



# Heartland WARRIOR

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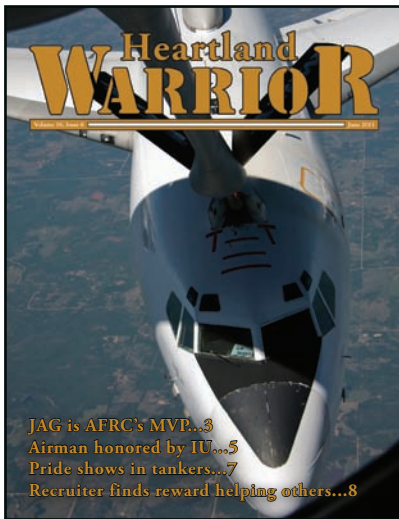
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Air Force Reserve Home Page

<http://www.afrc.af.mil>

Grissom Home Page

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## On the cover...

A U.S. Navy E-6B Mercury refuels from a 434<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing KC-135R Stratotanker during a refueling mission May 5. Onboard, Indiana media representatives who got a firsthand look at the aerial refueling mission of the 434<sup>th</sup> ARW. For more on the flight turn to page nine.(U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)



(U.S. Air Force graphic/Corey Parrish)

# Air Force Leaders issue summer safety message

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy send the following Critical Days of Summer safety campaign message to the Airmen of the U.S. Air Force and their families:

Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day marks the season of greatest risks for our

Air Force team. To counter those risks, we will kick off the Critical Days of Summer safety campaign for 2011 on May 28th.

Unfortunately, last summer we lost 16 Airmen.

While this was an improvement over the 21 lost the previous year, we must strive to do better.

The 2011 Air Force goal is zero preventable mishaps and fatalities.

The leading causes of preventable fatalities during the Critical Days of Summer are off-duty private motor vehicle mishaps and drowning.

We therefore emphasize the importance of fastening seatbelts,

driving at reasonable speeds, and avoiding situations of driving while distracted, under the influence fatigued or otherwise impaired.

While participating in aquatic activities, we also strongly urge the use of proper equipment such as personal flotation devices and

avoiding hazardous areas and dangerous water conditions.

We challenge all Airmen to make this year

safer than last. Be each other's wingman.

Use risk management principles, both on and off duty, and exercise sound judgment.

We encourage each of you to invest a high level of commitment in taking care of one another.

Our most important objective for this summer's campaign is protecting military and civilian personnel and their families.

Enjoy the summer months ahead, be a good wingman and be safe.

Thank you for your service, and all that you do for our Air Force and our nation. (AFNS)

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Heartland Warrior

# Grissom Airman is AFRC's JAG MVP

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner

Public Affairs staff

Indiana is no stranger to most valuable players with the names like Peyton Manning, Drew Brees and Larry Bird, and now the Hoosier state can add one more name to the MVP list.

Maj. Matt Coakley, 951st Reserve Support Squadron staff judge advocate, was recently selected as Air Force Reserve Command's 2010 Albert M. Kuhfeld Award for Outstanding Judge Advocate.

The award recognizes the regular Air Force officer in the grade of major or captain selected as the most outstanding judge advocate of the year based on demonstrated excellence, initiative and devotion to duty.

Though Major Coakley is a part of the regular Air Force, he has spent the last three years providing support to Air Force Reserve's 434th Air Refueling Wing and 934th Airlift Wing.

"It's a prestigious honor to be recognized above your peers by your supervisors," he said. "It's kind of like a most valuable player award that's given to a winning team, and I have to give all the credit to the legal offices of the 434th [ARW] and 934th [AW]."

And just as Mr. Manning precisely directed his team down the field toward a Super Bowl victory, it was the innovative way Major Coakley directed his team toward their own success that was most predominate in his award package.

Without precedent, the major decided his teammates, both civilian and military, could reach beyond the Air Force's expectations for paralegals, and he and the other judge advocates trained the parale-



Maj. Matt Coakley, 951st Reserve Support Squadron staff judge advocate, prepares a power of attorney in the legal office here April 20. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

gals on tasks normally reserved for attorneys such as drafting wills.

"Our use of Master Sgt. [Wes] Marion and Tech. Sgt. [Adam] Evans fundamentally changed the concepts of what the JAG Corps has done," elaborated Major Coakley. "We taught them how to draft the wills, now the 7-level paralegal course teaches them that...that's totally changed how paralegals do business in the Air Force."

However, it's not just his unique approach in using paralegals that has changed the Air Force and the Air Force Reserve, as the AFRC inspector general named him as the command's best JAG unit compliance inspector.

The AFRC inspection teams are largely composed of augmentees from different AFRC bases, and Major Coakley has been an inspector on several inspection teams over the last three years. In that role, he developed the first ever civilian drug-testing program all-purpose checklist.

On top of providing legal advice to two wing commanders and over 7,500 Department of Defense servicemembers and civilians, he is also responsible for the second largest JAG recruiting area in the Air Force. In his recruiting role, Major Coakley held 23 events at 11 different law schools, conducting over 100 on-campus interviews and 51 direct appointment accession interviews in 2010 alone.

But, it's not just in his professional life that the major excels. He scored excellent on his physical training test and helped the Grissom Airman and Family Readiness office provide excess toys to sick children at local hospitals.

And due to his many accomplishments, Major Coakley was recently nominated to be a presidential aide.

However, despite all of his accolades and achievements, he said one of the best benefits of his time at Grissom has

been learning more about the Air Force Reserve and what it brings to the fight.

"I now have a greater respect for what the United States Air Force Reserve does and how much they do," elaborated Major Coakley. "From [a regular Air Force] perspective, you don't realize how much reservists do, how much they have to get done in a small amount of time...they have all the same requirements as the active duty force, just less time to do them in."

And, it's that better understanding the major said he would carry with him throughout his career and that would make him a better Air Force leader.

Major Coakley will now compete against the other major command award winners for the overall Air Force Albert M. Kuhfeld Award, which is named after Maj. General Albert Kuhfeld, who served as the judge advocate general for the Air Force from 1960 to 1964.

# Grissom is 'Tree City' for 10th time

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner  
Public Affairs staff

In the midst of spacious skies and amber waves of grain lies a city of trees, a virtual oasis of foliage and greenery in the heartland of America.

Grissom was recently named a Tree City by the Arbor Day Foundation for the tenth year in a row due to many of the base's environmental programs, one of which is an Arbor Day ceremony.

This year's ceremony was held April 29 next to the Services complex on base.

The 434th Air Refueling Wing leadership as well as 434th ARW honorary commanders took part in the special event, which included a tree planting ceremony. In all, six trees were planted.

"All over the world, people are planting trees in their yards and in their communities, caring for them, and learning about their value," said Col. William T. "Tim" Cahoon, 434th ARW commander. "Whatever people call this special time of year, they are sharing the news that trees are important to us all, wherever we live around the world.

"The celebration of Arbor Day gives you an opportunity to learn about trees and take positive action to make the world a better place," added Colonel Cahoon.

In order to be named as a Tree City, communities must meet certain criteria including a public tree care ordinance, a department that manages care of trees, a tree board to advise on the care of trees and an Arbor Day celebration, said Cory Walters, 434th Civil Engineer Squadron biological scientist.

Communities must also spend at least \$2 per person on tree maintenance and upkeep, he added.



Phil Shott, 434th Mission Support Group civilian executive officer, stabilizes a northern red oak as Rocky Walls shovels dirt around the newly planted tree during an Arbor Day ceremony here April 29. Mr. Walls is the 434th MSG honorary commander. Grissom was recently named a Tree City by the Arbor Day Foundation for the tenth straight year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)



Master Sgt. Brad Wiedeman, Air Force Reserve Command recruiter, poses with Haitian children during a missionary trip to assist earthquake victims. (U.S. Air Force photo)

## Recruiter rewarded for helping others

**Staff Sgt. Carl Berry**  
*Public Affairs staff*

One Grissom recruiter traveled to Haiti hoping to make a difference in the lives of people that were affected by a 2010 earthquake; instead it was the Haitian people that made a difference in his life.

In 2010 an earthquake with a 7.0 magnitude occurred in Haiti, and more than a year later the residents are still being affected by the devastation it caused.

“When traveling through the country I saw people selling rotten food in front of a pile of trash and behind the pile of trash people were gathering water to cook and eat,” said Master Sgt. Brad Wiedeman, Air Force Reserve Command recruiter.

The purpose of the trip was to distribute much needed food sup-  
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plies to two orphanages, a women’s convention and at an outreach facility. In addition, the group Sergeant Wiedeman went with built bunk beds for the orphanages.

“We distributed more than 1,700 bags of groceries, which contained a 10-pound bag of rice, beans, canned tomatoes and chewy granola bars,” he said. “One bag of groceries would feed a family of four for two weeks.”

Many buildings were destroyed by the earthquake among those were orphanages. Now, many orphans are living under large canopies with the ground as their beds.

“I knew that I would be visiting an orphanage before I left, but I was not expecting to see so many orphaned children living in those types of conditions,” he said. “There were no beds the children slept on the ground inside of

holes.”

Despite these living conditions the people of Haiti seemed content and grateful for what they did have.

“I brought coloring books and crayons for the children, things that my children haven’t played with in years, and these children were excited to have something to play with,” said the sergeant. “I thought to myself, ‘wow they find happiness in the little things in life, some children just wanted be held.’”

As a recruiter, Sergeant Wiedeman is constantly on the go because the job of a recruiter is a non-stop rush and often calls for reacting on first impulse. In 2010 he set an accessions goal of 38 that he surpassed with 50 accessions.

“I have been telling Sergeant Wiedeman to slow down and not to rush through the process, and since his return he has done just that.”

# Airman named one of IU's top students

By SrA Damon Kasberg

Public Affairs staff

Being in the top 100 students out of 30,000 is quite an accomplishment, but doing it while deployed takes the honor to a whole new level.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Bauchle, 434th Civil Engineer Squadron fire protection apprentice, was named one of Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis' Top 100 students.

"It feels really good," said Sergeant Bauchle. "It's surreal to be in the top 100."

The IUPUI Student Recognition program began in 2000. The award is not solely based on a student's grade point average, but also their participation in extracurricular activities and community service.

Sergeant Bauchle is currently a senior at IUPUI, studying public safety management at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs. Throughout his four years at IUPUI, Sergeant Bauchle has maintained a 3.8 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

"Chris is the embodiment of a (noncommissioned officer)," said Jim White, IUPUI public safety lecturer and retired U.S. Army colonel. "He is focused and constantly seeks improvement; through his efforts he causes others to become better and from my perspective Chris is good in the classroom because he brings with him the qualities of an NCO."

While Sergeant Bauchle was recently deployed to Southwest Asia for four months, he performed his military duties during the day and managed to continue his studies through online courses at night.

"He is really committed," said Tech. Sgt. Aaron Dehner, 434th CES fire protection journeyman and Sergeant Bauchle's supervisor while deployed. "He spent his off time studying or working on papers.

"Being in a deployed location,



Staff Sgt. Christopher Bauchle, 434th Civil Engineer Squadron fire protection apprentice, stands in front of an Air Force fire truck during a recent deployment to Southwest Asia. Sergeant Bauchle was recently named one of Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis' Top 100 students. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

our Internet was less than reliable, he spent a lot of late nights ensuring his course work was completed,"

Sergeant Dehner added. "He's the type of NCO we hope to keep in the military."

# Tanker's appearance shows maintainers' pride

By Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays

Public Affairs staff

In 1960, 3-year old Stephen Edington didn't know it, but his KC-135 rolled off the assembly line.

Edington, now a master sergeant with the 434<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and others recently put the finishing touches on refurbishing that same aircraft -- 'tail number' 60-0314 -- on which he now serves on as a crew chief.

Sergeant Edington and Senior Airman Alina Biesenbach, an assistant crew chief, teamed with other maintainers in the isochronical inspection shop and other shops on base to give '0314' an Air Force version of a complete restoration.

In 30 days, the aircraft's entire composite flooring and cargo deck was removed and refinished, the crew seats were refinished and repainted, and the troop seats and rails were removed.

In addition, the instrument panels were taken from the cockpit and painted; the nose of the aircraft was taped off and repainted; and the boom seat and gauges were removed and repainted.

"It's like restoring an antique car," Sergeant Edington said.

While auto-restoration garages may have different companies



Master Sgt. Stephen Edington, a crew chief with the 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, aligns a storage container on aircraft 60-0314. The aircraft went through an extensive restoration and refurbishment process recently.

to draw support from, Grissom's maintainers have the back-shop maintainers.

"The back shops really made this happen," Sergeant Edington said. "They did as much or more work than we (crewchiefs) did. The restoration process was a true team effort."

The most tedious part of the process was the cockpit area...there were so many pieces to take off or out, or tape over for painting and paint preparation," he said. "It's very tedious."

For Airman Biesenbach, the 'refurb' was a great way to get attached to 'her jet.'

She just became an air reserve technician earlier in the year, and was assigned to '0314' just before the refurb began.

The refurbishment gave her an opportunity to work the aircraft at much deeper levels than most ordinary crew chief duties.

"When people come onto my aircraft, I want them to see that it's well taken care of and maintained," Sergeant Edington said. "That comes from all the people who work on it, as well as the aircrew who fly it."

"I'm a clean freak," said Airman Biesenbach, "my house, my car -- and now my jet. I love when people get on board and think it's a new aircraft -- it even smells new!"

The refurbishment of an aircraft usually takes place every five years -- right after the aircraft returns from depot level inspections.

Master Sgt. Todd Moore heads the ISO shop, and serves as the lead for the refurbishing of each aircraft.

"Sergeant Moore has a well-run operation," Sergeant Edington said. "They did an excellent job."

"When the finished product rolls out, it justifies all the hard work that went into it," he concluded.



Senior Airman Alina Biesenbach, crew chief with the 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, mounts a storage bin inside aircraft 60-0314, putting the finishing touches on the restoration. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Douglas Hays)



Anthony Dickerson, chief of accounts control with the 434th Air Refueling Wing's financial management office, and Tech. Sgt. Tanielle Phillips, chief of personnel relocations with the 434th Force Support Squadron, load up for the trip home. The duo and other Grissom members are taking advantage of a Department of Transportation program that offers incentive to carpool. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Carl Berry)

## Grissom employees take advantage of 'vanpooling'

**Staff Sgt. Carl Berry**  
*Public Affairs staff*

With the cost of fuel rising one group of Grissom employees decided to participate in the Department of Defense Transportation Incentive Program that was initiated in 2002.

The DOD Incentive Program requires federal agencies to establish transportation fringe benefit programs in order to reduce Federal employees' contribution to traffic congestion and air pollution and to expand their commuting alternatives.

"The purpose of the program is to provide financial incentives to employees to encourage commuting by mass transportation," said Master Sgt. Ethan Minor, a tele-

communication specialist with the 434th Communications Squadron.

Federal employees, including regular Air Force service members and reservists in military status, must meet certain requirements to receive the maximum \$230 monthly stipend.

"The vehicle must be a highway vehicle with a capacity of at least six adults excluding the driver," said Anthony Dickerson, 434th Air Refueling Wing chief cost analyst. "The vehicle must be owned and operated either by public transit authorities or by a person in the business of transporting persons for compensation or hire."

Reservists on military orders for more than 30 days are entitled to the same benefits; however, traditional reservists will not qualify for

the program, because a participant must use the vehicle 50 percent of the month.

"The biggest issue that arises is scheduling vacation time, because to receive the monthly stipend a participant must use the vehicle 50 percent of the month," said Sergeant Minor. "The group must also use the vehicle 80 percent of the month."

In addition to being in a group of at least seven people, interested participants must submit an application that documents his or her commuting expenses, and federal employment status.

More general information, as well as an application can be picked up from Sergeant Minor for those interested in participating in the program.



# Some Grissom facilities getting updates



Tom Lennon, chief construction manager with the 434th Civil Engineer Squadron, left, talks to a contractor doing work on Bldg. 420, the base motor pool. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Carl Berry)

**Staff Sgt. Carl Berry**  
*Public Affairs staff*

Makeovers can range from a new haircut, to the use of cosmetic surgery, to the implantation of dental veneers or eye-color-changing contact lenses, well at Grissom Air Reserve Base the makeover will be done in the form of renovations and new construction.

Major renovations and construction projects are taking place at Grissom likes of a new sports complex, an expanded base exchange, a new control tower, and a total renovation of Bldg. 420 – the motor pool.

Some of the renovations being completed in Bldg. 420 are the installation of a new heating, ventilating, and air conditioning unit, a steeper roof, restructured office

space, and additional lighting.

“The renovations in Bldg. 420 are scheduled to be completed in January 2012,” said Thomas Lennon, Grissom’s chief construction manager. We have to write up an amended agreement with one of the contractors, because some of the original plumbing was rusted and unusable.”

The sports complex is still in the drafting stages, but the current plans consist of a quarter-mile track, outdoor basketball and tennis courts, a new softball diamond, and a flag football field, said Mr. Lennon.

“Due to the construction and renovations occurring on base, Grissom employees and reservists should be mindful of traffic detours, obstacles on the road, and more traffic on base,” he added.

## Social media take flight, refuel shadow

By 434th ARW PA staff

Kids make puppets with them, animals take refuge in them, some even chase them, but as media from around Indiana found out, you can do a lot more with a shadow.

Thirteen of Indiana’s top social media representatives witnessed firsthand the refueling of a U.S. Navy E-6B Mercury, which went by the call sign “Shadow 20,” during a media orientation flight onboard a 434th Air Refueling Wing KC-135R Stratotanker May 5.

The media began their day with briefings concerning Grissom, crisis communication, social media, and the KC-135 before taking off with a crew from the 72nd Air Refueling Squadron.

“I was absolutely blown away by how close the other plane was,” said Lorraine Ball, a social media blogger and marketing business owner, in a post on the 434th ARW’s fan page on Facebook. “As cool as the flight was, it was the people who made it an exceptional experience.”

The 434th ARW has held media orientation flights throughout the



**Capt. Joel Webley, 72nd Air Refueling Squadron aircraft commander, talks with Don Costanza about what it’s like to be a pilot in the Air Force Reserve during a recent media orientation flight May 5. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)**

years, but recently has set aside a portion of those that focus on new and social media.

“The world has changed a lot with the evolution of social media, and more people are learning first about world events through their Facebook news feeds and Twitter accounts,” explained Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner, 434th ARW Public Affairs specialist. “Social media posts can also have a much longer dwell than traditional media reports, so more people have

the chance to see it whether it be through their social media accounts, through a search engine or just happen to stumble upon it.”

The initial feedback from the flight was positive.

“Prior to the media flight, coverage included over 40 microblog posts, 20 retweets, one blog post and one video post,” said Sergeant Orders-Woempner. “Within 24 hours of the flight there were over 74 additional microblog posts, 2 blog posts and four photo galleries containing well over 100 images.”

Many of the social media representatives also saw positive and immediate feedback on their posts.

“I got awesome feedback through Twitter and [Facebook] about the mission,” said Nicole Misencik, a meteorologist and reporter with WTHR in Indianapolis and was also named the 2010 Social Media Dame at the Indiana Social Media Summit.

Those wishing to follow the coverage of the flight or join in the conversation can do so by searching for the hashtag #GusFlt0511. A hashtag is a unique way to track tweets and other social media posts.