



November 2011



104th Fighter Wing members are called to state active duty yet again, in support of Operation Harvest Snow on October 29, 2011. (Photograph by Maj. Matthew Mutti)



Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

AIRSCOOP

104th Fighter Wing
Barnes Air National
Guard Base

Barnes Air National Guard Base 175
Falcon Drive
Westfield, MA 01085

Wing Commander
Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

Vice Wing Commander
Col. John A. Gwosch

Command
Chief Master Sergeant
Chief Master Sgt. Todd Fappiano

Chief of Staff
Lt. Col. Mike Cousins

Wing Executive Staff Officer
Maj. Matthew T. Mutti

Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Mary L. Harrington

Managing Editor
Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis

Photo and Graphic Support
Public Affairs - Visual Information

Commander's column

By Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

On Saturday morning of last week, we concluded the out brief of our no notice Alert Force Evaluation from the NORAD Inspector General. We had also just completed the 9th Air Force Standardization and Evaluation inspection as well. Before the IG could even drive off the base, the 104th Fighter Wing was gearing up for a Domestic Operations response for an on-coming snow storm, now called OPERATION HARVEST SNOW. Now – we roll into the UTA weekend. Between fighting **our nation's wars, providing forces for the state for domestic operations, and inspections from outside agencies – you all have responded to it all in a first class manner.** I have heard it said that your attitude is pretty much a choice. You create your own world by how you see it. You can focus on fear and frustration or you can focus on opportunity, confidence, and the ability to earn solutions to issues and problems that will give you a better chance to be successful. It appears you all have opted to focus on the later – and my hat is off to you.

I want to thank Major Nuke Nagatani and Major BOA Blake for their leadership in the 9th Air Force Stan Eval inspection. They – along with the rest of the OPS GROUP – under the leadership of Col Lambrich, hit a home run with this 9th Air Force inspection and received the highest overall grade possible. Likewise, our Alert Force Team, under the leadership of Major Sean Halbrook and Chief Rob Roy, completed the sweep of inspection success with the NORAD IG AFE. Our Security Forces and Command Post team also played a vital role in the AFE and both were lauded by NORAD IG. We did experience some minor hiccups with the jets during the AFE. However the IG, based on the ACA maintenance culture, and our overall maintenance culture, reputation, and response to inquiries, were able to see through some minor glitches and give our Alert Team the highest possible grade for the AFE.

For the year - we are 7 for 7 with knocking inspections out of the park. The fruits of your labor were seen by the rest of our Combat Air Force – and many of you have been out helping our CAF prepare for their own inspections and increase their own combat capability. Continue to be leaders in the CAF, and continue to increase our own combat capability each and every day.

I want to thank those of you who responded (and still are responding) to State

Operation HARVEST SNOW. Despite your own personal loss and situation, you still opted to volunteer and fulfill our mission tasking - thank you. LRS & EOC members – great work! Commanders and supervisors – take care of your folks who need it, and for everyone - be a good wingman to your fellow Barnestormers.

Today (3 Nov) we are extremely fortunate in that Col Gary Keefe will pin on and become a Brigadier General. General Keefe was a long time 104th member, including time served as MXG/CC and MSG/CC, and is currently our ATAG. Brig Gen Keefe fights many battles on our behalf, and we are extremely fortunate to have him at MA Joint Force Head Quarters as our ATAG. On behalf of the entire 104th Fighter Wing, we congratulate General Keefe and the entire Keefe family.

Despite our successes - we still face many challenges ahead. We have our upcoming Jan ORE and Red Flag, we have our AEF preparation, and our aviation package 3 month AEF. Your focus and continued positive mental attitude is key to our future success. Included in this **month's Airscoop is the Air Force Chief of Staff testimony to Congress reference potential upcoming budget cuts, the constant strain on our force, and our aging equipment.** I encourage you all to read this testimony; our AF leadership does recognize the shape we are in and the potential consequences of certain future decisions. You are all great Americans, and I am extremely proud to be associated with each and every one of you.

Table of contents

- 2 **Commander's column**
- 3 **Chief Master Sgt's column**
- 3 **First Sgt.'s diamond corner**
- 4 Gen Schwartz
- 5 Airmen recognized for Irene
- 5 Rocktoberfest
- 6 Operation Harvest Snow
- 7 SFS assist at shelters
- 7 Thank you from Mathiseon Family
- 8 Spirit of giving—Dec UTA activities
- 9 Healthy life style classes
- 9 **Chaplain's Corner**
- 10 Safety How Goes It
- 11 Service member civil relief act
- 12 7 for 7: outstanding inspections
- 12 Promotion to General
- 13 Deployment preparation
- 13 Christmas Party RSVP
- 14 CCTV line-up / promotions, retirees, welcomes
- 15 This month in history

Alcoholism is treatable!

Need help? Call 1-800-410-2560

Sexual Assault S.A.F.E. helpline

1-877-995-5247



Chief Master Sergeant's column

By Chief Master Sgt. Todd Fappiano, Command Chief Master Sgt.

Early last week I began to make my travel arrangements for the ANG Enlisted Leadership Symposium, little did

I know that I would be flying out of New England as one of the worse Octobers storms of the century was rolling in, preparing to drop nearly 2 feet of snow across the my backyard. But as I look at the two events, they both have the same theme...Be Prepared.

Many of us got caught off-guard for this storm, and in so, had to fight through some obstacles that would have been prevented if we anticipated the severity of the weather. We would have had our snow-blowers ready, dry wood by the house, full tanks of gas, etc....if we were prepared, a better outcome could have been expected.

Well the Enlisted Symposium was also designed around the theme of preparation, specifically around a curriculum to help better PREPARE our newest future leaders. I was de-

lighted to have some of our newest members join me, some enlisted, some officers...but all wanting to be better prepared, and ready to learn.

We engaged in many discussions during the symposium, that I hope will better PREPARE them to make sound decisions when they are faced with challenges as new leaders.

Being PREPARED was the message given by Col (ret) Ed Hubbard, who survived life as a POW in North Vietnam. Resiliency, faith and being PREPARED to overcome obstacles is the only way he survived.

We listened to presentations by the NGAUS president, Maj Gen (ret) Hargett, about how the Guard has to be PREPARED to respond to the changing environment in national defense.

We learned about military spouse programs, which are focused on helping spouses and families PREPARE for deployments and military stressors.

At the culmination of the event we listened to former Command Chief Master Sgts, on their challenges; by learning from their past we PREPARE

ourselves to overcome obstacles in our own future.

So I'm clear, if you didn't see a trend in this article, it' about being prepared. And though not all of you joined me in sunny Tennessee last week, we all had an opportunity to learn a lesson on preparation.

The only way we can survive this journey we call life is to do everything in our power to prepare. Let me be more specific...to prepare ourselves we train, we educate, we exercise, we get ourselves ready to execute and perform. We all know that at the end of **the day, you never want to say..."I know I failed...BUT at least I trained."** My argument is that if you train hard enough, if you exercise with real expectations, you will never fail...in fact, you will succeed.

This is not a lecture, it is actually an observation. In the past 2 years, we as a wing have PREPARED, and in the past 6 months, we have executed...we rose above our challenges and achieved our goals...so remember, as we take on new challenges (AEF, ORI, etc.), it always pays to prepare.



First Sergeant's column

By Master Sgt. Larry Brace, AMXS First Sgt.

I attended The USAF First Sergeant Academy back in August.

One of the most interesting parts of this three week course was when we did the personality profile. They gave us a book with a series of questions. The answers were then charted on a graph, which told us what type of personality we have. The purpose of this part of the course was to help us realize where our weaknesses were in our personality/leadership style so we could address them and shore them up to become more effective leaders.

Type A personalities are hard chargers and make decisions at the drop of a hat. One of their weaknesses is that they depend too much on their

own decision making process and **don't tend to take in what those around them have to say. My weakness is that I'm too laid back and don't like to delegate. I need to address this area to become more effective in my leadership abilities. That's not running around yelling and telling people what to do, but being able to effectively communicate to my co-workers what needs to be done so they understand and want to get it done.**

One of the things that stood out to me during the personality profile portion of our course was this. We all have strengths that make us valuable assets to our families and our organization. We also all have weaknesses

that we need to address in order to become a better team. For some, it may be the fact that they need to learn to listen better. For others it may be the need to verbally communicate better. **Whatever it is, it's important to look in the mirror and try to figure out where our weaknesses are so we can address them.** In doing this we will become better leaders and will mentor better leaders. One of our greatest strengths is realizing what our weaknesses are and being able to overcome them. Along with having integrity, this will help give us a strong foundation on which to build lasting relationships with our co-workers that will set them up for success.



The future of military service and consequences of defense sequestration Released statements by Gen. Norton Schwartz, Chief of Staff, USAF

10 years after 9/11, Airmen and their USA, USN, USMC and USCG teammates continue to serve the Nation with distinction, performing admirably across a broad spectrum of operations. In particular, our service members have honed their skills to a fine edge after more than a decade of effectively conducting counterterrorism and counterinsurgency operations.

As we evaluate our strategy for the future, we must protect the progress that we have made by addressing the undeniable stresses and strains on our service members and their families, as well as the tremendous toll on our battle-worn equipment, resulting from more than a decade of sustained global operations. This is particularly true for the USAF, which has been in sustained combat operations for more than two decades, dating back to Operation DESERT STORM.

We also must recognize and prepare for the ongoing evolution of a highly dynamic, increasingly complex geostrategic environment in which the proliferation of technology is allowing more and more actors to exert influence and effect desired outcomes. In order to attain a full-spectrum portfolio of capabilities that is prepared to address wide-ranging security threats, we must internalize the hard-fought, hard-learned lessons of the past decade of operations against primarily terrorist and insurgent elements, as we judiciously prepare for the possibility of future higher-end contingencies involving potential near-peer actors.

Because our Nation's debt crisis has a direct bearing on our national security, the U.S. military will also tighten its fiscal belt, and be a part of the solution to find our way back to a vibrant national economy. To this end, the Department of Defense began by identifying more than \$100B in efficiencies, shifting the savings from overhead to operational and modernization requirements. In the Air Force alone, nearly \$33B were reallocated to support required capabilities more directly. Moreover, we found an additional \$10B in savings to contribute to deficit reduction as we completed work on the '12 budget. The Air Force continues to review all areas of the budget—including force structure, operations and investment, and personnel—for further savings.

But to sustain the military's ability to protect the Nation against wide-ranging threats in a very dynamic strategic and fiscal environment, we will have to make extremely difficult decisions—for example, reducing investment in many areas, but also enhancing capabilities in others in order to compensate. These choices must be based on strategic considerations, not compelled solely by budget targets. A non-strategy-based approach that proposes cuts without correlation to national security priorities or core defense capabilities will lead to a hollowed-out force,

similar to those that followed every major conflict since World War I—a U.S. military with aging equipment, extremely stressed human resources, less-than-adequate training, and ultimately, declining readiness and effectiveness. We must avoid repeating this scenario by steering clear of ill-conceived, across-the-board cuts, which do not allow us to deliberately accept risks, to devise strategies to mitigate those risks, and to maintain a capable, if smaller, effective force. Instead, sweeping cuts of the sort in the Budget Control Act's sequester provision would slash our investment accounts; raid our operations and maintenance accounts, forcing the curtailment of important daily operations and sustainment efforts; and inflict real damage to the effectiveness and well-being of our Airmen and their families. Ultimately, such a scenario gravely undermines our ability to protect the Nation.

But beyond the manner in which potential budget cuts are executed, even the most thoroughly-deliberated strategy may not be able to overcome dire consequences if cuts go far beyond the \$450B-plus in anticipated national security budget reductions over the next 10 years. This is true whether the cuts are directed by sequestration or by Joint Select Committee proposal, and whether they are deliberately targeted or across-the-board. From the ongoing budget review, the Department is confident that further spending reductions beyond the more than \$450B that are needed to comply with the Budget Control Act's first round of cuts cannot be done without damaging our core military capabilities and therefore our national security.

From the perspective of the Air Force, whose—reall total obligation authority is already only 20 percent of the Department of Defense top-line—the lowest of any military service since World War II—fewer cuts will amount to:

- further reductions to our end strength, both civilian and military, despite the fact that the Air Force already is substantially smaller than it was ten years ago;
- continued aging and reductions in the Air Force's fleet of fighters, strategic bombers, airlifters, and tankers, as well as to associated bases and infrastructure;
- adverse effects on training and readiness, which has seen a decline since 2003; and
- diminished capacity to execute concurrent missions across the spectrum of operations and over vast distances on the globe.

A smaller Air Force, as a result of anticipated budget cuts, still will remain an unmatched, superbly capable force, but as a matter of simple physical limitations, it will be able to accomplish fewer tasks in fewer places in any given period of time. Therefore, while the Nation has become accustomed to effective execution of wide-ranging operations in rapid succession or even simultaneously—for example, the Air Force's concurrent response to crisis situations in Japan and Libya, which ranged more than 5,500 miles in distance and the operational spectrum from humanitarian relief to combat airpower, all the while maintaining operations in Afghanistan and Iraq—it will have to accept reduced coverage in future similar, concurrent scenarios if further large cuts to the national security budget are allowed to take effect. Also, our Airmen and their

families, throughout the Total Force, would face intensified deployment schedules, and our equipment would become aged and worn more quickly, because fewer resources would be available to commit to the Nation's emerging needs.

As part of our strategy to mitigate the effects of decreased capacity, we will continue to strengthen our international partnerships, especially where common interests and shared security responsibilities are involved. More importantly, we will continue to promote efforts toward advancing Joint interdependence, as the CJCS testified before this committee last week. This will require each military service—to maintain and be the masters of their core competencies and their unique service cultures, but...[to] operate as a single cohesive team. To meet the Chairman's intent, the USAF will continue to make vital contributions to the Joint team's portfolio, integrating airpower's four unique, enduring qualities: (1) domain control; (2) intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; (3) air mobility; and (4) global strike. These four core contributions—plus our unparalleled ability to command and control air, space, and cyber systems—will sustain the Joint team's advantage, and inform our analysis as we prioritize our efforts in each of the most critical dimensions: materiel, personnel, training, and readiness.

Reducing any of these core contributions, in addition to potential diminished capacities as discussed earlier, will fundamentally alter the complexion of your USAF. We therefore are focused on sustaining and strengthening these core functions. Moreover, specific systems such as the F-35A, the centerpiece of our future tactical air combat capability; KC-46A, the backbone of our worldwide power projection capability and thus our Nation's global expeditionary posture; and the Long-Range Strike—family of systems, all represent substantial elements of our overall suite of capabilities and thus must all be pursued through disciplined—and certainly efficient—modernization efforts. Even though we are responsibly drawing down in Afghanistan and Iraq, we know that historically, as U.S. forces withdraw from active combat, the relative requirement for airpower typically increases. By focusing on our core contributions, we are preserving the character of your AF—ready to continue responding effectively to the Nation's airpower and global power projection needs.

In short, Airmen remain fully committed to executing current missions effectively while building a future force according to operational risk, capability and capacity requirements, personnel and materiel needs, and prudent, if frugal, strategies for investment in modernization, recapitalization, and readiness. We do not have to forsake national security to achieve fiscal stability. If we undertake a strategy-based approach to necessary budget cuts, and keep those cuts to a reasonable level, we can assure our full-spectrum preparedness in providing our unique capabilities, affording a wider range of options for rapid, tailorable, and flexible power projection—*Global Vigilance, Reach, and Power*—on which our Nation's security and strategic interests rely.

Airmen recognized for service during Hurricane Irene

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

Two Barnestormers were recognized for their service in support of Operation Hurricane Irene by several leaders from both the Army and Air components of the Massachusetts National Guard.

Tech. Sgt. Nicole Picard of (CES Readiness) and Staff Sgt. Kelly Willing (contracting) were commended for their work as a part of the Operation Hurricane Irene Response Action Team in August. The presentation was held in Building 54 on 1 Oct. and was attended by several Guard leaders including Col. EJ Gunning, Lt. Col. Charlie Wilson, Lt. Col. Denise Boyer, Command Chief CMSgt Todd Fappiano and Army Lt. Col. Christine Hoffman, Commander of the 126 Brigade Support Battalion.

Their primary objective was work-

ing in support of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) in accessing post disaster



(Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

reconnaissance and surveying impacted communities throughout Central and Western Massachusetts. Both Airman worked closely with

both the Army and Air Emergency Operations Centers from 27-30 Aug 2011.

Typical of 104th unit members, they rose to the occasion and worked extended periods while navigating washed out roads and dangerous areas in order to accomplish the mission.

“I just wanted to help in any way that I could. The recognition was nice but it was secondary,” said Staff Sgt. Willing, a Reading native.

Tech. Sgt Picard, a resident of Chicopee, added, **“I did enjoy doing my job at the state level and will continue to be at the call of emergency situations in the state, nation and worldwide when needed.”**

Rocktoberfest a big hit

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

The sounds of Iron Maiden, Judas Priest and AC/DC echoed throughout Barnes ANGB on an early Fall Saturday night. No, it was not quite **a flashback from the 1980's but it** may have been the next best thing.

Several unit members enjoyed the sounds of the premier 80s tribute band, Aquanett, at the First Annual Rocktoberfest held at the weapons hangar on 1 October 2011 from 1700 to 2100.



The morale-boosting festivities, sponsored by the USO, drew a sizeable crowd on a rainy evening.

Maj Dean Lambert of LGRX, coordi-

nated the event which required months of planning. The Chicopee native, who also serves as the military liaison to the USO, secured the popular band several months in advance. The objective is to allow all unit members to have a fun night out with their colleagues.

After a hectic few years that included many transitions, deployments and high profile events, unit members had the opportunity to socialize and have fun in a relaxed atmosphere.

Refreshments were served throughout the night and complimentary food was served at both 1700 and 2000 hours, with munchies **in between. “There was plenty to eat and drink, but the best part undoubtedly was the music,”** said Capt Wendy Kiepkke, finance officer. **“We sang, we danced, we laughed – we had a great time.”**

Aquanett played at Barnes at



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

least once before, after the 2010 Air Show.

For more on the band, please visit <http://www.aquanett.com>.

To donate to the USO, please visit <http://pioneervalleyuso.org/>

Operation Harvest Snow —104th unit members respond

by Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

Personnel from the 104th Fighter Wing responded to emergency conditions throughout Western Massachusetts in yet another instance of severe weather. Massachusetts National Guard state-support operations were initiated hours after the October 30 snow storm immobilized large areas of the region. Although many Guardsmen were without power themselves, they reported for duty and Operation Snow Harvest was underway.

The heavy snow, two feet in some locations, had fallen on leafed branches creating a hazardous environment as



(Photos by Maj. Matthew Mutti)

trees could not withstand the burden. Main thoroughfares and back roads soon became impassable and the numerous downed power lines posed a serious public safety problem. **“With no power and no phones, our residents do not have a way to let us know they need help,”** said Sunderland Fire Chief Robert Ahearn.

Guardsmen were tasked with removing debris and clearing critical roadways in an effort to allow emergency vehicles access to render medical aid. The clearing efforts also made way for utility companies to access damaged lines, allowing for a more rapid restoration of power.

Among other duties, teams were directed by town officials to conduct door-to-door wellness checks to ensure that older citizens, and those with disabilities, had the ability to seek assistance if necessary.

The role of the Guard during a ‘state-of-emergency’ shifts from homeland de-

fense, to home-state support, working directly for the Governor and his emergency response staff.

104th members are becoming accustomed such operations. Less than 5 months ago, Guardsmen deployed across Hampden and Berkshire counties following the historic tornadoes that devastated the region.

In Hampden, Master Sgt. Robert Dickinson was part of an element working to clear roads. Using chainsaws, he and his team cleared the roads from debris, removing fallen or hanging branches. **“The challenge is getting use to the mission, this is very different from my day-to-day military job working in the logistic squadron at Barnes,”** said the Blandford resident. **“We (the Guard) have seen an increase in these types of missions, we learn a lot each time we participate in a state-support role, allowing us to better serve the community,”** he said.

Master Sgt. James Dunn of Monson was on his third day of work during this operation, pressing through with little rest, in that his home is also without power and heat. **“Some areas are devastated,”** he said. **“Most people have been great. Even if they don’t have power they are offering us food and water, it is very satisfying to know we are making a difference in the community,”** said Dunn.

The 400 Guard members activated by Governor Deval Patrick will continue to provide support, render aid, and ensure public safety until power is restored and the mission completed. To date, they have cleared over 500 trees and nearly 70 miles of roadway in eight communities across the commonwealth, in addition to providing security and medical relief to distressed members of the community.

Thank you to those who supported the various mission:



(Photos by Maj. Matthew Mutti)

A1C Craig Borghesani
A1C Daniel Caputo
A1C Andrew Castillo
A1C Joshua Clark
A1C Michael Nevue
A1C Patrick OBrien
A1C Brett Pitoniak
A1C Eric Poulin
A1C Israel Rasario
A1C Juan Rodriguez
A1C Steven Vigneault
A1C Orlando Santos
SrA Brendon Allen
SrA Leo Bois
SrA John Carrington
SrA Peter Chlastowa
SrA Alan Edwards
SrA Garrett Goguen
SrA Derek Jendrysik
SrA Kevin Kasper
SrA Andrew Lemieux
SrA Ryan Machado
SrA Edward McGaughey
SrA Michael Patnaude
SrA Benjimen Roncarati
SrA Jaime Santiago
SrA Daniel Soares
SrA Amber Van Beek
SrA Gregory Warren
SrA Kyle West
SrA John Yates
SSgt Andrew Caron
SSgt Sean Dowd
SSgt Triston Frechette
SSgt Jacob Greene
SSgt James Griffin
SSgt Ryan Joyce
SSgt Kevin Kane
SSgt Jason Loring
SSgt Erica Manos
SSgt Ian Mcalister
SSgt Bryan McFarland
SSgt Fabricio Ochoa
SSgt Robert Olliquist
SSgt Sean Porier
SSgt Austin Putnam
SSgt Dario Trifone
SSgt Michael Wade

TSgt Shawn Amell
TSgt Karla Belliveau
TSgt Craig Berthnaume
TSgt Eric Breault
TSgt Melanie Casineau
TSgt Angelo Eagan
TSgt Daniel Huard
TSgt Stephen Jeffers
TSgt Daniel Masciadrelli
TSgt Keith Mudgett
TSgt Nicole Picard
TSgt Patrick Renna
TSgt Aaron Richards
TSgt David Wilson
TSgt Gregg Harrison
MSgt Gary Benware
MSgt Jacqueline Burdick
MSgt Miguel Diaz
MSgt James Dunn
MSgt Scott Hepburn
MSgt Richard Kuras
MSgt Garth Markel
MSgt Christ McCrary
MSgt James T. OBrien
MSgt Stephan Warren
MSgt James Watkins
MSgt Cynthia Watkins
MSgt Greg Wescott
SMSgt Keith Buckhout
SMSgt Scott Cardaropoli
SMSgt Joseph Delaney
SMSgt Robert Dickinson
SMSgt Wayne Tower
SMSgt Paul Turgeon
CMSgt Robert Bealieu
CMSgt Albert Reale
1LT James Stebbins
Maj Matthew Mutti
Maj Steven Renolds
Maj Donald Hamilton
Maj Dean Lambert
Lt Col Robert Henry
Lt Col Charles Wilson
Col Edward Gunning
Col John Gwosch
Brig Gen Gary Keefe

104th Security Forces assist displaced residents

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

As the City of Springfield absorbed another severe weather event, many residents who lost power during the October 30th storm found their way to Central High School to seek respite from the frigid temperatures. For seniors, the infirm and the very young, the hazards associated with the austere storm related conditions present an acute set of problems. For these vulnerable citizens, the presence of the Massachusetts National Guard is particularly helpful in bolstering the resolve of a population that has endured considerable hardship over the last year.

Members of the 104th Fighter Wing Security Forces are providing all manners of assistance at the emergency shelter at Central High School that is serving as a sanctuary for senior citizens as old as 93 and infants of only a few months. During the day, approximately 100 residents occupy the gymnasium and 400 people gather at night seeking shelter. Three meals are served throughout the day while Guardsmen maintain a watchful presence.

Betty, a Springfield resident, was worried about her dog and anxious to go home. However, she was grateful for the support of the Airmen. "It is

very good to have them here, they make me feel at home and I feel safer having them around," she said.

Another resident, Rick Paiva agreed, "They are doing a good job and it is comforting to see the uniform."

Over 400 Guardsmen, including members of the 104th Security Forces, have been activated by Governor Deval Patrick in response to the storm aftermath. Operation Snow Harvest is ongoing and Guardsmen are responding to requests from affected cities and towns.

Airman 1st Class Steven Vigneault of Springfield and Senior Airman Mike Patnaude of Chicopee were glad to help at Central High School. "There is a heartfelt gratitude from the people here. We can't go down the hall without someone saying thank you," observed Vigneault.

"I love it-the kids have so much energy. They usually only see us on TV but now they get to see us in real life," said Patnaude.

104th Security Forces will continue

to provide support at the shelter and throughout the region until power is restored and the Guard fulfills its mission.



(Photograph by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)



(Photos by Maj. Matthew Mutti)

A thank you note from the Mathieson Family

On behalf of myself, Wilson Mathieson, my wife Michelle and our two children, AimeeLee and Lcpl. Nicholas Plasse, we would like to thank the entire 104th Fighter Wing family for their support during one of **the saddest times of our family's life, with** the tragic loss of our Daughter Amanda Plasse on 26 Aug. 2011. The amazing support that has been extended to our family from the Wing is beyond what I or my wife can put into words. From the Memorial and Funeral Services to all that attended, to donations, to the endless cards of sympathy that have arrived on a daily bases at our home, and the heartfelt prayers and words of support, have given us great comfort to know, that the Men and Woman, of such a

phenomenal organization, are there for my family and me. I am so proud to be part of the 104th family, and so thankful to have seen, first hand, what a professional and caring group of people everyone is. As **Amanda's case is still unsolved, we hope and pray** that every day that passes, is one day closer to her killer being apprehended and brought to justice. As for now, the strength for us to carry on with our daily lives comes from compassion, friendships and support from each and every one of you. Again, on behalf of my wife Michelle, myself, **Amanda's brother Lcpl. Nicholas Plasse and sister AimeeLee Plasse,** thank you all for what you have done for us.



The spirit of giving; December UTA activities

By Senior Airman Bonnie Harper, Public Affairs Journalist

Washington Irving, a 19th century American writer, once said, "Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart."

With the Christmas season just around the corner, the Family Program office is sponsoring events to promote Barnstormers to give and help others during this special time of year.

The Angel Tree program is one way that people can show their hospitality.

"We partner with the Boys and Girls Club and some of our own members who may not be able to provide as good a Christmas for their children as they would like to," said Sandy Wakefield, the Airmen and Family Readiness Program Manager here.

The Boys and Girls Club provides a list of gender, age and three things that a child might like for Christmas. Here at the base, anyone can come to the Family Readiness Office and give the same information for their own children, **which stays confidential. It's an anonymous, great way to receive help from others, and those unit members who could use some help should not be ashamed in seeking out this program,** Sandy said.

"People want to give, they want to help out, so the people that could use a little more assistance during the holidays could greatly benefit from the graciousness of others," she said.

Around Thanksgiving, a tree is then placed in the foyer of building 001 that has angels on it. Attached to each angel is a paper listing the gender, age, and the three wishes of that particular child. Members of the 104th can take an angel, purchase at least one of the items on the list, and then return the gift to the Family Readiness Office about a week and a half before Christmas. When the gifts are returned, they should be wrapped and with the number of the angel written on the present.

This program not only benefits those in need, but also provides an opportunity for people to serve others, within the base and local community. In the eight years that this program has been going, all of the angels have always been taken off of the tree.

"Say you have an eight-year-old daughter, and you wanted to teach her how giving helps other people. You might pick an eight year old girl from the tree, and take your daughter shopping and teach her about giving. If you're a single person and you just want to help somebody out, you can just look on the tree and see. There are many people that take angels off the tree just to help," Sandy said.

The first year the Angle Tree Program took place, one child from the Boys and Girls Club asked for a bicycle. The only thing this child ever wanted was a bicycle, but he happened to have a single

parent, who was a hard working person, **but simply couldn't afford a bike for their child. There were other thing on the child's wish list that were cheaper, but as Sandy thought about this boy's wishes, it was pulled at her heart strings and she decided to put it on the list on the angel tree. That angel disappeared from the tree. It turned out that one of our members took the tag, knew of a person that owned a bike shop and brought in a bike for the child, Sandy said.**

"It's really amazing what the members here do. They step up to the plate big time," she said.

Another holiday event sponsored by the Family Readiness Group produces is **the children's Christmas party. This year's party is scheduled to occur here during the afternoon of Sunday drill on December 4 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Army Aviation Support Facility.**

Features of the Christmas party include bounce houses, crafts, music, refreshments provided by the USO, and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Clause, with gifts presented to each child. The munitions personnel also give away hot dogs, or **"ammo dogs" as they call them, and ask for donations for homeless shelters in Westfield.**

Even though the Family Readiness

Group is the lead on this, it takes a full base effort to put on an event of this size. Many people work behind the scenes to take care of wrapping the gifts, storage, setup, cleanup, and being Santa and his elves, Sandy said. The Family Readiness Group raises money to purchases gifts for 235 to 250 children, and the base helps greatly with providing volunteers to help with setup and cleanup. The Family Readiness Group volunteers oversee the running of the whole event.

"Most of the Family Readiness Group volunteers are spouses, parents, or relatives of members, but there are also retired members and their families who

volunteer for the FRG because they still care about what goes on on the base, so they come in and help out," she said.

The children's Christmas party is the only event that the Family Readiness Group does that is restricted to members' children only, and that's because of the number of children. A flyer and base-wide email will be

sent out notifying members of the event. Members need to RSVP to Sandy at extension 698-1263 or sandra.wakefield@ang.af.mil no later than November 19 in order for gifts to be purchased prior to the December UTA.

"The feedback has always been tremendous. People really enjoy it. Families really enjoy it," Sandy said.

One of the objectives of all of these types of activities is to get military families to know military families and their children to know other military children.

"A lot of times in the guard, military families do not have a lot to do with the base because a traditional only comes out here once a month," Sandy said. "Just coming out to these things is a way of connecting military families."

The Family Readiness Group strives to make families familiar with what goes on here and to make them feel welcome and invited. The Family Readiness Office also strongly encourages everyone to provide them with a personal home email address to receive information on additional military events and benefits. These events, such as free concert and sports tickets, often become available close to the date of the event. If you are interested in being added to the email list, please contact Sandy Wakefield.



Healthy life style classes

By Master. Sgt. Nina Gutierrez, 104th FW Medical Group

The 104th Medical Group is now offering Health Promotion classes every Sunday of the drill weekend. If you know of a wing member that is struggling or needs additional support, please know there is help within the wing. These classes are open to all unit members and held from 1000 to 1100 in the Medical Group back training lab (Room 18). No appointment necessary, just walk-in and join the group.

Fitness and exercise is necessary for someone who hopes to live a long and healthy life. If someone does not know why fitness is so important to our overall health, they should consider the physical and emotional benefits of a good workout.

Obviously, the most important reason to exercise is to avoid becoming obese. Most people realize that obesity can cause many serious health problems, such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, high blood pressure and cholesterol. What they may not realize is that it can also lead to problems such as sleep apnea, arthritis and even infertility. Rather than dealing with these serious issues as they arise, avoid them by practicing good fitness habits.

When someone is not feeling good

about themselves, they reflect that feeling to everyone around them. Exercising on a regular basis is a great way for someone to improve their self esteem. They will not only look better, but they will be proud of themselves for taking control of their condition. This feeling will be obvious to everyone and it will help someone improve both their personal and professional relationships.

When someone is not getting the right amount of exercise, they may be distracted by their concerns about their health, but that might not be the only reason they cannot concentrate. Exercise increases blood flow to the brain. When someone exercises on a regular basis, they will notice that they are thinking much sharper than before and that they are better able to concentrate on tasks.

The 104th Medical Group SharePoint site also offers additional fitness and health information you can provide to Wing members.

People who do not know why fitness is so important to our overall health will be surprised at how much better they feel when they start working out. They will not only lose weight and become physically healthier, but their mood will improve. Everyone

should be able to find time in their schedule for some exercise that will significantly improve their overall quality of life.

Health Promotion Calendar:
Nov: Holidays Don't Have to Mean Weight Gain!

Tips For Healthy Holiday Eating
A key feature in how to be healthy is taking personal responsibility; it is the foundation of good health!

Please also visit the 104th SharePoint site to get additional information regarding exercise and nutrition.

<https://104fw-sp-01.ang.ds.af.mil/104MDG/default.aspx> under lists/patient/customer service.

Everyone has a responsibly to take care of each other, help guide members in the wing, and consider using the Medical Group health promotion support. If you have any questions please contact me. Have a great day!



Chaplain's Corner

By Capt. (Fr.) Ken Devoie, 104FW/HC

The Chinese symbol for the word "crisis" is the same symbol for the word "opportunity." How insightful this truly is.

This past week, for many, has been one of many trials. The October Storm has left many of us without power, leaving us without many of the comforts and necessities we are use to having. The kids are out of school, work is crazy, your house is cold, you may have relocated your family or have visitors staying in your home, in addition, you may have been put on State

Active Duty, etc... When our basic needs (shelter, heat, food, etc...) and our routines are interrupted or altered in any way, can be an occasion for stress. Stress impacts everyone in different ways, but none the less, it impacts us. How we deal with stress is the key to resilience and success in life.

When a crisis or major disruption to our life hits, our reaction to it will determine how much stress we experience. Learning to rise above the moment and current situation is a conscious effort. It is a learned skill and needs to be in place prior to such an

event. One's physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellness play a huge factor in reducing stress. Having a personal or family plan for various contingencies is very wise and greatly helpful. The more proactive we are up front in these areas, the better we will cope, the less stress we will experience, the more successful you will be when life throws these curve balls at you, and the crisis will then become an opportunity for great personal growth. Please know that you and your loved ones are being prayed for.



Safety: How goes it

By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, Ground Safety

Our unit has experienced 1 injury since the last newsletter.

Worker became ill on duty; Dizziness and tingling; Anxiety; Ambulance transport/No lost time

The unit experienced four (4) mishaps since the last newsletter.

- GSA van damaged; Impact Civilian vehicle; Speed/distance; 3.5K damage

- 20MM rounds damaged; Fell from gun bay; Broken feed chute; EOD destroyed rounds

- GSA van damaged; roof impact garage exit height bar; Snow and ice; Cost TBD

- GMV damaged; scratched paint; inattention; cost TBD

There are several items safety would like to address to everyone in regards to these events. In the ambulance transport event we can see stress levels at times can be high. This increased stress level, along with possibly drinking too much coffee, was possibly the stage being set for this event. Hopefully we can use this to better see what we need to do to help control our stress levels. In regards to the GSA van mishap, there are many factors involved, however, whenever the front of your vehicle impacts the rear or another, the person who impacted the rear of

the other is at fault. Make sure you leave yourself plenty of braking distance, should you need it. In regards to the 20MM rounds falling out and impacting the ground, this is why we train. The activities taken by everyone were spot on and the event came to a safe conclusion. Great job!

Holiday/Cold weather Safety- As everyone gets ready for the holidays and winter, the Wing Safety Office would like to offer you some safety tips to help you and your families stay safe, and get ready for winter.

Your vehicle- Are your windshield wipers good? Are your tires OK? Are they properly inflated? How about your antifreeze, windshield washer solvent, belts, hoses, and Oil? Remember the new ice scraper you were going to buy last year? Did you buy it? There are several national discount auto parts stores that will test your battery, change your wipers and help you check out your car for free.

Your home- If you have one, did you have your chimney cleaned? How about your furnace? Is there anything blocking your heater vents? Is there anything on your heaters? How is your furnace filter? Did you change out your smoke detector and CO detector batteries? Did you test them? Do you have a CO detector on every level, and is it working? Does everyone know where to meet up in an emergency, or one of the detectors goes off? Do you have fire extinguishers, and are they serviceable? You should have one at least for use in the kitchen, BBQ, and garage. How about ice melt and snow removal equipment?

Your family- Does everyone know what to do, and not to do, in regards to staying safe during bad weather? Not to play in leaf piles and snow banks by roadways? If they are going to be in, or walking along the roadways, do they have reflective gear? How about those code words for the kids to protect them from strangers?

This is also a good time to reinforce seatbelt wear and the use of designated drivers.

Emergency items- Do you have an emergency kit? Does it have what you need? Check www.ready.gov for a list of recommended items.

Food- Keep cold food cold and hot food hot! If you are hosting a party, or at a party, and the perishable food has been left out at room temperature for 2-hours or longer, we recommend you throw it away! Food borne illness is never a good time, and will ruin a good time, especially if there is a long drive involved.

There is nothing more important that doing your best to prepare for the worse, and hope for the best. By taking the time now to prepare, if you need it great, you have it! If you **don't have it, and you need it, hopefully it will not be the fire extinguisher to put out the turkey grease fire in your family's kitchen.**

The last items we would like to **bring up to everyone is "Tie One On For Safety" and a fatality that our unit experienced almost a year ago.** On November 7th 2010, we lost a member of our unit due to them being ejected from a vehicle being operated by a family member. Neither of them were wearing their seatbelts. **Hopefully we don't forget the lesson they left us!** The second item is that this month safety will be distributing red ribbons for personnel to affix to their antennas or car keys. This safe driving campaign began in 1986 by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). The red ribbon is a symbol of the driver's pledge to drive safe, sober and buckled up. Additionally, **Safety asks unit members to "Tie One On For Safety" in support of MADD's continuous campaign to eliminate drunk driving.** More information can be found at their web site at <http://www.madd.org/local-offices/co/tie-one-on-for-safety.html>

Have a great and SAFE Thanksgiving Holiday! Your Safety Staff.



Service members civil relief act

By Tech. Sgt. Chris Curtis, 104th FW paralegal

As many 104th members spin up for deployment, we should keep in mind the protections afforded to deployed members while serving our great nation. The Service members Civil Relief Act (SCRA) is one of the most important federal statutes deployed military members rely on.

Most protections afforded by SCRA begin on the effective date of orders to active duty. Be prepared to present a copy of your orders to whomever you ask for relief under SCRA.

You may be able to reduce pre-service consumer debt and mortgage interest to 6% if: (1) you took out the debt during a time when you were not on active duty; (2) the interest rate is currently above 6%; (3) your military service materially affects your ability to pay the debt at the original pre-service interest rate (this requirement generally requires you to earn less in the military than as a civilian); and (4) you request reduction from the lender in writing and provide a copy of your orders. Interest in excess of 6% must be forgiven, not merely deferred.

Service members (active, reserve or guard) may terminate a residential lease for themselves (or their dependents) upon entry into military service, after receipt of orders to deploy for no less than 90 days, or after receipt of Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders. Written notice and a copy of orders must be provided to the landlord, and termination will be effective 30 days after the first date on which the next rental payment is due if your lease requires monthly payments. For example, if you give notice to your landlord on 15 Dec and rent is due on 1 Jan, the landlord may collect rent through 31 Jan. It is crucial to give the landlord written notice and orders as soon as possible. Landlords have the right to apply to court for relief from this pro-

vision of the SCRA. Therefore, it is advisable to still include a military termination clause in the lease agreement.

Service members may terminate pre-service automobile leases for themselves (or their dependents) if they receive active duty orders for

Service members, deployed overseas for 90 days or longer or who receive permanent change of station orders, may...

180 days or more. As with termination of real property leases, the Service member must deliver a written notice of termination to the leaser, along with a copy of military orders. The Service member must then return the motor vehicle to the leaser within 15 days of the date of delivery of the termination notice. The lease is terminated once a proper termination notice is delivered and the motor vehicle is returned within the proper timeframe.

Service members, deployed overseas for 90 days or longer or who receive permanent change of station orders, may cancel or suspend cell phone contracts without penalties or extra fees if their ability to satisfy the contracts or to utilize the service will be materially affected by such deployment or permanent change of station. Additionally, Service members deployed overseas for more than 90 days may suspend their contracts at no charge until the end of their deployments without being required to extend the length of the original

contract term. In order to exercise this right, Service members must provide their cellular telephone service contractors with copies of their military orders. Upon receiving the request for termination or suspension of service, the telephone service contractors shall grant the requested

relief without imposition of an early termination fee for termination of the contracts or a reactivation fee for suspension of the contracts.

If you are being sued in a civil (not criminal) case, including a child custody proceeding, or have been notified to appear in an administra-

tive hearing, an initial 90-day delay must be granted upon your request. Your request must explain how your military duties materially affect your ability to appear and the date you will be available to appear. In addition, your commander must provide a letter detailing how your military duty prevents you from appearing. Stays beyond the initial 90 days can be granted at the discretion of the judge or hearing official. If an additional stay is denied, the court or administrative body must appoint counsel to represent your interests.

This is a basic overview of the main points. Specific questions can come by the Legal officer during the UTA or make an appointment by calling ext.698-1244.



Col Gary Keefe promoted to Brig. Gen

Lt. Col James Sahady, JFHQ MA NG/Public Affairs

Gary W. Keefe, of Florence, Mass., has been promoted to the rank of brigadier general in the Mass. Air National Guard, at Joint Force Headquarters, Milford, Mass. Brig. Gen. Keefe was confirmed by the United States Senate on Sept. 23, 2011.

Brig. Gen. Keefe is the Assistant Adjutant General for Air, Mass. Air National Guard. He is responsible for oversight of all Air National Guard units in Mass., and is tasked with ensuring their ability to respond to peacetime contingencies while maintaining readiness to accomplish their wartime missions.

Brig. Gen. Keefe is the principal advisor to The Adjutant General, Air Component Commander, and Land Component Commander in the administration, coordination, planning, development, and execution of all Air National Guard and National Guard Joint Staff programs. He insures the preparation of the 8,500 Soldiers and Airmen of the Commonwealth for contingency operations in both federal and state emergencies. He assists The Adjutant General in overseeing the **Commonwealth's Joint Homeland Defense Program**, to include rapid reaction forces, contingency emergency response forces, counter drug operations, civil support teams, expeditionary medical teams, and explosives ordnance disposal.

Brig. Gen. Keefe received his commission in 1986 through the Reserve Officer

Training Corps' program at Norwich University. Once commissioned he served as a Ground Launched Cruise Missile Launch Officer with the 71st Tactical Missile Squadron, Florennes Air Base, Belgium. He completed his active duty service in 1992 as a Peacekeeper Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile Combat Crew Flight Commander and Evaluator with the 90th Strategic Missile Wing, Francis E. Warren AFB, Wyoming.

Brig. Gen. Keefe joined the Mass. Air National Guard in '92 with the 104th Fighter Wing.

Brig. Gen. Keefe served as the Expeditionary Logistics Group Commander in '99 in support of **Operation ALLIED FORCE** for the presidentially activated 104th Expeditionary Operations Group, Birgi Air Base, Trapani, Italy. He commanded 400 USAF-Europe personnel from the 104th Fighter Wing, 110th Fighter Wing, and the 124th Fighter Wing, and Airmen from the USAF and USAF Reserves.

Brig. Gen. Keefe served as the 387th Expeditionary Logistics Group Commander at a classified location in **Southwest Asia in '03 during Operation ENDURING and IRAQI FREEDOM.** He commanded 800 U.S. Central Command personnel and was responsible for all aircraft maintenance and logistics activities associated with A-10 aircraft and Preda-



Retired Adjutant General and Father, Maj. Gen (ret) George Keefe and MG Joseph Carter, the current Adjutant General, pin on Brig. Gen. Gary Keefe's rank during the promotion ceremony, November 3, 2011 (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Jeremiah J. Clark, Massachusetts National Guard Public Affairs)

tor Unmanned Aerial Vehicle activities throughout the Air Campaign.

Prior to his current assignment, Brig. Gen. Keefe served as the Mass. National Guard Director of Manpower, Personnel and Human Resources, and Director of Staff, and the Vice Chief of the Joint Staff, Mass. National Guard in Milford, Mass.

Brig. Gen. Keefe's civilian occupation is the Assistant Adjutant General for Air, Military Division of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts located at Milford, Mass. He resides in Florence, Massachusetts, with his wife Allison, and three children Garrett, Bridget and Shannon.

Outstanding rating across the board for the 104th

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

"How you do anything is how you do everything," said Col Robert Brooks, commander of the 104th Fighter Wing in Westfield.

After months of intensive and exhaustive preparation for various evaluations, members of the 104th were nationally recognized for their efforts by inspectors from the 9th Air Force and NORAD, Air Combat Command and National Guard Bureau Inspectors, through receiving high-marks on seven inspections in the last year.

Practices relative to the Air Sovereignty Alert mission and support operations were scrutinized and assessed during the course of the last year by various Air Force inspectors. An unwavering emphasis on attention to detail as well as

rigorous training methods contributed to the overall success rate of the wing.

For clarity, here is a list of the inspections, who inspected and the results:

1. No Notice EPA Inspection = Pass
2. ANG Logistic Compliance Assessment Program (LCAP) = Outstanding.
3. ACC/IG Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI) = 98.16 Compliance Rate (result was Outstanding).
4. Air Force Environmental Safety and Occupational Health Assessment Program (ESOHOCAMP) = Although not graded, results were Outstanding.
5. Alert Force Operational Assessment = Although not graded, results were Superior.

6. NORAD Alert Force Evaluation = Mission Ready (Highest Grade Possible)
7. 9th AF Standardization Evaluation = Complies (Highest Grade Possible).

These hard earned marks are a testament to the dedication and commitment of unit members.

Col Brooks was pleased with the results, **"I could not be more proud of our team of professionals, we continue to demonstrate that we are what we say we are--one of the best F-15 units in the Combat Air Force. Inspection after inspection, we are lauded for our commitment to excellence; but the challenge now is to stay on top, and continue to perform at such a high standard of excellence."**

AEF planning

By Master Sgt. Larry Brace, 104 MXS/First Sgt.

With our upcoming AEF Deployment just a few short months away, it's important to be proactive to ensure all aspects of training are accomplished in the required timeframe, ensuring you are fully prepared to deploy.

We already had the normal challenges to deal with in completing CBT's, and then Mother Nature threw a curve ball and many were activated to help with the cleanup of the storm. I've been in different work centers, and it's obvious the push is on to get the training done in the required sequence and timeframe. If you know you'll be deploying, and you don't feel like you're receiving the required training, don't be afraid to ask your supervisor or trainer. It's better to ask the questions and have them tell you you're already scheduled for a class, than to find out you've slipped through the cracks. The bottom line is that we have a lot of training to get done, and a short time to do it. Taking every available opportunity to get on a computer and complete a CBT, or get enrolled in one of the required hands on courses will help us keep the training aspect at a manageable level. Enough of the foot stomping on training, please continue to do a good job.

I'd like to dedicate the following few lines to some pre-deployment, good-to-know info. I'll be creating a contact list with all AEF deployers and putting out

periodic updates with different quality of life issues in the very near future. There are a couple of things that I think are important to help avoid some problems down the road.

- ◆ Finance does a BAH recertification every year. If you failed to complete this recertification, you drop to the single BAH rate. If you're unsure what your BAH status is, check with finance now to avoid pay problems later.
- ◆ Life Insurance Coverage. Please check your LES and see what your SGLI deduction is. It should be \$14 for a \$200,000 policy or \$27 for a \$400,000 policy. If you know you signed up for a \$400,000 policy and you're only paying \$14 a month please go to MPF and have it corrected.
- ◆ For Technicians, Comp time must be signed before signing any other type of status. Make sure you have a good plan in place for your timekeeper and let them know the exact number of hours you have for Comp, Mil, Annual, Etc.
- ◆ Family Care Plans-The First Sergeants have a good handle on the Family Care Plans and SrA Jacqueline Comer has been awesome at sending out updates when somebody needs to update information. If you require a family care plan, and your dependent care info will

be changing, or you're adding another member to the family prior to our deployment, please make sure to get with your First Sergeant to update your plan, JAG for POAs and MPF for DEERS.

- ◆ **This last one isn't a suggestion but a request for volunteers. I'm looking for individuals that may be an auto mechanic, somebody that may be willing to mow a lawn or fix a plumbing issue. Everybody knows the list of unexpected emergencies that can arise. If we have a list of people with different skill-sets to pool from, I think it would be very helpful to our family members back home to know they have somebody to call in the event of an emergency. If you'd like to volunteer to be put on the list, please shoot me an e-mail.**

I hope some of these suggestions can help somebody avoid a little confusion or pain down the road. I'll get more specific information out in the very near future. Please don't hesitate to call or e-mail with questions, concerns or comments. I'd rather get more questions now so I can get you the answers that may help avoid problems and stresses for you and your family later. Thanks for your support and cooperation.



The Wing Children's Christmas Party will be held on 4 Dec 2011.

Reservations are required for families to attend. R.S.V.P by 28 November to the Family Support Office by calling (413) 568-9151 x 698-1183 or e-mailing Mrs. Sandra Wakefield at Sandra.wakefield@ang.af.mil.

Santa will be giving gifts to children 0-10 y/o.

Unit member name: _____ / Unit _____

Number of Family attending _____ Name(s) / Gender of Children 10 years old or younger:

Name _____ / Age : ____ Gender : _____	Name _____ / Age : ____ Gender : _____
Name _____ / Age : ____ Gender : _____	Name _____ / Age : ____ Gender : _____
Name _____ / Age : ____ Gender : _____	Name _____ / Age : ____ Gender : _____

For Your Information

Walk In Legal Assistance

The Legal Office provides legal assistance to all ANG members on the following legal deployment related issues: Wills, Powers of Attorney (Family Care Plans), Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, and Employment and Reemployment Rights. Walk In Hours are available every Saturday UTA from 0900 -1130 hours. If you are unable to come during this time, please call our office at ext. 1244 to make an appointment. We would be happy to accommodate your schedule.



What's being served at the Dining Facility?

Saturday

LUNCH! 1100-1300

Entree – **Shrimp Cocktail, Baked Ham or Roasted Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Stuffing, Vegetables.**

Short Order– Stuffed shells

AGR's, Officer's and Members on Orders - \$7.00

Sunday

LUNCH! 1100-1300

Scrambled Eggs or eggs-to-order

Oven browned potatoes

French toast, hash browns

American Chop Suey

Roast Turkey

Chili

AGR's, Officer's and Members on Orders - \$4.85

AEF Deployment ISO Prep/passport photographs

Saturday

5 Nov 2011

0930-1100 &

1300-1500

See your Unit Deployment Monitor for more information



Angle Tree

The annual Angel Tree program will begin in the middle of November. Stop by and visit Family Support if you would like to sponsor an local underprivileged child this Christmas.

December Ammo Can Drive

The annual AMMO Can Drive will occur during the Dec UTA.

Please bring your non-perishable food donations with you to Drill.

Welcome to new members

Bigelow, Philip	AMXS	22 Sep 2011
Wundt, Kyle	MXS	28 Sep 2011
Miskiv, Nathan	LRS	29 Sep 2011
Lavoilette, Chelsea	MDG	30 Sep 2011
Beckwith, Preston	MXS	30 Sep 2011
Brohman, Richard	AMXS	30 Sep 2011
Putnam, Jessica	MXS	30 Sep 2011
Gilluly, Benjamin	131 FS	1 Oct 2011

Congratulations on your upcoming Retirements

Febus, Gilbert	LRS	11 Dec 2011
Daley, Joseph	FW	30 Dec 2011
Carnevale, Joseph	SFS	1 Jan 2012
Patnode, Richard	MXS	1 Feb 2012

Religions notes:

Ecumenical time of Prayer & Reflection

Saturday 0650 – 0720 hrs. in the Avionics Class Rm

Protestant Services:

Saturday, 1600 in Bldg 001 Conference Room



CCTV line up

Channel 7 - Training videos & Base Info

Channel 9 - Warrior Network

Channel 10 - Pentagon Channel



Ancillary training video schedule

Morning Training Video

0900-0940	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
0940-1013	Confined Space Awareness
1013-1023	Basic Ladder Safety
1023-1053	Lockout/Tagout
1053-1101	FOD Prevention
1101-1108	Copyright Infringement

Afternoon Training Video

1300-1340	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
1340-1413	Confined Space Awareness
1413-1423	Basic Ladder Safety
1423-1453	Lockout/Tagout
1453-1501	FOD Prevention
1501-1508	Copyright Infringement

Congratulations on your Promotions

To Senior Airman (E-4)

Bonnie Harper, 104FW PA

Amber Vanbeek, 104FW SFS



To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

Sean Dowd, 104FW AMXS



To Technical Sgt. (E-6)

Gerald Cahalan, 104FW MOF

Nathan, Nihill, 104FW AMXS



To Master Sgt. (E-7)

James Dunn, 104FW AMXS



To Senior Master Sgt. (E-8)

Robert Dickinson, 104FW LRS



Wing Safety asks you to
“Tie One On for Safety”
 this Holiday Season!

At the DFAC Saturday during lunch, the Wing Safety office will be handing out red ribbons for you to tie to your vehicle or keys to signify you support this signature MADD event. There hope is it will be a reminder to you to help keep you, and your families safe this Holiday Season.

Tie One On For Safety (Thanksgiving2011 to New Year's Day 2012)

“Tie One on for Safety” is MADD's largest community awareness campaign that advocates for people to drive safe, sober, and buckled up during the holiday season. Drivers display a red ribbon in a visible location on their vehicles or tied to their car keys to show family, friends, and loved ones that they support safer roads free from drunk driving and dangerous driving.



This Month in History

The back cover of the AirScoop is dedicated to the history of the unit and the Air Force. We will feature historic covers or articles from the archives and highlight a few historic headlines. (side note) From 1947 to 1954 the Base Newspaper was named the Thunderbolt. The first official Copy of the AirScoop was published in January 1954.

November Historical Events

Nov 14, 1938 - In a meeting with his military leaders, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called for an Air Corps with 20,000 airplanes.

Nov 15, 1942 - Lts. Harold Comstock and Roger Dyar set a new speed record for planes when their P-47s power-dived at 725 mph from 35,000 feet over an east coast base.

Nov 30, 1948 - Curtiss-Wright demonstrated new reversible pitch propellers, which enabled a C-54 Skymaster to descend from 15,000 to 1,000 feet in one minute and 22 seconds.

Nov 7, 1961 - The U.S. Air Force completed the overseas deployment of the largest group of tactical fighters since World War II with the landing in Europe of over 200 aircraft flown by Air National Guard pilots mobilized under legislation of Aug. 1, 1961.

Nov 4, 1970 - Nine Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units received A-37, F-100, F-105 and C-130 aircraft to begin a modernization program.

Nov 14, 1974 - The first operational F-15A Eagle delivered to Luke AFB, Ariz., with President Gerald Ford presiding.

Nov 29, 1975 - The first annual Red Flag exercise occurred at Nellis AFB, Nev. to provide realistic training for combat aircrews.



MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Barnes Air National Guard Base
175 Falcon Drive
Westfield, MA 01805

www.104fw.ang.af.mil

Social Media Sites:
www.facebook.com/barnesang
www.twitter.com/104fighterwing
www.flickr.com/photos/barnesangb



PRIDE,
PROFESSIONALISM,
PATRIOTISM

We're on the Web

WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL

Copyright (c) 2010 104th Fighter Wing Air National Guard. All rights reserved. This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Military services. Contents of the Airscoop are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the Air National Guard.