

AFJROTC

Notes

News &

March 2018

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 HQ AF JUNIOR ROTC

From the Director...



Colonel Paul C. Lips
AFJROTC Director

Greetings!

Let me start by introducing myself. My name is Col Paul Lips; I'm the new Director for AFJROTC. I started as Director in late November following a deployment to Afghanistan. First off, I would like to offer my thanks to Col (ret) Scott Lewis for leading as the Director during the transition and to Col (ret) Bobby C. Woods Jr. for his years of dedicated service to AFJROTC and the nation.

CY 2017 was a very successful year for AFJROTC!

Some of the highlights include our cadets earning 2 Gold Valor Awards, 22 Silver Valor Awards, 347 Humanitarian Awards, and 11 units earning Community Service with Excellence. AFJROTC Cadets completed 275,605 co-curricular hours and 1,391,212 hours of community service!

In 2017, the AFJROTC Flight Academy was created. With 120 cadets attending the flight academy this summer, the plan is to expand the program to over twelve hundred cadets attending by 2020. This a BIG deal for our cadets. Interested cadets should speak to their instructors on how to apply.

I wish you all success in 2018! As always, if you have any feedback to make the AFJROTC program better, please let the HQ AFJROTC Staff or myself know. Respectfully,

Paul C. Lips, Col, USAF

Director, AFJROTC

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Mr. David Richerson
Chief, Instructor Management

Hello everyone! This year is moving fast and a lot remains to be accomplished. I want to briefly point out a few things that everyone needs to be aware of this semester.

First, the new Outstanding Instructor Award (OIA) policy was sent to all units via AFJROTC.com email in January. You'll note the criteria is

less restrictive than in previous years. I also want to emphasize the dates. No earlier than 1 April and no later 1 May, all OIA submissions must be received by Holm Center/JRI. Submissions are done via the AFJROTC Form 98.

Second, the AFJROTC Instructor Certification Course (JICC) will be held 13 to 22 June 2018. All newly hired instructors are expected to attend. Keep a close eye on your email for information and deliverables. Attendees must get their information input into WINGS in an expeditious manner so travel plans can be generated.

We also need Seminar Leaders for JICC. If interested, contact your RD and let them know. Your RD will forward Seminar Leader names to Holm Center/JRI.

**We Want
YOU!**

A large, bold, black graphic of a clenched fist, with the fingers curled and the thumb tucked in, positioned centrally between the words 'We Want' and 'YOU!'.

Finally, we need your help in spreading the word about AFJROTC instructor opportunities. Each of you know a lot of people. If the occasion is right, I ask that you inform others about our instructor opportunities. All of our vacancies and other information is listed on www.afjrotc.com.

I wish all of you a very productive second semester!

**“If you get, give.
If you learn, teach.”**

- Maya Angelou

SHINING STARS

GOLD VALOR AWARD, AY 2017/2018

KY-071

Cadet Jalyen Burroughs

SILVER VALOR AWARD, AY 2017/2018

IN-061

Cadet Maria Teles

JA-20101

Cadet Shuhei Whiteford

TX-936

Cadet Jadrian Martinez

WA-953

Cadet Bryce Johe

HUMANITARIAN AWARD, AY 2017/2018

FL-934

Cadet Luis Benitez
Cadet Matthew Davis
Cadet Marisol Gomez
Cadet Silvestre Gomez
Cadet Brooklyn Hargrove
Cadet Joseph Melendez
Cadet Savannah Oldfield

FL-9310

Cadet James Cooper

IL-20051

Cadet Hannah Raby
Cadet Cale Faulk

OH-091

Cadet Caleb Pequignot

TX-011

Cadet Janelle Robles
Cadet Cooper Evans
Cadet Stephany Uriostegui
Cadet Sher Ku Htoo
Cadet Terrance Carter
Cadet Phillip Harrell
Cadet Santiago Berkley
Cadet Nick Clark
Cadet Parker Colegrove
Cadet Daz Craven
Cadet Demi Duhon
Cadet Lola Rodriguez
Cadet Fernando Soto
Cadet Shelby Sturgis

TX-947

Cadet Yolanda Alvarado

Cadet Autumn Bashir
Cadet Laiela Harris
Cadet Zander Herbig
Cadet Ufuomaoghene John
Cadet Maria Matias
Cadet Rosa Matias
Cadet Devin Ng
Cadet Chidimma Onyenezi
Cadet Karla Paiva
Cadet William Rivas
Cadet Emily Rubio
Cadet Elisabet Sanchez
Cadet Alina Siddiqui
Cadet Brandun Thornton
Cadet Hieu Tran
Cadet Julian Vazquez

TX-951

Cadet Connor Ames
Cadet Chris Banes
Cadet Kelly Belverino
Cadet Kaleb Bjork
Cadet Antonio Briones
Cadet Noah Caratao
Cadet Chasity Conrad
Cadet Logan Flores
Cadet Kaylee Garner
Cadet Nathan Hammer
Cadet Alexandria Hernandez
Cadet Logan Hohertz
Cadet Wyatt Humphries
Cadet Ella Lambert
Cadet Matthew Montana
Cadet Kalah Page
Cadet Zachary Sammons
Cadet Charles Saxe
Cadet Benjamin Shaw
Cadet Angelika Suda

TX-956

Cadet Jacob Guerra
Cadet Kaitlyn Wenkebach
Cadet Kayleigh Wenkebach
Cadet James Jimenez
Cadet Keondric Paige
Cadet Morgan Neyland
Cadet Savannah Sabedra
Cadet Joseph Edds
Cadet Janelle Oldfather
Cadet Colton Turner
Cadet Monica Monroe
Cadet Marina Puga

Cadet Alexandria Williams
Cadet Tina Shell
Cadet Paige Hicks
Cadet Tristan Hanson
Cadet Ariana Reyes
Cadet David Mendez
Cadet Michelle Lira
Cadet Gabriel Aguilar
Cadet Nathan Mendoza
Cadet Nicholas Aguirre
Cadet Clayton Rosales
Cadet Ally Mansfield
Cadet Zane Doggett
Cadet Eric Montez
Cadet Zachary Fuhrken
Cadet Salvador Macias
Cadet Jaime Jimenez
Cadet Meagan Edds
Cadet Isaac Ramirez
Cadet Corbin White
Cadet Shayne Hughes
Cadet Aaron Robles
Cadet Marissa Baladez
Cadet Rhea Martinez
Cadet Destinie Mayfield

TX-20028

Cadet Kamron Alexander
Cadet Carlos Alvarado
Cadet Paul Behrend
Cadet Shayne Benfield
Cadet Gustavo Caceres
Cadet Adrian Campos
Cadet Kristopher Cardenas
Cadet Kristopher Castaneda
Cadet Jisselle Castillo
Cadet Yoselin Chavez
Cadet Giovanni Coelle Zambrano
Cadet Shanna Colbert
Cadet Alexander Dawson
Cadet Dakota Doster-Wood
Cadet Diana Escalera
Cadet Maria Escalera
Cadet Gervin Flores
Cadet Derek Fuentes
Cadet Ashley Garcia
Cadet Tristan Garcia
Cadet Andrew Garza
Cadet Jessica Gonzalez
Cadet Rodney Harris
Cadet Alessandro Hernandez

SHINING STARS

HUMANITARIAN AWARD, AY 2017/2018 (CONTINUED)

Cadet Jacquelyn Hernandez
Cadet Adrian Jones
Cadet Chunli Lacayo
Cadet Kevin Lauder
Cadet Hung Liu
Cadet Susan Lopez
Cadet Jacob Matthews
Cadet Jan Melendez
Cadet Zakeria Mukhtar
Cadet Ericka Pineda
Cadet Adrian Noyola
Cadet Zachary Reilly
Cadet Victoria Ritchie
Cadet Yuliana Rosales
Cadet Alisha Ruiz
Cadet Mario Ruiz
Cadet Erick Salcedo
Cadet Kamron Samuel
Cadet Alexis Sanchez
Cadet Ruben Sanchez
Cadet Jace Sherry
Cadet Ryan Sherry
Cadet Hector Vasquez
Cadet Alexis Vaughns
Cadet Hector Ventura
Cadet Benjamin Vu
Cadet Wendell Williams III
Cadet Brandon Winters

TX-20062

Cadet Kyle Allen
Cadet Ryan Allen
Cadet Jennifer Baker
Cadet Grace Baldwin
Cadet Luke Bernhard
Cadet Carolyn Bienvenu
Cadet Tristan Bolsch
Cadet Harrison Bourg
Cadet Austin Brown
Cadet David Campbell
Cadet Madisen Campbell
Cadet Tyler Clough
Cadet Aiden Coffel
Cadet Paige Coffel
Cadet Victoria Costa-Riesgo
Cadet Mitchell Croxton
Cadet Jace Cutrer-McCarthy

Cadet Caden Cymbala
Cadet Cameron Daniels
Cadet Nicolas Devia Luna
Cadet Connor Duncan
Cadet Timothy Dziena
Cadet Aidan Ecuyer
Cadet Logan Ecuyer
Cadet Jake Ellis
Cadet Ryan Failde
Cadet Noah Francis
Cadet Jacquelyn Frechou
Cadet Aaron Frey
Cadet Anthony Gallia
Cadet Michelle Garland
Cadet Jackson Ghatalia
Cadet Colby Godwin
Cadet Logan Godwin
Cadet Remington Gray
Cadet Matthew Griffith
Cadet Bryce Grout
Cadet Sadie Gylling
Cadet Wyatt Hancock
Cadet Benjamin Harpold
Cadet Tennille Hart
Cadet Brennan Hernandez
Cadet Alexis Hoeller
Cadet James Hunter
Cadet Kendall Hunter
Cadet Lauren Hunter
Cadet Madison Hunter
Cadet Treston Hursong
Cadet Seth Huskey
Cadet Andrew Hussey
Cadet Abigail Irish
Cadet Emma Ivey
Cadet Michael Jaenicke
Cadet Brewer Johnson
Cadet Travis Johnson
Cadet Matthew Jones
Cadet Barom Kang
Cadet Vishnu Karnik
Cadet Noah Kent
Cadet Alexandra Kirchin
Cadet Whitney Kuykendall
Cadet Carly Leaver
Cadet Sean LeBlanc
Cadet Curtis Lee
Cadet Serena Li
Cadet Lance Lozada
Cadet Anne MacDougall

Cadet Clara Mannel
Cadet Margaret Marlow
Cadet Jason Mattox
Cadet Connor McLean
Cadet Sarah McMartin
Cadet Austin Merritt
Cadet Aric Mills
Cadet Sydney Moore
Cadet Alex Nix
Cadet Skye Nowlin
Cadet Hannah O'Dea
Cadet Dominique O'Niell
Cadet Melody Ozaki
Cadet Annaleise Parsons
Cadet Kain Peterson
Cadet Isabella Pianezzola
Cadet Jake Pilling
Cadet Jordan Pimentel
Cadet William Plutto
Cadet Samantha Posada
Cadet Christian Priestly
Cadet Ryan Repassy
Cadet Eytan Ris
Cadet Audrey Robertson
Cadet Jean Robledo
Cadet Joseph Rosner
Cadet Robert Rust
Cadet David Saheb
Cadet Ryan Salazar
Cadet Lauren Sanabria
Cadet Alexander Sanderson
Cadet Chris Sarver
Cadet Linda Schmunk
Cadet Ishaan Sharma
Cadet Saachi Sharma
Cadet Isaac Skinner
Cadet Aidan Smith
Cadet Grant Smith
Cadet Aaron Soltmann
Cadet Ryan Soucek
Cadet Ryan Spence
Cadet Grant Stephens
Cadet Mitchell Tilotta
Cadet Anthony Toarmina
Cadet Andrea Toh
Cadet Andrew Tunstead
Cadet Juliana Uceda
Cadet Cassidy Valles
Cadet Zachary Walker
Cadet Sebastian Walsh

SHINING STARS

HUMANITARIAN AWARD, AY 2017/2018 (CONTINUED)

Cadet Daniel Watrous
Cadet James Westphal
Cadet Parker Willett
Cadet Kieran Woods

COMMUNITY SERVICE WITH EXCELLENCE AWARD, AY 2017/2018

WA-20021

Cadet Vince Gau

UNIT EVALUATION "EXCEEDS STANDARDS"

AL-011	FL-051	PA-951
AR-081	FL-20041	SD-061
AR-20001	FL-20061	TX-20011
AR-20051	FL-20063	TX-20105
AZ-20021	FL-20065	TX-792
AZ-862	FL-20081	TX-862
AZ-941	FL-823	TX-923
CA-20063	GA-20065	TX-932
CA-20064	GA-791	TX-936
CA-20068	GA-931	VA-021
CA-20091	GA-936	VA-061
CA-862	GA-943	VA-091
CA-901	LA-934	VA-20062
CA-935	MO-20021	VA-20064
CA-936	MS-20021	VA-20067
CA-946	NC-051	VA-821
CO-021	NC-20065	WA-20051
CO-20001	NE-20061	WA-20052
DE-941	NE-951	WA-20062
FL-011	NV-091	WA-941
FL-021	OH-771	WY-061
FL-033	PA-791	

AZ-20101 MASTER SERGEANT PUSHES HIGH SCHOOL CADETS TO EXCEED EXPECTATIONS

By Michelle Chance, InMaricopa - Nov 7, 2017

Developing independence in high school students has been the work of Master Sgt. Dishon Gregory for six years. It resulted in his winning the title of "Best of the Best" teacher from Maricopa Unified School District in May.

The Air Force Sergeant began instructing Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps at Maricopa High School (AZ-20101) a few months before retiring from the military in 2011, after 22 years of service. "I look at these (cadets) and I treat them as if they were my own kids," Gregory said. "Whatever advice I would give them, I would give to my sons."

Gregory and his wife Valerie have two children, David, 21, and Ahmad, 13. His sons haven't yet aspired to follow in their father's footsteps, Gregory said, but he doesn't expect them or all his AFJROTC students to join the military. "I tell all of my cadets, 'You want to make me proud?

You want to make me happy? Graduate.'" Many of them have gone on to exceed expectations. In May, MHS student and AFJROTC Cadet Capt. John Blodgett received prestigious appointments to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the U.S. Air Force Academy, eventually deciding on West Point. Not one to take all the credit, Gregory said he taught Blodgett the basics, "but it had to start with him; he had that drive."

Rising in rank this year is Corps Commander Dylan Hill, a senior at MHS. She joined AFJROTC as a timid freshman. The AFJROTC program currently has 126 cadets. Gregory has taught over 1,000 of them during his tenure at MHS. "(Sgt. Gregory) helped me a lot to become more open, socially," Hill said. "He's given me a lot of opportunities to work on my leadership skills, and because he's given me opportunities to do so that's why I'm corps commander." Gregory instructs cadets in drill team, color guard, life skills and public speaking with additional classroom components including quizzes and discussions.

The MHS assignment is not the first instructor position for Gregory. Early into his military career Gregory served in Operations DESERT SHIELD and (continued on page 6)



Master Sgt. Dishon Gregory
Photo by Victor Moreno

AZ-20101 MASTER SERGEANT PUSHES HIGH SCHOOL CADETS TO EXCEED EXPECTATIONS

(continued from page 5)


DESERT STORM for combined tours in 1990. After deploying to Qatar for Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, he took a special duty assignment as a technical training instructor for the Air Force in 2005. After assignments at Pacific Air Forces Headquarters in Pearl Harbor and the 15th Airlift Wing, and another



Master Sgt. Dishon Gregory instructs Dylan Hill (center) and Joseph Rice at Maricopa High School. Photo by Victor Moreno

deployment during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, he transitioned to teaching high school students. “I used to be an instructor; I used to be in Honor Guard, so that’s right up my alley,” Gregory said.

Not surprisingly, his philosophy in the classroom is one backed by years in the service. “As a planning and scheduling individual, I’m able to lay things out and train them and so I get enjoyment out of teaching and instructing and making that person or people independent and better than myself,” Gregory said.

Lt. Col. Allen Kirksey, AFJROTC senior aerospace science instructor at MHS, described Gregory as “one of the finest non-commissioned officers I have met.” In October, Kirksey nominated Gregory for the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award, a national accolade that will be decided by mid-November. Gregory won the same award in 2014. “His dynamic and mature handling of difficult decisions and situations has earned him the respect from cadets, peers, parents, administrators and the community,” Kirksey said. 

EYES ABOVE THE HORIZON

“The sky is the limit until it’s your point of view”

Chicago, IL. November 3, 2017 –

The Legacy Flight Academy (LFA), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, hosted their award-winning 1-day outreach program “Eyes Above the Horizon” at the Gary/Chicago International Airport. Over 75 youth from three Chicagoland high schools (Air Force Academy HS, Lindblom Math and Science Academy, and Wendell Phillips Academy HS) experienced the thrill of flight, received STEM-centric education, and learned about college and career opportunities in the aerospace industry. With LFA’s mission to uphold and sustain the LEGACY of the heroic Tuskegee Airmen, students interacted with military and civilian role models who instilled character and leadership skills to grow them into positive, contributing members of society.

This event was organized by Chicagoland native and LFA founder, US Air Force Major Kenyatta Ruffin; the event included other veteran volunteers and a scheduled special visit by original Tuskegee Airmen! LFA’s Eyes Above the Horizon program in Chicago is supported by AvPORTS, B. Coleman Aviation, the Chicago “DODO” Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., Eagle Aircraft, Gary/Chicago International Airport, Griffith Aviation, and Lewis University. LFA has provided free airplane flights for over 350 youth Nationwide this year and will be recognized by the National Aeronautic Association (NAA) during the NAA’s Fall Awards Dinner.

A promotional graphic for Legacy Flight Academy. It features a circular logo with the text 'LEGACY FLIGHT ACADEMY' and 'TUSKEGEE AIRMEN' around silhouettes of people. The background shows a large hangar with 'AIR NATIONAL' and 'FIELD ELEVATION 221 FT.' written on it. A group of people is standing in front of the hangar. At the bottom, there is contact information: 'www.legacyflightacademy.org', '1-855-TUSKEGEE | info@legacyflightacademy.org | 159 N. Marion Street, Suite 267 | Oak Park, IL 60601', and social media handles for Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and Twitter.

KNOW. LIVE. GROW
THE LEGACY OF THE HEROIC TUSKEGEE AIRMEN!

LEGACY FLIGHT ACADEMY
TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

AIR NATIONAL
FIELD ELEVATION 221 FT.

www.legacyflightacademy.org

1-855-TUSKEGEE | info@legacyflightacademy.org | 159 N. Marion Street, Suite 267 | Oak Park, IL 60601

The Legacy Flight Academy (LFA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that conducts character-based youth aviation programs that draw upon the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen. Our comprehensive three-tiered approach works in tandem with partner organizations to help minorities and underrepresented youth achieve success as aerospace and STEM professionals, particularly emphasizing military career opportunities.

 @legacyflightacademy  Legacy Flight Academy  @.legacyflightacademy  @legacyflight332

FOLEY HIGH SCHOOL (AL-791) VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

By: C/2Lt Jazlyn Coahran and C/2Lt Ashley Parnell



On the morning of November 9th, 2017, the AFJROTC program hosted the 3rd annual Veterans Day Program attended by approximately

100 veterans and family members. Cadets prepared for weeks leading up to the final show! They showed up to begin preparations at 06:00, with the entire unit contributing to the success of honoring veterans who participated in several wars to include the oldest veteran in attendance, a 94-year-old World War II veteran.

The cadets tried their best to make a special day for the veterans, inviting veterans and family members to indulge in breakfast prepared by the Foley High cafeteria staff and served by cadets. Breakfast



consisted of orange juice, coffee, biscuits, scrambled eggs, Conecuh sausage, and cheese grits. After breakfast, cadets escorted our veterans to the gym through art-filled hallways with patriotic artwork contributed by the Art department. The saber team ceremoniously greeted them with an arc of honor as God Bless America was played in the background as cadets escorted veterans to their seats.

Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Bishop Noland was the Master of Ceremonies, and warmly welcomed the veterans and students. The color guard, consisting of Cadet Captain Haden Schoetzow, Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Noel Appleton, Cadet Tech Sergeant Kristina Bice, and Cadet Senior Airman Brandon Sandell, presented colors as the Foley High Trombone Choir played the National Anthem. Cadet 2nd Lieutenant A'mya Sewell offered a prayer for all who served and for the nation. Cadet Captain Jack DeTombe provided a heartwarming welcome and the

crowd was serenaded by Hali Martin, singing "America the Beautiful" and the FHS Chamber Choir singing "In Flander's Field." Cadet Captain Ryan Taylor introduced retired Army Major General James W. Darden who recognized "Gold Star" family members and the sacrifice of all veterans in attendance. He reminded us that only 1% of Americans serve in their countries military. He said, "the 1% provides safety and security for the 99%." He




also explained the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day and the importance of both holidays. He not only captured the hearts and minds of the audience but he also interacted with them in a wonderful way.

The VFW Patriotic Riders continued their tradition of standing guard over the ceremony with riders standing at attention with the American flag

throughout. The program closed with "The Patriotic Medley," performed by the Foley High School Brass Band and a somber recognition of veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice with the playing of "Taps" by bugler Grayson Majors after Cadet Captain Haden Schoetzow and Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Noel Appleton ceremoniously folded the United States flag. Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Ashley Parnell read "Old



Glory" while the flag was being folded. Cadets escorted veterans out of the gym with a standing ovation from the crowd. It was truly an event to remember! 

WHAT'S IN YOUR TRANSCRIPT?

by Cadet Major Rachel Christian, GA-956

A popular advertisement asks “What’s in your wallet?” referencing the advantages of the financial tool they represent...as an analogy to that question, we like to ask “What’s in your Transcript?” or “What’s in your Resume?” when addressing tools that may be of value to Cadets as they reach their Senior year or graduate. This is especially true when we look at the activities a Cadet can participate in during the summer. Cadet Colonel Myles Fulton, Cadet Group Commander for GA-956, Monroe Area High School, GA, provided an example of a good reply to this question. Cadet Fulton was able to attend a Language Institute course this past summer at the University of North Georgia. The program was an intense six week program that resulted in Cadet Fulton earning eight academic credits for both High School and College credit along with an amazing learning opportunity!



Cadet Colonel Myles Fulton, taking command of Cadet Group, GA-956



Cadet Colonel Myles Fulton reviewing language skills

Here is his report about the program:

“加油”

Most students utilize their Summer break for vacations, watching TV and/or playing video games, but for the Summer of 2017 I chose to enroll in a six week Chinese language class at the University of North Georgia Campus in Dahlonega, GA. During my six weeks at the University of North Georgia, between the constant quizzes and tests, I studied, laughed, and learned, with my classmates. The one word that can sum up everything that happened during the Summer Language Institute is 加油 (jiayou)

which means to add oil (to the fire). The significance of this word is that it that it exemplifies the phrase, “Don’t give up,” and was created for the purpose of encouraging people to press through the hard things in life and prevail.

Although the overall course was tediously difficult, it was an amazing experience. In addition to class instruction, where my classmates and I had the opportunity to practice speaking the language with each other, we also had cultural classes where we learned more about the history behind the language and why certain words and characters are the way they are. We also had times throughout each day when we would go to the “Language Lab,” where we got a chance to improve our listening comprehension skills and get a head start on our homework.

(continued on page 9)



Cadets reading the weather on camera



Cadets at the anchor's desk with TV weatherman John Lynn

WEATHER OR NOT??

Cadets from TW Josey High School (GA-064) got the chance to learn about the weather from TV weatherman John Lynn at WJBF-TV in Augusta, GA. During a November field trip, the cadets toured the newsroom set, and even got a chance to read the weather on live TV.



WHAT'S IN YOUR TRANSCRIPT?

(continued from page 8)

If you desire to develop a strong basis for a language or even further your study of a language, then I encourage you to devote your time and energy to pursuing that goal, whether it be at the University of North Georgia or other great locations. As long as you're willing to work hard, you can succeed and return from the course with eight language credits for High School as well as College. To those who will put in the work remember the phrase, “加油 (jiayou).” This is but one example of an effective way to make productive use of your summer; other ways are Cadet Leadership School, American Legion Boys and Girls State, Summer Programs at the Service Academies and several other outstanding camps and seminars. It is safe to say the Cadet Fulton improved his transcript and made effective use of his summer away from High School...so, next year when asked “What's in your transcript?” make sure you have utilized all available options to improve your resume! 🇺🇸



Cadet Colonel Myles Fulton, Cadet Group Commander, GA-956 instructs members of his staff

GA-956 MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

By Cadet Major Rachel Christian and Cadet Staff Sergeant Rayven Fincher, Monroe Area High School, Monroe, GA.

AFJROTC GA-956 Marksmanship Team Cadets had strong showings during the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) State Championships held at Ft Benning, GA as well as the All Service JROTC Championships held at the Civilian Marksmanship Program South Competition Center in Anniston, AL. Cadet Staff Sergeant Ashley Stacy turned in a Record Setting performance in the second day of competition in the All Service JROTC Championship to finish as the overall Silver Medalist behind Army JROTC Cadet Taylor Gibson, who set a new national record in her win. Cadet Stacy set a new Air



Cadet Rayven Fincher, GHSA Individual Riflery State Champion (center) with second place finisher Kimberlee Nettles (right) and third place competitor, Tanner Whitehead (left).



Cadet Rayven Fincher (center) in action during the finals of the Georgia High School Association State Championship where she was crowned the Individual State Champion.

Force JROTC Finals record of 104.1 after qualifying with a strong performance of 591 out of 600 possible points. In the finals, competitors fire each of their 10 shots with

decimal scoring, 10.9 being the highest score for each shot. Cadet Stacy's 104.1 ten shot total shows why this was such an accomplishment; the next highest final score of the day was a 101.7. Nearly thirty days later, her teammate, Cadet Senior Airman Rayven Fincher posted a strong individual performance at the Georgia High School Association State Championships, and was crowned as the 2017 State Champion. Going into the final with a very good 294 out of 300 possible points, she extended her lead with a 101.5 in the final, securing the title. Along with their accomplishments, Cadets Stacy and Fincher joined teammate Cadet Lt Brycen Gran to help promote the sport; during the Junior ROTC Instructor Certification Course held at Maxwell AFB, AL they provided an information session to over 200 new AFJROTC instructors. They demonstrated several training techniques and provided information on starting or enhancing marksmanship programs within JROTC.

GA-953 CADETS DONATE UNIT FUNDS TO FAMILY IN NEED OF HURRICANE RELIEF

On 25 Oct 2017, the senior cadets of Cherokee High School (GA-953) made a \$1,000 donation to a family in need. The cadets had worked at the Rome Airshow to raise funds for the unit, but committed to donating a portion of their proceeds towards hurricane relief. On 23 Oct, Lt Col (Ret) Eddy Stanfill, SASI, learned of a family that had fled from Florida to Kennesaw, GA, and had lost their home and possessions to Hurricane Irma. When Lt Col Stanfill told the cadets of the family's need, the cadets unanimously voted to support the family with their donation. SMSgt (Ret) Jeff Bise, ASI, coordinated with Mrs. Lori Tilt Koepka, who accepted the donation on behalf of the family from Cadet Colonel Walker Sosebee and the rest of the senior class. Lt Col Stanfill and SMSgt Bise applaud the cadets of GA-953 for their commitment to helping those in need and being committed to the AFJROTC mission of "Develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their Nation and community."



DREAMS TO TAKE FLIGHT THIS SUMMER FOR THN STUDENT

Latyshia James Wins Flying Scholarship Valued at \$20,000

Jan 21, 2018

By Sue Loughlin, Tribune-Star

Terre Haute North Vigo High School (IN-20011) junior Latyshia James wants to fly, and her dreams are about to take flight this summer with the help of a hard-won scholarship.

The Air Force Junior ROTC cadet has been awarded a scholarship to participate in a private pilot license training program at one of six partnering universities.

James is one of only 120 AFJROTC cadets around the world, and the only Indiana cadet, to receive the scholarship from the program's headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala.

More than 700 cadets applied, and there are more than 120,000 high school students enrolled in AFJROTC at over 880 high schools in the U.S and overseas.

The scholarship covers transportation, room and board, academics and the flight hours required to potentially earn a private pilot license. The scholarship is valued at about \$20,000.

"I'm still wrapping my head around it," James said Thursday. "I'm so excited about this opportunity."



To qualify, she had to have a good GPA and she took a test described as "grueling" by Col. Tom Greenlee, who heads up North's program along with Josh Hall, chief master sergeant and instructor. Greenlee described the online test as a combination of SAT and Air Force officer qualifying test, and the three cadets who took

it described it as the hardest test they've taken in their life.

"It speaks volumes about how smart she is," Greenlee said. Her cumulative GPA is 3.9, she said.

The Flight Academy Scholarship Program is a new, Air Force-level initiative in collaboration with the commercial aviation industry to address the national civilian and military pilot shortage, according to a news release. AFJROTC has been charged by the Air Force Aircrew Crisis Task Force to bring back the "luster of aviation" to high school students and increase diversity in aviation fields.

Those who participate in the program do not incur a military commitment to the Air Force or other branch of

service, nor does completing the program guarantee acceptance into one of the military's commissioning programs.

James will spend seven to nine weeks this summer at one of six colleges:

(continued on page 11)

DREAMS TO TAKE FLIGHT THIS SUMMER FOR THN STUDENT

(continued from page 10)



Cadet Latyshia James, a junior at Terre Haute North Vigo who participates in the Air Force Junior ROTC program, has earned a scholarship that will help her get her pilot's license.

Auburn University, Auburn, AL; Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL; Kansas State University, Salina, KS; Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA; Purdue University; or University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND.

Her first choice is Purdue, but she doesn't yet know where she'll be assigned.

Her mom and cousins encouraged her to participate in the Junior ROTC program in high school, and it's provided many opportunities, she said. While she's never piloted a plane, her freshman year, she did fly as a passenger in a Cessna out of Terre Haute Regional Airport as part of the Junior ROTC program.

Her long-term plans are a career in the medical field and potentially serving in the Air Force, she said.


North principal Robin Smith praised James and the staff leading the

AFJROTC program, Greenlee and Hall. The program "has opened so many doors for our kids," she said.

The goal of the program, Greenlee said, is to get more people interested in aviation because of the shortage of national civilian and military pilots.

James has the potential to earn her private pilot license, if she successfully competes the summer program and everything goes as expected.

Greenlee said he and Hall "have been delighted to work with [Cadet James] over last the few years; she is one of our shining stars." Whatever career path she follows, "She has a bright future."

http://www.tribstar.com/news/local_news/dreams-to-take-flight-this-summer-for-thn-student/article_43f26358-a4a2-52c2-81e6-3272ef4637b8.html 



OAKCREST HIGH SCHOOL (NJ-20151) CADETS VISIT FREEDOM PARK AND THE 9/11 MUSEUM IN NEW YORK CITY.

News & Noteworthy...



Cadets from the Cimarron-Memorial High School (NV-20121) color guard at the Las Vegas Mini Grand Prix for the unveiling of their new aquarium. The color guard appeared on the Animal Planet show "Tanked" in Dec 2017 as part of the unveiling ceremonies.

Colonel James Parsons, director of Holm Center's Support Directorate, visits cadets at James Bowie High School (TX-958). The cadets were excited about the senior ROTC commissioning opportunities and the critical need for pilots in the Air Force, while the colonel enjoyed watching the Cyber Patriot, Marksmanship, and Rocketry Teams.



On 27 Sep 2017, Cadet Venyelys Ayala of Wester Hills High School (TX-863) received accolades for an outstanding essay penned for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Mr Kyle Ewing, representing the VFW, presented Cadet Ayala with a monetary award and patriotic medals. The essay was voice-recorded and also presented to a VFW board last year for their Voice of Democracy essay program, and placed her for the honor she received on 27 Sep. The instructors and cadets of TX-863 are extremely proud of Cadet Ayala's insights and her representation of Wester Hills HS.




ROBOTICS TEAM RACKS UP FIRST WIN



The new Waller High School (TX-20065) robotics team, the Robodogs, is off to a great start after participating in their first ever competition and winning.

The TX-20065 instructor staff recently started working to receive a grant from VEX Robotics and put together a robotics team. School staff at Waller HS was also trying to form a robotics team along similar lines. The cooperative effort between school and instructor staff led to two grants and the formation of a combined team that first competed on 30 Sep 2017.


Going forward, the combined team aims to maximize participation from both JROTC cadets and the general school population, particularly boosting female involvement, as both school and JROTC staff see this as a way to spark interest in an up-and-coming career field. 

From left to right: David Badillo, Laura Duncan, Luke Erwin, Tyler Parke, Ezequiel Lopez, Nicholas Seeloff, and Okofo Jackson

WA-952 CADETS HOST POW/MIA CEREMONY

By Cadet/Lt Ethan Stocknow, Public Affairs Officer
WA-952, Battle Ground AFJROTC

On September 15, cadets of Battle Ground High School (WA-952) conducted a small but meaningful ceremony in honor of all POW and MIA. The cadets raised the POW/MIA flag to full staff, then back down to half-staff as part of the annual POW/MIA Remembrance Day. The cadets were honored to be joined by Dr. Bryan Laycoe and Dr. Jose Castilleja, commander and vice commander of American Legion Post 44 of Ridgefield, WA.

The POW/MIA flag originated in 1971, when Mrs. Mary Hoff recognized the need for a symbol of recognition for our Prisoners of War and Missing in Action soldiers. With the help of Mr. Norman Rivkees, they worked together to design what would become the now-familiar POW/MIA flag. Today, the flag is flown each September on a day set aside for remembering those who were captured in war, those who returned, and those who did not. 



GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

We require your help in developing a quality AFJROTC newsletter product.

ARTICLES - Please submit in a Word document with pictures attached separately, not embedded in document.

AUTHOR(S) - Please clearly identify the author(s) of the articles. (and titles too)

PICTURES - Cell phone pictures require much lengthier editing techniques to appear as quality photos ... and sometimes it is not possible to correct them. Please try to not submit cell phone pictures. Hi-resolution photos are needed.

PICTURE RELEASES - Ensure each picture has a parental signed release form.

PICTURE CAPTIONS - We absolutely would love to be able to identify the action in the photos with the identities of those involved. However, many pictures are not always clearly identified with this information.



The mission of AFJROTC is to "Develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community."

The objectives of JROTC are to educate and train high school cadets in citizenship, promote community service, instill ideals of responsibility, character, and self-discipline, and provide instruction in air and space fundamentals.

The AFJROTC program is grounded in the Air Force core values of "integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do."