



AIRSCOOP

104TH FIGHTER WING • MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Pride, Professionalism, Patriotism

Barnes Air National Guard Base

June 2011



Tornados shake Western Massachusetts, landing in Westfield, Springfield, Monson and Brimfield. The Mass. National Guard responds in full-force, aiding in clean-up, security and assessment missions. A destroyed home in Springfield Mass.

Photograph by Maj. Matthew Mutti



Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

AIRSCOOP

**104th Fighter Wing
Barnes Air National
Guard Base**

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Commander's column
By Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

We are three weeks away from game time; it is time to finish strong. Do not let up, do not quit. We are still in the preparation phase, and these last three weeks are critical to our success. How you do anything is how you do everything - pay attention to detail, and remember the persistent pursuit of perfection results in excellence. Let's close the deal, let's finish strong, and be a team player.

Next UTA when you arrive, we will be in the execution phase. In the execution phase, everyone must do their part which includes the little things, such as seatbelt use, no ear buds while jogging, proper wear of uniform, military customs and courtesies, and a positive mental attitude. Some focus areas during execution:

- If an inspector is evaluating you, be professional with a positive mental attitude, but most importantly -> be who you are and do what you do! I have confidence in all of you, and YOU are in the best Fighter Wing in the Combat Air Force (CAF).
- During Air Sovereignty Alert scrambles, we have a saying that slow is better. If you are being evaluated, relax, follow Tech Order guidance, and do your best. If there are two or more wingman around, and you see a mistake being made, be a good wingman and have the courage to implement peer accountability.
- Adhere to safe practices: Buckle your seat belt, don't use your cell-phones in your car, don't run with ear-buds, wear your reflective belts, and be cognizant of the flight line and its unique safety/security rules.
- Know who is here to help you at the Wing Level; the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator: Maj. Mutti, the Anti-Terrorism Officer: Capt. Mackey, the OPSEC Manager, Capt Milliken, the Inspector General: Maj Cowan.
- Know who is here to help you at your unit level. Your Unit Security Manager, Unit Anti-terrorism Officer, Squadron and Shop Safety Representatives, and the Unit Career Advisor.
- Know what to do if you receive a computer virus, malicious logic or a classified message incident and how to protect information; how is your CAC and RAB discipline?

Our Exercise and Evaluation Team are putting out smart packs that will cover some of this material. Do not leave UTA

without one, they are your cheat sheet and the UCI and LCAP are an open book test.

Following our inspections we will deploy to Alaska in late July and early August. We will have family day on Saturday of our Aug UTA (20 Aug) to give our loved ones an opportunity to see what we do and have some fun at the same time. We will continue our support of overseas contingency operations with our ECS deployments and deploy to Red Flag in January for AEF preparation. Our AEF is set for Apr - Jun of 12; we will be the lead unit and the first ANG unit to perform an aviation package three month stand alone AEF.

Keep being the best at what you do. Two recent examples of Barnstormers rising to the occasion are Chief Jeff Johnson from Security Forces and TSgt Kristen Martin from Maintenance Operations Flight.

Chief Johnson is being awarded the Bronze Star this UTA for his actions overseas while stationed in Iraq.

TSgt Martin received the Distinguished Graduate Award and the Commandants Award from the NCO Academy at McGhee Tyson ANGB.

Both are true testaments to Barnstormers being the best amongst their peers. Congratulations to both and thank you for your dedication.

I am confident the UCI will bring more individual recognition to share.

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Chief Master Sergeant's column

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

Looking forward while embracing the moment...that is the new standard for our wing. In less than 3-weeks we will be head-long into a compliance inspection, and a logistic compliance program evaluation. It is time to put on your game-face. Your game face, if you've never played competitive sports, is that frame-of-mind, where you put your head into the game, shift your focus from practice to execution, and you attack every problem, challenge or obstacle with determination and spirit. We need to set a positive first impression, follow through during the evaluation, and finish strong....seriously, we have what it takes to ace this inspection and each one of you will play a crucial part to our success.

With the theme of communication being repeated quite frequently, I will continue my quest to ensure everyone

is getting the message, and if you remember my March article; that importance is not only getting the message, but understanding it and giving feedback. We are going to try some new endeavors to get the word across and solicit feedback. We are going to start engaging unit members more through Facebook. The base has been on Facebook for more than a year; facebook.com/barnes.ang; I suggest, if you have not, become a fan of the page. We are also going to work through the orderly rooms to compile an official off-base e-mail listing, so that traditional members can receive the same time-sensitive information the full-time force does.

We will also start using E-vites more frequently. If you have never used an e-vite, you will in the future. It's an automated web-based tool that you can use to R.S.V.P for functions, even purchase tickets for events, and it works as a much better planning tool than paper rosters. This drill you will see an E-vite for the August Family Day. Family Day is still being put together,

but here are the initial details. First, it will be hosted on Saturday August 20th. The day will begin with a 5K road race, a brunch, and other competitive events. We will open our doors to family members at noon and will culminate the day with an afternoon concert by PlanB, a 80s/90s cover band. We will have bounce houses, water activities like a dunk tank and a water slide for the kids; we will also have other food and refreshments throughout the day. The focus of the day will be health and wellness, looking at family, personal and spiritual wellness and celebrating our accomplishments with our entire Guard Family.

As was briefed during the full-time wingman day event, we will also be gearing up soon for an operational deployment to Alaska, then Exercise RED FLAG, while continuing to prepare to send an aviation and maintenance package overseas. So remember, life's a marathon, not a sprint, take your time, do it right, and finish strong.



First Sergeant's column

By Master Sgt. Jeff Almeida, AMXS First Sgt.

It's been a number of years since we at Barnes have been tested by a major inspection. I can still remember my first ORI thinking to myself "what impact am I going to have on this inspection as an AIC with less than a year of service?" Well looking back I'm sure at some point an inspector was watching me perform a task and I certainly remember nervously administering First Aid to a casualty of one of the many base attacks while an inspector hovered over me. So I guess the answer is I don't know what impact I had on that inspection and I guess that's the point. You never know the impact your actions will have, that's why it's so important to be on your "A-Game" at all times.

The inspectors are not only here to look over all the binders you have neatly placed in your bookshelves. They are also here to

observe how we operate as a unit and how each and every one of you carry yourselves. The military image, discipline, customs and courtesies, professionalism, integrity, etc. of this unit will be judged from the moment the inspection team sets foot on this base. We need to show them what we already know, that we are the hardest working, most dedicated TEAM in the Air Force. Remember to be mindful of your actions, all it takes is that one time someone forgets to buckle their seatbelt, or for someone to walk up to a buddy and call him or her by their first name, or for someone to walk by an officer and forget to salute. These little things can add up to much bigger things if we ALL are not doing our part.

You "Seasoned Vets" that have been through this "a dozen times" please take the time to mentor a junior airman during this

inspection. It can be a confusing and often intimidating time for someone who has never been through it before. You "Newbie's" that are experiencing this for the first time, make sure you observe what's going on around you. These experiences are the building blocks that will shore up the foundation of this great unit for years to come. Let's not forget to learn from all this so each and every one of us becomes a better Airmen.



LCAP / UCI SMART PAGE

UCI - Unit Compliance Inspection - 60 ACC IG Inspectors on base 24-29 June
 LCAP - Logistics Compliance Assessment Program - 40 ANG Inspectors on base 23-28 June

PEOPLE TO KNOW:

Wing/CC: Col Brooks, **Wing/CV:** Col Keefe, **Wing CCM:** Chief Fappiano, **Group/CC:** Col _____
Inspector General - Maj Sherman Cowan
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator- Maj Matt Mutti
Victim Advocates: Ms. Sandy Wakefield, SMSgt Travis Raby, MSgt Dominique Chapman, MSgt Jen Juteau, MSgt Maureen Dickenson, TSgt Marylyn Morales, SSgt Sue Fopiano
Equal Opportunity- Lt Liz Mesecher
Civilian Equal Employment Opportunity: Maj Dave Mendoza , Capt Wendy Kiepkke, SMSgt Andres Huxtable, SMSgt Maryanne Walts
Anti-Terrorism Officer- Capt Corey Mackey, Unit rep is _____
Unit Career Advisor- MSgt Maureen Dickinson, Unit rep is _____
Industrial Security - TSgt Dana Thayer, Unit Security Manager is _____
Operational Security - Capt Glen Milliken, Capt Andrew St. Jean
Squadron Safety Reps _____ Unit rep is _____
FOD - Unit monitor is _____
Building Manager is _____
Unit Deployment Manager is _____
1st Sgt for your unit is _____

WHAT TO DO IF...

You receive a bomb threat...follow the yellow card, (AF Form 440) contact the command post, 698-1222
You find suspicious package...evacuate the area, contact the command post, 698-1222
You realize you have a tool missing... "knock it off", contact the MOC 698-1366
You receive an Email with Virus warning...disconnect the LAN, contact the Comm Focal Point 698-1204
You receive an Email with possible Classified Info...disconnect the LAN, contact Com Focal Point 698-1204
You find FOUO, Privacy Act or Classified information...secure it, contact the command post, 698-1222
You are under duress...Know the duress words, sign-counter-sign and **don't** write them down
You're in a building emergency... know the evacuation plan, exit to the rally point or shelter in place
You hear gun fire in your work center... Escape, Hide, or fight for your life
You hear Lockdown, Lockdown, Lockdown... Hide, Barricade the door, wait for the ALL CLEAR
You are contacted by the media... refer them to Public Affairs 698-1263

HOW TO PROTECT...

Information... Secure you CAC when not in use, **do not** leave your CAC in your computer
Information ... Practice COMSEC, "phone up", "...Unsecure line, how may I help you?"
Privacy Act info ... Cover SSNs, Addresses, and protected information. Shred when done
Operations ... Practice OPSEC, don't discuss mission information...be cautious of your Facebook posts
Restricted Areas .. Wear your Line Badge, stow when you leave
Resources... Know the FPCON level, currently in _____
Resources ... Know the INFON level, currently in _____
Yourself ... Buckle Up, **Don't** Use Cell Phones while driving, **Don't** run with ear-buds, **Don't** Drink & Drive
Yourself ... Wear protective gear (reflective belts, eye protection, gloves, steel-toe boots)
Yourself ... Follow Tech-data, procedures and AFIs — ALWAYS

Bottom Line: Be a good Wingman, set and maintain a positive impression, always perform like an inspector is watching, and demonstrate we are what we say we are - the best Fighter Wing in the Combat Air Force

Fitness Focus ~ Running made easy

By Lt Col Anita Compagnone, 104th Medical Group

Why Running Is A Great Cardiovascular Exercise

Running is easy to do, needs no special equipment, improves your cardiovascular system and best of all, helps prepare you for the AF Fitness Assessment.

Use Proper Running Form

- Stand upright and tall
- Body should feel relaxed and natural
- Head looking straight forward

- Arms in close to sides of your body; avoid extraneous arm movements

The Right Shoe for the Right Activity

- Wear running shoes when running, not shoes for other sports/activities
- Running shoes provide the cushion and stability needed for running

- Buy running shoes later in the day due to foot swelling
- Wear the socks and/or orthotics you will be running in to ensure proper fit
- Ensure thumb width difference between toes and end of shoe
- Replace worn shoes

"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift.", Steve Prefontaine, Long-distance Runner

SAV prepares base for upcoming LCAP, UCI

By Airman 1st Class Bonnie Harper, Public Affairs

A Staff Assistance Visit (SAV) occurred here during the May unit training assembly in preparation for the Logistics Compliance Assessment Program (LCAP) and Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI) scheduled in June.

This SAV was used as a practice LCAP, following the same procedures and capturing information about compliance within the Maintenance Group and Logistics Readiness Squadron.

"The SAV team looks for problems," said Col. Tony Gwosch, the maintenance group commander here. "I told them to turn over every rock. The more they find the better because it makes us better for the real inspection in June."

The purpose of the LCAP is to "provide leadership at all levels with an independent evaluation of unit's ability to perform key logistics processes in a safe, standardized, repeatable and technically compliant manner," said Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Sizemore, an analysis and evaluations worker with the National Guard Bureau.

The inspection team for the SAV consisted of 29 guard members from various units throughout the country. Each inspector had an individual

assignment and checklist that they needed to complete during the evaluation process. These checklists and the grading criteria for the LCAP have been standardized for Air Force-wide use.

During both a SAV and LCAP inspection, the base starts out with 100 percent but loses points by not meeting compliance standards. The evaluation process occurs in two ways. One method involves the inspector sitting down with each unit's supervisor and reviewing the questions asked on the various checklists. Supervisors not only need to be able to answer the questions accurately, but they need to be able to provide evidence explaining how and why they are compliant with each item on the checklist. Based off of our SAV checklist inspection, we were 88.67% compliant, Gwosch said.

For the second evaluation method, inspectors physically watch people do their job. This allows the inspectors to see if "you walk the talk," even with the added stress of people watching you, Gwosch said.

The base receives a half-point deduction for specific violations that the inspectors see. There are three areas that deductions can fall under: tech data violations (TDV), detected

safety violations (DSV), and unsatisfactory condition report (UCR).

A TDV occurs when a worker is doing their job without a technical instruction manual present. We did not receive any TDVs during the SAV, but we did have 10 total violations between the DSV and UCR categories, costing us five points, Gwosch said.

Some of the DSVs the unit received consisted of personnel doing the following: driving without wearing a seatbelt, jogging with both earbuds in and a pilot disregarding the flight-line marshaler. A few of the UCRs included oil spills, computers left unsecured and an unattended open air panel, Gwosch said.

With the observation portion of the inspection accounted for, our final score for the SAV was 83.67%.

"We're right on track with where we need to be for the inspection at the end of the month," Gwosch said. "We just need to clean up the details and we'll be fine."



Memorial Day

By Maj. Jeffry Blake, 131 FS

To most Americans Memorial Day symbolizes the unofficial kickoff of the summer season. This 3 day weekend includes barbeques, beer and good times with friends. However there is only one reason why they enjoy these benefits; sacrifice.

Sacrifice is a word that most American shy away from, a term that doesn't fit their plugged in, social network, busy lives. Sacrifice is the very thing that allows or citizens to live these lives, and at the same time always know that somewhere somebody will sacrifice for them so that they can live with freedoms.

Freedom is the very word that sacrifice created. We all know that sacrifice will make you stronger, more dedicated, and more enlightened. We, the people who are serving our country and or families sacrifice for our country. This commitment comes at a cost to our families and our selves but we know it is for a greater cost.

Memorial Day is the time where all Americans should reflect on the fallen heroes of this great country The ultimate sacrifice has been made and will regrettably be made time and time again. Memorial Day is about those who have gone before us. Those brave service members deserve recognition and that is the honor that we celebrate on Memorial Day.

We at Barnes have a huge impact on our local communities; we have the opportunity to aid in the celebration of our fallen warriors. On May 30th we Barnes-tormers supported 44 patriotic towns in Massachusetts and Connecticut with F-15 fly-over's. I wanted all of you to know how proud each of those towns is to have our jets fly-over their memorial ceremonies.

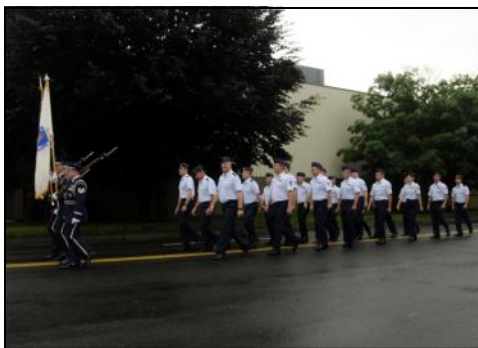
I have already received emails thanking all of you for what you due for our country.

Here are a few comments from the towns;

- "The American pride I felt at that moment!"
- "I extend my personal thanks to you and each and every member of the 104th/131st Fighter Squadron whose efforts made our Memorial Day."
- "I have to say I choked up a lot as I watch you fly over because your

presence is a salute to our veterans both deceased and alive made my day. Thank You, Thank you."

- "Everyone looked so sharp in their blues, the true heart of Westfield"



We had 26 Barnstormers volunteer their time to support 3 different take-offs times. All told we flew 1390 miles total (that many miles flown in a straight line could get you beyond Dallas Tx.) In another words these 3 flights we covered 9347 square miles total. I wanted to thank all the volunteers who came in on their off day to help all these 44 towns remember what the ultimate sacrifice really means.

- Blake, Tina
- Burke, Jon
- Conaboy, Jared
- Fedora, Ken
- Halasi-kun, Dave
- Haldopoulos, Alex
- Harbachuck, Joseph
- Hepburn, Scott
- Kane, Kevin
- Kinney, Jay
- Leigh, Jeff
- Maple, Brian
- Mclear, Jason
- Mike Burkhart,
- Mutti, Tim
- Oswalt, Nate
- Richards, Aaron
- Richardson, Brian
- Rodriguez, Jen
- Salois, Alan
- Semenyck, Nick
- Thouin, Roger
- Warren, Mike
- Wilson, Galen
- Wilson, Travis

Yates, John

I would be remiss if I did not also recognize those who represented the wing in Westfield and throughout our community, both through marching in parades, or speaking at events.

- Barsalou, Paul
- Bolduc, Lynne
- Brace, Larry
- Brooks, Robert
- Buckhout, Keith
- Byrne, Neal
- Casineau, Adam
- Dibrindisi, Mike
- Dowd, Sean
- Duquette, Richard
- Fappiano, Todd
- Gunning, EJ
- Gwosch, Tony
- Henry, Robert
- Hoffman, Randy
- Keefe, James
- Kelly, William
- Lorenzatti, Daniel
- MacDonald, Chasity
- Mutti, Matthew
- Patenaude, Robert
- Picard, Nicole
- Reale, Al
- Redfern, Brian
- Rioux, Mark
- Rogers, Justin
- Smith, Howard
- Smith, Howard
- Watkins, James

*any omissions are accidental

Airmen, I know we are engulfed with the UCI prep, operating the Eagle, and our day-to-day lives. Remember what you do every day is part of something bigger than all of us combined, millions of people would love to be able to serve their county like you do but can't. Be proud of the hard work you put in and once in a while take time to remember our nation's fallen heroes. Remember when our jets take off its because of each of you! Always remember it's the sound of freedom!



Do I need a power of attorney

By Master Sgt. Chris Curtis, Law Office Superintendent

The 104th legal office provides legal assistance to eligible service members who may need legal advice and various documents including wills and powers of attorney, especially prior to being deployed. You have probably heard the term “power of attorney” but may not be sure exactly what it is or whether you need one. In basic terms, a power of attorney allows and empowers another person to act on your behalf, often when you are away (in our case this is usually due to a deployment).

One can think of powers of attorney in three basic ways: general, special, and health care (the health care being a type of special). General powers of attorney are powerful documents and give the grantee broad discretion and access to financial holdings and many other valuable assets and important items. General powers of attorney are discouraged if a more limited “special” power of attorney will have the intended effect.

A special power of attorney grants another person the ability to act on your behalf in a narrow limited manner which is clearly specified in the document. For instance, a special power of attorney might be used to have someone sell your car while you are deployed, or to refinance your house. In these instances a

VIN is needed for the special power of attorney to sell your vehicle and a legal description would be needed for the power of attorney to sell or buy or refinance real estate. Another special power of attorney would be for child care and is called loco parentis. If you are a single parent, military member married to military member or have another unique situation, your first sergeant will direct you to visit the legal office to obtain a child care power of attorney for your dependent care plan. It gives the grantee power to act as the parent for your child(ren) in your absence and grants the person acting as a parent in your absence the power to do such things as enroll your child in school or consent to medical treatment for your child.

Health care powers of attorney give the grantee the power to make health care decisions on your behalf if you cannot. Obviously, one should choose the person they are giving the power of attorney to wisely with this and all other powers of attorney. Health care powers of attorney should not be confused with living wills. Living wills are merely an expression of your intent, without naming a person to make decisions (and are not recognized in all jurisdictions – such as Massachusetts).

It is important when granting power of attorney to someone that they are willing and able to take the responsibility for it, and will conduct your affairs with your best interest at heart. Also, make sure any institutions or third parties involved know ahead of time you will be having someone else act for you. Try to avoid sending the grantee into a bank or a day-care center “cold” with the power of attorney document. If at all possible, make arrangements beforehand so you can fill out any of their in-house paperwork, and so staff members know to expect someone else will be handling your affairs. You can grant different people powers of attorney for various things. For instance you could have one person named for short term child care, another person for long term child care, and a third person to sell your car.

Questions regarding powers of attorney or any other type of legal assistance can be directed to the 104th Legal Office in person or by calling extension 1244. The legal office is located in Building 1 and is open on drill weekends. Walk-in hours are 0900-1130 on Saturdays. If these hours are inconvenient, call ahead for an appointment so we can accommodate your schedule.

Airman in Focus: Tech. Sgt. Dana Thayer

By Airman 1st Class Bonnie Harper, Public Affairs Journalist



(Photos by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

Tech. Sgt. Dana Thayer, a native of Easthampton, Mass., enlisted in the Air National Guard in 1998.

Growing up near Westfield, Thayer attended many airshows which developed his

interest in the Air National Guard.

“I always wanted to join the military,” he said.

After completing basic training, Thayer served as a civilian security forces worker during his first two years at Barnes. He continued to work in the Security Forces Squadron, focusing on base defense as their primary job.

The SFS began to deploy constantly after 9/11. Thayer deployed several times, each varying between three to seven months. He has spent a total of two years overseas in countries including Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Iraq and Turkey.

“During a deployment you’re able to learn more about leadership and how to manage people in stressful environments,” Thayer said.

Each of these real-world deployments gave him a different perspective on the roles

of security forces in contingency operations, and he was able to relate these experiences to work at home, he said.

Along with his time overseas, Thayer has deployed to several state-side locations. He helped with Hurricane Katrina by searching homes in the 9th Ward. This gave him the opportunity to see how the Army and Air National Guard work together as a joint task force and what members of the guard do to assist in times of need.

“That’s what’s most rewarding: helping people in your own country,” Thayer said.

Thayer currently works in the SFS as the NCOIC for Information Protection and Electronic Security Systems. He enjoys the traveling aspect of the Guard, as well as the people he gets to meet and work with, he said. Thayer now lives in Westfield with his wife, Lora.

Guard tornado response

By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, Wing Executive Staff Officer

On June 1, 2011, at approximately 3:30 p.m. the skyline of Springfield Mass. changed as winds gusting beyond 130 miles-an-hour, a spinning cyclone of destruction spun debris, and moved from building to building leaving a wake of devastation in its trail. All told, when the tornado dissipated it had moved from the Westfield through Springfield, Wilbraham, Monson, Ware, Brimfield, and Sturbridge.

Closely following the winds sweeping through, the National Guard was quickly responding to provide support, relief and security.



The dynamic nature of the guard allows for rapid response and the ability to integrate and work seamlessly

with municipal and town authorities.

Teams with chainsaws were deployed to cut debris. Units were sent to augment the state and municipal police, serving as sentries to the road ways that were destroyed.



Communication teams were sent to establish communication networks. They established radios, cell phone and the internet connections.

Public Affairs was tasked to provide damage assessments for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency; and document the state's response.

Search and rescue team as well as the guard's medical response personnel were tasked to look for those still trapped and help treat any injured.

24-hours following the disaster 1,000 Mass. National Guard members

were deployed to the effected towns. The Army and Air National Guard worked with multiple civilian agencies. All organizations involved operated along the same protocols, focusing on serving the effected communities. Many of the first responders were traditional guard members, serving in their full-time capacity as firefighters, police and EMTs, aiding to the interoperability.

Four days following the disaster, the recovery effort is evident. Neighborhoods' have seen their power restored; streets that were impassable are now being cleared. All thanks to countless volunteers, members of the city/town's first responders and the Massachusetts National Guard..



Family Day ~ August 20

By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, Wing Executive Staff Officer

The wing will host a Family Day at Barnes on August 20th. Families are invited to join us on base at 12:00, for athletic events, children activities, a dunk booth, bounce houses, water slide, music and food

This event is being hosted to allow the wing to thank it's members and their families for their hard work and dedication over the past two years. With a conversion, ASA stand-up, UCI/ LCAP and other related inspections/events, the wing has not had the opportunity to celebrate it's accomplishments.

Here is a general schedule of events, an opportunity to R.S.V.P is forthcoming, please mark your calendars now.

- 0800 –1200 Brunch for base personnel
- 0900– 5K fun run
- 1200– Families allowed on base
- 1200-1600 Children and family activities
- 1200-1600 Fitness and Team Sporting events
- 1500– 1800 Live band performance

* schedule subject to change

Government travel card voucher errors

By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, Wing Executive Staff Officer

Members may find that their government travel card bills may not have been paid, even if their travel vouchers have been completed from May 24-27.

Due to a programming error, many

automatic payments were rejected by Citi Bank.

Finance is encouraging members to review their government travel card balance if they had vouchers paid be-

tween May 24-27 (both Arows and DTS) to ensure no errors. If a balance remains, call Citi bank for corrective action, they are aware of the issue and can provide a solution to the members.

Severe weather impacts I04 FW mission

By Lt. Col. Christopher Plonka, I04 FW Combat Weather Team OIC

Tornados never occur in Massachusetts? You now know that is not true after hearing about the two tornados on Wed, Jun 1! You may be surprised to learn that there have been 152 tornados reported in the state over the past 61 years (MA ranks 36 out of 50 states for total number reported) averaging about 1-2 per year. The last reported tornado was in 2008 and most are classified as weak with winds less than 110 mph. The most notable exceptions are the Worcester tornado in 1953 and the Great Barrington tornado in 1995 which were both classified as an F4 (scale is F0-F5 with F5 the most severe) with wind speeds between 207 – 260 mph. The Worcester tornado had 94 fatalities (which was the deadliest in U.S. history until the recent devastating tornado in Joplin, MO) and was on the ground for 90 min with a 48 mile path. The Great Barrington tornado resulted in 3 fatalities. Hampden County's last tornado was in 1992 with only 15 reported in this county within the past 61 years.

The 104 FW Combat Weather Team (CWT) monitored the line of thunderstorms as it moved through NY ahead of a cold front on Wed. Temperatures around 90 and dew points in the low 70s helped fuel the storms and they became more organized once they reached the Berkshires.

The 15th Operational Weather Squadron (Scott AFB, IL), responsible for issuing weather watches and warnings for Barnes, issued the first weather warning for severe thunderstorms (3/4 inch hail and 50 knot winds) at 1309 (valid at 1500) followed by a tornado watch at 1517. As noted in Barnes Instruction 15-101 Weather Watch & Warning Notifications, weather watches provide notice that noted conditions are possible and weather warnings provide notice that the noted conditions are likely or occurring.

The CWT's severe weather responsibilities include acting as "eyes forward" for the 15 OWS, providing real-time feedback, verifying weather warnings

and ensuring the Command Post has all relevant weather information.

The first tornado warning was issued at 1541 (extended at 1614) and the 104 FW Wing Commander issued a shelter-in-place order. The first reports of damaging winds came from Deerfield around 1523. The first report of severe weather (1 inch hail) in Hampden County was reported to the National Weather Service from a ham radio operator in Chesterfield at 1532. The CWT observed the first funnel cloud around 1625 about 3 miles south of the base moving east which was about the same time the first official observation of a funnel cloud was reported by the Barnes ATC tower. The funnel cloud developed into a tornado over Westfield and moved east through West Springfield, Agawam, Springfield, Wilbraham, Monson and Sturbridge - a path of over 30 miles!! National Weather Service damage reports also included hail sizes of 1.75 inches in Monson and 2 inches in Sturbridge. Pea and some marble sized hail were observed at Barnes.

A second tornado warning for Barnes was issued at 1808 along with a shelter-in-place order and cloud rotation was observed as the storm moved east of the base over the ridge line. State Police confirmed the resulting tornado in North Springfield at 1820.

You may also have noticed mammatus clouds in the sky over Barnes after the first tornado. These clouds appear to have smooth, round puffs hanging from the underside. They are most often indicative of conditions conducive to severe thunderstorms and tornados. While common in the mid-

west, they are very rare in New England. Towering cumulonimbus clouds with cloud tops approaching 40,000 feet were also observed east of the base.

Damage to the base infrastructure was minimal, no injuries were reported and the aircraft that couldn't be relocated to a hanger were flown out in advance of the storms. The first shelter-in-place order ended at 1645 when the tornado warning expired and the second shelter-in-place order ended at 1835.

The National Weather Service is currently viewing storm damage and will issue a report that includes the tornado path and strength. Preliminary data indicates the first tornado may have been an EF2 (winds between 111 – 135 mph). Tornados rated EF0 and EF1 are





Safety: How goes

By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, Ground Safety

Welcome back after the long Memorial Day Weekend. As you may and may not know the start of the 101 Critical Days of Summer (CDS) started Memorial Day Weekend and ends when everyone returns back to work after Labor Day. As you know the wing has been under a lot of pressure with preparations for the upcoming inspections and this UTA being the last UTA prior to the big day, is certain to be one of high tension and short fuses. We ask that you remain focused on whatever it is you your doing with safety in the forefront. Anytime there is an increased level of activity and pressure, the stage for human error is set. We ask you please take the time to do it SAFELY! Below is a snapshot of the injuries and mishaps since last UTA. Hopefully we can use these to help us prevent our own.

This unit has experienced 3 injuries since the last UTA.

- Worker injured during tool box lift; Hand laceration; Lack of PPE; Stitches
- Worker injured head in fall; Fall from chin up bar; Lost grip; Prescribed meds
- PMV2 Operator injured; Broke leg; Abrupt maneuver; Lost workday injury
- This unit has experienced 3 mishaps since the last UTA.
- F-15/KC135 Class E- Hazardous Air Traffic Report
- F-15 Class E- Propulsion related event. (Engine shut down in flight)
- GMV impacted fence; Scratched drivers side rear; Situational awareness; \$500 damage

101 Critical Days of Summer snap shot!

Here we are just days into the 101 Critical days and in the news we see a brother and sister at Hampden Beach, NH get carried out by a rip tide. The boy was rescued but the 12 year old sister was not and was recovered the next day when she washed up on shore. Not knowing all the facts I can only offer you this advice. Water is unforgiving and in the blink of an eye what seems OK all of a sudden is not. Make sure when there are people and water involved, you do everything you can to keep everyone safe.

In addition to this we see from above that we too are at risk in the off duty motorcycle mishap. Yes in the first several days of the 101 CDS we experienced a fellow Wingman break their leg during a off duty off road motorcycle mishap. We are still in the process of gathering the facts on this mishap, however would like to

What's My Line Winner!



Last month's winner is :
*"Ear Protection, \$20
 Cool tan T-shirt, \$6
 Fixing Monty's F-15 after being shot by a drone...priceless"*
 Submitted by anonymous.

Last month's runners-up are:

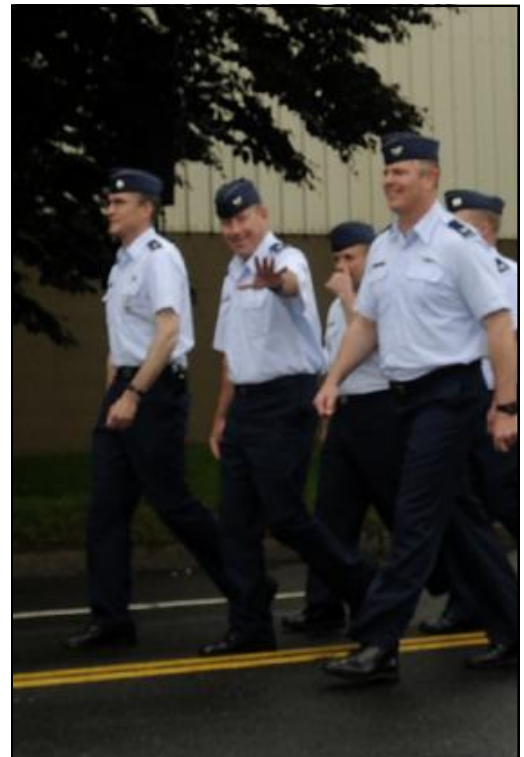
"The pilot said there was a rattle under here, but where did he hide it?" Submitted by anonymous.

"Nope, I didn't leave my lunch under that panel, just 17 more to check." Submitted by anonymous.

"Something tells me, they need this part" Submitted by anonymous.

(Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

What's My Line?



(Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

Submit your funny, creative and appropriate caption for the photo on the right. We will run the winner and a runner-up in next months AirScoop. Submit your entry to: 104fw.pa@ang.af.mil

(Photo by

For Your Information

NAVIGATING HOME PURCHASING & REFINANCING WORKSHOP

Brought to you by the Joint Family Support Assistance Program

This educational workshop is intended to give current and future homeowners the tools they need to purchase or refinance a home. Experts on hand will include:

- Representatives from Mass Housing to talk about their programs including Mass Housing's *Home for the Brave*.
- Lenders with experience in the *VA Home Loan* and conventional mortgages for both refinancing & buying.
- Real estate agents with knowledge of the home buying and selling process.
- Real estate attorneys with experience in purchase & sales contracts.
- Local *NeighborWorks* organizations that are experts in an array of home buying programs.



The goal of these workshops is to:

- Show you the various homeownership programs available to Servicemembers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- Explain the home purchase, refinancing and selling process that keeps your out-of-pocket costs to a minimum.
- Discuss the current state of the real estate market.
- Educate you about the pros and cons of refinancing.
- Prepare you for the expenses unique to homeownership.



These educational workshops will be offered at 6 p.m. at the following days and locations:

June 6th: Cambridge Credit Counseling, 67 Hunt Street, Agawam, MA 01001

June 7th: Military and Family Support Center, 14 Minuteman Lane, Wellesley, MA 02481

June 9th: Harbor One Multicultural Center, 68 Legion Parkway, Brockton, MA 02301

June 7th's seminar will also be offered via Webinar. For all dates please RSVP to 781-431-0197
 Questions? Please contact POC SPC John Shaughnessy at 781-431-0197



For Your Information

Strong-bonds Family Enrichment Retreat

- Does the strain of the military lifestyle sometimes effect your marriage?
- Did you or your spouse just return from a deployment and need a chance to recharge your marriage?
- Do you sometimes feel the stress of balancing your military, spiritual, and family lives?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you may benefit from a Strong-bonds retreat

Sept 16-18, 2011

Strong-bonds is a program facilitated by the Airman and Family Readiness office and the base chaplains, allowing families to be able get away for a weekend at NO COST, to work through the stresses of being a military family. This program is developed with the family in mind, and opportunities for childcare may be available.

There is room for 10 couples to attend, if you would like more information, contact the Family and Airman Readiness Office at (413) 568-9151 x 6981183 or e-mail sandra.wakefield@ang.af.mil



1st Annual Pioneer Valley Club Golf Tournament



When: July 15th

Time: 1100L

Where: Tekoa Country Club



Golf+Dinner: \$65

Dinner Only: \$20.00

Grand Prize: 4 Red Sox Tickets

Come unwind and celebrate with the PVC. Tournament includes lunch at the turn, catered dinner, prizes and giveaways

POCs:

Nick Hebert
Kristin Martin

Robert Oleksak
Barbara Plotniak

Yasser Menwer
Katie Fredette

For Your Information

MXS coins

MXS coins — \$10

Contact

SSgt. Matt Chapman x1359 MSgt. Dom Chapman x1300



AMXS coins / patch

AMXS patch—\$4

AMXS coins—\$10

Contact

TSgt Tina Scobie x1350



New England Air Museum

WHAT IS YOUR CHILD DOING THIS SUMMER?

Immerse yourself in the excitement of aviation at the New England Air Museum. Get up close and personal with over 80 aircraft, become a test pilot with our build & fly activities, see an explosive demonstration on the science of flight, and gain a pilot's eye as you sit in the cockpit of our aircraft. This summer features weekly themed programs with special events (see below) and the **Flight Simulator Lab**, a high-tech flight simulation experience coming August 2011. All programs and activities are led by our passionate and knowledgeable Aerospace Educators and Docents. Come to the New England Air Museum this summer for a truly up-lifting experience.

- July 4 –10 Lighter-than-Air Flight
- July 11-17 Silent Flight
- July 18-24 Vertical Flight
- July 25-31 Pushing the Limits of Flight
- Aug 1-7 Plane Flight
- Aug 8-14 Rocket Flight
- Aug 15-21 Learning to Fly



Everyday there will be activities, demo's and/or craft projects related to the week's theme. We will also have guest speakers and special events such as **Life Star visiting on July 20th**. Please check our website for exact daily activities at www.neam.org

Flight Simulator Zone - NEW EXHIBIT - Opening August 2011 (exact date TBA)

Immerse yourself in the excitement of aviation in a high-tech simulation experience: the Flight Sim Zone our newest exhibit coming in August 2011. Discover how airplanes move in three-dimensions with your hands at the controls. Take a virtual flight across Connecticut and see the world from the unique perspective of a pilot.

Using state-of-the-art computers and software, with multiple large displays and flight controls including yokes, throttles and rudder pedals, the Flight Science Lab beautifully recreates the experience of flying. Take your first solo flight! Learn how to take-off, land and the basics of flight at the hands of our Flight Sim Lab simulators. Do you have what it takes? Come in and find out.

The Flight Sim Zone is presented by Hiller Aviation Museum & NASA

Free admission for **Barnes Members with ID Card**
(discount for Active and Retired members only from July 1st-August 31st)

860-623-3305



Adults \$11 Seniors \$10 Child (ages 4-11) \$6 (3 and under free)
Bradley International Airport 36 Perimeter Rd Windsor Locks, CT 06096



www.neam.org

For Your Information

Traditional Officer Positions

POSITION TITLES: Equal Opportunity Officer
Public Affairs Officer
Budget Officer

MIN/MAX GRADE: Members immediately eligible for commission through the rank of Major

LOCATION: 104 Fighter Wing, Barnes ANG Base (Westfield)

CLOSING DATE: All applications are due by July 22, 2011 with an expected board date during the August UTA

LENGTH OF ASSIGNMENT: These positions require a reserve commissions, and a minimum 4 year service commitment

WHO MAY APPLY: These positions are open to all individuals who meet commissioning qualifications to include education, age, fitness requirements

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Equal Opportunity Officer : Deliver world-class Equal Opportunity and Human Relations services through balanced Equal Opportunity compliance, Human Relations Education, Organizational Climate Assessments, and Affirmative Employment to attract and propagate a diverse corporate culture that enables the total force the opportunity to attain the highest levels of achievement commensurate with individual talent and performance

Public Affairs Officer: Public Affairs Officers use their diplomatic expertise to educate the public while safeguarding the details of our endeavors from foreign threats. This requires developing a strong working relationship with media representatives across all channels as well as serving as liaison with civilian organizations and other groups. Public Affairs Officers also develop plans and operational procedures for communication about aircraft and missile accidents, natural disasters, environmental incidents and other newsworthy events concerning Air Force activities.

Budget Officer: Financial Management Officers are able to help ensure funds are available for the equipment, supplies and services our units need — when they need it. Financial Officers also perform cost estimates, oversee distribution and establish performance standards to evaluate efficiency and develop best practices. By managing organizational structure, personnel performance, training needs and security, Financial Officers protect Air Force funds and as a result, our most valuable assets.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be at least 18 years old and a U.S. citizen
- Must be commissioned before the age of 35 (unless prior service)
- Must meet medical and fitness requirements (after selection must have a commissioning physical)
- Must possess a baccalaureate or higher degree
- Must obtain a minimum scores on the Air Force Officers Qualification Test (AFOQT) reference AFI 36-2005, table 3.21 or ANGE 36-2005, table 3.4, see the attached information
- Must attend and graduate from the Academy of Military Science

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: All applications should include a cover letter, resume, and full record review report (RIP). Applications may also include letters of recommendation, and supporting materials. All packages will be collected by Maj. Dave Mendoza, x1285, david.mendoza@ang.af.mil located on the second floor of Bldg 001.

vPC-GR Basics, electronic learning tool (eLt) introduced



New for Air National Guard (ANG) and Air Force Reserve (AFR) members... **The “vPC-GR Basics” electronic Learning Tool (eLT).** The first in a planned series of web-based interactive courses being developed for transformed personnel processes, this course gives you an overview of the virtual Personnel Center – Guard & Reserve (vPC-GR).

It shows, through guided simulations, how to establish an account, use the dashboard, and manage action requests/work. vPC-GR provides the ANG and AFR online services for submitting personnel action requests, coordinating requests, and managing cases.

The eLT is available via the Advanced Distributed Learning Service (ADLS) website (<https://golearn.csd.disa.mil>).

View it by going to the “Course List” page, where it’s found under the “Miscellaneous” category.

Any questions or comments on the course should be directed to NGB/A1XT, Mrs Alison Dougherty, email: alison.dougherty@ang.af.mil

Free Financial Assistance

JONATHAN HARRINGTON

Personal Financial Consultant

Military & Family Support Center

MAfinancialreadiness@gmail.com

14 Minuteman Lane , Wellesley, MA 02481

888-301-3103 x 7951

Welcome to new members

Broderick, Tyler	CES	6 Apr 2011
Parker, Ryan	FS	13 Apr 2011
Fappiano, Anthony	MDG	14 Apr 2011
Coleman, Derrick	AMXS	14 Apr 2011
Boutin, Heather	LRS	15 Apr 2011
Vanderburg, Alfred	AGE	11 May 2011

Congratulations on your upcoming Retirements

Russell, Jason	MDG	27 May 2011
Kelly, William	CES	31 May 2011
Barcomb, Richard	CES	5 June 2011
Watson, Mark	MXS	8 July 2011
Brooks, Michael	CF	10 July 2011

Religions notes:

Ecumenical time of Prayer & Reflection

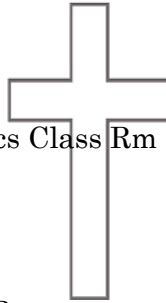
Saturday 0650 – 0720 hrs. in the Avionics Class Rm

Celebration of the Eucharist (Roman):

Saturday, at 1600 in the DFAC

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)

- Brian Connaughton, MDG
- Joey Mateus, AMXS
- Peter Chlastawa, MXS
- Robert Ludwig, SFS
- Christopher Krutka, SFS
- Andrew Lemieux, SFS
- Alan Edwards, AMXS
- Michael Cable, AMXS



To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

- Richard Hutchinson, FSS
- Travis Miller, MXS



To Technical Sgt. (E-6)

- Karyn Brown, FSS
- Christopher Jones, SFS



To Master Sgt. (E-7)

- Michael Crane, CES
- Thomas MacDonald, MXS
- Ryan Shea, AMXS



To Senior Master Sgt. (E-8)

- Paul Turgeon, CF



ESGR Patriot Award

Congratulations to Janice Morison, Manager Contract Administration. Janice Received the ESGR Patriot award to recognize her support of the military members employed at Phillips Lifeline. Sgt. Christine Grier from the Munitions Flight nominated Janice.



Girls Scout Cookie Wrap-up, sent

Over the past couple of months, donations of Girl Scout cookies were received from local Brownie Troops; 20155, 11385, 40370, and 11405. We dropped off over **13 cases** at "The Package Store" in Southampton. They volunteered to handle the packaging and shipping insuring delivery to our deployed 104FW Airmen. Many thanks for their generous donations, time, energy, and continued support. We're thinking of sending dentist over next.




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.

June Headlines:

June 6, 1944 - D-Day, the largest amphibious landing in history, began in the early-morning hours as Allied forces landed in Normandy on the north coast of France. Operation Overlord took months of planning and involved 1,527,000 soldiers in 47 Allied divisions along with 4,400 ships and landing craft, and 11,000 aircraft. American forces landed on two western beaches, Utah and Omaha, while British and Canadian troops landed farther east on Gold, Juno and Sword beaches. By the end of the day 150,000 Allied soldiers and their accompanying vehicles had landed with 15,000 killed and wounded.

June 1947 - the Westfield City Council approved 62 acres of land to be used for hangars, machine shops and other buildings that would become Barnes Air National Guard Base. Within the next six months, aircraft and other equipment arrived, pilots were checked out in the P-47s and the unit was on duty. In its first year, it was estimated the unit had a \$1 million economic impact on the local area.



Air Scoop

RECORD COPY

Commander's Hotline: Ext. 525
104th Tactical Fighter Group, MA ANG
June 1991

Group earns 'Excellent'

Department Of The Air Force
Headquarters Ninth Air Force (TAC)
Shaw Air Force Base, SC 29152

Dear Colonel Platt,
31 May 1991

It is with a great deal of pleasure and pride that I congratulate you for the 104th Tactical Fighter Group's superb performance in your recent U.E.I. Sixty-four percent of the ratings in the "excellent" or "outstanding" categories, two areas recognized as best in Ninth Air Force, and eleven models for other units to emulate makes a statement that is loud and clear. You're well led, well organized, and ready to fight.

If I were to recognize each superior area, I'd have to replicate nearly the entire U.E.I. report. Suffice it to say that you've made remarkable strides since your 1987 inspection. And your eighteen percent increase in above-standard ratings was done despite the fact that the rating standards themselves have been toughened. I hope you'll share the keys to your success with your sister units. They would do well to follow your lead.

Please pass my regards and congratulations to your people. It was a privilege to hear the praise of the IG team chief. Your performance speaks well for the Air Force in general and the Massachusetts Air National Guard in particular.

THOMAS R. OLSEN
Major General, USAF
Vice Commander

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Funeral for Long-time Guardsman...Page 9

Your Employment Rights (J.A. Law)...Page 10

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Airshow '91 Story and Photos

Page 6

This Airscoop classified was originally Published May 1964

MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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



PRIDE.

PROFESSIONALISM.

PATRIOTISM

We're on the Web

WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL

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