

# Helping Hands



photo by Senior Master Sgt. Rick Michaud

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## UTA SNAPSHOT | SATURDAY

Club meals (both days): Breakfast, 6 a.m.-7:15 a.m., lunch, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. dinner, 5-7 p.m.

Wing Commander's Call, 3:30 p.m., Dec. 5, Base Hangar

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**ON THE COVER >>** The rugged mountains of Afghanistan frame a housing project under construction with help from deployed members of Westover's 439<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron. Turn to page 6 for more on the CE deployment to Bagram Air Base and the unit's reunion with its families at Westover.



**WRIGHT STUFF >>** Jamie Wright gets a quick start during the Company Grade Officer Council's Duathlon Sept. 12. "On behalf of the CGOC, I would like to thank all who participated and volunteered in this duathlon," said 1st Lt. Marie Tracy, CGOC member. "We look forward to seeing you next year!" More than 20 people competed in the rain, covering 10 miles on bike and on foot. The men's first place competitor was Dave Durning, 439<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron, with a total time of 37:15. Eric Tupaj, CES, was second at 37:32. Wright, was the first place winner for the female competitors, finishing with a time of 42:45. (photo by Staff Sgt. Hueming Mui)



**Colonel Swain**

What a year! The Patriot Wing is number one in almost every statistic in the command. You are the reason we won Department of Defense, Air Force and Air Force Reserve Command

awards for 2008 and why we will receive even more recognition for your hard work in 2009. Whether military or civilian, you are the reason we adhere to our "Leaders in Excellence" mission statement.

I take this opportunity to thank you for everything you do for our wing, our command and our country – from your hard work all year long, to those finishing touches that are in place for our upcoming Unit Compliance Inspection. We are prepared physically, medically, fiscally and mentally.

Our medical squadrons completed their Health Services Inspections during the September UTA. They earned an "outstanding" and two "excellent" grades.

That is a testament to the incredible talent and hard work of our medical teams! Their attention to detail during these inspections is what sets us apart as leaders every day we come to work.

I recently had the privilege of leading a mass enlistment of some 50 young men and women, aboard the USS Constitution in Boston. I see the pride in our new generation of Airmen ready to join the fight at your side after eight years of combat. They too want to join the best Air Force in the world and be part of something larger than themselves.

As we approach the holidays, our responsibilities seem to pile up higher – on top of our jobs and families, there is the added pressure of the holiday season with

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I see the pride in our new generation of Airmen ready to join the fight at your side after eight years of combat. They too want to join the best Air Force in the world and be part of something larger than themselves.

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all its traditions and expectations. If you feel overwhelmed financially, spiritually, emotionally, you name it, don't go it alone. Talk to someone close to you, our chaplain staff or personnel in our Airmen and Family Readiness Center. There are programs in place created to discreetly help you when you need it. Always know that you are not alone; whether you are in the next cubicle or deployed thousands of miles away, we have someone ready and willing to talk.

Don't burn yourselves out. We have shorter days and colder weather on their way. Have fun, but look for that balance between work and leisure. Don't drink and drive; take care of each other. We want you back here -- healthy and happy --to face the next round of challenges in 2010!

Diane and I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season. We appreciate what all of you do every day for this wing and for this great country of ours.

**Col. Robert Swain**  
439th AW commander

**BRIEFS |**

**IG reminder**

The Inspector General Complaint Program is not used for matters normally addressed through other established grievance or appeal channels, unless there is evidence that those channels mishandled the matter or process.

For more information, call Col. Patricia Evans at Ext. 3137.

**Speaking class**

A four-month public speaking class will soon meet Fridays before A UTAs from 5-7:30 p.m. at Bldg. 1310. Elms College staff are class instructors. Cost is \$250 per credit (\$750 for the class) plus a \$20 registration fee.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Marylynn Scherlin at Ext. 3026.

**Seeking haunted hayride help**

The Airman and Family Readiness Center staff will host an adult haunted hayride from 7-9 p.m. Nov. 7.

Leaders need volunteers to dress in costumes, work booths, and assist with scaring hayride members. The hayride is open to all adult military members, host tenants, base civilians and contracting employees, and their respective families.

The center staff provides base-wide services to include personal financial assistance; pre/post deployment support; resume writing, and relocation assistance.

For more information call Ext. 3024.

**439th medics win multiple awards**

Patriot Wing reservists earned multiple Air Force Reserve Command medical service awards for fiscal year 2008, command officials announced Aug. 13. Individual awards went to:

Aeromedical evacuation squadron ART officer - Lt. Col. Marie Dufault, 439th Aeromedical Squadron, AES Reserve airman - Senior Airman Sarah Starkey, 439<sup>th</sup> AES.

Unit awards went to the following: Aerospace medicine squadron with generation support mission - 439<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medicine Squadron; 100 -bed aeromedical staging squadron - 439<sup>th</sup> ASTS; Medical quality initiative - 439<sup>th</sup> AES.

**Scholarships available**

The Westover Chiefs' Council is accepting applications for a \$500 college scholarship award paid to a wing enlisted member or enlisted family member for the 2009 fall semester. Submission deadline is Nov. 22 with the award winner to be announced Dec. 5.

Applicants should e-mail their scholarship applications to their squadron chief master sergeant or first sergeant before Nov. 22. Squadron chiefs or first sergeants will endorse and then forward the package to the Chiefs' Council Scholarship Committee. For more information, e-mail Kathleen.Wood@westover.af.mil or michael.barrick@westover.af.mil.



**DECKED OUT >>** Lt. Col. John McSpadden, 337th Airlift Squadron, explains the C-5's cargo capabilities with Combined Federal Campaign keyworkers, during the CFC tour. Colonel McSpadden is this year's CFC project officer. The campaign kickoff and tour, held Sept. 28, began at the base CFC drive, which wraps up Dec. 15. (photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe)

## Patriot Wing kicks off annual Combined Federal Campaign

Patriot Wing Combined Federal Campaign organizers and keyworkers raised \$5,000 by mid-October.

The fall donation tradition got its start Sept. 28 as keyworkers and organizers met at the Westover Club to kick off the Combined Federal Campaign. Some of the keyworkers joined Lt. Col. John

McSpadden and other C-5 aircrew members for a tour afterward. Colonel McSpadden is this year's CFC project officer.

The CFC goal this fall is \$40,000.

Carrying on a tradition from last year, the 2009 Runway Road Race, held on the October A UTA, raised \$600, said Robert Perreault,

a campaign organizer in the 439<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group.

The CFC web site is [www.opm.gov/cfc](http://www.opm.gov/cfc). The campaign's "open season" runs until Dec. 15.

"The CFC is about donating to a charity of your choice," Colonel McSpadden said.

For more information, call Colonel McSpadden at Ext. 3623.

Additionally, wing members can make cash donations at the base exchange.

By Oct. 23, Organizers had raised more than \$9,150 for the campaign, Mr. Perreault said.

Local website information is available by clicking on [www.cfcvalley.org](http://www.cfcvalley.org)

### BRIEFS | continued from page 3

#### Arms range is off-limits

The small-arms range is off-limits to unauthorized people. The range is located off Training Avenue.

Trespassing on the small-arms range is not only illegal, it is also dangerous because of live fire, said Senior Master Sgt. Jeffery Otis, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of combat arms.

People with a need for valid entry to the

range, please contact the combat arms section at Ext. 2061 or the law enforcement desk at Ext. 3557.

#### DEERS updates

The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) provides military members and their families military benefits, to include TRICARE. When a military member has a life-changing event they must immediately update DEERS.

Life-changing events may include change of address, additions to the family, children

going to college, or retirements.

Reservists can update their DEERS information through a variety of ways: visiting the local DEERS facility, going online, or by phone, fax, or email.

The two online options are the new "my DOD benefits" website at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/mydodbenefits> or the Beneficiary Web Enrollment Website at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe>.

For more information, call the military personnel flight customer service section at Ext. 3874.



**MEDICAL HELP** >> Maj. (Dr.) Steven Tittl, deployed from Westover's 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, cares for a Vietnamese patient. (photo by Tech. Sgt. Kerry Jackson)

## Westover doc checks in with Vietnamese

by **Tech. Sgt. Kerry Jackson**  
**13th Air Force Public Affairs**

QUANG TRI PROVINCE, Vietnam -- A Westover reservist was among several Air Force optometrists who made vision a bit clearer for Vietnamese residents here during Operation Pacific Angel 2009 held in September.

"I've been looking forward to this mission, and to working alongside the Vietnamese doctors," said Maj. (Dr.) Steven Tittl, an optometrist assigned to the 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron at Westover.

The operation is a joint and combined humanitarian and civic assistance program aimed at improving military civic cooperation between the United States and Vietnam. The optometry team is part of package of medical professionals providing care for the young and old, while building friendships here.

"We are learning a great deal from the Vietnamese doctors, and they are very much interested in how we provide optometry care in the United States," Doctor Tittl said. "We share the common goal of providing the best care possible for the people of Vietnam."

A common ailment in this region is cataracts in the very young, he said. A cataract is a clouding that develops in the eye and is normally found in the elderly. However, because of the intensity of the sun, humidity and dust

in this region, people tend to develop the ailment much sooner.

The optometry team is providing surface-level eye care, but refers patients with extreme conditions requiring surgery to their local physician who will provide care within 60 days. The optometrists are also providing prescription eyeglasses to their Vietnamese patients.

"Ninety percent of our patients with vision problems see immediate results with the prescribed eyeglasses we are able to provide on this mission," said Doctor Tittl. "A problem that has plagued some for many years is fixed on the spot, and they leave with ear-to-ear grins.

"Those smiles tell me what language can't: that our care is effective and will have a positive impact on people's lives," he added.

The optometry team is providing patients with a wealth of education on how to care for and protect their eyes. The team is also

**"Those smiles tell me what language can't: that our care is effective and will have a positive impact on people's lives."**

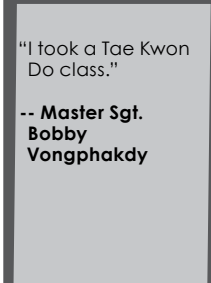
-- Maj. (Dr.) Steven Tittl, 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, deployed to Vietnam

## TROOP TALK | What was your favorite part of your deployment?



"Working with the local nationals -- we trained them in our career field."

-- **Master Sgt. Moises Zanzanian**



"I took a Tae Kwon Do class."

-- **Master Sgt. Bobby Vongphakdy**



"I got a lot more experience in my career field."

-- **Senior Airman Matthew Savard**



providing over-the-counter eye-care medicine including teardrops, to add moisture to dry eyes, and ultraviolet light-protected sunglasses for the intense sunlight in this region.

In addition to comprehensive optometry care, the medical team is providing general medical care to Quang Tri Province residents to include care for chronic illnesses, acute illnesses, diabetes, hypertension, parasites, and dental issues.

The medical team is working alongside the local East Meets West Foundation, a non-governmental organization, and has already seen nearly 4,000 patients since opening its doors on Sept. 17. The team expect to treat more than 5,000 patients over the duration of the mission.

Pacific Angel is a Pacific Air Forces operation led by 13th Air Force at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. The joint and combined humanitarian assistance operation is conducted in the Pacific area of responsibility to support U.S. Pacific Command's capacity-building efforts.

# Shaping lives while home and away

by Tech. Sgt. Troy Thibeault

Families and friends huddled in the civil engineering complex to greet more than 20 CE Airmen upon their return home Sept. 14 after a six month deployment to Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.

Karen Jalbert expressed her joy – and relief – during the long-awaited reunion with her husband, Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Jalbert. She looked forward to normalcy, to be a team again instead of a single parent. “I’m looking forward to giving back his jobs,” she said, “I don’t like being in charge.”

Roxann Guiel, wife of Tech. Sgt. Allen Guiel, found yard work the biggest challenge while her husband was deployed. “You don’t realize how much they do until they are gone,” she said.

Master Sgt. Bobby Vongphakdy’s 13-month-old daughter, Kayla, toddled around the CE garage area where the reception was held. “She was five months when I left,” said Sergeant Vongphakdy. “She wasn’t walking or talking and she had no teeth.” His wife, Anna, followed Kayla around the area. “She’s a handful. It was very hard (with him deployed). She was still little and I didn’t have much help.”

Although the deployment is over for these civil engineers, there was much work left on the home front upon their return. Their mechanical abilities are just needed at home. The Air Force calls upon their versatility as Airmen.

Civil engineers have diversified backgrounds: from building structures, putting out fires, handling explosives, to maintaining an airfield.

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**WELCOME  
BACK  
BUNDLE 3!**

**U.S. AIR FORCE**

**DAD'S GLAD** >> Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Jalbert, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron, hugs his daughter, Kathryn, and son, Andrew, shortly after his arrival at Westover Sept. 14. Sergeant Jalbert and more than 20 other CE Airmen returned from Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. (photo by Don Treeger, © 2009 The Republican Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.)



**HUMVEE HIKE** >> Patriot Wing civil engineers take a break next to a humvee during their deployment to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. They are, from left, Senior Airmen Anthony Tassinari and Matthew Ballos, and Senior Master Sgt. Richard Michaud (Courtesy photo).

continued from page 6

CE comprises four main operational areas: fire rescue, explosive ordinance disposal, emergency management and Prime Beef, otherwise known as operations, said Senior Master Sgt. Dawn Schile, a program manager with the CES. Prime Beef represents eight of the 13 civil engineering Air Force occupational specialties making them the most diverse group within the squadron ranging from electrician, HVAC/R technician, heavy equipment operators, carpenters, plumbers, surveyors and administrators.

When the call came in, over six months ago, 25 members from the Prime Beef operational area were mobilized and deployed to Bagram Airfield. Their main mission was to build new structures that would house military members transitioning out of Iraq and to perform routine maintenance

throughout the airfield, said Sergeant Schile. In addition to their regular duties the engineers worked alongside Afghani locals in order to teach them valuable skills that would allow them to

be self sufficient.

Even with a heavy workload, the airmen were able to take some timeouts to visit with family via the Internet.

Sergeant Jalbert's children,

Andrew and Katie, said they missed their dad. But today's high-speed technology helped them get through his long absence. They could see their dad talking to them from thousands of miles away through a webcam.

Westover volunteers also kept in touch with family members of the deployed Airmen.

Roxann Guiel kept busy to keep her fear at bay and she appreciated the phone calls from the base to check on her.

Family members and Airmen could work on getting reacquainted and trying to catch up on some rest. They know the workload will be more evenly distributed.

Sergeant Jalbert said he thought his work at Bagram was fruitful, but his wide smile -- while he clutched his daughter and son in his arms -- was all that was needed to show he was glad to be back home.

### E-mails capture deployment conditions

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Senior Master Sgt. Rick Michaud, a CE equipment superintendent, penned several e-mails while deployed to Bagram. The following are some excerpts from his e-mails which captured fascinating snapshots of serving in Afghanistan.*

**"I have to say, I don't know if I would be cut out for these PRT teams.**

**They are on the road all the time, in full gear, very long days, extremely hot temperatures, completely weighted down (I was carrying around and additional 70 lbs) and continuously getting in and out of the MRAP's.. This is no easy task with all of your gear... I have a new respect for those people who are doing it....**

**So let me leave you all with a little poem to sum it all up (only the first stanza):**

**It was notification and mobilization  
It was CST and off to a new nation  
We did our best as a team and as guests  
We did it with honor and pride above the rest.**



# First sergeant highlights privilege of serving people

*EDITOR'S NOTE: This anonymous article helps to illuminate the value of the position of first sergeant in the Air Force, without the emphasis on the writer's identity.*

My job is taking care of people.

It also happens to be what I love to do.

It is a job I hold in the highest regard. In fact, I don't think of it as a job ... I consider it a privilege. As first sergeant, I have the commander's ear on important issues like Airmen morale and welfare, enforcement of wing and Air Force policies, and making sure my unit accomplishes our mission.

As a young Airman, I didn't think being a first sergeant was very complex. I saw my first sergeant as a disciplinarian, a regimented enforcer of duty and protocol, and someone cold and unapproachable.

Since then, and thanks to seeing better examples of first sergeants, I know there's much more to being a first sergeant than discipline. I have the awesome responsibility of molding young adults not only into better Airmen, but also better people.

I always work on getting to know my unit's Airmen. We wear the same uniforms; yet we are a group of individuals, each with our own unique traits and quirks. Most importantly, I've learned you can't judge a person by their background, education, nor by the way they

talk. You can only judge him or her by their actions, their characters and their hearts.

This job has also taught me about myself, and made me a better person.

For instance, I lead best when I lead by example. My Airmen know I'll never ask them to do something I won't do myself; they know I don't mind "getting my hands dirty."

While I can achieve success by firmly enforcing my commander's wishes, being flexible and understanding serves me effectively.

Nevertheless, this job isn't always easy, and not every story is a success. I've had to discipline many Airmen, even discharge some. It's a necessary but difficult part of the job that can be mentally and even physically taxing.

I also realize that because of the nature of my job, not everyone is going to like me. However, as long as I'm consistent and fair, I believe I can maintain the respect of my people.

This is key to keeping open and honest communications between myself and the Airmen in the unit.

Although this job is sometimes hard, it is also greatly rewarding. Helping Airmen through difficult situations makes the tough

times worthwhile; there's nothing more satisfying than getting a heartfelt "thank you" from a young Airman.

I have no doubt that I have the best job in the Air Force. I look forward to several more years of serving in this role. In that time, I hope to inspire and guide young Airmen and officers to do their best as they progress through their careers.

I have seen this happen. I have seen first-term Airmen learn what's needed to have a successful reserve career. To know my mentoring helped these young people become senior NCOs means I know I did my job. I have also mentored junior officers. One told me that he would settle for retiring as a major.

That same officer is now eligible to pin on full colonel.

I always want to grow, and learn how to learn to be a better first sergeant. Nobody should ever think they know everything nor take anything or granted. Being a first sergeant is something I put my heart and soul into. Taking care of Airmen has always been -- and will continue to be -- my main focus.

Taking care of people is why I truly love being a first sergeant.



## Qualifications for first sergeant candidates

First sergeant candidates must pass their fitness tests within 60 days before attending the First Sergeant Academy. This is among several requirements for what is one of the most prominent enlisted leadership positions in the Air Force.

Based on wing policy, first sergeants must earn a fitness score of 80 or better, without any exemptions or waivers on any fitness component, in order to attend the academy, said Chief Master Sgt. Kristine Seney, military personnel flight superintendent.

Interviews will be held with the unit commander for those found eligible during the review and qualification board. Other requirements include:

- Must have or be able to attain 36 months

of retainability.

- Must speak distinctly and without speech impediments.

- Must not have, nor bear the appearance of personal, marital or family problems that detracts from the member's ability to effectively serve as a first sergeant.

- Be financially stable.

- Be highly motivated and capable of fulfilling the role of the first sergeant as prescribed in Air Force Regulation 36-2113.

- Must have demonstrated exceptional leadership and managerial skills.

- Applicant's physical appearance and military image must meet the highest standards expected only of the most dedicated professional senior noncommissioned officers.

- Must have completed the Senior NCO Academy Course in residence or by correspondence.

- Minimum General AQE score of 62 or

Administrative AQE score of 41.

Interested members must complete a cover letter addressed to 439th AW Command Chief Master Sgt. Zigmund Skawski explaining why they want to be a first sergeant along with a military/civilian resume (please ensure telephone numbers are included in resumes).

Applicants need to include a copy of their current fitness scores and two letters of recommendation, including one from their current commanders.

Fitness score can be obtained from the Air Force Portal.

All required information needs to be sent to 439 MSS/DPMSA (E) no later than close of business Dec. 6 Applicants may email the completed and scanned documents to Kristine.seney@westover.af.mil or drop their packages off to Chief Seney in the MPF (Bldg. 1875).

## Fall brings leadership changes across Patriot Wing ranks

The September and October A UTAs brought squadron, group and top-level leadership command changes to the Patriot Wing.

The wing's second-highest senior command position changed hands

Sept. 12 when Col. Patrick Cloutier took over as 439th AW vice commander. Col. Michael Marten, a reservist at Westover for 30 years, retired Sept. 13. Besides serving as vice commander, Colonel Marten held a variety of leadership positions at Westover dating back to its early-1980s era when the



Col. Patrick Cloutier



Col. Adele Hill



Lt. Col. William Kountz



Lt. Col. John Healy

wing flew C-130 and C-123 tactical airlifters. Colonel Marten flew in Desert Storm and was the 337th Airlift Squadron commander and a C-5 instructor pilot.

Lt. Col. William Kountz assumed command of the 439th Maintenance Group from Col. Oreste Varela in a change-of-command

ceremony held Sept. 12 in the fuel cell hangar.

The 337th Airlift Squadron saw Lt. Col. John Healy take command from Colonel Cloutier in a ceremony the same day.

Col. Adele Hill

took command of the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron from Col. Charles Tupper, who retired.

On the October A UTA, Maj. Luis Nunez and Andre McMillian assumed their new leadership roles as commanders of the maintenance and aircraft maintenance squadrons, respectively.

## Bootprints of the heart: PA NCO reflects on wing people

How do you capture the essence of a 28-year career?

My new identity as an Airman began in 1981 when Westover was still a young Reserve base flying C-123s and C-130s. I learned how to write, take photos, do a newspaper, but my deepest growth came not through tech schools, CDCs or OJT – it came through thousands of people who unknowingly taught me the things that matter most. Some whispered wisdom with words and other spoke volumes by their lives.

Like when the Prisoner of War medal was authorized in 1985 and I listened to the haunting horrors from former WWII and Vietnam-era POWs at their ceremony. I learned a huge lesson from them about sacrifice, yet remarkably, they treated it as their reasonable service.

I learned about innovation from aircraft maintainers who designed creative tools and fixes for the newly-acquired C-5s. One of them, Mike Conboy, actually designed air-assisted trumpet valves to give a partially-paralyzed music professor his music back.

I saw compassion beyond service while interviewing 30 AMDS members who provided medical services to remote Honduran villages. They did amazing work, but seemed most proud of the photos of the Honduran kids they grew to love.

Honor and pride were among the lessons during Desert Storm. Despite hundreds of homecomings, my heart swelled each time DCU-clad Airmen walked the flag-lined red carpet as Lee Greenwood's "Proud to be an American" echoed through the Base Hangar with applause from community crowds and fellow Airmen. I also learned about the healing power of edification the day hundreds of tearful Vietnam vets walked the same red carpet for a long-overdue "Welcome home."

Far more than any class could teach, I learned about community watching Reservists care for each other like family members through life's joys and sorrows.

Sept. 11, 2001 amplified sorrow in a way few could forget. I heard first-hand accounts from Westover reservists who were in New York City that day. I learned about dedication and readiness as I saw hundreds of reservists pour into the base ready to fight a war they had trained for but hoped would never come. I visited Oklahoma City, Ground Zero and the Pentagon, and learned that life is not a

game. It's serious business that needs responsible people.

I learned about bravery in the following years as hundreds of Reservists deployed to Southwest Asia despite the fact that some never returned.

Serving and giving were perhaps the most repetitive lessons that spanned the decades. Beyond serving their country with a steady excellence, I've covered reservists who serve their communities – as coaches, teachers, and all types of civic volunteers. They've saved lives at restaurants, and are often the first to help at highway accidents, using their military skills. They taught me not to wait for someone else – you are that someone.

Amazing people have walked through my life and left indelible bootprints. Looking back, I guess I capture my career not by my achievements, but by acknowledging the accumulated impact of so many – and thanking them.

With profound gratitude,

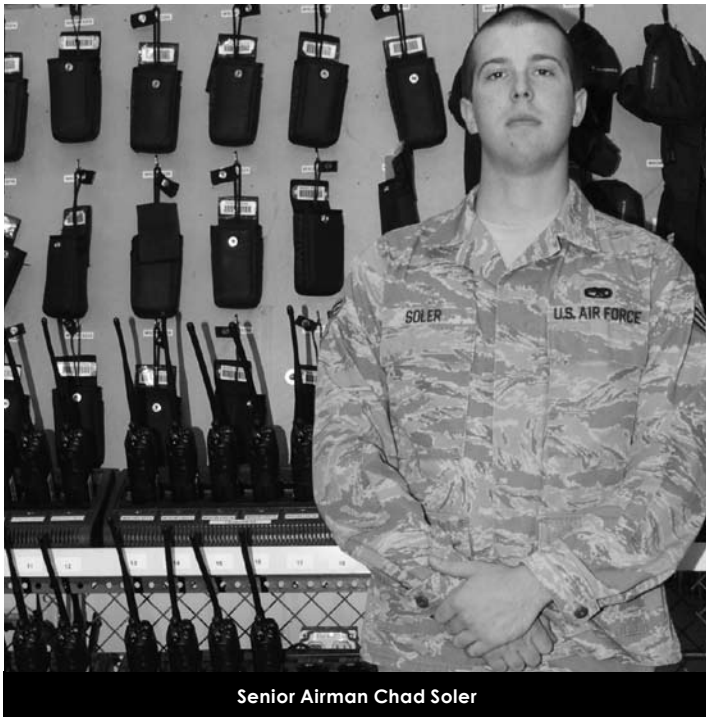
**Senior Master Sgt.  
Sandi Michon  
439th AW Public Affairs (retired)**

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Sergeant Michon was the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of public affairs. A reservist at Westover since 1981, she retired Oct. 4.*



Sergeant Michon

## PATRIOT PEOPLE |



Senior Airman Chad Soler

NAME: CHAD SOLER  
 AGE:  
 HOMETOWN: SCHENECTADY, N.Y.  
 RANK: SENIOR AIRMAN  
 WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP: A SCIENTIST OR ENGINEER  
 FAVORITE PART OF FAMILY DAY PICNIC: THE FLIGHT SIMULATOR  
 FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL: MATH  
 FAVORITE WEEKEND ACTIVITY: VIDEO GAMES AND FOOTBALL  
 FAVORITE FOOD: PIZZA  
 FAVORITE SPORT: FOOTBALL  
 BEST SUMMER VACATION: WHEN I WENT TO MISSISSIPPI  
 FAVORITE THING TO DO: PLAY FOOTBALL  
 PREFERRED ENTERTAINMENT: VIDEO GAMES (PS3)  
 FAVORITE HERO: BATMAN  
 BAND: AC/DC  
 MOVIE: TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN  
 AIRCRAFT: F-22  
 WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH \$1 MILLION: BUY A HOUSE AND A COOL CAR

**EARLY BIRDS AT THE CLUB** >> Enjoy an early bird lunch or dinner Thanksgiving day feast at the Club, Nov. 19, 11 a.m.-1:30 pm and 5-8 p.m. New to the club in December -- a comedy show by the Northeast Comedy Review, starts at 8 p.m. Dec. 5. Breakfast with Santa is served from 8-11 a.m. Dec. 12. Free to club members with participating child; \$6 for non-members; kids 4-12 \$3; kids 3 and under free. For more information, call the club at 413-593-5531.

**TURKEY BOWL** >> Turkey Bowl Nov.16-21. Bowl an eight or better on 10 lanes and win a turkey. One dollar per try. For more information, call Michael Ferguson at Ext. 3990.

**VOLLEYBALL, RACQUETBALL SIGN-UPS** >> Volleyball tournament: Nov. 17-19, 5 p.m.; racquetball tournament sign-up, Nov. 3-5, 5 p.m. Information: Ext. 3958.

**OUTDOOR REC** >> The staff has a wide variety of items for this skiing and snowboarding season. Tuning services are also available. Other items include snow blowers, snow throwers and generators.

**SERVICES CALENDER** | [www.westoverservices.com](http://www.westoverservices.com)

## Retirement

### Senior Master Sgt. Sandi Michon

### Quarterly award winners

Westover's Quarterly Awards Board has selected the following third quarter winners for their outstanding contributions to the wing mission:

Airman: Airman 1st Class David Carpenter, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron; NCO: Tech. Sgt Dana Seddon, 337th Airlift Squadron; Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Marylynn Scherlin, 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron; Company Grade Officer: Capt. Robert Sinclair, ASTS

Civilian: John Long, 439th Communications Squadron; Civilian Supervisor: Robert Mersincavage, CS.

## PATRIOT PRAISES | Reenlistments, promotions

### Reenlistments

#### Technical sergeant

Michael R. Rocco  
 Richard Schmoke  
 Paul M. Soja  
 David M. Woelper

#### Staff sergeant

Eric J. Blair  
 Brent L. Brockway  
 William J. Cargile  
 Michael J. Cowley  
 Nkowsi D. Dumisani  
 Anthony Gonzalez  
 Rachel Garcia  
 David Michael Gilles  
 Trevor C. Killin

#### Sammy R. Kirkland

Weifeng Liu  
 Rick F. Marrama  
 Jason J. Pelletier  
 Brett Reed  
 Melissa V. Small  
 Emily K. Torrick

#### Senior airman

Christopher M. Darling  
 Sarah K. Hart  
 Brett F. Johnson  
 Tessa J. Mazza  
 Jacquelynn R. Palazola  
 Espirito Perez  
 Dominique L. Powell  
 Adam D. Reynolds

#### Theresa Robert

Shanise J. Williams-Smith  
 Ysura Villarreal  
 Michael A. Valentine

#### Airman 1st Class

Michael Decicco  
 Katie Lynn Hirsch

#### Promotions

**Master sergeant**  
 Lewis A. LaBianca  
 Michael R. Lavigne

#### Technical sergeant

Daniel J. Cimini  
 Tony E. French

#### Rachel Garcia

Rick F. Marrama  
 Steven G. Schofield  
 Victor M. Wilson

#### Staff sergeant

Nicholas C. Cranshaw  
 Amy E. Guertin  
 Brett F. Johnson  
 Crystal D. Lamb  
 Shannon Oleksak

#### Senior Airman Andre Demere

#### Airman 1st Class Nicole Talaia



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**HISTORIC OATH >>** Young men and women take the oath of enlistment aboard the USS Constitution, with Col. Robert Swain Jr., 439th Airlift Wing commander, administering. In all, 50 recruits joined the 439th AW Oct. 4, while standing on board the famous ship and Boston landmark. (photo by Linda LaBonte Britt, 66<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing Public Affairs)