

PATRIOT

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**J.E.O.I.
COMES TO
OUR
GALAXY**

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UTA SNAPSHOT

>> SATURDAY: Children's Christmas-Party, Base Hangar, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

News briefs	pg. 3
Change with chiefs	pg. 4
Patriot goes digital	pg. 5
JEDI time	pg. 6-7
Economic impact	pg. 9
Promotions	pg. 11
Command chief retires	pg. 12

ON THE COVER >> MSgts. Joseph Whalen, left, and Todd Panico, 439th Maintenance Group quality assurance inspectors, operate the new JEDI camera system. For article and photos, turn to pp. 6-7. (photo by W.C. Pope)



FEAST AND FIXINS >> Col. Albert Lupenski, 439th Airlift Wing commander, serves MSgt. Michael Jump, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron, a Thanksgiving-style meal at the Westover Club Nov. 2. (photo by TSgt. Brian Boynton)

EDITORIAL Chief Carbin's goodbyes

To borrow from my cell phone texting: "OMG" – what a roller-coaster ride! It seems like yesterday I was at basic training getting told to pick up my bags, put them down, pick them up again....so you can imagine that the last 10 months as your command chief have flown by in the blink of an eye!

It has been an extremely rewarding experience doing things I could never have imagined I would do as I neared the end of my 33 years of service to this great wing and country. I've had the chance to speak with our legislative leaders on Capitol Hill, and be the guest speaker at several events including an Airman Leadership School graduation. I've taken part in mentoring and developing our leaders of the future.

But the most exciting and fulfilling part of being a command chief is helping the Airmen of this wing. This job requires that I echo enlisted members' concerns to the senior leaders of the wing and the command. A command chief takes care of our members and their families so that Airmen can accomplish their mission to help defend our great nation.

During my acceptance speech at the change of responsibility this past March, I had three challenges for all the wing Airmen:

- Get off the sidelines and stop being a wallflower. Volunteer for leadership and training opportunities.
- Attend the wing's annual enlisted workshop
- Ask the hard questions so you can hear the message right from senior leadership -- not second hand.

So what happened? You all stepped up to the plate and hit a grand slam. First, our



numbers went from 34 to 104 for the enlisted workshop (the best showing in recent past). Next, I interviewed over 40 members who wanted to attend in-residence professional military education. We found courses for over 35 of you in FY 14 and the rest in FY 15. Finally you, through all over the wing's councils, have brought the hard questions to the table to get our insight and guidance.

A final note: Please continue your service to this great country. Just when it might seem you feel like you can't serve anymore, talk to your leadership. Life's challenges like family issues, civilian jobs, college classes have left many of us to feel like "punching out."

The end result and benefits of serving will be worth it; have the vision and insight to see the "light at the end of the tunnel." When I started in the Air Force, I never thought I would be here 33 years. Looking

back, I wouldn't have done anything different. All of you make a difference!

As I've moved from my traditional reserve position as the command chief, I'm continuing to proudly serve with you as a civilian in the 439th Communications Squadron. It's truly been an honor and privilege servicing with every member of the 439th Airlift Wing. In the words of General Vautrain, who is the best wing? ... "THE PATRIOT WING!"

And it's because of you people who take care of the mission!

by retired Command CMSgt. David Carbin

BRIEFS

Angel Tree reminder

Angel tree gifts are due back by noon Dec. 6 . The Airman and Family Readiness Center staff will distribute the gifts on Sunday as the program comes to a close for the season.

Food baskets deadline

The USO is offering food baskets for those in need of a little assistance this holiday season. The deadline to get on the list for Christmas is Nov 17. For more information contact the Pioneer Valley USO at 557-3290.

First sergeants to serve holiday meal

The Westover Consolidated Club staff will offer a holiday meal Dec. 7, beginning at 11 a.m. Following tradition, first sergeants will serve the feast to their Airmen.

Children's winter carnival, Dec. 6

This year's children's holiday party is set to have a "Frozen" winter wonderland theme. The Airmen and Family Readiness staff will host the annual event in the Base Hangar. It will include a winter carnival with some special guests, and Santa and Mrs. Claus from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Children need to be registered through the center by calling 413-557-3024.

Patriot now online only

The 439th AW Public Affairs office no longer contracts for the monthly *Patriot* newsletter to be printed. The staff will continue to produce a monthly full color publication. It may be accessed via the base web site at westover.afrc.af.mil and Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Westover.Patriot. For more on this change, turn to page 5.

CFC update

More than \$13,000 had been raised for the Combined Federal Campaign by early November. This year's goal is \$45,000. The campaign wraps up Dec. 15. For more information on CFC, visit cfc.org

Range off limits

The Westover small arms range is off-limits to unauthorized personnel. Please contact the law enforcement desk at 557-3557 if you are looking to gain access. Trespassing is illegal and dangerous.

Patriot Wing puts new enlisted leader at top

by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe

Salutes, speeches, and two ceremonies combined into one during the Patriot Wing's top enlisted billet change held at the Base Hangar Nov. 1.

Command CMSgt. David Carbin concluded his 33-year career with turning over the wing command chief's responsibility to CMSgt. Timothy Maguire.

"Congratulations on your selection," Col. Albert Lupenski said, as the 439th Airlift Wing commander gestured to CMSgt. Maguire. "The competition for this selection to command chief was what I call fierce... I know his number one priority is our Airmen. And that's my number one priority."

Command CMSgt. Maguire's first remarks to the Patriot Wing audience as the new command chief included reminders to all enlisted members about their career responsibilities.

"Because of my mentors, my goals in the military began to change," he said of his service during the early 1990s. "My mentors were there to help me achieve those goals. To all my mentors, and you all know who you are, thank you for seeing something in me that I could not see. Without your foresight I would not be here today. Senior

NCOs and NCOs, continue to mentor your Airmen, and continue learning."

The new command chief has been at Westover for 24 years, and has deployed four times, including Operation

Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. He's also a previous first sergeant with the 439th Maintenance Squadron and 42nd Aerial Port Squadron.

"If you see me in a hallway anywhere, stop me and talk with me," he told Airmen on the UTA. I'm here for you."

CCMSgt. Maguire advised all Airmen to be proactive in seeking out answers for their career progression – and be open-minded too.

"If something's not going the way it should go for you, ask the question," he said. But be prepared for the answer."

Following the change of responsibility ceremony, CMSgt. Carbin took the stage again for the retirement portion of the event.

"I didn't select him as a command chief," said Col. Lupenski. "But I would have. He's direct. And that's what a wing commander needs to hear."

CMSgt. Carbin, who first joined the Patriot Wing in 1988, said he instantaneously realized he'd joined a capable Air Force Reserve unit. He'd just left active-duty at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

"I knew that the people in this wing liked to take care of people," he said. "I worked through the very last day of my enlistment today... that's what we need to do. Because it's the right thing to do. It's the thing we need to do when we serve our country. And work with your people, talk to each other."



PATRIOT goes digital

by Lt. Col. James Bishop

After 40 years of production, the hard copy of the *Patriot* will be going away next month, in an effort to save resources and better utilize limited funding. The *Patriot* magazine will continue with the same look and information online.

In December, the *Patriot* will be available online at www.westover.afrc.af.mil, and through the base Facebook and Twitter accounts.

The Department of Defense budget continues to be severely impacted by ongoing cuts. As of part of cost-savings here at Westover, our wing commander has directed public affairs to no longer print and mail the *Patriot*.

"This move will save Westover nearly \$60,000 a year," said Col. Albert Lupenski, 439th Airlift Wing commander. "And in this fiscal climate, every dollar saved translates to more funding to train reservists."

In addition to the cost savings, advantages to using the all-electronic format include having all color photos, flexibility in the page length, instantaneous printing, and the green aspect of saving trees. Readers will also be able to view the *Patriot* on smart devices.

"This will revolutionize the way we deliver news," said MSgt. Andrew Biscoe, public affairs superintendent. The shop will be able to produce the *Patriot* within about one week after the UTA. And the e-format will allow room for supplements, such as extra pages of photos of the May 2015 Great New England Air Show.



The first issue of the *Patriot* magazine hit newsstands in November, 1974, seven months after Westover became the nation's first stand-alone air reserve base.

The first issue featured an interior shot of the large fireplace at Westover's newly-constructed consolidated open mess, which was opening Nov. 30, 1974. The award-winning newspaper has covered most of the major military and humanitarian events of the past 40 years, including the Vietnam drawdown in the 1970s, the arrival of the first C-5s in the 1980s, Operation Desert Storm in the 1990s, Operation Iraqi Freedom in the 2000s, and most recently, Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Our newsletter has been the heart and soul (and pride) of our shop for 40 years," said Biscoe. "It's sad to see the hard copy go away, but the *Patriot* will continue to evolve and be visible - simply in electronic form."

The *Patriot* is now evolving into three electronic components: the website, Channel 50, and social media. As a sign of the changing information-delivery methods, the base Facebook surpassed 10,000 "likes" on Oct. 19 - more than any other Reserve Command unit or headquarters Facebook following by a wide margin.



AF celebrates best year in aviation safety

by SSgt. Torri Ingalsbe
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- In most jobs, breaking or losing a piece of equipment doesn't cost American taxpayers millions of dollars; however, in the Air Force, operating aviation assets safely not only saves money, time and resources but also the lives of Airmen.

"Our commitment to safety has been part of the Air Force fabric from Day One," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh, III. "Our goal is always to keep getting better

at it."

In fiscal year 2014, the Air Force saw a 32 percent reduction in overall Class A aviation mishaps, which are categorized as flight, flight-related, aircraft ground operations and remotely piloted aircraft. According to the Air Force Safety Center, Class A mishaps are classified by loss of life, an injury resulting in permanent or total disability, destruction of an Air Force aircraft, or more than \$2 million in property damage or loss.

"Risk management and safe operations are part of our ethos," said Maj. Gen. Kurt Neubauer, the Air Force chief of safety and the

AFSEC commander. "This is truly a good news story... commander involvement at all levels resulted in (fiscal year) 2014 being the safest aviation year in the history of the Air Force."

There was a 64 percent drop in Class A flight mishaps, from 19 to seven, which contributed to two destroyed aircraft. When compared to fiscal year 2013, with 14 aircraft, it's an 86 percent decrease. Flight mishaps pertain only to manned aircraft, and the primary factor in those mishaps is human error.

"Flying is a 'by the book' or 'buy the farm' type of business," Neubauer said. "Our flyers showed great discipline while executing the

mission. Aviator attention to detail and proper risk management enabled these historic lows."

Another factor in the decreased mishap numbers was AFSEC's facilitation of more than 57,000 Airmen providing safety feedback directly to commanders. AFSEC provided one-on-one interviews with 427 commanders around the world, analyzing and reviewing the feedback.

"I think we can attribute this success to a great proactive safety team, to commanders paying attention across the Air Force, and to aircrews who know how to do the job right," Welsh said.



J.E.D.I. Comes To Our Galaxy

by Lt. Col. Dan Moore and CMSgt. Lee Hareld

The term JEDI, with its Star Wars theme, suggests the idea of a futuristic subject. The future is now as Air Force Reserve Command maintenance leadership in May chose the C-5 maintenance experts at Westover to field-test a state-of-the-art photography system.

JEDI -- which stands for Joint Engineering Disposition Infrastructure -- uses a network of mobile collaboration devices (high-tech video cameras), as well as associated desktop application software at field locations to provide real-time, high resolution video and synchronized audio.

"We're the first base to receive this," said MSgt. Joseph Whalen, 439th Maintenance Group quality assurance inspector. "JEDI allows us to collaborate in real time with engineers."

This digital information connects maintenance workers and quality assurance

-- JEDI continued on next page



-- JEDI continued from last page.

representatives, via integrated wireless networking, with engineering decision-makers hundreds or even thousands of miles away at a system program office or aircraft manufacturer. This means that hours are saved as the photos appear in real-time – showing close-up views of what maintenance workers have discovered during an aircraft inspection. It allows for quicker decision-making that will allow aircraft to be placed back into service much faster than the current engineering disposition process.

Discrepancies such as cracks, dents, corrosion, and delamination of composite parts, which are outside the required technical order standards or parameters, are perfect candidates for JEDI collaboration. Additionally, with the use of a special adapter, JEDI also works with an engine boroscope to collaborate on defects found on internal jets engines components.

MSgt. Whalen cites the Patriot Wing's decades-long reputation as the premier C-5 maintainers in the Air Force. "We pride ourselves in doing things faster and better," he said.

JEDI system components are ruggedized for use in the harsh environments of aircraft maintenance, whether in the hangar or on the flight line. Once set up for video streaming, engineers may take control of the capture device from their remote location to view the defect in a way more suitable for their inspection and decision making. Mechanics or engineers on either end of the collaboration effort can use the on-screen drawing function to superimpose hand-scribed letters or symbols on



the image, or to circle an area of focus or concern. Also, video and audio of the entire collaboration session is recorded for historical record keeping with appropriate follow-up of required documentation after final disposition is provided to complete the maintenance action. This real-time collaboration saves days -- sometimes weeks -- of back and forth email messaging between the field and engineering, and puts critical warfighting assets back in operational status faster.

"We can start on repairs immediately," MSgt. Whalen said. "This applies to whether the C-5 is on the flight line or in the isochronal inspection dock. Patriot Wing maintainers handle in-depth inspections on C-5s from all other Galaxy bases in the Air Force – including the modernized C-5M Super Galaxy airlifters now assigned to Travis AFB, Calif., and Do-

ver AFB, Del.

During this test phase, Westover maintainers have successfully collaborated six aircraft defects with the C-5 SPO at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. The time savings over the current process for obtaining an engineering disposition is estimated to average about 36 hours.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Lt. Col. Moore is the deputy maintenance group commander; CMSgt. Hareld is superintendent of the 439th MXG's quality assurance office.

TROOP TALK What is your favorite holiday tradition?



"Getting together during the holidays with my family. I enjoy the family holiday parties..."

>>>SrA. William Bigda
439th
Aeromedical
Evacuation
Squadron

"The Thanksgiving family gathering is always something I've enjoyed over the years as a holiday tradition."

>>>SrA. Fredson Monteiro Barbosa
439th Civil Engineering Squadron



photos by TSgt. Brian Boynton



"The tradition of the mandatory family fun time at my grandma's for Christmas."

>>>SrA. Alicia Shartier
439th Maintenance Squadron

A salute to our veterans

ALCF NEW CHIEF

>> SMSgt. Paul Veresko, 439th Airlift Control Flight chief of airfield operations, was promoted to chief master sergeant during a ceremony held Nov. 2 in the Westover Conference Center. CMSgt. Veresko has been assigned to the ALCF since 1991, and has been in the Air Force for 27 years. (photo by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe)



VETS SALUTE >> Patriot Wing members take part in the annual Veterans Day retreat ceremony Nov. 2. This year's ceremony was held in the Base Hangar, due to inclement weather. (photo by SrA. Alexander Brown)

WESTOVER PUMPED \$221M INTO LOCAL ECONOMY IN FISCAL 2014

by Lt. Col. James Bishop

The 439th Airlift Wing poured nearly \$221 million into the community in fiscal year 2014, representing a decrease of \$4 million over last year, and a two-year decrease of \$17 million.

Military pay last year decreased \$16.3 million, due in large part to a decrease in reserve funding, according to Dan McCarthy, Westover cost and management analyst. For fiscal year 2013, military pay increased \$3.8 million, but overall military and civilian payroll decreased \$3.3 million, due to furlough days plus a decrease in the number of assigned civilians, McCarthy said.

Fiscal year 2014 saw a net increase of \$11.5 million in construction and related expenditures. A \$24 million fuel hydrant system project began on the flight line in 2013, with the cost pro-rated over a three-year construction period.

In 2013, there were net decreases of \$10.1 million in construction and \$3.4 million in the estimated value of jobs created.

The wing impacted communities within a 50-mile radius with an economic impact of \$220,856,889 from Oct. 1, 2013 to Sept. 30, 2014.

During the previous year, the base's economic impact was \$224,946,752.

In 2012, the impact was \$237,936,751. In 2011, the impact was \$237,568,913, and in 2010, that figure was \$266,631,634.

The number of base employees decreased from 3,813 in 2013 to 3,613 in 2014. In 2012, Westover employed 3,902 people. This number includes 2,319 Air Force reservists, down from 2,455 last year. There are 712 federal employees now (718 last year) and 287 non-appropriated



MONEY MATTERS >> Members of the local media interview Lt. Col. James Bishop, 439th Airlift Wing chief of public affairs, about Westover's local economic impact. (photo by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe)

fund and contract employees (298 last year).

The annual payroll for the base during fiscal year 2014 totaled \$125.9 million. In 2013, that number was \$139.7 million.

The estimated value of indirect jobs created – a federal formula that calculates goods and services offbase which members purchase – amounted to \$46.8 million in 2014 (\$48.7 million last year).

The economic figures and personnel counts do not include the base's 29 tenant units, which include ten Army units, and three Marine units, which together employ approximately 2,160 people, mainly reservists.

"As a major employer, Westover's success is linked to Western Massachusetts' success. We've had to tighten our belts economically, along with the rest of the Air Force, but we're glad to continue to support the economies of communities near the base significantly," said Col. Albert Lupenski, 439th Airlift Wing commander.



WOMEN IN AVIATION

WAF POWER >> Women in Aviation members from Westover traveled to the Bradley Air Museum Nov. 2 in Windsor Locks, Conn., to talk with area Girl Scouts about careers in the military. Women in Aviation is dedicated to providing networking, education, mentoring, and scholarship opportunities for women and men who are striving for challenging and fulfilling careers in aviation and aerospace industries. (Courtesy photo)



OBITUARY >> SSgt. Arthur Chasse (pictured as a senior airman last spring), a member of the Patriot Wing's Military Equal Opportunity office, passed away Oct. 14. SSgt. Chasse, who lived in Fall River, Mass., was also a former member of the 58th Aerial Port Squadron. He was 45.

POPE'S PUNS

by W.C.Pope



PROMOTIONS

Master Sergeant
Melvin Irizarry
Eric Jancoitis
Maurice Adams
William Cargile
Christian Borrero-Colon
Patrick Yarusso



Technical sergeant
Elias Aponte
Brandon Deangelis
Julia Guerra
Seth Hammont
Paul Hollis
Walter Lahair
Brian Lashley
Nicole Talaia



Staff Sergeant
Aaron Baxter



Senior Airman
Patrick Benevelli
Emily Brogna
Christopher Carter
Diego Dasilva
Benjamin Davison
Joseph Foote
Craig Henderson
Alissa Jenney
Richard Moulton
Martin Stanton



Airman 1st Class
Angela Bergeron
Chase Bourdo
Meghann Dion
Meghan O'Brien



Airman
Kisha Rivera



COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN >> The annual CFC is still in full swing. Contact your unit CFC representative or the wing project officer, Sara Simpson, with any questions. She may be reached at 557-3816.

SrA. Matt Martin 439th Maintenance Squadron

SrA. Matt Martin is a C-5 jet engine mechanic and works in the isochronal inspection hangar on the C-5s auxiliary power units.

An air reserve technician at Westover since 2010, he initially joined the Air Force for the educational benefits to pass on to his children.

SrA. Martin comes from a family with a long history of military tradition. His relatives are serving or have served in all branches of the military, including his brother, who's also a senior master sergeant at Westover.

SrA. Martin is dedicated in his commitment to his work at Westover, driving at least 90 minutes one way, every morning and night.

"I like living down in Rhode Island. I don't mind the drive ... I've gotten used to it."

The isochronal hangar, known popularly as ISO, is where C-5s from Westover and other C-5 bases are brought in for in-depth maintenance checks. Maintenance workers use a giant mobile tail enclosure to envelop the C-5's tail.

-- W.C. Pope



FACES OF WESTOVER

RETIREMENTS

Major
Mara Georgiana

Chief Master Sgt.
David Carbin

Senior Master Sgt.
Michael Hamlet
Gerilyn Ridzon
Lawanna Viers

Master Sergeant
Anthony Falciano
David Gosselin
Edward Pezanetti
William Richardson
John Tinnemeyer
Robert Walker

Technical Sergeant
Dylan Galland
Matthew Egan
Terry Radziewicz

Staff Sergeant
Jacquelyn Fairey

SERVICES CALENDER

westoverservices.com
by Mollie Anello, services marketing assistant

CLUB >> Come to the club to have breakfast with Santa! Dec. 20, 9 to 11 a.m.; adult club members \$7.95, Kids free with paying adult club member; non-member Adult \$8.95, Kids ages 2-10 \$4.95; The event includes breakfast, visit from Santa, DJ, games, bounce bouse and cookie decorating! Join us for this fun family event! The club now has wi-fi, network name and password are posted around the club.

BOWLING >> Join in with the Pioneer Valley USO's Support Our Troops Singles Tournament, Dec. 7, squads at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., walk-ins are welcome on the day of the event. Senior Bowling League will held on Wed. mornings at 10 a.m. starting in January. There will be free coffee and senior discounts at the snack bar, sign up today!

OUTDOOR RECREATION >> Winter is upon us! Rent cross-country and downhill skis, snowshoes, and much more! Winter rentals begin Dec. 1. For more information call 557-2192

FITNESS CENTER >> Basketball registration will be Dec. 1-26. Dodgeball registration is through Nov. 26 and the tournament will take place Dec. 1-19, sign up at the fitness center! 557-3958



Published monthly for Patriots like SrA. Gab Cordeiro, 439th Security Forces Squadron, and more than 4,700 people assigned to Westover Air Reserve Base.

Find us everywhere!



COMMAND CHIEF CARBIN RETIRES -- BUT NOT GONE



CARBIN COPY >> Brig. Gen. Steven Vautrain, former Westover wing commander, presided at Command CMSgt. David Carbin's retirement Nov. 1. The chief will continue his civilian federal service with the 439th Communications Squadron. (photos by TSgt. Brian Boynton)