



## Air Force is “Above All”

By Staff Sgt. J. G. Buzanowski  
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

The Air Force has a new advertising campaign to recruit the next generation of Airmen as well as better inform people about the Air Force mission: “Above All.”

“The new slogan is admittedly a bold one,” said Col. Michael Caldwell, deputy director of Air Force public affairs, “but so are Airmen.” This campaign accurately portrays Airmen and how they’re executing the Air Force mission to ensure the security and safety of America now and in the future.

“‘Above All’ is about what we do and how we do it,” Colonel Caldwell said. “The job of the Air Force is to defend America and we do that by dominating air, space and cyberspace. The new campaign and slogan captures our roots, but also illustrates where we’re going as a service as the Air Force prepares to contend with future threats.”

The purpose of the campaign is to create a dialogue with potential recruits, their parents and those most likely to influence young people to join the military about the critical role the Air Force plays in defending America’s future, said Colonel Caldwell.

The “Above All” campaign kicks off this month and will be prominent on television, in print and, of course, in cyberspace. In addition to being shown at several sporting events, “Above All” ads will be seen in magazines and during commercial breaks on many top-rated commercial and television news and entertainment programs, Colonel Caldwell said.

The campaign will feature real Airmen performing their missions, like Staff Sgt. Lee Jones from Barksdale Air Force Base, La. He’s featured prominently in the campaign as a warrior on the front lines of the Air Force’s newest warfighting domain, cyberspace.

“I’m excited to be a part of this and to represent the Air Force this way,” said Sergeant Jones, a computer systems operator and cyberwarrior. “‘Above All’ is a great slogan because it says how we shine in what we do to defend our nation and accomplish our mission.”


The Above All slogan was chosen over several other phrases as the best description of the Air Force mission, Colonel Caldwell said.

“From all the research we did about how people feel about the Air Force - including civilians, Airmen and representatives from other services - this was the phrase that stood out the most,” said Colonel Caldwell. “This campaign captures the professionalism of our Airmen, our technological edge and our ability to meet today’s threats while at the same time prepare for future challenges.

“When anyone in our Air Force family sees an ‘Above All’ ad, we hope it reminds them that their role is important to America,” Colonel Caldwell said. “This campaign makes it clear the Air Force’s mission ‘Above All’ is national defense and protecting the American people.”

You can view the latest “Above All” ad on [www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com).

Airmen can find more information about the “Above All” ad campaign by logging on to the Air Force Portal at: [www.my.af.mil](http://www.my.af.mil). Featured there is a special video that tells more about the campaign.



### Strong Bonds Retreat

#### Save the Date

**Strong Bonds**  
Building Ready Families

Couples are invited to attend the Strong Bonds Retreat at the Jolly Roger Resort in Wildwood, NJ, May 30-31. This workshop will help couples stay close through upcoming deployments.

Military members will be placed on AT status and non military members will be placed on invitational travel orders. This includes mileage reimbursement, per diem and hotel accommodations. Take this time to just be together.

The deadline to register for the Strong Bonds Retreat is May 4 and space is limited. Contact Jean Moretti at (215) 443-1409 to register.

# Power of positive thinking

By Col. James Blaydon

111th FW Vice Commander

A lot of things are happening around here that have never happened before. People are finding themselves in situations they never dreamed they'd be in. There's a lot of uncertainty and fear for the future. "Hey, I never planned for this; in fact I worked hard and positioned myself so I would never have to deal with this." Unfortunately it is happening, and I do know how hard it is to deal with it. The only thing that I ask of you is to please keep doing your job to the best of your ability, don't succumb to the "rumor mill" and don't lose track of what's really important.

From my first year in the 111th back in 1984, I have experienced a lot in my career, some good and some not so good. But, what I have tried to keep in mind is

what's really important is that you have your health, your family and your friends.

When this is all said and done, I'm positive you will be able to look back and say "why did I get so upset about that?" **Things will work out!** Don't waste anymore of your valuable time and that of your family's worrying--life's too short.

I don't want to minimize this to any degree, because it is a big change in some of our lives. But take it from me, **you're going to be just fine.** Some people will choose to leave the 111th and find jobs at other units, maybe in other states. Some will choose to stay, but the bottom line is **things will work out!**

Change is a very hard concept to embrace, especially as an adult in the military.



Col. James Blaydon

But once you learn to live with it, it becomes less frightening. And before long, you begin to accept it and things get back to "normal."

Trust me when I tell you that you have the best people working very hard on your behalf, from the Governor to Generals Wright and Sischo and our Wing Commander, Col Comtois, who has worked tirelessly from the very start to save this base and preserve this unit as a flying wing. "It ain't over until it's over" and it ain't over by a long shot in my opinion.

Keep the faith, don't sweat the small stuff, and remember what's important in your life and **THINGS WILL WORK OUT!** Trust me.



**Submissions:**

The deadline for submissions to the April issue of the Sandy Hog Gazette is Apr. 11. E-mail articles and photos for consideration to: [pa.111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil](mailto:pa.111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil).

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**111th FW Members:**

The Sandy Hog Gazette is no longer available in print. To have the Gazette e-mailed directly to you, please send your name and email address to: [pa.111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil](mailto:pa.111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil) Please put "Sandy Hog" in the subject line.

**Retirees:**

You will continue to receive a hardcopy unless you opt for an electronic version.

**Contact us:**

The Public Affairs staff can be reached during UTA weekends at (215) 443-1504. For urgent inquiries, contact the 111th FW Community Manager at (215) 443-1410.

## Refractive Eye Surgery

If you are interested in having refractive eye surgery to correct your vision, please stop by the optometry section of the medical clinic to discuss it with Lt. Col. Strauss before scheduling the procedure.

## Contact Lens Wearers

If you wear contact lenses and are scheduled for an eye exam during your Physical Health Assessment (PHA), you must remove your contact lenses 48 hours prior to the exam.



## Leadership is action, not position

By Chief Master Sgt. Ralph C. Braden  
Pa. State Command Chief

This is the last of my articles relating to my favorite sayings. I will expound on the last saying, what it means to me, how it relates to the Pa. Air National Guard and how it relates to each of you as American Airmen. All three sayings follow:

The only constant is change.

Chance favors the prepared mind.

Leadership is action, not position.

This month I will discuss the third quote: **Leadership is action, not position.**

Leadership is action, not position is the motto of my Master's program. It may seem inconsistent with military structure, however, I contend that it is consistent with how the Air National Guard operates now and must function into the future.

Many of our Airmen have advanced degrees, skill sets, and leadership experience beyond their rank. At one point in the Quality Assurance Group at the 171st ARW, we had three traditional members with Master's Degrees. In civilian life, one was

the President of the Pittsburgh Firefighter union, one was an Airline Mechanic, and one was an Airline Maintenance Manager. Three additional traditional members had Bachelor's Degrees, two of them worked as FAA Inspectors and the other was in a leadership position working with nuclear power plants.

The leadership of the 171st allowed us to step forward and lead when our civilian expertise or experience was needed. I know that this happens at all of the Wings.

In the Air National Guard we have many Traditional Guardsmen whose civilian experience can help lead us into the 21st century. We need to remember that our traditional members' rank and AFSC is not all they are. Their civilian area of expertise and leadership experience may well exceed their rank and AFSC.

We need to utilize all the skills of our Airmen. Leaders need to encourage our Airmen to be engaged and help us lead when their skill set enables them to do so -



CCMSgt Ralph C. Braden

no matter their rank. Our great Traditional Airmen's skills combined with the skills and leadership of our fine Technician and AGR workforce provides our Commonwealth and Nation a ready, reliable, and relevant Pa. Air National Guard.

Airmen, it is my expectation that you inform the leadership of your Wing when you see a situation where your expertise may enable you to further support the mission to fly, fight, and win. I expect that you lean forward. We need all minds engaged and your leadership makes a difference.

Thank you for your service to the Pa. Air National Guard. As always, I am very proud to serve the outstanding American Airmen of the Commonwealth of Pa.

### **\*\* REMINDER \*\*** **Annual Retirees'** **Reunion Dinner**

A reunion of current and past members of the 111th Fighter Wing will be held on **Mon. April 7** at 6:30 p.m.

The event will be held at Casa DiLucia Restaurant located at 14425 Bustleton Pike (intersection of Philmont Ave and Bustleton Pike, (215) 677-6111). The cost of the affair is the cost of whatever you order; the food is excellent and reasonably priced. A cash bar will be available.

For more information, contact Vincent Celenza at (215) 728-6008 or Gary Yudel at (215) 364-0473.



### **Caption Contest**

Send us your most imaginative, humorous and printable caption for the above photo, related to your Air National Guard experience. The best 5 entries will be printed in the May issue of the Sandy Hog Gazette. Email name and caption to: [pa.111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil](mailto:pa.111fw@pawill.ang.af.mil).

## Understanding the meaning of leadership

By Master Sgt. Derrick D. Dash  
111th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Before aspiring to be a successful leader, one must understand what "leadership" is. There are many books and references on leadership, each with their own definition. Yet all of us know leadership when we see it, and we miss it when it's not there. I've happened to have been blessed with good leaders in my military career. I define leadership as inspiring and influencing others to follow your vision, directions, and dreams. In a bigger sense, this means getting people aligned and moving in one direction to complete a successful mission. I believe the following are techniques and practical experiences that give airmen a solid foundation to successfully lead, motivate and get the best from their people:

### **Never compromise your core values**

Most people I have asked in the military say they are inspired to follow leaders who stand for something. These leaders know their core values and are confident about them. Our Air Force Core Values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do, instill a level of commitment and pride that influences our decision making, judgment, and ability to be successful.

### **Optimism**

Be optimistic. Optimism is contagious; so is pessimism. If your troops are going to develop a positive, can-do attitude, you need to set the tone.

### **Leadership reading material**

One of the greatest myths in the definition of leadership is that leaders are born and not made. While specific characteristics of some leaders, such as charisma, might be considered part of a person's personality, most of the capacities and competencies of leadership can in fact be learned. Developing or enhancing good reading patterns is hard work. The reward, however, is greater success for yourself and your organization.

### **Life skills**

To be an effective member of the squadron (whether commander or NCOIC) you need personal life experience skills to aid you in the functions of planning, organizing, leading and coordinating activities. The key to being a good leader is your ability to use different skills at appropriate times.

### **Ask questions and probe**

How a leader uses questions is important. Questions are powerful tools and can be seen as critical or confrontational if they are not phrased and/or delivered just right. A good leader will ask many questions in a variety of approaches.

### **People first, quality always**

Good leadership, like good health, is the result of daily conditioning. What qualities lead to successful motivational management? Planning, teaching, delegating, encouraging independent thinking, team building, listening, and accepting responsibility.

### **Lead by example**

People learn by observing and imitating the actions of other military members. Being a good leader yourself is the best way to teach your staff how to be successful in this role. Be fair in your decisions, set attainable goals, and admit mistakes.

### **Be passionate and motivated**

Having a burning desire to be successful is perhaps the single and most important characteristic a leader can instill within the organization.

### **Find a good mentor**

Model your management style after someone who inspires you. This could be another military leader or a longtime friend. It does not have to be one person; having multiple mentors can be beneficial.

Our successes in the future as a top performing unit in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard will be solidified upon the foundation of good leadership.

## Volunteers needed for 111th FW Great PA Cleanup

Join other State Air and Army Guard units, as requested by Maj. Gen. Jessica Wright, to help clean up the community surrounding Willow Grove Air Reserve Station on Sat. May 3 from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. To volunteer for this day of community service, please contact Senior Master Sgt. Nicole Fulton at (215) 443-1782 or email: [nicole.fulton@pawill.ang.af.mil](mailto:nicole.fulton@pawill.ang.af.mil).



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Marie Harmon

## Congratulations!

## Sandy Hog Gazette Reader Survey Winner

The winner of the Air Force track suit was Maureen Hickey, wife of Senior Master Sgt. Tom Hickey, 111th Communications Flight. Thank you for all who sent in their survey entry forms. We appreciate all of the feedback, suggestions and comments we received.

111th FW Public Affairs Office

# Implementation plan detailing how to transition NAS JRB Willow Grove into Joint Interagency Installation released

By Tech. Sgt. Elisabeth A. Matulewicz  
111th FW Public Affairs Office

A final report outlining plans to transition NAS JRB Willow Grove into a self-sustaining Joint Interagency Installation (JII) was released by L. Robert Kimball & Assoc. to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs on Mar. 3.

Kimball and Assoc. was hired by the Commonwealth of Pa. to study and compare three options: use the entire 1,100-acre property including the airfield, use part of the property and the airfield or use all of the property except for the airfield. They concluded using the entire property to include the airfield was the best option to effectively accomplish national defense, homeland security and emergency preparedness functions.

The report finds:

-- After 9/11 and natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina, it's abundantly clear the nation desperately needs a new approach to how we prepare for and respond to national emergencies. Willow Grove/Horsham JII, with its location, robust infrastructure, and controlled access, is an ideal facility to support a new model of joint interagency cooperation. This new model requires closer coordination of all national response assets, to include military, government agencies, non-governmental organizations and first responders.

-- Willow Grove is strategically located between New York City and Washington, D.C. and is perfectly positioned to immediately provide emergency response and support to the largest population concentration in the country.

-- Developing a facility fully dedicated to defense, homeland

security, and emergency preparedness, unencumbered by conflicting priorities, would be unmatched anywhere else in the country.

-- While the Pa. Air and Army National Guard and the Army Reserve plan to operate at Willow Grove/Horsham JII well into the future, flight operations are absolutely essential to optimize support of any disaster relief efforts, facilitating rapid response and recovery in an emergency.

"The report represents an important step forward in making our vision for a robust, cost-effective and efficient interagency installation a reality," Pa. Governor Ed Rendell said in a written statement.

"The report will be a valuable tool for Governor Rendell and members of his staff as we work with the Navy, Air Force and local government on this vital project," said Maj. Gen. Jessica L. Wright, the state's adjutant general.

Over 30 state and federal agencies have expressed interest in becoming tenants. The following nine are either onboard or have tenancy agreements in place:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA)
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- DoD Officer of the Inspector General (DoD-IG)
- Army Guard Recruit Sustainment Program
- Army Guard Helicopter Rework
- Civil Air Patrol (CAP)
- Intelligence Training Center
- Pa. Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- US Army Reserve

According to the report, a joint interagency installation is required to strike a balance between statutory mission accomplishment, the ability to achieve financial self-sustaining revenues, and management of start-up and operational risks.

The full report is available on the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs website at: [www.dmva.state.pa.us](http://www.dmva.state.pa.us). Click on "Joint Interagency Installation Plan for Willow Grove/Horsham" under "Featured Topics."

## COMM BYTES

### Notice and consent banner

By Master Sgt. Stanley Woods  
111th FW Information Assurance Office

The Notice and Consent Banner is an agreement you consent to each time you access the network, receive or use a piece of telecommunications equipment be it a computer, telephone, handheld radio, a Blackberry or an authorized USB drive. As a communications device user, do you understand the terms to which you agree to?

#### The Notice of Consent Banner

"This is a Department of Defense computer system. This computer system, including all related equipment, networks, and network devices (specifically including Internet access), are provided only for authorized U.S. Government use. DOD computer systems may be monitored for all lawful purposes, to ensure that their use is authorized, for management of the system, to facilitate protection against unauthorized access, and to verify security procedures,

*Story continued on page 6*

## WARTHOG ADDITION



### Newest member of the 111th FW family

Kaitlin Grace Luckenbach, born Mar. 11 at 11:03 a.m. weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz. to Master Sgt. Lisa Luckenbach, 111th Mission Support Flight. Mom and baby are both doing great. Congratulations!

*If you know of any recent births, e-mail us:  
[pa.111fw@pawillang.af.mil](mailto:pa.111fw@pawillang.af.mil)*



## New Requirements for Obtaining Common Access Cards (CAC)

*(Also required for dependent ID cards)*

**Must have two documents from either of these lists,  
one must have a photo:**

### Documents that Establish Both Identity and Employment Eligibility

1. U.S. Passport (unexpired or expired)
2. Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (Form N-560 or N-561)
3. Certificate of Naturalization (Form N-550 or N-570)
4. Unexpired foreign passport, with I-551 stamp or attached Form I-94 indicating unexpired employment authorization
5. Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card with photograph (Form I-151 or I-551)
6. Unexpired Temporary Resident Card (Form I-688)
7. Unexpired Employment Authorization Card (Form I-688A)
8. Unexpired Reentry Permit (Form I-327)
9. Unexpired Refugee Travel Document (Form I-571)
10. Unexpired Employment Authorization Document issued by DHS that contains a photograph (Form I-688B)

### Documents that Establish Identity

1. Driver's license or ID card issued by a state or outlying possession of the United States provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color and address
2. ID card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities, provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color and address
3. School ID card with a photograph
4. Voter's registration card
5. U.S. Military card or draft record
6. Military dependent's ID card
7. U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card
8. Native American tribal document
9. Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority

**For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:**

10. School record or report card
11. Clinic, doctor or hospital record
12. Day-care or nursery school record

**AND must have one document from this list:**

### Documents that Establish Employment Eligibility

1. U.S. social security card issued by the Social Security Administration (other than a card stating it is not valid for employment)
2. Certification of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State (Form FS-545 or Form DS-1350)
3. Original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a state, county, municipal authority or outlying possession of the United States bearing an official seal
4. Native American tribal document
5. U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)
6. ID Card for use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
7. Unexpired employment authorization document issued by DHS (other than those listed under List A)

## Earn G-RAP money for officer accessions

The Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP) is excited to announce a new officer promotion that will allow Active Recruiting Assistants (RAs) to receive \$4,000 for their qualified officer accessions. RAs will receive an initial \$2,000 payment if their potential officer enlists on or between the promotional periods of Mar. 1 through Sept. 30, 2008. RAs will receive a subsequent \$2,000 payment upon the completion of a prior service officer's 90-day affiliation. For non-prior service officers, a second payment of \$2,000 will be made to the RA upon their nominee's successful shipment to the Academy of Military Science (AMS)\*.

A nominee must have an enlistment date of Mar. 1 through Sept. 30 to qualify for the initial \$2,000 incentive.

\*Non-prior Service members must ship to AMS by Oct. 31 to be eligible for the second \$2,000 payment.

Please contact a member of the G-RAP team at (866) 566-2472 with any questions regarding the qualification criteria.

Fine Print: Applies ONLY to new officers joining the ANG. Current ANG airmen commissioning as an officer in the ANG are not eligible nominations for the promotion. Shipments occurring on or after Nov. 1 will not qualify for the additional incentive compensation. Enlistments that occur within the promotional timeframe but do not result in an AMS shipment by Oct. 31 will be considered paid in full upon the \$2,000 enlistment payment. Enlistment dates are confirmed through both the AFRISS and MilPDS systems. The RA must fulfill their G-RAP obligations outlined in the training module "Responsibilities of a Recruiting Assistant" prior to the disbursement of payments. Potential officer nominations made prior to the effective dates of the promotion are eligible provided that the enlistment occurs during the promotional time period.

## Comm Bytes

*Continued from page 5*

tacks by authorized DOD entities to test or verify the security of this system. During monitoring, information may be examined, recorded, copied, and used for authorized purposes. All information, including personal information, placed on or sent over this system may be monitored. Use of this DOD computer system, authorized or unauthorized, constitutes consent to monitoring of this system. Unauthorized use may subject you to criminal prosecution. Evidence of unauthorized use collected during monitoring may be used for administrative, criminal, or other adverse action. Use of this system constitutes consent to monitoring for these purposes."

During our busy day, there's a tendency to overlook the message right in front our face. Make sure to adhere to all policies and procedures.

**INFORMATION PROTECTION  
STARTS AND STOPS WITH YOU**

# To run or not to run, that is the question

1st. Lt. Francis Rella  
111th Medical Group

If you're old enough to remember new math, you're probably a baby boomer and look with great interest at the new rules for fitness testing. To run or not to run? That is the question! Shakespeare once wrote something similar. If you can understand the language of the Bard or Base 8, you probably can make sense out of the new Assessment Screening Form. In reality, the new rules don't have to be as difficult as Hamlet or as complicated as the axiomatic set theory if we look at the basic principles.

The Assessment Screening Form (Health Fitness Questionnaire) includes four questions. For you non-baby boomers, if you are under 35, you only have to answer questions 1 through 3. Simple enough? Let's find out.

The Assessment Screening Form states Fitness Program Medical Liaisons (FPML) will only clear members answering "Yes" to questions 1 and 2, or two items in question 4 to perform the 3-Minute Step Test for the Aerobic Fitness component, unless the member provides documentation from his or her private healthcare provider that he or she is able to participate in unrestricted AF Fitness Program testing.

In plain English, the sine qua non, oops, the bottom line is, if a member wants to run and answers yes to any of questions 1 and 2, or two items in question 4, authorization is a two-step process. You must first get a letter of clearance from your private healthcare provider and then the FPML (the doctor at our medical clinic) must clear you. If not, you will do the Step Test.

Remember, it does not matter how great a member feels the day of the fitness test. If they have answered yes to ANY of questions 1 and 2, or two items in question 4, they will not run, a note from their civilian provider will be provided, and if the FPML concurs, the member will perform the STEP TEST. Likewise, once it's deemed necessary to perform the step test, the FPML at the clinic will not clear you to run without documentation from your private healthcare provider, so don't ask.

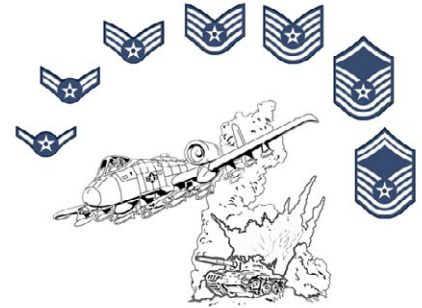
In summary, there are three possible outcomes.

1. If you answer NO – you RUN!
2. If you answer YES – you do the STEP TEST, if cleared by the FPML.
3. If you produce a clearance letter by your private healthcare provider, and see the FPML for clearance – you may RUN!

The Assessment Screening Form and Assessment Score Form is available on the ANG Fitness Website, accessible by the Unit Fitness Program Manager (UFPM). It is imperative to complete the form three months prior to taking the Physical Fitness Assessment. The completed form is re-evaluated the day of testing to confirm the information is still current. The reasoning behind completing the form a few months in advance is to allow enough time for the member to resolve any medical concerns.

Remember, deployments, evaluations and promotions may be contingent upon a successful and timely Physical Fitness Assessment. Poor and marginal ratings require members re-test within six months of the original test date. Poor rating requires the individual attend the Health Promotions Class, offered at the medical clinic on Saturdays at 1400 hours. In addition, officers scoring less than 75 points are not promotable until receiving a satisfactory score.

It is the belief of the Air National Guard that the step test has been a beneficial and safe aerobic assessment but more people should be able to perform the run. The sine qua non for everyone is good physical fitness and a healthy life. For more information, refer to ANGI 10-248, contact Maj. Kathy Logan, 111th MDG Fitness Officer at (215) 443-1300 or your Unit Fitness Program Manager.



## Enlisted Field Advisory Council

### Quarterly Event Sponsored by the Willow Grove VFW Post # 3612

The EFAC will be hosting a quarterly event following the **Saturday of April UTA for all Wing members**. Please join us for food, fun, and entertainment.

Location: Willow Grove VFW  
Post #3612

Date & Time: Sat. Apr. 5 from 4-8 p.m.

For the low cost of \$5.00, the following will be provided:  
Hot Roast Beef  
Potato Salad  
Macaroni Salad  
Cole Slaw  
Relish Tray  
Draft Beverages

There will be a free raffle for several prizes, tickets given at the door

#### Directions to the Willow Grove VFW Post #3612

Exit the Navy gate and turn right onto Rt. 611. Go 4.6 miles. Turn right on Allison Road. Go .3 miles. Turn left onto W. Moreland Road/PA-63. Arrive at 301 W. Moreland Road.

The next quarterly EFAC event will be a cookout at the base pool on Sat. Jun. 7, following drill. More information to follow.

Please feel free to thank Roger Myers, VFW Post #3612 President, and Tom Starks, VFW Post #3612 Commander, for use of the VFW. They have officially adopted the 111th Fighter Wing.

# Temporary duty to Ramstein

By Lt. Col. Mike Day

## 11th Logistics Readiness Squadron

I recently completed a two-month temporary duty (TDY) deployment to Ramstein AB, Germany where I worked for the 3rd Air Force A4X division. 3AF/A4X is the office responsible for conducting site surveys and airfield analysis on all potential AF beddown locations in the European Command area of responsibility. They are also tasked with coordinating exercises for 3AF. It is always amazing to augment the active duty and witness the ops tempo they endure. In two short months, A4X completed a site-survey to Bulgaria, participated in three Operation Planning Team cells and two exercises, all over the holiday season. As I was left, they were preparing for two site surveys, one being an extended survey in Africa (four different locations) and another to Rumania. They were also preparing for an Austere Challenge Exercise in April and two presidential visits in the coming months, both of which are extremely logistically demanding.

However, it was not all work, work, work. I was able to travel on the weekends

and traveling in Europe is absolutely wonderful. Ramstein is located near the city of Kaiserslautern which is in west-central Germany (close to Frankfurt, Mannheim and Saarbrücken). Kaiserslautern's (or K-town as it is known locally) location makes it easy to visit France (about an hour to the border), Belgium and Luxembourg.

Two highlights of my TDY were trips to the Ardennes region in Belgium to see the sites of the Battle of the Bulge and my trip to the Christkindlmarkt (Christmas Market) in Nurnberg. In the Ardennes I was able to visit various towns that figured prominently in the battle (Sankt Vith, La Glieze, the infamous Malmady and Bastogne). I was also able to see a German King Tiger Tank (shown above) that had been left by the retreating Germans in La Glieze. The King Tiger was a 60-ton behemoth and the most feared tank of the war. At Nurnberg, I was able to sight-see around the 1,000 year old



city, enjoy a wurst and Gluwein (a hot alcoholic concoction served in a complementary mug) and enjoy the Christmas Market which is extremely popular in Europe.

Going TDY overseas is always a wonderful experience and opportunities should never be missed by any airman. Being fortunate enough to deploy to locations like Europe is even better. Immersing yourself in other cultures and visiting the fabulous sites they have to offer (not just Europe) is truly an experience that will be with you the rest of your life.

## Spring into action, it's time to clean up

### Courtesy of Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Fire & Emergency Services

Spring is about to spring upon us and this means it's time for spring clean-up. Spring clean up typically involves not only cleaning up clutter from attics, garages, sheds, closets, and basements, but yard clean up as well. Most of the region is experiencing a drought. This means burn bans above and beyond those typically implemented in the spring.

As we clean up our yards what are we to do with the debris? For some of us this involves burning of said debris. If you plan on burning first check with your local Fire Prevention or Fire Marshall Office for any burn bans currently in place. If no burn ban is in place abide by the following guidelines to ensure a safe burn:

- Burn yard debris only if no other means of disposal is practical and it's allowed by your local jurisdiction
- Recycling is an easy and safe alternative to burning for the disposal of yard wastes
- High winds can blow around hot embers causing fire spread
- Keep fire to a size that you can easily control



- Have garden tools, charged water hose or other source of water on hand
- Never leave fire unattended
- Always be sure any outdoor fire is completely extinguished before leaving
- You may be liable for suppression costs if you lose control of your burn

### Spring Yard Clean-up Tips

- Clear yard of leaves, debris, and combustible rubbish
- Clear surrounding properties of weeds, dry leaves, and rubbish
- Properly dispose of yard debris and rubbish
- Keep mulch at least a foot away from the house or other structures with a non-combustible barrier in between such

as rock

- Store gasoline for yard equipment in a strong metal safety-type can with a self-closing cap
- Attached garages should be separated from the house by a tight fitting door that is to be kept closed.

### Did You Know...

In the southern region 76% of all wildfires are human caused, of which 38% started from escaped yard debris burns.

In February 2008 alone, North Carolina lost 13,425 acres of land to 726 drought related wildfires with smoke at times extending into central Virginia over 100 miles away.

Spring is peak wildfire season due to typically dry conditions, high winds, and increased fire loads of dead/dry vegetation.



## RETIREE ACTIVITIES OFFICE NEWS

The Willow Grove Retiree Activities Office is located in Bldg. 203, Rm. 154, and can be reached at (215) 443-1072.

### Five Years of VA Health Care for Combat Veterans

Military veterans who served in combat since November 11, 1998, including veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, are now eligible for five years of free medical care for most conditions from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This measure increases a two-year limit that has been in effect nearly a decade.

Combat veterans who were discharged between November 11, 1998 and January 16, 2003, and who never took advantage of VA's health care system have until January 27, 2011 to qualify for free VA health care.

The five-year window is also open to activated Reservists and members of the National Guard, if they served in a theater of combat operations after November 11, 1998 and were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions. For more information, visit [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

### VA to add 20 new centers; expansion comes a year early to help combat veterans

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake announced Feb. 27 that an expansion by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) of its Vet Centers, which pro-

vide readjustment counseling and outreach services to returning combat veterans, is well ahead of schedule.

In February 2007, VA announced it would open 23 new centers during the next two years. Fifteen of those centers are already operational, and five others are seeing patients in temporary facilities while finalizing their leases. The other three facilities will begin operations later this year.

"Building on our past successes, 2008 will see a permanent increase in the number of Vet Centers, as we bring the remaining facilities on line to reach a record 232 Vet Centers by the end of the year," Peake said.

"To support this expansion and augment the staff at 61 existing Vet Centers, this year we are channeling a 44 percent increase in funding to the Readjustment Counseling Service, which operates the Vet Centers – nearly \$50 million more than last year's budget," he added.

Vet Centers provide counseling on employment, plus services on family issues, education and outreach, to combat veterans and their families. Vet Centers are staffed by small teams of professional counselors, outreach specialists and other specialists, many of whom are combat veterans themselves.

VA's Vet Centers have hired 100 combat veterans back from Iraq and Afghanistan as outreach specialists, often placing them near military processing stations, to

brief servicemen and women leaving the military about VA benefits.

These outreach specialists meet with returning veterans, work through family assistance centers and visit military installations to carry the message that VA will be there for the troops and family members after discharge. For more information, visit [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

### Safeguard your DD Form 214 Courtesy of the Air Force Afterburner, Randolph AFB

The Retiree Services Section receives numerous calls from retirees who cannot find their DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. This form is one of the most important pieces of paper a retiree will ever possess yet people tend to forget about it until they need it.

Unfortunately, this document becomes just as important to a retiree's survivors when a retiree dies. It is the required proof of service necessary to ensure a retiree receives military funeral and burial honors.

"The days immediately following your death is not the time to have your spouse or other family members scrambling through your personal papers trying to find it," said Pat Peek, chief of the Retiree Services Section at the Air Force Personnel Center. "And requesting a replacement copy takes time, up to three or four months."

To help ease the burden on survivors, retirees should ensure their DD Form 214 is in a safe place and that immediate family members -- at least two -- or other trusted agents know where that safe place is, added Ms. Peek.

### Deaths of retirees and annuitants

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service prepared a list of contacts to help people with reporting the death of a military retiree or annuitant. The information provided is meant to serve as a general guide.

People can notify DFAS at either (800) 269-5170 or (800) 321-1080. DFAS officials ask that people have the decedent's Social Security number and the date of death when they call. Officials ask that one photocopy of a death certificate which indicates the cause of death be sent to:

#### For Retirees:

DFAS U.S. Military  
Retirement Pay  
P.O. Box 7130  
London, KY 40742-7130  
Fax: (800) 469-6559

#### For Annuitants:

DFAS U.S. Military  
Annuitant Pay  
P.O. Box 7131  
London, KY 40742-7131



### Guardsmen unfurl flag at Phillies Home Opener

Volunteers from the 111th FW and other units helped unfurl the flag during opening ceremony at the Phillies Home Opener on Mar. 31 at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia, Pa.

## By Jean Moretti Wing Family Program Coordinator

Join us and see what the 111th FW FRG is all about! If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jean Moretti, 111th FW Family Program Coordinator at (215) 443-1409 or email: [jean.moretti@pawill.ang.af.mil](mailto:jean.moretti@pawill.ang.af.mil).

### Child Care

Is child care holding you back from attending FRG training/meetings? The Child Development Center on base offers child care during drill weekends. Due to staffing requirements, advance reservations must be made by Friday - one week in advance of the required weekend. You will need to register your child/children in advance by calling (215) 443-6020 or (215) 443-6080.

### Education Series Guest Speakers

Many thanks to Deanna Cole, a Family Readiness Assistant (FRA) contractor with the Pa. National Guard for hosted a workshop here Mar. 2. The training focused on ways to plan FRG activities, how to keep members involved, fundraising ideas and the Volunteer 3R's: Recruit, Retain and Reward. She also shared her experiences as a FRG leader. The training was well received by all who attended.

According to FRG volunteer Claire DeBelius, "It was a wonderful course. I enjoyed learning about how to fundraise, recruit volunteers and make sure everyone works for the greater good of the members and their families."

On Sunday of drill weekend, preceding the FRG meeting, an informative guest speaker will present a topic as part of an educational series. Some of the upcoming topics are: Tricare on Apr. 6 at 1 p.m. in Bldg. 203, HQ Auditorium, and Financial Management on May 4 at 1 p.m.

Events like this are a great way to meet people and create a strong support network. The FRG members would like to meet you and need your help. A representative from the Chief's Council and a First Sergeant are usually available to answer your questions. What better way to pass the time than to get involved and join one of our exciting teams: Fund Raising, Sales, Hospitality, Newsletter, Helping Hands, Deployment and Homecoming. Let us work together so everyone achieves more!

### America Supports You announces scholarship opportunities

Homefront America, a troop-support organization based in California, recently announced it will, for the third year, award 25 scholarships in May to benefit military children.

Homefront America is a supporter of America Supports You, a Defense Department program connecting citizens and companies with service members and their families serving at home and abroad.

The \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded with the help of the W. Daniel Tate family and Sara's Hope, a charitable organization that offers annual scholarships to high school students who perform random acts of kindness. These awards will bring the total of the scholarships awarded through Homefront America's "The American Patriot Freedom Scholarship" program to \$70,000 since it began in 2006.

Candidates for the scholarships must submit an essay of 500 words or less on one of four approved topics:

- Why I love my country
- Challenge(s) in my life and how I overcame it/them
- Of all that my Mom/Dad has done for me, I am most thankful for
- My number one American Hero

All applications must be postmarked by April 25. Complete eligibility requirements and rules are at the group's Web site:

**Homefront America**  
[www.homefrontamerica.org](http://www.homefrontamerica.org)  
**America Supports You**  
[www.americasupportsyou.mil](http://www.americasupportsyou.mil)

### AFA Scholarships

The Air Force Association and the First Command Educational Foundation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, establishing new scholarships to assist members of the Air Force. This MOU commits the Air Force Association and the First Command Educational Foundation to provide a total of \$60,000 in scholarships over a five year period, ending in 2011.

This new scholarship, the AFA-FCEF Air Force Excellence Scholarship, provides five scholarships of the amount of \$3000 to members of the Air Force family who are

seeking a bachelors or masters degree. It is anticipated that the first awards will be made in the summer of 2008.

For more information, visit the Air Force Association at: [www.afa.org](http://www.afa.org).

### Military One Source

Whether its help with child care, personal finances, emotional support during deployments, relocation information, or resources needed for special circumstances, Military OneSource is there. Visit [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com).

### Military HOMEFRONT

Military HOMEFRONT is the Department of Defense (DOD)'s official web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their families, leaders and service providers. Visit [www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil](http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil).

### Turbo Tap

Turbo Tap is the DOD's official website providing information for service members on transitioning from military service. This site is also supported by the Departments of Labor and Veterans Affairs. TurboTAP.org is intended to supplement the services offered by the Transition Assistance Offices and other groups. Visit: [www.turbotap.org](http://www.turbotap.org) or [www.transitionassistanceprogram.com](http://www.transitionassistanceprogram.com).

### Cookbooks for Sale

Cookbooks are available for purchase. Cost is \$10. Call (215) 443-1409.

**NAS JRB Willow Grove  
Information, Tickets & Tours  
Office located in Bldg. 2  
(215) 443-6082**

**Tues, Thurs, Fri  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Wed & Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

### Statewide News

View newsletters of our sister units:  
193rd Special Operations Wing  
[www.paharr.ang.af.mil](http://www.paharr.ang.af.mil)  
171st Air Refueling Wing  
**Y:111fw Shared Newsletters -  
Sister Units**

## PROMOTIONS

### To Lieutenant Colonel

Robert J. Kwortnik II 111th CES

### To Major

Michael A. Morgenstern 111th MDG

### To Senior Master Sergeant

James A. Gray 111th CES  
Stephen C. Mee 111th AMXS  
James Weller 111th AMXS

### To Master Sergeant

Michael L. Aversa 111th MXS  
Sabrina T. Knoblauch 111th AMXS

### To Technical Sergeant

Catherine W. Cabrera 111th LRS  
Thomas J. Garritano 111th AMXS  
Nellie Montanez 111th LRS  
Dennis J. Morgan 111th AMXS  
Patrick S. Pittman 111th LRS

### To Staff Sergeant

Lauren M. Haley 111th MDG

## ENLISTMENTS

MSgt Norman A. Metz, III 111th SFS  
SSgt Gerome Q. Banks 111th FW  
SSgt Spencer L. Deturk 103rd FS  
SSgt Robert A. Donaldson 111th AMXS  
SrA Andrew C. Langley 111th MDG  
A1C Jessica A. Berger 111th MDG  
A1C Scott J. Davis 111th OSF  
A1C Jacqueline M. Dowd 103rd FS  
A1C Jeremy L. Williams 270th EIS

## EXTENSIONS

### 111th Medical Group

TSgt Damon C. Bates

### 111th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

SSgt Danita C. Jones

## RETIREMENTS

MSgt Ralph Perrie 111th FW 22 years  
SSgt Paul D. Morris 111th CES 21 years

## REENLISTMENTS

### 111th Logistics Readiness Squadron

MSgt Francis R. Warren Jr.

### 111th Maintenance Squadron

MSgt Jon P. Lutz  
SSgt Amy J. Brown  
SSgt Curtis M. Jeffries  
SSgt Paul J. Minnick  
SSgt Ryan D. Ward

### 111th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

SMSgt James Weller

### 111th Fighter Wing

SMSgt Nicole M. Fulton

### 111th Civil Engineering Squadron

SMSgt John L. Hertler

### 111th Logistics Readiness Squadron

TSgt Bryon S. Lockett  
SSgt William A. Benson

### 270th Engineering Installation Squadron

TSgt Antonio D'Ambrosio

## IN BRIEF

### Volunteers needed for Unity Day 2008 at Ft. Indiantown Gap

The Human Resource Program Advisory Board (HRPAB) is pleased to announce the first Unity Day Celebration to be held at building 8-80, Ft Indiantown Gap, on Sept. 18. The event will be a special ethnic observance designed to enhance awareness and promote cultural diversity. Multicultural displays, food samplings and special performances will take place from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. The HRPAB are looking for volunteers to assist in the set up and displaying of the various displays, as well as suggestions and ideas to enhance this celebration. To submit suggestion, ideas or volunteer, please contact Senior Master Sgt. Alice Jenkins at (215) 443-1357.

### Coming soon: Satellite Airmen Leadership School & Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Willow Grove

The 111th FW previously offered satellite PME courses for ALS/NCO Academy as an alternative, in-residence course for members who wished to attend, but were unable to attend due to school or civilian employment conflicts. We are now planning to bring this opportunity back to the Wing in late FY08/early FY09. This is an open call for submissions from 111th FW Enlisted Personnel for ALS/NCO Academy Satellite Course Site Facilitators. Submissions will be accepted until May 4.

#### **Requirements for NCOA Facilitator:**

- 1) In-resident graduate of NCO Academy or Senior NCO Academy
- 2) Possess an Associates degree, or higher
- 3) Highly motivated, self-starting, professional NCO, recommend E-7 or higher, with strong communicative skills
- 4) Unit Commander's approval

#### **Requirements for ALS Facilitator:**

- 1) In-resident graduate of Airman Leadership School or higher
- 2) Possess an Associates degree or higher
- 3) Highly motivated, self-starting, professional with strong communicative skills
- 4) Unit Commander's approval

E-mail submissions to SMSgt Nicole Fulton, Human Resource Advisor at: [nicole.fulton@pawill.ang.af.mil](mailto:nicole.fulton@pawill.ang.af.mil) and MSgt Stephen Beckage, Base Education and Training Manager at: [stephen.beckage@pawill.ang.af.mil](mailto:stephen.beckage@pawill.ang.af.mil). Submissions should be in the format of the AF Form 1206 (can also be a Word document). Must include information for Leadership, Professionalism, Self-Improvement, and Qualifications for Facilitating Course. Members wishing to attend an in-residence course who plan to take advantage of this opportunity for a Satellite course are asked to notify MSgt Beckage of this intent by 4 May 08, via their Unit Training Manager, Jr./Sr. Enlisted Field Advisory Council member or Unit Career Advisor.



# Women's History at the 111th Fighter Wing

By Senior Master Sgt. Nicole M. Fulton  
111th FW Human Resources Advisor

Each year, the president issues a proclamation declaring March as Women's History Month. The issuance of this declaration was started by an education task force in California who wanted to ensure school age children were taught about the significant contributions of American women in the history of the U.S. Once knowledge of their initiatives spread, Congress signed a resolution designating the month of March as National Women's History Month.

A similar change of history for women took place at the 111th Fighter Wing in 1982. In that year, Jenny Pappas learned of an opportunity in the Wing's training office. Jenny, a senior airman at the time, and her three young children moved from Salt Lake City, Utah to the Willow Grove area. She had no idea that her path would lead her to become the first female at the 111th Fighter Wing to attain the highest enlisted rank of the Air National Guard, Chief Master Sergeant.

Like the inception of what is now known as Women's History Month, the impact of Chief Pappas' career was destined to extend beyond its humble beginnings of 1980. Everyone knows Jenny and seeks her guidance and advice on, not only all things culinary, but on all things ANG.

She "wasn't career oriented about the military", says Chief Pappas about her goals and plans at that time. When she thinks back to that period of her life, Chief Pappas states that "it [joining the Air

Once she promoted to Staff Sergeant, she took all the PME and other training required so she could be prepared if another opportunity to progress became available. This type of foresight and proactive thinking didn't go unnoticed or unrecognized.

Fast forward to 2005, twenty-two years after joining the 111th, approximately the same number of years it took for the initial task force's celebration of March 8 to the national celebration of March as Women's History Month. In 2005, she was selected to be a Chief Master Sergeant. This selection made her not only the first female at the 111th to reach the E-9 grade, but also the first female in Services in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to attain the rank of Chief Master Sergeant!

She is an inspiration to all members of the Wing and reminds us that nothing is impossible if you put forth your best efforts. Chief Pappas' favorite saying to herself and others is "Don't forget where you were and don't forget those who want to get where you are now." She says this is her favorite because "none of us got where we are without the help of others. There's no "I" in team."

Chief Pappas will be retiring this year, and we will surely miss her daily presence at the 111th. It does all of us well to celebrate, recognize and honor Women's History at the 111th Fighter Wing and the Commonwealth of PA exemplified in Chief Master Sergeant Jenny Pappas. Thanks Chief Pappas, for everything that you are and do for us!



**CMSgt Jenny Pappas**

## UTA MENU (AT PITCAIRN CLUB)

### **Sat. Apr. 5**

Honey glazed ham, Oven roasted turkey breast, Mashed potatoes, Gravy, Stuffing, Corn, Dinner rolls and butter, Salad bar, Assorted desserts

### **Sun. Apr. 6**

Beef stew, Filet of fish, Pa. Dutch buttered noodles, Mixed vegetables, Dinner rolls and butter, Salad bar, Assorted desserts

## UTA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Protestant Worship will be held on Sun. Apr. 6 at 8:30 a.m. in Bldg. 320, Room 227/228. Catholic Mass will be held on Sun. Apr. 6 at 10:00 a.m. in Bldg. 203, HQ Auditorium. The Chaplain's Office is located in Bldg. 203, Room 204-205 on the second floor. For more information, call (215) 443-1534.

**FY08 UTAs:** 12-13 July 2008  
3-4 May 2008 16-17 August 2008  
7-8 June 2008 6-7 September 2008

**FY09 UTAs:** 4-5 April 2009  
4-5 October 2008 16-17 May 2009  
1-2 November 2008 (Armed Forces Day)  
6-7 December 2008 6-7 June 2009  
10-11 January 2009 11-12 July 2009  
7-8 February 2009 1-2 August 2009  
7-8 March 2009 12-13 September 2009

National Guard] was the one of the best things I ever did.

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111TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)  
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