

# 189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



Vol. 21 No. 55

June 2019

Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

Arkansas National Guard  
responds to state flooding, pg. 10







# Commander's Corner: *lethality and progress*

By Col. Thomas D. Crimmins  
189th Airlift Wing Commander

Hello Warriors! I want to start off by letting each and every one of you know how much I've enjoyed working for you and the wing the past two years! Through hurricanes and heartache, we've built a stronger, more lethal force than ever and our ops tempo leads the way within the Air National Guard. I couldn't be more proud of everyone than I am now. I've watched this wing grow and roll with the changes with such fluidity, I have no doubt in my mind that we will maintain our relevance within the C-130 community and in the Air Force.

I also want to dive into the events taking place during drill this week. I want to invite you all to attend the 189th Airlift Wing Change of Command Thursday, at 1:30 p.m., as well as the Arkansas National Guard's Air Component Commander Change of Command on Saturday, 9:30 a.m., where I will be taking over for Brig. Gen. Sicard, who will be retiring after serving nearly 30 years in the United States Air Force. He will be moving on to continue up the ladder as a pilot at Southwest Airlines full-time. Brig. Gen. Sicard will retire at 1 p.m. All the events will be in the 189th Maintenance Group hangar, hangar 207. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you for letting me lead you! It was an honor and a pleasure. Please welcome Col. Martin as the new wing commander and show him the same support you've given me. I cannot wait to see the progress he makes within the wing and the encouragement he will give to strengthen our force and build our lethality.

Lastly, I want to take a minute and discuss a couple observances this month. June is PTSD Month and June 27th is PTSD Awareness Day. Many of us are or know someone who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder. Please look for signs of PTSD within yourself or others and seek help and guidance as soon as possible.



Many services are available for military service members who suffer from the disorder. It's never too late to seek counsel. If you need information on services, please contact the Director of Psychological Health, Emily Holmes, at (501) 987-8752.

Have a wonderful drill weekend! DUCIMUS - We Lead!



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## Publication Staff

Col. Thomas D. Crimmins  
189th Airlift Wing  
Commander

VACANT  
Public Affairs Officer

Tech Sgt. Jessica Condit  
Public Affairs Superintendent

Senior Airman Kayla K. Edwards  
Editor

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Department of Defense

**LGBT PRIDE MONTH**

**PRIDE IN ALL WHO SERVE**

Designed by DEOM - Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute

**Inclusive of all. Celebrating LGBT History Month**



# Wilson praises Airmen, expresses gratitude in farewell remarks reflecting on her tenure as Air Force secretary

By Charles Pope  
Secretary of the Air Force, Public Affairs

Two years and nine days since becoming the 24th Secretary of the Air Force, Heather Wilson bid a formal farewell, May 21, to the institution and its Airmen, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to serve and declaring, “I will always be an Airman.”

“I lived a blessed life,” Wilson said in a 15-minute speech which reflected on her tenure as the Air Force’s highest-ranking civilian official.

She praised the skill and dedication of Airmen while comparing lessons learned from gardening as a corollary for the qualities that make for good leaders and an effective Air Force secretary. You need a plan, she said; you need friends to help, meaning allies, and “as long as it’s safe, let people tinker with the tools.”

“Our Airmen...tinker and fix things in new ways,” she said, extending the reference. “Let your people tinker with the tools. ... As a leader, you have to think about the long term and strengthen the positive culture.”

“Every one of you in this hanger, every single one



*Air Force color guard presents the colors during Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson's Farewell Ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md., May 21, 2019. (U.S. Air Force photo by Wayne Clark)*

of you, is a leader,” Wilson said, speaking at Joint Base Andrews in Hanger 3, surrounded by her family, senior Air Force leaders, including three former secretaries, approximately 900 Airmen and a B-2 bomber.

Wilson’s comments came at the end of the two-hour ceremony in which she was praised for her service and her achievements. Wilson announced her resignation in March after she was selected to be president of the University of Texas, El Paso. Her last day as Air Force secretary is May 31.

In a clear reference to what she sees as her legacy, Wilson told the crowd that a good gardener is someone who “accepts with confidence you won’t be able to be able to harvest all the fruits of your labor” and embraces the “beauty of work well done on something good.”

While Wilson reflected on two years as secretary by highlighting the achievements and contributions of Airmen across the Air Force’s global enterprise, other speakers focused squarely on Wilson herself.



*Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein smile during the SECAF's farewell ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md., May 21, 2019. (U.S. Air Force photo by Wayne Clark)*

“You have been the leader we needed at this exact time in our Air Force,” Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein said, praising Wilson. “As an Airman’s Airman, you have served as a driving force for positive change.”

Under her direction and in partnership with Goldfein, the Air Force became both more prepared and nimble in the last two years. A shortage of more than 4,000 active duty maintainers that greeted Wilson when she arrived in 2017 has been closed to zero. Aggressive efforts to streamline the procurement process has shaved 100 years off traditional timelines while a series of major contracts approved in recent years saved more than \$17 billion.

Wilson has been a catalyst as well driving innovation. She spearheaded the analysis which said the “Air Force we need” must increase to 386 squadrons from 312 to confront threats in an era of great power competition. Wilson was also a key architect of an ambitious upgrade for the service’s science and technology strategy released in April. That document will serve as a blueprint to better identify, develop and deploy breakthrough technologies in the future.

Wilson is leaving a considerable mark on the institution and its total force of 685,000 Airmen worldwide. She helped develop and manage the Air Force’s annual budget of more than \$138 billion and

was an influential voice directing strategy and policy development, risk management, weapons acquisition, technology investments and talent management of Airmen across a global enterprise.

She was a central figure in efforts to strengthen and build the Air Force to meet new global threats, particularly those posed by Russia and China. She was a strong advocate for increasing overall readiness and addressing personnel shortages that affected the Air Force’s ability to fulfill any mission at any time.

Overall, the Air Force is 17% more ready today than it was when she was confirmed.

Wilson was a strong advocate for streamlining the contracting process when possible and injecting a more entrepreneurial approach.

In his remarks, Goldfein said Wilson will be remembered for “setting the conditions to build a more lethal and ready force we need for the future fight” while also paving the way “for the future Airmen who will follow in our footsteps.

And while hardware is important, Goldfein said Wilson, “understood the priority is with the people and improving the quality of service and quality of life for our uniformed volunteers and their families is where it starts.”



*Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson speaks at her farewell ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md., May 21, 2019. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Chad Trujillo)*





# Safety officials share tips for outdoor fun

By Defense Logistics Agency  
Safety and Occupational Health

Summer weather is here and with it comes the desire to spend hours outside. Many people enjoy the weather hanging out at the pool or beach, grilling food, playing summer sports, setting off fireworks, riding amusement park rides or enjoying road trips. For hundreds of people, though, summer festivities will end badly because they failed to take proper safety precautions. Following are a few tips to help you and your loved ones stay incident-free.

High temperatures pose a significant risk for heat injury. Exposure to the heat may result in heat injuries as mild as heat cramps and as deadly as heatstroke. Alcoholic drinks and soda are dehydrating so moderation is important. Use waterproof or sweat proof sunblock and drink water when engaging in outdoor events. Wear loose fitting, light colored clothes. And wearing the right shoe for the activity can prevent foot injuries like sprained ankles.

Water-related activities come with certain risks. Open bodies of water like rivers, lakes and oceans have the potential for rapidly changing conditions. Follow posted warning signs of unsafe water conditions. Horseplay in swimming pools or natural bodies of water can result in injuries. Never consume alcohol or large meals before swimming or taking part in water sports.

Let's face it – a Fourth of July celebration without bottle rockets, Roman candles and sparklers feels incomplete. Unsafe handling of fireworks

often results in injuries to the hands and fingers, eyes and legs. Only use fireworks outdoors. Read and follow all warnings and instructions before igniting fireworks. Ensure spectators are out of range and only light fireworks outside on a smooth, flat surface away from homes and flammable materials. Don't pick up leftover or previously lit fireworks because they might still be active.

Good food and great conversation are staples of a summer barbecue. Before firing up the grill, be aware of proper grilling techniques. Never use a grill indoors, and keep them away from flammables. Keep children and pets away from fires and grills.



Amusement and theme parks are also a fun and popular way to spend a summer day with friends and family. Always keep hands, arms, legs and feet inside the ride. Use safety equipment properly and never fidget with or loosen the equipment. Despite the rare instance of an amusement or theme

park accident, it is important to review and follow the posted safety guidelines before going on any ride or attractions to stay safe.

Outdoor activities are popular during warm weather, but physical injuries can put you and your family members on the sidelines during the fun. Don't let an accident or injury spoil your fun this summer. Use risk management and enjoy activities safely. Know your limits, use sunscreen, drink water and pay attention to your surroundings to ensure your day in the sun and surf does not end in tragedy.



# 189th Airlift Wing Airman and Family Readiness Office hosts Night at the Museum for Airmen and Families

Join the Airmen and Family Readiness office Friday, June 7, from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Museum of Discovery in Downtown Little Rock for a night of fun-filled learning. The wing's AFRC in conjunction with the museum reserved the museum for military members and their families. Registration is required, so visit the link below to sign up or call the AFR office at (501) 987 - 5952 for questions or to sign up.

## 189th Airlift Wing NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY

Friday, 7 June 2019  
6PM-8PM

Museum of Discovery  
500 President Clinton Ave.,  
Suite 150  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Open to all 189AW in  
support of our families  
with deployed members



*museum  
of discovery*

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/189aw-night-at-the-museum-tickets-58381012179>

189AW Airman & Family Readiness Office: (501) 987-5952





## *Warrior of the Month: Master Sgt. Sherry Hawkins*



**Rank/Name:** MSgt Sherry Hawkins

**Unit:** 189th Operations Support Squadron

**Guard Status:** AGR

**Position:** Operations Control Center  
NCOIC, Wing Drug, Demand, Reduction  
Program Manager

**Hometown:** Burkeville, Texas

**Time on Station:** Nineteen Years

**Time in Service:** Nineteen Years

**Goals:** To be a SNCO that anyone (no  
matter the rank) can talk to and rely on

**Hobbies:** Camping, kayaking, hunting,

fishing, riding atv's with family and friends

**Core Value Portrayed:** Service before  
self. MSgt Hawkins is dedicated and  
epitomizes all core values but stands  
out when it comes to dedication and  
commitment. She manages to find the  
perfect balance in home life and work  
life so her family reaps the rewards of  
her talents as well. She takes personal  
responsibility for her troops, her office and  
the ops group in general. She is the first to  
volunteer and the last to leave.





# Check out the upcoming events courtesy of the 19th FSS! Details in flyer.



**TIES & Tiaras**  
DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

15 JUNE • 5 - 8 PM  
MEMBERS: \$20 PER COUPLE  
NON-MEMBERS: \$25 PER COUPLE  
\$5 PER ADDITIONAL CHILD

COME DRESSED AS A PRINCESS AND ENJOY A NIGHT FULL OF MUSIC, DANCING, DINNER, DESSERTS, PHOTO OPS & MUCH MORE!

at HANGAR 1080 | 987-5555



ARKANSAS  
**Wine TOUR**

29 JUNE • 7:30 AM - 5 PM  
REGISTER BY 26 JUNE  
\$30 PER PERSON  
BRING MONEY FOR LUNCH & PURCHASES

Explore Arkansas' wine country with ITT!  
Tour & taste test at various Arkansas wineries before heading home.

with INFORMATION TICKETS & TRAVEL | 987-5105



**USA R4R**  
RECHARGE FOR RESIDENCY  
BOOK AT THE ROCK.COM/R4R

**BUFFALO RIVER**  
float trip

21 June - 23 June  
Register by 14 June | \$50 for R4R qualifying participants only

Join ODR on a scenic canoe float trip on the Buffalo River in Northwest Arkansas. Float & camp along the river Friday and Saturday, then canoe out & head home Sunday morning.

Ages 18 & older. Weather permitting.  
72 hour cancellation policy.  
with OUTDOOR RECREATION | 987-3365



**4TH ANNUAL LIBERTY FEST**

LIVE PERFORMANCES BY WHISTLIN' DIXIE & CORY JACKSON!

LITTLE ROCK AFB • 5 JULY  
4 PM - FIREWORKS

INFLATABLES • CIRCUS ART PERFORMERS • GAMES • FIREWORKS  
WATERMELON EATING CONTEST • PATRIOTIC BIKE PARADE • FOOD & MUCH MORE!

SPONSORED BY

at HERITAGE PARK | 987-6720/21





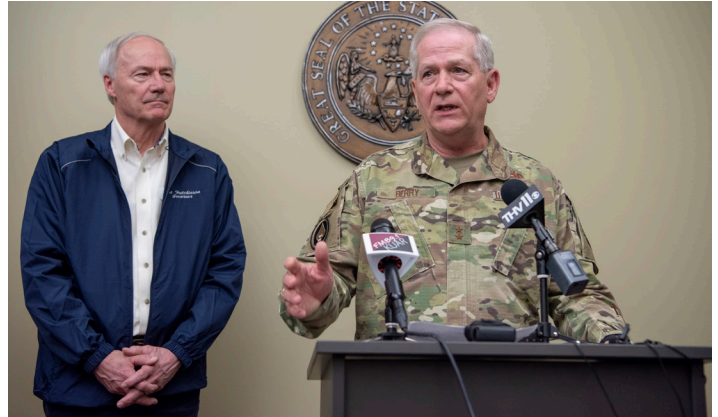
# Arkansas National Guard responds to flooding

By Tech. Sgt. Jessica Condit  
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Airmen and Soldiers of the Arkansas National Guard activated last week in response to the flooding throughout the state. More than \_\_\_\_\_ Guardsmen spent countless hours filling sandbags and assisting the local communities affected by the floods. The floods currently occupy sixteen counties throughout the state, making them fall under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's disaster declaration. This declaration makes the counties eligible for assistance during and after the flood emergency.

Flooding is expected to continue throughout the week as Guardsmen and state emergency officials work to tirelessly to ensure the safety of citizens and property. Soldiers and Airmen have completed a myriad of tasks to include sandbag operations, high-water evacuation missions, liaison officer duty to various county emergency managers, traffic-control point and security duties and more. Currently, more than 38,000 have been filled by the Airmen of the 189th Civil Engineer Squadron alone.

Regardless of the devastation, the Airmen and Soldiers of the Arkansas National Guard will continue to support the community until the state leaders no longer need them to perform the mission.



**Top:** Arkansas Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Marc Berry addresses the flood situation along with Arkansas Governor, Asa Hutchinson during press conference. Sixteen counties have been named under the Federal Emergency Management Association's disaster declaration, making them eligible for assistance during and after the flood emergency.

**Left:** The Arkansas River floods plains, farmland, cities and housing communities while still rising. The Arkansas River is expected to reach it's peak in the next few days.



Airmen from the 189th Civil Engineer Squadron fill sandbags in preparation for the flooding throughout Arkansas May 25, in Bigelow, Ark. More than 20,200 sandbags have been filled as Airmen and Soldiers work 12-hour shifts between three locations to ensure continuous support. (Courtesy photos)



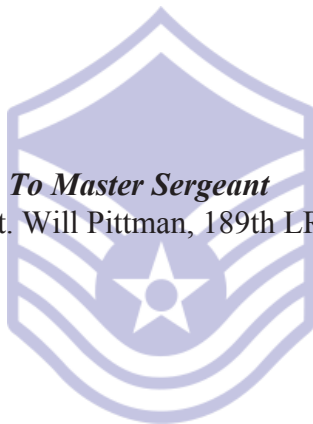


# ***PROMOTIONS***



***To Lt. Col.***

Lt. Col. Eroica Waggoner, 189th OG



***To Master Sergeant***

MSgt. Will Pittman, 189th LRS



***To Technical Sergeant***

TSgt Christopher Babczak, 189th AMXS



***To Staff Sergeant***

SSgt Tyisha Harris, JFHQ  
SSgt Keyon Evans, 189th CES



***To Senior Airman***

SrA Hannah Chrisman, 189th CPTF

***Congratulations promotees and PME graduates on reaching the next level in the Air National Guard. Your dedication and service to the Arkansas Air National Guard did not go unnoticed! Keep up the good work!***