



Combat Airlifter



19TH AMXS AIRMAN SUPPORTS

MARINE UNIT

The 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was called to assist a joint partner when a U.S. Marine CH-53E Super Stallion stopped for repairs at the Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock.

PAGE 5



EXERCISE NOTICE

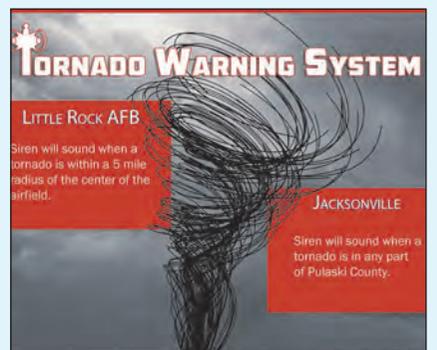
Due to the current exercise, some organizations' hours will be temporarily changed.

PAGE 11



HORSING AROUND

pages 8-9



NEED-TO-KNOW FOR SEVERE WEATHER

Airmen and their families should take into consideration base procedures and notifications during severe weather conditions at Little Rock Air Force Base.

PAGE 12

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY TAMMY L. REED

Hearts & Hooves volunteers lead children from Little Rock Air Force Base's Exceptional Family Member Program around the riding ring during a special event at the therapeutic riding center March 23 in Sherwood. The EFMP provides support to military family members with special needs, and it includes a variety of personnel, medical and family support functions.

Wilson, Goldfein outline Air Force progress, need for larger force

By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein told the House Armed Services Committee on Tuesday that the Air Force must get bigger and funding must be predictable to meet – and defeat – security threats at home, globally and in space in an era of great power competition.

“In fiscal year 2020, we will continue to build a more lethal and ready Air Force, while fielding tomorrow’s Air Force faster and smarter,” Wilson and Goldfein said in a joint posture statement.

They cited findings from the independent and bipartisan National Defense Strategy Commission to explain the stakes. “Regardless of where the next conflict occurs or which adversary it features, the Air Force will be at the forefront,” the commission said.

Increasing the number of operational squadrons to 386 from the current 312, a number designated after rigorous analysis is necessary for the Air Force to meet requirements in the National Defense Strategy and to “prevail over our highest priority competitors,” the commission said. The analysis from which 386 was derived included thousands of simulations and war games and “produced an unmistakable conclusion: the Air Force is too small for what our nation needs.”

“The Air Force we need must evolve to incorporate advanced technology and wield cutting-edge capabilities in new and innovative ways.”

BUILDING A MORE LETHAL AND READY FORCE

“We are more ready for major combat operations today than we were two years ago. More than 90 percent of our pacing squadrons are ready to ‘fight tonight’ with their lead force packages,” Wilson and Goldfein said in their Fiscal Year 2020 Posture Statement to Congress.

They also said that readiness recovery is foremost about people with fiscal 2020 end-strength set to increase by 4,400 Airmen and 5,143 civilians. And the Air Force increased pilot production last year, graduating 1,211 pilots with production expected to hit 1,480 in 2020.

The service’s space budget also increases in 2020 with a 17 percent increase over the 2019 budget, building on advances and further accelerating efforts to protect and defend the nation’s ability to operate in space.

The top service leaders also affirmed the importance of a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent. The Air Force provides two-thirds of the nation’s nuclear triad and 75 percent of the nuclear command, control and communications capability.

“Since the end of the Second World War over 70 years ago, every president

and every Congress has supported the nuclear triad as a vital element of our national defense. We must continue to do so,” they said.

FIELDING TOMORROW’S AIR FORCE FASTER AND SMARTER

In this era of great power competition, Wilson and Goldfein said, “We cannot win this contest with an acquisition system from the Cold War. We must move fast to stay competitive, and we are fundamentally transforming what we buy, how we buy it and from whom we buy it.”

They also noted the advances the Air Force has realized in speeding up and streamlining the acquisition process. To date, the service has eliminated 71 years of “acquisition schedule time” and saved \$15 billion in the last nine months. There is heightened focus – and results – from using prototypes, tailored acquisition strategies and agile software development.

The service, in the fiscal year 2020 budget, is set to continue the development and purchase of key weapon systems to include the KC-46 Pegasus, B-21 Raider and F-35 Lightning II, while also investing in modernized F-15EX’s to replace the aging F-15Cs.

“We remain committed to the F-35 and its game-changing capabilities, and will continue purchasing 48 aircraft each year,” they said.

THE AIR FORCE WE NEED IS 386

OPERATIONAL SQUADRONS

“Our study also shows more of the same isn’t the best answer. The Air Force we need must evolve to incorporate advanced technology and wield cutting-edge capabilities in new and innovative ways,” they said.

While the fiscal year 2020 budget lays the foundation for building “the Air Force We Need,” additional topline funding is required in future budgets to grow to 386 operational squadrons.

And central to meeting Air Force goals, Wilson and Goldfein said, is the necessity of predictable, consistent funding.

“No enemy in the field has done as much to harm the readiness of the Air Force than the combined impact of artificial spending restrictions, worsened by operating for 10 of the last 11 years under continuing resolutions of varied and unpredictable duration,” the joint statement says.

“Let’s be clear. We cannot fully implement the National Defense Strategy to protect America’s vital national interests with unpredictable and constrained budgets. We must come together to find a way forward,” they said.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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COMBAT AIRLIFTER OF THE WEEK



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

NAME AND RANK

Airman 1st Class Khim Mallari
UNIT

19th Comptroller Squadron

DUTY TITLE

Financial operations technician

HOMETOWN

Philippines

TIME IN SERVICE

1 year, 11 months

TIME AT LITTLE ROCK

1 year, 6 months

GOALS

Short-term goals are to finish reading eight books on self-improvement and cosmic knowledge. Long-term goal is to save money to buy or own a business.

HOBBIES

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19th AMXS Airmen supports Marine unit

By Airman 1st Class Kristine M. Gruwell
19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was called to assist a joint partner when a U.S. Marine CH-53E Super Stallion stopped for repair at Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock on March 20-21.

The 366th Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron's aircraft was grounded during a routine flight for a weapons and tactics instructor course due to the rotor head failing upon shutdown operations.

The flight was cut short, but repair took significantly less time because U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Corey Varner, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion craftsman, was sent out to support as a crane operator.

"Without Little Rock Air Force Base's help in repairing the aircraft, we would have been waiting a much longer period of time for a contracted crane operator," said U.S. Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer 2 Patrick Webb, 366th Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron maintenance material control officer.

Due to the interoperability between the Airmen and the Marines, the aircraft was repaired and the Marines were able to continue with their mission and fly back to their home station, Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina.

See page 6 for more photos.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Corey Varner, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion craftsman, assists Marines in the removal of a rotor blade from a CH-53E Super Stallion at Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock on March 20.

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19th AMXS Airmen supports Marine unit



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN



(Left) U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Corey Varner, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion craftsman, speaks with a Marine at Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock on March 20.

(Right) Marines from Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina, hold a rotor blade from a CH-53E Super Stallion at Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock on March 20.

(Left) Marines from Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina, prepare to lower a rotor blade from a CH-53E Super Stallion at Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock on March 20.



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HORSING AROUND

EFMP partners with Hearts & Hooves

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TAMMY L. REED
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

On a sunny, warm, spring day, families from the Exceptional Family Member Program at Little Rock Air Force Base met at Hearts & Hooves Therapeutic Riding Center located in the countryside near the base. There, families experienced a unique partnership forged between the base, the center, and the horses that live and work there.

Hearts & Hooves in Sherwood serves individuals with special needs, at-risk children and veterans through companionship with horses. Led by Michele Easter, executive director, they promote independence through therapeutic riding and equine-facilitated learning to enrich the lives of everyone participating at the farm.

On March 23, Easter, her staff, and a farm full of volunteers hosted a special EFMP event that included a Pulaski County Sheriff's Department display, bouncy house, games, refreshments and rides on the center's horses.

"The horses offer a really unique learning opportunity because we generally relate better to animals than we do to people," Easter said. "It's a little less intimidating, so the children and others find it easier to learn to relate to a horse and to relax around a horse."

"That's what we are looking for, that sense of calm and peace, and the horse teaches them that," Easter added.

As some children and adults raced stick horses, ate burgers and socialized nearby, more

children and their parents lined up down at the riding ring for their chance to ride horses named Bon Jovi, Peanut and Sam I Am, among others.

"These aren't just regular horses on the farm," said Steve Jones, Airman and Family Readiness Center EFMP coordinator. "These are trained animals, specifically trained to work with kids or anyone with special needs."

"This is the first time we've done this. What we're doing here today is a good opportunity for our families to have a good time with the horses at Hearts & Hooves," he said.

His goal for the event was for the program's families to come out, siblings together, and have fun without feeling many of life's pressures.

Easter said she was excited when Jones contacted her.

"We have volunteers from the base, and spouses of active duty that are employees here, but I've not had a partnership where we've done activities together before," Easter said. "It's a wonderful opportunity."

Emily Fortenberry recently moved to Little Rock AFB with her active-duty spouse and their two children. This was her first EFMP event in Arkansas.

"We are here to get out and meet other families that are dealing with what we are dealing with," Fortenberry said. "It's nice to have other people that have been on that same emotional level and can relate."



Families from the Exceptional Family Member Program at Little Rock Air Force Base play games during an event held at Hearts & Hooves Therapeutic Riding Center on March 23 in Sherwood. The EFMP provides support to military family members with special needs, and it includes a variety of personnel, medical and family support functions.



Families from the Exceptional Family Member Program at Little Rock Air Force Base line up at the riding ring to ride horses at Hearts & Hooves Therapeutic Riding Center on March 23 in Sherwood. The EFMP provides support to military family members with special needs, and it includes a variety of personnel, medical and family support functions.

Two of Hearts & Hooves Therapeutic Riding Center's horses wait their turn to provide rides to Exceptional Family Member Program members from Little Rock Air Force Base during a special event March 23, 2019. Hearts & Hooves, located in Sherwood, Arkansas, serves individuals with special needs, at-risk children and veterans through companionship with horses and hosted the event in partnership with EFMP.



19th MDG recognizes volunteers



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN RHETT ISBELL

Celebrating years of faithful service, the 19th Medical Group recognized its retiree volunteers during a breakfast to thank them for all that they do. Retirees volunteer their time to assist Airmen, their families and fellow veterans. Volunteers at the 19th MDG fill three full-time positions and support over 500 hours per month.

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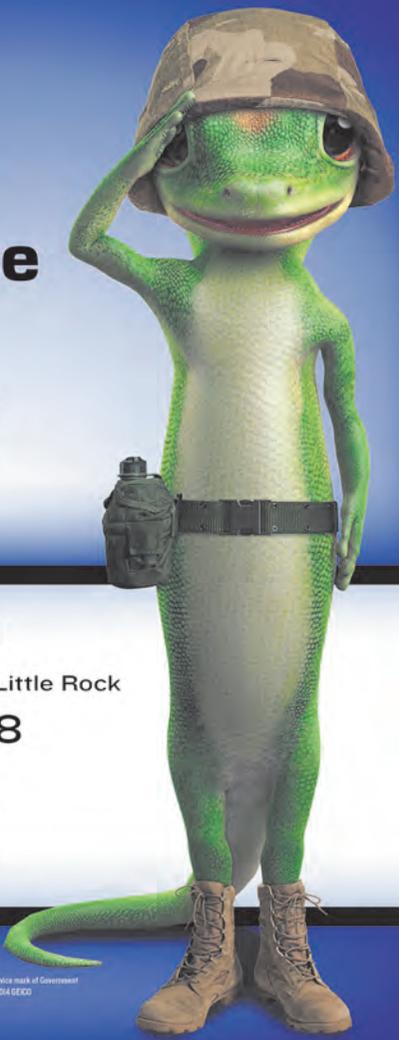
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Need-to-know for severe weather season

By Airman 1st Class Kristine M. Gruwell
19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Airmen and their families should take into consideration base procedures and notifications during severe weather conditions at Little Rock Air Force Base.

The location and severity of the weather dictates what the 19th Operations Support Squadron weather shop communicates to the 19th Airlift Wing Command Post and ultimately, when notifications are sent to the base population.

A rare but important notification for Airmen and families to be aware of is the base siren. Command post will sound the siren when a tornado is within a five-mile radius of the center of the airfield. This siren is activated by different criteria than the Jacksonville, Arkansas, tornado siren, which will sound when a tornado touches down in any part of Pulaski County.

“We don’t want to alert the base to a threat that isn’t going to be there,” said U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Nicholas Goalen, 19th OSS weather technician. “Alerting people to go into tornado procedures when the tornado isn’t a threat to us causes panic and a loss of produc-

See Weather, 13

TORNADO WARNING SYSTEM

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Siren will sound when a tornado is within a 5 mile radius of the center of the airfield.

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

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Weather

Continued from page 12

tivity, which is why we sound the siren only at certain times.”

Airmen and their families will receive notifications of tornado watches and warnings through AtHoc indicating the weather conditions are primary for a tornado but that doesn't mean one will form.

Preparing for severe weather includes more than knowing the base procedures. Airmen and their families should make sure they're prepared in their homes in case a tornado or inclement weather occurs.

Airmen from 19th OSS weather recommend individuals should have a bag on standby with non-perishable food and water, a radio, phone charger and rechargeable battery ready for severe weather. If sirens go off due to a tornado warning, get to the nearest shelter-in-place

or go to the most center room with no windows of the bottom floor of a house.

Airmen should also update their AtHoc on a regular basis so they can receive notifications and updates to be able to respond appropriately to the weather conditions.

“We are going into severe weather season, so people should keep extra food and water in their house just in case something does happen in addition to keeping up with the weather,” Goalen said.



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EVERLASTING LIFE Worship Center in Jacksonville is looking for church musicians/keyboardist or organist, drummer, guitarist & praise/worship leader. Pastor Rodney, (501) 952-9804.

OPERATOR/TRUCK DRIVER - Duties include: working on powerline crew & operating machines. Must have CDL license, experience operating & hauling equipment. Travel required. Advancement possible. 479-789-2550.**

YARD SALES

GARAGE SALE, 4/6, 7 am-1 pm, 305 & 301 Ranch Ridge Ct., Jax. Several families, clothing & shoes, furniture (indoor & outdoor), household, kitchen, Christmas, books, games, puzzles, BBQ items, some tools.

MOVING/GARAGE SAL, 4/6, 7 am, 109 Oak Leaf Dr., Beebe. Household goods.

GIANT RUMMAGE sale, 4/6, 8 am-3 pm, 182 Lariat Dr., Austin. Furniture, tools, household goods, etc.

MOVING SALE, 4/6, 110 Granite Dr., McRae. Furniture, antiques, clothing, outdoor furniture, dishes & much more. Everything must go!

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30 GALLON fish tank, extras & fish, \$75. (501) 259-9765.

PETS & SUPPLIES

YORKIES - 2 left. 10 weeks old, all shots up-to-date & wormed, tails docked, dew claws. 1 boy, 1 girl. (501) 843-9519, Cabot.**

FREE CAT, 5 yrs. old, needs new home, black w/yellow eyes. (501) 247-8853.

4 MED. size dogs need new home ASAP, (501) 242-1631, Jason or Kevin.

AUTOS/ACCESSORIES

2003 CORVETTE, 50th Anniversary Edition, 57,000 miles, extremely clean, like new, white exterior, camel interior, \$13,000 obo. (870) 217-1303, leave message.

2015 KIA Forte, 67,000 miles, white w/gray interior, bluetooth capable, USB port, pwr. windows, \$8,500. (501) 835-0513.

HOTSHOT EXHAUST manifold for Honda, \$50 obo. (501) 606-1314 or 882-2142.

1991 CAVALIER Station Wagon, runs, needs battery, \$500. (501) 322-1926, Searcy area.

(3) 17" tires, 10-ply, like new, \$200. (501) 983-1445.

1986 CHEVY van, Mark III, needs transmission, good engine, make offer. Serious inquiries only. (501) 882-2142 or 606-1314.

2-WHEEL CAR dolly, \$500. (501) 749-9882.

'90S MODEL 1/2 ton Chevy truck, runs good, V6 eng., new tires, stick shift, \$2,000. (501) 749-9882.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

14' TRACKER Jon boat, easy load trailer, 9.8 hp. Mercury motor, excellent cond., \$2,100. (501) 743-7077.

BLUE OX Sway Pro wt. distribution hitch, \$100; 50 amp. surge guard, \$100; X Chock tire locking chocks w/ wrench, \$40/2; slide-out stabilizers, \$30/4; Jack-in-a-box slide-out stabilizers, \$40/2; leveling blocks, \$10/10. (318) 707-3470, Cabot.

PRO ANGLER smoker craft aluminum 16' V-bottom boat, 50 hp. Evenrude powertrim motor & trailer, \$1,700. (870) 656-3793, Cabot.

14' TRACKER, John boat, easy load trailer, 9.9 Mercury motor, excellent condition, \$1,500. (501) 743-7077.

BLUE OX BXW1003 Sway Pro weight distribution hitch, 1,000 lb. tongue weight, \$100. (318) 707-3470, Cabot.

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WANTED: SELF-PROPELLED lawn-mower w/bagger, must be good price. (501) 843-5376.

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3-BAG GRASS catcher for 42" Craftsman riding lawn mower, great condition, \$75. (501) 837-8973, Jax., after 4 pm.

BUHLER FINISH mower, 5', shop kept, used very little, \$700. (501) 231-1367.

FORD 941 Powermaster tractor, needs work, \$1,000 obo. (870) 552-5109.

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MINNIE MOUSE matching infant car seat/stroller, \$110 obo.; mostly summer clothes, 0-18 mos.; sm. floor swing, gender neutral, \$15 obo. Clean, smoke free, great condition. (501) 944-5346.

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45 RPM records w/sleeves, great condition, 30 for \$15. (501) 231-2757, Jax.

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WOMEN'S XS/SM scrubs, \$10/set, \$5 individual pieces; xs/sm lab jackets, \$10 ea.; xl scrubs, new, \$15 ea. set; xl lab jackets, new, \$15 ea.; shoes, sz. 6/7, prices vary; Pretty blue sz. 8 prom/formal dress, new w/ tags, \$60 obo.; Sz. 6 black dress, semi-formal, \$30 obo., new w/ tags; Lots & lots more women's clothes, szs. 4 -10; green Liz Claiborne small/medium purse, \$15 obo. Clean, smoke free, great condition. (501) 944-5346.

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THIS WONDERFUL HOME has lots of room for your family w/4 lg. BRs 3.5 baths. Nice living room w/gas F/P, kitchen has new countertops & backsplash. New flooring, paint, light fixtures & sunroom. A great patio to sit & enjoy the wonderful landscaping. 20 Privett Park Dr. ~ \$223,900.

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