

RACER FLYER

Intel for the Family

4th Qtr FY15 Edition

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Maj. John A. Petrowski
Commander, 181 MSG/CF

As a champion of workplace diversity I often find myself having to fight others' misconception that diversity means "quota." In all reality, diversity means a pattern of thought that encourages new ways of addressing problems and stimulates a fresh viewpoint from coworkers. A truly diverse workplace promotes acceptance. That acceptance fosters respect and teamwork, and that is how the mission gets accomplished.

Acceptance of personal lifestyles that do not affect job performance has sometimes been an issue in the workplace. There is no place for that type of discrimination and disrespect in our workplace; this type of behavior negatively affects everyone and must not be tolerated.

Acceptance of the diversity-of-thought that ethnic and cultural differences bring to the table is something we should all grasp. The embracement of these differences, which have made our country the greatest in the world, are the same differences that continue to make our unit one of the greatest in the Air Force and the entire DoD!

Acceptance of others' personal lifestyles (that do not affect job performance), gender, ethnic and cultural differences creates an atmosphere where ideas are freely shared, teamwork is fostered and respect becomes second nature. When sexism, racism or other forms of discrimination are accepted in a workplace respect is thrown out the window and unhealthy conflict inevitable. Without mutual respect, the ability to work as a team suffers or is non-existent.

So diversity has nothing to do with "quotas." It does, however, have everything to do with acceptance. That acceptance brings different lifestyles, ethnicities and cultures into our fold and makes us a stronger unit. I encourage each of you to be a champion of diversity in your work area, not just at the 181st, but in all aspects of life. The advantages of diversity are difficult to quantify, but the satisfaction earned by working in a place that fosters acceptance, respect and teamwork cannot be measured by mere numbers – these benefits are of greater value than any known number!



4th QTR FY15 Edition

The Racer Flyer is the official newsletter published by, and for, the members of the Indiana Air National Guard, Hulman Field, Terre Haute, Indiana. The contents of The Racer Flyer are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the US Government, DoD, Department of the Air Force, the National Guard Bureau, or the Indiana Air Guard.

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Airman presented Indiana Distinguished Service Cross for her heroic efforts

Story by Airman 1st Class Lonnie C. Wiram, 181 IW/PA

“I was driving to drill and I hardly ever stop in the morning, but this morning I pulled into a gas station at exit 23 to get a bottle of water,” said Senior Airman Leah M. Puckett, 181st Intelligence Wing, as she reflected on the day of the accident.

There was an Airman at the gas station getting some things, as well. We did not exchange words, just a head nod. She got in her vehicle and headed towards base as I paid for my water, said Puckett.

“I got in my car and headed to drill like a normal drill morning,” said Puckett.

As Puckett drove closer to base, tragedy struck.

“I’m traveling behind a van and all of a sudden I see a white flash through the air and realize it’s headlights through the air,” said Puckett. “I look up in my rear view mirror to make sure no one was behind me so I could stop.”

Senior Airman Puckett did not hesitate. She stopped her vehicle, put it in park, turned her caution lights on, and ran up to the van to check on the driver.

“I got up to the van and there was a military member standing outside his van with blood on his face and he said, ‘I’m okay. I’m okay. I’m okay,’” as Puckett described it.

Puckett stood there for a minute, looking around and then she saw smoke out in a field.

That is when Puckett’s morning changed drastically.

“It’s a car,” Puckett said. “I didn’t see the car at first because the car was black, it is early morning in November, and it was dark.”

“My first assumption was that the car was going to blow so to give that person a chance I need to get to the car now and shut the engine off and get them out,” Puckett expressed. “I took off running towards the car.”

The car was the woman’s from the gas station that morning.

She gets to the vehicle, turns off the engine and starts assessing the damage.

“I tried to get the driver’s side door open but the door was smashed in and glass everywhere,” said Puckett. “I went over to the passenger side and got that door open.”

Puckett then gets in the vehicle, checks over the woman, and calls 911.

Due to the conditions of the woman Puckett did not move her but administered first aid.

“I made a tourniquet, the best I could, to apply self-aid buddy care, by tightening her cuff on her blouse,” said Puckett.

While sitting in the vehicle, keeping the driver stable, Puckett hears the woman’s phone ring, and it keeps ringing.

“Her phone had a protective case, but the collision was so hard that the phone case came off the phone and the phone was cracked,” explained Puckett.

Puckett then answers the phone and it is a family member of the woman. She explains to the family member what happened and calms them down. While this is taking place the authorities and fellow guardsmen take care of the driver.

Puckett then learns that the woman’s leg is severely broken, so severe that the blood stopped going to the leg, so the authorities have to airlift her to the hospital.

While the authorities moved the woman to a stretcher, Puckett held the woman’s hand and went to the hospital with her. Puckett did not leave her side.

That day Puckett became an example of the sixteenth line of the Airman’s Creed, “I will never leave an Airman behind.”

She called upon her military training and used that knowledge to possibly save an Airman’s life that day.

“I don’t feel like a hero, I don’t feel like that,” expressed Puckett. “I feel like this is what I was trained to do. It’s what the United States Air Force trained me to do.”

“Being a Racer has given me the opportunity to be more confident, more self-assured, and more knowledgeable in things like self-aid buddy care, leadership, and performing under pressure.”

181st Intelligence Wing Commander Kip Clark presented Puckett with the Indiana Distinguished Service Cross for her heroic efforts.

I am Racer, and any Racer would do the same; it is who we are, said Puckett.



Indiana Distinguished Service Cross

Any commissioned officer, warrant officer, or enlisted member of the militia, who shall perform, at great personal danger and risk of life and limb in peace or war, any act of heroism designed to protect life and property, or who in the face of a military or armed enemy of the United States Government or the State of Indiana, shall perform such act above and beyond the call of duty, which act, danger or risk he could have failed to perform or incur without being subject to censure for negligent duty.



U.S. Air Force Airmen with the 123rd Air Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, assist and train 181st Intelligence Wing Services Flight Airmen on the use of a Disaster Relief Mobile Kitchen Trailer at Hulman Field, Terre Haute, Ind., Sept. 13, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze)

Kentucky Air Guard trains Services Flight Airman

by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze, 181 IW/PA

HULMAN FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Ind. – Two Airmen with the 123rd Air Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, delivered a Disaster Relief Mobile Kitchen Trailer and trained Airmen assigned to the 181st Intelligence Wing Force Support Squadron on using the DRMKT.

With several functioning areas, the DRMKT works as a complete kitchen, prep area, storage facility and sanitizing station for meals.

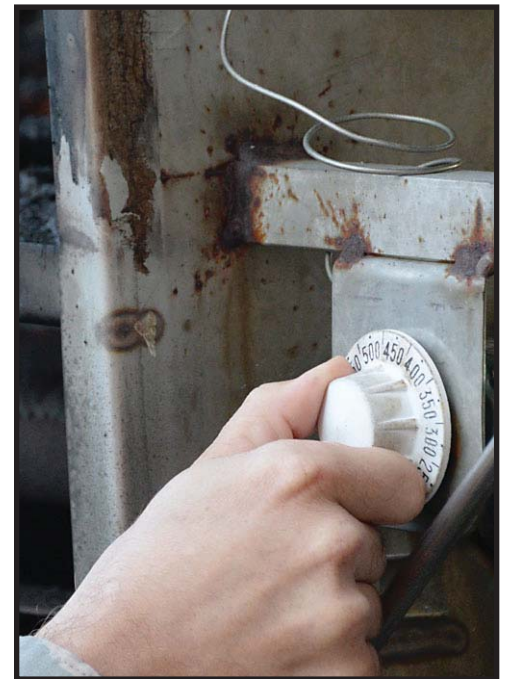
“The DRMKT is equipped with two ovens, one flat grill, one boiler, one tray ration heater, one sink sanitizing station, one refrigerator and one freezer,” said a Kentucky Airman assigned to the 123rd Air Wing.

The power behind this trailer is unmatched compared to similar units used by the 181st IW in the past.

“The trailer can run off of electricity or a generator,” said a Kentucky Airman. “With a full tank, the trailer can push out three meals a day for 300-400 individuals up to three to five days straight. At full force it can do about 1,000 meals every hour and a half.”

This unit is more advanced than the Single Pallet Expeditionary Kitchen the 181 IW uses in deployment scenarios, said an Airman with the 181st Force Support Squadron.

With a more impressive unit, the 181st Force Support Squadron used the DRMKT to cook two meals during a recent drill weekend.



U.S. Air Force Airman with the 181st Intelligence Wing Services Flight heats a grill to cook lunch at Hulman Field, Terre Haute, Ind., Sept. 13, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze)



U.S. Air Force Airman with the 181st Civil Engineering Squadron clears dirt from a construction site at Hulman Field, July 12, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze)

What happened to the fountain?

by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze, 181 IW/PA

HULMAN FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Ind. – The trees are being pulled, the dirt is piling up and the water is being drained. The 181st Civil Engineering Squadron is on a mission to improve the 181st Intelligence Wing one square foot at a time.

Airmen assigned to the 181st CES spent their drill weekend trenching and clearing a pathway on the south side of base.

The changes to the base are not simply for aesthetic reasons. The work being done will provide the 181st IW with not only a change in looks, but a change for physical training.

“We are clearing a three quarter mile running track for the Airmen on base,” said the project supervisor. “It won’t be asphalt, so it’ll be easier on the knees. We will also be putting in pull up bars and work out stations in the next year or two.”

Along with the construction of the running track, the CES has filled in the fountain near the North entrance of the base.

“The fountain was costing us too much in utilities to run,” said Chief Master Sergeant Darrell Newman, the CMSgt of the 181st Civil Engineering Squadron. “So that’s why we are filling it in and adding more parking and a small monument to replace the fountain.”

With so much planned the CES uses this opportunity to

train and work together to get the project completed as fast as possible.

This is a whole team effort that provides a great training opportunity for new Airmen. The new Airmen get a chance to operate the machinery, the Active Guard and Reserve Airmen are working during the week, the traditional guardsmen on drill weekends, and motor pool is helping with our equipment, said Newman.

The work the CES is doing is one of many ways that the 181st IW shows the wingman concept. By improving the base, CES Airmen will improve morale, keep everyone fit to fight, and make it easier for all of the Airmen at the 181st IW to be Racer Ready.



U.S. Air Force Airmen with the 181st Civil Engineering Squadron load piles of dirt from a construction site into a dump truck at Hulman Field, July 12, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze)

Helping Airman and families during pre and post deployment

by Senior Master Sgt. John S. Chapman, 181 IW/PA

HULMAN FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Ind. – Airmen from the 181st Intelligence Wing and 131st Bomber Wing attended a Yellow Ribbon pre-deployment briefing at the 181st Intelligence Wing, Indiana Air National Guard, Terre Haute, Indiana. Sept. 30, 2015.

The Yellow Ribbon pre-deployment event provides Airmen and their families information to connect them with resources and services to aid in the difficulties of deployment.

“The 181st IW supports their Airmen through many programs and services to promote mission readiness, retention, and assist in developing healthy resilient 181st IW families,” said Margaret Amos, Airmen and family readiness program manager.

The support of the Yellow Ribbon and the pre and post deployment events is just one way the Airman & Family Readiness Office provides information and services to our Airmen and families.



Air National Guardsmen from Indiana and Missouri attend a Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program at the 181st Intelligence Wing, Terre Haute, Indiana. Sept. 30, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. John S. Chapman)

Racers Host Domestic Operations Exposition

by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze, 181 IW/PA

HULMAN FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Ind. – 181st Intelligence Wing hosted a Domestic Operations Exposition July 10, 2015.

The exposition highlighted the mission and capabilities of the 181 IW, State, and Federal disaster responders during domestic operations, such as a natural disaster.

Exposition participants included Indiana State University, Indiana Civil Air Patrol, Veterans Affairs, Vigo County Emergency Management Agency, Red Cross, 81st Troop Command, 38th Combat Aviation Brigade, Indiana State Police, Terre Haute Police Department, 19th CERFP, 53rd Civil Support Team, Indiana Blood Center, and the USO.

“The amount of capabilities here are overwhelming,” said Jennifer de Medeiros, the emergency service program manager for the Department of Homeland Security. “I’m grateful for all of these abilities and I’m excited to integrate them into emergency response situations.”

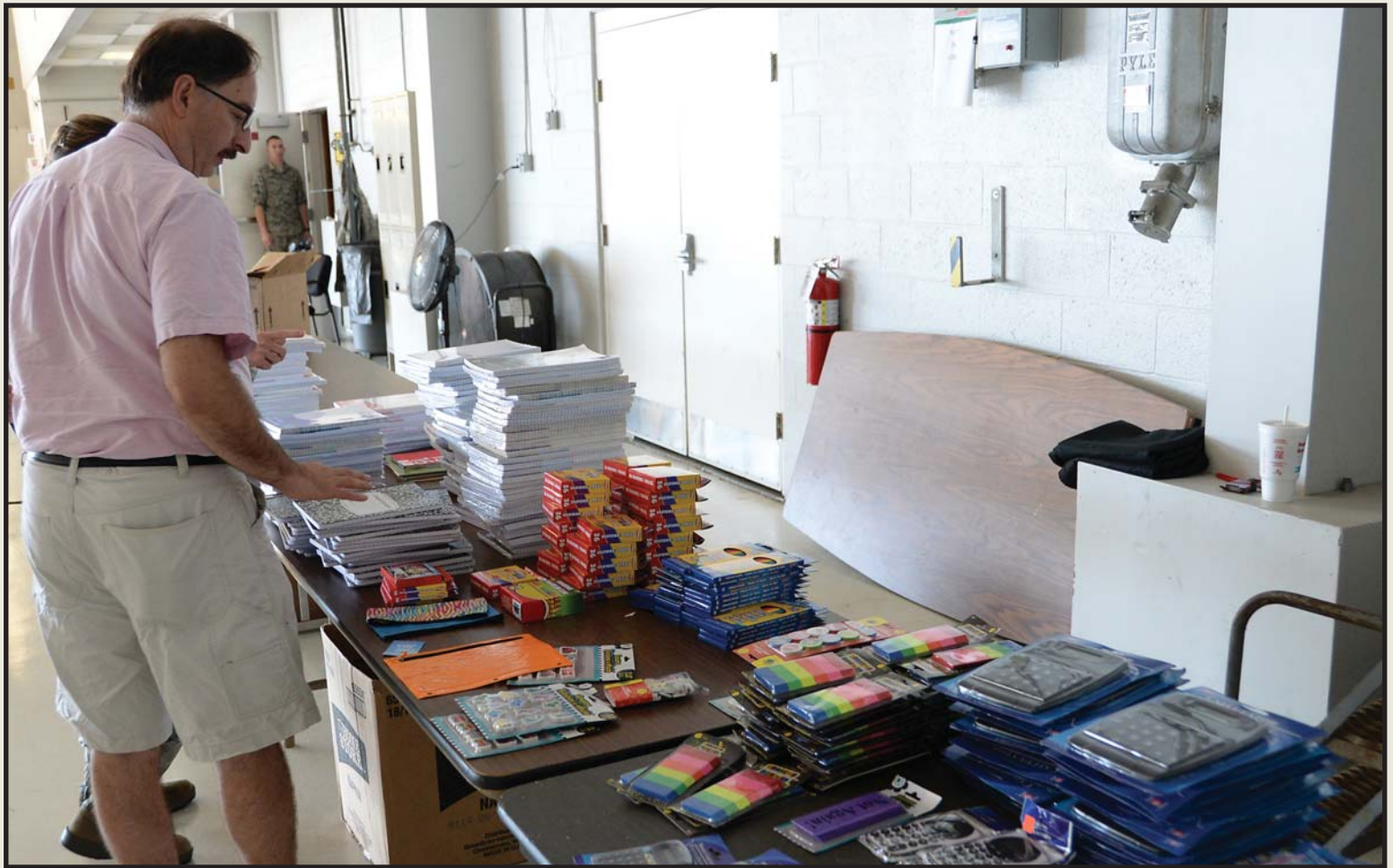
For us to be tasked to provide support in any situation, we must first be asked. How will people know to ask for us if they do not understand how we can help and what capabilities we have to offer, said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Craig Maschino, the state liaison for domestic operations.

“Seeing these specific force packages and understanding how they can be used allows us to make our response much more powerful,” said de Medeiros.

The exposition provided the opportunity for the 181 IW and all participants to highlight their capabilities to assist the Hoosiers of Indiana during a disaster or emergency.



U.S. Airmen with the 181st Intelligence Wing Indiana National Guard explain the roles and equipment used by the 19th CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. John S. Chapman)



181 IW Key Volunteers getting our military children ready for school with supplies provided through the partnership of Operation HomeFront and Dollar Tree from Back to School Brigade program. A big thank you to our local community residents for supporting this program. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze)

Back to work, back to school

by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze, 181 IW/PA

HULMAN FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Ind. - Members of the 181st Intelligence Wing and the 81st Troop Command had the chance to receive school supplies during Operation Home Front: Back to School Brigade, Aug. 1, 2015, at Hulman Field.

The supplies were donated by community members at local dollar stores for children of military personnel.

“Individuals in the community donated at several Dollar Stores that sponsor this event,” said Airman and Family Readiness Program Manager Margaret Amos. “The school supplies are paid for then distributed to several armories and units around this local area, everywhere from Terre Haute to Bloomington to Bedford and Martinsville.”

Operation Home Front operates during two times in the year, the end of summer for back to school supplies and the end of the year for Christmas.

“It shows that our communities recognize our armed forces and think about our service members,” said Ray Amos head of the Key Volunteer Team for Operation Home Front this year.

Community involvement such as Operation Home Front provides support for service members from the local population and shows appreciation to the Airmen and Soldiers who stand guard to protect this community, state and nation.



U. S. Air Force Airmen browse school supplies donated to military personnel by local community members through Operation Home front: Back to School Brigade. This operation gives back to those who serve the community as a member of the armed services. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze)

Four star changes, no reservations required

by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze, 181 IW/PA

HULMAN FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Ind. – Over the last few months, the 181st Intelligence Wing Base Services Specialist, Master Sgt. Amberlee Helm, has been making changes to the on base dining facility.

The 181st Services Flight (SVF) strives to provide the best service for all base employees and improve in any way they can.

“We are always trying to make things better and obviously we’re always looking to make things better for our customer and also for our Airmen,” said Master Sgt. Helm.

These changes are not only aimed to help the customers, but also the Airmen with the 181st SVF.

“Our kitchen is way too small,” said Master Sgt. Helm. “We have about 12 Airmen assigned to the kitchen staff and if you add the 12 Airmen plus the 12 [kitchen patrols] we have on a drill weekend you can see- if you’ve been in here on a drill weekend you would look at it and just say ‘What is this circus that’s going on in here?’ We have not had any safety incidences, but they are easily identifiable on drill weekend, but we can do this in a safer manner.”

The changes being made are necessary for the safety of the Airmen assigned to the 181st SVF as well as making it easier for them to meet the needs of their ever-changing jobs.

“The building design was not so great, it might have met the needs 20 years ago, but our mission has changed, our operation has changed, food service industry has changed and how we do things safely. There are a lot of things we’ve had to implement and change in our operation,” said Master Sgt. Helm.

With a changing operation, Master Sgt. Helm must find a way to adapt what she has to what is needed.

Adding square footage to the building is impossible, but rearranging the kitchen area to provide a more open environment allows the Airmen to work more efficiently and safely, said Master Sgt. Helm.

Step one is moving the clipper in the dining area. Not only does it open up kitchen space, but it also eliminates cross flow of Airmen entering the meal line and Airmen putting their trays away, said Master Sgt. Helm.

Many of the changes may seem small, but the plan involves much more to come and will improve the effectiveness of the 181st SVF.

“A lot of people just aren’t aware yet of what we have in store, there will be some changes that happen in the DFAC. We did get the contract to move the clipper; we also received funding for new serving lines and a new salad bar so that will help change the congestion.”

With every great plan come roadblocks that cause trouble, however the Airmen assigned to the 181st SVF will do their best to make every transition a smooth one “At first I would just ask for patience since there will be some bumps,” said Master Sgt. Helm. “This building hasn’t had any changes to it since it was built.”

If there are any suggestions or feedback on any of the services options, there are comment cards at each functional area within the squadron, said Master Sgt.

Although the 181st SVF is only one part of a bigger whole, the changes they make affect the mission readiness of the 181st IW. Anything that improves their effectiveness also improves the base. With a better base comes a better service to our community, state and nation.



U.S. Air Force Airmen assigned to the 181st Intelligence Wing, Services Flight, serves lunch to members of the 181st IW during the November Unit Training Assembly. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze)



U.S. Air Force Airmen assigned to the 181st Intelligence Wing, take time to enjoy lunch during the November Unit Training Assembly. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin D. Schulze)



Strong Bonds: Laugh your way to a better marriage

by Senior Airman Willie Hodges

INDIANAPOLIS - On August 14, 2015, members of the 181st Chaplain team conducted a Strong Bonds marriage retreat, "Laugh your Way to a Better Marriage."

The retreat was designed to give couples graspable ways to connect and enjoy life together, and explore the underlying dynamics of male/female relationships.

Over 20 couples from all over the base came together at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana, for the three-day event.

Activities during the marriage retreat included a session titled, "Tale of Two Brains," which talked about the differences in how men and women process information and communicate.

Couples were also treated to a seated dinner that allowed the couples to get away from others and talk about what they had learned so far, and to help couples reconnect.

The last day was a session titled, "How to Stay Married and Not Kill Anybody." The session was designed to help couples discover the power of forgiveness in marriage. It ended with a set of vows that left very few with dry eyes and a newfound sense of purpose in their relationship.

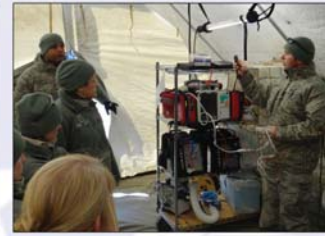
The Chaplain team has heard nothing but positive feedback about how the retreat helped couples refocus and strengthen their relationships. We look forward to hosting another in 2016 and hope to help more couples bond and become stronger!



181st IW Airman & Family Readiness Center

Margaret L. Amos, Program Manager

The Airman and Family Readiness Program Office is designed to enhance readiness and establish a sense of community and wellbeing. We offer information & resources for military members, family, veterans and retirees. If you have questions or need help with personal finances, employment, personal and family life education, you are interested in being a part of the Key Volunteer Team, or other volunteer opportunities call the A&FRPM at (Office) 812-877-5545 or (Cell) 812-249-1662, or better yet, if you are in the area stop in and visit the Racer Resilience Center (MSG/LRF Bldg. 3)



MISSION STATEMENT

Provide operationally ready, deliberately developed, and expertly led Airmen to support our Communities, State, and Nation.

VISION STATEMENT

181st Intelligence Wing – The 1st choice, providing innovative Airmen operating in multiple domains as the proven and enduring choice supporting our Communities, State and Nation. Always RACER READY!



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- R** – Ready
- A** – Agile
- C** – Capable
- E** – Engaged
- R** – Resilient



Racer Website:
www.181iw.ang.af.mil



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