



# Finis flight for The 446th Associate Press

July marks final print edition of wing newsletter before going exclusively online

After 34 years of continuous publication, the 446th Associate Press is moving to the Web and will no longer be distributed in print.

Change is nothing new for one of the most award-winning publications in Air Force

eruption, Lake Placid Winter Olympics, Operation Desert Storm, and the War on Terrorism, just to name a few.

But not all history lives in the past. When McChord Reservists respond to tomorrow's challenges, writers from the

## Special Commemorative Edition

Look inside for:

- **Retro photos (pages 6-7)**
- **Memorable headlines (pages 6-7)**
- **Commentary from current and past staff (page 2)**
- **Awards garnered (Back page)**

Reserve history. Beginning as a single page, black-and-white mailing titled "Your Northwest Reservist" in 1975, the wing newsletter has evolved into a 12-page publication, complete with color photos and graphics – not to mention a new name.

Throughout that time, the publication has chronicled the wing's involvement in events that have defined modern history: the Mount St. Helen's

446th Associate Press will be at their side, continuing to honor their selfless acts of service.

Wing news will now be presented exclusively online. One way to stay abreast is by visiting the wing homepage: [www.446aw.afrc.af.mil/](http://www.446aw.afrc.af.mil/).

Additionally, readers can sign up to receive a free weekly "digital newsletter" by sending an email to: [join-446aw@mercury.afnews.af.mil](mailto:join-446aw@mercury.afnews.af.mil).



446th AW photos

From Antarctica to Afghanistan, the 446th Airlift Wing has gone to a lot of places over the past 34 years. The planes may have changed, but the mission has always remained the same – to deliver the world's best combat airlift, during both peace and war.



**The 446th Associate Press**  
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July 2009

This is the final printed edition of the 446th Associate Press.

Please visit our Web site at [www.446AW.afrc.af.mil](http://www.446AW.afrc.af.mil) for your news and information about the 446th Airlift Wing.

All articles and photographs courtesy of the 446th AW Public Affairs office, Bldg. 1214.

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# The good and bad of going electronic

By Lt. Col. Anna Sullivan  
Chief, Public Affairs



The transition to a weekly, all-electronic **The 446th Associate Press** comes with mixed feelings for me after 17 years of publishing a hard copy every month. Not having a paper copy in hand is a change we all face with books on Kindle, newspapers going online, and the Blogosphere taking over news delivery. I'll admit this change comes with a little regret. But we will

have the opportunity to send out the stories of the hard-working Air Force Reservists of this wing every week now, not just once a month, so we can recognize more people and tell more people about the wing's achievements at a big cost savings.

I am also very proud. The 446th Associate Press has received three Thomas Jefferson Awards, the best in the De-

See Digital, Page 10

## Why digital is a good thing

By Sandra Pishner  
Editor, 446th Associate Press

Somewhere out there, a cry of protest is rising. Some people are grouching about the death of newspapers at the hands of the Internet (if the Internet were to have hands).

As the most technologically advanced military force, the Air Force gravitates to the trend of electronic news as easily as a C-17 airlifts a M-1 tank.

And so it comes, the end of the paper version of the 446th Airlift Wing's newspaper, the 446th Associate Press.

As the editor of the 446th Associate Press for the past seven years, I feel somewhat like a traitor. I must confess that I have been an advocate for using the Internet as our avenue of delivering news and information to our Reservists.

Sure, there's something to be said about being able to grab a cold, hard paper in one's hands and read all about

the missions and the people of our wing.

On the other hand, when delivered only once a month the news and information is less than up to date.

By delivering our news electronically, it is fresh and abundantly more useful.

There will be more news as well. We'll be able to present information that often times was never presented because it missed the publication deadline and became obsolete before the next issue.

## I remember when ...

By retired Master Sgt. Bud McKay  
Editor, 1995-2000



Retired Master Sgt. Bud McKay in the hydroplane he races when not writing award-winning copy.

It's funny; when I think back to being the editor of the 446th Associate Press, one year stands out – 1995

Early in the year, I was sent to cover Operations Safe Passage, the return of almost 8,000 Cubans, from Panama to Guantanamo Naval Base. These were Cubans who had escaped the island when Castro opened the proverbial flood gates and let people leave the

island nation.

Then-President Clinton had reversed long-standing immigration policy, and any Cubans who landed on American soil, were arrested and taken to Cuba, and then Panama.

After riots at the camps because of the Cubans' uncertainty about their future, the Panamanian government told

See McKay, Page 4



# Reservist earns Bronze Star

By Airman First Class Patrick Cabellon  
Wing Public Affairs

From the tragedies of war sprouts courage, reward; even glints of humanity. Senior Master Sgt. James Coley, 446th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight, has seen this first-hand from his deployment into the middle of bombed-out Baghdad.

Sergeant Coley was awarded the Bronze Star for his extraordinary leadership, selfless action, and embodiment of the Air Force core values while in the line of duty Oct. 21, 2008 to April 15, 2009. Sergeant Coley's leadership over his group of explosives specialists played a critical role in clearing explosives and securing areas within Baghdad. This allowed for the safe movement of tens of thousands of U.S. military personnel, as well as Iraqi civilians.

Sergeant Coley's team of explosive disposal specialists and combat engineers in Iraq conducted a staggering 867 combat missions. Sergeant Coley and his team, operating out of Forward Operating Base Loyalty, Baghdad, Iraq, were instrumental in clearing many improvised explosives, insurgent weapons caches, and old unexploded ordnance from the dense populace of downtown Baghdad.

The few things on his mind during their missions were the safety of the troops, protecting human life, and fulfilling his duties to the best of his ability.

"My people are the ones that got the (Bronze Star Medal), not myself," he said. "It was their actions that are the real achievement here."

While deployed, Sergeant Coley supervised the allocation of \$45 million worth of military assets to FOB Loyalty. He supervised the transformation of FOB Loyalty into two functioning shops – Joint Security Station Loyalty and Talil Air Base. For his efficiency, the U.S. Army saw fit to award him the Army Achievement Medal.

Another award Sergeant Coley received while on deployment was the Army Army Commendation Medal.

"Manpower was down by 33 percent from all of the movement of assets. We were still able to maintain a fully-functional FOB," said Sergeant Coley.

On many occasions he found himself working closely with Iraqi Security Forces and an Iraqi Bomb Disposal Company.

"It was quite easy to work with them, and they were very friendly," said Sergeant Coley.

Sergeant Coley had an Iraqi-American civilian linguist to help with any language barriers, he said.



Courtesy photo

**Senior Master Sgt. James Coley, 446th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight, sits at the gunner's seat, ready to patrol through Baghdad, Iraq.**

He helped train Iraqi soldiers about proper demolition procedures, he said.

On Christmas Sergeant Coley rode in place of one of his men to give him a break; something he did periodically. He brought a large stocking filled to the brim with candy along on the patrol. As they drove around the crowded streets of Baghdad he tossed candy out to the locals from the gunner position. There was some pushing and shoving as people raced to get the sweet treats, he said.

A scene that sticks out in his mind is one of a little boy and little girl. He aimed his next toss directly to the little girl, who picked it up and handed it to the boy. It was a heartfelt gift that touched Sergeant Coley's heart. He threw more candy to the girl so she could have some of her own, he said.

An act of kindness was directed toward him and his men while checking out a detonation site.

In a journal entry, he wrote about a 4-year-old girl and her hospitable mother. The pair brought tea, even with water being a rather scarce commodity in Iraq, out to Sergeant Coley and his troops while they were conducting an investigation outside of the little girl's home:

"They greeted us with "Salaam Alaikum" while we were doing a post-blast assessment and searching the remains of a

vehicle that exploded in front of their home," Sergeant Coley said in the journal entry.

I am embarrassed to say that at the time I didn't know the Arabic words for "thank you."

Sergeant Coley was confounded at the fact that a woman and her daughter would come out in such a dangerous area to in order to show such generosity to the troops. Even in the aftermath of an explosion.

A part of Sergeant Coley's job as an explosives subject matter expert is to arrive at a site where any sort of explosive had been detonated, and scour the scene with his experience-honed eyes. He would probe the site for the type of explosive that had been used, its effectiveness, how it was hidden, and what its triggers were.

While not in the desert blowing up insurgent weapons and munitions caches, Sergeant Coley works as an arson investigator for the Washington County Sheriff's Department, Ore.

Skills from his civilian career come in handy while attending to his Reserve duties.

Sergeant Coley has returned from Iraq, but has not returned to his job as an arson investigator. He is currently attending the Senior NCO Academy and will go on to attend the Chief Host Aviation Resource Manager course, or CHARM school.

## McKay

Continued from Page 2

the United States to return the Cubans to Guantanamo Naval Base, in Cuba.

I think we flew something like four or five flights a day from Panama to Cuba for about a week. I got to fly on the first mission and then stay in Cuba until the last each day.

The last flight was the “re-calcitrant” flight – known Castro hit men, convicted rapists – bad people. What I remember most is the head of the security forces for the operation – Col. “Rocky” Lane. If you ever meet him once, you’ll never forget him.

Our aircrews weren’t the least bit happy about having the recalcitrants on the flight with an escort of armed Marines and Army Rangers. There was a lot of moaning and groaning at the pre-mission brief.

Colonel Lane, in a voice that can stop traffic in downtown New York City during rush hour said, “If a fight breaks out at 30,000 feet, just drive. We’ll handle the fight and we will win.”

In April, I was honored, and I do mean honored, to fly along and cover a repatriation mission to Hanoi, Vietnam.

I mostly shadowed Larry Vittum-Jones, a outwardly-grizzled, Vietnam veteran making his first return to Vietnam as a loadmaster. He gave up smoking years before the mission – but all of a sudden started to chain smoke because he had a flood of emotions.

When we just took off from Hanoi, I asked him how he was doing. Larry’s a big guy. Outwardly tough as they come. He looked at me with tears in his eyes and said, “I just want to know a little about each of these guys,” as he pointed to the 10-flag-draped transfer cases.

It’s been 14 years since that mission, and I can still see his eyes and hear his voice.

## 446th Airlift Control Flight in Puerto Rico



Courtesy photo

**U.S. Air Force Maj. Gordon Griggs, left, and Lt. Col. Martin Oliver, discuss the day’s plan on Ramey Field, Puerto Rico, May 3, 2009, during exercise Patriot Hoover 2009. Patriot Hoover is a large scale air mobility exercise involving the Air Force Reserve Command; airlift control flights; aerial ports; Puerto Rico Air National Guard; and FBI Rapid Deployment Teams from Washington, D.C., Miami, New York City, and Los Angeles. Griggs is assigned to 433rd Tactical Airlift Control Flight and Oliver is the commander of the 446th Airlift Control Element.**

Not very long after the Vietnam mission, the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City happened. “Rock” Binkley knew there was a planned mission to Kelly AFB, Texas, that could add another stop if they had to in Oklahoma, about two days after the bombing, and went to the local Red Cross to see if there was anything they needed shipped down.

They needed to send some donated children burn beds to the children’s hospital for the kids who were caught in that horrific bombing. “Rock” made the arrangements happen and came to our office asking if one of us could go on the mission. I was able to go.

At first it was just to take photos of the beds being unloaded during an ERO. Then it turned out to be the Tinker AFB

transportation office needed help actually taking the beds off the trailer at the hospital. So I worked it out with the Tinker PA team to stay and help them for a few days after.

When we picked up the burn beds at Fairchild, a group of kids from the children’s hospital in Spokane gave us a box of stuffed animals to take with us for the kids in Oklahoma City.

I’ll never forget what they said, “They need these more than we do.”

So I was able to deliver the beds and the toy full of stuffed animals to the children’s hospital. To this day, I can’t even talk about that without getting choked up.

Those three missions alone had international interest and coverage. But it’s the first thing that comes to mind when I think

back about being the editor of the 446th Associate Press.

Back in “those days,” our media competition was based on three issues – compared to one single issue nowadays. Those were our three selections for the Air Force awards that year – we ended up that year with the best newspaper in not only the Air Force Reserve and the Air Force – we swept the best newspaper award in 1995 for the entire Department of Defense. We had our first Thomas Jefferson Award.

The 446th Associate Press articles and awards were and are based on the people and the mission. Those same great people still make up the 446th Airlift Wing, and the mission will continue. So those great stories will still be published -- but just online for the entire world to see.



# Quick decisions, actions save life

By Sandra Pishner  
Wing Public Affairs

About four minutes is all it takes to go from carpooling dad to hero.

Driving home from a meeting at his children's school with a neighboring parent, Lt. Col. Kevin Sampson, 313th Airlift Squadron, saw out of the corner of his eye the first signs of distress. His passenger, Claire Christian, appeared to be having a seizure.

With her body clinching tight and guttural sounds emitting from her throat, the thought that she was simply experiencing chills quickly left Colonel Sampson's mind. With no response from his questions, the colonel knew the situation was serious.

About this time, the car had reached a critical intersection. Colonel Sampson could turn right to their homes, or left toward the hospital. As Claire's situation

## Heart attack warning signs

Chest discomfort, discomfort in other areas of the upper body, and shortness of breath, with or without chest discomfort, are the most common signs of a heart attack. Other signs may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

Women are somewhat more likely than men to experience other of a heart attack, particularly shortness of breath, nausea/vomiting, and back or jaw pain.

Cardiac arrest strikes immediately and without warning. As it did in Claire Christian.

Sudden cardiac arrest occurs when the heart develops an arrhythmia that causes it to stop beating. This is different than a heart attack, where the heart usually continues to beat, but blood flow to the heart is blocked.

There are many possible causes of cardiac arrest. They include coronary heart disease, heart attack, electrocution, drowning, or choking. There is no known cause for cardiac arrest.

People are less likely to die if they have early cardiopulmonary resuscitation and defibrillation.

manifested into a serious matter, he chose left.

"She leaned over on me and her lips were blue. I reached into my mind for my limited CPR knowledge. All I could do at that point, while driving, was protect her airway by holding her head up," said the seasoned C-17 pilot.

After turning left, Colonel Sampson started honking the car's horn, while simultaneously dialing Claire's husband, and holding her head up to keep her airway open.

Reaching Claire's husband on the phone, Colonel Sampson asked if she had a history of seizures or allergies she might be reacting too. None, according to her husband.

Arriving at the emergency room of Tacoma General, Colonel Sampson bypassed the valets, despite their attempts to get him to stop, and pulled right up to two Emergency Medical Technicians just outside the emergency room doors.

"I could see some EMTs, who happened to be there outside. Their patient was sitting up and apparently not urgent, so when they saw me honking and pointing to Claire, they voted that guy off the island and immediately came over to the car. They pulled her out of the car so fast her shoe came off," said Colonel Sampson.

After taking the car back to the valet's Colonel Sampson went into the hospital and soon learned that Claire had suffered sudden cardiac arrest.

"I could see over the curtain of the treatment area the doctor's hands with paddles in them, and could hear them yell 'clear,'" he said.

"I was shocked that it was a heart attack. Her symptoms were not what you would expect. When I think of heart attack, I think about chest pains, or pain running down the left arm, shortness of breath. I was really surprised to learn later that it's very common for heart attack symptoms to manifest in women differently than men," said Colonel Sampson.

Putting it all together, the time that passed from the first sign of Claire's distress to the doctors getting a normal pulse was about four minutes.

About two minutes after arriving at the ER, Claire's husband and kids arrived;



Photo by Sandra Pishner

**Lt. Col. Kevin Sampson, 313th Airlift Squadron, is credited with saving the life of a neighbor with his snap decisions and quick actions.**

very upset, naturally. At a loss as to what to tell them, Colonel Sampson was relieved when a nurse arrive to update the family on Claire's status. They had a pulse, had her stabilized and were moving her to intensive care.

"I've known Claire and her family for about five years. Her kids are nine and five and play with my kids. I waited about two and a half hours with them at the hospital, then my wife and I took their kids home with us and tried to maintain a sense of normalcy for them," explained Colonel Sampson.

Colonel Sampson's actions did not go unnoticed. Claire's family wrote a letter to the squadron and the wing describing Colonel Sampson's actions and imploring them to put him in for medal.

John Nagle, Claire's father, and Dawn Lucien, a family friend who works in the Tacoma office of Congressman Norm Dicks, notified the Congressman of one of America's finest Airmen and his actions.

See **SAMPSON**, Page 9





## "Fiery Vigil"

Team McChord erupts into action to help 11,000 left homeless

Airlifting more aid, but to new region



40th AES family goes to war

C-17 drops engine to disabled boat

Operation Desert Storm Special Issue



# End of an era--

# The Las

As the 446th Airlift Wing Associate Press... a look back at some of the headlines... wing since the publication of our first...

## Reservists he

### Attack on

▲ Citizen-sold... to needs of the

▼ Still, the home of



### Evacuati

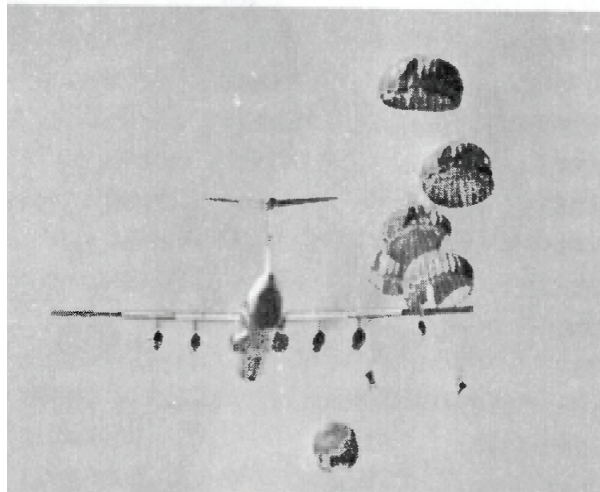
▼ Still, the

First McChord reser



# Best Ride

As the print edition comes to an end, here's a look at the stories and photos that have helped define our publication in 1975.



## Called to duty

Third airlift squadron activates

## America!

Airmen respond to the nation

More than 320 446th Airlift Wing airmen activate



## Of the brave

◆ 446th Services Flight mortuary team, goes to Dover AFB, Del., to assist with identifying victims of the terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

▲ See Page 1

◆ 728th Airlift Squadron supports transport of Federal Emergency Agency team members from New Mexico to McGuire AFB, N.J. to assist in recovery operations.

▲ See Page 6-7

Reserve aircrew flies 164 people to Austin, Texas

McChord, Fort Lewis may join bases

Hurricanes aside, McChord crews move relief supplies into Pakistan following devastating earthquake

Reserve Crew Saves Navy Plane

## Feeding Katrina survivors

## Home of the brave

Best C-17 combat mission feeds thousands



Best C-17 Pre-Flight (maintenance)  
 Best C-17 Engines Running Onload/Offload (aerial port)  
 Best C-17 Airdrop crew  
 Best C-17 Air Refueling crew  
 Best C-17 Aircrew

Photo by Kevin To...

# AES patches up at Global Medic

## McChord Reservists participate in major joint-force training exercise

By Tech. Sgt.  
Jake Chappelle  
Wing Public Affairs

More than 60 Reservists from the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron participated in a joint-force medical training exercise from June 6-18, at Fort McCoy, Wis.

Global Medic is an annual exercise run by Army Reserve Command to apply the operational readiness of assigned medical units in a joint and coalition training environment. Incorporating both live and virtual simulation, this exercise provides realistic, battle-focused training scenarios.

"There were over 800 Army personnel and around 120 Air Force personnel at Ft McCoy," said Col. Jan Moore-Harbert, 446th AES commander. "One of our goals was to train the 420th Minimal Care Detachment for the Air Force mission of a Mobile Aeromedical Staging Facility. Not only were we training the Army on AF doctrine but we were testing out a new tent package for the Army to make their new role of a MASF work."

"Our purpose is to train for war and care for the sick and injured in flight, during war and peace time," said Senior Master Sgt. Saudi McVea, standardization and evaluations superintendent with the 446th AES. "Our goal is to move Armed Forces personnel and civilian nationals to more definitive care after injury."

The 446th AES has participated in five previous exercises.

"Our role was to orient the Army to what the Air Force's role is regarding aeromedical evacuation," said Colonel Moore-Harbert.

"When we did this last year,



Courtesy photo

**Second Lt. David Baure, a flight nurse with the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, evaluates a patient with an Army Specialist during Global Medic, which took place June 6-18 at Fort McCoy, Wis.**

we had the USS Comfort Medical Treatment Facility to send our patients to," said Sergeant McVea. "This year was different because we had more helicopters. Because of that, we performed a lot of helicopter-patient extractions and patient-ambulance to aircraft transfers."

According to Sergeant McVea, exercises such as Global Medic also allow people who normally don't operate in the same conditions as field and transport medics to have a hands-on experience of an aeromedical evacuation.

"We had a physician who flew with us as a simulated patient," said Sergeant McVea. "He was very surprised when he

saw how congested the patient care was on the plane. He saw the reality of our work environment and it gave him a different point of view of how we operate."

Tech. Sgt. Shawn Clayton, an aerospace evacuation technician with the 446th AES, believes exercises like Global Medic are important for Joint-Service cohesion.

"It felt real good to work in a joint force environment," said Sergeant Clayton. "We should do more exercises like these because it is great to work more seamlessly with other service branches."

The experiences of exercises like these are a good

primer for training members new to the squadron.

"As my first medical and joint service exercise, it took me some time to just take in the nearly overwhelming amount of experiences I had," said Sergeant Clayton. "This was my first time actually flying in the C-130 Hercules. It was also my first flight as a qualified aeromedical evacuation crew member."

According to Sergeant Clayton, Global Medic and joint service exercises are an evolving and improving asset. There has never been a time that Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines have had better medical care than now.



# AES Airman earns Army respect

By Tech. Sgt. Jake Chappelle

Wing Public Affairs

An Airman from the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron received an award from a during the Global Medic exercise from June 6-18, at Fort McCoy, Wis.

Tech. Sgt. Shawn Clayton, an aerospace evacuation technician with the 446th AES was recognized as the Noncommissioned Officer of the Exercise, by a panel of Army, Navy, and Air Force board members.

"Sergeant Clayton was selected by Senior NCOs as the NCO of the Exercise, representing 203 NCOs and achieving a score of 342 out of a possible 350 points in front of the board," said Army Lt. Col. Mary Bolk, 307th Medical Group Global Medic Exercise commander. "He demonstrated an extraordinary capacity to coherently express himself and his ideas during the discussion on leadership and ethics, and his outstanding knowledge of tri-service military facts."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jake Chappelle

**Tech. Sgt. Shawn Clayton, top, an aerospace evacuation technician with the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, performs patient assessment training. Sergeant Clayton was recognized as the Noncommissioned Officer of the Exercise for his efforts at Global Medic, June 6-18 at Fort McCoy, Wis.**

"The award came very much as a surprise to me," said Sergeant Clayton. "It was an honor to compete against the field of highly-talented and intelligent fellow servicemembers."

Apparently, encouragement

from squadron and Army leadership helped give Sergeant Clayton a boost of confidence.

"I told Sergeant Clayton that he should be extremely proud as he represents not only the 446th AES, but the Air Force Reserve,

in showing at a joint tri-service level the dedication and professionalism that are our Reserve members," said Col. Jan Moore-Harbert, 446th AES commander.

"The AES is lucky to have such a dedicated NCO," said Senior Master Sgt. Saudi McVea, standardization and evaluation superintendent. "Well done."

"It means a great deal to me," said Sergeant Clayton. "I wanted to display the Air Force Core values in action to the other services."

Colonel Bolk goes further into Sergeant Clayton's achievements.

"Due to this exemplary performance, it is my recommendation that Sergeant Clayton be considered to receive the Air Force Commendation Medal, or other award equivalent to the Army Commendation Medal, in recognition of his accomplishments in the finest tradition of the United States Armed Services."

"The AES is looking into honoring Colonel Bolks' recommendation," said Sergeant McVea.

## SAMPSON

Continued from Page 5

When Colonel Sampson attended a Reserve Congressional Orientation in May, Mr. Nagle arranged for a staff member from Congressman Dick's office to contact Colonel Sampson and take him to meet with the Congressman from Washington state.

"He expressed his appreciation for my service and my actions in this situation," said Colonel Sampson.

His actions, according to the colonel, sprang from 22 years of training in how to assess a situation quickly and react.

"As a pilot, I try to see out situations to the nth degree. I could have easily just pulled over and called 911. But seconds count. I work in an environment where I have to make timely decisions all the time. I've flown into Iraq and Afghanistan and

have been training for 22 years on how to quickly assess a situation. That training has paid off. Basically I've been raised to make quick decisions," Colonel Sampson explained.

He's also learned over the years how to learn from every crisis.

"I learned later that with this type of situation, there is a 1 in 100 chance of survival, and a 1 in 100 chance of surviving without any long term effects.

"When they say heart attacks are silent killers in women, I now know that to be true. It was a real eye-opener for me. She didn't have the typical heart attack symptoms. Women experience heart attacks differently," said Colonel Sampson.

Claire has since received a defibrillator and is still recovering.

"I am currently attending physical therapy," said Claire. "I am working hard

to get back to 100 percent, but they tell me it can take quite a bit of time to do so."

According to doctors, recovery can take from six months to a year and what long-term effects may remain is yet to be seen.

"The fact that I survived is a miracle and I have Colonel Sampson to thank," said Claire. "His quick thinking saved my life and I am so truly grateful."

Colonel Sampson has been submitted for the Meritorious Service Medal according to Lt. Col. Richard Grayson, 313th AS commander. He anticipates having the medal publicly presented in October when the squadron has its primary Commander's Call. Colonel Sampson will invite Claire and her extended family to the presentation.



## Days to remember

July 8, 1947

On July 8, 1947, the Roswell Army Air Field issued a press release stating that personnel from the field's 509th Bomb Group had recovered a crashed "flying disc" from a ranch near Roswell, New Mexico.

## Promotions

### Senior Master Sergeant

Alfredo Cruz, 446th AW

### Master Sergeant

David Axtell, 446th AMXS  
 Gerald Lake, 446th LRF  
 Dwayne Lee, 446th CES  
 Hans Lewis, 446th MXS  
 Cameron Oswald, 446th CES  
 Robert Rawlings, 446th AMXS  
 Damion Slaughter, 446th AMXS

### Technical Sergeant

Stephen Bisson, 446th SFS  
 Keith Greene, 446th AMXS  
 Larry Jones, 446th AES  
 Gary Keiser, 446th AMXS  
 Travis Lange, 313th AS  
 Adam Mantle, 86th APS  
 Allen Santarosa, 446th MOF  
 Gavin Smith, 313th AS  
 Cam Vaillant, 446th AES  
 Lyn Yin, 446th AES

### Staff Sergeant

Jonathan Baker, 446th AMXS  
 David Bauld Jr., 446th AMXS  
 Jesse Berg, 446th CES  
 Channel Bolton-Scholl, 446th MXS  
 Richard Hart, 728 AS  
 Colleen Payne, 446th AMXS  
 Gerry Propeack, 446th AMXS  
 Jonathan Ross, 36th APS  
 Adrienne Ruschak, 446th CES

### Digital

Continued from Page 2

partment of Defense, many Air Force and Air Force Reserve-level awards. The outstanding Airmen who contributed to the stories and those who wrote them made this publication the most award winning in the command. I am proud most of all that we served exactly the function we set out to perform and that was to recognize the professional – and some personal – achievements of this wing's Reservists.

Last weekend, I was privileged to attend the party celebrating the contributions

Lance Trujillo, 446th MXS  
 Juan Vargas, 446th AMDS

### Senior Airman

Grant Anderson, 446th MXS  
 Lindsay Barnes, 446th ASTS  
 Katie Emayo, 446th MSS  
 Kristen Lorena, 446th AMXS

### Airman First Class

Kayla Manthey, 446th ASTS

### Airman

Denver Crudele, 446th ASTS  
 Michael Rizzoti, 446th CES

## Newcomers

### Major

Melinda Bellomymuth, 446th AMDS

### Captain

Denis Frisbee, 97th AS  
 Robert Maanao, 446th MSG  
 Houston Nguyen, 446th AMDS  
 Aaron Rose, 728th AS

### First Lieutenant

Jason Cross, 446th AES

### Staff Sergeant

Thomas Chamberlain, 36th APS  
 Matthew Forney, 446th MXS  
 Jennifer Greer, 446th CES  
 Matthew Groff, 446th AMXS  
 Ashley Huiting, 446th ASTS

of the 446<sup>th</sup> Airlift Control Flight, which is being decommissioned soon. Part of the celebration was a history book that covered milestones of the unit's run here at McChord since 1982. In that history book were copies of The 446<sup>th</sup> Associate Press with stories of the ALCF's many deployments and exercises. I was so touched that our publication was part of the documentation of that unit's distinguished history. The same thing happens when I walk into the 446<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron and see framed copies of The 446<sup>th</sup> Associate Press hanging in their entry way alongside their trophies and other mementos.

Nigel Leblanc, 446th LRF  
 Tyler Mart, 446th CES  
 Jason McCray, 446th MXS  
 Jaime Menagh, 36th APS  
 Joel Stude, 446th AMXS  
 Tonja Yakovich, 446th AW

### Senior Airman

Grant Anderson, 446th MXS  
 Audrey Derbyshire, 446th AMXS  
 David Jolla, 36th APS  
 Charles McKenzie, 446th CES  
 Amanda Younglood, 446th AES

### Airman First Class

Patrick Beazer, 446th Airlift Wing  
 Jason Gontinas, 446th AMXS  
 Brad Kranendonk, 446th AES  
 Casey Moore, 446th AMXS  
 Leland Sivanish, 446th AMXS

### Airman

Nickolas Jones, 446th AMXS  
 Michael Rizzotti, 446th CES

## Retirements

### Master Sergeant

David Anderson, 446th AMXS  
 Ian Bradford, 446th CES

### Technical Sergeant

Leonard Jones, 446th SFS  
 Danny Oneal, 446th MXS

For everyone who has saved a copy with a story about them or walked into our office asking for "a couple of extra copies for their mother," I thank you.

To all of you who Twitter and Facebook, and have no idea why anyone would be sentimental about a paper copy of anything, we get it. We are setting up our social networking spaces now and will be updating everyone as often as we can.

As always, we'd love to hear of story ideas from you so we can post more stories, more often with more photos.



# Just Briefly

What would you like to see on the public affairs website?

## Events

A forum that shows what kinds of events are available. Things like upcoming events and ticket giveaways.



◆ Capt. Weston Sewall  
728th Airlift Squadron

## Jobs

A complete list of Reserve vacancies in the wing. It lets everybody know what jobs are available.



◆ Master Sgt. Ken Ake  
Western Recruiting Squadron

## Human Interest

More showcasing of what people do outside of the wing. What are people's hobbies and jobs?



◆ Master Sgt. Steven Thomas  
446th Airmen and Family Readiness

## Support

More "how we serve", but with support. People don't realize that support is a thankless job. Without us, you don't get orders and you don't get paid.



◆ Tech. Sgt. Lisa Salas  
36th Aerial Port Squadron

## Leading Regardless of Rank Seminar

The "Leading Regardless of Rank" seminar is Aug. 10-11, in Hangar 9. The cost is free. Planned special guests are Brig. Gen. Eric Crabtree, 4th AF commander, and the AFRC command chief, and 4th AF command chief, Chief Master Sgt. Patricia Thornton. All enlisted Reservists and junior officers are invited to attend. Registration forms are available on the Wing's SharePoint main page. Contact your unit career advisor with any questions or to sign up.

## Plan now for Family Day

The 446th Airlift Wing will host Family Day, Saturday, Aug 8. Events begin at 10 a.m. Food will be provided by vendors at a low cost. There will be games and activities for kids. There will also be music, K-9 demonstrations, Fort Lewis Stryker display, a Pierce County Sheriff display, and more. The event takes place at Heritage Hill. For more details on Family Day contact Lt. Col. Ron Limes, 982-2306.

## Increased use of extra gates on UTAs encouraged

The 446th Security Forces Squadron has been tracking traffic flow during the primary UTA at the North Gate and Housing/School Gate since they've been opened and manned by 446th and 62d SFS personnel. The use of the Housing/School Gate adjacent to I-5 and Gravelly Lake Drive is low.

The 446th SFS will continue to monitor traffic flow for several more UTAs, and if Housing/School gate traffic does not increase, they will recommend to Col. Flanigan to have the gate closed.

## Joint Base Lewis-McChord requires car decals

Currently the Air Force does not require base decals, however the Army does. When the Army takes control of the gates January 2010, everyone will be required to have a car decal. There will be a grace period for those who do not have a decal.

McChord vehicle registration in Bldg. 100 is issuing base decals. Individuals can also get decals at the Army visitor center.

## AFPC transfers health treatment records to VA

The Air Force Personnel Center, located at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, has assumed responsibility for transferring the health treatment records of retired and separated Airmen – active, Guard, and Reserve – to the Department of Veteran Affairs. This new Total Force mission started Feb. 1. The movement of records applies

to Airmen who retire or separate Jan. 1 or later.

## Deployment history removed from promotion history

The Air Force recently announced a decision to no longer include 45-day deployment history data in duty qualification briefs (officer selection and pre-selection) and senior NCO evaluation briefs. This initiative applies to Air Force-wide. For more information on the new policy call the Air Force Contact Center at 800-525-0102.

## Air Force offers recall program for rated officers

The secretary of the Air Force has initiated a Voluntary Retired Rated Recall Program.

Pilots, navigators, and air battle managers who retired as lieutenant colonels or below and are younger than 60 qualify for the program. The application period runs through Dec. 31, 2009.

For details, go to the Air Force Personnel Center's "Ask" Web site at <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/> and enter "Retired Rated Recall Program" in the search function. If applicants have additional questions after reviewing this information should call the Air Force Contact Center at 800-525-0102. The commercial number is 210-565-5000, while the DSN is 665-5000.

## CES to deploy to Kirkuk, Iraq

Approximately 32 Reservists from the 446th Civil Engineer Squadron here will be deploying to Kirkuk, Iraq in August. The deploying Reservists are comprised of engineers and emergency managers. While deployed to Kirkuk they will work on projects pertaining to base sustainment. The deploying 446th CES will find themselves working closely with contractors as well as Iraqi people.

## Cops take flight to desert

The 446th Security Forces Squadron here are deploying to Kirkuk, Iraq on July 5. The flight of 22 cops will be deployed for a six month stint. While in Kirkuk, they will provide base security by manning watch towers and providing gate security. They will also assist with security administration such as processing tickets and writing incident reports or helping with the active-duty taking care of the police dogs. This will be the first time the 446th SFS have deployed so many of their own to one location.



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## Legacy of Excellence

- 1980** - AFRES Best Unit Paper of the Year
- 1981** - 4th Air Force Best Unit Paper of the Year
- 1982** - 4th Air Force Best Unit Paper of the Year
- 1983** - Thomas Jefferson Award (Best in DOD)
- 1984** - 4th Air Force Best Paper of the year
- 1993** - Best Magazine, AFRES

**Editor's note:** This list is not comprehensive - we chose to print only the most prestigious honor our publication received each year. Additionally, numerous writers have won individual awards that are not listed here.



## 446th Public Affairs Awards

- 1995** - AFRES Best Command Publication
- 1996** - 1st Place, Air Force Media Contest
- 1998** - Thomas Jefferson Award
- 1999** - Air Force Best News Series
- 1999** - AF Best Newsletter
- 2002** - Thomas Jefferson Award
- 2003** - Thomas Jefferson Award