

AFTERBURNER

Vol. 10, Issue 2

A Publication of the 144th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

February 2019



Commander's Corner
Page 2

Civil Engineering
Page 4

Civilian of the Year
Page 7

AFTERBURNER

Wing Commander

Col. Dan Kelly

Command Chief

Chief Master Sgt. Clinton Dudley

Address:

5323 E. McKinley Ave. Fresno, CA 93727-2199
559-454-5246 FAX: 559-453-5472

EMAIL: usaf.ca.144-fw.mbx.hq-public-affairs@mail.mil

Website: www.144fw.ang.af.mil/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/144thFighterWing

Maj. Jennifer Piggott
Chief of Public Affairs

Capt. Jason Sanchez
Public Affairs Officer

Senior Master Sgt. Chris Drudge
Public Affairs Superintendent

Tech. Sgt. Charles Vaughn
Photojournalist / Staff Writer / Editor

Staff Sgt. Christian Jadot
Photojournalist / Staff Writer

Cover Photograph



144th Fighter Wing maintainers perform their duties on the flight line while wearing Mission Operative Protective Posture gear during a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear training exercise at the Fresno Air National Guard Base Jan. 13, 2019. (Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Charles Vaughn)

This funded monthly newsletter is an authorized publication for members of the United States military services. Contents of this newsletter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Govt., Dept. of Defense, Dept. of the Air Force, the National Guard Bureau, or the 144th Fighter Wing.

This newsletter may use materials supplied by the Armed Forces Press Service, the Air Force News Service and the Air Combat Command News Service.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs office, 144th Fighter Wing. Submissions are subject to editing. Full names, rank, titles and contact phone number must accompany all submissions.



Commander's Comments

By Lt. Col. Jordan Darnauer
144th Medical Detachment Commander



The Camp Fire began Nov. 8, 2018 and became the deadliest wildfire in California's history. Within days of it starting, military and civilian leadership requested medical support from the 144th Medical Detachment.

Working closely with California Joint Force Headquarters, two Medical Strike Teams were sent immediately to support two different missions. The first mission provided direct medical support for the Joint Task Force to conduct wide area search and recovery operations.

The second mission provided direct medical support for California Emergency Medical Services Authority at six different shelters for the displaced survivors. The MedSTs traversed an estimated 19,000 acres, cleared approximately 700 homes, provided medical oversight of 97 soldiers, assisted with the recovery of several remains, provided Norovirus isolation treatment, and provided 24 hour medical operations for over 2,700 survivors.

In addition, the Civil Engineer team, Security Forces, and Services also responded and provided critical support for 600 of the 1,000 Defence Support to Civil Authorities and military personnel deployed for the fire.

All of this drives home why we train. We not only train for the war fight mission, but we also respond when our fellow Americans need help. It was the 144th Fighter Wing Airmen's high level of "Readiness" that ensured total mission success!

This is why it is important to remember that each of us are responsible for maintaining readiness at all times. We can all relate to the challenges of maintaining AFSC specific training, Individual Medical Readiness, Fitness Assessments, and ancillary training requirements year after year. However, in the next few months, several men and women of the 144th Fighter Wing will be deploying all over the world in support of multiple contingencies and Show of Force missions!

The reality is, none us know when the call will come, whether it be to provide Air Power to defend America or to support rescue operations for DSCA. It is only by each member maintaining his or her individual "Readiness" that cumulatively the Fighter Wing will be able to respond no matter when or where the need arises! For medical, when the call came we mobilized and transitioned within six hours from a state of "Readiness" to Real World medical operations.



Chief's Corner



By Chief Master Sgt. Jose Salas
144th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Leading Your Airmen

One of my favorite quotes with regards to knowledge and its connection with people derives from Theodore Roosevelt, "Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care."

I'm a firm believer that before any form of respect is created an intrinsic foundation must be established, regardless of rank or position of authority. This is a basic human instinct where authenticity matters and it becomes very apparent within minutes as to where you stand on your devotion towards caring for your Airmen. They need to immediately know that you care for them as basic humans before you can effectively begin to lead them. This does not imply that you are there to always be gentle, but what it does imply is that when it's time to hammer down they will respect your authority. This occurs because they know in the grand scheme of things your there to make them better and therefore genuinely do care.

A consistent one-sided mission only conversation that doesn't foster care or concern for other elements that are important in an Airman's life tends to have an adverse effect. Subtle gestures such as "Good Morning," "How's it going?" and "How's the new baby doing?" are simple but highly effective in creating cohesion in a unit. It's often said that people don't quit their jobs, they quit their bosses.

Considering that less than 1% of our entire nation serves, Airmen should all be treated as elite Americans. Americans that are not just capable, but willing to volunteer and serve in a demanding career on behalf of their fellow citizens. It is our job as leaders to bring out the greatness in each Airman through strategic force development, mentorship, feedback and accountability.

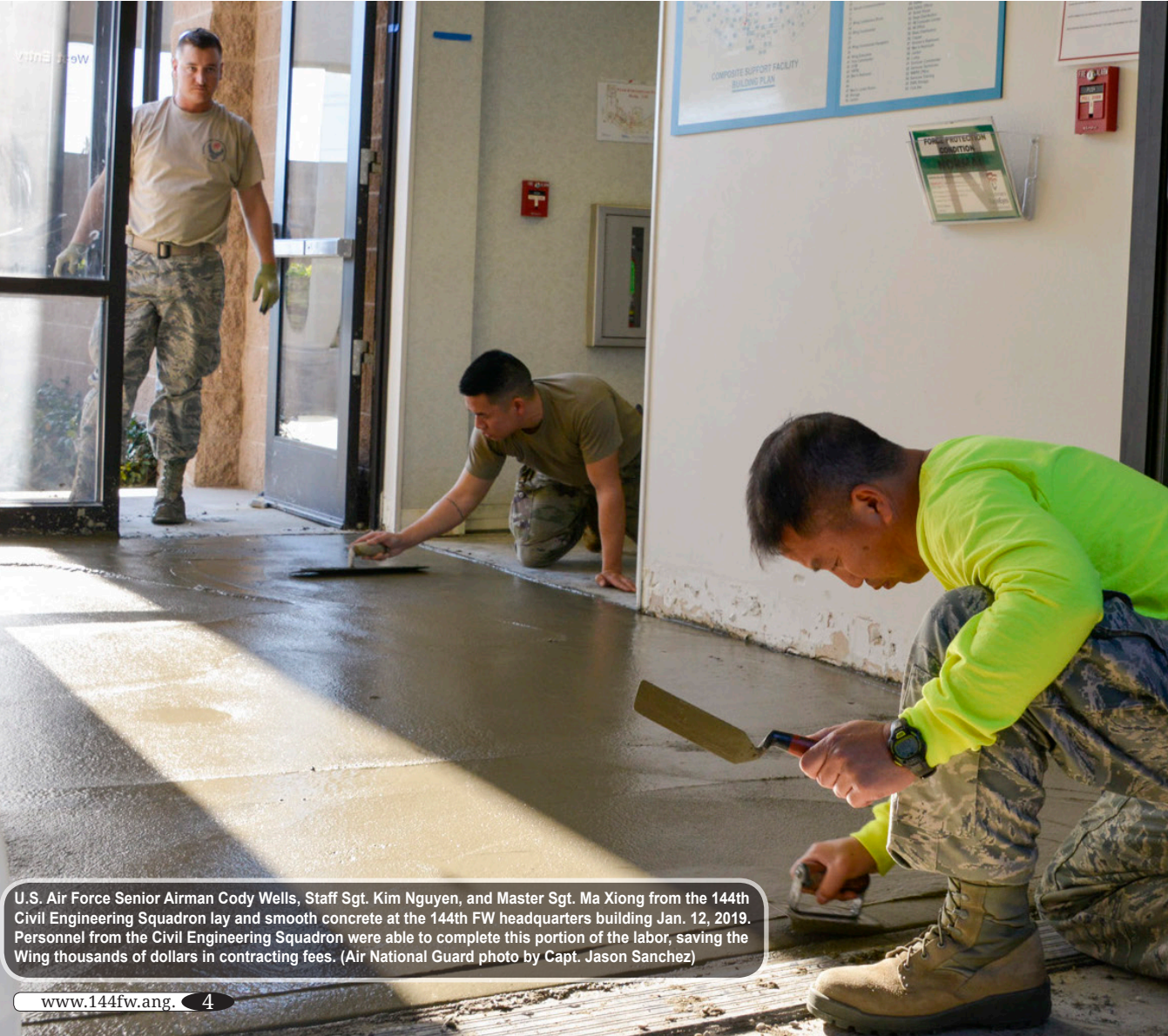
In my personal career, I've been fortunate to have worked in various organizations throughout the Air Force. I've met some of the greatest leaders, and I had the opportunity to study them. The take away for me as I sat and pondered over the years was the connection all these great leaders had in common. They fundamentally had three qualities that separated them from my list of not so awesome leaders. The first was their commitment to excellence for the mission, second was the fact they always put the needs of their people first, and third they held their people accountable to the highest standards, always.

So why is effective leadership and the way you execute it so important? It's very simple, because it has the potential to make us great or make us completely fail, therefore it is not optional and must be deliberately taught. No time is history will you read about battles that were won on the backs of selfish, self-serving men and women who put their toxic personal glory first and the needs of their people on the back burner. In a time

where we face adversaries that in some cases outpace us in certain domains, it's more critical now than ever that we get leadership right the first time, and we do so in an expeditious manner.

Hence why I chose this as my topic. We have to understand that this methodology is the foundation to sustaining our democracy, and it cannot be lost in a generational gap. As Ronald Regan once said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the blood stream. It must be fought for, protected and handed on for them to do the same".

In closing, I'd like to end with this. We are all in this fight together and we all need to hold each other accountable with the understanding that we are not perfect and we are constantly learning, growing and striving for perfection at all levels of rank. We need to be patient with the things we do not yet understand, but refine and excel in the things we already do. After all, we share the same common enemy and defend the same constitution. Everyone has greatness within them. If we bring that diversity and leverage it as a singular team for the greater good of the mission, we all win. So take care of yourselves, your families, and last but not least, take care of your people because they are the greatest weapon system in the United States Air Force inventory.



The Civil Engineering Squadron

By Capt. Jason Sanchez

FRESNO, California— During the last few months, the 144th Civil Engineering Squadron has been hard at work, installing fencing, laying concrete, planning large-scale roofing repairs, and working other infrastructure projects for the base. Besides beautification projects, construction projects, and general infrastructure upkeep, the CES performs additional vital functions for the base and the community.

The CES maintains the electrical power supply for the base, they oversee the fire suppression mission, which includes the base fire department, and they perform environmental management, explosive ordnance disposal, and emergency management coordination. The EOD office handles ordnance from Lemoore to Travis AFB. The base fire department responds to all In Flight Emergencies for the airport, both civilian and military, as well as assisting Fresno and Clovis fire departments. And the emergency management office works with the City of Fresno regularly during disaster response planning and exercises.

Furthermore, CE has a significant role in securing funds for base infrastructure projects well beyond initial annual government allocations for Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization.

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Walt Miller, 144th CES commander, explained that the National Guard Bureau initially allocates about \$550,000 each year for SRM, which CE quickly uses toward contracting services, building maintenance, and construction projects. Within the last year, CE was also able to secure millions more dollars in funds from the National Guard Bureau by identifying additional projects, managing funds effectively, and completing prioritized projects.

“The local money, we get, we spend down until it’s gone. Then we start going to Guard Bureau to request additional funding,” said Miller. “This last year, with the help of Contracting and Finance, we pooled about three million dollars of SRM.”

For many projects, CE works with contractors and construction companies, but they are always assessing projects to see if the

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Cody Wells, Staff Sgt. Kim Nguyen, and Master Sgt. Ma Xiong from the 144th Civil Engineering Squadron lay and smooth concrete at the 144th FW headquarters building Jan. 12, 2019. Personnel from the Civil Engineering Squadron were able to complete this portion of the labor, saving the Wing thousands of dollars in contracting fees. (Air National Guard photo by Capt. Jason Sanchez)



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Cody Wells, heavy equipment operator, Staff Sgt. Kim Nguyen, power production technician, Master Sgt. Soojin O, electrical systems technician, and Tech. Sgt. Luis Murillo-Miranda, electrical systems technician, from the 144th Civil Engineering Squadron prepare to shut off electrical power to the aircraft hangar to inspect circuits and make electrical repairs Jan. 12, 2019. (Air National Guard photo by Capt. Jason Sanchez)

The 144th Civil Engineering Squadron assisted the Force Support Squadron with their recent purchase of an outdoor basketball court by laying a level foundation for the court. (Air National Guard photo by Capt. Jason Sanchez)



To meet updated security requirements, the 144th Civil Engineering Squadron worked with contractors to have an eight foot fence built between the Fresno International Airport and the Fresno Air National Guard Base. (Air National Guard photo by Capt. Jason Sanchez)

(continued from pg. 4)

work can be done in-house. Just recently, while the floors in the 144th FW headquarters building were being refurbished, it was discovered that concrete was needed to fill each of the entrance areas. The construction company was planning to charge \$20,000 for the unforeseen site condition, but the CE personnel were able to complete the work for less than \$1,000.

A large part of the CES workload comes from the paperwork and planning that is involved with hiring companies and securing funds. 1st Lt. Max Montellano, 144th CES project manager, explained his role when working with construction crews.

“Even though they are under contract to build it, they may build it in their own vision, and sometimes that’s not correct.” said Montellano. “You have to have the skilled government representatives to ensure that the work meets government regulations and our needs– that we are going to accept it.”

Montellano emphasized that one of the greatest challenges is having enough CES personnel to manage and oversee all of their projects. Despite their challenges, they take great pride in the work.

“We are the infrastructure that each and every mission has to do their jobs,” said Montellano.



Tech. Sgt. Luis Murillo-Miranda, 144th Civil Engineering Squadron electrical systems technician, replaces a faulty 40 AMP breaker outside the aircraft hangar, Jan. 12, 2019. (Courtesy photo by Staff Sgt. Kim Nguyen)

Over 900 members of the 144th Fighter Wing gather at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District to receive required annual training. The training ranged from Green Dot briefings to Anti-terrorism. (Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Chris Drudge)



ANG's Civilian of the Year: Dr. Stephanie Grant

By Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Drudge

The 144th Fighter Wing has always led the way from Red Flag exercises to Theater Support Package deployments. The Airmen of the Wing always go above and beyond. The accolades bestowed upon them are well deserved, but there is a small contingency of people that are often overlooked when it comes to the hard work they put forth, the civilian employees that work side by side with the Airmen.

This past month, one of our own, Dr. Stephanie Grant, was named Air National Guard Civilian of the Year. It is truly inspiring to see the dedication and hard work be recognized by the 144th and ANG.

Dr. Grant is the Wing's Director of Psychological Health. She works closely with the Chaplain and Vice Commander to ensure that members receive the emotional and psychological support and care they need.

"I feel very humbled to have been selected as the ANG Civilian of the Year," said Dr. Grant. "It is a privilege and honor to work here at the 144th supporting the amazing men and women that serve."

"We are so proud and honored to have Stephanie on our 144th team! Her knowledge, dedication, and commitment to our mission is simply amazing – she is so deserving of this award," said Col. Dan Kelly, 144th Fighter Wing commander.

The Wing welcomed Dr. Grant to the guard family in June of 2015. It was a completely new experience for her and she admits there was a lot to learn from acronyms to language in the military world. From the

beginning, Dr. Grant was made to feel welcomed and at home by leadership and Airmen alike.

2018 was a particular busy year for our DPH. From the various exercises to Wingman Day, Dr. Grant made herself available to tend to the needs of more than 1,100 Airmen. On top of all the exercises and deployments from the Wing, she was also requested by name to provide total force support in the wake of Hurricane Michael at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida.

"I worked with 1st Air Force as part of the contingency team and saw firsthand incredible strength and commitment despite huge loss and destruction," said Grant. "I saw the strength and resilience of the human spirit!"

This past year also marked the beginning of Dr. Grant's voluntary military service. After hearing Col. Carl Fabrizio, California State Military Reserve's 144th Support Group commander, speak during the Wing's last super drill, she decided that the CSMR could give her the opportunity to volunteer and broaden her horizons as a Behavioral Health Officer alongside her amazing colleagues, the men and women of the 144th FW.

"Putting on the uniform once a month gives me a tiny window into what it is like for Airmen every day," said Grant. "I am learning to make sure I have my cover on and items in my left hand when I go outside!"

The next time you see Dr. Stephanie Grant walking around, take the time to congratulate her on the distinguished accomplishment of being selected as the ANG's 2018 Civilian of the Year.



"The respect I have for the members at the 144th continues to grow with each new day, week, and year. During my short tenure here at the Wing, I am inspired and motivated to bring my best game through the countless examples I've witnessed here!" said Grant. "I look to our future with excitement and anticipation as we embark on the journey ahead of us one step, one day at a time!"

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Legal

Legal assistance is available on UTA weekends at the following times:

- Walk-ins available Sun. 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Article 137 held in the Chapel at Sat. 3 p.m.
- Deploying before next UTA? - Come in anytime
- For Power of Attorney see Master Sgt. Garcia, Mon. to Fri. 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Call 454-5153 ahead of time to ensure someone is available
- Visit our website for your "Ticket Number" to bring with you at:
<https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil/lass/lass.html>

2019 Fitness Challenge

- 365/ 500/ 700 Mile Running Challenge
Sign up with Master Sgt. Christopher Perez
- 12,000 Push Up and Sit Up Challenge
Sign up with Senior Master Sgt. Jonathan DeLuca

Public Affairs Shared Image Drive

- Images taken by Public Affairs are now available on base through a shared drive. Any one interested in these images can map your base computer to \\144fw-fs-v7\publicmedia.

UTA Menu

Saturday

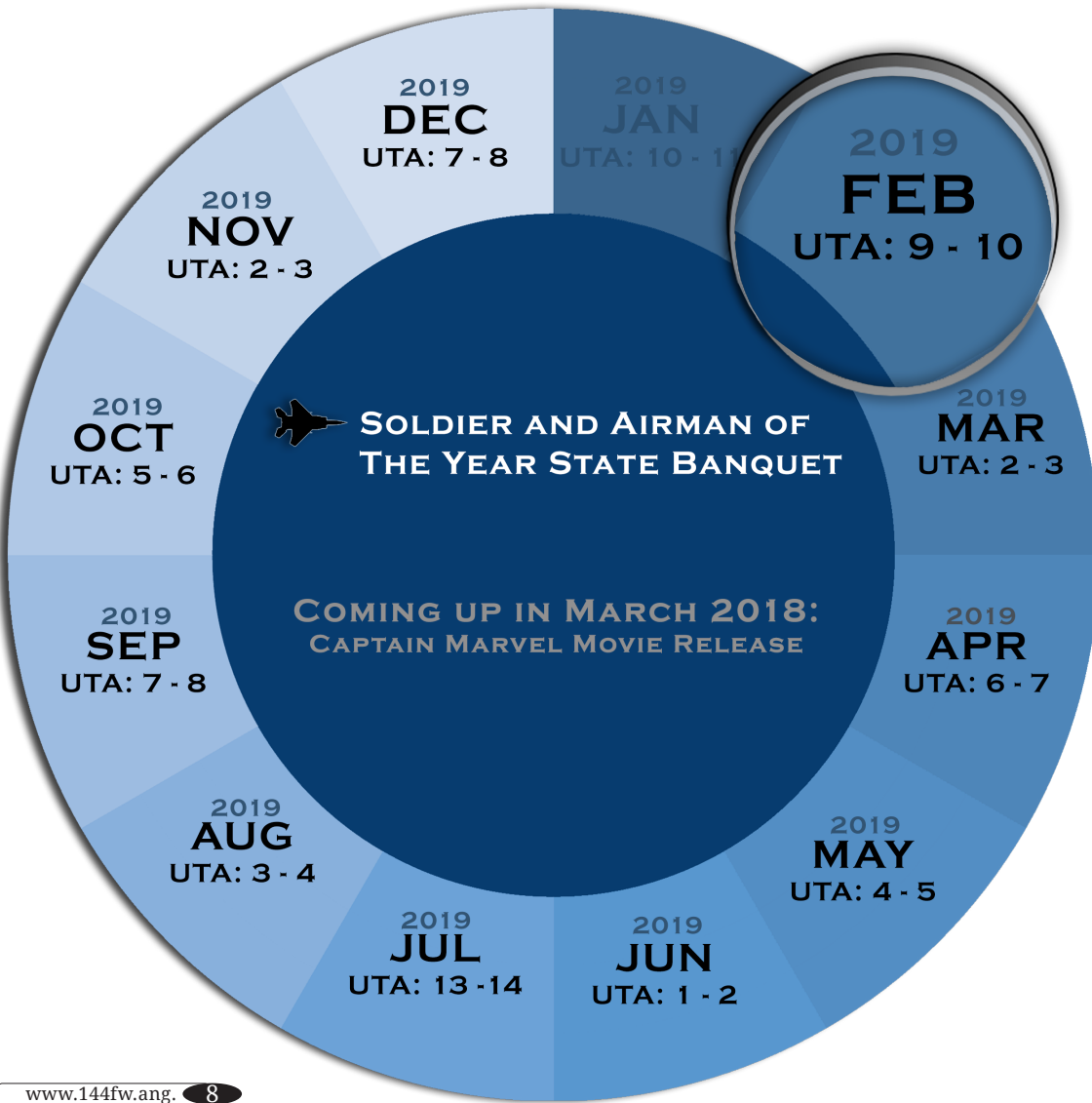
Spare ribs, baked chicken, corn-on-cob, zucchini squash, rice pilaf, homemade mashed potatoes, chicken gravy, buttered dinner roll

Short line: hamburger, turkey burger, personal pizza, chimichanga, bacon, french fries, onion rings.

Sunday

Steak-ribeye, teriaki chicken quarters, au gratin potatoes, white rice, grilled asparagus, green beans, brown mushroom gravy, dinner rolls

Short line: hamburger, turkey burger, chimichanga, french fries, onion rings, mozzarella sticks, fried scallops



AFTERBURNER



Mission Statement

Federal Mission - The 144th Fighter Wing is to provide Air Superiority in support of worldwide joint operations as well as Air Defense of the United States. Additionally, the Wing provides agile combat support, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to combatant commanders around the globe. The Wing also provides a variety of homeland defense capabilities to U.S. NORTHCOM.

State Mission - The 144th Fighter Wing provides a variety of Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) capabilities to the Governor of California. Primary contributions include Ready manpower, reconnaissance assets, response to chemical, biological and radiological attacks, security, medical, civil engineering and command and control.



Did you know the 144th Fighter Wing participated in a movie that is set to be released March 8? Stay tuned for details on show times and other exciting opportunities! (Courtesy photo from Marvel Studios)

Top 3 Priorities

1. BE READY TO DEPLOY AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE.

All 144th Fighter Wing Airmen will be combat ready whenever the Combatant Commander calls or a deployment tasking is assigned.

2. BE READY TO PERFORM OUR STATE MISSION.

All Airmen must be ready when the Governor calls and needs the support of the 144th Fighter Wing.

3. CONTINUE ALERT OPERATIONS.

We have a 24/7/365 alert mission -- we must flawlessly continue to execute that mission.