

Fort Pickett Composite Squadron, MAR-VA142  
USAF AUX, Civil Air Patrol  
273 Dominy Corner Road  
Blackstone, Virginia 23824



Mr. Dusty Forbes, Town Manager  
Town of Chase City  
319 North Main Street  
Chase City, Virginia 23924

November 25, 2020

Dear Mr. Forbes,

On behalf of the Fort Pickett Composite Squadron, VA 142, Civil Air Patrol I would like to introduce myself and our unit to the Town of Chase City. I have communicated with you in the past but I would also like to reach out to your Major, Town Council and interested citizens.

For your convenience I will review what our unit and parent origination Civil Air Patrol is all about. The Civil Air Patrol dates its beginning to December 1, 1941. Yes, six days before the infamous attack of Imperial Japan on the United States bases at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The Civil Air Patrol was conceived during time of great international upheaval and eventually war between the United States and its enemies of the day. Civil Air Patrol played a role in national defense at that time and for this effort it was made the official auxiliary of the new United States Air Force. In the post-World War 2 era CAP became a noncombatant humanitarian and educational organization that has to come to provide Aerospace Education, Emergency Services and Cadet Programs. The CAP has approximately 60,000 volunteers nationwide. Each state or wing provides CAP services to the US Air Force, US Federal Government, as well as state and local governments. CAP is a well-established organization with a proud history and a wonderful reputation. It continues to serve country, state and locality each day.

As part of our Aerospace Education and Cadet Programs role our unit has been very happy to visit the Chase City Airport. Our members feel it is a wonderful 'time capsule' representing a part of Virginia aviation of the past. The monthly breakfast and fly in has been great fun for our cadets and senior members who get to see some interesting aircraft and meet new people. Some of our members assisted in the painting of the light tower that was recently re-erected at the airport. We were very happy to participate and we would like the opportunity to pursue other preservation projects at your town airport. Part of the charge of every CAP unit is to visit and reach out to civilian airports and help reinforce the importance of civilian general aviation to our community past and present.

We have had a presence at Allan C Perkinson/Blackstone Army Airfield since 2004. Civil Air Patrol had a unit previously at the same airport in the 1970s. It has been a very useful cooperative arrangement between CAP and the Town of Blackstone and the general community for over 16 years. We hope to continue there for many years to come. We however also wish to expand our projects and our outreach in neighboring communities. In this vein we would hope the Town of Chase City would approve our unit sponsoring a CAP Flight at the Chase City Airport. A Flight is the smallest CAP unit that can eventually expand to a Squadron. I think there would be sustainable interest in CAP at the town airport and it would benefit the Town of Chase City and the surrounding communities.

Our representatives would like the opportunity to meet with yourself and other town officials to give a short presentation of what we would propose to do at the Chase City Airport if the town would find it beneficial. We hope to see you all soon. Should you have questions regarding CAP and our unit please contact me I am at your convenience.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely

Zachary McKinney, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt., CAP  
Commander  
Fort Pickett Composite Squadron/ MAR-VA 142  
USAF AUX / Civil Air Patrol