



FALCON'S VIEW

183rd Fighter Wing

Illinois Air National Guard, Springfield, Ill.

December 2012, Vol. XII, No. 11

183rd Fighter Wing welcomes new commander

By Tech. Sgt. Andria Sapp
183rd Public Affairs

183rd Fighter Wing (FW) Commander Col. Michael A. Meyer of Springfield, relinquished command to Col. Ronald E. Paul of Cudahy, Wis., during a ceremony here Nov. 3. Meyer will retire after nearly 35 years of service.

"I am honored and humbled to accept command of the 183rd Fighter Wing," Paul said. "My family and I are very excited to return home to Springfield."

Family and friends of both men gathered to show support. More than 400 past and present members of the 183rd also attended the ceremony.

In a sentiment directed to Meyer, Paul stated, "I would like to thank Colonel Meyer for his years of steadfast leadership. He has definitely postured us for future success."

Paul said he is busy planning for the short and long term goals of the wing.

"The members of the 183rd have a rich tradition and a bright future," Paul said. "In the short term, we will focus on preparation for our mega inspection. I fully anticipate our team to wow the inspectors. Further down the road, we will demonstrate our abilities and show we are the best in the business. We will seek out and attempt to secure expanded roles which match our skills."

He is also enthusiastic about having the opportunity to work with Springfield and Sangamon County leaders to grow the partnerships started by Meyer.

"I would also like to thank members of the community for their support of the 183rd," said Paul. "I look forward to meeting and continuing our special relationship."

Col. Jeffrey A. Rice will continue to serve alongside

Paul as the wing's vice commander.

"It has been my privilege to work with Colonel Meyer," said Rice. "I appreciate his leadership, mentorship and friendship. I look forward to working with Colonel Paul as we move ahead and face new challenges."

Paul will officially assume command Nov. 19 when his position as Director of Logistics, First Air Force and Continental U.S. North American Defense Command Region at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., comes to an end.

Paul is returning to the 183rd FW after serving two years in Florida. During his previous time at the 183rd,



Col. Ronald E. Paul, incoming Wing Commander, 183rd Fighter Wing, and Brig. Gen. Schroeder, Commander, Air – Illinois National Guard, pass the Wing flag during the Wing's change-of-command ceremony Nov. 3. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr/Released)

he served as: Chief of supply, Logistics Squadron; Commander, Maintenance Squadron; Commander, Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and Commander, Mission Support Group. Prior to serving at the 183rd he served in Alaska, Utah, the United Kingdom, Germany and Idaho. He graduated from Aircraft Maintenance Officer Course, Chanute Air Force Base, Ill., in February 1998.

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Important Information

Unit Training Assembly Schedule and pay dates



<u>Duty Performed</u>	<u>Pays out (approx.)</u>
JAN 5-6	JAN 16
FEB 9-10	FEB 20
MAR 2-3	MAR 13

PLEASE NOTE: Duty hours for each UTA/SUTA will be 0800-1200 and 1300-1700 unless otherwise scheduled in advance. Mark your calendar! For more pay information, see the DFAS website at <http://www.dfas.mil/index.htm>. Pay information is under the Money Matters heading.

“Like” us on Facebook

The 183rd Fighter Wing is now on Facebook!

We will use this page to bring you newsworthy topics related to the 183rd as well as disseminate other information that may be relevant to drill, weather, etc. When you search for our page look for the photo below as the profile picture. This is the official page established here by the unit. If you find the page that has the wing crest as the profile picture, you have found a 183rd page that has been launched by Wikipedia, and is not the



official page. Please direct your questions or comments to the Public Affairs office by email: 183fw.pa@ang.af.mil

December Lunch Menu

**Menu subject to change*



Saturday Holiday meal 1030 to 1300 (Main line both sides, no short order)

Steamship Round Roast, Baked Ham, Roasted Turkey, Yams, Mashed Potatoes & Brown Gravy, Rice Pilaf, Corn Bread Dressing, Country Style Greens, Corn on the cob, Glazed Carrots, Wisconsin Cheese Soup, Buttered Sweet Rolls, Salad Bar, Cherry Pie, Apple Pie

Sunday 1100-1300

Main line: Soft/Hard Tacos, Chicken Fajitas, Mexican Rice, Refried Beans, Mixed Veggies, Salad Bar, Chocolate Chip Cookies

Short Order: Cheeseburgers, Fries

Contents of the Falcon's View are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the US Government, DoD, the Department of the Air Force or the Air National Guard. The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs office of the 183rd Fighter Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Wing Commander

Col. Ronald E. Paul

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Attention!

**The deadline for the
January issue of the
Falcon's View is, 1200 hrs.
December 1!**



Vice Commander reflects on change

by Col. Jeffrey A. Rice
183rd Vice Commander

Change is in the air again at the 183rd. A very high profile change happened in November when we witnessed our change of command and welcomed Col. Paul. We opened our new entrance in October. How many of you turned toward the old gate when you left in October and November? I'll admit that I've done it. Look around at all of the construction on base. Transformation is happening before our eyes.

Change happens whether we are ready for it or not. Change is going to happen and staying the same is not an option. It is said that organizations that fail to change do not survive. The 183rd has survived for 64 years now and has seen some monumental changes in that time. Think of the change from the P-51 to the first jet aircraft, the delivery of the first F-4, and then the change to the F-16. Probably the most monumental change of all we have witnessed here at 183rd was the loss of the flying mission in 2008.

With each of these changes our organization has adapted and continued to survive. We continually rise to meet the challenges. Why is that? The answer always lies within the people who make up the organization and, here at the 183rd, we have exceptional people.

How do you personally handle change? Do you embrace it? Do you hide from it? I'd say that those are the two extreme ends of the spectrum and that most people fall somewhere in the middle. There are stages of change that people go through at their own pace. Everyone is different and a lot happens between the time when a person finds out about a coming change until they finally accept it. There may be feelings of

shock or anger at first - everyone likes change until it happens to them. There can be confusion as roles and responsibilities are altered. The acceptance process is as varied as the individuals in the organization.

There are a few things to keep in mind as we work through any change. Flexibility is key. Be open to change. View change as opportunity instead of threat. Some individuals may feel the need to become more connected as things change. Don't be afraid to reach out to your peers, supervisors, first sergeants and commanders. Maintaining a team attitude of being in this together is important. Remember that human nature is for people to look out for themselves and see change

as having winners and losers. That is only natural. To overcome that, maintain the sense of working as a team and help each other succeed. Communication is extremely important. Always make sure everyone is informed and aware of the potential results of change, positive or negative. Sharing information helps build a strong team.

Our next upcoming challenge is the Combined Unit Inspection. Already, you've probably been involved in developing and using new checklists for your section and perhaps you have started using new systems to track your prog-

ress. This may be different from how we prepared for inspections in the past. Once again, change is happening. While how we prepare may be a bit different, the underlying purpose is not. Our goal is to pass the inspections with flying colors, something I have no doubt we will do. In the next six months, be a part of the team. Embrace the changes, face the challenges head on, and don't be afraid to make mistakes. That is how we learn, grow and become better at what we do.

We've always had a strong organization here at the 183rd and we will continue to do so into the future no matter what challenges we face. Thank you for what you do to make the 183rd such a great organization!



Colonel Meyer retires after nearly 35 years of service

by Tech. Sgt. Andria Sapp
183rd Public Affairs

183rd Fighter Wing (FW) Commander Col. Michael A. Meyer retired Nov. 7 after nearly 35 years of service.

“Being in the Air National Guard has been a great opportunity,” said Meyer during his retirement ceremony held Nov. 3. “I have flown over most of the states of the union. I traveled to and flown in many overseas countries. I have met comrades in arms from many countries. I have had great opportunities to serve my community, my state, and my country. I have been able to work with some of the greatest, most patriotic, and selfless people in the world. We have laughed out loud together and we have cried together. Today is a day of laughter. That is an order.”

The 183rd FW has been through ups and downs during Meyer’s eight and a half years as commander. In 2005 the unit lost its flying mission during the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission. Many have said it was thanks to Meyer’s hard work and dedication to the unit that it was able to keep its doors open and gain two new missions.

Col. Stephen F. Baggerly, Illinois Air National Guard Director of Staff – Air, has worked with Meyer throughout his career. His words towards Meyer reflect the long standing, and positive, work relationship they share.

“I wish Col Meyer well on his upcoming retirement from the Illinois Air National Guard and from his service to our country,” said Baggerly. “Colonel Meyer always had the best interests of the service and the members of the 183rd FW in his heart and mind. His efforts led our Wing through one of the most-trying times in the unit’s history, the loss of our aircraft due to the Base Realignment and Closure Committee’s actions. His leadership was critical to our Wing moving forward into our new missions.”

Meyer is humbled by those comments and states that regardless of his efforts he alone would not have been able to keep the unit open.

“I may have marshaled the forces and leveraged the great

work ethic and attitudes of the Airmen that make up this unit, but the support of our community and fellow service members are what made keeping our doors open a reality,” he said.

There were many good times not only over the last eight and a half years, but over the entire 35 years Meyer’s served. He said this past drill weekend stands out to be one of the best.

“One of my most significant memories will always be this past weekend,” he said. “The fact that I could look back and leave knowing there is not unfinished work to do allowed me to soak in all of the retirement celebrations. I made sure to take time to read every card and soak in every word people said.”

Meyer’s list of mentors and accomplishments are a mile long. To list each one separately would be next to impossible. He does say that each person along the way has helped to shape him to be the leader he has become, and is sure to include that everything he has accomplished would have been impossible without his wife Emily’s support.

He has also served as a mentor to many members of the unit as well. Lt. Col. Kevin Mulcahy, Director of Operations, 183rd Air Component Operations Squadron, was one of the many Meyer mentored.

“Colonel Meyer is a brilliant individual who gave me the opportunity as full-time technician in 1996 when he served as my boss in the role of Operations Plans Officer, and I was the Logistics Plans Officer,” said Mulcahy. “He was my first full-time boss and mentor. His mentorship and friendship has been invaluable over the years. He will be truly missed, and I wish Colonel Meyer and Emily all the best.”

In a statement directed to the members of the 183rd he said, “Remember that opportunities are not defined by you, but by others. Always be prepared to take advantage of an opportunity when one comes along. And remember, it is always best to try and fail then to never have tried at all.”

Meyer was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1977, joined the Air National Guard in 1978 and then earned his pilot wings in 1979. Other military positions Meyer has held include a short tour at National Guard Bureau in Washington, D.C., F-16 flight instructor, 183rd Operations Group Vice Commander and 183rd Fighter Wing Air Operations Officer.

Colonel Meyer Retirement



Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Celletti, the Acting Adjutant General of the Illinois Air National Guard presents Col. Michael A. Meyer with the Meritorious Service Medal during his retirement ceremony Nov. 3 at the 183rd Fighter Wing. Col. Meyer retired after nearly 35 years of service. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr/Released)



Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Celletti, the Acting Adjutant General of the Illinois Air National Guard presents Col. Michael A. Meyer with a Certificate of Retirement signed by President Obama during his retirement ceremony Nov. 3 at the 183rd Fighter Wing. Col. Meyer retired after nearly 35 years of service. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr/Released)



Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Celletti, the Acting Adjutant General of the Illinois Air National Guard pins Col. Michael A. Meyer with the Distinguished Service Medal during his retirement ceremony Nov. 3 at the 183rd Fighter Wing. Col. Meyer retired after nearly 35 years of service. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr/Released)



Col. Michael A. Meyer addresses the crowd at a dinner held in honor of his retirement from the 183rd Fighter Wing. Col Meyer served for nearly 35 years in the Air National Guard, and spent from March 2004 until his retirement as commander of the 183rd Fighter Wing. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr/Released)

Neely Named Illinois National Guard's Chief of the Joint Staff

SPRINGFIELD, IL (11/05/2012) Illinois Air National Guardsman Col. Rich Neely of Springfield was named the Illinois National Guard's Chief of the Joint Staff today by Maj. Gen. Dennis Celletti of Springfield, Acting Adjutant General at Camp Lincoln in Springfield.

Although an Airman, Neely has led the Illinois Army National Guard's Directorate of Information Management for the last two years as the Chief Information Officer.

"As an Airman who led an Army directorate, Col. Neely is perfect for this position," Celletti said. "His work as the lead planner during the NATO Summit this spring, as well as his past experience in communications, logistics, finance and domestic operations, has prepared him to take the Joint Staff to new heights."

This position oversees the Illinois National Guard's domestic operations as well as various programs such as family programs, counterdrug, International State Partnership Program, civil support and chemical, biological, radiological/nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) enhanced response force package (CERFP).

He will replace Illinois Army National Guardsman Col. Chris Lawson of Springfield who will deploy early next year to Afghanistan with Bilateral Embedded Staff Team 11 as the deputy task force commander for a Polish task force.

"Rich is a brilliant and talented senior officer who will excel as the Chief of the Joint Staff. He understands the environment and players in the joint community at the international, federal, state and local levels," Lawson said. "He knows how to cultivate unity of effort to achieve results for the Illinois Air and Army National Guard."

Neely started his military career as a U.S. Army Reservist in 1984. He transitioned to the Illinois Air



National Guard in 1987, then commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1990. His most recent military assignment was commander of 183rd Air Component Operations Squadron (ACOS), 183rd Air Operations Group at the 183rd Fighter Wing in Springfield.

Other highlights of Neely's career include chief of logistics plans and programs, financial officer, wing executive officer, communications flight commander and Illinois Air National Guard Deputy United States Property and Fiscal officer. He has also deployed overseas twice in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

"Each one of my jobs has prepared me for this position," Neely said. "I am humbled to be selected for this position and look forward to continue to serve the citizens of Illinois in this new capacity. Col. Lawson is an incredible leader and strategic visionary who is regarded nationally as one of the best Chiefs of Staff within the National Guard. I am fortunate to follow such a great officer and Soldier."

Trained and Ready!

by Lt. Col. Robert Schell
Medical Group

Members from across the Wing came together Oct. 24 and 25 to complete In Place Patient Decontamination, IPPD, Team Training. The 183rd Fighter Wing is the first unit in the Air National Guard (ANG) to complete training. Wayne Theurer, National Guard Bureau/Readiness Center Medical Counter-Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (MC-CBRN) Program Analyst, attended the training to evaluate the trainers, equipment and our performance declared the 183rd “Fully Operational – the first ANG unit to stand-up this critical mission!”

The first day of training was all classroom – meet and greet around the room, endless powerpoints and a test at the end – grueling! Our instructors were all retired military and included a past civil support team commander, and Army subject matter experts in chemical warfare and medical CBRNE response.

The trainers, despite their experience, were also ‘first timers’. As new contractors for the program, we were the test base for this training course. These folks had done their homework and presented a good, well-paced course. At the end of the day, all members had a good understanding of the ANG MC-CBRN program, our roles for home station response and possible use for domestic support to civilian authorizes, and were certified as OSHA HazMat First Respond-

ers.

Day two was hands on training with the equipment set. We held up our end as a test base by presenting equipment and weather challenges. Weather for the day was winds with gusts to 30 mph in the morning and thunderstorms in the afternoon. The instructors compressed the schedule from eight to four hours of intense hands-on training to meet all requirements in the morning.

We had inventoried the equipment upon receipt and prior to training as required, but had not fully unwrapped or checked all equipment. Lesson learned! The tent, shipped from the factory, was to contain the “one piece articulating frame, semi dome structure

with ground cloth.” Almost – no ground cloth. The ground cloth was not packed under the tent as assumed and the tent doesn’t stand without clipping onto the ground cloth. A call to the 182nd Airlift Wing in Peoria, got us a loaner, but wouldn’t be on site until late morning. Trainers and trainees adjusted on the fly and moved into decon line setup without the tent. Luckily the day was warm, if a bit windy, but a few strategically placed trainees kept mate-



Members of various organizations across the 183rd Fighter Wing participated in In Place Patient Decontamination Team training Oct. 25. The 183rd is the first unit trained and operational with this capability. (National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr/Released)

rials from blowing away. Trainees set up the roller system for litter bound patients and conducted a walk through with several casualties to learn procedures.

The ground cloth arrived. The tent went up and the trainees could see the full system. Curtains to separate male and female lines with integral showers, center roller system for litter bound patient with hand held shower wands. The system was looking good –

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Jr. Blues Military Appreciation Night

Military honored by local sports team at annual appreciation night

by Master Sgt. Shaun Kerr
183rd Public Affairs

The Springfield Jr. Blues hockey organization held its 4th annual Military Appreciation Night, Saturday, November 10. In honor of military members past and present, the team wore military inspired jerseys for the game, which were then available for a silent auction after the game.

After the posting of the colors by an active duty Army color guard, a diverse group of military and non-military personnel unfurled and displayed the flag of the United States of America while the national anthem was sung, prior to the start of the game.



Groups participating in the displaying of the flag were: members of the Illinois Air National Guard, Illinois Army National Guard, active duty Navy, Navy recruits, cadets from Lincoln's Challenge Academy in Rantoul, Illinois, and members of the Illinois Patriot Guard.



Being at Peace

by Chaplain Lt. Col. Robert Barry
183rd Chaplain

As the holidays approach, our universal prayer is for peace, and wherever they are celebrated, a spirit of peace prevails. But do we truly find an inner peace that is enduring and beneficial to us. More than anything else, the holidays should be a season for us to discover an inner peace.

How do we know when we are at peace within ourselves? I would ask you to reflect on and meditate about these. We are at peace when it is not fear or anxiety that motivates or drives our actions, but love for others and a love for ourselves that brings others to prosper. We are at peace when we do not regret or denounce ourselves in our past, or anxious about what will become of us in the future. We are at peace within ourselves when we fully live in the present. We are at peace in ourselves when we are less concerned with judging and evaluating others than in loving and befriending them. And we come to inner peace when we focus on our own thoughts and not on others. Peace comes to us when gratitude for the good others comes easily and when we do not feel we are alone or isolated by others. We are at peace within ourselves when we accept life as it is with its joys and sorrows, successes and disappointments.



Roman Catholic Chaplain
Lt. Col. Bob Barry
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But there is something else that we need for peace. We need the presence, power and life of God within us. We need this because we do not know our future and only God does. We do not know what will happen to us tomorrow at noon, but God does. To be at peace within ourselves, we need to be open to the Spirit of God that can and will guide and protect us through the uncertainties of our future.

The Spirit of God gives us life, forgiveness and truth. But the Spirit of God also leads us to God, and we have inner peace when we watch for, listen to and are attuned to this Spirit.

While the holiday season is a time for celebration, peace and relaxation it is also a time to draw the Spirit of God more deeply into ourselves so that we can share fully in the peace that we seek to give others so fully.



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Base Chapel Office:

Bldg. P-48, Room 302

Phone 217-757-1367

DSN 892-8367

Fax (217)757-1509

Catholic Mass:
Sunday 8:30 a.m.



Protestant Service:
Saturday 12:30 p.m.

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force ‘Airman’ magazine enters digital era

After over 30 years of service to our great nation, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force (CMSAF) James A. Roy has announced he will retire at the end of January. During their tenure, CMSAF Roy and his wife Ms. Paula teamed to tackle our biggest challenges and cheered our greatest accomplishments. We owe them a huge thank you. I hope you will join Betty and me in wishing them “blue skies” as they begin the next chapter in their lives.

Being CMSAF is a big deal, and finding the right Airman to be our next one was a little bit intimidating. It’s also the most important decision I’ll make as your Chief of Staff...and probably the hardest. I reached out to our former CMSAFs for guidance and took nominations from senior leaders throughout the Total Force. I reviewed the records of the best and brightest Chief Master Sgt.’s in our Air Force and personally interviewed five of them here in the Pentagon. I’m very comfortable that I’ve made the right choice.

I’m pleased to announce Chief Master Sgt. James A. Cody as our Service’s 17th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, effective 1 Feb 2013. Chief Cody and his wife Athena, a retired Chief Master Sgt. herself, have a very unique understanding of the Air Force family and they share a passion for Airmen—their son also happens to be one. If you know Chief Cody, you’ll be excited about this selection. If you don’t know him, you’ll get excited as soon as you do meet him. He’s smart, talented, engaged and driven to make our Air Force a better place to live and work...and I’ll be proud to have him as my partner in this job.

Please join Betty and me in welcoming Chief Master Sgt. Cody and Athena to their new roles. They’re eager to represent you and to better understand those things you care most about. I look forward to introducing them to you in just a couple of months. You’re gonna love ‘em!

MARK A. WELSH III
General, USAF
20th Chief of Staff

11/7/2012 - FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. (AFNS)
-- A year after publishing the final print edition of Airman magazine, the Air Force is unveiling a new digital version of the service’s official magazine specifically geared for tablet devices.

“Built specifically for Apple and Android tablet users, this new format gives readers all the in-depth feature stories and spectacular photos they’ve come to expect from Airman magazine and adds layers of multimedia content and interactivity only available through new publishing techniques,” said Preston Keres, Airman editor-in-chief. “We are very excited to release this first new issue, and begin a new era for telling the Airman’s story.”

In addition to stunning photography, compelling copy, great video, interactive content and design, Keres said the staff is proud that they are able to bring back the monthly publishing schedule.

For the past year, the Airman editorial staff and design team have posted original content to the Airman website at <http://airman.dodlive.mil>, which will remain current after the launch of the new tablet magazine. The website will continue as the home of Airman and will feature extra and exclusive staff-produced content, as well as strong feature stories, images and multimedia from the field.

The website, however, was never meant to replace the printed magazine.

Budget efficiencies in 2011 led to the elimination of the printing budgets for all flagship service magazines. At that time, the Airman editorial staff and design team were reduced to only one full-time employee each, during a BRAC move that consolidated most flagship service products at the Defense Media Activity.

Airman is free and available now for download in the Apple iTunes newsstand at <http://bit.ly/TK559c> and as a standalone app in the Google Play store at <http://bit.ly/WE3FTX>.

Announcements



Promotions!

Major

Thomas W. Hall

Senior Airmen

Todd D. Easton

First Lieutenant

David C. Grzesiak

Welcome Aboard!

Capt. Michael C. Poletti

183rd ACOS

2nd Lt. Brandi Jewell

183rd AMOS

Happy Retirement to:

Major Richard T. Floyd	183rd AOS	Oct. 15
Chief Master Sgt. Brenda R. Korte	JFHQ	Oct. 1
Senior Master Sgt. Monte L. Maliongas	ACOS	Oct. 1
Master Sgt. Vassellar Farmer	CE	Oct. 15
Master Sgt. Scott A. Harms	ACOS	Oct. 30
Master Sgt. Steven D. Ishmael	MXS	Oct. 30
Tech. Sgt. Amy K. Antonacci	SG	Oct. 15
Tech. Sgt. Joseph Snodgrass	EIS	Oct. 1

Retiree Breakfast Gathering: Retirees gather on the first Tuesday of each month to share breakfast and talk about the good ole days. Join them at King Pin Lanes, on the corner of Sangamon Ave. and Dirksen Parkway, Tuesday, Dec. 4. They say they meet at 8 a.m., but if you're not there by 7:30 the early birds have taken the good seats!

Critical information about TRS monthly premium payments

Monthly premium payments must be made by either recurring Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) or recurring Debit/Credit Card (Visa/MasterCard only) beginning no later than Jan. 1, 2013. Contact your TRICARE regional contractor IMMEDIATELY to set up your automatic monthly premium payments, if you have not done so already.

DO NOT DELAY. If you fail to establish one of these automated payment methods, you and/or your family's coverage will be terminated. Contact information for your TRICARE regional contractor can be found at www.tricare.mil/contacts.

Please disregard if you already have an EFT or debit/credit card set up for automatic payments.

CFPB Now Taking Complaints on Credit Reporting

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) began accepting consumer complaints about credit reporting, giving consumer's individual-level complaint assistance for the first time at the federal level.

A consumer can come to the CFPB if he or she, for example, has issues with:

- . Incorrect information on a credit report;
- . A consumer reporting agency's investigation;
- . The improper use of a credit report;
- . Being unable to get a copy of a credit score or file; and
- . Problems with credit monitoring or identify protection services.

To file a credit reporting complaint, consumers can:

- . File online at www.consumerfinance.gov/Complaint
- . Call the toll-free phone number at 1-855-411-CFPB (2372) or TTY/TDD phone number at 1-855-729-CFPB (2372)
- . Fax the CFPB at 1-855-237-2392
- . Mail a letter to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, P.O. Box 4503, Iowa City, Iowa 52244

Capital Area Career Center Kindergarten Readiness Program

Now Enrolling for the 2012-2013 School Year

- For students ages 3-5 years old
 - Instruction in early literacy and mathematics skills, along with fine and gross motor skills
 - Age appropriate socialization
 - Highly-qualified Early Childhood Instructor
 - High school students enrolled in the Early Childhood Care and Education Program will assist with instruction
 - Two sessions are offered to fit your schedule: Morning (9-11) and Afternoon (1-3) Monday through Thursday
 - Financial assistance available/Free to the Military
- If you would like more information please contact Alexa Ferguson at the Capital Area Career Center (217) 529-5431 ext. 128. Located off of I55.

Force Support Squadron Customer Support Hours of Operation

Hours for Unit Training Assemblies for Customer Support is open for walk-in customers Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sundays, 1-5 p.m.. Monday through Friday is by appointment only. Customers will need to call (217)757-1308 to schedule an appointment.

Lodging Reservations

Just a reminder that ALL lodging reservations are made through the Services office via the Automated Lodging Reservation system, that includes annual training, special training, etc and UTA/RUTA/BUTA. Please contact Tech. Sgt. David Vice, (217)757-1573 or DSN 892-8573 with any questions.

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almost. The Hi Volume water heater refused to ignite despite the best efforts of the trainers and numerous suggestions from the trainees. This is a portable, kerosene small boiler capable of heating 55°F water to 95°F in 30 seconds. Good thing if you are on the receiving end of a decon shower. Lesson learned – Ops check!

The final activity was to dress out in the protective equipment – impervious coverall with powered respirator and hood. Those years of chemical warfare defense training paid off as members used the buddy system to assist with donning the personal protective equipment and checking that all was “thumbs up.”

At the end of the morning we had beat the equipment issues. Our members were attentive, professional and good humored throughout the training and performed at the level we all have come to expect from the 183rd. Wayne Theurer and the trainers were impressed with our performance and before leaving committed to return for a follow-up training exercise next spring.

NOTE: The IPPD package is part of the ANG's Medical Counter – Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear, MC-CBRN, Program. The IPPD provides capability to remove or neutralize weapons of mass destruction agents on casualties of a local incident or accident. The system is designed to be set up and operational within 20 minutes and is able to decontaminate ambulatory and litter bound patients. A minimum of 12 personnel are needed to operate the IPPD. Eighteen full time staff from all wing Groups were selected to support this mission.

The ANG MC-CBRN Program is a non-deployable asset, designed to promote home station mission continuation and force survivability in the first 24 hours following a CBRN event on or impacting the installation. The ANG MC-CBRN mission is supported by four equipment sets. These are the IPPD, Bioenvironmental Engineering Threat Response and Medical Triage. The fourth set, Public Health, will be fielded this fiscal year (FY13). The 183rd Medical Group is the office of primary responsibility and primary responders for all but the IPPD. The response assets give the Wing the ability to identify a range of chemical agents, perform health risk assessments, advise on mitigation and treatment, decontaminate and provide initial care.

Protecting yourself while using wireless hotspots

by Tech. Sgt. Alana Franklin
Communications Flight

I am a known tech junkie. I own a smartphone, laptop, tablet and nook reader. All of which, I have been known to use at the same time. Many of the activities I perform on these devices need internet access, and often I use WiFi at a local hotspot. Several businesses, especially restaurants, are happy to provide free unsecured access. Come in, buy a coffee and a donut and check your email, shop, download a book, do banking or check Facebook. Is this safe? What is your risk? Is your information protected?

While WiFi is a great convenience, it is not always safe. Especially free WiFi that is unsecured, unencrypted and unprotected. It leaves your system open to hackers to access your information. While transmitting your information over a free unencrypted network, like a hotspot, hackers have free access to anything you type in to your system and transmit over the internet. This could be your SSN, address, password, banking information, credit card information and so much more. There are times when you do not need worry about secure connections such as browsing the internet, looking up directions and checking the news to name some. Below are 12 helpful hints on best practices when accessing a hotspot.

1. Hotspots are everywhere. When not using WiFi turn off your connections so your information is not out there for the taking.
2. Make sure internet settings are set for you to choose a connection and not set for automatic connection to surrounding WiFi.
3. Use VPN (Virtual Private Network). Many colleges and businesses have this setting to connect to their network. Check with them to see if this is an option and connection settings.

4. Use https sites instead of http. Many sites like gmail and yahoo have this option. This provides a more secure connection.
5. Disable file and print share functions.
6. Set folders to private settings.
7. Encrypt files.
8. Do not store sensitive information on portable devices (banking account numbers, SSN, credit card info, passwords).
9. When using a system try not to use it in the open. Put your back to a wall, or go into a private room are just a couple of good practices to use.
10. Avoid using hotspots to perform sensitive information activities such as shopping, banking etc...
11. Use a firewall. This is always a great option during any internet use.
12. Always ensure you have the most up to date virus protection.

This is just a quick list of helpful hints. For more detailed information on these features and step-by-step instructions on how to set them please go to the below sites.

<http://www.microsoft.com/atwork/remotely/hotspots.aspx>

<http://mobileoffice.about.com/od/locatinghotspots/bb/wi-fi-hotspot-security.htm>

http://howto.cnet.com/8301-11310_39-20034899-285/6-ways-to-use-public-wi-fi-hot-spots-safely/



A Healthy Smile is Contagious

by Capt. Amanda Shull
Medical Group

As a member of the military you are required to see a dentist yearly, and to have a form (DD Form 2813) completed in regards to your dental health. The information provided by your dentist will help the Medical Group determine your dental fitness classification. Dental readiness is an essential component of unit readiness, and is required for a military member to be qualified for mobilization.

Military members are essential to the U.S. Air Force's mission success. Therefore, your health, physical fitness, and oral and dental health are vitally important. You might be asking yourself, "How does my dental status affect my physical capability and my ability to be deployed and complete the USAF mission?"

The importance of proper dental hygiene should never be underestimated. Oral health care is a crucial aspect of maintaining general health. According to the American Dental Hygienists Association (ADHA), poor dental care can cause loss of teeth or poor dentition which can make eating difficult, and lead to poor nutrition. It can also cause plaque build-up, which in turn irritates the gums and causes them to bleed. This allows microscopic amounts of bacteria to enter the bloodstream. The presence of plaque and tooth decay has been known to cause an increased risk of cardiovascular disease and decrease ability to control diabetes.

There are several reasons that a military member's oral and dental health can decline, and the likelihood of this occurring increases during deployment. These reasons include a stress-induced compromise of the immune system, inadequate oral and dental hygiene, use of tobacco products, combat-related injury to the face, and not having ready access to dental treatment facilities while on deployment. That is why it is important to maintain appropriate dental care.

The ADHA recommends basic daily steps in order to prevent dental problems. These include brushing your teeth at least 2 minutes 2 times per day, flossing, rinsing with anti-microbial mouthwash, and chewing sugar-free gum after eating. It is also important to eat foods that contain less sugar, and avoid or drink fewer carbonated beverages. Besides these daily activities it is also recommended that you see your dentist

yearly, and have your teeth cleaned by the hygienist 2 times a year.

Proper brushing is essential for cleaning teeth and gums effectively. When choosing a toothbrush select one with soft, nylon, round-ended bristles that will not harm or irritate your teeth or gums. It is important to replace your toothbrush every 3-4 months. Following the proper brushing techniques, for at least two minutes, two times per day is the most important step to reduce plaque build-up and the risk of cavities and gingivitis.

Daily flossing is highly recommended and is a vital part of dental health because it removes plaque from between teeth and at the gum line, where periodontal disease is known to begin. Proper flossing techniques are illustrated below.

Daily brushing and flossing remove the plaque on the teeth and gums, however, teeth only make-up half of the mouth. In order to get rid of the plaque and gingivitis germs that are left behind after brushing you should use an anti-microbial mouthwash. Chewing sugar-free gum after eating is also recommended. It stimulates saliva which has been proven to fight cavities, neutralize plaque acids, re-mineralize enamel to strengthen teeth and wash away food particles.

It is important to practice good dental health not only to keep yourself healthy, but also to set an example for your family. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, 50 percent of children will have a cavity or filling between the ages of five and nine. Therefore, it is important to take the time to teach your children to proper way to care for their teeth.

It is not easy to get kids involved in oral care, and it can be even more challenging to keep them engaged. Dr. Kaneta Lott, through the AAPD, offers some fun and creative ways to inspire kids to take care of their teeth. One suggestion is to reward healthy behavior by posting a chart and/or calendar in the bathroom and reward kids with a gold star for each day of great oral care. For more fun ideas visit www.listerinekids.com. Free oral health behavioral charts are available at <http://www.freeprintablebehaviorcharts.com/oralhygienecharts.htm>.

In order to maintain a healthy and beautiful smile remember to brush your teeth at least two minutes, two times per day, and encourage your family to do the same. Also do not forget to have your dentist complete the DD Form 2813 yearly, and turn it into the medical squadron.

Family Readiness Announcements



183rd Family Support Group Presents
2012 Children's Christmas Party
When: Sunday Dec. 2
Where: Aerospace Dining Facility
What Time: 2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Please come and join in the fun and festivities!
A visit from Santa is scheduled!

Needs Based Grant Opportunities for Reserve and National Guard Military Families

What is Reserve Aid? ReserveAid is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization that makes need based grants to military families who have a Reservist or National Guard member on full time deployment or who has recently returned from deployment to a combat zone or homeland security position.

About Their Needs. ReserveAid is currently assisting families of Reservists and National Guard members at the rate of approximately \$65,000 per month – and the need that exists is far greater. The assistance needed by our heroes is far greater than what ReserveAid is able to provide.

Requests often include:

- * Rent/mortgage payment
- * Assistance with utility bills (power, heat)

- * Car payment
- * Car insurance
- * Wal-Mart gift card for food and fuel

Reserve Aid does not assist with credit card payments or cable TV.

Their approach: ReserveAid works closely with the Veterans Administrations and representatives from the military services to help identify reservists who may be in need. ReserveAid helps members of all branches of the military. ReserveAid does not make loans. The objective is to meet every valid emergency financial need of service members and their dependents within 48 hours of grant approval.

For more information, please contact Mr. Joe Ward, Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager, (217)757-1569, DSN 892-8569 or cell (217)416-1644. Or visit their website at: www.reserveaid.org

It's getting cold outside.... better get ready!

*Submitted by Maj. Sean Heup
183rd Fighter Wing, Inspector General*



AFI36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel

2.13.7.1. "Do not stand or walk with hand(s) in pocket(s), except to insert or remove an item"

6.3.8. Cold Weather Accessories. Cold weather accessories will only be worn when wearing authorized outer garments.

6.3.8.1. Gloves (black or sage green). Gloves may be worn with all authorized outer garments. They will be all one color, leather, knitted, tricot or suede, or a combination of leather, knitted, tricot, and suede. Black or sage green gloves may be worn with the ABU, FDU and all authorized outer garments to the ABU or FDU. Only black gloves may be worn with the service dress uniform and all approved outer garments worn with the blue service and service dress uniforms.

6.3.8.2. Scarf (black). A scarf may be worn with all authorized outer garments except the pullover and cardigan sweaters (when worn solely as an outer garment). The scarf must be tucked in and will only be worn with an outer garment. The scarf will not exceed 10 inches in width and can be knit, all wool or cotton simplex, with or without a napped surface.

6.3.8.3. Earmuffs (black). Earmuffs may be worn with all authorized outer garments and may wrap around either the top or rear of the head. Earmuffs may be made of any material and will only be worn with an outer garment. (Exception: gloves may be worn solely with the service dress uniform, ABUs and BDUs).

Welcome Home Heroes financing package

Launched to honor those who sacrifice to safeguard our freedom, Welcome Home Heroes is open to all qualified Illinois veterans, active military personnel, reservists and Illinois National Guard members.

The Welcome Home Heroes home buyer financing package includes:

- A \$10,000 forgivable loan over two years for down payment and closing cost assistance
- A 30-year fixed rate mortgage that has an affordable interest rate
- An optional mortgage credit certificate to reduce federal income tax liability.

Eligibility

- Veterans (who need not be first-time home buyers)
- Active military personnel, reservists and Illinois National Guard members (must be first-time home buyers) (some guard members qualify as veterans based on deployments)
- Buyers must qualify based on income and purchase price limits.

How to apply. Interested buyers must apply through a lender in their area. The program only applies to 1-2 unit residential properties in the State of Illinois purchased as a primary residence. The new loan builds on the existing affordable home loan, SmartMove, also available through IHDA's lenders.

How does the tax credit work?

A mortgage credit certificate (MCC) enhances the benefit of the federal homeowner mortgage interest deduction. Homeowners with the credit are allowed to use 20 percent of their annual mortgage interest as a direct federal tax credit, resulting in a dollar-for-dollar reduction of their annual federal income tax liability. The remaining 80 percent of their annual mortgage interest will continue to qualify as an itemized tax deduction.

Unit Spotlight



Who: Master Sgt. James P. Kavanagh, Jr.
Job title: Security Forces Flight Chief/Ani-Terrorism Officer (NCOIC)

Returning from: Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan

Length of deployment: 172 days

Number of deployments: 7- Masirah, Oman 2001, Manas, Kyrgyzstan 2002, Constanta, Romania 2003, Diego Garcia 2004, Camp Bucca, Iraq 2005, Kirkuk, Iraq 2007, and Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan 2012

Why do you volunteer to deploy?

Well, Security Forces has a lot of cool toys to play with whenever it comes down to doing the job. How many other career fields in the Guard give the opportunity to be certified on crew served weapons, drive up armored vehicles, secure airfields, and protect a bunch of fellow service members? Not too many that I know of. Furthermore, the team concept is something the security forces career field practices and reinforces on a daily basis while conducting just about any task. Before the deployments there are many hours of predeployment training that has to be accomplished. Whether we are perfecting our ground combat skills, physical restraint tactics, or qualifying on different

weapons systems, the experiences doing so are very exciting. I have had the opportunity to deploy a total of seven times through my career and each deployment has presented their own challenges. My first three deployments were bare base deployments and they were the most incredible experiences I have ever had in my career. The really neat thing was being able to secure an airbase that has nothing on it and watching it transform into a station that directly impacts the mission. The last four deployments were a little bit different. The two tours to Iraq and one to Afghanistan were probably the biggest challenges. One of the tours to Iraq dealt with nothing but detainees while the last two were more involved with conducting integrated base defense. Times were definitely challenging but that is what makes it fun for me.

Reason for joining the Guard?

I joined the guard for the opportunity to travel the world while being able to receive a free college education.

Words of wisdom to others thinking of deploying?

Ask a lot of questions, research where you are going thoroughly, and network with everyone.

One thing you can't live without while deployed?

Nothing particular but I do enjoy the NFL, MLB, and college basketball when available.

How does your family cope with you being away?

My wife is an absolute saint! She had her hands full with our three kids. The deployment portion of being in the service definitely makes it tough on the family. Obviously, my wife and kids missed me and we were very fortunate to have such an amazing supporting cast while I was away. All of our family and friends checked in on my wife quite often and I don't think we could have done it without their kindness and generosity. My unit first sergeant and commander even stopped in to see how my family was doing; they were pretty awesome for taking the time to do so.

Anything special happen while you were away?

My first son was born.

Will you deploy again?

Of course.

Holiday Decorating

by Senior Master Sgt. Brian Willoughby
Wing Safety

We have all seen the movies where decorating for the holidays becomes a slapstick fiasco (National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation comes to mind). You may want to deck your home out for the holidays but you do not want to create a holiday hazard.

Before crawling up on the roof to string the Christmas lights, you need to know that every year, hospital emergency rooms treat about 12,500 people for injuries, such as falls, cuts and shocks, related to holiday lights, decorations and Christmas trees, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). And let us not forget that all of these precautions apply to workplace decorating too. Be sure to check with your local safety office before your decorating begins.

In addition, warns CPSC, candles start about 11,600 fires each year, resulting in 150 deaths, 1,200 injuries and \$173 million in property loss. Christmas trees are involved in about 300 fires annually, resulting in 10 deaths, 30 injuries and an average of more than \$10 million in property loss and damage.

One of the greatest dangers comes from reaching those high places. Whether it is your roof, the top of the Christmas tree or hanging ornaments from your office ceiling, ladders can be a hazard that is usually ignored. If you think that you (or someone you care about) can not get seriously hurt using a ladder, see the experience of 2012 Airmen-to-Airmen Safety Advisory Council member Capt. Kim Husher: <http://www.afsec.af.mil/>

From Occupational Health & Safety website, <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2010/11/14/wisha-offers-ladder-safety-tips-for-holiday-decorating.aspx>, here are 10 tips for ladder safety when hanging decorations:

1. Carefully inspect the ladder for defects, checking for cracks, corrosion, and that bolts and rivets are

secure. Tag and remove unsafe ladders from service. (<http://www.cbs.state.or.us/external/test/ladder/ladder.html>)

2. Make sure the ladder's feet work properly and have slip-resistant pads.

3. Use a fiberglass ladder if there is any chance of contact with electricity.

4. When setting the ladder, look for a safe location with firm, level footing and rigid support for the top of the ladder. Be sure to set it at an angle per the manufacturer's guidance. (Your ladder should be one foot away from the structure for every four feet of ladder height.)

5. When climbing off a ladder at an upper level, make sure the ladder extends three feet above the landing.

6. When climbing the ladder, use three points of contact – keep one hand and both feet or both hands and one foot in contact with the ladder at all times.

7. Never carry any load that could cause you to lose balance.

8. Never stand on top of a ladder.

9. Do not pull, lean, stretch, or make sudden moves on a ladder that could cause it to tip over. A scaffold or other safe working surface may be a better choice for your task.

10. Avoid setting the ladder near exit doors, near the path of pedestrians or vehicular traffic.



Family Readiness

HELP WANTED

The 183rd Family Readiness and Support Group needs your help. We are trying to recruit members, both new and old. I would like to have your input. From previous members, what worked and what did not. From new members, what do you have to bring to the group and what you would you like to see incorporated into the group? So, let's band together, combine our ideas, and build a Family Support Group that we all will want to participate in. Please see me, Joe Ward, Family Readiness Coordinator for Volunteer Sign-up Forms.

Volunteer Sign-up Form

Unit:	E-mail Address:
_____	_____
Name:	Specialty:
_____	_____
Address:	Phone Number:
_____	_____
City:	State & Zip Code
_____	_____

Please return to: 183rd Family Readiness Group, 3101 J. David Jones Parkway, Springfield, IL. 62707-5001
Phone: 217.757.1569 email: joe.ward.1@ang.af.mil

If you have a member of your family that is a past or current member of the 183rd, or have information that a current or past member of the 183rd has passed away recently, please contact Mr. Joe Ward, Family Program Coordinator. We want to ensure that no one is forgotten for the annual Wreath Laying Ceremony commemorating all past and current members that have lost their lives each year. The Family Support Group is still sending sympathy cards to all deceased members' families as well, but once again, we need the information. You can contact Joe by e-mail at joe.ward.1@ang.mil or by calling 217-757-1569.

1. AUTHORITY: U.S. Code: Title 10, Subtitle E, Part I, Chapter 1007, Section 10204, and other subsets of Title 10.

2. PURPOSE: To collect the information necessary to process the action indicated by the form you are completing

3. ROUTINE USES: This information will not be disclosed outside the Department of Defense.

4. DISCLOSURE: Voluntary. However, failure to provide the information requested will result in the form not being processed, and may result in a denial of the intended action.