey licking my hand as I fed him a carrot elicited my high laugh, which has been compared to his loud neighing in the past.

All of this weighed heavily on me as I dined. I noted my hand shaking as I lifted a homegrown melon to my mouth; the past horrors and present joys intermingling as we got to know each other.

I had a hard time eating with this realization, my eyes brimming with tears as I realized the survivors who had dined here nearly three quarters of a century ago felt just as grateful and overwhelmed as I did – hoping my manners would do my family proud. Did they have this same thought?

I was having the meal that those who had perished during the invasion should have had, but never would. My companions felt similar, our silent glances leading our host family to try to make us laugh, reminding us of privileges we now had thanks to our predecessors.

While our laughter was plentiful, our hearts were just as heavy as our bellies were full as we remembered the sacrifice, gazing upon a living embodiment of hope that this household had become.

EDITORIAL POLICY

How to reach us

404 Graham Road,
Jacksonville, Ark. 72076
Phone: 501-982-9421
Fax: 501-985-0026

E-mail:

combatairlifter@arkansasleader.com

Advertising:

combatairlifter@arkansasleader.com

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EDITORIAL STAFF

Col. Gerald A. Donohue 19th Airlift Wing Commander	Garrick Feldman Editor and Publisher
1st Lt. Margaret Kealy Chief of Public Affairs	Christy Hendricks Managing Editor

Content provided by 19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs
Contact 19awpaleadership@us.af.mil

COMBAT AIRLIFTER OF THE WEEK

RANK/NAME
Tech. Sgt. Olda Cannon

UNIT
Communications Flight

GUARD STATUS
Traditional

POSITION
Knowledge Operations Craftsman

CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT (IF TRADITIONAL)
Farm owner

HOMETOWN
Naylor, MO

TIME ON STATION
7 ½ years

TIME IN SERVICE
12 ½ years

FAMILY
Husband: Brian; Children: Ella-9, Eva-7, Josiah 6

GOALS
Complete NCOA course, learn Spanish

MOST REWARDING PART OF MY JOB

Helping new flight members get settled and feel welcomed.

WHY I JOINED THE GUARD

To continue to serve, and I appreciated the family mindset the Guard offered.

CORE VALUE AND HOW YOU APPLY IT

Integrity First: As a CSS member, it is important to treat the information I am privy to with the respect/privacy it requires. I also try to be quick to admit fault when necessary. As much as it may sting to admit I botched something, real learning often comes from mistakes handled with humility.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS RHETT ISBELL

UPCOMING TRAFFIC CHANGES: HOW YOUR COMMUTE MAY BE AFFECTED VISITORS CENTER PARKING LOT 2



Visitors Center Parking Lot Construction Considerations:

- ▶ Due to construction, there will be limited parking available at the Vandenberg visitors center parking lot
- ▶ The visitors center parking lot will only be available through the Marshall Road entrance
- ▶ Estimated Completion Date: June 29
- ▶ Dates subject to change due to weather and unforeseen site conditions

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Dignified arrival: WWII Sailor finally returns home

By Master Sgt. Stacia Zachary
19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

WALNUT GROVE – While the world remembered June 6 as D-Day – the longest day of World War II – the Tipton family will now remember this date as the day their Sailor finally came home.

The family waited nearly 77 years for Seaman 1st Class Henry “Glenn” Tipton to return from war. The 189th Airlift Wing Arkansas Air National Guard transported Tipton’s casket aboard a C-130H. The Little Rock Air Force Base Honor Guard then ceremonially carried the casket to the hearse as the Patriot Guard stood solemnly by and presented the American flag and the Department of the Navy flag.

The journey to locate Tipton’s remains has been a long one in the making.

“The family has always wanted the chance to bring him home,” said Kimberly Bragg Pulaski, second cousin to Tipton. “It’s been a long time coming and we are all so grateful for this day.”

On Dec. 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor was



19th Airlift Wing Honor Guardsmen salute the coffin of U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Henry Tipton at Walnut Ridge Regional Airport on June 6. Tipton, who was serving on the USS Oklahoma, perished during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

attacked by the Imperial Japanese Army Air Service. Tipton perished when the USS Oklahoma was bombed and sunk during a kamikaze attack on the naval fleet. Tipton, along with many other sailors, was classified as missing in action.

In April 2015, the Deputy Secretary of Defense issued a policy memorandum directing the disinterment of the “unknowns” associated with the USS Oklahoma.

In February 2018, after careful testing, Tipton was identified among the 428 crewmembers who perished with him.

“As a remaining member of the family, on behalf of all of us, we vicariously now have the closure that was sought for 76 years,” stated Ken Tipton, the youngest brother of the deceased Sailor, in an earlier interview.

Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson issued a proclamation recognizing June 8 as “Henry Glenn Tipton Memorial Day.”

See Home, page 6

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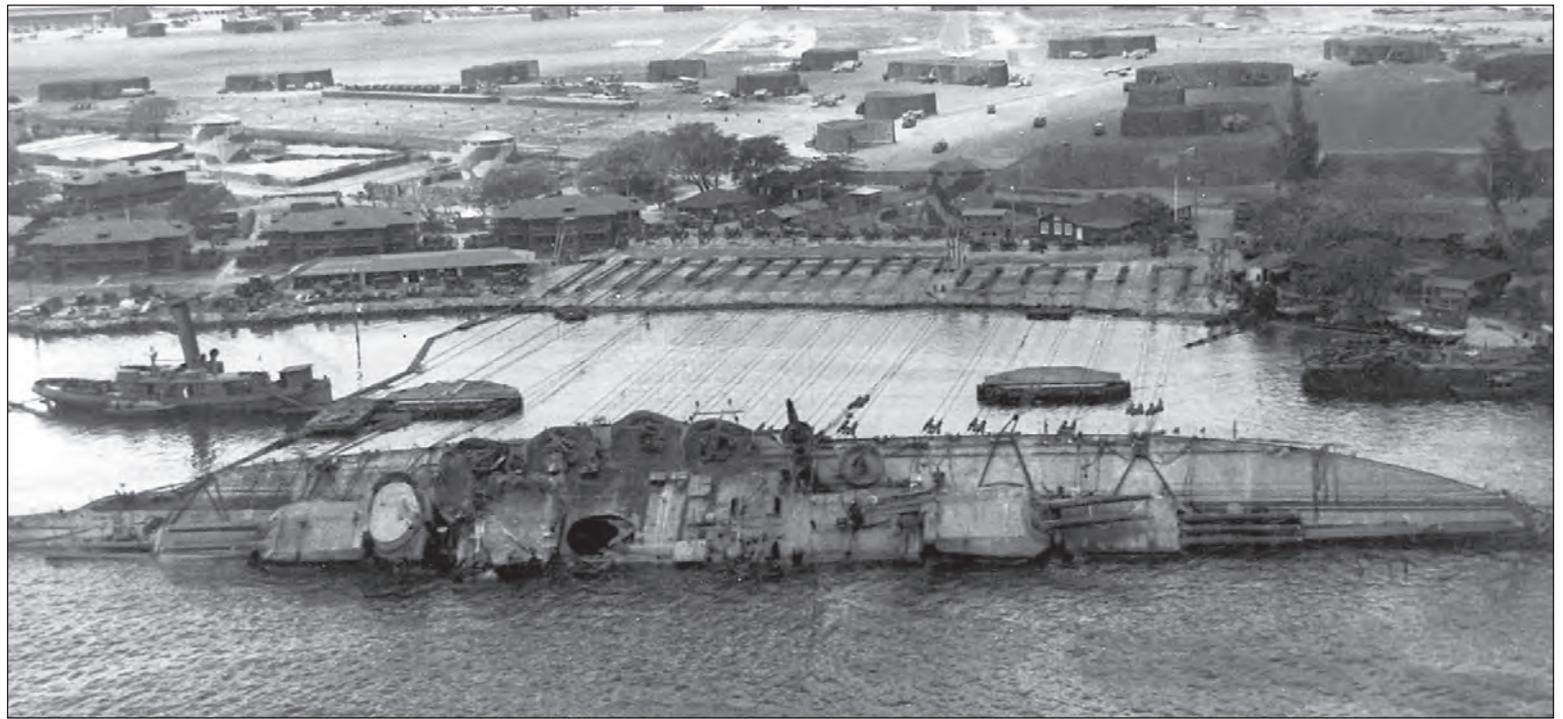
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While the U.S. Navy escorted Tipton's remains to the Memphis International Airport, the 189th WG stepped in to fly his remains to the Walnut Ridge Regional Airport rather than be driven by hearse to the Wings of Honor Museum in Ravenden, Arkansas.

For the Tipton family, decades of wondering, waiting and wishing has finally ended. Seaman Tipton can now rest in peace at home on U.S. soil surrounded by those who loved and missed him. All who heard of his arrival had one unified thought in mind: welcome home Sailor, welcome home.



Crews work in Pearl Harbor to upright the battleship USS Oklahoma in 1943, which was sank during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

COURTESY PHOTO

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Senior Airman Joseph Tharp hugs his pregnant wife, Sarah, after returning home from a deployment to Afghanistan.

AF implements new parental leave policy, secondary caregivers given 21 days

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — In accordance with the Department of Defense Military Parental Leave Program, the Air Force announced an expansion to its parental leave policy on non-chargeable leave entitlements following the birth or adoption of a child.

Previously, Air Force policy authorized 12 consecutive weeks of maternity convalescent leave to female Airmen who gave birth. Additionally, 10 days of non-chargeable leave were given to an Airman whose spouse gave birth. Effective immediately, the new policy applies to Total Force Airmen who are birth mothers and fathers, same-sex

couples, as well as adoptive and surrogate parents. Reserve Component Airmen should refer to Air Force Instruction 36-3003 for specific eligibility requirements.

Under the new policy, AFI 36-3003, Military Leave Program, outlines three forms of non-chargeable leave following a qualifying birth event or adoption: maternity convalescent leave, primary caregiver leave and secondary caregiver leave.

Now maternity convalescent leave is six weeks (42 days), primary caregiver

See Leave, page 11

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TURKEY SHOOT

Tech school instructor crews compete in annual event

STORY BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KRISTINE M. GRUWELL, 19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The annual local combat airlift competition, known as the Turkey Shoot, pitted rivals against one another in timed events including heavy equipment airdrops, points of interest, visual points assault landing and backing accuracy June 8 at Little Rock Air Force Base.

“The 314th Airlift Wing’s Turkey Shoot competition provided an opportunity to challenge a cadre of instructors who make up an unmatched core competence and expertise in developing C-130J combat tactical airlifters,” said Col. Daniel Devoe, 314th Airlift Wing commander.

Time of arrival, drop and landing scores were calculated to determine an overall a winner. An umpire was placed on each aircraft with the crewmembers to grade their performances. Level of experience determines the umpire selection, their judgement is used to oversee operations.

“My mindset going in was to enjoy the chance of competing in the event,” said Tech. Sgt. Dave Hoffer, 314th AW

command chief executive assistant. “I take pride in what I do, and competitions like this are a way to show that. The mission was not too out of the ordinary. Practicing good crew resource management by helping out the crew however I could was my main goal.”

The Jody 32 crew took the award for the best time of arrival and time on-target. The Jody 42 crew achieved closest heavy equipment drop on target. The Jody 31 crew achieved the best landing on target. The Jody 51 crew achieved the best backing score on target.

“The five instructor crews that competed did not disappoint,” Devoe said. “Even though I get to work with them every day, I am continually impressed by the skills, abilities and professionalism of the Airmen that make up the C-130 formal training unit.”

Ultimately, Jody 31 crew took home the trophy for this year’s Turkey Shoot.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KRISTINE M. GRUWELL

Staff Sgt. Noah Polcar, 314th Operations Group tactics loadmaster, and Staff Sgt. Cassandra Fletcher, 314th Operations Group intelligence analyst, measure the distance from a sandbag to the designated target as part of a Turkey Shoot competition June 8 at Little Rock Air Force Base. Five aircrews competed to see who could drop their sandbag closest to the designated target.

(Right) A pilot assigned to the 314th Airlift Wing maneuvers an aircraft as part of a Turkey Shoot competition June 8 at Little Rock Air Force Base. Five aircrew assigned to the 314th AW drove the aircraft in reverse to drop sandbags close to the designated target.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY

Tech. Sgt. Dave Hoffer, 314th Airlift Wing command chief executive assistant, secures a pallet of water barrels June 8 on Little Rock Air Force Base. The pallet was used for a heavy equipment drop during the Turkey Shoot competition. (Background) A C-130J assigned to the 314th Airlift Wing takes off from Little Rock Air Force Base as part of a Turkey Shoot competition on June 8. Five aircrews competed in multiple graded events to see which crew was the best.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Tyree, 62nd Airlift Squadron evaluator loadmaster, looks for the distance before he throws a sandbag out of the back of a C-130J as part of a Turkey Shoot competition June 8 on Little Rock Air Force Base.

The event was measured by how closely they were thrown to a target.



AIR FORCE PHOTO BY



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS RHETT ISBELL

...tive assistant, secures a pallet was part of a timed

... from Little Rock Air Force assigned to the 314th AW ...st of the best.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS RHETT ISBELL

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Tyree, 62nd Airlift Squadron evaluator loadmaster, prepares to throw a sandbag out of the back of a C-130J as part of a Turkey Shoot competition June 8 on Little Rock Air Force Base. The event was measured by how closely they were thrown to a target.

(Below) Tech. Sgt. Dave Hoffer, 314th Airlift Wing command chief executive assistant, assists in offloading an airdrop June 8 on Little Rock Air Force Base. Hoffer performed preflight checks on both of the drops.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS RHETT ISBELL



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS RHETT ISBELL



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KRISTINE M. GRUWELL

Air National Guard student rocks the 154th school house

By Tech. Sgt. Jessica Condit
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 154th Training Squadron of the Arkansas Air National Guard recently graduated a flight engineer student at the top of her class May 16, 2018, here at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. The student, Staff Sgt. Megan Corker, from the 130th Airlift Wing of the West Virginia Air National Guard, portrayed excellence from the beginning of the course, enabling her to proficiency advance above her peers.

A flight engineer, who is an enlisted member of the aircraft's flight crew, monitors and operates the aircraft's complex systems. To become a flight engineer, an Airman must first have a feeder Air Force specialty code in one of many maintenance career fields within the Air National Guard. The service member must also be selected over peers to participate in the program. The entire course is approximately 11 months, with six of the months at Little Rock Air Force Base for academic and flying training. From C-130H simulator training to performing on the actual aircraft, Corker broadened her perception and knowledge of the flight engineer career field.

"As soon as she got here we realized she was an above average student and we wanted to cut her training short," said

Master Sgt. David Roles, the 154th TRS lead flight engineer instructor. "She actually only had eight of each training event, which is not the norm. I've never seen anyone proficiency advance that much before. We had to check the regulations to make sure we could even do that."

Support and encouragement is essential to the success of anyone who is ready to set goals and new milestones in their life. Corker attributes her drive to excellence to her father, who taught her to always give 110 percent in everything she does. She applies this outlook throughout her life as well as in her prior career field as a C-130 crew chief. While her father encouraged her throughout her life, her previous supervisor played a key role in her decision to pursue the goal of becoming a flight engineer.

"My supervisor from my old shop definitely instilled in me the work ethic that I have now," said Corker. "I knew from the beginning that I always wanted to fly, and he cheered me on the whole way when I told him what I wanted to do. He was fully supportive of me."

Corker said she always knew she wanted to be aircrew. Her prior experience in the maintenance career field was a choice she made in order to ensure she was familiar with all aspects of the aircraft, making her future goal as a flight

engineer possible. While she always carried the prospect of becoming aircrew, her path became clear during an exercise she participated in that allowed her to see first-hand what a flight engineer does.

"I've always had an interest in becoming aircrew. Watching everyone work made me realize that becoming a flight engineer was just what seemed right for me," Corker said. "Being a prior maintainer definitely helped, but I didn't see any reason not to give my all and maybe add a little extra effort in there. I'm excited to learn more and do more as a go forward and move on."

Throughout the course, Corker learned the different responsibilities of her new career field. From training in the flight simulator to flying in the C-130H, the steps she took to complete her training were tedious and time-consuming, but worth the effort in the end. She deems her success at the 154th TRS to not only her military background, but also to her instructors she had throughout the duration of her time at the unit.

"Putting everything you've learned together and finally getting to fly, that's that was my favorite part of this whole

See Rocks, page 12

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Leave

Continued from page 7

leave is six weeks, and secondary caregiver leave is three weeks (21 days). Every birth mother will have convalescent leave. Caregiver leave is given in addition to the convalescent leave.

Covered service members having a child by birth, adoption or surrogacy will determine which parent is the primary and secondary caregiver. Designations for caregiver status should be made as early as possible and follow Department of Defense guidance. Each parent can only hold one caregiver status per birth event or adoption; for example, a secondary cannot transfer their leave to the primary caregiver.

Airmen should submit their caregiver leave as determined by their local unit commanders. Until LeaveWeb is altered to allow for a caregiver leave category, members will request the non-chargeable caregiver leave by selecting (T) Permissive on the type dropdown menu, and then choosing rule 18 for primary and rule 19 for secondary. Until the AF Form 988 is altered, Airmen who cannot use LeaveWeb, should check "Other" in block 8 and specify primary or secondary in the remarks.

For all three types of parental leave, the allotted time off must be taken all at once and cannot be split up.

Primary and secondary caregiver leave can be taken any time within the first year after a child's birth or adoption.

The Air Force policy, authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, is effective immediately and retroactive to December 23, 2016.

The Air Force Personnel Center will send out guidance via MyPers on the process for requesting restoration of qualifying non-chargeable leave.

Frequently Asked Questions can be found here. For additional information regarding the Military Leave Program, please visit AFI 36-3003 or contact Air Force Total Force Service Center at 1-800-565-0102.

(Courtesy of Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs)

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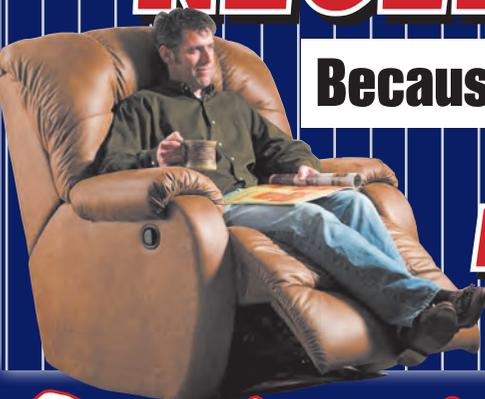
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Staff Sgt. Megan Corker, from the 130th Airlift Wing of the West Virginia Air National Guard, portrayed excellence from the beginning of the course, enabling her to advance above her peers.

Rocks

Continued from page 11

process," Corker said. "It's really cool how it all works when you finally get to do the job."

It takes a dedicated person to become an instructor. Handing down knowledge from one flight engineer to another takes patience and perseverance on all levels. While it is sometimes a tedious and seemingly unrewarding task, instructors within the unit explain that every step is worth the challenge.

Roles explains that watching a student finally grasp an idea they have been struggling to understand is one of the most rewarding parts of his job.

"I enjoy being able to teach brand new individuals regardless of what stage in their career they are, they volunteered to become an enlisted flyer," said Master Sgt. Jason Terry, the 154th TRS assistant flight engineer superintendent. "Teaching them and sharing relevant experiences here and the things you've encountered as a flight engineer in an operational unit is very rewarding."

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YARD SALES

YARD SALE, 6/15 & 16, 8 am-? 28 Krooked Kreek Dr., Cabot.

MOVING SALE, 6/15 & 16, 7 am-4 pm, 5 E. 40, Cabot, off Mtn. Springs Rd. Tools, camping & fishing items, vintage Christmas, washer, dryer, freezer, generator, furn. & lots of household items. (501) 455-3898.

MOVING/GARAGE SALE, 6/15 & 16, 9 am-2 pm, 1400 Lost Creek Dr., Jax. Furniture, lawn furniture, etc.

HUGE 2-FAMILY yard sale, 6/15 & 16, 3765 Hwy. 89 S., Cabot. Furniture, lots of household, etc.

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HUGE YARD sale, 6/16, 8 am-6 pm, 120 Southeastern, Jax. Something for all.

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