

COUGAR TALES

18 Nov 2021

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Cougar Tales are available on the wing App under Helpful Resources -> Cougar Tales

Want to be in Cougar Tales? Contact the 140th WG/PA at 140wg.pa.org@us.af.mil! Only events two weeks from registration deadline/event start are guaranteed to be advertised



Events



USO Tickets for the MLS Playoffs on Thanksgiving Day

USO Colorado is excited to send military members and their families to cheer on the Colorado Rapids in the 2021 Audi Cup MLS Playoffs on Thanksgiving Day in Denver!

Thursday, Nov. 25th at 2:30pm, Dick's Sporting Goods Park – Denver

How to Register:

Choose the total number of tickets you're requesting (up to 8) and continue the registration. You'll be asked to identify each requested ticket's holder as a service member or family member. Tickets are limited, please only request tickets if you intend to participate. USO Colorado will confirm your request and will process your digital ticket transfer from our Master Account.

Registration is required in order to receive official tickets for access to the game.

Ticket Information

You will need a Ticketmaster.com account to access tickets once they've been transferred.

Children age 2 and under do not require a ticket.

Parking at Dick's Sporting Goods Park is free with these tickets.

USO Colorado will provide additional instructions on how you'll receive and access your digital tickets after registration has closed.

Please note, all requested tickets must be used by the original registrant. Tickets may not be sold or transferred. If you are unable to attend, please contact gmelges@uso.org as soon as possible.

All tickets received by USO Colorado are tracked, please do not request/accept tickets unless you are committed to attending the event to ensure we can continue to provide these opportunities.

Register for Tickets here: <https://usocolorado.ticketleap.com/thanksgiving-rapids-game/>

USO Colorado Virtual Book Club Series

Join us for our next USO Colorado Virtual Book Club Series. The book we've selected is "**Radar Girls**" by **Sara Ackerman**. A synopsis and details about the book are copied below.

This program is open to any currently serving military service members as well as their spouses and partners – active duty, national guard, reservists, and coalition/allied forces are all welcome.

How to Participate:

Complete the Registration for the Program here: <https://usocolorado.ticketleap.com/book-club-dec21/>.

Our book club reads each book together in sections that we discuss each week. For this series, we've divided the book into three sections. Each week, we'll read a pre-determined segment and come together for 45-60 minutes to discuss our thoughts on what we've read, what questions we have, what we hope to see happen and more. Please plan to attend all four of the meetings in the series.

Meeting Dates: (Please plan to attend all 4 meetings)

November 30th, 2021, 7:30pm

December 7th, 2021, 7:30pm

December 14th, 2021, 7:30pm

December 21st, 2021, 7:30pm

Upon registration you'll receive details for our first Zoom meeting. Join us as we get to know one another at our first meeting. After attending the first meeting, participants will receive their link to redeem on Kindle, and/or physical copies of the the book depending on their choice in the registration process. We will also provide the reading schedule and any additional relevant information.



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Announcements



The results are in!

CONGRATULATIONS

to our 2021 3rd Quarter Award winners!

AMN

SrA Annalisa C. Neal - MXG

NCO

TSgt Erydin B. Bacon - MSG

SNCO

MSgt David B. Lewis - MXG

CGO

Capt Shaunna L. Reed - MSG

FGO

Maj Katherine N. Patten - MSG

CIV

Diana Gibbs - MSG

Upcoming Retirements, CoC's, and Promotions eInvitations

Lt Col. Hope F. Shrader's Retirement

<https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=623311&k=0463410A7A56>

SSgt Patrick J. Blanchard's Retirement

<https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=622492&k=0463400D7255>

Change of Command – MXS

<https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=622927&k=046340007950>

L Drive Sunset / OneDrive Migration Mandate

DAF has mandated the immediate sunset of personal storage drives (L Drive). Users are being directed to migrate data stored on personal storage drives to OneDrive per DOD CIO Memo, 16 April 2020, *Interim Guidance for Implementation of the Department of Defense Cloud Strategy* and SECAF Memo, 23 September 2019, *2019 Air Force Cloud Computing Strategy*. Users will maintain their OneDrive through the lifetime of their AFNet account. This also is in line with other upcoming downward directed IT projects for the AFNET which continue to push the force towards adopting utilities such as OneDrive, SharePoint, Teams and more (see below informational slide).

OneDrive Migration:

- Link to OneDrive How-To: Y:/Support Group/Communications Squadron/OneDrive/OneDrive Setup.pdf
- Additional training materials can be found under the documents section of the OneDrive SharePoint: <https://usaf.dps.mil/teams/CHESOD>

Timeline of Sunset:

July 2021-October 2021: Dissemination of Info to All Members (Full Time/Traditional)

November 2021: Final Notice of Sunset

- **December 4/5 2021: L Drives will be made Read-Only**
- January 2022-March 2022: Extended Period of Accommodation for Deployed/Medical Leave/Other Members
- **March 5/6 2022: Deletion of all Personal Drives**

Out of Cycle Inventory

This is a reminder for everyone about the SAF/CN initiated AF-wide Out of Cycle Inventory for IT hardware. The memorandum from SAF/CN, instructions for the inventory, and a FAQ section can be found on the AFECO SharePoint site (link below) underneath the blue banner labeled “Out of Cycle (OOC) Inventory Information”. This inventory must be completed and returned to Ms. Diana Gibbs by 11 Jan 2022. Inventories were emailed out to the Wing on 27 Sep 21. If you did not receive your inventory please email Ms. Gibbs at diana.gibbs@us.af.mil

If there are any questions on the Out of Cycle Inventory, please check the FAQ on the SharePoint site first as the AFECO will populate this section with questions as they are received. If you cannot find the answer to your question, please submit an inquiry on the AFECO SharePoint site. The inquiry submission icon can be found under the blue banner labeled “Submit an Inquiry”.

AFECO SharePoint Site:

<https://usaf.dps.mil/teams/ccc/itam/SitePages/Home.aspx>

COVID-19 information entered into CIIS

Your COVID-19 vaccination information will be entered into the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS)

Under Colorado law, you can remove your immunization information from the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS) at any time. This is called an opt-out.

If you change your mind, you can have your health care provider re-enter your immunization record into CIIS at a later time by submitting a rescind opt-out form.

If you choose not to participate in CIIS, you're responsible for keeping track of your immunization record.

How to opt-out of CIIS

1. When you ask to opt-out of CIIS, your health care provider should:

Direct you to a CIIS Opt-Out Form -

[English](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Korean](#) | [Russian](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Vietnamese](#)

Attach one signed copy of the form to your/your child's medical record in the location usually reserved for the immunization record, if applicable or practical for clinic work flow.

2. To complete the opt-out, it's your responsibility to:

Mail, email, or fax one signed copy of the CIIS Opt-Out Form to the CIIS office at the address on the bottom of the form.

Keep one signed copy of the form for your records.

Link to this page: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/ciis-opt-out-procedures>

Help us find the next MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR® AWARD RECIPIENTS!



MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR® AWARDS - FAST FACTS

WHAT: The Military Child of the Year® (MCOY) Awards celebrate and recognize the tremendous achievements of **eight outstanding military children**, one from each branch of service and a special Innovation Award sponsored by Booz Allen Hamilton.

WHO: Each year, hundreds of military teens (ages 13-18) are nominated by a parent, teacher, mentor or guardian. Candidates for the MCOY Awards demonstrate resilience, strength of character, and the ability to thrive in the face of the challenges of military life.

WHEN: The Awards Gala will be held in Washington, D.C. on **April 7, 2022** during the Month of the Military Child.

AWARD WINNERS: MCOY winners receive a **\$10,000 cash award**, a laptop computer, and are flown with a parent or guardian for a **3-night stay** in Washington, D.C.

Nominations and applications accepted from
September 1 — December 1, 2021.
Ages 13—18 are eligible.

For more information, please visit
MILITARYCHILDOFTHEYEAR.ORG



Serving America's
Military Families

Operation Homefront Presents 2022 MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR® AWARDS

Nominations Now Open!

ABOUT THE AWARDS

Seven national Military Child of the Year® (MCOY) Awards are presented to one outstanding youth from each service branch: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, and the Space Force. The awards recognize the recipients for their resiliency, leadership, and achievement during their parents' service. Each recipient receives a \$10,000 cash award, a laptop computer, and are flown with an adult guardian and guest for a 3-night stay in Washington, D.C.

The eighth national award is the Military Child of the Year® (MCOY) Award for Innovation. This award goes to a military youth who has designed a bold and creative solution to address a local, regional, or global challenge. The recipient receives a \$10,000 cash award, a laptop computer, and are flown with an adult guardian and guest for a 4-night stay in Washington, D.C.

Recipients and their families will arrive in Washington, D.C., in early April (Branch: April 5-8, 2022; Innovation: April 4-8, 2022), for events, tours, and activities leading up to the Awards Gala. The gala will be held the evening of Thursday, April 7, 2022.

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must meet each of the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a legal dependent of a service member or military retiree (Semifinalists must provide DEERS enrollment form)
- Be between the ages of 13-18 at time of nomination or application
- Be able to travel to Washington, D.C., to attend the MCOY Gala and other events (Branch: April 5-8, 2022; Innovation: April 4-8, 2022)
- Agree to a background check (if selected as finalist)
- Provide letters of recommendation (if selected as a semifinalist)
- Be willing to participate in media and donor opportunities

WHEN TO NOMINATE OR APPLY

The nomination and application periods open September 1, 2021, and close December 1, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern.

HOW TO NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR A MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR® SERVICE BRANCH AWARD

Nominations can be submitted at www.militarychildoftheyear.org during the nomination period. Nominations can be made by anyone familiar with the child's achievements, and the form will include when and how long a parent has deployed, number of family moves, Gold Star Family or EFMP status, whether a parent is a wounded service member, nominee's volunteerism, and five short answers as to why the nominee is deserving.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR® AWARD FOR INNOVATION

Youth ages 13-18 may apply for the Innovation Award at www.militarychildoftheyear.org during the application period. They are not required to be nominated by another person. The form will include questions about the child's innovation and how they hope to help others.

QUESTIONS

Please visit our website, www.militarychildoftheyear.org, to view or download a PDF of our FAQs. For further information, contact Jenny Valderas, Senior Director of Family Support Services, 210-760-7366 or Jenny.Valderas@operationhomefront.org.



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

OCT 2 5 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Connect to Protect: Support is Within Reach

The health and well-being of our Service members, DoD civilian employees, and families is paramount for force readiness. Every single one of us faces stress, anxiety, and life challenges, and each of us responds to them differently. For some, these experiences can increase the risk of suicide. By being there for one another, helping to navigate challenges in healthy ways and leveraging resources throughout the year, we can remain strong, together.

I highlight this topic as the Calendar Year 2020 Annual Suicide Report was recently released. While the report highlights changes since last year, one thing is very clear – there is more work to be done. While Suicide Prevention Month ended in September, our role in preventing suicide does not end there. Every day we can take time and action to show our support. We serve together, shoulder to shoulder, and regardless of our role or specific organization, we can and must continue to *Connect to Protect* because support is always within reach. We are continuing the Department's suicide prevention campaign beyond September's awareness month with the theme *Connect to Protect: Support is Within Reach*, which highlights the critical role connections to family, friends, community, and resources play in helping to prevent suicide. Research indicates that connectedness is a factor that can reduce the likelihood someone will consider or attempt suicide. Reaching out and connecting with friends and loved ones can help you and those you care about to get through difficult times.

Sometimes even small steps can save lives. I encourage you to join me in engaging in simple, healthy, and meaningful actions. Be there for others, and check in with those around you. Spend time with people who contribute to your own sense of stability, calm, or happiness – or those who best understand what you might be experiencing and are able to assist. Engage in positive strategies, some of which can be as simple as exercising, practicing breathing routines, spending time outside, keeping a journal, or reading.

When you need to reach out, do so. In addition to mental health counseling services, Chaplains/Faith Leaders and other resources are also available to assist. For non-crisis support – such as for relationship, family, or financial challenges – connect with Military OneSource, which provides free and confidential 24/7 support to all Service members and their families at 800-342-9647 or via chat at: livechat.militaryonesourceconnect.org/chat. DoD civilian employees have access to similar support through Employee Assistance Programs (EAP). For your agency's EAP information, please contact your Human Resources team. The DoD EAP provides resources, information, and confidential help 24/7 at 800-222-0364 (Text Telephone (TTY): 888-262-7848).

If you or someone you know is in crisis, please contact the confidential 24/7 Veterans and Military Crisis Line (VCL/MCL) or confidential National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL).

Veterans and Military Crisis Line (Service members, veterans, and their families)

CONUS

Call: 800-273-8255 (press 1 for the VCL/MCL). For TTY users: Use your preferred relay service, or dial 711, then 1-800-273-8255.

Text: 838255

Chat: www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/chat

OCONUS

Europe: Call 00800 1273 8255 or DSN 118

Korea: Call 0808 555 118 or DSN 118

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (all Americans)

Call: 800-273-8255. For TTY users: Use your preferred relay service, or dial 711, then 1-800-273-8255.

Visit: suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Chat: suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat

Everyone plays an essential part in suicide prevention. Know that you are not alone, and reach out and let others know that you are there for them. Each and every day, we must take care of ourselves, our loved ones, and our battle buddies. We are all in this together, and together we can save lives.

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.