



PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD Vol. 10, No.11 May 2011 Pittsburgh, PA

Security Forces most outstanding in Air National Guard

1st Lt Chris Preffer
Public Affairs

Our 171st Security Forces Squadron has been named the Outstanding Security Forces Unit of the Air National Guard in 2010 for its accomplishments and dedication to its mission.

“Out of 93 Security Forces units in the Air National Guard, we were chosen as number one,” said Chief Master Sgt. Bruce Fromlak, 171st security forces manager.

This milestone stemmed from an Air Force Association award the 171st Security Forces accepted earlier this year. Both of these awards were based on the amazing accomplishments Security Forces mounted during 2010.

Included in these accomplishments are:

- Flawlessly balanced in-garrison mission with worldwide contingency taskings and secured \$1.1 billion of Air Force assets while deploying more than 74 personnel during 2010.
- 171st Security Forces Squadron are the number one partner with Headquarters Air Mobility Command to lead Detainee Movement Operations originating in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; executed more than 20 movements, all with zero incidents.
- Impeccably performed Phoenix Raven Missions with four Ravens on 15 missions totaling 96 days of travel and flew more than 320 hours; executed with zero incidents.

“Our cops take part in Raven missions, Detainee Movement Operations, deploy constantly and even achieved an excellent during our 2010 Unit Compliance Inspection,” said Capt. Eric Munshower, 171st security forces commander. “In short, our squadron members are impressive.”

An official presentation was made at The Worldwide Security Forces Annual Awards Winners Banquet hosted at Lackland AFB, Texas. This banquet recognized a number of Security Forces units and members from across the Air Force’s Active Duty, Reserve and National Guard components for their outstanding accomplishments and exemplary performance.

“The Wing could not be more proud of the tremendous accomplishments that our men and women of our Security Forces Squadron have been so rightly recognized for,” said Col. Steven Painter, 171st vice wing commander. “They are no doubt deserving of such a prestigious recognition.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ann Young, 171st Public Affairs)



Critical days approach

by Col. Steven Painter, Vice Wing Commander



Our in garrison, down year has ramped up and been anything but a down year. As summer draws closer we'll most certainly get busier with family and friends.

We all have plans to enjoy the sun and spend time with our loved ones. Though summer is a great time for vacations, it is also, sadly, one of our most dangerous times.

The '101 Critical Days of Summer' starts on Memorial Day weekend and continues until Labor Day. During

this time, we get involved in the traditional summer activities that expose us all to added risks.

Last year the Air Force tragically lost 19 Airmen during the 101 Critical Days of Summer and we lost 22 Airmen during critical days in 2009.

These deaths occurred from the same leading causes and similar circumstances.

According to Air Force statistics, the leading cause of fatal mishaps during the 101 Critical Days of Summer continues to be off-duty private motor vehicle mishaps accidents followed by water sports and drowning. Whether traveling at excessive speeds, driving while fatigued, failing to fasten seat belts, drinking then driving, or not using personal flotation devices, the sad news is that the majority of these mishaps are preventable.

Losing one Airman is one too many and this command wants to avoid losing anyone. We especially don't want to lose anyone to unfortunate accidents that are preventable.

We encourage you all to spend time out with family and friends this summer. We also encourage you all to remain vigilant with your activities. Be safe in what you do. Wear the safety equipment for the activities you participate in. Buckle up when riding in an automobile, and please don't drink and drive. You all are too precious to your families and your 171st family.

On a separate note, please enjoy reading a recent letter from Maj. Gen. Craig to Brig. Gen. Uptegraff in regards to our selection as the Air Force Association Outstanding Air National Guard Flying Unit for 2011. I too would like to add my appreciation for the dedication and work that each of you has contributed to this honor. I am humbled to serve with you.

Commander's CORNER



12 April 2011

Dear General Uptegraff,

Please pass along my sincerest congratulations to all the Airmen of the 171st Air Refueling Wing for being recognized as the Air Force Association Outstanding Air National Guard Flying Unit for 2011 – your wing has been selected as best of the over 80 flying wings in the Air National Guard! I know it takes a significant dedication to duty and exceptional performance by all members of the wing to rise to this level of recognition. I truly appreciate the service of each and every member of the 171st Wing. Your exceptional accomplishments reflect great credit upon the Pennsylvania National Guard and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It is my distinct honor to be able to say I serve together with the great team of Airmen at the 171st!

Sincerely,

WESLEY E. CRAIG
MG, PAARNG
Acting Adjutant General

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Make a plan for mentoring

by Chief Master Sgt. Charlie Thomas, 171 ARW Human Resource Advisor

The Air National Guard's Mentoring Program is available through the Air Force Portal. All Active, Guard and Reserve members are authorized to login to the AF Portal at: <https://www.my.af.mil/>. You will find the Enlisted Development Plan (EDP) under the "Featured Links" and then "Top Viewed: Careers" column under the message from our leaders.

It only takes a few minutes to register and access is available from both the base and home. I encourage all enlisted leadership at the 171 ARW and the 258 ATCS to become members.

It is important to note Airmen cannot request guidance from potential mentors unless supervisors and those willing to be mentors have created their own EDP.

The focus of the EDP program is to maximize performance of our people through positive mentoring relationships. It is broken down into three separate modules: Education & Training, Leadership and Job Experience.

Although we recognize mentoring happens both formally and informally in each organization, the EDP allows Airmen to develop professional goals, draft a plan to achieve those goals and track their progress in their personal journal with an embedded calendar to keep them on task.

Mentors will be able to view a protégé's progress and add comments for guidance. Data is linked to the Virtual MPF; however, other members authorized to view your plan will not have access to any Privacy Act information such as home address, SSAN, etc.

The EDP has direct links to appropriate AFIs, Air Force Doctrine and other information required for career development. For instance, you can locate the minimum requirements for promotion to the next rank and outline the appropriate steps to prepare for promotion. As mentioned above, in order to effectively develop goals and a career plan for your Airmen, supervisors and mentors must create their EDP on the Air Force Portal.

Through the AF Portal you can work towards achieving personal goals and career objectives for the ANG as well as your civilian occupation. The EDP also allows Airmen to participate in online forums, open to all Air Force enlisted members and maintain a personal library. Once enrolled, supervisors and mentors can participate in all phases of an Airman's development.

The Journal section allows supervisors and mentors to store accomplishments and goals. This can be a real asset during performance review and awards/decorations time.

Questions regarding the EDP, ANG Mentoring and other related programs can be directed to me, Chief Master Sgt. Charlie Thomas, the 171 ARW Human Resource Advisor at 412-776-7576. You may also reach out to your supervisor to participate. I challenge each of you to develop a plan for your future!



Scouting Skills Weekend

The 2011 scouting skills weekend will be May 21-22. The P.O.C. for the event is Lt. Col. Tom Hess.



Welcome New Recruits

Airman 1st Class
Lisa Weiss
*(Welcome back from
Tops in Blue!)*

HIGH Flyer

Aircraft: 58-0072
Hours Flown: 214.2
Sorties Flown: 21

Crew chiefs:
Tim Springer,
Dan Brennan,
Brad Schumacher
Ben B. Shinsky



For information on uniform standards and changes, visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dress/index.asp

Estimated pay date for the
May UTA:
May 18

Estimated pay date for the
May SUTA:
June 1



TRICARE® Young Adult Program

This flyer is **not** all-inclusive. For additional information, please contact your regional contractor, overseas contractor, or local military treatment facility.

The TRICARE Young Adult (TYA) program is a premium-based health care plan available for purchase by qualified dependents. TYA offers TRICARE Standard coverage worldwide, and TRICARE Prime coverage will be available for purchase at a later date. TYA includes medical and pharmacy benefits, but excludes dental coverage.

Who Is Eligible?

If you are an adult-age dependent, you may purchase TYA coverage based on the eligibility established by your uniformed service sponsor and where you live. **Note:** Special eligibility conditions may exist.

You may purchase TYA coverage if you are all of the following:

- A dependent of an eligible uniformed service sponsor*
- Unmarried
- At least age 21 (or age 23 if enrolled in a full-time course of study at an approved institution of higher learning and if the sponsor provides at least 50 percent of the financial support), but have not yet reached age 26
- Not eligible to enroll in an employer-sponsored health plan as defined in TYA regulations
- Not otherwise eligible for TRICARE program coverage

* If you are an adult child of a non-activated member of the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve or of the Retired Reserve, your sponsor must be enrolled in TRICARE Reserve Select or TRICARE Retired Reserve for you to be eligible to purchase TYA coverage.

Purchasing TRICARE Young Adult

TYA offers open enrollment, so if you qualify, you may purchase coverage at any time. The *TRICARE Young Adult Application* is available at www.tricare.mil/tya. When applying, you must verify that you are not married and not eligible to enroll in an employer-sponsored health plan.

Your completed application must include the first three months of premium payments, paid by personal check, cashier's check, money order, or credit/debit card. After the initial three-month payment, premiums must be paid in advance by monthly automated payment.

Drop off your completed application and initial premium payment to a TRICARE Service Center, or mail or fax it to your regional contractor. **Note:** If you are not already in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS), your sponsor must add you to the system before starting the application process.

Enrollment in TRICARE Young Adult

After enrolling in TYA, you and your sponsor will need to visit a uniformed services identification (ID) card issuing facility to obtain an ID card for you. You must bring two forms of ID—one must be an unexpired government-issued ID card containing a picture. After your application and payment are received, TRICARE Standard coverage will begin the first day of the following month.



Retroactive Coverage

You may purchase TRICARE Standard coverage retroactively back to January 1, 2011, or back to the date you become eligible for coverage. All premiums must be paid back to that date in order to be reimbursed. Beneficiaries who may want to purchase retroactive coverage should keep receipts for care received to get reimbursed for covered services. The opportunity to purchase retroactive coverage ends on September 30, 2011. **Note:** Retroactive coverage is limited to the TRICARE Standard benefit only.

Covered Services

At first, the TYA benefit only includes TRICARE Standard. The TYA benefit will expand to other TRICARE programs (e.g., *TRICARE Prime*) at a later date. TYA coverage includes medical and pharmacy, but excludes dental. TYA enrollees are eligible for care at military treatment facilities on a space-available basis. TYA is only available for individuals and is not offered as a family plan. For more information, visit www.tricare.mil/coveredservices.

Ending TRICARE Young Adult Coverage

Choosing to End Coverage

You may choose to end TYA coverage at any time by completing the fields related to terminating coverage on the *TRICARE Young Adult Application* and submitting it to your regional

contractor. If you decide to end TYA coverage, you will be locked out from purchasing TYA coverage for one year from the date of termination. There will be no lockout if the coverage is terminated because you gain access to employer-sponsored coverage.

Nonpayment

Your premium payment is due no later than the last day of the month for the next month's coverage. Failure to pay total premium amounts due and any insufficient fund fees owed will result in a termination of coverage. A 12-month TYA purchase lockout will go into effect.

Change in Status

Your sponsor must always report all family and status changes to DEERS.

Your TYA coverage ends when any of the following occurs:

- You reach age 26
- You get married
- You become eligible for an employer-sponsored health plan as defined in TYA regulations
- You gain other TRICARE coverage
- You lose eligibility because your sponsor ends TRICARE coverage

For Information and Assistance

For more information on how to purchase TYA, please visit www.tricare.mil/tya. E-alerts about benefit changes and updates are available by searching TRICARE Young Adult under "benefit updates" at www.tricare.mil/subscriptions.

TRICARE North Region Health Net Federal Services, LLC 1-877-TRICARE (1-877-874-2273) www.hnfs.com	TRICARE South Region Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc. 1-800-444-5445 Active duty programs: 1-877-249-9179 www.humana-military.com	TRICARE West Region TriWest Healthcare Alliance Corp. 1-888-TRIWEST (1-888-874-9378) www.triwest.com
TRICARE Overseas Program (TOP) Regional Call Center—Eurasia-Africa¹ +44-20-8762-8384 tricarelon@internationalsos.com	TOP Regional Call Center—Latin America and Canada¹ +1-215-942-8393 tricarephl@internationalsos.com	TOP Regional Call Center—Pacific¹ Singapore: +65-6339-2676 sin.tricare@internationalsos.com Sydney: +61-2-9273-2710 sydricare@internationalsos.com

1. For toll-free contact information, visit www.tricare-overseas.com.

An Important Note about TRICARE Program Information

At the time of printing, this information is current. It is important to remember that TRICARE policies and benefits are governed by public law and federal regulations. Changes to TRICARE programs are continually made as public law and/or federal regulations are amended. **Military treatment facility guidelines and policies may be different than those outlined in this product.** For the most recent information, contact your TRICARE regional contractor, TRICARE Service Center, or local military treatment facility.

Please provide feedback on this flyer at www.tricare.mil/evaluations/feedback.

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CSA Card Basics

by Tech. Sgt. Phil Burd, Financial Management

The Air Force is in the process of changing the government travel card program. This is due to the amount of delinquency Air Force wide and the scope of managing the program. The new Controlled Spend Account (CSA) has a few primary benefits. First it eliminates risk of delinquencies and misuse because the CSA only has value if the individual has an approved travel order. It also removes delinquency related disciplinary action duties from first sergeants and commanders. If you over spend and your travel voucher payment does not cover what was spent, you will owe Citibank the difference. Citibank will then bill you at the end of the next billing cycle. If you do not pay Citibank within 60 – 90 days, Citibank will garnish your pay.



Starting on March 17 all members with travel cards expiring in May, June, and July began to be mailed new CSA cards. On May 1, infrequent travelers will begin to receive the new CSA card. Then on June 15, occasional and frequent travelers begin to receive the new CSA card. Starting on August 1, Citibank will begin mailing CSA cards to all cardholders who have not yet received a CSA card and by October 1, all members should have the new CSA card.

The CSA card is a credit card but it does not have an open credit limit at all times as the current travel card does. The credit limit will be \$1 until you have orders in the system. The credit limit will then be set by the estimate on the orders. This makes it very important that orders are cut correctly. It will take 1 to 3 days after orders are processed for Citibank to update your credit limit. All travelers will have a Controlled Spend Account (CSA, this includes those who currently have been declined by Citibank, or do not have a card for any other reason). No credit check will be necessary. The CSA Card is to be used for ALL authorized TDY/PCS travel expenses. Cash

withdrawals are limited to \$550 per trip (not monthly billing cycle like the current cards). When you file your travel voucher, 100% of voucher settlement will be disbursed to Citibank. This will include home station mileage only claims, misc reimbursements etc.

A residual balance will occur when the amount reimbursed is greater than the amount charged to the card or if you don't use the card, for example a home station mileage only claim.

If you have a residual balance on your CSA card you have several options to get your money from Citibank:

1. You can use CSA like a debit card or credit card and spend the money on the card. The card will be able to be used almost anywhere, no restrictions like the current card has. Beware! If you use this method to get your money it is possible to spend more than what you should and incur a debt to Citibank.
2. Use an ATM. This will incur the fee charged by the bank owning the ATM as well as Citibank's 2% fee (these fees are not reimbursable).
3. Request payment by check from Citibank by calling the toll free customer service number.
4. Request electronic fund transfer to your bank account. This can be done by calling Citibank or online once you get online access set up for your CSA card.

You will have to contact Citibank each time you have a residual balance to get your money. If you have a residual balance on your card and do not contact Citibank, they will automatically send a check if there has been no activity on your account for 60 days.

If you have to travel on short notice, get extended, or your spending needs to be changed (off base instead of on base for example) you can call Citibank and request a temporary spending limit (TSL). TSL requests can be made by cardholders. TSLs are good for 5 business days, which allows time for modifications to your orders, if required. If you request a TSL, a confirmatory email will be sent to the cardholder, Agency Program Coordinator (APC), commander or supervisor, and order issuing POC. This alerts your unit that you may need a modification to your order.

When you receive your new CSA card you must call the number on the sticker on the front of the card to verify you received the card or Citibank will close the account and you will have problems when it is time to travel.

If you have any questions on the new Citibank CSA program, please contact Tech. Sgt. Phil Burd at 412-776-7659.

You have just entered the ...

RECRUITER ZONE

Our Recruiting Team -- (412) 776-7495

Master Sgts. Sue Smith and Skip Powell, Tech. Sgt. John Frazier, Staff Sgts. Shayla Pollard and Lindsey Duncan and Airman 1st Class Lisa Weiss
Contact us toll free at 1-877-249-5193 or through the web www.171arw.ang.af.mil



CONGRATULATIONS!



Senior Master Sgt.

Lee W. Downey



Master Sgt.

Jerry A. Scurlock
Christopher D. Lang
Edward J. Dipofi



Tech. Sgt.

John Henn
Daniel C. Frushell



Staff Sgt.

Shawn K. Strobel
Monica R. Erlick
Keith A. Fabus
Richard T. Costolo
Brandon J. Onofer



Senior Airman

Logan E. Hradecky
Edward C. Dulick
Carmen A. Talmonti
Christopher M. Shaffer

Brian J. Blum
Jason P. Hupp
Richard W. Broge
Amanda D. Duranko

Burghers' Beat... "What is your favorite Mothers Day memory?"



**Tech. Sgt.
Don Wagner,
Maintenance**

"We like to take mom to her favorite restaurant. Mom just turned 80 years old."



**Master Sgt.
Mike Peterson,
Security Forces**

"Making breakfast for my wife."



**Airman 1st Class
Jenna Heinen,
Finance**

"Taking Mom to Heinz Field for brunch because we got to meet Dan Rooney."



**Staff Sgt.
Michaela Diallo,
Public Affairs**

"Mom and I are really close so I enjoy celebrating her. I hope to be able to use her as an example as I enter into motherhood."

(U.S. Air Force photos by Master Sgt. Stacey Barkey)

Retiree Office
300 Tanker Road #4210,
Coraopolis, PA 15108-4210
(412) 776-7587 FAX: (412) 776-7441
george.manown@ang.af.mil, gmanown@gmail.com

Our April luncheon was another great success, with 57 people in attendance. Besty Clark, formerly of TRICARE, was there. We presented a card of appreciation to Betsy, and enclosed money graciously donated by those in attendance. Betsy was a great help to all of us over the years, we will be forever grateful for her support, and wish her a wonderful retirement. The next 171st /112th luncheon will be on Monday, July 18, 2011.

We extend our sympathies to the friends and family of Chief Master Sgt. Robert Purvis, who passed in February; Senior Master Sgt. William Romary and Master Sgt. John Brudnock, who passed away in April. These men served faithfully until their retirement from the 171st Air Refueling Wing.

TRICARE: According to an April 28, 2011 e-mail I received from TRICARE North Region, there are services that require approval from both your primary care manager (PCM) and Health Net. Some referral and prior authorization requirements changed on April 1, 2011 with the beginning of the new TRICARE contract. In fact, Health Net referrals are now required for most specialty services for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries regardless of where they live. TRICARE has always wanted to be informed of certain health care treatments. They now seem to be becoming more definitive as to prior authorizations. According to TRICARE the best thing to do when you need health care is to follow these steps:

1. Talk to your PCM about your health care need.
2. See if Health Net approval is required. If so, ask your doctor to send a request to Health Net for approval.
3. Upon approval from Health Net, set your appointment with the doctor to provide your care.

That's it for right now. So for the Retirees Office, we hope you continue to have a great retirement year.

New positions!

The Operations Group is the proud owner of two new traditional Staff Sgt. positions in the Aviation Resource Management career Field (1C0X2). This career field is responsible for inputting and validating the requirements and flying time for each person on every mission the unit performs. It is a position that is in high demand so travel is a part of the job. If you are interested in filling one of these positions please come by the Ops Group and see Master Sgt. Levasseur or Tech. Sgt. Mersing. We are planning to hold interviews during the June or July drill.

CAMPS FOR MILITARY KIDS



Camp registration for Warrior Teen Weekend, OMK Hero Camp, and Teen Odyssey Week is now open to all military children regardless of parents' deployment status. Links and information can be found below:

Warrior Teen Weekend

Ages 13-17

June 23-27, 2011

Ft. Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA

Registration Fee: None

<http://guest.cvent.com/d/fdqysl>

Teen Odyssey Week

Ages 13-17

July 17-23, 2011

Camp Outdoor Odyssey, Boswell, PA

Registration Fee: \$15/camper

<http://guest.cvent.com/d/fdqyxd>

OMK Hero Camp

Ages 8-12

July 17-23, 2011

Camp Outdoor Odyssey, Boswell, PA

Registration Fee: \$10/camper

<http://guest.cvent.com/d/kdqy3n>

Please call, toll free, 877-489-13EXT (877-489-1398) if you have difficulties with the above links.

Scholarship opportunity

Pennsylvania National Guard Scholarship applications are now being accepted and must be submitted no later than June 30, 2011. Two \$1000, two \$500, and as many \$400 scholarships as there are funds to support will be awarded. Air and Army National Guard members who are students beginning, or currently attending a 4-year degree program are eligible to apply. A short essay concerning future military plans is required for submission. Applications and guidelines are available in the Retention Office, your unit's orderly room or from the Steelweb.

Remember to also apply for Educational Assistance Program through your Unit Training Manager. Deadline for EAP is also June 30, 2011.