

Sandy Hog Gazette

111th Fighter Wing Willow Grove Air Reserve Station Pa Air National Guard
Volume 15 Issue 2 February 2011

Security
Forces
civilian
named
'outstanding'

Page 5

Outstanding Airmen
of the Year

Page 6

The Sandy Hog Gazette has transitioned to an entirely 'online' publication.
This is the last 'printed' issue.

The newsletter is available on our public website at www.111fw.ang.af.mil. If you would like the link emailed to you monthly, email us: pa.111fw@ang.af.mil and we will add you to our distribution list.

Angel Tree Campaign: letter from Christ's Home for Children

On the cover:

Joan Shaffer, an administrative assistant with the 111th Security Forces Squadron, was awarded the Air Force Security Forces Outstanding Air Reserve Component Civilian of the Year Award for 2010.

*Photo by Tech. Sgt.
Elisabeth A. Matulewicz*

Dear Chief Finn and Friends,

Thank you for the many Christmas gifts in support of the programs and ministry of Christ's Home for Children. We are blessed at this time of the year with the outpouring of love and concern like yours for the children we serve every day.

The children will receive wonderful gifts of fun and useful items that will be enjoyed throughout the year including clothing, toys and games.

Through your gift you have joined so many of our friends who partner with Christ's Home in fulfilling our mission. In addition, we are grateful for the words of encouragement, and beautiful cards that accompany many contributions. This is a very crucial time of the year for ministry to the individuals we serve, and we appreciate your partnership at this time.

I wish you a blessed Christmas and a wonderful start to the New Year.

Joyfully in Him,
Colleen Augustin
Donor Relations Coordinator

*Thank you all so much for your amazing support!
Wishing you all a blessed Christmas Season. Thank you for your service!*

*111th Fighter Wing Commander
Colonel Tony Carrelli*

SANDY HOG STAFF

Public Affairs Officer
2nd Lt. Sean Pearson

Photography Section NCOIC
Master Sgt. Pat Cashin

Public Affairs Manager
Tech. Sgt. Elisabeth Ann Matulewicz

Photographers
Tech. Sgt. Alvin Farrow
Tech. Sgt. Marie Harmon
Tech. Sgt. Tyrone Mitchell

Public Affairs Section NCOIC
Tech. Sgt. Jonathan White

Public Affairs Journalists
Staff Sgt. Julie Parker
Staff Sgt. Gordon Beecroft

The Public Affairs staff can be reached during UTA weekends at (215) 443-1450. For urgent inquiries, contact the 111th FW Wing Executive Officer at (215) 443-1410.

Deadlines for submissions to the March issue of the Sandy Hog Gazette is Feb. 15. E-mail articles and photos for consideration to: pa.111fw@ang.af.mil.

*Wing Executive Officer
Lieutenant Tim McManus*

*111th Fighter Wing
Pa. Air National Guard
Building 203, Room 250
1051 Fairchild Street*

Willow Grove AFS, PA 19090

Tel: (215) 443-1500

DSN: 991-1500

Fax: (215) 443-1860

Website: www.111fw.ang.af.mil

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Sandy Hog Gazette are not necessarily the official views, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 111th Fighter Wing

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alvin Farrow



Meet the Member

Staff Sgt. Charese Baston, 111th Force Support Squadron, Dining Facility NCOIC, prepares stuffed shells during a drill weekend.

Sergeant Baston has been a member of the 111th for 1 1/2 years. She holds a bachelor's degree in business management and, in the future, would like to become an officer.

In her spare time, she enjoys running and spending time at her timeshares. She is a mother of five children and resides in Eagleville, Pa.

The State Command Chief's Perspective can be found on the 111th FW public website:

www.111fw.ang.af.mil/pastatecommandchief.asp

and on the 111th FW Air Force Portal page under "Other Leader Messages."

**This month's topic:
Suicide, a Message Worth Repeating**

Photo by Staff Sgt. Gordon Beecroft



Guardsmen unfurl flag at Eagles, Packers play off game

Members of the Pa. Army National Guard, Pa. Air National Guard and other branches of the military unfurled a 300 foot U.S. flag on Jan. 9 at the kick off of a Philadelphia Eagles wild card play off game against the Green Bay Packers at Lincoln Financial Field, in Philadelphia, Pa. The Eagles lost to the Packers 21-16.

Survey from Wing's enlisted force voices several concerns

By Tech Sgt. Talitacumi Carmona &
Tech. Sgt. Charlotte Baker

During December 2010's drill, the 111th Fighter Wing's Enlisted Field Advisory Council (EFAC) distributed and collected surveys asking the enlisted force to voice their concerns. EFAC Presidents met with the Wing Commander, Colonel Anthony Carrelli, and Command Chief, Chief Master Sergeant Richard Mertz, to discuss the findings of the survey. While many issues were presented, a few were obviously foremost in the member's minds.

The number one issue relayed in the survey (most likely because of the freshness of the experience) was the gridlock that occurred at the main gate on Saturday of December's drill. Because of the upcoming holidays that month, the Navy, Marines, Army, and Air Force were all drilling on the same weekend. Wing leadership thought that this was isolated to the December drill because of the holidays as October and November's drills had no such problems. The problem reoccurred during January drill so until further notice, the Air Force gate (Rt. 611 and County Line Road) will be open for all 111th FW drills from 6-8 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. After the Navy and Marine units depart the base and the new main gate complex is constructed, the drill traffic plan will be re-evaluated.

Future jobs and placement in the new mission (AFFOR) were also a hot topic, which, according to Col Carrelli, is to be expected. Military positions for the fulltime members are tied to their civilian positions so they must use the fulltime system to move. Traditional members can express interest in any area now. The Wing is placing a priority on placing un-allotted Airmen (Airmen whose positions went away with the loss of the flying mission) in positions throughout the Wing but others can express interest as well. Anyone who is interested in a transition to the new mission or elsewhere should refer to the information in Y:\111fw Shared\AFFOR info\ . You can fill out a Transition Questionnaire and turn it in to your Commander. January drill was the opening drill for migrating our Airmen out of the legacy positions and the process will continue over the next few months. Consult with your commander if you have questions.

Also indicated on the survey were concerns that members were unable to be promoted, or that favoritism was affecting promotion opportunities. Chief Mertz suggested that members with a genuine concern that favoritism is being exercised when promotion decisions are made should talk to their first sergeant and chain of command to resolve the issue. Col Carrelli explained that multiple members of the chain of command must certify each

promotion and commander's can only address issues that are brought to their attention. Above the staff sergeant level, promotions are most likely tied to a unit vacancy assignment. Members may have the potential for promotion, the required time in grade, and their appropriate PME accomplished, but still will not be afforded a promotion opportunity until placed in a unit vacancy position. The ANG is currently going through an Enlisted Grade Review (EGR) process that is readjusting ranks ANG-wide across all career fields which will lower ranks in some positions in most career fields. Recently, enlisted ranks have inflated above the mandated levels and the Guard is making adjustments to bring them back to the authorized levels. These adjustments take effect next year. Because of BRAC, the Wing is also overmanned and this combined with the EGR will slow down promotion opportunities in the Wing in the near term. Promotions will not stop, however, and every Airman should fulfill their own responsibilities to be ready for the opportunity when it presents itself. Any specific promotion concerns should be addressed with your first sergeant or chain of command.

Many other issues were presented for discussion; EFAC will periodically publish results as they work to address the needs of the members they represent.

Upcoming Events for the Wing

Sat. Mar. 5, 2011	Annual Retirement Ceremony	(HQ Auditorium Bldg. 203)
Sat. May 14, 2011	Wing Blood Drive	(Location TBD)
Sun. May 15, 2011	Hometown Heroes Salute Awards Ceremony and Family Day	(Location TBD)
Sun. Jun. 5, 2011	Sports Day	(Various base locations)

Security Forces civilian named 'outstanding' for 2010

By Staff Sgt. Julie Parker
111th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Joan Shaffer, an administrative assistant with the 111th Security Forces Squadron (SFS), was awarded the Air Force Security Forces Outstanding Air Reserve Component Civilian of the Year Award for 2010.

According to Lt. Col. Donald Landis, 111th SFS commander, it is Ms. Shaffer's exceptional work ethic, dedication to duty, and professionalism that earned her this honor. "This is an unbelievable honor," said Ms. Shaffer, who has worked in her current role as an Air Force civilian with the 111th SFS since 1994. "I am humbled but thankful to be recognized for the work I do," she added.

After competing against more than 90 other Air National Guard (ANG) units, Ms. Shaffer was selected as the Security Forces Civilian Outstanding Employee of the Year Award for the Air National Guard. "Joan is a benchmark example of someone who provides outstanding customer service," said the colonel. "We nominated her because she truly goes out of her way to support the unit and its members. Her wit and compassion are hallmark traits, just ask anyone in the wing."

The Conshohocken, Pa., native

then went to compete at the Air Force level and won the USAF Security Forces Outstanding Air Reserve Component Civilian of the year for 2010. "I was incredulous," Ms. Shaffer said of the Jan. 8 announcement. "I was so happy to win for the Guard, but I never dreamed I'd win at the Air Force level. I am so grateful to those who thought to submit me and the time and effort they put into this," she expressed.

According to Lt. Col. Landis, Air Force level recognition of Ms. Shaffer's excellence is most fitting and well deserved. "As the commander, I am honored to not just have worked with Joan, but to also have known her. She clearly must have been recognized as the top candidate by the Air Force, but we knew that all along. Joan is a person that, once you meet her, you will never forget her, because of her care and consideration to you and everyone around her. Her work ethic over all of the years that



Col. Tony Carrelli, commander of the 111th Fighter Wing, recognized the accomplishments of Joan Shaffer, 111th Security Forces Squadron, during an AGR/Technician Fulltimer Meeting held Dec. 17.

I've known her has always been first class customer support," said Lt. Col. Landis.

Ms. Shaffer attributes her success to the unit and its members. "Working here has been a wonderful experience. I wouldn't want to work anywhere else," she said.

TRICARE Young Adult Program announced

The Department of Defense announced today its introduction of the premium-based Tricare Young Adult Program (TYAP) which extends medical coverage to eligible military family members to the age of 26. Expected to be in place later this spring, TYAP implements the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of fiscal 2011. Premium costs for TYAP are not yet finalized, but the NDAA specifies rates must cover the full cost of the program.

Adults who are no longer eligible for Tricare, but need health insurance coverage, may wish to explore the Continued Health Care Benefit Program (CHCBP). CHCBP is a premium-based program offering temporary transitional health coverage for 18-36 months. Coverage must be purchased within 60 days of loss of Tricare eligibility. For more information on TYAP and CHCBP visit at: www.Tricare.mil.

2010 Outstanding Airmen of the Year



SENIOR NCO OF THE YEAR

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT GARY R. LAKE, JR

Logistics Plans Superintendent

Senior Master Sergeant Lake is the Plans and Integration Superintendent assigned to the 111th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 111th Fighter Wing, Willow Grove, PA. He is responsible for the management of Support Agreements, War Reserve Materiel, Base Support and Expeditionary site planning, and the deployment management processes.

Sergeant Lake is a recent graduate of Eastern University with a Masters degree in Business Administration specializing in Organizational Management. Previously, he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Shepherd University majoring in Economics and Psychology.

Sergeant Lake entered the Air Force in March of 1992 attending Basic Military Training at Lackland AFB, TX then Lowry AFB, CO for a 12 week technical school in Supply Management. He was assigned to Seymour Johnson AFB, 4th Supply Squadron for the duration of his enlistment. After a short break in service, he joined the 111th Fighter Wing in 1998

as a traditional guardsman working in the Supply Systems Analyst career field responsible for maintenance of the Standard Base Supply System. One year later, he began an AGR tour in the 111th Supply squadron working in the MICAP/Demand Processing section then again as the Supply Systems Analyst.

Sergeant Lake was hired in his present position in November 2005. During this time, SMSgt Lake has deployed to Kuwait and Afghanistan plus numerous CONUS locations supporting A-10 operations. Some extra duties assigned are SORTS monitor for the LRS and the Wing AEF Reporting Tool manager.



NCO OF THE YEAR TECHNICAL SERGEANT PATRICK W. GEISER

Combat Arms Training and Maintenance Instructor

Technical Sergeant Patrick W. Geiser joined the Pa. Air National Guard in 1993. He worked as a security policeman until the merger of the security, law enforcement and combat arms training and maintenance aspects of the career field. In the beginning of 2001, he attended technical school to be a weapons instructor.

He responded to the base as the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 were still unfolding. He was mobilized for eighteen months following the attacks. During that time, he deployed to the Azores for four months, Qatar for three months and Bolling Air Force Base for another three months.

Following demobilization, he became an Air Reserve Technician. He then converted to an Active Guard and Reserve in 2005. In July 2009, he volunteered for mobilization and deployment to Manas Air Base, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Employing prior experience as a Marine infantryman, he helped to train nine members of the Security Forces Squadron in scouting and patrolling techniques. This proved to be extremely beneficial to them when a violent coup d'état resulted in the air base quickly escalating to Force Protection Condition Delta.



AIRMAN OF THE YEAR SENIOR AIRMAN ADAM J. THIEROFF

Security Forces Journeyman

Senior Airman Adam J. Thieroff is currently on his first enlistment and is serving with the 111th Security Forces Squadron. Following high school, he

attended Millersville University for one year. He is one of a set of triplets. All three of the siblings are members of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

In 2007, Senior Airman Thieroff enlisted in the Pa. Air National Guard and graduated from BMT in October of that year as an Honor Graduate. Airman Thieroff recently completed his first overseas deployment where he was assigned to Manas Air Base, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.



**HONOR GUARD MANAGER
OF THE YEAR
(WING & STATE LEVEL)
SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT
JOHN HEIDRICK**

Vehicle Maintenance Superintendent

Senior Master Sgt. John R. Heidrick Jr. graduated from Mastbaum Area Vocational Technical High School in 1988 with an emphasis in Machinist Apprentice. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in June of 1988. He completed Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas later that year.

After completing tech school, he was awarded a three level as a cable, antenna installation specialist. He was assigned to the 270th Engineering and Installation Squadron as a traditional guardsman.

In 1991, he cross trained into the vehicle maintenance career field and obtained a full time technician position as a heavy equipment mechanic. Sergeant Heidrick took over as non-commissioned officer in charge of the Vehicle Maintenance Section in 2004. In 2009, he was awarded Honor Guard Manager of the year and 270th EIS Senior NCO of the Year.

Sergeant Heidrick joined the 270th EIS Honor Guard in 1989 where he performed flag detail, various ceremonies and funeral honors. This was the first Air National Guard Honor Guard at Willow Grove ARS. He maintained membership until the 270th EIS Honor Guard was dissolved in 1996. He joined the 111th Fighter Wing Honor Guard in 2004 where he quickly began to take on key supervisory roles. He completed Military Funeral Honors School in September 2010 at Bolling Air Force Base, MD. He was coined for his accomplishments as class leader and mentor to the twenty seven students in the program.



**FIRST SERGEANT
OF THE YEAR
MASTER SERGEANT
WALTER J. MILEWSKI**

First Sergeant

Master Sergeant Walter J. Milewski is a first sergeant and traditional guardsman with the 201st RED HORSE Squadron, Detachment 1, 111th Fighter Wing, Willow Grove Air Station, Pa. He previously served as a first sergeant with the 111th Mission Support Group and at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan during OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM with the 111th Maintenance Group in 2008. In 2007, he served as a squad leader for 3rd Squad, 1st Platoon with the Pa. National Guard's Task Force Keystone Watch. In 2007, he was named First Sergeant of the Year at both the Wing and Pa. Air National Guard level.

In the civilian sector, Sergeant Milewski has worked for the City of Philadelphia for 23 years. For the first 3 years, he served as a deputy sheriff officer. For 20 years, he has served as a firefighter. In 2007, he was voted Firefighter of the Year by the local newspaper.

For the last 3 years, Sergeant Milewski has been an active member of the Pa. National Guard Enlisted Association. He served as a voting delegate, attending many conventions, seminars and quarterly meetings. His efforts resulted in over 100 new recruits to the organization.

In the community, Sergeant Milewski is a member of the River Ward Troop Rally Committee in the Port Richmond neighborhood of Philadelphia. He coordinates military participation for September 11th and Veteran Day rallies. In 2009, he was selected grand marshal for the Port Richmond Memorial Day Parade and presented a citation by Philadelphia City Council. He currently serves as chairman of the Port Richmond Memorial Day Parade.

Sergeant Milewski supports a variety of charitable organizations. He has collected over 100 hats for the Chief Council's Hat Program. In the past, he sold shirts and raised \$2,000 for Engine 28 Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial.

Upcoming changes to Post 9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2010 was recently signed into law. This page lists changes to the GI Bill made by this law.

Effective August 1, 2009, but not payable until October 1, 2011

- Expands the Post-9/11 GI Bill to include Active Service performed by National Guard members under title 32 U.S.C. for the purpose of organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training the National Guard; or under section 502(f) for the purpose of responding to a national emergency.

Effective March 5, 2011

- Limits active duty members to the net cost for tuition and fees prorated based on the eligibility tiers (40%-100%) previously established for Veterans.
 - Same limitations apply to transferee spouses of active duty servicemembers

Effective August 1, 2011

- For Veterans and their transferees - simplifies the tuition and fee rates for those attending a public school and creates a national maximum for those enrolled in a private or foreign school
 - Pays all public school in-state tuition and fees;
 - Private and foreign school costs are capped at \$17,500 annually;
 - The Yellow Ribbon Program still exists for out-of-state fees and costs above the cap.
- For Active Duty Members and their transferees, creates a national rate for those active duty members enrolled in a private or foreign school pursuing a degree at more than half-time
 - Pays all public school in-state tuition and fees;
 - Private and foreign school costs are capped at \$17,500 annually
- Allows VA to pay MGIB (chapter 30) and MGIB-SR (chapter 1606) 'kickers', or college fund payments, on a monthly basis instead of a lump sum at the beginning of the term
- Prorates housing allowance by the student's rate of pursuit (rounded to the nearest tenth)
 - A student training at a rate of pursuit of 75% would receive 80% of the BAH rate
- Break or interval pay is no longer payable under any VA education benefit program unless under an Executive Order of the President or due to an emergency, such as a natural disaster or strike.
 - This means when your semester ends (e.g. December 15th), your housing allowance is paid for the first 15 days of December only and begins again when your next semester begins (e.g. January 10th) and is

paid for the remaining days of January.

— Students using other VA education programs are included in this change. Monthly benefits will be pro-rated in the same manner.

— Entitlement that previously would have been used for break pay will be available for use during a future enrollment.

- Allows reimbursement for more than one "license or certification" test (previously only one test was allowed).
 - However, entitlement is now charged
- Allows reimbursement of fees paid to take national exams used for admission to an institution of higher learning (e.g., SAT, ACT, GMAT, LSAT)
- Allows those who are eligible for both Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (chapter 31) benefits and Post-9/11 GI Bill (chapter 33) benefits to choose the Post-9/11 GI Bill's monthly housing allowance instead of the chapter 31 subsistence allowance.
- NOAA and PHS personnel are now eligible to transfer their entitlement to eligible dependents

Effective October 1, 2011

- Allows students to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill for
 - Non-college degree (NCD) programs: Pays actual net cost for in-State tuition and fees at public NCD institutions. At private and foreign institutions, pays the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees or \$17,500, whichever is less. Also pays up to \$83 per month for books and supplies.
 - On-the-job and apprenticeship training: Pays a monthly benefit amount prorated based on time in program and up to \$83 per month for books and supplies.
 - Flight programs: Per academic year, pays the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees assessed by the school or \$10,000, whichever is less.
 - Correspondence training: Per academic year, pays the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees assessed by the school or \$8,500, whichever is less.
- Housing allowance is now payable to students (other than those on active duty) enrolled solely in distance learning. The housing allowance payable is equal to ½ the national average BAH for an E-5 with dependents.
 - The full-time rate for an individual eligible at the 100% eligibility tier would be \$673.50 for 2011.
- Allows students on active duty to receive a books and supplies stipend.

For more information, visit: www.gibill.va.gov/post-911/.



Wing announces new Human Resource Advisor

By Tech. Sgt. Elisabeth A. Matulewicz
111th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Senior Master Sergeant John W. Lyon III was selected as Human Resource advisor for the 111th Fighter Wing. Senior Master Sgt. Nicole Fulton will remain in place until the end of her tenure and an appropriate transfer of duties occurs.

Sergeant Lyon was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and is a graduate of LaSalle University. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in a dual major of Criminal Justice and Sociology. He has been an Abington Township Police Officer since 1986 and is currently assigned to the Detective Division.

Prior to joining the Air National Guard, he served three years on active duty in the Army. He also served ten years in the Army Reserves. He was awarded two Army Commendation Medals.

Sergeant Lyon has served as a Security Forces Specialist and as an agent for the Office of Special Investigations prior to becoming a First Sergeant. He is an enthusiastic member of the First Sergeant's Council. He served as recording secretary and president.

From January until May of 2009, Sergeant Lyon voluntarily deployed to Al Udeid, Qatar. He served with distinction as the First Sergeant for the 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. He was responsible for over 550 airmen at this facility.

During this deployment, Sergeant Lyon worked a wide range of issues. These included two medical evacuations, nine emergency leave releases and 11 Red Cross notifications. He was the liaison for the squadron commander on 12 issues pertaining to good order and discipline. Based on his superb performance,



**Senior Master Sgt.
John Lyon III**

he was awarded his second Air Force Commendation Medal for "Outstanding Achievement." He was recently selected to serve on the prestigious Guard Council for the Air Force Association.

Military child and youth volunteer workshop to be held Mar. 5



Would you like to help support the children of Pennsylvania's Heroes?

**Military Child and Youth Volunteer Workshop
Fort Indiantown Gap, Bldg. 0-10
March 5, 2011
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM**

This training is free to all individuals with a strong desire and dedication willing to make a commitment to help support the children of Pennsylvania's heroes. This training will include educational information and materials along with hands-on activities to support the children. All training material, certifications, and food

will be provided. This is one way the community can support the children of Pennsylvania's military members. For more information, please call (717) 861-6289.

To register for the workshop, visit: www.jointservicessupport.org/Events/KioskRegistration.aspx?Mode=AddNew&Id=f2335e01-7bb4-43e4-90fd-8d4988731742

New enhancements expected for vPC-GR

By Chief Master Sgt. Alice E. Jenkins
111th Force Support Squadron Superintendent



Air Reserve Personnel Headquarters (HQ ARPC) has recently enhanced and added some new features to the vPC-GR. Log on to take a look at the following changes:

HOME PAGE of vPC-GR:

HQ ARPC has recently enhanced the Home Page of vPC-GR. After you have logged in to vPC-GR by selecting either the "Login" button or "CAC" login, sections from your military personnel record will be displayed under "Personal Data" for your convenience. You will also have access to your current decorations and retirement eligibility. If you find any of this information to be in error, please submit a "New Support Request". (For non-participating members, this information will be unavailable due to no data located within MilPDS).

VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION HOME LOAN LETTERS:

HQ ARPC has released a new application within vPC-GR - Veterans' Administration Home Loan Letters. If you are purchasing a new home and considering a VA Loan, this application will provide eligible members with the capability to verify service information needed by the VA. The eligibility requirement for this application is you must have completed at least six years of credible service to request this letter from the Total Force Service Center (TFSC) - Denver, Colo. Also, for your convenience, related applications have been included in the Face Page of this request and remains consistent within all associated applications.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

HQ ARPC has recently released new enhancements to Awards and Decorations within vPC-GR. Now all individuals in the coordination process will have access

to previous awards received by the member being nominated. Also, another enhancement to the certificate application will allow a choice of 10 or 12 font size for the signature block to ensure a professional appearance. According to AFI 36-2803, each decoration and associated condition allows for several opening statement options. An enhancement has been made for the nominee to customize their opening statement as desired. The Instructions link has been modified to include guidelines for this process.

DOCUMENT REQUEST APPLICATION:

HQ ARPC recently released a new application within vPC-GR. Military members, participating or non-participating, can now access, and request copies of documents that are maintained in ARMS and/or PRDA through the "Request Other Documents" link. This application can also be accessed by selecting the "Request your DD form 214", "Request a copy of your DD 215", "Request your NGB Form 22", and "Request a copy of your NGB Form 22a" links. Documents such as copies of DD Form 214, NGB 22, Points, SGLV, Oath of Office, Extension or Cancellation of Extension of Enlistment, DD Form 215, DD Form 4, Decorations, Evaluations, NGB 66, NGB Form 337, Officer Selection Record, Promotion Orders, SF 88 and SF 93 can be requested through the "Document Request" application. Requests can be sent to "My Documents" located within the "Action Request" tab listing titled "Documents I have requested". Documents that are sent to "My Documents" are easily uploaded and have a quicker "turn-around" time.

Contact the Total Force Service Center (TFSC) Denver at (800) 525-0102 with any additional questions or further guidance.

*** REMINDER ***

Annual Retirees' Reunion Dinner

Mon. Apr. 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Casa DiLucia Restaurant

Casa DiLucia Restaurant is located at 14425 Bustleton Pike (intersection of Philmont Ave. and Bustleton Pike, (215) 677-6111.

The cost of the reunion dinner 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.

MOVING UP MOVING IN MOVING OUT

RE-ENLISTMENTS

Staff Sgt. Joseph Bonamico	201st RHS, Det. 1
Staff Sgt. Matthew Long	270th EIS
Tech. Sgt. Terry Branthaver	201st RHS, Det. 1
Tech. Sgt. Vincent Wietecha	201st RHS, Det. 1

EXTENSIONS

Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Bruno	201st RHS, Det. 1
---------------------------	-------------------

ENLISTMENTS

Airman First Class Christopher H. Laird II	111th SFS
--	-----------

PROMOTIONS

To Staff Sgt. Douglas Yoder II	111th CF
To Tech. Sgt. Luis Molina Gomez	201st RHS, Det. 1

RETIREMENTS

Master Sgt. Robert Peifer	270th EIS	37 Years
---------------------------	-----------	----------

UTA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Protestant Service will be held at 8:30 a.m. in Building 320, Room 228. An additional Protestant Service will be held at 10:30 a.m. in Building 203, Room 203. Catholic Service will be held at 10:00 in Building 203 Auditorium.

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

New TRICARE Dental Program expected February 2012

TRICARE Management Activity announces its intent to award the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) contract to Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of Bridgewater, N.J.

Dental care coverage under the new contract begins Feb. 1, 2012, following a 12-month transition period from the current contractor, United Concordia Companies, Inc.

Over 1.9 million beneficiaries purchase dental coverage through the TDP, which provides comprehensive dental coverage to family members of uniformed services active duty personnel, as well as members of the selected reserve and individual ready reserve and their eligible family members worldwide.

New and enhanced benefits including an increase in the annual maximum, an increase in the lifetime orthodontic maximum, accidental dental injury coverage, an additional cleaning for women during pregnancy, and much more. Under the new contract, all enrollees will enjoy lower premiums in the first year.

More information about the TRICARE Dental Program is available at www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Dental/

DentalProgram, and information about the TDP contract is available at www.tricare.mil/TDPcontract.

During the 12-month transition enrollees can access customer service at the same toll-free phone numbers they have been using. That contact information can be found at www.tricare.mil/contactus. Well before Feb. 1, 2012, enrollees will receive a welcome packet and new enrollment cards.

Beneficiaries can keep up-to-date on dental benefits via e-mail by signing up for benefit updates and news at www.tricare.mil/subscriptions.



Pennsylvania welcomes new Governor

Courtesy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

www.governor.state.pa.us

Tom Corbett was inaugurated as the 46th Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on Jan. 18, 2011.

A life-long Pennsylvania resident, Corbett has been a key advisor to U.S. Presidents and Governors. He has a long and distinguished career serving the citizens of the Commonwealth, making a significant impact on the lives of Pennsylvanians through his work on issues of criminal justice, victims' rights and drug and alcohol prevention and rehabilitation.

Corbett's accomplishments as Attorney General have brought him national recognition. Most notable are his efforts to protect our children from internet predators, our seniors from fraud and abuse, our communities from gangs and the violence associated with illegal drugs and the citizens of Pennsylvania from abuse of power and government corruption.

As Attorney General, Corbett has worked hard to protect taxpayers' hard earned money by going after predatory lenders, pharmaceutical companies and big oil companies that took advantage of consumers. In less

than six years, the Office of Attorney General returned and saved Pennsylvania taxpayers over half a billion dollars.

Born and raised in Pennsylvania, Corbett served his country as a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard 28th Infantry Division from 1971 until 1984, rising from private to captain.

Tom Corbett received his undergraduate degree from Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pennsylvania, and taught civics and history in Pine Grove Area High School in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. In 1975, he received his law degree from St. Mary's University School of Law in San Antonio, Texas.



Governor Tom Corbett

Statewide News:

View newsletters of our sister units:

193rd Special Operations Wing
"The Scope"

www.193sow.ang.af.mil

171st Air Refueling Wing
"Tanker Times"

www.171arw.ang.af.mil

Pa. Guardians Magazine

http://ebooks.aqppublishing.com/archive/national_guard/PAGuardians.pdf

National News:

On Guard Magazine

Published every Jan., April, July, Oct.

<http://www.ng.mil/features/onguard-mag/default.aspx>

Airman Magazine

Published bi-monthly and now available online: www.airmanonline.af.mil

Digital Video & Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS), DOD News

www.dvidshub.net

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

To the Family of:

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 1662
Phoenix, Arizona

1-800-997-2264

GUARDING AMERICA,
DEFENDING FREEDOM

