

PATRIOT

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photos by SSgt. Kelly Goonan



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UTA SNAPSHOT

>> Don't forget to check your employer into PA! Employer Day is set for July 12. See page 3 news brief.

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ON THE COVER >> The 439th Airlift Wing recently supported a Denton Amendment humanitarian mission which delivered vehicles, food and supplies to Guatemala. For more photos and story, turn to pages 6 and 7.



PORT DAWGS TAKEOFF >> Airmen with the 58th Aerial Port Squadron begin their deployment journey to Southwest Asia from the passenger terminal April 1. Left, SrA. Nicholas Gero, SrA. Maryellen Santiago (in civilian clothes) and SrA. Brittany Hanninen, pause for a photo. Above photo, from left: A1C Alexander Church, SrA. Gero, SrA. Hanninen, SrA. Brian Nasuta, and SrA. Michael Sillman head out on the first leg of the journey across part of the world. (contributed photos by Tom Overlock)

EDITORIAL | Wing springs into new challenges

It was a Tuesday morning, and I was at work. As a civilian here, I'm chief of operations for the 439th Communications Squadron. An email came across my screen from Brig. Gen. Steven Vautrain, which read, "...can you come to my office at 1500 today?"

I quickly replied, "Yes, General," then my mind began to spin. I thought someone's done something wrong -- perhaps an errant email -- which would be another personally identifiable information violation. Ironically, at 1500 I entered the commander's office and the conversation started with a PII item. The general asked me when the next PII video teleconference will be with (AFRC commander) General Jackson!

However, the real reason why I was in the commander's office quickly became apparent, he offered me the job of command chief.

Talk about your mind going into overdrive!

"I would be honored to be your command chief, but you know I am retiring in November of this year," I answered. The commander fully understood that premise. But effective leaders like our commander keep what's best for their people in mind. With his time remaining at Westover uncertain, and with Chief Thorpe having moved to the 22nd AF Command Chief position, Gen. Vautrain knew that the command chief's position couldn't go unoccupied for any period of time.

So here I am. As this wing's senior enlisted leader, I monitor the morale, health, welfare and development of the enlisted force for the wing commander. It's my job to ensure your voices are heard. I provide all reservists the skills needed to be leaders of the future. I work with senior leadership to secure additional tools for your "management toolkit." I spread the word about availability of SNCO and NCO leadership courses, in-residence professional military courses and enlisted workshops. I help people who need interviews to attend these courses -- by going out to visit you in your units thus guaranteeing this is accomplished.

During my change of responsibility speech in March, I said this wing cannot continue to improve if members don't volunteer for

these types of courses. You have to step up to help manage these types of programs. What can end up occurring is a small group of reservists taking on all the projects. My challenge to you: Stop being a wallflower, fill up those dance cards and get on the dance floor. With more individuals helping, it will allow for more ideas, more points of view, and for more creativity to ensure we continue to improve the processes in the wing.

Because we continue to improve, which means always looking for better ways to get the mission done, top military leaders take notice. Our reputation precedes us and is everywhere in the Air Force. We'll be very busy in the upcoming months. Several senior leaders will visit -- the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force to name a couple of examples. These visits are very important. The occasions give us the opportunity to show how great the Patriot Wing truly is!

To be able to display our mission integrates humanitarian support and community involvement through organizations like the Galaxy Community Council and elected civic leaders. This effort demonstrates how we are fully prepared, at a moment's notice, to support the defense of this great country without a question or doubt!

To paraphrase Gen. Vautrain at the end of every Commander's Call: "Who's the best wing in the Air Force?"

The obvious answer is the PATRIOT WING! Thanks for your service. Without that we would not be the BEST!



by **CCMSgt. David Carbin**
439th AW Command Chief

BRIEFS |

Youth Outreach, May 28

The annual Youth Outreach event will be held May 28 in the Base Hangar. The base annually hosts area high school students and JROTC detachments.

The outreach provides career advice, mentoring and gives the students a chance to see the base.

Westover Strong continues on May A UTA

The Westover Strong series, now in its fifth month, will take place May 4 with a briefing on how to finance a college education. It will be held at the Westover Club at noon.

Westover 75th Ball scheduled for October

The Westover 75th Anniversary Military Ball will take place Oct. 4 in the Base Hangar. The ball is a formal dinner event rich in military tradition that is open to military and their spouses.

For more information, Airmen should contact their first sergeants.

Base Ellipse closed to all vehicle traffic

The Base Ellipse is permanently closed to all vehicle traffic. Driving any motor vehicle on the ellipse road is prohibited. The closure helps ensure the safety of members exercising on the ellipse.

Sign-up time

Employer Day will be held July 12 at the Base Hangar from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

The event, coordinated with Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve volunteers, is intended to help civilian employers understand the contributions of their reservist employees.

To sign up, email the Public Affairs office at 439aw.pa@us.af.mil

Wing showcases mission for Pilot for a day

by TSgt. Brian Boynton

Patriot Wing members welcomed 13-year-old Isaac Eun Soo French and his family from upstate New York for Westover's first Pilot for a Day in 2014.

His tour, held April 5, kicked off with a wing pinning ceremony presenting him with a Letter of Appointment and Oath conducted by the commander; in which he also received a personalized flight jacket and was given a mission brief.

Isaac was born in South Korea and adopted by the French family when he was three years old. He was born without portions of bones in his lower legs and middle fingers. But this didn't slow Isaac from climbing, skateboarding, riding a hand cycle or doing everything his other five brothers did.

At four years old, Isaac underwent a surgical amputation of both legs and a few months later received his first prosthetic legs with knees. Since then, Isaac has nearly completed all levels of the Red Cross swim courses and participates in a swim club, wrestles in tournaments and is a Mohawk Homeschool Rowing Association member. He also plays guitar and does volunteer work with younger

children.

Highlights for Isaac and his family included taking over the controls of the C-5 simulator and upon "landing" back at Westover, Isaac and his family were escorted to the control tower for a "post-flight briefing" that included a tutorial on the function of the flight tower. From there a C-5 tour that included sitting behind the controls of a real C-5 before enjoying lunch at the chow hall. Other stops included visits to EOD and security forces, and the fire department.

The Pilot for a Day program allows specially selected disabled children to tour the base and get an inside look at the workings of an air force base.

Isaac's tour wrapped up at the Base



TSgt. Karl Koenig, 439th Maintenance Squadron, explains C-5 maintenance and flight controls to Isaac Eun Soo French, Pilot for A Day on the April A UTA. (photo by TSgt. Brian Boynton)

Hangar for Commander's Call. Brig. Gen. Steven Vautrain, 439th Airlift Wing commander, presented Isaac with a plaque and coin.

EDITOR'S NOTE: SMSgt. Heather Zackaricz, Pilot for a Day organizer, contributed to this story.

Airmen must revalidate dependents by Dec. 31

by Capt. Erika Yepsen
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON -- By Dec. 31, every Airman will be required to provide their servicing finance office with documentation for all dependents as part of Air Force audit readiness efforts.

This one-time, Air Force-wide recertification process will allow the Air Force to validate Airmen's basic allowance for housing entitlements, ensuring every dollar of the \$5.4 billion the Air Force spends annually on BAH is fully auditable.

"When we say the Air Force is not audit compliant, that doesn't mean that money is missing or being misspent," said Doug Bennett, the deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for financial operations. Beginning this month and continuing through December, Air Force finance offices will contact Airmen across the total force by email to notify them of their responsibility to provide dependent documentation. Their finance office will tell them exactly which documents are required. Additionally, Airmen who recently provided documentation may not be required to do so

again. Airmen should wait to be notified by their finance offices rather than bringing in documentation unsolicited, Bennett said. Waiting to receive notification will eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort for some Airmen.

Once notified, Airmen will have 30 days to provide the required documents to their servicing finance office or have their housing allowance status reduced to single-rate. Deployed Airmen and those on extended leave or temporary duty will be given special consideration in meeting the 30-day deadline.

The Air Force currently retains dependent documentation for six years, which is insufficient to meet audit readiness requirements. This one-time revalidation will ensure Air Force compliance with audit requirements, Bennett said.

"America entrusts the Air Force not only to spend taxpayer dollars wisely and efficiently, but also to account and justify that expenditure," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III in a recent memo. "Preparation for this important and legislatively-mandated effort rests in the hands of every Airman, not just the financial community." (Air Force News Service)

Workshop helps build enlisted leadership future

by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe

Reservists of various ranks are working hard to prepare an effective and efficient career workshop designed to help shape the careers of future potential Air Force leaders here.

"Building Bridges" is this year's Career Enlisted Workshop theme. The event will be held June 9-10 at the Westover Club -- a change in venue for the first time since the first enlisted workshop was held at Westover in 2007. The program includes guest speakers covering networking, education leadership, nutrition and fitness, public speaking, promotion, mentoring, and empowerment.

"Today's leaders are charged with bringing the future leaders of our enlisted force up through the ranks, so that those young Airmen can step into leadership's shoes," said CMSgt. David Carbin, 439th Airlift Wing command chief. "This workshop is one of the most effective ways to do that. We're excited to hold this workshop every year, but especially so this year, because of the new setting."

The workshop will take place in the newly-renovated club's spacious ballroom, providing a friendly environment for public speaking, conversation and free-flowing discussion.

"This workshop will provide valuable information for reservists. It's well worth the two days spent learning more about the Air Force -- and leadership," said MSgt. Lisa Blasdell, one of the workshop organizers. "We encourage all enlisted Airmen to take advantage of this opportunity."

Airmen may register online by visiting surveymonkey.com/s/9S9J6NN

For more information on the workshop, contact MSgt. Blasdell (557-3418) or MSgt. Manual Chavez (557-3453).

Wing hosts Black History Celebration

by 1st Lt. Andre Bowser

The Patriot Wing hosted a Black History Celebration April 5, in an ongoing initiative to celebrate diverse ethnic groups on base.

Lt. Col. Donald Gomes, the event's organizer, said celebrating the different cultures and backgrounds of service members on base is a way of better understanding each other.

"We're looking for a special emphasis program manager, which is an official volunteer position with the Equal Opportunity Office that helps coordinate events like this," he said, adding that the wing has hosted events such as Women in Aviation, Hispanic Heritage, Native American Heritage, Asian-Pacific Heritage, and is open to celebrating every ethnic background and culture represented on base.

Brig. Gen. Steven Vautrain, 439th Airlift Wing commander, addressed the service members gathered in the base conference center and welcomed visitors from Putnam High School.

"We have to really appreciate the diverse nation we live in and Westover is definitely a diverse wing," he said. "Thank you all for joining us in this celebration."

The Putnam High School AFJROTC Honor Guard presented the colors, the school's choir sang the National Anthem, as well as other songs and poetry, and one drill team member even tossed a ceremonial rifle



high in the air and flipped it several times as part of a drill-team routine.

Retired Air Force MSgt. Clayton Arline, who serves as a military instructor at Putnam High School, was the guest speaker. He offered service members in attendance the same motivational words that he often shares with his students.

"No matter where you come from - you can make a difference," he said, pointing to his humble beginnings in Alabama and the successful military career. "Every time I talk to my students... I tell them 'it's not where you start out in life - it's where you end up.'"

EDITOR'S NOTE: For more information about the special emphasis program manager position, contact Lt. Col. Gomes at donald.gomes.1@us.af.mil.



photos by 1st Lt. Andre Bowser

PATRIOT WING AID AND GO GUATEMALA

by SSgt. Kelly Goonan

An 11-member Westover crew flew 20 tons of humanitarian aid to Guatemala City, Guatemala March 9. The cargo included an ambulance, a bus, two pallets of corn and other medical supplies which were picked up from Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio and Joint-Base Charleston, S.C.

Humanitarian aid missions, like these, are made possible by the Denton Amendment, a state department program that allows the Air Force to deliver donated humanitarian aid on a space-available basis worldwide.

After a four-hour flight and some language hiccups on the way between the aircrew and host nation, a very crowded city appeared in the mountainous Guatemalan terrain. High rise buildings appeared to hug each other. Houses seemed to be on top one another. Clothes lines draped the porches.

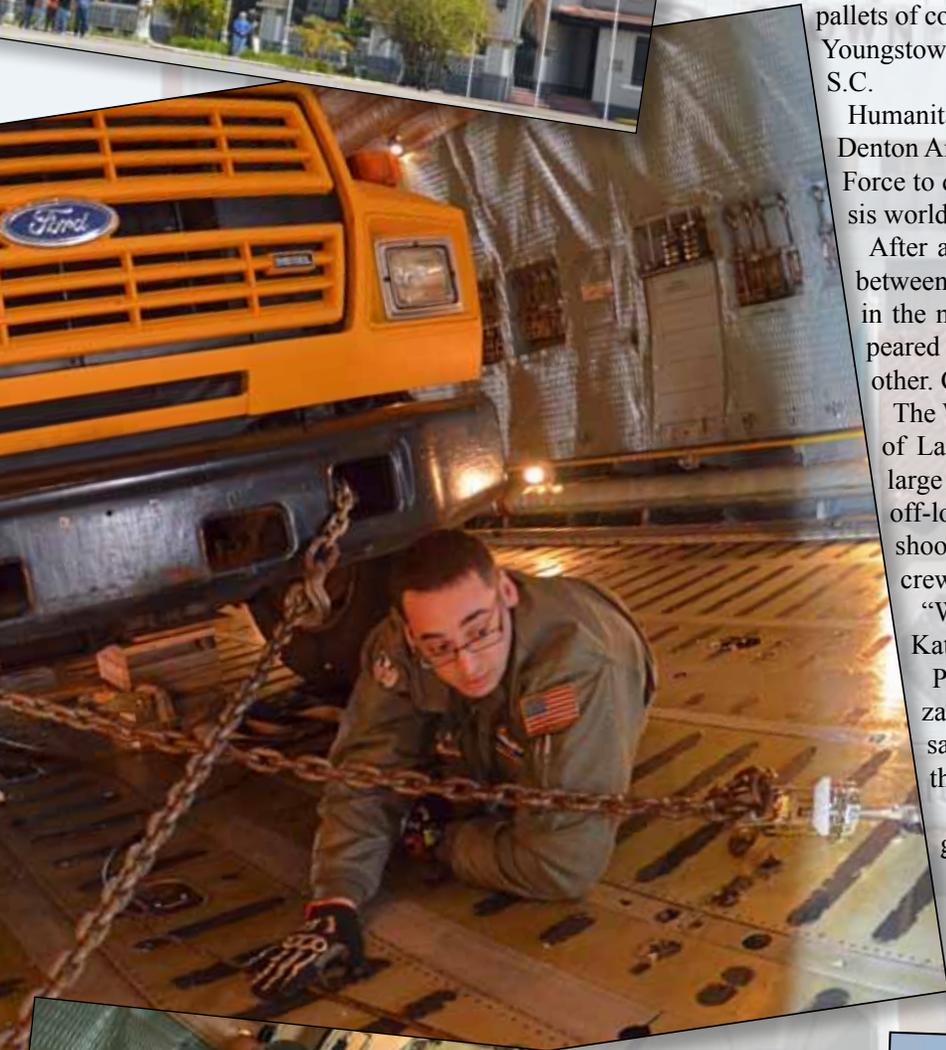
The Westover Galaxy touched down on the 9,800-foot runway of La Aurora International Airport. Shortly after arrival, two large trucks, equipped with armed police, came to assist in the off-loading of the C-5's cargo. The Mission of Love volunteers shook hands and hugged each member of the Patriot Wing aircrew. Everyone broke out in applause.

"We were just so happy to see the crew and cargo," said Kathy Price, Mission of Love founder and director.

Price's foundation is the largest non-governmental organization user of the Denton Program in the United States. She said they have delivered aid to five continents throughout the world.

The cargo delivered by the Patriot Wing will be put to good use.

"I'll be delivering the wheelchairs to children with cerebral palsy, and washing and waxing the ambulance and bus for the presentation to the Mayan communities," she said. They'll go to Way-bi, a Children's Hospice in Tec-



ING DELIVERS OODWILL TO EMALA

pan, Guatemala, which serves terminally ill children.

The ambulance will service 80,000 Mayan Indians and will be the only one of its kind in the region while the school bus will provide transportation to 13,000 Mayan children for education.

The Denton Amendment mission brought a sense of accomplishment and pride to the entire aircrew.

“It’s this kind of mission that makes everything that you have to do back at home station worth it,” said TSgt. Daniel Orcutt, 337th Airlift Squadron loadmaster.

Due to Guatemalen equipment limitations, about 800-pounds of corn had to be broken down from the two pallets and hand-carried off the C-5. The Westover crew and volunteers worked alongside each other, completing the task in less than 15 minutes.

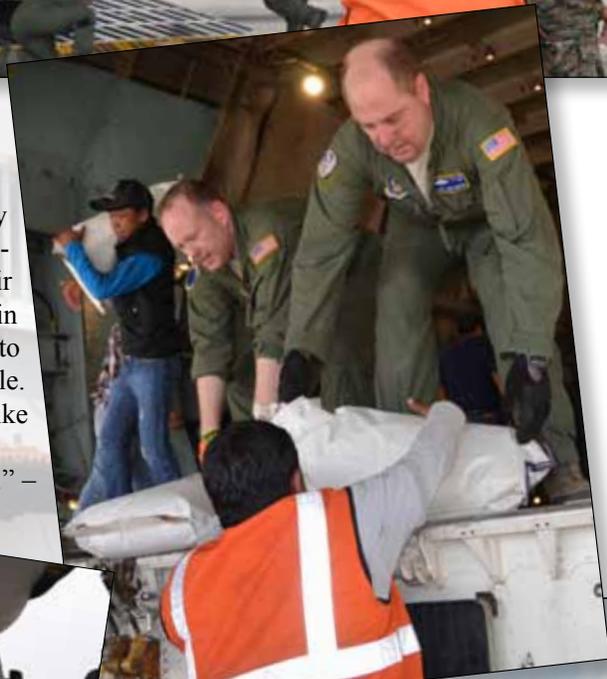
“When we distribute the corn to the Mayan Indians, mothers cry with gratitude,” said Price. “Because the corn is so valuable, we need a police escort 65 miles to their community.” The corn will service thousands of Mayan Indian families, who use the vegetable as their only staple to make tortillas.

“Everybody in Tecpan will benefit from this Mission of Love cargo, no exceptions,” she said.

Witnessing this humanitarian effort made me realize several things. In our military lives, we sometimes get wrapped up in completing CBT’s, attending meetings and updating training records that it’s easy to forget why we joined the world’s greatest Air Force in the first place. After reading the Mission of Love mission statement, I stopped in my tracks. The hectic world around me seemingly slowed down and I took that minute to soak in everything that was going on around me in Guatemala. It was a human spectacle. Hugs, huge smiles, laughter and high fives were spreading around the Westover C-5 like wildfire.

“You are not here to save the world, but to touch the hands that are within our reach.” – Mission of Love Foundation, mission statement.

The Denton mission departed Guatemala March 9 for MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., before returning to Westover March 10.





SHREDDED FEAT >> A professional shredding company visited the Patriot Wing April 5 to assist in Westover's "spring cleaning" of paperwork piling up in offices on base. The event, coordinated by Capt. Kelly Mount, helped reinforce the importance of shredding and underscored OPSEC awareness.



USO CELEBRATES 73 YEARS >>

Joint-service spirit is represented here as Marine Corps Sgt. Terrence Goonan, retired Army Staff Sgt. Brian Willette, and Air Force TSgt. Christine Lupacchino (who are father and daughter), form the honor guard for the USO's Ball and Gala, April 12. The event was held at the Log Cabin Restaurant in Holyoke. (contributed photo by Tom Overlock)

TROOP TALK | What do you like most about your reserve career?



"Being able to expand my knowledge of personnel management, the payroll systems and the opportunity to better myself for promotions."

**>>SrA. Nely Bitgood
439th AMXS, knowledge operations**

"Having the opportunity to learn new things and meet new people. The interaction with other bases and outside agencies that travel through the base makes this job unique."

**>>SrA. Kayla Rice
439th AW,
Command Post**



"The traveling opportunities, unique training I receive and the brotherhood within the fire department community."

**>>SrA. Scott Weller
439th CES, firefighter**

The Unconventional Airman: **Officer grows civilian career as wine importer**

by 1st Lt. Andre Bowser

Pairing a fine wine with a meal might be appealing to many palates, but importing the refined, fermented beverage is the civilian job of one Patriot Wing reservist who spends his military time surrounded by pallets of cargo.

Capt. William Short, of the 439th Logistics Readiness Squadron, said transitioning from active-duty where he was responsible for the movement of millions of pounds and dollars worth of cargo, to his delicate shipments of fine imported bottles of wine, was no easy task.

“Alcohol appears to be regulated more than nuclear weapons,” Capt. Short half-jokingly said. The Air Force Academy graduate started his wine importing business, Jordan Imports LLC, in 2008 - the same year that he transferred from active-duty to the Reserve.

While the comparison of nips to nukes might be a stretch, Capt. Short said alcohol has had a long history of stringent restrictions in the U.S. His company, named for his grandfather, requires him to be familiar with domestic and international customs laws, as he frequently makes trips to Europe to import new wines.

The New York resident moved to Italy from Texas when he first started his business, and later settled in the Big Apple. He’s been a drilling Reservist in Massachusetts where he has worked as a logistics officer at Hanscom Air Force Base and now at Westover.

Part of his impetus for starting a business was to stimulate his own economic situation during a tough time for the country’s financial markets.

“The economy was going into a tailspin, and here I was trying to start a business,” he recalled. “I had to be very careful and make sure that everything was in order.”

Capt. Short said creating a niche for his company was key: “I stood out from my competitors by focusing on getting superior quality wines from small family estates and delivering them directly to restaurants and wine merchants in New York and New Jersey.”

He attributed his penchant for running a business to his education at the academy, the Master’s degree he holds in economics and his training and real-world experience as a logistics officer well versed in the art of moving mountains of cargo.

Starting a business in a tough economy required him to trim all unnecessary costs. “I got rid of the middleman by managing the relationships of a small number of quality wineries with their U.S. customers, as well as cutting costs by minimizing warehousing,” he said, adding that running an import business demands

certain skills, such as projecting costs and revenues, paying suppliers, corporate taxes, and managing his small roster of wine salespersons.

“I was very fortunate to be a member of the Air Force Reserve - a lot of the skills needed for wine importing matched those of a logistics officer,” he said. Capt. Short became the Officer-In-Charge for the Supply and Fuels sections of his squadron, which goes hand in hand with his civilian career. “I knew how to manage a warehouse, as well as a global supply chain - on both the military and civilian sides of my career.”

Managing a handful of civilian employees, and dozens of reservists, has contributed to his approach at and style of leadership: Putting people first.

“I wouldn’t be able to do anything in business or as an officer without superior managers working alongside

of me to get the job done,” he said, adding that he focuses on coaching and mentoring his subordinates so that they can become leaders themselves.

“Fostering strength around you is important - especially in a warzone.”

During a deployment in 2012 to Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan, Capt. Short

said he was responsible for millions of dollars worth of vital supplies strapped to a veritable sea of pallets.

“I had to rely on my managers to get the job done when I wasn’t there - by setting and enforcing the standard and letting them make it happen,” he recalled. He jokingly added that once his operation was up and running, “I guess — I wasn’t really as necessary anymore.”

Capt. Short received the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, a joint award, on October 2013 for his service in Afghanistan. He said his deployed job was providing special operations forces with an essential lifeline that kept them in the fight. “We were a great unit and we fulfilled an awesome mission that wouldn’t have been possible if I didn’t have the world’s best non-commissioned officers working for me,” he added.

That same trust and empowerment approach at leadership has paid off in dividends in his civilian career, with his company providing fine wines to some of New York City’s superior restaurants, and it all started with him taking a chance when opportunities seemed sparse.

“I had to trust my instincts and my calculations—and then go for it.”

EDITOR’S NOTE: The Unconventional Airman is an occasional series about service members with unique military and civilian careers. If you know of a service member with an interesting professional story, e-mail 439aw.pa@us.af.mil.



WESTOVER PATRIOTS |

MISSING HOME

by SrA. Charles Hutchinson IV

On any normal day, jovial, outgoing, and energetic are just a few words that describe TSgt. Michael Valentin, but not today.

TSgt. Valentin has been deployed to the 376th Air Expeditionary Wing Transit Center, Southwest Asia, since December 2013, as the NCOIC of volunteer operations. Back home, he's the 439th AW Chapel NCOIC and a firefighter in his civilian life. After several months of hard work -which has included processing more than 52,000 servicemembers - the pace had begun to wear on TSgt. Valentin. During a phone interview, his voice modulated with somber, mellow, and tired tones.

TSgt. Valentin is in charge of the chapel annex, which is basically a recreational center. He's responsible for over 200 volunteers.

As if dealing with hundreds of volunteers isn't tough enough, TSgt. Valentin also handles over \$82,000 worth of donations; anything from hygiene and toiletries, to board games and DVDs.

"We run a 24/7 operation here. I have to make sure everything is in running order so the members have a facility to use whenever they want", he said. For security reasons, his exact location can't be published.

One of the largest adjustments TSgt. Valentin has had to acclimate himself with is the amount of people that he deals with.

"The clientele is way more than Westover has. Since I've been here, we've dealt with a little over 52,000 members from Air Force and Marines, to Army and Navy personnel. It has been very high tempo", he said.

Speaking of a fast paced life, TSgt. Valentin said he hit the ground running. "I was extremely exhausted, especially since the flight was two days."

Upon his arrival, the time difference was 11 hours ahead of Westover's Eastern Standard Time, and since Southwest Asia. This area doesn't observe Daylight Savings Time, so there was a 12-hour difference.

"You are pretty much a zombie when you get here," said TSgt. Valentin. "You get off the plane, you in process, you meet the team. I

actually worked six hours after meeting the team. Physically, I was pretty much destroyed from the flight. But the very next day I began working hard and I've been doing it ever since."

Besides his girlfriend and their dog, TSgt. Valentin misses the little things the most, especially good food, and the ability to eat what he wants, when he wants it. Although the chow hall is always available, TSgt. Valentin said it's a little like the movie *Groundhog Day*. Each day tends to repeat itself.

"I would love nothing more than to be able to eat rice and beans when I want it", he said.

Another small thing he misses is driving. While he is able to drive on post occasionally, he thinks driving 12 miles per hour will throw him off his game slightly when he has to battle the breakneck pace of Boston-area traffic upon his return home.

The 376th has been in place for over 12 years and has tackled many different missions, from air refueling to airlift. They are now on their fifth, and from what TSgt. Valentin said, their final mission.

"Our last mission is closing this base down. We started at the beginning of this month and it will end sometime in the summer."

TSgt. Valentin's presence, or lack thereof, has been felt and missed as of late at Westover. One place in particular that has felt the absence of Valentin is his home away from home – the Patriot Wing's chaplain office.

"TSgt V. is one of those people who always seems to be right where you need him to be," said Capt. Matthew Zimmerman, a 439th Airlift Wing chaplain. "He can be trusted and is a linchpin to what we do. He works hard and has fun doing it. He sees trouble areas and gets them taken care of. The chapel isn't the same without him!"

With a slated five-month deployment, TSgt. Valentin is scheduled to return later this spring.

One final thing TSgt. Valentin said he missed: "The camaraderie with my family at Westover."



POPE'S PUNS |

by W.C.Pope



PROMOTIONS

Senior Master Sgt.
Antonio Demarco
Eric Harris



Master Sergeant
Malcolm Brown
Christy Diller
Michael Edreich
Jessica Nieves



Technical Sergeant
Kyle Crafts
Shawn Chouinard
Dana Granteed
Thomas Scott



Staff Sergeant
Kristiana Barton
Aleina Bernier-Regan
Arthur Chasse
Louise Fletcher
Sean Genereux
Jennifer Grace
Michael Lombard
Rachel McDonald
Mao Meas
David Ragosta
Eliza Salazar
Cassie Schettino
Savannah Skiff
Tamara Williams



Senior Airman
Nicholas Call
William Campbell
Christopher Carbone
Weston Dean
Jason Digiovanni
Brittany Hanninen
Brian Jenkins
James Kearney
Beekeo Levan
Fabio Oliveira
David Ramrup
Christopher Sayre
Jenna Turner
Jonathan Velez
Tanisha Wright
Jonathan Zelisko



Airman First Class
Michael Bird
Richard Bright
Kayleigh Kish
Jared Main
Michael Melius
Jesse Messier
Richard Moulton
Christopher Pellegriti
Taylor Trombley
Arielle Towne
Elizer Vasquez
Sang Yang



Airman
Michael Bala
Drew Balderston
Austin Ferrari
Sean Grendon
D.J. Grigg
Ryan Stager



SrA. Kara Schulz 439th Force Support Squadron

SrA. Kara Schulz, from Chicopee, Mass., is a 439th FSS fitness specialist, who is following in her mother's footsteps.

Enlisting right out of high school, SrA. Schulz said she thought the Air Force Reserve would be a good experience and a great opportunity to start a career. Her mom was her recruiter.

"My mom joined the Air Force when she was 17 years old and just recently retired after 30 years. She had made it a great career and raised my brother and me. I felt like I wanted to do the same thing.

SrA. Schulz has been at Westover for 4½ years and says it's a great, friendly environment.

"I've made a ton of friends and have been with these people for years now. I've deployed with them, I've grown very close with all of them," she said.

After returning from her recent deployment to Southwest Asia, SrA. Schulz decided she liked the warmer weather and headed south. She took a job with a business management company and is currently residing in Florida.

-- MSgt. Timm Huffman



FACES OF WESTOVER

RETIREMENTS |

Senior Master Sergeant
Brian Copperthite
Gerard Leamy

Master Sergeant
Michael Duma
Michael Dunn
Kevin Kennedy
Sarah Moriarty
Michael Penna

Technical Sergeant
Andrew Cote
James LaRoche
Charles McNutt
George Tewksbury

SERVICES CALENDER |

Submitted by Mollie Anello, services marketing assistant

CLUB >> Make your reservations for Mother's Day at The Club!! May 11, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Omelet, Belgian Waffle, and carving station. Please make reservations by May 6; 557-2039 or 593-5531.

BOWLING >> Single Airman Bowling Night! May 3 and 17, 5 to 11 p.m., Open to all single military members! Free bowling, and free shoe rental!

OUTDOOR REC >> Outdoor recreation kicks off May with the water season! Boats, canoes, kayaks, and more are available! Memorial weekend begins the season for camper rentals.

FITNESS CENTER >> 2014 Endurance Fitness Challenge is coming, May 15, 4-7 p.m., sign up by May 14; participate in 10 simultaneous challenges to become the winner with the best time in your category, male and female! Winners will receive a trophy! Must be 16 years old or older to participate. Open to civilian or military members. Contact Patricia Morris (413) 557-3958, patricia.morris.7@us.af.mil; softball season starts May 5!



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FIRST CLASS
US POSTAGE
PAID

Published monthly for Patriots like TSgt. Robert Roe, 439th Security Forces Squadron, and more than 5,500 people assigned to Westover Air Reserve Base.

WESTOVER'S NEW DIGS >> Construction crews install the new fuel hydrant system on the flight line in late March. Construction is estimated to be completed by spring 2015. (photo by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe)

