

Sandy H g Gazette

111th Fighter Wing

Pa Air National Guard

Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa.

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July 2008

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WARTHOG ADDITIONS



Newest members to the 111th FW family

A girl, Monet Sade, born May 9 weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. 22" long to Staff Sgt. Monique K. Munro-Harris, 111th Medical Group.

A boy, Conner Joseph, born May 26 weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz. 20" long to Senior Airman Nathan Hill, 111th Medical Group, and wife Sonita.

A girl, Jasmine Alexis, born Jun. 1 weighing 5 lbs. 6 oz. 16 1/2" long. Adopted by Master Sgt. Sterling Randolph, 111th Mission Support Flight, and wife Bridgette.

If you know of any recent births, e-mail us: pa.111fw@pawill.af.mil



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111th FW Members:

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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.

Submissions:

The deadline for submissions to the July issue of the Sandy Hog Gazette is July 18. E-mail articles and photos for consideration to: pa.111fw@pawill.af.mil.

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Cover photos:

Two Pa. Army National Guard Chinook helicopters and several government buses transported approx. 80 guardsmen to an A-10 live firing demonstration Jun. 6 to the Bollen Range at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa.

Photo by Capt. Christine Munch

Capt. Renee Lillis and SSgt Harold Jackson, both of the 111th FW, conduct an on-camera interview with an attendee of an orientation flight hosted here by the 111th Fighter Wing May 23.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Elisabeth A. Matulewicz

Senior Master Sgt. Scot Baughman, 111th MSF, and Master Sgt. Rich Eggles, attend an EFAC sponsored poolside barbeque here Jun. 7.

Photo by Master Sgt. Patrick Cashin

Senior Master Sgt. John Heidrick, 270th EIS, spots an airman doing pull-ups at a Wingman Day exhibit here Jun. 13.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Elisabeth A. Matulewicz

111th FW public website has moved:
www.111fw.af.mil





Safety first during deployments, summer activities

By Maj. Scott Meier

111th Maintenance Operations Flight Commander

I thought that I would take a few minutes of your time to reflect upon the reasons we had a successful deployment to MacDill in May. During our two weeks in Tampa, I observed members of the 111th Fighter Wing perform their tasks with precision and a genuine love for their job. It was refreshing to see our Support folks involved and taking charge of their specialty areas, whether it was supply, vehicle operations, security forces, services, medical, travel, or finance, everyone worked together and played together as a family, watching out for each other, or in Air Force lingo...being good "wingmen".

Throughout the deployment, I watched as unit members used the swimming pool, went boating, fishing, played golf, and partied, without any mishaps...well maybe a shark bite or stray catfish, but for the most part it was always safe. In my humble opinion we implemented, quite successfully may I add, Operational Risk Management (ORM) strategies that assured us an unforgettable time. Safety and mission accomplishment were our goals. Apparently we were successful on both accounts. With that in mind, I ask all of you to implement those same ideas during the "101 Critical Days of Summer" when you enjoy warm weather activities with family and friends.

Risk management with our families is as simple as obtaining a weather forecast

before boating, checking our cars for safe operation prior to leaving on a trip, or ensuring that the tools we use are sharp and in good repair. Combining that concept with watching out for family and friends during our recreation activities can significantly reduce the chances of an unwanted event. Remember not to become complacent while engaging in water activities, camping, bicycling, jogging, or performing garden and home maintenance. Watch out for family and friends and make sure they are acting responsible by using sunscreen, wearing a life vest or proper safety equipment, and

staying hydrated during activities. To obtain more information on the "101 Critical Days of Summer," contact the Wing Safety office at (215) 443-1553.

I ask you to pause and take stock in the fact that our families and friends are proud of us and support us in our desire to remain and participate in the Air National Guard. Implementation of the ideas that promote safety and ORM among our families and friends is an exceptional way to show appreciation of their support. Enjoy your summer with your most valuable assets: your loved ones.

Photo by Master Sgt. Patrick Cashin



Mulherin assumes command of the 111th MSF

Maj. Dean Mulherin, 111th Equal Opportunity Officer, assumes command of the 111th Mission Support Flight from Lt. Col. Jacqueline Siciliano at a change of command ceremony here Jun. 7.

Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP)

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

What is G-RAP?

G-RAP is a program that was developed for the National Guard to enhance recruiting opportunities. It is a grassroots program just as the National Guard is a grassroots hometown organization. G-RAP is presently open to Traditional Guardsmen and qualified retirees. However, there is a movement to enable Technicians to participate in G-RAP that hopefully will come to fruition.

The reason I am writing an article about G-RAP is to raise awareness of the program. I am surprised during my visits to the Wings and GSUs as to how many of our Airmen are not yet aware of this great opportunity.

G-RAP allows Traditional Guardsmen and retirees to become Recruiting Assistants (RA) and earn extra money by helping in the Guard recruiting effort. As an RA, you can earn \$2000 for each enlisted member and up to \$4000 for each officer that becomes an active member of the Air National Guard. We have several Airmen in Pennsylvania that are top G-RAP RAs and have earned thousands of dollars help-

ing recruit new quality Airmen for the Air National Guard.

It is easy to sign up and train to be a RA. Just go to the website, sign up, and take the short online training course to become qualified. After you register and train for the program, you are ready to start G-RAPing.

As a RA, you will need to keep in contact and mentor your Potential Airmen/Officers while they transition into the Air National Guard. I can say from personal experience that it is a rewarding experience to helping to bring a quality Airman to the Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

The individual that I helped recruit was prior service Air Force. He has since signed up for the G-RAP program himself. A short time ago he informed me that he has entered two new Potential Airmen into G-RAP. I am hopeful that those new members will become RAs and help recruit even more Airmen for our Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

As I have said several times in previous articles and while addressing Airmen during my visits, we all have great stories



CCMSgt Ralph C. Braden

to tell about what the Air National Guard has done for us as individuals. Being a successful RA is made easy by telling your Air National Guard story to those you meet.

I ask that if you are eligible, you consider becoming a G-RAPRA. Participating in this program ensures that we bring quality new Airmen into our ranks, as well as putting some extra money in your pocket. It is possible that with a little extra effort you can be very successful as a RA.

Please visit this website to enroll as a G-RAP RA: www.guardrecruitingassistant.com.

EFAC is at 90 degrees and rising

By Senior Airman Ricardo Cruz
111th FW Public Affairs

It's not hard to see the effect the Enlisted Field Advisory Council (EFAC) is having on the unit. With the pool side barbecue on Jun. 7, it's easy to see the Jr. and Sr. EFAC is on fire and it wasn't because of the weather.

Both councils are working very hard every drill weekend to come up with ways to make UTAs fun, safe, and comfortable for everyone here at the unit. So many ideas flow through these meetings that some of them land on the cutting room floor. Airmen spend much time talking about some of the ideas they have for the future. A couple mentioned a bowling tournament and a military talent show. With the way both councils are on a roll, the ideas didn't sound far fetched.

As much as the councils try to make things fun, they're also here for serious matters. This is why we encourage enlisted Airmen to attend these meetings. You may have something that could help steer the unit in the right direction.

From speaking with Master Sgt. Matt Giacobbe at the barbecue, he praised the impact both EFAC councils are making on overall mission effectiveness. And by the way the Airmen were enjoying themselves at the pool party, the EFAC



mission seems to be a success so far.

The next EFAC Event will take place at the VFW, on Sept. 6 (Saturday of September UTA). It's a \$20 all you can eat and drink. For more information or to join a council please contact your supervisor. Bring your family and support your friends, and most importantly have fun. The next Jr. EFAC meeting is at 10:45 a.m., Sr. EFAC at 11:45 a.m., on July 13 in the HQ Bldg. 203 Room 203.

Pa. National Guard Enlisted Association

**By Master Sgt. Walter Milewski
111th Mission Support Group**

Recently, I was at the doctor's office where an old timer noticed the Air Guard emblem on my jacket and proudly told me he spent twenty years in the Navy and Army National Guard. He told me he recently was having health problems and if it wasn't for TRICARE, all of his income would be going toward medical bills. He said to stay in the Guard because "before you know it you will be my age." While driving home, I started to think about that gentleman and how expensive health care is, especially to retirees on a fixed income. It gave me a good feeling that the Pennsylvania National Guard Enlisted Association (PNGEA), the professional military organization I have been active in for the last two years, played a big role in getting TRICARE legislation passed which actually does make a difference. There are many excellent organizations to join, such as the Air Force Sergeants Association and Air Force Association. The association I want to give you a few thoughts on is PNGEA, which represents the National Guard.

PNGEA is the voice of National Guard issues in Harrisburg and Capitol Hill. The more members in this association the stronger our voice becomes. If you do not have the time to attend meetings or become an active member, that's okay, just being a member is important. By joining, it strengthens our numbers and gives PNGEA more credibility. The National Guard in today's world has a high deployment tempo with no end in sight. Our National Guard is no longer a weekend a month plus a two week summer encampment. Today's guardsmen are being mobilized for long periods of time, causing separation from families and jobs. The dual state and federal missions of the National Guard is unlike our sister components (active duty and reserves). There are many complex and different issues of today's Guard making it necessary to have a voice of its own in Harrisburg and Washington. Becoming a member of PNGEA is in the best interest of guardsmen, their families, and the National Guard.

I know most guardsmen want to serve their country and do their job, and understandably want no part of the political process. But in reality, many of our benefits we

have today were fought for by organizations like PNGEA. Benefits can be taken away as quickly as they are given. TRICARE for Life, extending VA health care from two to five years for post-deployment health care, and raising creditable retirement points from 90 to 130 per year are some of the legislation PNGEA has recently assisted in getting passed. PNGEA has done this by having annual congressional briefings, contacts with members of Congress, and working with lawmakers in Pennsylvania. A few of the current resolutions PNGEA is working on are relating to amending Title 10, USC, which would reduce the age at which a reserve component member may begin receiving retirement pay from age 60 to 55, current health care and dental care benefits made permanent for members of the National Guard and Reserve components, and compensation and incentive pay to members of the National Guard. These represent just a few items that PNGEA has and is currently lobbying for all National Guardsmen.

When a guardsman joins PNGEA, he or she automatically becomes a member of Pennsylvania National Guard Association (PNGAS). PNGAS is the combined partnership of PNGEA and the National Guard Association of Pennsylvania (NGAPA), which consist of Pennsylvania Guard officers. This partnership strengthens our lobbying arm and our priorities. When you join, you will also become a member of the



MSgt Walter Milewski

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) which represents the whole Guard. This organization is a vital lifeline to Capitol Hill. If you would like more information, go on the PNGAS web site: www.pngas.net and the National organization EANGUS web site: www.eangus.org. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member, retirees included, contact your squadron representative in the listing below or you can join or renew your membership at: www.eangus.org.

Many of my friends, co-workers, and even family members have asked me about the Guard because they don't understand it. The only way we can get our story out is by proudly telling it and organizations like EANGUS are perfect vehicles to tell our story. Remember, before you know it you might be that old timer with health problems telling your story in a doctor's office. Hopefully your benefits will be even better than those of today because of associations like EANGUS. I hope you join.



Pennsylvania's Adjutant General, Major General Jessica L. Wright, has announced her candidacy for Vice-Chair Army of the National Guard Association of the United States.

General Wright will stand for election at the 130th General Conference to be held in Baltimore on 20-22 September 2008.

For more information, visit: www.pngas.org/wright_for_nga.us.html



‘Team Willow Grove’ receives PNGEA award

By Tech. Sgt. Jonathan White
111th FW Public Affairs

The 2007-2008 Leaders in Developing an Effective Pennsylvania National Guard Enlisted Association (PNGEA) Membership Awareness Program award was presented to Team Willow Grove on Jun. 7 here in the Wing Commander’s conference room.

“They (Team Willow Grove) have gone above and beyond their efforts to create an awareness of the benefits of PNGEA,” said Chief Master Sgt. (Ret) Karl G. Spohn, President of PNGEA. “These benefits include, but are not limited to, education, retirement, and life insurance for National Guard members and their family.”

Team Willow Grove was founded by a group of Airmen who understood the importance of professional military organi-

zations that supports National Guard’s interests. These volunteers seek to increase awareness in organizations such as PNGEA, PNGAS, and EANGUS. Membership in a professional military organization is voluntary.

“There is strength in numbers. The larger the group, the louder the voice,” said Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Tillotson, unit education and training manager for the 111th Mission Support Group and Team Willow Grove member. “I feel my best interests are being fought for at the wing, state, and national level. These are some of the reasons why I decided to become a life-time member.”

If you are interested in learning more about PNGEA, PGNAS, and EANGUS, contact your EANGUS Squadron Representative.

EANGUS Squadron Representatives

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| 111 MDG | MSgt Gonzalez | 1300 | juanc.gonzalez@pawill.ang.af.mil |
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Wingman Day kicks off 101 Critical Days of Summer

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

Safety was the focus during a biannual Wingman Day held Jun. 13 in the HQ Bldg. 203 Auditorium. The event offered a variety of information and exhibits, giving members an opportunity to step back and look at risks associated with common summer activities. Representatives discussed topics such as: motorcycle and driving safety, drinking and driving, yard and garden safety, and sports safety and fitness.

The events came right at the start of the “101 Critical Days of Summer” campaign which runs from Memorial Day through Labor Day. During this time, the military experiences injuries and fatalities at a much higher rate than other times of the year particularly when we mix summer activities, vacations, and trips with reckless and high-risk behaviors.

Practicing good risk management, making sound decisions, and being an active Wingman on and off the job are methods we can use to reduce the inherent risks during this time period. Safety must begin and end with you.

Watch out for friends, family, and coworkers and remind them to wear protective equipment, slow down, be vigilant for signs of heat exhaustion, fatigue, and dehydration, and just be safe in general.

If everyone makes good decisions and makes safety a way of life, we will survive this potentially deadly time of year unscathed. We can succeed and more importantly stay alive to celebrate another year with our family, friends, and coworkers.



Do It Best Hardware Plus II receives DOD Patriot Award

Lou and Karen Muth, owners of Do It Best Hardware Plus II in Wayne, Pa. are presented the Department of Defense Patriot Award by Alex Ryder, a member of the 111th Fighter Wing and a recent Radnor High School Graduate. The Patriot Award recognizes employers for their employment policies and practices that support their employee's participation in the National Guard and Reserve.

Alex began working for Do It Best as a high school freshman. At the beginning of his senior year at Radnor, he joined the Air National Guard. The Muths helped Alex serve our country by rearranging his schedule so he could attend his military training when he would normally work busy weekends at the hardware store.

Alex nominated the Muths for this prestigious award, presenting it to them on June 16, the day before he left for basic military training in Texas.



111th Equal Opportunity guardsmen meet Tuskegee Airmen at conference

Senior Master Sgt. Nicole Fulton, Major Dean Mulherin and 2nd Lt. Carl Thompson attended an awards banquet at the 2008 EO/EEO/CR National Conference in Phoenix, Ariz. on May 22. They met three Tuskegee Airmen with amazing backgrounds that included released Prisoner of War action. All were recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor in April 2006. Shown seated are Lt. Col. (Ret.) Robert Ashby, Thurston L. Gaines, MD, and Lt. Col. (Ret.) Asa Herring.



Guardsmen and families Walk for the Wounded

Several guardsmen and their families spent Father's Day participating in a first ever two-mile Walk for the Wounded at Rose Tree Park in Media, Pa. on Jun. 15.

The Walk is sponsored by Operation First Response, a non-profit organization whose mission is to support our nation's wounded military and their families' personal and financial needs. Its goal is two-fold: to recognize the more than 25,000 returning soldiers who are wounded and facing financial and emotional challenges and to raise funds to meet the critical needs of their families in hometowns across the country.

See photos from this and other recent events at:

Y:\111fw Shared\Photos\2008\



Air Force Week fuels up, takes flight in Philadelphia

By Capt. Renee Lillis
111th FW Public Affairs

On a typical Friday afternoon Gary Feldman can be found moving from meeting to meeting, visiting schools or maybe talking with parents. But the Philadelphia School District regional support case manager was some place entirely different when a call came in around 2 p.m. on May 23.

"Yeah, I can't talk right now. I'm in the belly of a KC-135. I'm doing a mission over Maryland," he said in a serious tone. "No, I really mean it," he added as he started to smile. "We're refueling some A-10s."

Feldman and 18 other civic leaders and media representatives got a bird's eye view of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard mission in an orientation flight hosted here by the 111th Fighter Wing and the 171st Air Refueling Wing out of Pittsburgh.

The flight was just one of many events that took place during Memorial Day week when Air Force Week kicked off in Philadelphia.

Air Force Weeks are a series of events across the country designed to expose citizens to the incredible people and power of the U.S. Air Force. It's also an opportunity to influence understanding and strengthen support for our Airmen serving worldwide. This year the locations are Philadelphia, Omaha, Neb. and Los Angeles.

Feldman says the first-hand experience was important to him because he sometimes gets questions from students who are interested in military. Plus, "It's an adventure. It's not something you get to do every day."

Most of the passengers described the military flight as a once in a lifetime opportunity. But Stephen Manna, also of the Philadelphia School District, said it was the people that impressed him the most. "I mean, the refueling was great. But the people are amazing and there is just so much hospitality."

Air Force Week events in Philadelphia included parades, expos at various Philadelphia landmarks including Independence Hall, the Philadelphia Zoo, the Franklin Institute and AF Day at a Philadelphia Phillies game. The week culminated with the 2008 Air Expo featuring the Thunderbird demonstration team at McGuire AFB, N.J.



COMM BYTES

McGruff the Crime Dog Needs You: Asking network users to be a cyber crime dog

By Tech. Sgt. Heather Smith
111th Communications Flight

All wing computer users must exercise and implement safe Information Security practices. Increasingly, network systems are seen as vulnerable attack vectors, and cyber-warfare is a real and dangerous threat. As first-line defenders of our domain, you must prevent any attempts to access government cyber-resources. Don't be the weakest link!

- A legitimate business will NEVER ask you to reply to an email with your date of birth, credit card data, password, or other personal data. NEVER reply to one that does. NEVER respond to an email with a request for your CAC PIN, password, or other sensitive Personal Identifiable Information (PII), such as your Social Security Number.
- Almost anything in the "headers" of an email message can be "spoofed" (meaning: faked), including the "From" and "Reply To" addresses. A bogus message may thus appear to come from a legitimate business, military organization, or from someone you know. Be a little paranoid about any message you wouldn't have expected to receive. If in any doubt, do not open the email, or any attachments it contains. Do not click on any hyperlinks.
- Do not forward the email. Call the 111th Comm. Helpdesk at ext. 1679, or the Wing Information Assurance (IA) Office at ext. 1349 for assistance.
- You will NEVER get notifications about viruses and worms from any source other than the 111th Wing IA office, and we will never send you this information via email. Bogus warnings often direct you to do something that damages your computer. Others have attachments that are supposed to protect you against the threat, but install Trojan-horses instead. Do not fall for them, and do not forward them.
- Many bogus email messages are disguised as solutions to problems that are plausible or in the news -- charge



account problems, investigations, loss of benefits, identity theft, anthrax, computer viruses, etc. They usually call for urgent action. Of course, they don't have your best interest in mind.

- If you receive an email from an unknown and unsolicited source, NEVER open the attachment. Again, contact the Helpdesk or Wing IA.
- "Clicking on a link in a spam email is the equivalent of handing a burglar the keys to your house." -- David Roberts, chief executive at The Corporate IT Forum. This is the Internet version of "The old one, two punch." The link in the spam takes you to a web page that downloads and installs malicious code in the background. You won't find out about it until later, if ever. If it's a key logger (silently emails everything you enter from the keyboard) for example, the network could suffer major damage.
- Safeguard your Common Access Card (CAC) as carefully as you would safeguard your personal credit card. Never write down your PIN, or disclose it to anyone.

You might be thinking: our computers are so locked down, so restricted, how could I possibly do any damage by clicking on a link, viewing an attachment, or replying to an email? The honest answer is this: an attack can be so carefully crafted, so realistic, and so simplistic that it slips in through the cracks. Real world events do occur based on the examples above.

It is up to you to keep a vigilant eye out for any attempts to undermine our security. Know your points of contact, know your security practices, and trust your gut feeling. If in doubt, call the appropriate person.

TAKE A BITE OUT OF CYBER-CRIME.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Marie Harmon

Guardsmen board helicopters, buses to attend live firing demonstration at Ft. Indiantown Gap

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

Approx. 80 wing members boarded two Army National Guard Chinook helicopters and several government buses Jun. 6 and traveled to the Bollen Range at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa. to have the opportunity to witness a live firing demonstration of our A-10s at the range.

Volunteers headed out on the first chalk to prepare food for those who attended and came up for a combat search and rescue (CSAR) exercise.

Personnel were briefed and headed toward two towers to await incoming aircraft. Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate. Fog and heavy haze caused the bombing portion and CSAR exercise of the demonstration to be cancelled. For those who attended, the helicopter flight in and of itself was an exciting experience. Many thanks to our Army brethren for the highlight of the day.



Photo by Master Sgt. Patrick Cashin

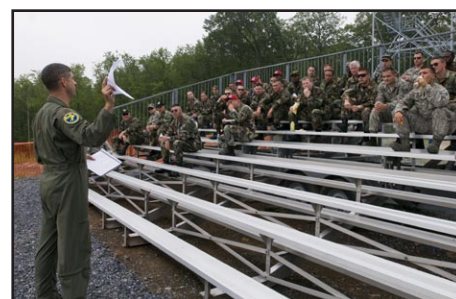


Photo by Master Sgt. Patrick Cashin



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Marie Harmon



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Marie Harmon

FAMILY READINESS GROUP NEWS

By Jean Moretti

Wing Family Program Coordinator

Strong Bonds Retreat

The Strong Bonds Couples Retreat was held May 30-31 at the Jolly Roger Motel in Wildwood Crest, NJ. The retreat gave 22 couples a relaxing weekend with time to be alone.

Will Morey, President of Morey's Piers, generously presented the following gifts to each couple: a yellow sand bucket with shovel filled with goodies in each couples room, a behind the scenes tour, tickets everyday to Morey's Piers, a delicious lunch at the hotel, and a musician to entertain at the Friday night BBQ and Pig Roast supper.

According to Master Sgt. Felice Parker, 111th Mission Support Flight, "My husband and I were able to spend quality time walking the entire Wildwood Boardwalk. We rode a few amusement rides and played some games. We enjoyed this time to reconnect without thinking about work, children or whether the clothes are washed. The program gave us tools that will forever

strengthen and improve our relationship. The Chaplains focused on the importance of being aware of different communication styles and how the program will strengthen and rekindle relationships."

FRG Bake Sale

A huge thanks to everyone who helped with the Bake Sale held Jun. 8. Many enticing homemade baked goods were donated for the fund raiser. On behalf of the 111th FRG volunteers, I thank you for your support.

FRG Cookbooks available

Pick up a copy of the latest 111th FW FRG cookbook. Only \$10.



Contact the FRG

The FRG is located in Bldg. 203 Room 150. If you have any questions, stop by or call Jean Moretti at (215) 443-1409.

Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefits

Pennsylvania is now recognizing the service of its Gulf War veterans – as well as certain surviving family members – through a new bonus program officially launched on April 4.

Details regarding eligibility and the application process are provided at: www.persiangufbonus.state.pa.us.



Strong Bonds Couples Retreat

By Staff Sgt. Susanna Gyger

111th FW Chaplains Office

Twenty-two couples traveled to the Jolly Roger Resort in Wildwood Crest, New Jersey from May 31-June 1 and participated in the 111th FW's first ever "Strong Bonds Couples Retreat" hosted by the Chaplain's Office and the Family Readiness Group (FRG).

With the assistance of the Army, we had seven instructor chaplains, with our very own Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Rhonda Cushman, Chaplain (1st Lt.) John Caudle, chaplain assistants Tech. Sgt. Sherri Barfield, Staff Sgt. Jason Stehly and myself. The "Strong Bonds" program is designed for



Blindly navigating others around tennis balls just one exercise during Strong Bonds workshop

couples to enhance their relationship through better communication styles, how to communicate well when it counts the most, problem solving or conflict management, and how to approach things that you differ on and come to solutions that are a productive way to represent what both spouses want.

The weekend started out with a welcome poolside pig roast. Saturday was filled with various communication workshops (shown above). Chaplain Cushman ended the weekend with a recommitment ceremony for couples in attendance.

We are grateful to Jean Moretti, FRG Coordinator, for her leadership on planning of the logistics of this event. The weekend was a hit with attendees with an overall assessment of the program being excellent and looking forward to future retreats. Thank you to all who participated.

PROMOTIONS

To Lieutenant Colonel

Gary L. Beard II 103rd FS

To Captain

Elizabeth E. Ladd 111th FW
 Roisin S. McCaffery 111th OSF
 Eugene R. Woll 111th MDG

To Senior Master Sergeant

Alexander M. Pryszlak 111th MOF
 Michael A. Morgan 111th MOF
 Gary R. Lake, Jr. 111th LRS
 Mark A. Knorr 201st RHS

To Master Sergeant

Eric M. Capers 111th MXS
 William J. Connolly 111th AMXS
 Jay D. Epler 111th MXG
 Tony F. Thalachira 111th AMXS
 Anthony J. Wolfe 201st RHS

To Technical Sergeant

Austin B. Perks 111th AMXS
 Jessica E. Rice 111th MSF
 Christopher A. Parker 111th OSF
 Sonia M. Wickham 111th MXS

To Staff Sergeant

Raymond J. Branson 111th CF
 Maria E. Chernes 111th MSF
 Vincent J. Franchino 111th AMXS
 Clyde H. Gibson 201st RHS
 Christine H. Kohler 201st RHS
 James R. Snyder 111th AMXS
 Sheika R. Wilcox 111th LRS
 Holly L. Will 111th MXS

To Senior Airman

Jonathan M. West 111th LRS

RETIREMENTS

103rd Fighter Squadron

Maj. Timothy A. Spangler 20 years

111th Services Flight

CMSgt Jenny Pappas 27 years

REENLISTMENTS

MSgt Steven L. Muschelli 111th MDG
 TSgt Marie D. Harmon 111th FW
 TSgt Nellie Montanez 111th LRS
 SSgt Eric A. Marrero 111th MXS
 SrA Jennifer M. Kozminski 111th LRS

EXTENSIONS

MSgt Jack W. Hill 111th MSF
 TSgt Julia M. Dodge 270th EIS
 SSgt Dustin L. Grow 111th MSG
 SSgt Sabrina M. Reese 111th MXS

ENLISTMENTS

TSgt Sheni S. Saul 111th SVF
 SSgt Chad A. Remetta 111th SFS
 SrA Jesse M. Odell 111th AMXS
 SrA Matthew S. Woods 111th MDG
 A1C Sean M. Kase 111th OSF
 A1C Joann T. Kennedy 111th MDG
 A1C Daniel L. Reed 201st RHS
 A1C Enrique J. Underwood 201st RHS
 A1C Jonathan L. Washburn 201st RHS

VA Reaching Out to Vets with Mortgage Problems Peake: VA Has a "Solid Record of Success" in Helping

Many home owners have found it difficult recently to pay their mortgages, but quick intervention by loan counselors at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has actually reduced the number of veterans defaulting on their home loans.

"VA is reaching out to veterans -- both those who use our home-loan guaranty program and those who don't take advantage of our guaranties -- to keep people in their homes," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. "I'm proud of our solid record of success in helping veterans and active-duty personnel deal with financial crises."

Accounting for much of this success are VA counselors at nine regional loan centers who assist people with VA-guaranteed loans avoid foreclosure through counseling and special financing arrangements. The counselors also can assist other veterans with financial problems. VA counselors have helped about 74,000 veterans, active-duty members and survivors keep their homes since 2000, a savings to the government of nearly \$1.5 billion.

Depending on a veteran's circumstances, VA can intercede with the borrower on the veteran's behalf to pursue options -- such as repayment plans, forbearance, and

loan modifications -- that would allow a veteran to keep a home.

To obtain help from a VA financial counselor, veterans can call VA toll-free at 1-877-827-3702. Information about VA's home loan guaranty program can be obtained at: www.homeloans.va.gov.

Since 1944, when home-loan guaranties were offered with the original GI Bill, VA has guaranteed more than 18 million home loans worth \$911 billion.

Last year, about 135,000 veterans, active-duty service members and survivors received loans valued at nearly \$24 billion. About 2.3 million home loans still in effect were purchased through VA's home-loan guaranty program, which makes home loans more affordable for veterans, active-duty members and some surviving spouses by protecting lenders from loss if the borrower fails to repay the loan. More than 90 percent of VA-backed home loans were given without a down payment.

April data shows that foreclosures are down more than 50 percent from the same months in 2003. VA attributes this to prudent credit underwriting standards, its robust supplemental loan servicing program and VA financial loan counselors.

Statewide News:

View newsletters of our sister units:

193rd Special Operations Wing
 "The Scope"

Y:\111fw Shared\Newsletters - Sister Units\193rd Special Operations Wing

171st Air Refueling Wing
 "Tanker Times"

Y:\111fw Shared\Newsletters - Sister Units\171st Air Refueling Wing

Pa. Guardians Magazine

<http://guardians.aqppublishing.com>

UTA MENU (AT PITCAIRN CLUB)

Sat. July 12

Barbeque ribs, Zesty Wings
Mashed potatoes, Buttered corn
Dinner rolls and butter,
Salad bar, Assorted desserts

Sun. July 13

Pepper steak, Oven baked flounder
Steamed rice, Mixed vegetables
Dinner rolls and butter,
Salad bar, Assorted desserts

JULY UTA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Protestant Service will be held
at 8:30 a.m. in Bldg. 320 Room 228.
An additional Protestant Service will
be held at 10:30 a.m. in Bldg. 203
Room 203.

Catholic Service will be held at
10:00 in Bldg. 203 HQ Auditorium.

The Chaplain's Office is located
in Bldg. 203, Room 204-205 on the
second floor and can be reached at
(215) 443-1534.

FY08 UTAs:

12-13 July 2008
16-17 August 2008
6-7 September 2008

FY09 UTAs:

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

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

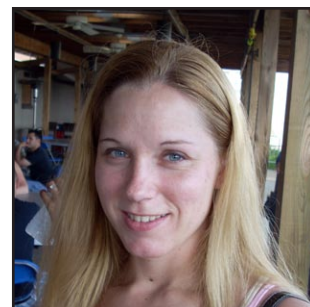
Tues, Thurs, Fri
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wed & Sat 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

STREET TALK

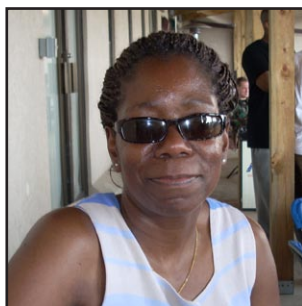
How do you normally spend a 90 degree weather day?



MSgt Walter Milewski, 111th MSG
"In North Wildwood, where I will
be mooching off my parents."



SrA Jen Kozminski, 111th LRS
"I would be out eating some
creamy Cold Stone ice cream."



SMSgt Alice Jenkins, 111th MSF
"I would be sitting on my deck enjoying
the heat. I love any degree over 90."



SMSgt Scot Baughman, 111th MSF
"At home taking care of my three
wild boys."

PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD
111TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
1051 Fairchild Street
Willow Grove ARS, PA 19090-5203

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