

INSIDE Luke AFB retires Block 25 F-16 aircraft

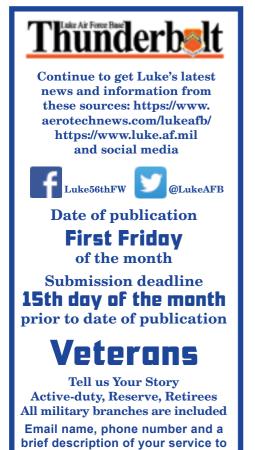
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FEATURE



Courtesy photo LUKE TWINS LAID TO REST See Pages 8 & 9



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By Senior Airman DAVID BUSBY

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Like old soldiers being relieved from their posts, the Block 25 F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft have been relieved of duty Sept. 6, 2022, at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. This model of aircraft has been imbedded with the 309th "Ducks" Fighter Squadron. A squadron that has successfully led the fight for decades.

"It's time for our Block 25 F-16s to be retired," said Maj. Lance "Trap" Tucker, 309th FS commander. "They are some of the oldest F-16s we have in our Air Force. They are close to the end of their airframe life and capabilities-wise they're not as upgraded as our current Vipers."

The 309th FS has deep-rooted history within WWII, even producing many aces during that time.

"The 309th (FS) is one of the more historical squadrons in the Air Force," said Tucker. "In WWII in the European theater, they flew Spitfires, Warhawks and P-51s, fighting mostly in Italy and North Africa."

With the scope of the Air Force's mission extending, and the technological systems' ever advancing, it's always a matter of time until newer aircraft come to replace the older models.

"It's a little surreal, to be honest with you," said Lt. Col. Matthew "Fuse" Eldredge, former commander of the 309th FS. "I can remember as a lieutenant growing up, flying with a lot of guys in F-4s and watching that historic change from F-4s to F-16s. And here I am, 20 years later, watching an F-16 I've flown be retired. I've gone full circle, and it's bittersweet. But it's an awesome opportunity to be the last commander to fly this jet."



U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman David Busby

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Matthew "Fuse" Eldredge, 309th Fighter Squadron "Ducks" former commander, greets Airman 1st Class Keilani Durfey, 310th Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, outside the retiring Block 25 F-16 Fighting Falcon Sept. 6, 2022, at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. With the Block 25 Divestment complete, all aircraft from that block are being flown to the 309th Aircraft Maintenance and Regeneration Group, or "Boneyard", for repurposing. The divestment marks history for the aircraft, retired after many faithful years of duty to our nation.

With that in mind, the 309th FS looks forward to the future.

"The 310th Fighter Squadron is sched-



Commanders, honorary commanders and members of the 309th Fighter Squadron "Ducks" sign a retiring F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft Sept. 6, 2022, at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. The F-16 will be flown to the 309th Aircraft Maintenance and Regeneration Group, or "Boneyard" by Lt. Col. Matthew "Fuse" Eldredge, 309th Fighter Squadron former commander, the next day.

uled to become an F-35A squadron next year," said Tucker. "And the 309th (FS) gained newer Block 42 F-16s this summer to replace our Block 25 aircraft. With the F-35 mission expanding, it is time for them (the F-16s) to go to the 309th Aircraft Maintenance and Regeneration Group, also known as the Boneyard, at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona. They'll be used for spare parts and some will be used for drones or for targets in missile practice."

For Eldredge, it's an honor to watch history unfold for the Ducks and the Air Force.

"There are a lot of guys that have come through these doors for training, whether as a new student or a transition student," said Eldredge. "How many hours and how many landings have they flown in the past? And here we are, flying the last one out. It's awesome to be a part of that, and to close that chapter in our history, if you will, and to continue with our Block 42 aircraft."

Just as systems and equipment evolve and grow over time, Luke AFB F-16 student pilots continue to develop, reaching greater heights than ever before. Armed with advanced aircraft, pilots have nowhere to go but up in the 56th FW.



PHONE NUMBERS

Airman and Family Readiness Center	623-856-6550
Airman's Attic	
Armed Forces Bank	
Base Exchange main store	
Base taxi Beauty shop	
Chapel	
Chapel (after duty hours)	
Child development center	623-856-6338
Clothing sales	
Club Five Six	623-856-6446
Command post Commissary	623-830-3000
Community center	
Computer IT service desk	
Crime Stop	
Dental clinic	
Dermatology Dining hall	
Dorm management	
Education center	
EMERGENCY ONLY	
Equal opportunity	623-856-7711
Eye clinic Falcon Dunes Golf Course	
Family health clinic	
Family housing	623-388-3515
Fire station	623-856-6641
Firestone Car Care	
Fitness center	
Flight medicine Food court	623-935-2671
Fort Tuthill	
Fraud, waste and abuse hotline	623-856-6149
Hobby shop	
Housing assistance section	
Housing facilities section	
Identification cards	
Information, tickets and travel	623-856-6000
Law enforcement desk	
Legal assistance	
Library Lodging office/switchboard	
Maintenance control center	
Marine Corps	623-856-2417
Marine Corps 24-hour duty desk	602-421-5806
Marketing	
Medical appointments	623-856-2273
Medical appointments Military equal opportunity	623-856-2273 623-856-7711
Medical appointments Military equal opportunity Military pay Navy Operations Support Center	623-856-2273 623-856-7711 623-856-7028 602-353-3008
Medical appointments Military equal opportunity Military pay Navy Operations Support Center OB/GYN clinic	623-856-2273 623-856-7711 623-856-7028 602-353-3008 623-856-2273
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2022 Tower Challenge



Firefighters from the Maricopa Fire Department, walk down stairs during the 2022 Tower Challenge, Sept. 9, 2022, at Gila River Arena, Glendale, Arizona.

. 877-247-9288



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Mason Hargrove U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Jason Schaffer, 56th Fighter Wing Command Chief, rings a bell during the 9/11 Tower Challenge, Sept. 9, 2022, at the Gila River Arena, Glendale, Arizona. Participants rang the bell upon climbing 2,071 steps, which represented the 110 floors of the World Trade Center that first responders climbed during the terrorist attacks that occurred Sept. 11, 2001.



Bill Hillermeier, a retired Ridgefield Fire Department fire chief, speaks in an interview, Sept. 9, 2022, at the Gila River Arena, Glendale, Arizona. Hillermeier was one of the many firefighters that assisted New York City following the terrorist attacks that occurred Sept. 11, 2001.

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Editorial Information For past issues of the Thunderbolt, go to www.aerotechnews.com/lukeafb/ and click on PDF edition

The Thunderbolt is published by Aerotech News and Review, a private firm in no vay connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 56th Fighter Wing, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized monthly publication for members of the U.S. military services. The 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office prepares all editorial content for the Luke Air Force Base website and social media and is the source for articles and

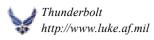
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Submission deadline is at noon the 15th day prior to the month of publication. Contributions for the Thunderbolt can be made via email to jenna@aerotechnews. com. The editor can be reached at jenna@aerotechnews.com.

The Thunderbolt uses material from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, AETC News Service and other sources. All advertising is handled by Aerotech News and Review. They can be reached by calling 877-247-9288.

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Viper Den helps 607th ACS stay resilient

By Airman 1st Class JAKOB HAMBRIGHT

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

For the Airmen of the 607th Air Control Squadron, high-paced training environments can induce immense levels of stress. In addition to training the newest Control and Reporting Center operators, the squadron prides itself in its mission to improve the well-being and working environment of its Airmen.

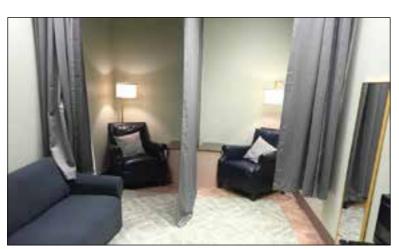
Early in 2022, 607th ACS Airmen began construction of an Airmen's Lounge, a place where squadron members could relax, unwind, and connect with their peers, both on the operations and maintenance sides of the unit.

Working in an old office, a team of more than 50 Airmen put over 4,000 hours into the project, using \$41,000 of donations from various organizations, including other units on base. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the newly completed and christened Viper Den on June 3, 2022

The Viper Den has a table tennis set, two gaming systems, various movies, and board games. According to Airmen, it would not be uncommon to see a ping pong match or even a training class on any given day.

"We had a lieutenant colonel, who was a reservist, come in and do a presentation about a new simulation software for our students here," said U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Airman Nathen Vanbuskirk, 607th ACS weapons simulation technician, one of the Airmen who led the renovation project.

With the extra space provided, the squadron has been able to host group discussions and informal classes on various topics, previously unavailable to the unit. Nearly three months after the opening of the den, the squadron's senior leaders have seen the effects.



The 607th Air Control Squadron's Mothers Room is ready for nursing mothers who need it, August 22, 2022 at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. The Mothers Room was renovated to meet the standards set by 56th Fighter Wing Public Health and the Air Force, which ensure that Airmen are provided with the proper resources to take care of themselves.



U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Jakob Hambright U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Howard Stevens, 607th Air Control Squadron weapons director, plays table tennis in the newly opened 607th ACS Viper Den, August 22, 2022 at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. The Viper Den was built to give Airmen a place to relax, unwind, and take a break from their duties, allowing them to stay focused on the mission.

Chaplain's Corner ...

"It's been a massive success," said Master Sgt. Admire Gary, First Sergeant of the 607th ACS. "Not only have I, but our commander has seen a huge impact on our Airmen."

The success of the Viper Den in-

spired other Airmen to contribute to their workplace in other ways. One way was the renovation of the Mother's Room, where members could nurse their children in a safe and secure environment. Securing \$1,800 of unit funds and \$2,000 in donations, a team of 12 Airmen put 125 work hours into the renovation, adding various comfort features and utilities into the room, including additional furniture and dividers.

"A lot of the new furniture we got for the room was donated or given to us from other groups," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Menina Closner, 607th ACS surveillance training non-commissioned officer in charge. "The new chairs are actually these old comfy commander chairs, so we figured they'd work."

After its completion, the Mother's Room passed Public Health's initial inspection with a perfect 27 out of 27, and strictly followed guidance in AFI 36-3013.

Apart from the technical improvements to the room, new chairs, tables, and dividers were added to create a stress-free environment for the mothers, allowing them nurse comfortably.

"Some of the privacy things we added were an availability sign, that the mother could change to show the room's being used, and a keypad lock so that they could nurse privately without the risk of someone walking in," said Closner.

Aligning with the squadron's mission to improve its Airmen's experience, the Mother's Room recognizes the extra work mothers put in, while still maintaining the mission of the squadron, and the U.S. Air Force.

As resiliency remains one of the U.S. Air Force's top priorities, even junior Airmen can better themselves, their peers, and their units. The Viper Den and the Mother's Room are just two examples of the 607th ACS ensuring that their Airmen are ready for the mission ahead.



Courtesy photo Chaplain (Capt.) Chase Rotman

Right Thing, Right Time, Right Reason Chaplain (Capt.) Chase Rotman

IMA, 56th Fighter Wing

Recently, I was at the base newcomer's briefing to present on behalf of the chapel. I arrived early and was able to listen to our Vice Commander, Col. Keagan McLeese and Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Weimer speak to the Airmen new to Luke AFB. Colonel McLeese began to speak about working and living with intention and spoke a profound statement. He said, "You can do the right thing at the right time for the wrong reason."

Each of us have experienced this, whether by our own actions or from the actions of others. I had an

experience like this at Officer Training School a few years ago. My roommates and I were preparing for a room inspection and had a difference of opinion on how to fold the green duffle bag. I knew that I was right and figured if they would not listen, then they can bear the consequences for their actions.

As one of our MTI's rolled through and picked apart our room, he zeroed in on the green

duffle bags. He noticed one was correct and the other was not. I stood there beaming with pride only to be met with the question, "Why did you leave your Airmen behind?" I did the right thing at the right time, yet I did not do it for the right reason. I neglected to live out the core value of service before self and as a chaplain, that stings a little more because of the calling I have accepted.

In my faith tradition, there is a letter in the book of Revelation written to a church that had the right beliefs, the right actions, but the wrong intent. Jesus speaks to them and says they have forgotten to love and if it is not fixed, then they will lose their light to the world.

It can be easy to go through the motions in the Air Force. Another shift, another jet to work on, another day of CBTs, another day of loading equipment or components for aircraft. The work we do can become mundane and lose its purpose when we "Do the right thing at the right time for the wrong reason."

May we be encouraged to remember our call and our purpose. We were never meant to live on autopilot, distanced from our purpose and call that has been placed on us as maintainer, flight chief, OIC, or superintendent. We were meant to live with purpose and with the right intent in everything we do in order to have purpose in our lives.

If you are feeling like you have lost your purpose, your intent, or your reason, then contact the Chapel at 623-856-6211 to speak with a Chaplain. Our goal is to help you be spiritually fit in a world that is full of troubles and hardships. You don't need to walk it alone. We're here for you.

NEWS

Help conserve monsoon rainfall

Water is a precious resource, and all of us are responsible for preventing rainwater from becoming polluted and conserving drinking water whenever we can.

Even though Luke has received more than average rain this monsoon season, the





Phoenix Valley and the Southwest region is in a drought. The water levels at Lake Powell and Lake Mead are at historic lows. Recently the City of Phoenix declared a Stage 1 Water Alert which activated their drought management plan. With Stage 1, water use reduction is not enforced, but the community is asked to voluntarily conserve water.

For Arizona, the monsoon season officially starts on June 15 and ends on Sept. 30. That means that we are a little more than halfway through the monsoon season. According to the 56th CES/CEIE rain gauge, it has received 5.22 inches of rain since the start of the monsoon. That is a lot of rain for this area, and it is important that only rain goes into our storm drain system. It is the responsibility of everyone who works or lives on base to prevent rainwater from becoming polluted.

There are easy actions we can take to prevent stormwater pollution. We can prevent litter and pick up trash if we see it. We can keep our vehicles in good condition so that they do not drip oil, antifreeze, or other fluids. If we have animals, we can pick up after them so that their waste does not get into the stormwater. Courtesy photos

One way to conserve water is to water our lawns and plants correctly. This means that we don't over water, but just provide the irrigation needed to keep the plants healthy. It also means that we try to make sure that we only water the lawn and plants, and not spray water onto sidewalks and driveways.

Another thing we can do to conserve water is to find and fix any leaking toilets or sinks. If a sink leaks 11 drops per minute, that would waste more than one gallon per day. If a toilet leaks 116 drops per minute, that would waste more than 11 gallons per day, or 330 gallons per month.



er crosming costs such as origination, processing, underwriting, and closing will be waived, borrower is still responsible for third party fees such as VA funding fee, title, and appraisal etc. Down payment waiver is based gibility. This offer is valid until 12/31/2022. Savings only applies to direct originations made by PrimeLending for first mortgage purchase or refinance transactions, and is not available on loans obtained through brokers. Only one offer per loan transaction is available, and savings cannot be combined with any other offer. Savings will reflect on Closing Disclosure at closing. Borrower must lock their loan before 022. All loans subject to credit approval. Rates and fees subject to change. @2022 PrimeLending, a PlainsCapital Company (PrimeLending). (NMLS: 13649) Equal Housing Lender, PrimeLending AZ Lic. no.



Limited public service loan forgiveness waiver nearing end

Defense Department personnel with student loan debt might be able to benefit from temporary changes made to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.

The Limited PSLF Waiver allows borrowers to receive credit for past periods of repayment, making it easier to have their loans forgiven.

Those who have not already applied for this waiver must submit a PSLF form and consolidate their nondirect federal student loans by Oct. 31 to receive the benefit.

The waiver allows borrowers to gain additional PSLF credit, even if previously told they had the wrong loan type or repayment plan.

Those interested can learn more about the limited waiver and who qualifies on the Federal Student Aid Site.

"If you have a federal student loan and are eligible, I encourage you to take advantage of the PSLF waiver benefit today," said Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen H. Hicks. "A few minutes of your time may save you thousands of dollars on your student loans. Remember, you need to take the steps necessary to qualify."

President Joe Biden also commented on the PSLF program portion of the White House website: "Dedicated public servants are the lifeblood of democracy. They do the hard work that is essential to our country's success — protecting us, teaching our children, keeping our streets clean and our lights on, and so much more." After the Oct. 31 deadline and beginning on Nov. 1,

the standard PSLF program requirements will resume. Federal Student Aid: https://studentaid.gov/an-

nouncements-events/pslf-limited-waiver PSLF Program: https://www.whitehouse.gov/publicserviceloanforgiveness/



Courtesy photo



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6 October 2022 www.aerotechnews.com/lukeafb

NEWS

School liaison managers guide academic transitions, overcome hurdles for military kids

By DEBBIE ARAGON

AFIMSC Public Affairs

Military kids around the world are going back to school after summer break with many experiencing not only new teachers but new surroundings, new schools and new friends as well.

Following a busy summer permanentchange-of-station season, Department of the Air Force School Liaison Program managers are helping ease the burden for families transitioning from one installation to another.

"The SLP managers assist with any educational concerns or challenges a family has and helps them navigate the school system and local community," said Lori Phipps, the Department of the Air Force School Liaison Program manager at the Air Force Services Center. "They have their pulse on pre-kindergarten to 12th grade education in the local community and education services for families, educators and community stakeholders."

K-12 education is one of the pillars of the Five & Thrive initiative began in 2021 by Sharene Brown, spouse of Chief of Staff of the Air Force to increase focus and attention on the top five quality of life challenges faced by military families.

"With education being a quality-of-life priority for our members, families and most importantly our military-connected students, having a SLP says to our families that education is important," said Lacey Allen, school liaison at Hurlburt Field, Florida. "The program is part of our commitment to you that we will continue to advocate, support and prioritize pre-K-12 education."

There are more than 90 SLP managers at installations across the DAF with each responsible for all students, including those geographically dispersed but assigned to the installation.

With a focus on the three main objectives – advising command teams and helping drive change in the community; serving as ambassadors and building partnerships; and advocating for the needs of military connected students, the diversity of the program is equal to the diversity of challenges faced by military families.

"Every family and every issue are unique, and transitions are hard," said Allen, "but they can be even harder for a militaryconnected student with varying educational factors such as transitioning for their senior year in high school. Can you imagine?"

For example, prior to their arrival, Allen was able to help a student by immediately connecting them and their family to their inbound school to begin reviewing transcripts. Since each state has different graduation requirements, transitioning during senior year can impact an on-time graduation.

"We were also able to educate the school and the family on the Military Interstate Children's Compact (MIC3), which provides



the opportunity to accept similar course work that was completed at the previous school," she said.

Additionally, the student, who was also an athlete, missed tryouts so Allen connected the parent to the school administration so their student could tryout under the provision of the MIC3.

When a high school student from Stavanger, Norway, transferred to a school in a different country, they were told they would lose GPA points and class credits. That's when Faith Madsen, SLP manager in Stavanger, went to work for the family.



"I mobilized partnerships I had established at our local school and brought the high school counselor, principal and other stakeholders together to communicate the GPA transferability and class credits so they could understand the system accurately," she said.

By getting the student's educational records and grades validated by the new location, Madsen was able to get the student full credit with correct GPA transferability.

"What started with a student being told to repeat classes and losing valuable GPA points, ended with full class credits awarded and the earned GPA accurately reflected on the student's transcript," she said.

"As school liaisons, we understand that

families don't want their military service to have a negative impact on their student's educational experiences," Allen said.

Although the SLP may be busier during the peak PCS season, Phipps and the school liaisons at installations are quick to point out that the program is critical year-round.

Through strong education-community partnerships, SLs are a "strong voice" for military families in the areas of legislation advocacy, policy review, joint service education initiatives, scholarship and grant resources, Impact Aid and the Military Family Life Counseling Program, Phipps said.

They also oversee MIC3 compli-

ance, monitor compliance with public laws mandating education and related services for military populations, and advocate on behalf of military students on various boards, networks, and committees at the local and national levels.

For leadership teams at installations, SLs are there to help increase readiness, support retention and sustain the mission with deployment, homeschool and transition support for families. SLs are also up to date on local laws and policies to help families understand school choices and even assist with higher-education options like Junior ROTC, internships and mentoring nities

opportunities.

"Our school liaisons continually collaborate with installation and community partners to identify educational opportunities, communicate them to families and assist to resolve issues if they arise," Phipps said.

"It's an integral part of fulfilling the AFSVC's mission of delivering services, programs and activities to build and sustain ready and resilient Airmen, Guardians and families," said Madsen, "and provides connectivity and consistency for our families."

"Our SLs support transitioning military families from all branches of the military using a purple community capacity model which integrates the installation, school, and community. Regardless of where a famPhoto by Air Force Services Center

ily goes, there will always be a school liaison available to take care of them.

"Even if a family isn't located on an installation, that military connected family is covered by the School Liaison Program," Phipps said.

Stacey Holland is the SLP manager for the 56th Fighter Wing at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. With 30 years of experience as an Air Force and civilian educator, she is familiar with many resources available to military families.

"I work hard to advocate for our militaryconnected students in our community," said Holland. "I help to ensure that transitions are as smooth as possible by providing resources to inbound and outbound families. I also provide professional development to the local education agencies specifically on servicing military students and help incorporate programs such as 'Student to Student' and 'Anchored For Life' in our heavily military connected schools."

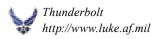
Another key component of Holland's role is ensuring that the Military Interstate Compact is enforced throughout the state, while addressing challenges that families and students may encounter in schools.

"I'm a member of the Community Action Team," said Holland. "I continuously provide updates on education in the State of Arizona to the community, families, and wing leadership."

Holland also provides workshops for families in areas such as career and college readiness, homeschooling, preparing for kindergarten, the Military Interstate Compact, and STEM.

For more information on the DAF SLP, visit www.dafchildandyouth.com/schoolliaison-program. Holland is available at 623-856-6378, or email stacey.holland.1@ luke.af.mil.

(Editor's Note: School liaisons serve all Department of Defense ID cardholders to include civilians, retirees, Guard and Reserve, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Public Health Service, Foreign National Training Students, employees, and eligible family members.)



DOD helping strengthen economic security and stability of service members, families

Today, Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced immediate and long-term actions to help strengthen the economic security and stability of service members and their families.

Recognizing the extraordinary pressures that military families face, Secretary Austin has directed the following actions in four key areas:

To help **secure affordable basic needs**, the Secretary has directed the Department to:

• Review the prospective 2023 Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) tables to ensure calculations reflect the unusually dynamic fluctuations in the housing market.

• Institute automatic increases in BAH for active-duty Service members in the 28 Military Housing Areas (MHAs) that have experienced an average of more than 20 percent spike in rental housing costs this year above this year's BAH rates. These automatic increases will go into effect in October 2022.

The 28 Military Housing Areas are: Vandenberg SFB, MCB Twenty Nine Palms and San Diego in California; Dover AFB/ Rehoboth, Delaware; Patrick SFB, Miami/ Fort Lauderdale, Orlando, West Palm Beach, Volusia County, Fort Myers Beach in Florida; Kings Bay/Brunswick, Georgia; Maui County, Hawaii; Chicago, Illinois; Boston, Cape Cod-Plymouth, and Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts; Brunswick and Coastal Maine; Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; Helena, Montana; Wilmington, North Carolina; Northern New Jersey; Newport and Providence in Rhode Island; Beaufort/ Parris Island, South Carolina; Knoxville, Tennessee; Houston, Texas; and Quantico/ Woodbridge, Virginia.

• Fully fund our commissaries to cut prices at the register, with goal of achieving at least a 25 percent savings on grocery bills compared to the local marketplace.

• Pay eligible Service members the Basic Needs Allowance (BNA) starting January 2023. The BNA is a supplemental allowance for Service members with dependents who apply and qualify based on their gross household income.

• In addition, the President's budget includes a 4.6 percent pay increase for Service members starting Jan. 1, 2023

To further **ease the process of Permanent Change of Station (PCS) moves**, the Secretary has directed the Department to:

• Permanently increase standard TLE maximum coverage from 10 to 14 days for CONUS moves and allow up to 60 days of TLE if a Service member is in a specified Military Housing Area with a housing shortage, to take effect in October 2022.

• Increase the Dislocation Allowance (DLA) for E-1 to E-6 Service members, to further help offset personal expenses for PCS moves. DLA payments for all Service members will be paid automatically one month prior to their move date to pre-empt out-of-pocket expenses. This will take effect in October 2022.

• Continue improvements to Military OneSource online moving and housing tools.

To further strengthen support to families, the Secretary has directed the Department:

• Make significant investments in Child Development Program (CDP) facilities and infrastructure to further expand our capacity to provide quality childcare.

• Standardize a minimum 50 percent discount for the first child of CDP direct-care workers, helping to attract more talented staff and to increase capacity. This will take effect in October 2022.

• Improve access to childcare programs and resources such as Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood and expand the in-home childcare fee-assistance pilot program to additional states to provide more options to military families.

• Military Child Development Centers hours have already extended their hours to better account for Service members' varied schedules. The Department has also reached out to additional high-quality, communitybased childcare providers who agree to care for military families using DODs feeassistance program.

• The Department has also previously expanded parental leave policies to cover non-chargeable leave following the birth or adoption of a child for active duty and eligible Reserve Component Service members; established a New Parent Support Program; and updated policies to reimburse nursing Service members for shipment of breast milk when on mandated temporary duty travel.

To further **enhance employment opportunities for military spouses**, the Secretary has directed the Department:

• Accelerate the development of seven additional occupational licensure interstate compacts with organizations representing multiple professions, easing burdens for spouses who must transfer professional licenses or credentials with each move.

• Increase the use of non-competitive, direct hiring authorities for military spouses in the Department of Defense and further expand remote work and telework options to help military spouses build portable careers.

• Launch a new career-accelerator pilot initiative that will match military spouses with paid private-sector fellowships in a variety of career paths. This will take effect in January 2023.

• Increase the number of partners in the Military Spouse Employment Partnership (MSEP) by 10 percent before January 2023. MSEP is critical in connecting DOD spouses to organizations committed to hiring them.

The memorandum for Taking Care of Our Service Members and Families can be found here.

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MILITARY FUNERAL, FLYOVER HONC

By Arlington National Cemetery

The "Thunderbirds" performed a double missing-man formation flyover as part of the funeral service for U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Cuthbert Pattillo and Lt. Gen. Charles Pattillo in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia on Wednesday, Sept. 15.

Twin brothers Maj. Gen. and Lt. Gen. Pattillo enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Force in November 1942. During World War II, both flew with the Eighth Air Force's 352nd Fighter Group, protecting bombers and attacking ground targets. Maj. Gen. Pattillo flew 135 combat missions before being shot down and captured by the Germans. He remained a POW until the end of the war.

Both were released from active duty following World War II but were later recalled in early 1948, serving with the 31st Fighter Group. Later, both served with the with the 36th Tactical Wing at Furstenfeldbruck Air Base in Germany. While in Europe, both helped form and flew in the Air Forces in Europe-North Atlantic Treaty Organization aerial demonstration team, the "Skyblazers."

Both were released from active duty following World War II but were later recalled in early 1948, serving with the 31st Fighter Group. Later, both served with the with the 36th Tactical Wing at Furstenfeldbruck Air Base in Germany. While in Europe, both helped form and flew in the Air Forces in Europe-North Atlantic Treaty Organization aerial demonstration team, the "Skyblazers."

Later, the brothers went to Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, as gunnery instructors. Together, they were instrumental in forming the "Thunderbirds," the first Air Force official aerial demonstration team. Maj. Gen. Pattillo flew right wing and Lt. Gen. Pattillo flew left wing in the original 1953 team.

Both generals continued their long careers through the Air Force, serving through the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Maj. Gen. Pattillo retired in 1980 and Lt. Gen. Pattillo retired in 1981.

Maj. Gen. Pattillo's military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Silver



Twin brothers and Thunderbirds founders Lt. Gen. Charles "Buck" Pattillo and Maj. Gen. Cuthbert "Bill" Pattillo when they were stationed at Luke AFB, where they helped start the Thunderbirds precision flying team.

Star, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with 13 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal, Distinguished Unit Citation emblem with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon, French Croix de Guerre with palm and the Republic of Vietnam Honor Medal, 1st class.

Lt. Gen. Pattillo's military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with three oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with 10 oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Distinguished Unit Citation emblem with oak leaf cluster, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Air Force Distinguished Service Order 2nd Class and the French Croix de Guerre with palm.



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http://www.lu

From left: At Luke AFB with Capt. Robert Kanaga, Capt. Charles Pattillo, Maj. Richard Catledge, Capt. Robert Mc-Cormick and Capt. Cuthbert Pattillo, the original Thunderbird pilots.



Airmen participate in military funeral honors with funeral escort for U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Cuthbert Pattillo and Lt. Gen. Charles Pattillo in Section 75 of Arlington National Cemetery.



Mounted service members pull the remain of twins Lt. Gen. Charles "Buck" Pattillo and Maj. Gen. Cuthbert "Bill" Pattillo



The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard, the U.S. Air Force Ceremoni ment, known as the "Old Guard," Caisson Platoon conduct in Force Maj. Gen. Cuthbert Pattillo and Lt. Gen. Charles Pattillo

Thunderbolt

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FEATURE

or Twin Brothers From 3 Wars





nonial Brass Band, and the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiuct military funeral honors with funeral escort for Air uttillo in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.



The "Thunderbirds" performing a double missing-man formation flyover as part of the funeral service for U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Cuthbert Pattillo and Lt. Gen. Charles Pat-

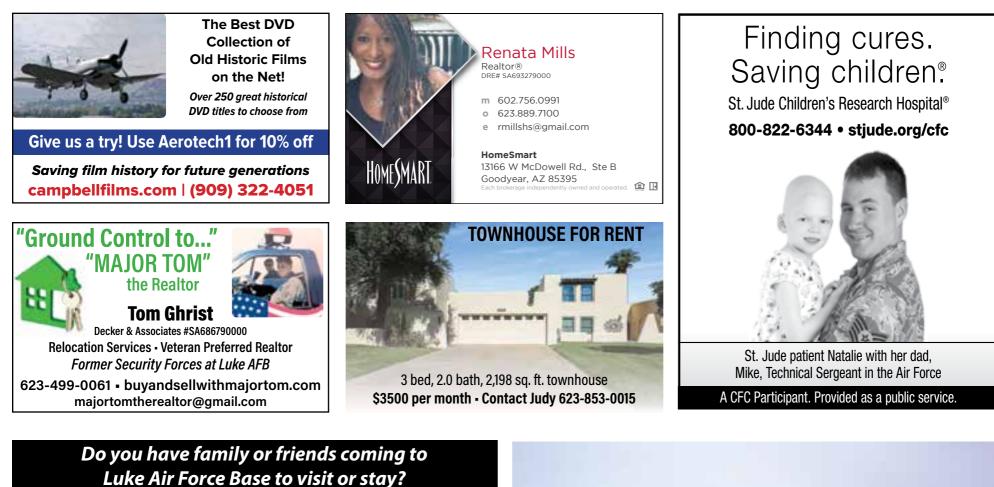
tillo in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington,

Virginia.

LEFT: Maj. Gen. Pattillo's son, Robert Pattillo, and Lt. Gen. Pattillo's daughter, Deborah Jones, received the U.S. flags from the funeral services. Joyce Pattillo, Maj. Gen. Pattillo's wife, and Bobbie Pattillo, Lt. Gen. Pattillo's wife, were also interred during this service. JDRF IMPROV LIVES. CURING TYPE 1 UNABETES

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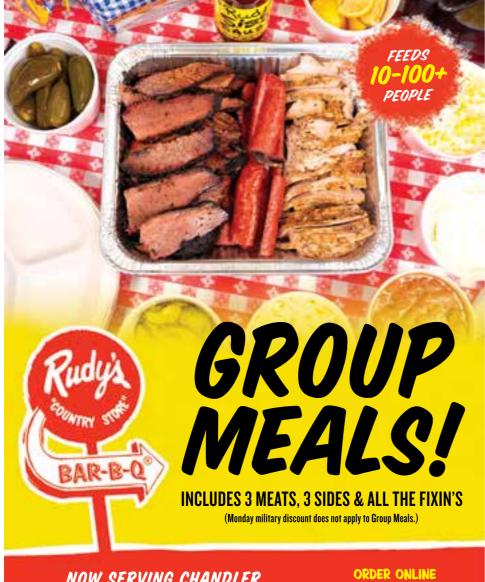
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56th FSS • Luke AFB, AZ • October 2022

Outdoor Rec ·

GLASS BLOWING Oct. 15 • 4-10pm • \$75 • Open to all Limited to 12 participants

JEROME GHOST WALK Oct. 22 • 1-9pm • \$30 • R4R Single Airmen & Deployed Family Members Only Limited to 13 participants

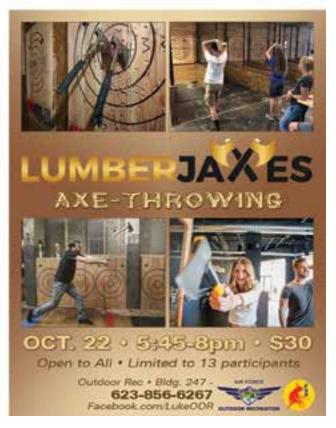
HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE Oct. 29 • 4:15-8:30am • \$90 • Open to all Limited to 13 participants

VULTURE CITY GHOST TOWN TOUR Nov. 5 • 8am - 4pm • Open to all • \$40 Limited to 12 participants

BLACK CANYON ATV ADVENTURE Nov. 12 • 2-7pm • R4R - Single Airmen and Deployed Family Members Only • \$30 Limited to 13 participants

HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE Nov. 12 • 4:15-8:30am • \$90 • Open to all Limited to 13 participants

SONORA WINGS HANG GLIDING ADVENTURE Nov. 19 • 6:30am - 3pm • R4R - Single Airmen and Deployed Family Members Only - \$30 Limited to 12 participants



Lt Col Fany E. Colon de Hayes Commander, 56 Force Support Squadron

Terrill Alexander - Marketing Director Open - Marketing Assistant Douglas Hickins - Graphic Designer Tony Baril - Audio-Visual Specialist Larry Keen - Sponsorship/Donations/Advertising

At Community Commons

Trunk-or-Treating • Haunted Maze Costume Contest • Pumpkin Patch Food Trucks • Show & Shine Car Show



At Ease

The "At Ease" is a monthly recreation supplement to the Thunderbolt. All information was accurate at the date of publication and is subject to change without notice. www.56fss.com Facebook/LukeEvents Instagram/Luke_Events YouTube:56FSSEvents

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Library

STORYTIME

Wednesdays • 9:30am • Ages 18 mos. - 4 yrs. Kindergarten readiness is the basis for everything we do in Storytime. Join Ms. Kathryn for songs, stories, and crafts to instill an early love of reading! Be sure and join us on Oct. 12 for a special visit from the Luke AFB firefighters, and we'll be reading "Big Frank's Fire Truck" by Leslie McGuire. The first 12 participants to arrive receive a free copy of the Storytime book we'll be reading.

OCTOBER BOOK CLUB

Oct. 13 • 10:30am • Free Read or listen to *"Chasing the Boogeyman"* by Richard Chizmar.

Book Tok TEEN BOOK CLUB

Oct. 17 • 4:30pm • Free - snacks included Read or listen to *"Scythe"* by Neal Shusterman. First four teens/preteens to register in person, receive a free copy of the book!

NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB Nov. 10 • 10:30am • Free Read or listen to "The Last Thing He Told Me" by Laura Dave.



Community Commons

CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT COURSE Oct. 20 • 5-9:30pm

Active-duty, 19 yrs. & older • all others, 21 yrs. & older \$70 each - Permit \$60 (additional -Money Order required)

This a non-shooting course. Sign-up via e-mail at: 56.Community Center@gmail.com

G-Force Cafe ·

The G-Force Cafe is located on the third floor of the Block House, Bldg. 1150. The Cafe is open Mon. - Fri., serving breakfast from 7-9 a.m., and lunch from 11am - 1pm

Falcon Dunes

FALCON DUNES GRILL

The Falcon Dunes Grill has resumed their full service menu and is open daily from 6:30am - 1pm. In addition, catering services are available for parties, weddings, retirement ceremonies, etc. (max. number of guests is 110). Call Joe Crockett at 623-856-0004.

JUNIOR GOLF CLINICS

Nov. 6 • 10-11am • \$25 Participants learn grip, stance, driving, chipping, putting techniques, and etiquette.







Book Your Stay At FORT TUTHILL WINTER LODGING RATES • NOV. 1 - MAR. 31

LINK

The Cal	Weeksays	P1-04 Weetlerset 0 Holjiteye (Fij-Set.)	All Others Weekdays	B Hofdays
Multi-Family A-Frame	\$220	\$250	\$315	\$390
A-Frame	\$105	\$140	\$185	\$235
Premium Cabin \$80	\$90	\$130	\$165	(SAN TAL
Cabin	\$45	/(\$80	\$115	\$150
Hotel	\$35	\$70	\$100	\$130
Yurt	\$25	\$50	\$55	\$80
RV	and the second sec	\$20	\$25	\$35
Tent	\$10	\$10	\$15	\$25

RV, yurt, and tent sites available dependent on the weather





GOLF COURSE Luke AFB, ARIZONA CLOSED OCT. 17-31 FOR THE ANNUAL OVERSEEDING PROJECT

FALCON DUNES

Falcon Dunes • Bidg 2202 • 623-6356-9334 Facebook.com1ukeGo/fCourse

Bryant Fitness Center

FREE YOGA CLASSES

Sound Healing Yoga • Oct. 13 • 4pm All Levels Flow Yoga • Oct. 14 • Noon Classes meet in the Aerobics Room located in the Community Commons, Bldg. 700.

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RUNNING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Oct. 24 - Dec. 2, the final program of the year Open to All • Free

Program meets Mon.-Wed.-Fri., 5am - Fitness Center Track • Tues. & Thurs., 6am - Strength Class, Combat PT Center Register at: *Facebook.com/LukeFitnessCenter*.

Register at: Facebook.com/LukeFitnessCen

POWERLIFTING COMPETITION

SQUAT • BENCH PRESS • DEADLIFT Nov. 4 • 10am - 1:30pm • Free • Weigh-In @ 9:30am • Sign-up by Oct. 28 • Open to all DoD I.D. cardholders

Male & female divisions based on weight classes. Male & female 1st, 2nd, 3rd place, and overall winners.

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LUKE INTERSERVICE CHALLENGE Nov. 16 • 6-10am • Fitness Ctr. Track • Free Open to All Branches, Active-duty Only Sign-up by Nov. 2

Eight-member teams (must include one

female), will compete in a series of events including tire flip, Humvee push, litter carry, tug-of-war, and more. Top scoring branch is the winner. For more information call 623-856-2291, or e-mail *sherri.biringer@us.af.mil.*



GT. 28 · 69m

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Mon. - Fri. • 6am - 6pm Smoothies, protein shakes, and coffee.

Arts & Crafts -

ACRYLIC PAINTING CLASS

Oct. 8 • 10am - Noon • Sign-up by Oct. 6 \$35 includes all supplies • Ages 18 & older

HALLOWEEN DIY DECO-MESH WREATH CLASS

Oct. 15 • 10am - Noon • Sign-up by Oct. 13 \$35 includes all supplies • Ages 18 & older

BEGINNING SEWING CLASS

Oct. 22 • 10am - Noon • Sign-up by Oct. 19 \$35 includes all supplies • Ages 18 & older Learn new or refresh your sewing skills.

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

Choose from our wide-range of colorful, inexpensive, and useful insulated beverage items including: stemless insulated wine glasses, \$11.50; 20-oz. ring-neck tumblers, \$12; 30-oz. insulated cups with handles -\$19; and 64-oz. Growler mugs (black only) - \$30. Personalize your purchase with custom engraving, starting at \$5 per name or image. In addition, Arts & Crafts offers a variety of wine boxes, gift-boxed - colored flasks and travel mugs, hand-crafted desktop coin holders, and much more.



BASE CAMP OCT. 14&15 FOWLER PARK FRI. OCT. 14 SAT. OCT. 1

Set-up • 4pm • Dinner - 6pm

SAT. OCT. 15 Breakfast - 7 a.m.

DINNER • GAMES & ACTIVITIES • MOVIE CAMP FIRE & S'MORES • CONTINENTAL BREAKEAST

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Youth Programs

START SMART SOCCER

Tues., Oct. 11 - Nov. 15 • 4:30-5:30pm • Ages 3-5 • \$25 includes T-shirt • Limited to 15 participants • Sign-up now - Oct. 7. Parents work one-on-one with their child. Sports physical, immunization record, and proof of flu shot required.

BOYS & GIRLS YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

Weds., Oct. 12 - Nov. 16 • 4:30-5:30pm Ages 5(K)-15 • \$35 Sign-up now - Oct. 7. Sports physical, immunization record, and proof of flu shot reauired.

TRACK & FIELD Tues. and Thurs. • Oct. 25 - Apr. 13

Auto Hobby Shop

OCTOBER'S FEATURED SERVICE -HEADLIGHT RESTORATION SERVICE

Starting at \$30 -Prices vary depending on severity of discoloration. Service includes polishing and/or lightly sanding headlight lenses to restore "like-new" condition, increasing visibility and driving safety.



4:30-5:30pm

Ages 5(K)-15 • \$50 • Sign-up now - Oct. 21 Sports physical, immunization record, and proof of flu shot are required.



56th Force Support Squadron **TELEPHONE DIRECTORY**

(Area Code 623)

Arts and Crafts Center	6502
Auto Hobby Shop	
Bryant Fitness Center	
Bryant Fitness Center Annex 856-	
Child Development Center856-	
Club Five Six	
Community Commons	
•	
Falcon Dunes Golf Course	
Falcon Dunes Grill	
Family Child Care	
Fighter Country Inn (Lodging)856-	
Fort Tuthill	
G-Force Cafe856-	
Hensman Dining Facility856-	
Information, Tickets and Travel856-	
Library856-	
Marketing856-	3245
Military & Family Readiness856-	6550
NAF Human Resources856-	7755
Outdoor Recreation856-	6267
Saguaro Skies FamCamp856-	4891
School Age Programs	7471
Silver Wings Pool602-739-	
T-Bolt Cafe856-	
Wood Hobby Shop856-	6566
Youth Programs	
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SCHOOL AGE CARE

Oct. 11-14 6am - 5:30pm AGES 5K-12

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Enjoy a variety of fun and exciting activities including games, video games, movies, arts & crafts,

open gym, outdoor play, and much more! Breakfast, Lunch & an afternoon snack included Athletic shoes must be worn in the gym

Facebook.com/LukeYouthPrograms

Youth Programs • Bldg 1143 - <mark>623-8</mark>

