

# PATRIOT

439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing | Westover ARB, Mass. | Volume 47 No. 9

September 2016 | Patriot Wing -- Leaders in Excellence



WESTOVER  
FAMILY  
DAY!

see page 4



photos by Westover Public Affairs



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## UTA SNAPSHOT

>> Sunday will be the 15th anniversary of 9/11.

Deployers get together | **pg. 5**

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**ON THE COVER >>** Kids and families having fun at the Westover Family Day event held on Aug. 6. (photos by SrA. Charles Hutchinson, TSgt. Amelia Leonard, and Lt. Col. James Bishop)

**HONORS >>** The Westover Honor Guard is made up of 25 Airmen from all across base, with most units having volunteers that commit time to doing funerals and ceremonies in 90 thousand square miles of New England, and support two active duty bases, Hanscom and Maguire - Lakehurst. Last year alone they conducted 544 funerals. MSgt. John Masaitis, Honor Guard Superintendent, who has served in that position for the last 11 years said, "We do this because until you understand what the loss of life is, you really don't have a full understanding of what life is." (photos by Lt. Col. James Bishop)







A few weeks ago, I was on my way to Westover for the day when I heard an ominous “Ka-Clunk, Ka-Clunk, Ka-Clunk” coming from my passenger side front wheel. I knew it was the wheel bearing giving out so I turned down the street to my mechanic and asked if he could do the job that day. It was a beautiful morning, so I threw my bags on my back and began the 1.5 mile walk in my ABUs to my wife’s workplace to catch a ride home.

As I walked past our downtown library, I heard shouting coming over my right shoulder. I turned and recognized one of our local curmudgeons shouting over the din of traffic “Whose side are you on?” as well as the names of Presidential candidates and other phrases you wouldn’t hear in polite company. I certainly wanted to avoid a confrontation so I just gave him a smile, a wave, and continued on my way.

As I walked on it occurred to me that, as crazy as he came across, this guy simply saw me as a representative of our military (I think I heard him utter “Army” at some point) and assumed we could openly voice our opinions of politics and it made me think about his initial comment,

whose side am I on? The simple answer lies in our oaths.

Of the 83 words I stated on May 12, 1990, during my commissioning oath, I thought most about the 27<sup>th</sup> - Constitution - and why that consolidated collection of ideas is so significant that it is the first item we pledge to support in our oath of office. We promise to defend that document and the freedoms it provides to all American citizens. It may not seem like an exceptional claim, but when you consider it, that was one radical idea over 200 years ago. Before that time, military members pledged their fidelity and fealty to a person. Often times that person was a monarch or land holder who assumed their position as a birthright. Our new form of government, and the forward thinkers who crafted it, envisioned our new nation as one that guarantees basic freedoms to its citizens and those freedoms are spelled out in the document that begins, “We the People of the United States...”

As citizens, we are afforded the right to support any candidate we choose, so long as our support isn’t associated with our service. If you took a poll of our wing, I’m sure you would find many opinions on the subject. As Citizen Airmen, we support the document that allows us to have those differing opinions. It is that support and defense of our Constitution that unites us and all members of our military despite our many diversities. Centuries after it was drafted, the Constitution contains ideas that are still considered forward-thinking. Whose side am I on? As a member of our nation’s Air Force, I’m casting my vote for the Constitution.

**Col. Patrick Dufraine**  
**439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Inspector General**

## BRIEFS

### Motorcyclists beware of flying nun

Please use extra caution when riding from the “Flying Nun” past the shoppette and MEPS buildings. An asphalt seal coating was used to fill the cracks in this area and other roads. While the seal coating is cured it will remain malleable when compressed and may give a motorcycle operator the feeling that their tires are slipping. Caution signs will be posted in the near future. Ride Safe!

### CCAF graduation

October is the time to walk if you have completed your CCAF degree recently. The base education and training office only does this a couple times a year, so show up and be recognized for your efforts!

### Upcoming Dates to remember

September is a busy month for celebrations and remembrance. On the 11<sup>th</sup> it will be the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11. Although it may be looked at as a day of sorrow and horror, we as a nation should focus on it as the day we came together as a nation.

This year national POW-MIA Day falls on Sept. 16. All military installations will fly the POW-MIA flag, so on that day let’s not forget those who were prisoners-of-war or missing-in-action.

The Air Force’s 68<sup>th</sup> birthday is Sept. 18. It all started back in 1909 as the Aeronautical Section, Signal Corps, it wasn’t until 1947 when President Truman signed the National Security Act when it officially became the United States Air Force. For 68 years we have laid out our legacy of being an Air Force second-to-none.

### Election season

If you are looking for voter assistance, our wing voting assistance officer, Capt. Kimberly Askew, is the person you want to talk to. She is located in Hangar Three where she’s the mobility deployment officer. If you are looking for more information on absentee ballots you can contact her at 413-557-3316, or 439AW.CCO.VOTE@us.af.mil.

### Dietary Supplements

If you use dietary supplements, checkout the list of banned substances in Air Force Instruction 90-507. If you’re not 100% sure, stop taking it.

### Zika Virus update

The specific type of mosquito that carries the virus is not found here in Massachusetts, however it has been discovered in the Miami area. Most cases have been contracted overseas. Service members are being advised to cover exposed body parts and utilize insect repellants.



# WESTOVER MEETS THE FAMILY

by SSgt. Tamara Williams

Before there were Family Days and Air Shows on Westover Air Reserve Base, there were Open Houses. An Open House was an annual event that took place on base, which allowed reservists and families to enjoy themselves and get a taste of what they do here. "They were Air Shows without the planes," said CMSgt. Kathy Wood (ret.). The celebration of Family Day on Westover started in the late 80s, around the time the first Air Show took place. Brig. Gen. Fredreck D. Walker, Wing Commander of the 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing at the time, started Family Day as a way to give back to reservists on base as well as their families. Since the Air show was an event hosted by the military for the community, Family Day would be an event held to celebrate service members and those they loved dearly," said Wood.

The Chief's Council and the Galaxy Community Council are two of the main contributors to the event and have been for the past several years. The GCC does all the cooking, monitoring, raffling, and servicing so that military personnel can enjoy themselves on the day of the event. Tickets are raffled off for individuals to win prizes, and other fundraising events are held, which take place around the celebration. All the proceeds go towards the Chief's Council Scholarship Fund; a scholarship for fellow reservists and their family.

The Galaxy Council is an all-volunteer based, non-profit charitable organization, not

supported by the Department of the Defense, and the Chief's Council is an organization supported by the chief master sergeants here on base. The Chief's Council coordinates with the Services personnel in the 439<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron to provide food and supplies needed to make the event run smooth. Airmen volunteers from across the base set up nets, tents, and games prior to the event day to ensure everything ran smoothly.

This year's Family Day featured the dunk tank, volleyball and horseshoe tournaments, an antique car show, and a bouncy castle. Booths provided much desired goodies from ice cream to snow cones, and shade from the sun.

But the best part about Family Day is being able to share it all with the ones we love.





# Reservist deployers gather en masse in Southwest Asia

by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe

386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

**SOUTHWEST ASIA** -- About 200 Air Force reservists from the 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing are deployed to a pair of undisclosed locations here as well as in Baghdad. Capt. Kristin Montville and TSgt. Jonathan Colwell are among these Airmen, whose home station is Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., and they make up two-thirds of the 386<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing's intelligence section.

"Most of our time is spent doing analysis and creating products to send out to other units and to brief to our leadership," Montville said. "We produce products that are used for decision-making and execution by the wing commander, OSI, AFCENT, and others."

Additional Westover Airmen who recently arrived in the area of responsibility comprise other career fields including aerial port, force support, staff judge advocate, civil engineering, chaplain, chaplain assistants, logistics readiness, security forces, maintenance, communications, and public affairs. The six-month deployments support Operation Inherent Resolve.

"A lot of the active duty personnel I talk to say they'd never heard of Westover before they got here," Montville said. "And they say, 'but you guys are everywhere!'"

Intelligence Airmen support the wing staff and force protection for the undisclosed location's airlift, reconnaissance, and electronic warfare flying missions.

The Total Force concept is a manning pillar in the expeditionary world. According to local personnel statistics, some 45 percent of the Airmen based with the 386<sup>th</sup> AEW Marauders are reservists or guardsmen. Most of the Air Force reservists are deployed through the summer and the end of the year, while a small number left New England in the spring and will return in the fall.

MSgt. Michelangelo Dotimas is a project management noncommissioned officer in charge with the 386<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron. "In our five-person shop, we have oversight on more than

30 construction projects on the base," he said. And junior enlisted Airmen, like SrA. Joel Torres, also from Westover, are already gaining valuable experience on the deployment. He's in charge of a two-person geobase shop, where all the maps on base are produced.

Other Westover Airmen, like SrA. Tyler Lesniak, literally keep the mission moving. He's a vehicle operator on his first deployment. Amid the intense desert heat, Lesniak ferries aircrews from the busy flight line to the main base. "We're getting the job done, and doing what we need to do to support the mission," he said.



**DINNER DIALOGUE >>** Deployed Patriot Wing Airmen pause for a photo Aug. 4 in the dining hall of an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. Chaplain (Maj.) Jeffrey Ballou, also deployed here, is organizing the periodic Westover get-togethers as a way to reinforce esprit de corps and to check in with the deployers, most of whom are deployed until early next year. (photo by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe)



# Westover Reservists Serve at Hot Spots around the World

by SrA. Charles Hutchinson IV

Westover is in the deployment “bucket,” and has deployed more than 250 members, “which is the most since our ORI in 2011, and one of the most complicated taskings

since the end of the Cold War,” said Capt. Kimberly Askew, Logistics Readiness Office and installation deployment officer here.

Members have been departing Westover since early spring and will continue to leave through the end of fiscal year 2016.



Many of the deployments are approximately six months, which means reservists could be returning home as early as October.

The Westover family has been sent out all over the globe throughout U.S. Central Command.

Askew has seen some setbacks with logistics and transportation. “There has been a decrease in transportation to the fight,” she said. “It took extra effort on the transportation office to get the members a flight with no delays.”

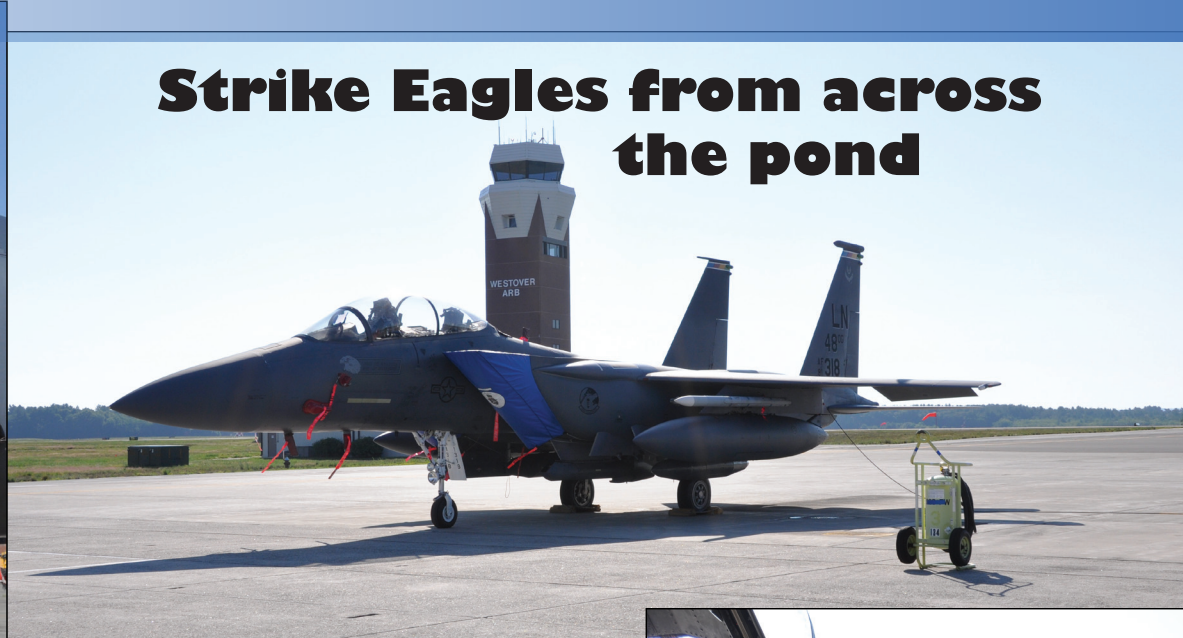
Back at home, Westover has felt the effects of losing over 10% of our reservists.

“The normal everyday mission doesn’t stop just because we are concentrating on the deployments,” said Askew.





# Strike Eagles from across the pond



**THE LADS >>** SSgt. Ryan Wilkie and SrA. Eric Laclair airmen from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Aerial Port Squadron got a chance to check out one of the F-15Es from the 492<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Squadron, Royal Air Force Lakenheath. The 14 Strike Eagles and support staff had a stopover Aug. 4 through 7 while on their way home from an exercise.

**TEA TIME >>** A1C Nathan Williams, 48<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, RAF Lakenheath does some last minute maintenance on F-15E Strike Eagle, on Westover's Echo row before closing the canopy.



photos by TSgt. Amelia Leonard



# New Mil Finance Ops

Pay inquiries should be routed through a central point in the squadrons before contacting FM. We have had numerous instances where multiple people from the squadron were inquiring on the same issue to multiple people in FM and it is not an effective use of time for any of us. The military pay group e-mail box is [reservipay@us.af.mil](mailto:reservipay@us.af.mil) and the travel e-mail box is [439travelpay@us.af.mil](mailto:439travelpay@us.af.mil). If you need to CC an individual person, you can send them to [jennifer.hearn.1@us.af.mil](mailto:jennifer.hearn.1@us.af.mil) and I will direct the inquiry to the applicable technician. I am hoping this will eliminate redundancy, confusion and delays in receiving responses.

Also, please note that our customer service hours currently are 12:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. for walk-ins and phone calls and no phone calls will be answered prior to that. If there is an urgent need to contact us, I can be reached at ext. 2887 but I currently do not have access to the voice mail on this phone ext. If you have to leave a voice mail then the ext. is 2949. You can always send me an e-mail at [jennifer.hearn.1@us.af.mil](mailto:jennifer.hearn.1@us.af.mil) and I will get back to you within one business day.

Military pay is now broken down into member's last names; A through J are being handled by Jen Serricchio, ext. 3880 and L through Z are being handled by Tom Jourdan, ext. 2964.

Travel pay contacts are Mark Garvulenski ext. 3461 and Belinda Hamel ext. 3133, no voicemail, for policy and RTS vouchers. DTS problems are currently being handled during the week by Charlie Vilakis at ext. 2760 and on UTA's by Capt. Bulman at ext. 2929. Please ensure your members are checking MYPAY for payment status on both mil pay and vouchers before contacting us, this will answer many of the questions before calling us. If they don't have (or can't remember) a username/password - log in by CAC and if you don't have CAC capability at home - you can request a password on demand from the MYPAY.gov website. It is the fourth option down under quick links on the right side of the page.

Please disseminate this among your squadron so everyone who could be impacted has knowledge to avoid negative perceptions. I appreciate all your assistance in helping us be as efficient as possible. If there is anything I can help you with, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jennifer Hearn Acting Financial Services Officer  
DSN 589-2887  
Comm 413-557-2887

## Jeffrey's Quest



by TSgt. Amelia Leonard

Ten-year old Jeffrey from Agawam, Mass. is on a mission. His mission isn't to catch the most Pokemon, play in World Series, or even kiss a girl; he wants to shake hands with, and thank every active and veteran military member he comes across until Veteran's Day. He always carries a little black notebook so that if he meets a vet, he can shake their hand and get their autograph.

His grandfather, a former member of the Navy, instilled in him a love and appreciation for the military. His death prompted Jeffrey's quest. "I decided I wanted to do a campaign to see how many vets I can thank before Veteran's Day," he said.

On Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, Jeffrey shook more hands and got more autographs than he could have ever imagined when he came to Westover to visit with some of our Airmen. Jeffrey arrived with his mother during lunch hour and brought his notebook, a giant poster board that read, "Thank you for your service," and approximately 200 small American flags to give to our members. "I just want to thank as many veterans as I can," he said.

He stood in the Westover Consolidated Club and patiently waited for members to finish their lunch. He was grinning ear-to-ear knowing that within minutes, he would be shaking hands and thanking members as reservists exited the building. "This is a day he is never going to forget," said Genevieve Szulc, Jeffrey's mother.

Within 10 minutes of his arrival, the word of his presence had spread around Westover. Three squadron shops decided to coin Jeffrey, because although he was there to thank them, they also wanted to thank him.

"It was beyond honorable and heartwarming," said SSgt. Stephan Dacosta, member of the 439<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron. "The CES is a tight-knit unit, and all the 'dirt boys' talked it over as a team and wanted to give him our shop coin to help him remember the day and encourage him to pursue his long-term goal of joining the military," he said.

Jeffrey, who says he wants to be a Navy Seal or National Football League player when he grows up, shook the hands of nearly 150 members at Westover and will be continuing on with his quest at the Soldier's Home in Holyoke as well as the Agawam Senior Center.

"I love the military because all the people who are in it are keeping us safe every day and making sure we have a better life," Jeffrey said.



# Through smoke, rubble - How 9/11 affected Westover

TSgt. Amelia Leonard

September 11, 2016, will mark the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the largest terrorist attack on U.S. soil in history. For those old enough to remember, that day and the events that followed will be forever etched in their mind, like Pearl Harbor was for those alive in 1941. Military members and their families recalled a certain anxiety, waiting to see what would happen next.

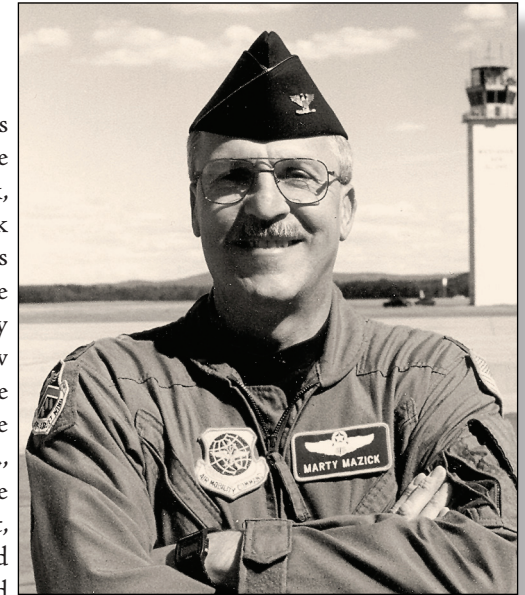
"I was on my first deployment to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, when I found out about the attacks on our nation," said TSgt. Andrea Wiecech, 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Command

Support Staff. "When the second plane hit, I went back to my room because I knew we were about to go into FPCON Delta and rest and sleep would soon be nonexistent."

When the first plane hit the North Tower of the World Trade center in Manhattan

at 8:45 a.m. that Tuesday, first responders and those working in and around the building knew that tragedy had just struck, but they had no idea that a terrorist attack had taken place. As emergency responders began evacuating the first tower, they were hit with a second blow, literally. It had only been 18 minutes since the first plane flew into the 80<sup>th</sup> floor of the North Tower. The second plane flew into the 60<sup>th</sup> floor of the South Tower. An hour later, at 9:45 a.m., a third plane flew into the West side of the Pentagon. Twenty-five minutes after that, a fourth plane was brought down in a field in western Pennsylvania by passengers and airline crew members. Theories still abound as to where that jet was headed, whether the White House, Capitol building or the Camp David presidential retreat.

Nearly 3,000 people lost their lives in the World Trade Centers that day, 189 at the Pentagon, and 45 onboard the aircraft that crashed in Pennsylvania. Of those, 343 were firefighters or paramedics, 125 were active-duty military personnel, 37 were Port Authority police officers, and 23 were New York police officers.



Military bases, including Westover, were immediately put on lockdown, and the Force Protection level was raised to Delta, the highest security posture, here and abroad.

Retired Maj. Gen. Martin Mazick, then commander, stood up Westover's Crisis Action Team and closed the base to all visitors the moment he realized America was being attacked. "When I walked into my office that morning, my protocol officer and secretary told me that a plane had just hit the world trade center tower," he said. Moments later, the second plane hit and he knew it was no accident.

Throughout the day, Westover and bases around the world continued to take increased security measures. "The Massachusetts State police and Chicopee Police Department arrived





with working dogs to help support our security forces at the main gate and perimeter,” said Mazick. Volunteers from the 439<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron stood guard at entry control points to the flight line, while other others checked IDs at building entrances. “I couldn’t have been more proud of how everyone came together.”

A Westover aircrew was in the air to help within hours of the attacks. The crew was at Travis AFB, Calif., on its first leg of a mission to Australia when they were re-tasked with transporting a rescue team and equipment to New York City. The aircrew delivered 72 search and rescue members, including medical personnel, firefighters, chaplains and rescue dogs to McGuire AFB, N.J. They also transported their vehicles and nine pallets of equipment.

More than 30,000 reserve and guard members were called to active duty as part of a post-9/11 mobilization order. When air strikes began in Afghanistan on October 18, 2001 and Operation Enduring Freedom was launched, nearly 1,000 members of the 439<sup>th</sup> AW were activated. Many of those members were deployed in the following months. The maintainers began a steady 90-day rotation to bases overseas, such as those in Germany and Spain. Stateside, members were operating in support of Operation Noble Eagle, a homeland defense mission.

The 439<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron was one of the hardest hit units

within the wing. The squadron was tasked with diverse missions to support areas all over the world. “Nine-eleven initiated a chain of events that brought the 439<sup>th</sup> SFS into the forefront of world-wide Air Base Defense,” said CMSgt. Michael Grady, 439<sup>th</sup> SFS. Their officers, non-commissioned officers and airmen were presented with challenges and opportunities they never had to face before, he said.

Although the 9/11 attacks were an act of terror against the United States, several positive things that came from it. As former president George W. Bush said, “Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve.”

The city of Chicopee and surrounding communities rallied together to support our military members, here and abroad. The United Service Organizations helped bridge the outside community with the military members to provide them the support they needed.

“The community remembered Desert Storm and Desert Shield,” said Mazick. “Everyone wanted to support our troops.” Friendly’s Ice Cream even donated freezers full of ice cream, he said.

It seemed like there wasn’t an overpass, yard or business window that didn’t have the American Flag proudly displayed. “It reignited our patriotism and showed us how vulnerable we were,” said TSgt. James Bitts, 439<sup>th</sup> Communication Squadron. It was a wake-up call as a nation. “They woke a sleeping giant,” he said.

There was an enormous shift in military culture and recruitment as well. People were going to the recruiter’s office in droves.

Every month, there were at least 20-25 prior service members who had made the decision to re-enlist after being out for several years. “People were returning to do their jobs and anxious to perform because the cause was worthwhile,” said Mazick.

“I think it drastically changed the military culture,” said Wiecech. “It felt like the bond got stronger and everyone pulled together more than they had before,” she said.

Since 9/11, Westover has deployed more than 2,000 reservists in support of OEF, ONE, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, Resolute Support, and Freedom’s Sentinel, said base officials.

“Due to 9/11, increased Security and heightened vigilance is now part of our everyday life, whether it is increased physical security at our workplace, schools, highways, or airports,” said Grady.





## “What does your Mom or Dad do in the Air Force?”



"She just works mostly. I don't know!"

>> Taylor Kouflie,  
8 year-old



"He helps me. He builds things and fixes things like a big lego set."

## >> Talon Sacristan



"He's the vice wing commander. He does a lot!"

**>> Holly Tubbs, 22-year-old student at Liberty University in Southern Virginia**

by W.C.Pope





## PROMOTIONS

### Master Sergeant

Justin Grenon  
Janai Lee



### Technical Sergeant

Tomasz Drejsa  
Jeremiah Gombos  
Lucas Rosa  
David Wilson



### Staff Sergeant

Merari Antunez  
Stephanie Badale  
Sean Boulay  
Kristen Mary Cohens  
Eric Farr  
Aaron Gaj  
Eric Gauvin  
Lisa Menzone  
Dale Nasuta  
Michael Niccoll  
Nicholas Rand  
Jeremy Russell  
Auly Simon  
Ryan Tiano  
Joseph Trottier  
Nathaly Valdiviezo  
Robert Wynter  
Joseph Yannizze



### Senior Airman

Dwayne Fisher  
Umer Rehman  
Atta Sarfo



### Airman First Class

Samantha Bolduc  
Katusca Gonzalez Rivera  
Molly Miller  
Brian Nguyen  
Anthony Poehler  
Saeda Thomas



### Airman

Amanda Nathaniel



## FACES OF WESTOVER

### SSgt. Andrew Jourdan

439<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron

#### by SSgt. Tamara Williams

SSgt. Andrew Jourdan's connections with the military goes way back: he was born at a Naval station in Naples, Italy. The newly-promoted staff sergeant is a personnel specialist with the 439<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron. He was raised in Thompson, Conn., and enlisted in the Air Force at age 17 after graduating from high school.

Jourdan was not always certain of his military career. During his senior year, he wasn't exactly sure what he wanted to do after high school. Joining the Air Force at such a young age helped guide him.

"My father was probably the biggest moving force in my decision to go into the military. Had it not been for him I honestly don't know where I would be," said Jourdan. His father, a former member of the Navy and current Air Force Reservist stationed at Westover, could see the benefits of the military for his son's future.

While in the Air Force, Jourdan has faced his share of challenges, among them, basic training. "Going from a content high schooler into a very rigid paradigm was a shock in of itself, but it pushed me out of my comfort zone into being an adult and understanding the responsibilities that comes with," he said.

Tailoring his approach depending on the circumstance to guide others and become a great leader one day is just one of the many things the Air Force has taught him. SSgt. Jourdan said this is just the beginning.



## RETIREMENTS

### Senior Master Sergeant

Thomas Cowern

### Master Sergeant

Rosalind Whitted

### Technical Sergeant

Andrew Booker  
Leo Foster

## SERVICES CALENDAR

[westoverservices.com](http://westoverservices.com)

**Club >>** Daily Lunch and Lounge Specials. Relentless Returns Sept. 10 and 24 in the lounge from 7 to 11 p.m. Kiddie Disco in the ballroom Sept. 16 from 5 to 7 p.m.

**The Grind >>** Now serving hot sandwiches including Meatball Subs, and Chicken Parmesan.

**Bowling Center >>** League Sign Ups! Men's League, Women's League, Mixed League, and Senior League. Sign up at the Bowling Center today or 557-3990. Lunch Bowling Club: A 10 week league, the winning team will receive free lunch for a week! Rent A Lane: Friday Nights from 5 to 10 p.m. Bowl all you can for 3 hours. Only \$29.95, includes shoe rental.

**Outdoor Recreation >>** Rent all the tools you'll need for your Fall clean up!

**The Fitness Center >>** Dodgeball Tournament Sept. 19 to 23, 4:30 p.m., Sign up today! Lunch time Wallyball tournament September 13 to 15, 11:45 -12:45 p.m. Flag Football Coaches meeting Sept. 7, 4 p.m. at the Fitness Center. The season starts Sept. 26.

Get the Westover App!  
[Westover.MOBAPP.at](http://Westover.MOBAPP.at)



Look for WNN on local  
community access channels





Published monthly for Patriots like SrA. Aida Tellado, 52nd APS, daughter Leandra and more than 4,700 people assigned to Westover Air Reserve Base.

### Join the Westover Chapter of the Air Force Cycling Team

How would you like to slow down and represent the Air Force by riding your bicycle and serving others? Would you like to help setup up a chapter to the Air Force Cycling Team here at Westover? The AFCT participates in several rides across the country; to include RAGBRAI (The Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa), which is an annual seven day bicycle ride across the state (400 - miles). RAGBRAI and other rides are potential permissive TDY. The Air Force Cycling Team's primary mission is to promote the Air Force in the most positive way possible. They do this by showing how a team of Air Force Cyclists can exhibit the Air Force core values of: Integrity First, Excellence in all we do, and Service Before Self. Exhibiting these traits as they operate as representatives of the greater force. The team uses cycling as a way to display wingman-ship and fitness.

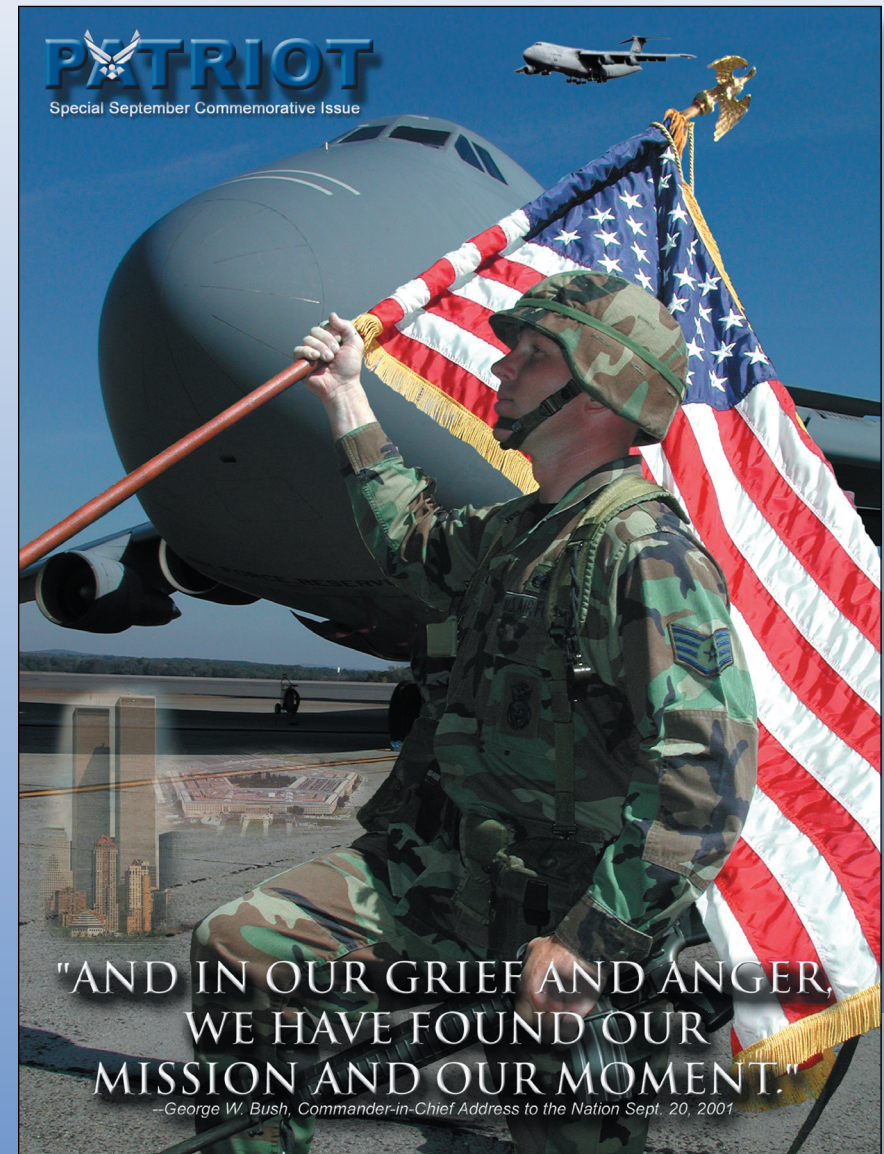
Requirements include; must be physically fit (passing PT score) and have ridden a Century in the last year, must be proactive and willing to join a team of enthusiastic people, and must be available for a monthly group ride.

For more information please call SMSgt. Devon DeStefano at (413) 557-7154.

### Base tours notice

Here are a few reminders about base tours:

- Public Affairs has cancelled nearly all public tours this year because of staff shortages. But there is the option that if you have a line badge you can give a self-guided tour. You are their escort and are responsible for their actions and safety.
- Self-guided tours must follow the checklist that can be found at: Y:\BaseWide\Attachments\Self-Guided Tour 2016.doc.
- Don't call the MOC for self-guided tour permission. Call Public Affairs at 557-2020, then Plans and Scheduling 557-3345 or 2764 at least one week in advance.
- Maintenance is in charge of C-5 availability. There are fewer planes and fewer people to work on them, so if they say there are none available, there are none available.
- There will be no self-guided tours on Tues. or Thurs. because of mission requirements.



#### CARRYING THE COLORS >>

This is the cover of the Patriot for Sept. 2002, the one year anniversary of 9/11. A then, SSgt. Christopher Kellam, from the 439<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron posed for this composite image which was created with seven separate images. CMSgt. Kellam retired in Nov. 2014. (photo illustration by W.C.Pope)