

Desert Lightning News

VOL. 16, No. 7

Serving Southern Arizona's military community, including Davis-Monthan Air Force Base

JULY 2023

LOOK FOR EXPANDED COVERAGE IN THE DIGITAL EDITION OF DESERT LIGHTNING NEWS ONLINE AT WWW.AEROTECHNEWS.COM/DAVIS-MONTHANAFB/.

INSIDE

STORIES

- Honoring Kory Wade, 3
- Stories of Service, 4
- Bioenvironmental engineering runs test, 8
- Remaining resilient, 10

FEATURE



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jhade Herrera

A FREEDOM FEST FOURTH

See Pages 6 and 7

Kiler, the new Military Working Dog

By Airman 1st Class
JHADE HERRERA

355th Wing Public Affairs

The 355th Security Forces Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base family has gained a new member.

Kiler, a Belgian Malinois, has spent last month undergoing processes for Military Working Dog validation and certification.

Upon arrival, Kiler was exposed to the desert environment to ensure he adapts to the weather, terrain and elevation. Future military working dogs are bred at Lackland Air Force Base, in San Antonio, Texas, by the 341st Training Squadron and reared from birth to eight weeks, at their state-of-the-art facility Military Working Dog Center on JBSA-Lackland.

"Our job here is to make sure that we get them used to the dry weather," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Nelson Acosta, 355th Security Forces Squadron Kennel master. "The handlers will take them out for walks just to get their cardio going."



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jhade Herrera

U.S. Air Force Military Working Dog Kiler, assigned to the 355th Security Forces Squadron, plays with his handler at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 15, 2023. Kiler was going through an evaluation process to measure his bite control.

Once his paws are exposed to the terrain, Kiler's walks turn into runs and then rucks.

During this adjustment period, MWD's are also being evaluated on their bite, temperament, controlled aggression, and detection.

"As soon as they get here, they go through a process called the field of evaluation questionnaire," said Acosta. "It's a process that Lackland Air Force Base requires."

As Kiler's kennel master and trainer, Acosta has 75 days to complete this report, detailing whether Kiler is detecting what he is being trained to find.

"He's really good at detection," Acosta said. "We're working on his bite development but that's something that could improve as long as he has drive."

Depending on Kiler's progress following the completion of the questionnaire, he will then be challenged in a real-world scenario in order to be validated.

Once he is validated, the Mission Support Group commander



U.S. Air Force Military Working Dog Kiler, assigned to the 355th Security Forces Squadron, poses for a photo at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 15, 2023. Kiler is a Belgian Malinois, one of the main breeds that the DOD had besides German shepherds and Dutch shepherds.



U.S. Air Force Military Working Dog Kiler, assigned to the 355th Security Forces Squadron, observes his handler at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 15, 2023. Kiler paid attention for any small movements, signals or commands from his handler.

will observe the detection portion of the test in order to certify his capabilities as a MWD, signing off that he is ready to go into the field.

"MWD Kiler's combat capabilities consist of deterring, detecting, and apprehending individuals who pose a threat to DMAFB," said U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Ryan Duggen, 355th SFS MWD Kiler's handler.

Kiler is expected to be validated and certified soon and will become a key member of a force multiplier team.

When it comes to SFS, MWDs are essential for both defensive and offensive operations, detecting substances, explosives, and drugs. Keeping these dogs ready to rescue and attack enhances the team's readiness and capabilities.

Desert Lightning News

Continue to get Davis-Monthan Air Force Base latest news and information from these sources:

<http://www.aerotechnews.com/davis-monthanafb> and social media
Desert Lightning News

Date of publication
First Friday
of the month

Submission deadline
15th day of the month
prior to date of publication

Veterans

Tell us Your Story
Active-duty, Reserve, Retirees
All military branches are included
Email name, phone number and a brief description of your service to kim@aerotechnews.com

Two DFACs re-open after \$4.8M renovations

By Staff Sgt.
ABBIE RIEVES

355th Wing Public Affairs

The 355th Wing reopened the Desert Inn dining facility, and Rescue and Attack Kitchen, after \$4.8 million in renovations were completed, June 29, 2023.

“This modernization project will equip the base with cutting-edge features that guarantee the highest-quality food, tailored to the dietary requirements of our Airmen,” said U.S. Air Force Capt. Zachery de los Santos, 355th Force Support Squadron flight chief. “Consequently, our Airmen will be healthy and well-nourished, which is crucial for their performance and overall well-being.”

Modernizing the DFACs began in 2019, after discovering infrastructure failures that made the facility unsafe and unsanitary.

“Thank you to everybody who put time and effort into making this happen and making it happen right,” said U.S. Air Force Col. Scott Mills, 355th Wing commander. “This is the nicest flightline kitchen I’ve ever been in and that is exactly what these Airmen deserve.”

Air Combat Command teamed up with the installation and Mission Support Center to achieve this infrastructure modernization.

“This will benefit our Airmen, forces, and their families,” said de los Santos. “It will guarantee that they are well-fed, healthy, and comfortable, which is vital for their performance and well-being. We are thrilled to see this project come to fruition and honored to be a part of it.”

The new facilities are open for all active duty, reserve, retired military, DOD civilians, and their families.



U.S. Air Force Col. Scott Mills, 355th Wing commander, and 355th Force Support Squadron personnel cut a ribbon signifying the grand opening of the Desert Inn Kitchen at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 28, 2023.

U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman William Turnbull



U.S. Air Force Col. Scott Mills, 355th Wing commander, and U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Oceana Shipp, 355th Force Support Squadron services specialist, cut the first slice of cake at the grand opening of the Desert Inn Kitchen at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 29, 2023. The Desert Inn Kitchen was placed right next to the junior enlisted dorms so that the Airmen won’t have to travel far to receive healthy food.



U.S. Air Force Col. Scott Mills, 355th Wing commander, delivers a speech to the attendees for the grand opening of the Rescue and Attack Kitchen at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 28, 2023. The Rescue and Attack Kitchen was opened on the flightline as a way for maintenance personnel to grab a meal without having to travel far.

— HOURS OF OPERATION —

Rescue and Attack Kitchen

Monday – Friday hours
Breakfast – 6 a.m. to 9 a.m.
Lunch 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Dinner 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Rescue and Attack Grab N’ Go

Monday – Friday 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Saturday – Sunday /Holiday Hours
Closed

The Desert Inn DFAC

Monday – Friday hours
Breakfast – 6 a.m. to 9 a.m.
Grab N’ Go – 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Lunch – 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Grab N’ Go – 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Dinner – 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Midnight – not available

Saturday – Sunday/Holiday Hours
Breakfast – 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
Grab N’ Go – 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Lunch – 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Grab N’ Go – 1:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Dinner – 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Midnight – Not open

DM honors Staff Sgt. Kory Wade

By Staff Sgt. NICHOLAS ROSS

355 Wing Public Affairs

Family, friends, and Airmen from across the 355th Wing came together to pay their respects to U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Kory Wade at a memorial service June 23, 2023.

“Kory’s dedication to his job and unit were unparalleled, and every conversation with him felt like you were talking to a close friend you have had for years,” said U.S. Air Force Maj. Waseem Saed, 48th Rescue Squadron commander. “His loss leaves a tremendous hole within the organization, and he will truly be missed by all whom knew him.”

Wade was assigned to the 48th RQS as a medical material manager.

The ceremony consisted of an invocation and prayer from Chaplain (Capt.) Jamie Stiffler, 563rd Rescue Group chaplain, remarks from the former commander of the 48th RQS, U.S. Air Force Maj. Levi Cass, presentation of the flag and decoration to the family, roll call, Taps, a flyover from the 162nd Wing and the rendering of honors.

“Kory’s time with us was far too short,” said Cass. “The impact he had on so many of us here today cannot be overstated. He may be gone from our sight but will live on in our hearts.”

Wade was found dead at Roosevelt Lake, Arizona, on June 17, after having gone missing three days prior during a training exercise.



The 355th Honor Guard folds the flag during a memorial service for U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Kory Wade at the 48th Rescue Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 23, 2023. Wade, a medical logistics Airman assigned to the 48th RQS, was found dead June 17, 2023.

The 48th RQS trains, equips and employs combat-ready pararescuemen, combat rescue of-

ficers and supporting personnel worldwide in support of U.S. national security interests.

Details surrounding Wade’s death are still under investigation.



Courtesy photo
A photo of U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Kory Wade, who was found dead on June 17.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Ross
U.S. Air Force Maj. Levi Cass, former 48th Rescue Squadron commander, speaks at the memorial service of Staff Sgt. Kory Wade at the 48th RQS, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 23, 2023. Wade was found dead at Roosevelt Lake, Ariz., on June 17, after a multi-day search and rescue operation led by the Gila County Sheriff’s Office.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Ross

Family and friends gather to honor U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Kory Wade during his memorial service at the 48th Rescue Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 23, 2023. Wade was from Shortsville, New York, and entered active-duty service Nov. 18, 2008.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Ross
A plaque honoring Staff Sgt. Kory Wade is on display during his memorial service at the 48th Rescue Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 23, 2023. Wade, a medical logistics Airman assigned to the 48th RQS, was found dead June 17, 2023.

Desert Lightning News

Staff

Publisher Paul Kinison
Business Manager Lisa Kinison
Editor KC Rawley
Advertising Representative Sandi Bueltel
Designer Tinna Sellie

Aerotech News and Review prepares all editorial content for *Desert Lightning News*. The editor will edit or rewrite submitted material for clarity, brevity or to conform to the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101. Contributions for *Desert Lightning News* can be emailed to the editor at kim@aerotechnews.com. Submission deadlines are the 15th day prior to the month of publication. Submissions will be based on space available and priority. *Desert Lightning News* uses information from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base

website, the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, Air Combat Command, staff writers and other sources. All advertising is handled by Aerotech News and Review. For business advertising, call 877-247-9288 or email Sandi Bueltel at sbueltel@aerotechnews.com.

Desert Lightning News is published by Aerotech News and Review, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under written agreement with the 355th Fighter Wing. Contents of *Desert Lightning News* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Govern-

ment, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the DLN, DOD, Air Force or Aerotech News and Review. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchase, user or patron.

Stories of service: Answering nation's call

by
U.S. Space Force

Public Affairs

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. (AFNS) —

U.S. Air Force Maj. Kyle Konkolics and U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Reedy are part of the 58th Special Operations Wing, 71st Special Operations Squadron, stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico.

The men had different reasons for enlisting, but both say it was a desire to serve their nation. They never imagined what form that service would take.

In 2020, Konkolics and Reedy were members of a joint operation that successfully completed a dangerous hostage rescue operation.

On Oct. 26, 2020, Philip Walton, a 27-year-old American, was abducted by a group of armed kidnappers in northern Nigeria.

Rescue teams were quickly assembled as part of a major effort to free Walton before his abductors could get far, according to ABC News.

Konkolics reflects on his feelings when he first was told of the rescue mission.

“With just a few hours from notification, the team deployed and met up

with special operations forces. The team knew there was an American being held hostage and it was our duty to rescue him from his captors. We all were mission focused and were determined to bring him back, putting his well-being above our own. Training kicked in and we were ready to answer the nation's call.”

Reedy also recalls how he felt when notified he would be part of one of the crews participating in this rescue mission.

“I felt privileged and excited to be able to execute the mission the CV-22 [Osprey] was designed for. We all trained for this and knew how big of a mission this was. I think most of us only slept a few hours over a couple of days from the time of notification. I think mostly because what we knew was at stake.”

The *New York Times* reported in 2020 that on Oct. 31, 2020, only a few days after the American was taken hostage, a heroic rescue mission launched during the early morning hours, using the cover of darkness. Konkolics and Reedy, along with the entire joint operations team, took off to fly the longest-distance nighttime hostage rescue mission in U.S. military history.

The rescue mission carried Navy SEAL Team Six operators thousands of miles into northern Nigeria. The SEALs parachuted to the ground, killed all but one of the kidnappers, and rescued the American hostage. The CV-22 pilots were forced to land on dangerous terrain in order to exfiltrate the SEAL Team and the rescued hostage.

The operation was a success. The hostage was rescued, six kidnappers were killed, there were no American casualties, and all the aircraft returned safely. Konkolics and Reedy both per-

See STORIES, Page 5

RIGHT: U.S. Air Force Maj. Kyle Konkolics, 71st Special Operations Squadron safety chief, conducts a pre-flight safety check May 10, 2023, at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico. Konkolics received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroic role in a rescue mission of an American hostage in Africa in October 2020. The successful operation was the longest-distance hostage rescue conducted during night in Department of Defense history and was completed within 48 hours of their initial notification.



U.S. Air Force photo by Allen Winston

1st Dental Care LLC

EMERGENCIES ACCEPTED

RESTORATIVE

- Crowns/Bridges
- Dentures/Repairs
- Root Canals
- Oral Surgery (Extraction)
- Implants

COSMETIC

- Bleaching
- Bondings
- Porcelain Veneers
- Tooth Colored Filings

PREVENTATIVE

- Sealants
- Cleanings
- Exams

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

*Most Insurance Accepted
Including Delta Dental & Military Insurance*

Conscious Sedation Available

General Reconstructive & Cosmetic Dentistry
L. Bui, D.D.S • D. Danivas, D.D.S

459-5166

www.1stdentalcareaz.net

Fry Blvd	N▲	Hwy 92
Foothills Dr	■	

Se Habla Español

Saturday Appointments Available



1150 S Hwy 92, Ste A
Sierra Vista, AZ
Services Provided By An Arizona Licensed General Dentist



NEVER FORGOTTEN TOWER CHALLENGE

Join us in honoring those who ran toward danger on September 11th and the military families who continue to carry the mission.

Accept the challenge to climb 2,071 steps — the same amount as the World Trade Center Towers

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

TUCSON CONVENTION CENTER ARENA - 260 S. CHURCH AVE
DOORS OPEN 5:30 AM OPENING CEREMONIES 7:00 AM

MORE INFO AT 911TOWERCHALLENGEFOUNDATION.ORG

\$45 PER PERSON

All proceeds to benefit military and first responder charities

REGISTER TODAY AT 911TOWERCHALLENGEFOUNDATION.ORG



STORIES

(from Page 4)

formed above and beyond the call of duty while supporting the rescue mission of an American hostage who was otherwise unreachable by conventional means.

The Distinguished Flying Cross

In response to their extraordinary achievements while participating in this hostage rescue operation, Konkolics and Reedy were presented the Distinguished Flying Cross during a ceremony at Kirtland AFB Jan. 11.

The DFC is a medal awarded to any officer or enlisted person of the United States armed forces for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight. The DFC is the fourth-highest award given in the military, according to the Air Force Personnel Center.

Konkolics said he was honored and humbled to receive the medal. "I was just doing my job like I always do. It wasn't just me in that aircraft or in that formation of airplanes. There was an amazing aircrew and team who all did their part to make the mission the monumental success it was. They equally deserve the same recognition. This Distinguished Flying Cross is just as much theirs as it is mine. Without them, I would not be receiving this award."

Reflection

Konkolics looks back fondly at his Air Force career and states, "The Air Force is

a family. These past 20 years have gone by quickly, and I have had the privilege of working with some of the finest men and women in the world. The Air Force is a great organization to be a part of, whether you are a pilot or cook. We all play our part to do something amazing for our nation. And those who raise their hand to serve are the 1% who keep this nation free."

Reedy also recalls the choices he made at a young age that got him where he is today. From a fresh new high school graduate to a senior enlisted leader for



U.S. Air Force photo by Allen Winston

U.S. Air Force Maj. Kyle Konkolics, 71st Special Operations Squadron safety chief, goes over a pre-flight checklist with an air crew member May 10, 2023, at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico. Konkolics received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroic role in a rescue mission of an American hostage in Africa in October 2020.

STORIES OF SERVICE

the 71st SOS at Kirtland AFB, Reedy is grateful for the career choice he made at such a young age.

"The military is a good place to find who you are as an individual, establish a solid future and make an impact in the world," Reedy said. "I've spent the majority of my life in the Air Force, at this point, and I have a lot to be thankful for because of it. The people I serve with are what make it worthwhile, and I view them as a second family. I will miss their daily presence in my life once the ride ends and I retire."



U.S. Air Force photo by Allen Winston

U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Reedy, 71st Special Operations Squadron senior enlisted leader, prepares for a CV-22 Osprey training sortie May 10, 2023, at Kirtland Air Force, New Mexico. Reedy received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroic role in a rescue mission of an American hostage in Africa in October 2020. The successful operation was the longest distance hostage rescue conducted during night in the Department of Defense history and was completed within 48 hours of their initial notification.

U.S. Air Force Graphic by Jim Masie



True
TUCSON  **N**

ALL PATHS LEAD TO DESERT DIAMOND
Where Tucson Plays



DESERT DIAMOND CASINO

See Rewards Center for Details. An Enterprise of the Tohono O'odham Nation.



FREEDOM FEST CELEBRATES FOURTH



A firework display during Freedom Fest at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 30, 2023. Freedom Fest was held to boost morale leading up to the celebration of Independence Day.



A child watches a bubble machine during Freedom Fest at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 30, 2023. Freedom Fest was a parade that included various activities for military kids such as a splash zone and other family-friendly water inflatables.





U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jhade Herrera
Independence day.



A child plays with an inflatable ball during Freedom Fest at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 30, 2023. Freedom Fest was hosted by the 355th Force Support Squadron.



Corvettes line up for a car show during Freedom Fest at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 30, 2023. The 'Vette Fest', a corvette parade, displayed a variety of Corvettes, the great American sports car.



Sophia Rankin and the Sound perform with Chad Freedom and Redline during Freedom Fest at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 30, 2023. They both provided live entertainment held for military family members in celebration of Independence Day.



Children play in a bubble pit during Freedom Fest at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 30, 2023. Freedom Fest was a friend and family event held to watch live entertainment and fireworks.



United Services Automobile Association booth members interact with families during Freedom Fest at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 30, 2023. USAA was a financial service company providing insurance and banking products exclusively to members of the military, veterans, and their families.

BIOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING RUNS TESTS



U.S. Air Force photos by Staff. Sgt. Abbey Rieves

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Andrew Ngeno, 355th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron bioenvironmental engineering specialist, assembles radiological test equipment at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 28, 2028. Ngeno was trained to collect data in the event of radiological or nuclear incidents.



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Aram Talavera, 355th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron bioenvironmental engineering specialist, tests water cleanliness at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 28, 2023. Talavera tested the water sample for the pH and chlorine levels in the water.



U.S. Air Force Allan Villagram, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron water, fuel and maintenance specialist, undergoes a respirator fit test at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 28, 2023. Villagram's respirator prevents transmission from microorganisms he may encounter doing his job.

NOW ENROLLING 2023-24

LA PALOMA ACADEMY



K-8

PREPARING OUR FUTURE



FREE BEFORE- AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM



FREE FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN



AWESOME ACTIVITIES



EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS

RESERVE A SPOT FOR YOUR CHILD NOW!

**ONLY 4 MILES FROM BASE!
8140 E. GOLF LINKS RD.**

LPATUCSON.ORG



Ride with the #1 car insurer in Arizona.

With competitive rates and personal service, it's no wonder more drivers trust State Farm®. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there®. CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7.

Dave Noel, Agent
7255 E Golf Links, E. of Kolb/KFC
Tucson, AZ 85730 • Close to D-M
Dave.Noel.bzdt@StateFarm.com
www.DaveNoel.us
Find us on Facebook
Ph. 520-747-7777



State Farm Mutual
Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm
Indemnity Company
Bloomington, IL

For military veteran caregivers, caregiving often starts earlier in life and lasts longer. **To better care for your loved one, you must also care for yourself.**

Get a **FREE** military veterans caregiving guide at aarp.org/caregiving

AARP ad council

Veterans, when you're struggling, soon becomes later becomes someday becomes ...when?

Don't wait. Reach out.
Whatever you're going through, you don't have to do it alone.
Find resources at VA.GOV/REACH

ad council VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VIEJAS
CASINO & RESORT

We are a diverse group of customer service focused individuals who enjoy delivering our own **STYLE of service!**

And we are looking for someone like YOU, who:
Loves to interact with people • Gives 100% every day
Desires FUN at work • Values a career, not just a job

We Have The Best Jobs in San Diego!
Cage Cashier • Cage Shift Manager • Cage Supervisor
Club Host • Compliance Officer • Compliance Specialist
Food and Beverage Assistant Director
Maintenance Program Coordinator
Production Assistant • Public Safety Dispatcher
Security Armed Officer • Security Patrol Officer
Security Unarmed Officer • Tribal Maintenance Worker
Surveillance Officer

Why Viejas?
85% of our Management Team have been promoted from within
On our most recent Engagement Survey, 82% of our Team Members expressed that they were grateful to work at Viejas
40% of our Team Members have worked for us for more than 5 years and 23% for more than 10 years

Contact Us
619.659.1815 • 5000 Willows Road • Alpine, CA 91901
To apply: Viejas.com/careers/

We have you covered for your breakfast and lunch needs every day of the year!
Join us for dine-in, take your meal to-go, or DoorDash it home.

LUNCH SPECIALS \$8.49*
Ask your server about today's special
*M-F only, not valid on holidays

Breakfast Specials*
1 egg, 2 bacon or 2 sausage links or a slice of ham, hash browns, or home fries and wheat or white toast. \$3.99
French toast, 1 egg and 2 bacon strips or sausage links \$4.99
2 pancakes, 1 egg and 1 bacon strip or 1 sausage link \$4.49
*M-F only, not valid on holidays

Joe's Pancake House
FAMILY RESTAURANT

2532 S. Kolb Rd. • 747-7536 • Open Mon-Sat: 6am-2pm, Sun; 7am-2pm

2018 READERS CHOICE WINNER Arizona Daily Star
2019 READERS CHOICE WINNER Arizona Daily Star
2020 READERS CHOICE FAVORITE Arizona Daily Star

15% off regular menu items with Military ID

MENUDO SAT-SUN \$8.99

Serving Tucson 39 Years

Remaining resilient: Airman 1st Class Miles Heaney

By Airman 1st Class
PAIGE WELDON

355th Wing Public Affairs

"UP!" U.S. Air Force Airman Miles Heaney thought to himself, but his body remained in the down position pressed against the cold wet tiles of the Special Warfare Assessment and Selection Course training complex at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Heaney enlisted, March 1, 2022, with the dreams of becoming a pararescueman.

After Basic Military Training and the Special Warfare Candidate Course, Heaney completed two days of the four-week long selection course before being reclassified.

Two months later, Heaney packed his belongings and left on a flight to Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, where he was to become an HH-60 helicopter crew chief.

"I felt like I let my brothers, family, recruiter and most importantly myself down when I dropped out,"



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Paige Weldon

U.S. Air Force Senior 1st Class Miles Heaney, 55th Rescue Generation Squadron HH-60 helicopter crew chief, stands in front of an HH-60G Pave Hawk at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, June 1, 2023. Heaney initially enlisted as a pararescueman but was later reclassified to helicopter maintenance after voluntarily leaving the Special Warfare Assessment and Selection Course.

said now Airman 1st Class Miles Heaney, 55th Rescue Generation Squadron HH-60 crew chief. "I would look at myself in the mirror in the morning and think, 'I still have a purpose in the Air Force,' even though I struggled to see it."

Knowing his time in special warfare had come to an

end, for now, Heaney was hopeful to stay in the rescue community somehow.

"Once I found out helicopter maintenance was a part of the rescue community I put it on my job list immediately," said Heaney. "I knew that if I couldn't be a pararescueman I at least wanted to help support rescue."

Heaney arrived at Davis-Monthan, Dec. 29, 2022, excited to get his hands dirty and aid in 'ensuring someone's worst day isn't their last.' As a crew chief, he is responsible for the general maintenance of the HH-60 and launching and recovering the helicopter.

"Airman Heaney is a mo-

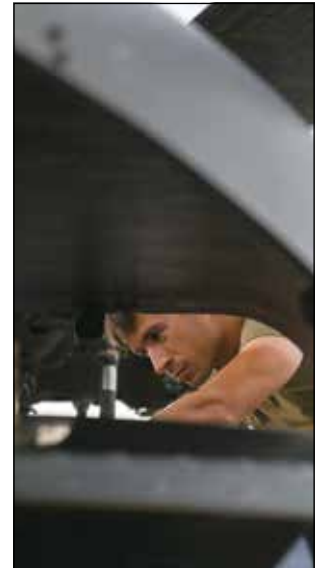
tivated, hardworking, resilient and an all-around very positive person," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Robert Foster, 55th RGS HH-60 crew chief noncommissioned officer in charge. "When he first got here, it was hard for him to fit into the maintenance lifestyle, but he hasn't lost the drive he came here with."

Grateful to still be in the rescue community, Heaney has excelled as a crew chief during his short time at DM, but still aspires to become a pararescueman in the future.

"I have to go back," said Heaney. "Part of me is still there and I need to finish what I started."

Heaney's window to reenter special warfare opens in June 2024, and he is already preparing to submit his package.

Miles Heaney is an excellent example of a resilient Airman who has been able to remain agile, and hopeful for the future of his rescue career, even though not everything has gone as planned.



Airman 1st Class Miles Heaney, 55th Rescue Generation Squadron HH-60 helicopter crew chief, inspects an HH-60G Pave Hawk at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., June 1, 2023. As a crew chief, Heaney is responsible for the general maintenance of the HH-60 and launching and recovering the helicopter.

OFF WE GO INTO THE WILD BLUE YONDER

HR DIRECTORS AND RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS



Aerotech News can give your recruitment efforts a powerful and effective boost in reaching a large market of highly skilled and disciplined candidates.

Aerotech News and its group of aerospace and military base print and digital publications and services can deliver your recruitment message to:

- Transitioning military personnel
- Veterans
- Military and aerospace industry professionals
- Military Spouses

Each of our publications is supported by a robust digital presence with engaged readership.

- Digital edition of print publication (Ads include a live link to your web site or email).
- Include any or all of these options in your plan to reach this very special market.**
- Web site advertising
 - Social media sponsored advertising
 - Newsletter advertising

WEBSITES

Aerotech News and Review - www.aerotechnews.com
High Desert Warrior - www.aerotechnews.com/ntcfortirwin/
Desert Lightning News - www.aerotechnews.com/nellisafb/
Thunderbolt - www.aerotechnews.com/lukeafb/
Desert Lightning News - www.aerotechnews.com/davis-monthanafb/

FACEBOOK

Aerotech News and Review - @ AerotechNewsandReview
High Desert Warrior - @ HighDesertWarrior
Desert Lightning News - @ NellisDesertLightningNews
Thunderbolt - @ LukeThunderbolt
Desert Lightning News - @ DesertLightningNews

 **AEROTECHNEWS.COM**

Phone: 661-945-5634 • Toll free: 877-247-9288
www.thinkmilitaryads.com • www.aerotechnews.com
www.facebook.com/AerotechNewsandReview



Heritage and History of Davis-Monthan AFB

Special Edition of Desert Lightning News

Published Friday, September 22, 2023

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, originally designated Davis-Monthan Landing Field in 1925, has a rich and fascinating history in Arizona.

Davis-Monthan AFB plays a vital role in the U.S. Air Force. The 355 WG serves as the host unit for DMAFB and provides support functions for 34 unique mission partners, to include 12th AF Headquarters, 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group, 55th Electronic Combat Group, and the 162nd Arizona Air National Guard alert Detachment.

This special edition, History of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, will feature historical photographs, stories about how the base came to be, all the major milestones in flight reached there, and the men and women who did not see limitations – only possibilities.

Your business can join in the celebration of the rich history and future of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base when you place your ad in this very special edition, Heritage and History of Davis-Monthan AFB.

SIZE	COLOR RATES
Business card – 3.325” x 2”	\$111.54
1/8 page – 3.325” x 5”	\$226.60
1/4 page – 5” x 6.5”	\$418.28
1/2 page – 10.25” x 6.5”	\$821.53
Full page – 10.25” x 13”	\$1587.30
ALL ADS ARE FULL COLOR PRINT CIRCULATION: 10,000	

**Ad reservation deadline:
September 11, 2023**

**Ad material deadline:
September 15, 2023**

Call our office today at **(877) 247-9288 (toll free)** or email Sandi at **sbueltel@aerotechnews.com** today to reserve your space!



**661-945-5634 • 877-247-9288 www.aerotechnews.com
www.thinkmilitaryads.com • www.facebook.com/AerotechNewsandReview/**

REACH THE BEST MARKET



**Military - Aerospace - Veterans
In Print and Digital**



AEROTECHNEWS.COM

Your one-stop source of news and information for military, defense industry and aerospace professionals as well as aerospace enthusiasts, and military veterans.

We offer our advertisers access to a great market of employed, educated professionals with stable incomes.

Phone: 661-945-5634 • Toll free: 877-247-9288

www.aerotechnews.com • www.thinkmilitaryads.com

www.facebook.com/AerotechNewsandReview

ALWAYS FREE ACCESS!

Frequent Updates – Breaking News – Local • Regional • National