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Guard, Reserve Benefit From 2006 Defense Authorization

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

The 2006 National Defense Authorization Act signed into law Jan. 6 provides new or enhanced benefits in addition to a 3.1 percent pay raise for National Guard and Reserve members, a senior defense official said.

Some benefits that specifically target members of the reserve components include:

- Full housing allowance payments for reserve members called to active duty for more than 30 days, versus the previous 140-day requirement
- Income replacement benefits to help offset the pay loss some reservists and guardsmen experience when called to active duty, based on specific guidelines to be established within the next six months
- Accession and affiliation bonuses of up to \$20,000 for enlistment in the Selected Reserve, and an increase for officers for service in the Selected Reserve, from \$6,000 to \$10,000
- A bonus of up to \$100,000 for members with a designated critical skill or who volunteer to serve in a designated high-priority unit
- Extension of eligibility for a prior-service enlistment bonus to include Selected Reserve members who previously received one.



Photo by TSgt. Gary McLean

Santa visits wing to spread holiday spirit

Is someone writing this down? Santa had his hands full at the 111FW Holiday Party, held in Docks 2 and 3 Dec. 11. 111th Family Readiness Group volunteers coordinated the event and helped Santa and his elves spread holiday cheer with gifts, games, food and more! More Holiday Party photos on page 5.

One big change in the new law is a provision that shortens the duty time before a reserve-component member qualifies for the full housing allowance. Reserve and Guard members called to active duty for more than 30 days will now get the full allowance, just as active-component troops do, Witschonke said.

Another benefit, the critical-skills retention bonus, will be "a very good tool" in helping keep members with important experience and training in the force and in maintaining readiness in high-priority units, Witschonke said.

The 2006 authorization act also increases recruiting bonuses for the Reserve and Guard, Witschonke said. The new law authorizes accession and affiliation bonuses of up to \$20,000, to be offered as needed by the services, he said.

For reserve-component members who experience pay cuts when called to active duty, the new provision for income replacement will help reduce the strain military service places on the family, he said.

More information about pay and benefits is posted on the DoD's military compensation Web site.

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PROMOTIONS

To Master Sergeant

Walter G. Neumann 111th Civil Engineering Sq

To Technical Sergeant

Thomas B. Davidson 111th Logistics Readiness Sq
 Geoffrey W. Gay 111th Aircraft Maintenance Sq
 Timothy L. Hackett 111th Maintenance Squadron
 Dwight R. McCue 111th Civil Engineering Sq
 James V. Mehlberger 111th Maintenance Squadron
 Bruce A. Warner 270th Engineering Install Sq

To Staff Sergeant

Benjamin F. Bigelow 111th Aircraft Maintenance Sq
 David A. Dibelius 103rd Fighter Squadron
 Nicholas P. Fanelli 111th Security Forces Squadron
 Joshua J. Husser 111th Maintenance Squadron
 Kristen M. Luciano 111th Maintenance Squadron
 Raymond G. Schriener 111th Aircraft Maintenance Sq

To Senior Airman

Marc F. Carroll 111th Mission Support Flight
 Ricardo I. Cruz 111th Fighter Wing

ENLISTMENTS

A1C Charlotte D. Baker 111th Fighter Wing
 A1C Daniel J. Cornell 111th Security Forces Squadron
 SSgt. Jeff D. Fox 270th Engineering Install Sq
 TSgt. Harry Graham 111th Civil Engineering Sq
 SSgt. John G. Kulak 111th Security Forces
 A1C Keith Langenstein 111th Fighter Wing
 SSgt. Nicole R. Ritter 270th Engineering Install Sq
 A1C Justin Robbins 111th Civil Engineering Sq
 SSgt. Christopher Roberts 111th Security Forces Squadron
 A1C Laurie A. Tran 111th Security Forces Squadron

CONGRATULATIONS To...

Senior Master Sergeant Chris Walters, a firefighter with the 111th Civil Engineering Squadron, and his wife Cheryl on the birth of a son, Thomas Robert on Dec. 15 weighing 7 lbs. 13 oz. Congratulations to the proud new first-time parents.

Tech. Sgt. Steve Beckage, 111th Maintenance Operations Flight, and his wife on the birth of their daughter Allison Jan. 2 weighing in at 8 lbs, 3 oz. Both mom and baby are doing well. (Below: Allison Beckage)



Pennsylvania Air National Guard



Willow Grove, PA

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SrA RICARDO CRUZ
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

If everybody does something, everything will get done



By Lt. Col. Joseph Mezzatesta
270th Engineering Installation Sq. Commander

Greetings and Happy New Year Everyone! I trust that each and every one of you finished 2005 with a happy holiday season.

Reflecting on the previous year, we can all honestly say that 2005 most likely didn't turn out like we expected. The 111th Fighter Wing experienced one of the most challenging years in our unit's history. However, we can't afford to dwell on the past...we have too much at stake in our future. You've most likely heard the nay-sayers out there, primarily in the media, but I caution you...don't believe the hype. Pennsylvania's political and military leadership at all levels have been working diligently and are dedicated to the goal of ensuring the continued viability of the 111th Fighter Wing and all of its people. As Colonel Marston has been saying, "We're staying, We're hiring"!

As we plunge into 2006, in our not so distant future is the Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI), or as I like to call it, "The Thing That Wouldn't Leave"! The ORI has been scheduled for Apr. 28 - May 3. We undoubtedly have some work ahead of us and have only a few months left for practice and preparation. But as in everything else this unit has set out to do, we can and will get it done.

An American poet and songwriter, Gil Scott-Heron once said, "Nobody can do everything, but everybody can do something, and if everybody does something, everything will get done." We are a recognized great team. Whether you work in Operations, Logistics, Mission Support, Medical or one of the many other wing functions, we will not succeed without everyone contributing to their absolute fullest potential.

Each and every member of this wing plays a vital and important role in all of our present and future successes, and our future is definitely bright with many exciting possibilities and new challenges.

Let me close by encouraging all of you to keep in mind our fellow unit members, as well as all other service members that are currently deployed defending our nation's freedom all across around the world.

Free Access to Turbo Tax through Military OneSource

Military OneSource has announced that TurboTax 2005 will soon be available to servicemembers and families for the upcoming tax season. Military OneSource will provide access to this great service at **no cost to servicemembers**. Intuit, the provider of TurboTax is currently working on updating their tax filing system with all the new rules and regulations for the next tax-filing season. The new version will be available in late December or early January. Once a specific date is set, it will be posted at <http://www.militaryonesource.com/>. Click on the link for "Other Helpful Resources" on the right navigation bar.

User ID: military
Password: onesource

Air Force releases new mission statement

The mission of the United States Air Force is to deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests — to fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace.

Air Force leaders released a new mission statement Dec. 7 that defines the current and future direction of the Air Force:

"Today, our world is fast paced, constantly shifting and filled with a wide range of challenges," Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley wrote in a joint Letter to Airmen. "Our mission is our guiding compass, and it must be clearer than ever before."

The statement includes two new concepts, "sovereign options" and "cyberspace," which the secretary and chief defined.

They said having sovereign options is the essence of being a superpower. "Our task is to provide the National Command Authority and the combatant

commanders with an array of options ... options that are not limited by the tyranny of distance, the urgency of time, or the strength of our enemy's defenses," they said. "With one hand the Air Force can deliver humanitarian assistance to the farthest reaches of the globe, while with the other hand we can destroy a target anywhere in the world."

The term cyberspace includes network security, data transmission and the sharing of information. "We have quite a few of our Airmen dedicated to cyberspace ... from security awareness, making sure the networks can't be penetrated, as well as figuring out countermeasures," Secretary Wynne said. "The Air Force is a natural leader in the cyber world and we thought it would be best to recognize that talent."

Virtual Commissary opens for business

Virtual Commissary will open up "new options" of Internet shopping for authorized users and includes a variety of gift baskets. To access Virtual Commissary, shoppers must pass through a secure portal found under the shopping link at www.commissaries.com. Personal information entered by the customer is validated to ensure they are an authorized shopper. Access is dependent on whether the customer is entered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

Virtual Commissary customers can make selections and fill in their payment and shipping information in one easy and secure step before being transferred to the manufacturer's site to receive the total cost for the product, including shipping. Payment for orders can be made with any credit card accepted in "real" commissaries. Customer information is not archived by DeCA.

Airmen should verify deployment credit

Airmen not issued contingency, exercise or deployment orders should verify their personnel records include credit for those deployments. In some instances, units have deployed Airmen under Defense Department Form 1610 or NATO travel orders.

However, to receive deployment credit, Air Force Instruction 36-2134, Air Force Duty Status Program, requires CED orders to update temporary duty histories in the Military Personnel Data System.

Airmen can verify their Type 1 TDY deployment history has been updated through their commander's support staff or personnel employment section at their servicing military personnel flight. For more information, call the personnel center's field activities office at DSN 665-2671 or commercial (210) 565-2671.

Scholarship available for children of National Guard members

The Military Officers Association has announced the opening of the 2006 scholarship application season.

The program will give 25 grants of \$1,000 to children of US National Guard members that are college bound. Students will be selected by a random drawing for the 2006-2007 school year.

Membership in MOAA is not required, no SPG minimum, no essays, fees or need-based criteria.

Students can easily apply online at www.moaa.org. Click on "Services", then "Educational Assistance" and "Scholarships and Grants".

Deadline for submission is noon EST, Mar. 1 2006.

In the sandbox...



Master Sgt. Bob Padick scans a document so it can be added to the continuity book. Padick, a member of the 111th Civil Engineering Squadron, is currently deployed to the 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron at Balad AB, Iraq. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Chad Watkins)

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq - Whether it means designing floor plans or electrical layout blueprints, members of the 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron's Detachment 15 are ready to meet the challenge.

But first, they seek the assistance of Master Sgt. Bob Padick, member of the 111th Civil Engineering Squadron and deployed Det. 15 administrator. In addition to his normal administrative duties, Padick is the vehicle workgroup manager, ammo manager and has taken on many of the section's additional duties.

"My main responsibility is making sure everyone in the shop has the materials they need to perform their jobs," Sergeant Padick said.

The 10 personnel assigned to Det. 15 use their engineering and design skills to enhance the 30th Brigade's construction capabilities.

January UTA Lunch Menu

Saturday, Jan. 21

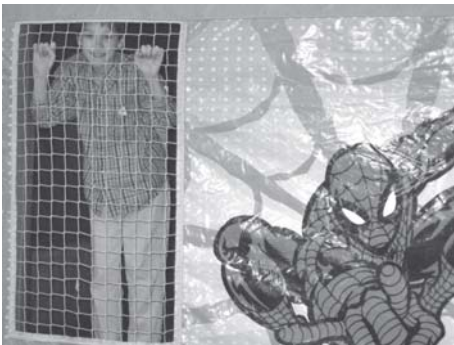
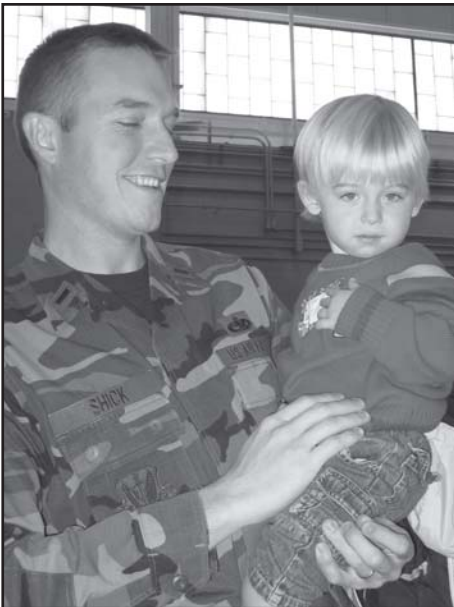
Pork and Sauerkraut
Chicken Ala-King
Peas
Oven Roasted Potatoes
Honey Glazed Carrots Beef Vegetable
Soup Salad Bar Desserts

Sunday, Jan. 22

Roast Beef
Vegetable Lasagna
Lima Beans
Salad bar
Minestrone Soup
Desserts

Holiday Party 2005

Photos by
TSgt. Gary McLean



The Mission Driven Mentoring Initiative

Encouraging representation of our communities in senior leadership

By Master Sgt. Nicole Fulton
111FW Human Resources Advisor

I was happily performing duties as the 111th Medical Group First Sergeant when the opportunity arose for me to apply for the 111th Fighter Wing Human Resources Advisor (HRA) position. Leaving the first sergeant position, the most rewarding position of my career, was a bittersweet opportunity. But, as other former first sergeants agree, once a "Shirt," always a "Shirt"; and as wing HRA I will continue to use my "Shirt" skills.

My responsibilities are expanded to now include advising and providing information to the wing commander on the status of the wing's structure and how that status reflects the ability for us to develop and sustain a ready force that both reflects and capitalizes on the diversity of our communities, while simultaneously encouraging all members to realize their full potential. The Air National Guard has a tool that will help with this, The Mission Driven Mentoring Initiative (MDM).

The case for the need of a formal mentoring plan like the MDM is simple: Mentors tend to pick protégés (mentees) like themselves. It's just human nature. So, the people who are most like the successful members of the organization will have the "most access" to mentoring opportunities from those individuals. People who are least like them will have the "least access." So if you joined a new unit and noticed that everyone at the top came from one dominant culture and you did not belong to that culture, you might conclude that you didn't have much of a chance to make it to the top. To resolve this, we need to encourage "least access" recruits to start climbing the ladder. But first, we need those with "least access" in senior leadership positions to attract recruits.

There are informal methods of mentoring that are also successful. In fact, throughout

my Air Force/Air National Guard career, I have had many opportunities to grow because of leaders who recognized my abilities and encouraged and supported me in my career endeavors.

As a result, I have been the first or only Black female involved in a number of areas that helped to promote the values of the ANG and U.S. Air Force. Most recently, I was the wing's second female, and first Black female first sergeant, much as a result of positive, cross-mentoring. You could say it was, informally, the MDM before its time. These mentorship experiences offered me tremendous insight and instilled belief in the value of true mentoring. I also know that there are others who want to mentor and ensure the future of an Air National Guard that represents all of its members.

At the 111FW, we will be involved in the MDM. I will be working with wing leadership, including the Military Equal Opportunity Office (MEO) and Chief and First Sergeant's Councils to plan and implement it so that more leaders will be available to be mentors to wing members, helping them prepare to become the leaders of tomorrow. The MDM process is great; it starts off with anonymous matching of mentors and mentees, based on responses to individual questionnaires. In this way, mentor and mentee are matched according to identifiers such as experience, goals, and motivations offering cross-cultural matching. This sort of mentor/mentee matching has the best merits.

By mentoring Airmen in our communities for leadership roles, we can make sure that we remain relevant in the 21st Century and that our future will continue. *(Information for this article was adapted from "Mentoring for Results", ©1995-2005 Corporate Mentoring Solutions, Inc.)*

Chaplain's Pen

Fear Not!

By Maj. Rhonda J Cushman
111FW Chaplain

For a number of years I have been interested in our popular fascination with angels.

Many of the great world religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—all refer to the work of persons named "angels"—literally, messengers from God.

During the last few weeks of the year we see angels everywhere - on front lawns, holiday greeting cards, Christmas trees, and in pageants and plays.

Angels also figure prominently in many of the stories attached to the Christian season of Christmas.

This Christmas and Hannukah season came during the ongoing aftermath of natural disasters; much uncertainty about the future; and an ongoing struggle to overcome terrorism.

We know that much of the violence and inhumanity we perpetrate on one another in this human race is rooted in fear.

So it seems fitting to take for ourselves as a gift the words the Angels often spoke first to the people they were sent to: "*Do not be afraid, Zechariah.*" "*Do not be afraid, Mary.*" "*Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid.*"

And to the men out working the night shift in the fields near Bethlehem: "*Fear not, for I bring you good news of great joy, for all the people.*"

This year, as put away our candles, or take down our outdoor decorations, let's remember those who are struggling with uncertainty, danger, separation from loved ones, or discouragement for any reason, and think of ways to pass along to them this message from God: "**Fear not.**"

Chapel Schedule

Sunday, January 21

Protestant Worship 8:30
Building 320, Room 227/228

Roman Catholic Worship 10:00
Building 300, Dining Facility

Education Notes

Willow Grove Learning Center

The Willow Grove NAS JRB Learning Center offers a variety of educational information and services including:

- Counseling
- Assessments
- Testing
- Tuition Assistance
- Programs for military personnel at local colleges and universities.

The Learning Center is located in Bldg. 3. For more information you can call the Learning Center at 215-443-6013 or DSN: 991-6013.

For a full listing of Learning Center services and activities in January, visit the Learning Center link on HogNet or visit <https://137.14.176.129/Bulletinboard/January%202006.doc>

Formal Education Awards

AB Benjamin Long, 111th Student Flight

Honor Graduate ribbon to, Basic Military Training

AB Daniel J. Brooke, 111CES

Fitness Excellence Award, Thunderbolt Level

Airman 1st Class Anthony A. Leonetti, 111MXS

100% Score, Aircraft Hydraulic Systems Apprentice Course

Tech. Sgt. Joseph C. Payne, 111MXS

Top Graduate in Class and Distinguished Graduate of the Munitions Systems Apprentice Technical Training Course. Achieved 99.75 percent average.

Staff Sgt. Webster F. Brown, 111MDS

Service Before Self Certificate, awarded Aug. 2005.

111FW Traditional Guardsman vacancies

Base Training

111th Mission Support Flight

If you are highly motivated and work well with people and want to help them with training in their career, please submit your military resume with cover letter to SMSgt Scot A. Baughman, 111th MSF/DPMT no later than close of business January UTA.

Ground Radio Shop

111th Communications Flight

The AFSC is 2E1X3. There is promotion potential to Staff Sgt., Tech. Sgt., and Master Sgt. There is also the potential for full-time employment, either permanent or temporary. For more information, contact Chief Master Sgt. Jack Kensey at (215) 443-1681.

Public Affairs Specialist

111FW Public Affairs Office

A public affairs specialist is responsible for internal information, community relations and media relations activities of the wing. Primary duties include writing and editing stories, shooting digital photos and laying out/designing the wing newsletter. Duties also include assisting with press releases, media visits, base tours and various other events and special projects. This is a high-visibility position, requiring contact with various leadership and media.

Applicant must be articulate and hardworking. Must also be computer savvy as position requires the development of desktop publishing skills and the use of Adobe PageMaker, PhotoShop and Microsoft Front Page software. Position requires completion of in-residence 12-week Basic Public Affairs Specialist-Writer course at Fort Meade, Md. Interested personnel should submit their resume and cover letter, NLT close of business February UTA, to the PA office (Bldg 300) or by email to 1st Lt. Renee Lillis, 111FW/PA, renee.lillis@pawill.af.mil. Interviews will be conducted during the March UTA.

Chaplain's Assistant

111FW Chaplains Office

The primary role of Chaplain Assistants is to provide support for ministry. This is done not only through administrative means, but also as the "eyes and ears" of chaplains on deployments, visitations, and a wide variety of other exciting opportunities. Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants deploy all over the world, taking care of our troops and ensuring their first amendment rights to worship. You may be aware that chaplains are noncombatants. Chaplain assistants on the other hand are combatants and must be qualified to carry and use firearms.

All interested personnel should submit their resume and cover sheet to Tech. Sgt. Kathleen Pearson (Recruiter's Office) at 111th Fighter Wing, 1151 Fairchild Street, Willow Grove ARS, PA 19090-5300. You may also fax your resume to (215) 443-1860, Attn.: Chaplain's Office. All resumes should be submitted NLT January 22, 2006. Interviews will be conducted by Chaplain Rhonda Cushman, Wing Chaplain and MSG Keith McAllister, Chapel NCOIC during the next UTA.

If you are accepted as a candidate, you will receive a class date to attend the 6-week Chaplain Assistant Apprentice Course at the USAF Chaplain Service Institute, Maxwell AFB Alabama. Your training there will include classroom lecture and discussion, combined training with chaplains and one week of readiness field training at the Silver Flag training site at Tyndall AFB, FL.

111th Eyewitness

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



Senior Airman Tania Brenneman

Senior Airman Tania Brenneman is a communications cable and antenna installer assigned to the 270th Engineering Installation Squadron. She installs and maintains fiber optic and copper cables, antenna, tower and poles. She also works with Lan and Wan networking.

Brenneman joined the Pa. Air National Guard in March of 2004. She's been deployed to Glenn Martindale, Maryland; Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona; and Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. She was recently nominated for Airman of the Year. "It made me feel proud that my supervisors recognized my hard work," she explained.

Her most memorable military experience was working for three months in Arizona. "I learned tons about my job and bonded with my unit," she said. "I love the challenge of my career field as well as traveling the country," she added. She stays in the guard because of the training opportunities and she enjoys working with her coworkers.

Brenneman has a variety of professional goals. Short term, she wants to complete Airman Leadership School and receive her 5 level. Long term, she wants to promote to technical sergeant and earn her team chief qualification. She also wants to complete her bachelor degree in business administration at Penn State University and work in her career field in the civilian sector. She also wants to get Cisco certification to work with fiber optics.

The support and closeness I have with my parents and brother is what Brenneman is most proud of. "I know we can count on each other for anything," she said. "My parents inspire me because they both had tough childhoods but worked with what they had and came out on top."

She loves new experiences, traveling and meeting new people. "I'm not afraid to do what I have to when the job needs to be done," she added.

In her spare time, she enjoys working on cars, drag racing, weight lifting and working out.



**PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD
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Pennsylvania
Air National Guard



Willow Grove, PA

To the Family of:

FUTURE UTAs:

**21-22 January 2006
11-12 February 2006
11-12 March 2006**