

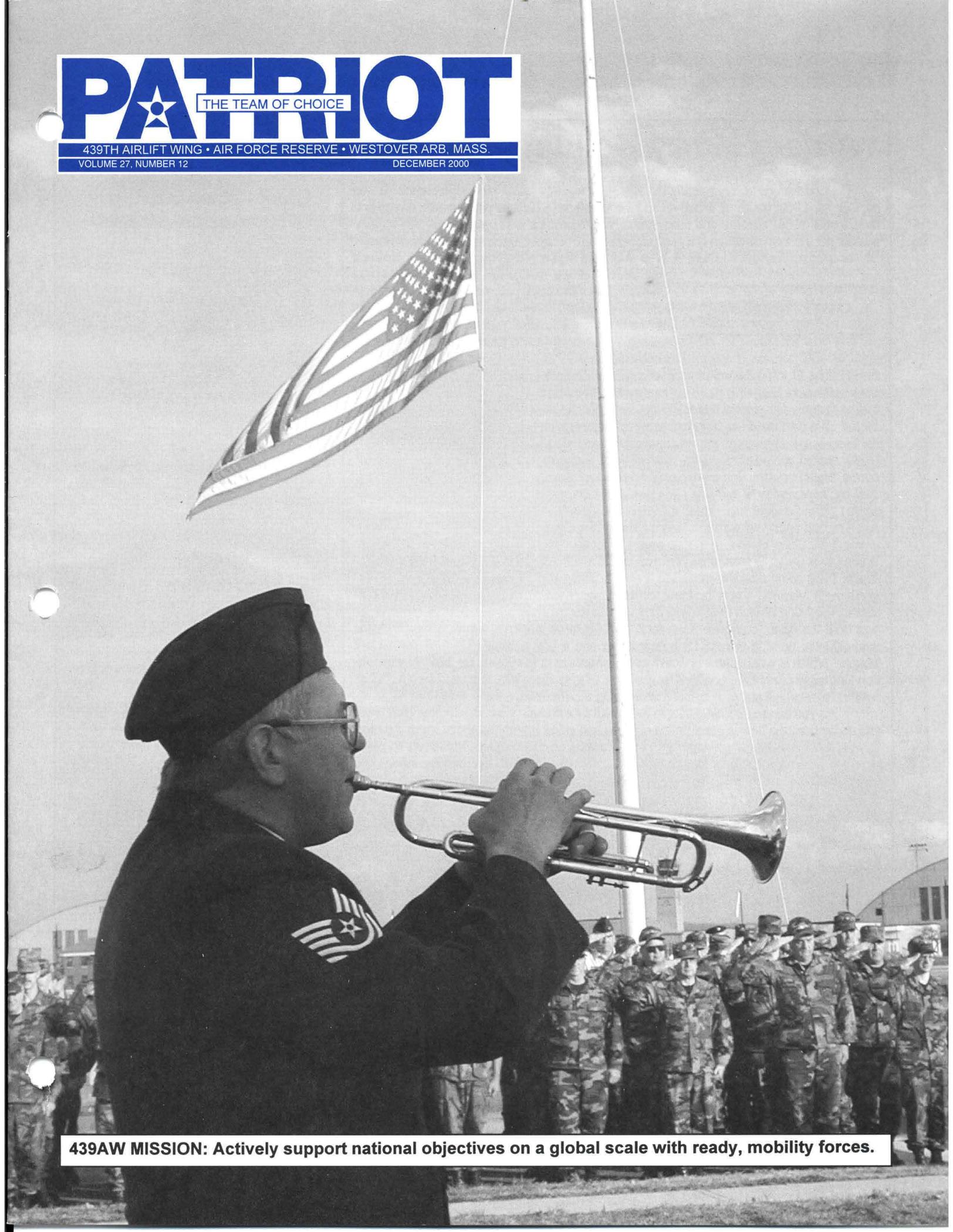
# PATRIOT

THE TEAM OF CHOICE

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB, MASS.

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 2000



**439AW MISSION: Actively support national objectives on a global scale with ready, mobility forces.**

## A Very Merry Holiday Season

Congratulations on completing our first year together in the new millennium. It was another good year for all of Westover and it couldn't have been so without each of you and the support of our families and employers. We have a lot to be grateful for this holiday season, not the least of which is a great safety record. Thanks to the aircrews and maintainers for another year of no Class A or B accidents during our flying operations. It was a

### Commentary

year in which we overcame T-Tail problems and FMS/GPS modifications and still kept our crews current and supported many missions around the globe. We completed our first full year under the Air Expeditionary Force deployment process with a couple of hundred of the 439<sup>th</sup>'s finest filling 17 to 90 day rotations overseas in an Expeditionary Combat Support role. You represented Westover in fine fashion and proved that AEF can work for the reserves. We continued our infrastructure improvement for the base as we completed the renovations of the second VOQ, started renovations on the first of three airmen's dorms, began construction of our new control tower and civil engineer readiness building. We took on a new partner in Griffin Services Inc., hosted the Great New England Airshow and partnered with the community for the Commerce 2000 Open House. All have been a great success. When I look under Westover's Christmas tree this holiday season I see some neat things. I see a new building for Westover's Marines, a new building for the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) as they move their mission onto the base, complete renovation for two more airmen's dorms, a long overdue renovation to provide our ASTS a new home and a box marked "Do Not Open Until March," which is when a new unit arrives to homestead at Westover, the 226<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company (Army Reserve). Also, because of your fine work there will be lots of recognition to hand out at Commander's Call during this month too.

As you can see we have a lot to be thankful for and all of it is due to your hard work and dedication. So have a great holiday season and enjoy it with those that mean the most to you. Above all, be safe; because we need you back next year. From my family to yours, we thank you for a terrific year and wish you and yours the best this holiday season and throughout the New Year!

by Col. Martin M. Mazick  
439<sup>th</sup> AW Commander



## Briefs

### Chiefs again offering Christmas ornaments

The base Chiefs' Council is once again selling their traditional Westover Christmas ornaments.

On this year's edition, one side was designed by SMSgt. Chris Doyle of the 439<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron and depicts a C-5 in a New England setting offering the words, "Seasons Greetings." The other side was designed by MSgt. Bill Pope of the Public Affairs office and reflects the traditional Air Force symbol and the new symbol, representing "Then and Now."

Anyone interested in purchasing an ornament should contact CMSgt. George Kudla at ext. 2653 or CMSgt. Kathy Wood at ext. 2876.

### ROA meeting

The Westover chapter of the Reserve Officers Association will hold a luncheon meeting on Sunday, Dec. 3. The event starts at 11 a.m. at the Club and will feature Springfield radio talk show host Gary Thomas, who will discuss stock market investing. No reservations are needed.

### Star power

The rank of each Reserve and Guard component chief will increase from two stars to three stars, according to the Fiscal 2001 Defense Authorization Act.

The promotions mean more bureaucratic muscle to match an increased participation of reserve components in the Total Force. The new stars mark a victory for the Reserve Officers Association, which has pressed for the promotions for 10 years.

Nominations to the higher rank are expected next year.

**January UTA schedule**  
A UTA Jan. 6-7  
B UTA Jan. 20-21

**Cover photo of Veterans' Day ceremony by MSgt. Sandi Michon**

# PATRIOT

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## Defense budget gives pay raise, new savings plan

By MSgt. Tom Allocco

Beginning in January, reservists will receive a 3.7 percent pay raise and a variety of other benefits under the fiscal 2001 National Defense Authorization Act military budget.

The budget increases the maximum number of reserve annual retirement points that may be credited for inactive duty for training from 75 to 90. As a result, reservists can earn a better retirement pension based on attending drills, performing annual training and completing correspondence courses.

Within six months, reservists will be able to deposit up to five percent of their basic pay, before taxes each month in the Thrift Saving Plan. They will also be allowed to deposit special pay, incentive pay and bonuses into the TSP account up to the maximum amount allowed by the Internal Revenue Code. Unlike the provision of TSP for federal civil service employees, the government will not have to contribute matching funds.

Reservists will also be permitted to travel "space-required"—a step up from the current "space-available" status—on military aircraft to and from their home and the place of their annual tour and inactive-duty for training.

When performing funeral honors, reservists may request either the \$50 stipend authorized by last year's authorization act or one day of basic pay as if the duty were a unit training assembly.

Children of reservists and reserve retirees are eligible for preferential appointments to the service academies on the same basis as

children of active-duty and retired active-duty personnel.

The budget will expand medical coverage. The military health care system is supposed to pick up annual deductibles and co-payments for hospitalization for military retirees, including reservists. It also provides for comprehensive retail and national mail-order pharmacy benefits for Medicare-eligible retirees.

The act also authorizes TRICARE as a secondary insurance to Medicare Part B for military retirees over the age of 65.

With more missions going to Reserve components, Congress authorized an increase in the number of members who can serve full-time in Active Guard and Reserve positions. The additional high-grade authorizations, which took place Oct. 1, are: 20 colonels, 75 lieutenant colonels, 88 majors, 97 chief master sergeants, and 76 senior master sergeants. The Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard will divide the increases.

However, the authorization bill dropped the end-strength number of reservists from the number set by the 2001 Defense Appropriations Act by 112 members, to 74,358.

In a move to beef up sagging recruiting numbers, Congress is giving local education agencies until July 1, 2002, to provide military recruiters access to secondary schools on the same basis as colleges and private sector employers. The governing body of education agencies can overturn this directive with a majority vote to deny access to the recruiters.

For more information on legislative issues, visit the Reserve Policy Integration Directorate's web site at [www.afrc.af.mil](http://www.afrc.af.mil).

**CONGRATULATIONS!** — Twenty-five Westover reservists earned a CCAF degree this past year. (Bottom L-R) TSgt. Kenneth Chouniard, TSgt. Michael Crochiere, MSgt. Shane Robitaille, (Middle) TSgt. Carol Carrington, CMSgt. Kathleen Wood, TSgt. Lisa Spencer-Elder, TSgt. Donna Duval, SSgt. Wendell Mutia, MSgt. Dawn Schile. (Back) SSgt. Sabine Dietrich, SMSgt. Edward Brainard, TSgt. Kevin Pietrowski, TSgt. Frederick McElligott, SMSgt. Michael Grady, MSgt. Stephen Rehm. Ceremonies were held at the Club in November.

Other graduates not pictured: MSgt. Kevin Brown, MSgt. Marianne Healey, MSgt. Thomas Roe, TSgt. Frederick Chaison, TSgt. David Fallon, TSgt. Deborah Housely, TSgt. Justin Thurber, SSgt. Kevin Johnson, SSgt. Natasha Marsteller, SSgt. Steven Peterson.

—photo by MSgt. W.C. Pope

## Westover's newest CCAF grads



## TRICARE dental expands for reservists

By MSgt. Tom Allocco

Reservists and their families can receive low-cost dental coverage similar to active duty members under the newly expanded TRICARE Dental Program beginning in February.

Premium costs will vary, depending on the number of enrollees and the type of plan. There will be two types of plans – full premium and premium sharing.

Under the full premium plan, the monthly premium for single coverage will be \$19.08 and the family coverage will be \$47.69. Reservists will pay the full monthly premium.

The premium sharing program covers reservists and their families when they are on active duty for more than 30 days. The government will pay 60 percent of the premium. The premium-sharing monthly premium for single coverage will be \$7.63, with the government paying \$11.45. Under family coverage, the reservist will pay \$19.08 and the government will pay \$28.61.

Family coverage will include all eligible family members. Children under the age of 4 will not have to be enrolled.

"The TRICARE Dental Program offers the equivalent of most commercial dental plans and provides excellent coverage for complete dental care," said Maj. (Dr.) Steven Johnson, 439<sup>th</sup> Medical Squadron dentist.

"The new provisions for root canals and periodontal therapy have been greatly needed by reservists whose dental problems interfere with mission readiness. In addition, the added

family coverage offers a great opportunity," he said.

The program will provide a network of participating doctors, including specialists, such as pedodontists, oral surgeons and orthodontists. Enrollees will have the option of seeking care from a non-participating dentist, however they may incur additional fees.

Reservists currently enrolled in the TRICARE Selected Reserve Dental Program or the TRICARE Family Member Dental Plan will be automatically enrolled in the new program.

To enroll, service members must have at least a one-year service commitment.

The maximum benefit coverage will be \$1,200 per enrollee per year. Reservists and their family members will qualify for up to \$1,500 in orthodontic care per enrollee per lifetime.

Under the program, the government pays all the charges for diagnostic, preventive and emergency services. The government will cover 80 percent of the bill for basic restorative work. The government will cover 70 percent of an oral surgery bill for E-1s to E-4s and 80 percent for E-5s and above.

The program will cover 70 percent of the fees for endodontic and periodontic services for E-1s to E-4s and 60 percent for E-5s and above.

More information is available at the company's toll-free customer-service line, 1-800-866-8499 or web site at [www.ucci.com](http://www.ucci.com) or on the AFRC home page at [www.afrc.af.mil](http://www.afrc.af.mil) by clicking on "Information for Reservists and Families."

### Informative Web links

**Patriot Online**  
[www.afrc.af.mil/units/439aw](http://www.afrc.af.mil/units/439aw)

**Air Force Website**  
[www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil)

**Air Force Reserve Website**  
[www.afrc.af.mil](http://www.afrc.af.mil)

**Air Force News**  
[www.af.mil/newspaper](http://www.af.mil/newspaper)

**Airman Magazine**  
[www.af.mil/news/airman/](http://www.af.mil/news/airman/)

**Air Force Reserve News**  
[www.afrc.af.mil/hq/pa/news/default.html](http://www.afrc.af.mil/hq/pa/news/default.html)

**Citizen Airman**  
[www.afrc.af.mil/hq/citamn/default.html](http://www.afrc.af.mil/hq/citamn/default.html)

**Air Force Reserve Recruiting**  
[www.afreserve.com](http://www.afreserve.com)

**Employers Support of the Guard and Reserve**  
[www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org)

**Defense Accounting & Finance Service**  
[www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil)

**Air Force Community Website**  
[www.afcrossroads.com](http://www.afcrossroads.com)

**Air Reserve Personnel Center**  
[www.arpc.org/arpc.htm](http://www.arpc.org/arpc.htm)

**AAFES-BX/PX Online**  
[www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com)

**U.S. Department of Defense**  
[www.defenselink.mil](http://www.defenselink.mil)

**Per Diem Rates & Allowances**  
[www.dtic.mil/perdiem/rateinfo.html](http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/rateinfo.html)

## Patriot Puns

by MSgt. W.C. Pope





## Westover honors veterans



The 439th Airlift Wing honored veterans at a Veterans Day ceremony here on Saturday, Nov. 4. In photo above, the base honor guard folds the flag during retreat. In top left, Westover recruiter, TSgt. Sirita Day, sings the national anthem as reservists salute the flag. Capt. Michael J. Barden and MSgt. Anna P. Bradshaw (in middle left photo) placed the memorial wreath during the ceremonies. They are the year's outstanding Officer and Senior NCO, respectively. In bottom photo, MSgt. Tom Roe, honor guard NCOIC, presents the flag to Col. Tom Mauzauka, special assistant to the commander.

*-photos by MSgt. Sandi Michon*

## Conboy's talents are 'note-worthy'

Article and photos  
by MSgt. Sandi Michon

Typically, reservists don't blow their own horn, but occasionally, they help someone else to blow theirs.

For MSgt. Michael Conboy of the 439<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron — this was literally the case when he mechanically adapted a trumpet for a partially-paralyzed music professor.

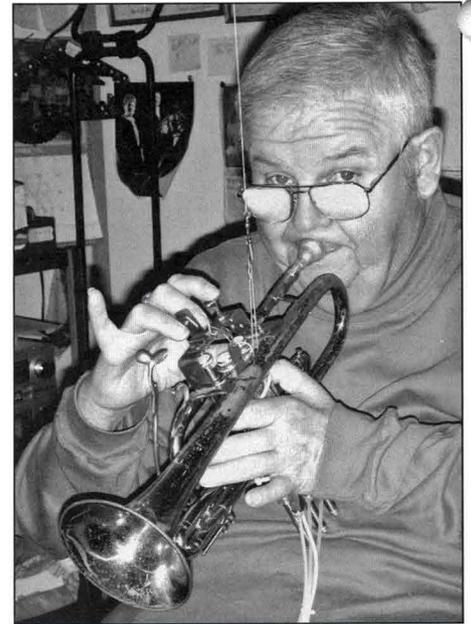
Three years ago, Conboy pooled his mechanical talents with a co-worker at the University of Massachusetts to design an air-assisted valve system for a trumpet. Their innovation, after two and one-half years of trial and error, brought back the music for Walter Chesnut, virtuoso trumpet player and award-winning professor of music at UMass in Amherst.

Chesnut became paralyzed in February 1993, and lost his ability to walk, play or conduct. "I could give such joy to people through my music," Chesnut said softly, "So abruptly, it was gone." He regained limited movement

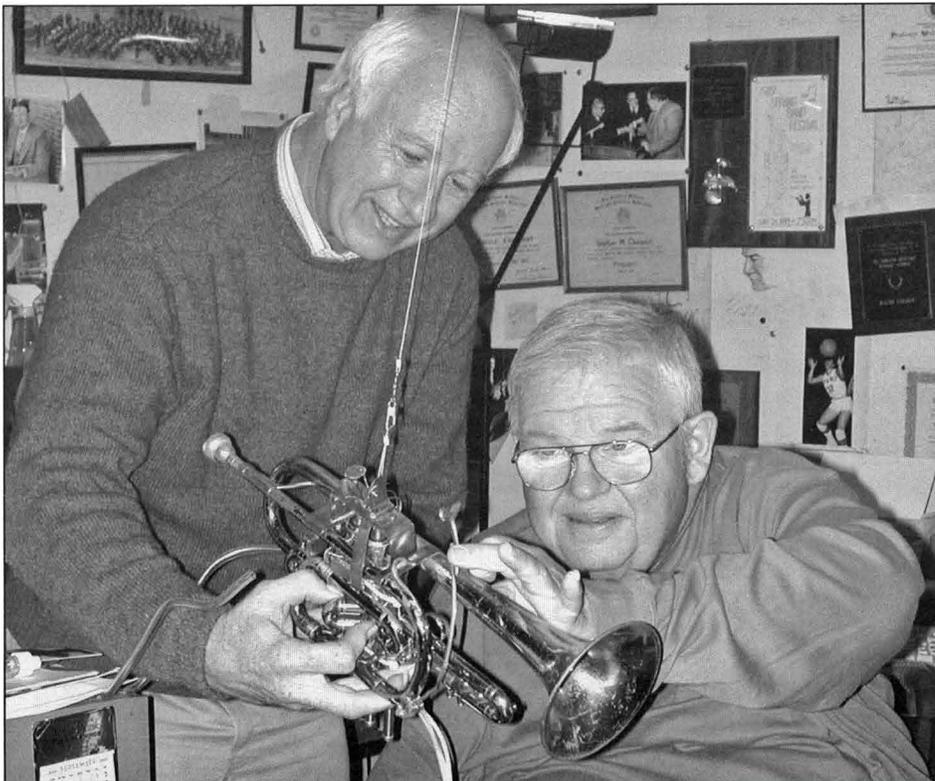
through therapy and was released from the hospital after three months. He astounded his college associates by performing the fanfare at the graduation ceremonies two days later, playing a propped-up, 1890-version of the post horn. "I sounded like a puppy dog, playing open tones with little strength — but I got a standing ovation," he related.

He resumed his position at the college, and over the next four years, Chesnut continued to make physical progress. He longed to play melodically, but lacked the movement and physical strength to depress the valves. In 1997, a UMass employee devised a system allowing Chesnut to use foot pedals to activate the horn's valves. It gave Chesnut more musical options, but still was not user-friendly.

It was one of Chesnut's graduate students, Jim Snedeker, who initiated a better solution. He noticed touch screens in restaurants and wondered if similar technology would work on a trumpet. Snedeker's search led him to Mike Conboy and Asaph Murfin, instrumentation engineers for the UMass



**THE HORN OF A DILEMMA —** Walter Chesnut, professor of music at UMass, toots his own horn — a feat made possible by MSgt. Michael Conboy, who adapted the trumpet for him.



**MUSICAL MAINTENANCE —** MSgt. Michael Conboy, left, checks the condition of Walter Chesnut's mechanically-adapted trumpet at Chesnut's office at the Fine Arts Center at UMass. The air-assisted valves run off a tank of nitrogen.

chemistry department.

Although Snedeker's original idea proved unfeasible, Conboy eventually invented an air-assisted design using an electronic finger pad over the valves that connects to pistons run on a tank of nitrogen.

Chesnut's office resounds with rich tones as he proudly "trumpets" the new technology. "I cried the first time I played this," said Chesnut, looking at the horn with a sense of awe. "It's an amazing thing!" The affable music professor effuses enthusiasm, and his personal trials have expanded his music teaching to include perseverance, not making excuses and caring for others.

As Chesnut relates his story, Conboy stands in the background with an expression of warm admiration — and the feeling is mutual. As usual, the reservist shuns any praise, and instead busies himself with solutions. He was disconnecting the empty nitrogen tank and making arrangements to have it filled for Chesnut. Conboy has helped others, but admits this project was particularly satisfying. "I am in awe of how little it takes to give someone with a disability a major piece of their life back."

"I have to admit, most of what I do is selfish — I absolutely love what I do," said Conboy. He said it is a blessing to have real, meaningful work. He enjoys his work, his family

**Continued on next page**

## Threatcon Alpha calls for awareness of terrorist threat

By MSgt. Tom Allocco

Heightened awareness is everyone's responsibility while Westover, like bases nationally, has been on Threatcon Alpha, following the terrorist attack on the USS Cole and tensions in the Middle East.

Alpha is classified as a "general warning" the lowest level of four threat conditions, or "threatcons," which assess the possibility of terrorist activity. Others are Bravo, signifying a predictable threat; Charlie, imminent danger; and Delta, an attack has occurred. Westover was previously under

"Threatcon Normal."

One precaution instituted locally is the closing of the McMillan Gate, also known as Gate 2, the "courtesy gate" leading to Granby, for the duration of Threatcon Alpha. Security Forces have also increased the frequency of identification card checks at the two other gates.

"This is the time to remember the briefings we've all had on security," said Capt. Ronald Coburn, deputy commander, chief of Security Forces.

"Security is everyone's job, not just Security Forces. We can't be everywhere. You

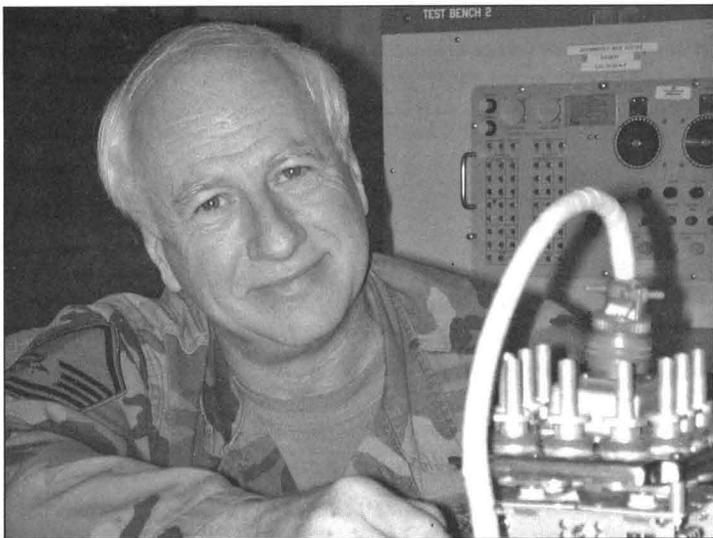
know the people you work with, who should and should not be in the area. If anything looks remotely suspicious, report it. Don't investigate it yourself, report it," Coburn said.

To report suspicious activity, call the Security Desk at extension 3557.

"Also, when you are off-base, be vigilant as to your surroundings. Don't put yourself in a position of danger from terrorists or criminals," he said.

Westover returned to Threatcon Normal as of Nov. 10, according to security personnel.

## Conboy's talents... continued from page 6



**SATISFYING WORK** — MSgt. Michael Conboy, 439th AGS aircraft electrical environmental systems craftsman, works on a C-5 electromagnetic switch problem that temporarily has them stumped.

and friends, and dealing with people of all skills and interest. "There's not enough time to tap into it all. I feel like I get to pick and choose all the fun stuff," he said.

The "fun stuff" for Conboy is anything that involves problem solving — and he's been tackling Westover's maintenance problems since 1966 when he worked active duty as an aircraft electrician with the 99th Bomb Wing. He served here and in Southeast Asia from 1966 to 1970. "I learn best when I have an immediate need to know, and the demands in Guam and Okinawa certainly did that," Conboy remarked. He laughs as he remembers thinking as a 20-year-old, "Why are all these 'kids' running this — where are all the grown-ups?"

After active duty, he earned a degree in biochemistry from UMass.

He returned to Westover as a reservist in 1974, and also began his current job at UMass repairing, designing and building prototype research equipment. He finds the combination of science and technology

between his civilian and military job a perfect marriage. "I have two jobs I look forward to going to almost all of the time. Golly, am I fortunate," said Conboy.

He finds it reassuring to work in a mechanical career field where logic prevails. "If you work at it, you can usually find a solution to a problem," he explained. Conboy particularly likes the oddball, challenging problems — something that takes research or collaboration to solve.

And bosses appreciate that about Conboy.

"MSgt. Conboy is the best troubleshooter I've ever known," said Col. Charles Brown, 439th Logistics Group commander. "If the procedure doesn't exist, he'll write it. If the equipment doesn't exist, he'll create it. If he can't fix it — replace it."

Maj. Chris Skomars, 439th AGS aircraft maintenance officer, agrees. "Mike is the top technician we have. If you have a problem with a system, he's the man to help you," he said. "He has the most logical mind — he's so technically competent." Skomars also commented on Conboy's willingness to roll up his sleeves and work, his ability to relate well with others and draw out the best information.

"I love working with the guy," said TSgt. Byron Labreche, 439th MXS aircraft electrical environmental systems journeyman. "I've learned so much. He really makes me think about the 'whys' and encourages thinking outside the box." According to Labreche, Conboy has come up with many innovative devices to reduce troubleshooting and repair times. In fact, the day of the interview, Conboy was seated at a table surrounded by co-workers brainstorming the solution to a nagging C-5 electromagnetic switch problem.

Skomars also notes that Conboy makes himself available during the month to help and it doesn't matter what unit you are from.

It probably helps that Conboy has worked in almost every maintenance unit at Westover over the past 26 years. He will reach high-year tenure in May 2001. "They'll have to drag me out by my boots," he quipped.

Conboy lives in South Deerfield with his wife Kathy and the couple has three grown children. He says he can't wait to get out of bed in the morning — and for that, he is very thankful.

Like a true citizen-airman, Conboy takes the unique combination of military and civilian skills, along with a volunteer mentality, and makes a difference wherever he is.

For Walter Chesnut, that truth is music to his ears.

## The bottom line...

*The following are the discharges, involuntary reassignments and Involuntary demotions at Westover Air Reserve Base for fiscal year 2000*

Rank	Offense	Action
Maj	Misconduct, involving moral or professional dereliction, or other serious or recurring misconduct	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
SSgt	4 DWIs; in jail and unsatisfactory participation	Under Other Than Honorable Conditions (UOTHC) Discharge
SSgt	Fraudulent enlistment. Member falsified statements on security application	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
SrA	Misconduct, failure to meet financial obligations (AMEX), Unsat Participation and failure to locate	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
SrA	Pattern of Misconduct, failure to meet financial obligations (AMEX) and Unsatisfactory Participation	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
SrA	Substandard Duty Performance, failure to progress in OJT and failure to attain or maintain required job skill proficiency, either by associated inaptitude or non-application	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
A1C	Drug Abuse ( Marijuana). Random testing	Under Other Than Honorable Conditions Discharge
A1C	Civilian Conviction of sexual abuse third degree	Under Other Than Honorable Conditions Discharge
A1C	Pattern of Misconduct, failure to meet financial obligations (AMEX) and Unsat Participation	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
A1C	Discharged from Basic Training within 3 weeks of arriving. Conditions that interfere with military service, specifically, for Mental Disorders	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
A1C	Failed to ship for Basic Training due to pregnancy	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
AB	Discharged from Basic Training within 3 weeks of arriving. Conditions that interfere with military service, specifically, for Mental Disorders	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
Rank	Offense	Action
AB	Reported to out-process for Basic Training: was 5 pounds overweight and 5% over body fat. Member was not within weight standards and was unable to ship for BMT within 1 year of enlistment.	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
<b>INVOLUNTARY REASSIGNMENTS</b>		
MSgt	Didn't remain within weight standards	Involuntary Reassignment for Weight Management
SSgt	Didn't remain within weight standards	Involuntary Reassignment for Weight Management
SSgt (4)	9 or more unexcused absences (four members)	Involuntary Reassignment for Unsat Participation
SrA (3)	9 or more unexcused absences (three members)	Involuntary Reassignment for Unsat Participation
A1C	9 or more unexcused absences	Involuntary Reassignment for Unsat Participation
<b>DEMOTIONS</b>		
Rank	Offense	Rank Demoted to
TSgt	Drinking on Duty	SSgt
TSgt	Unsatisfactory Participation	SSgt
SSgt (2)	Unsatisfactory Participation (two members)	SrA
SrA (2)	Unsatisfactory Participation (two members)	A1C
A1C (2)	Unsatisfactory Participation (two members)	Amn
A1C	Failure to Achieve Skill Level	Amn

## Westover hosts Commerce 2000

Article and photo  
by Gordon A. Newell

Commerce 2000, the largest business-to-business trade show in Western Massachusetts, brought more than 4,000 people into the pull-through hangar Nov. 2.

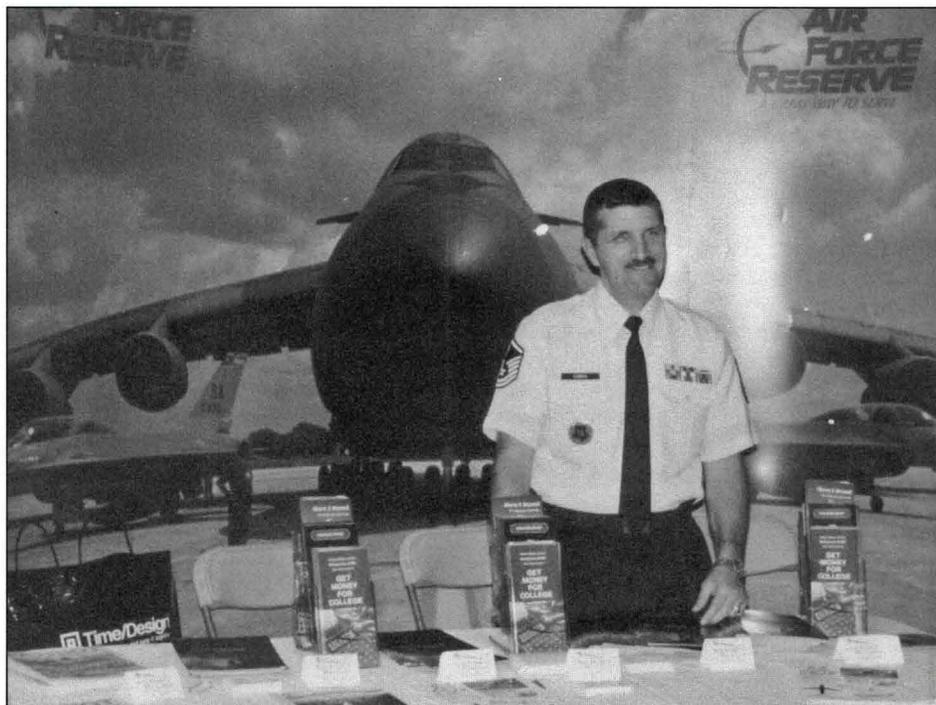
Hosted by Westover and the Galaxy Community Council, the show is produced each year by the Greater Chicopee and Greater Holyoke Chambers of Commerce, along with five other area chambers.

This year's show, the 10<sup>th</sup> annual and ninth held at Westover, attracted 225 exhibitors who were enthusiastic about the steady stream of potential customers who made their way through the aisles.

"I think this year's show was a great success," said Gail Skelecki, president of the Chicopee Chamber. She added that there was a 20 percent increase in new businesses this year.

"We are truly grateful to Westover for allowing us to hold the show in this hangar," she said.

The day's activities kicked off in the hangar with a breakfast attended by about 400 people, including many of the area's elected officials, such as Chicopee Mayor Richard J. Kos and Holyoke Mayor Michael



**BUSINESS IS GOOD** — MSgt. Michael Formica, a recruiter at Westover, tends the Reserve booth at Commerce 2000, the largest business-to-business trade show in Western Massachusetts. The show attracted more than 200 exhibitors and 4,000 people.

J. Sullivan.

TSgt. Sirita Day, a Westover reserve recruiter, started the day by singing the national anthem.

"We're very happy that we are able to host this event," said Lt. Col. James Joyce,

439<sup>th</sup> Support Group commander. "Whenever possible we like to reach out into our communities and invite them to the base. This is a great event for the area and exposes the base to many people who otherwise don't visit us."

## Reserve families desire more info about benefits, unit

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** — Family members of reservists say they would like more information about service-connected benefits and that Air Force Reserve Command units need to do a better job of communicating with them.

These were the top two concerns raised as a result of a command questionnaire sent to family members last spring.

Of the 38,000 questionnaires sent out, 23 percent responded. More than half of the more than 8,000 respondents offered comments, from one-liners to multiple-page letters.

"As with any questionnaire, responses varied widely from those happy with the Reserve program to those displeased and frustrated with it," said Maj. Gen. David Smith, AFRC vice commander. "The overwhelming majority, however, expressed a desire to improve problem areas and complimented parts they liked. If nothing else, the questionnaire reaffirmed what we already knew: (Reservists and their families) are great American patriots and don't receive enough recognition for the sacrifices (they) make to serve (their) country."

To help clarify entitlements, the command is mailing 50,000 copies of the DOD "Guide to Reserve Family Member Benefits" to families. The guide is available electronically by visiting [www.afrc.af.mil](http://www.afrc.af.mil),

then clicking on "Information for Reservists and Families."

When asked if they would be prepared if their spouse were activated, 32 percent said "no." Of those who weren't prepared, income was a major concern of 55 percent of them, family separation 34 percent, dependent issues 33 percent, other 18 percent, medical 8 percent, and employer issues 3 percent.

Most respondents commented on the increasing demands on their spouses' time. Operations and personnel tempo are major concerns of the active and reserve forces because they affect the services' ability to retain people.

(AFRC News Service)

### New gate hours

**Industrial Gate** will be open 24 hours a day.

**Fairview Gate** (at James St.) will be open from 5:45 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and from 11:45 p.m. to 12:15 a.m.

**McMillan Gate** (by the golf course) will be open only during normal threat conditions, from 6 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. and from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

## Westover reservists get a run for their turkey

By MSgt. W.C. Pope

The Westover Turkey Trot took place on Saturday, Nov. 4, with 118 participants, and more than 30 turkeys given away for Thanksgiving.

Rick Heller, Turkey Trot director, said the Thanksgiving holiday footrace included three- and five-mile runs and a three-mile walk. The four age categories were: under 29, 30-39, 40-49, and 50 and over. The first person across the finish line in each group received a turkey. Other turkeys were raffled off to runners and walkers.

Among the participants were 66 Marines from Marine Air Support Squadron 6 whose winning turkeys went to help celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday at a gala held at the Westover Club that evening.

The Fitness Center sponsored the Turkey Trot, with Heller, Bill Fagan, Phil Thomas and David Kahilier helping as safety monitors and water suppliers.



**GET SET - GO** — Participants in the Turkey Trot take to the pavement during the November UTA.  
— photo by MSgt. W.C. Pope

Three Mile Walk	Women	Men
30-39	Kristine Seney	
40-49	Barbara Jackson	Mike Vinsky
50+	Theresa Dillon	Ed Greenwood
Three Mile Run		
under 29	Shana Gerrity	Todd Schernig
30-39	Ilena Puertas	Mike Martin
40-49	Cathy Geberth	Joe Callihan
50+		Sandy Whittier
Five Mile Run		
30-39	Fran Hardison	Bruce LaMay
40-49	Pat Leaha	Celio Hernandez
50+		Thomas Mauzaka

## "Get One" program rewards those who recruit reservists

By MSgt. Tom Allocco

Westover's recruiters are asking for everyone's help in one of the most important jobs in the Reserve.

A booming economy and a shrinking active duty force are making it more difficult for the recruiters to keep up the numbers of new members. Westover's recruiting team, like recruiters across the country, are participating in the new AFRC "Get One" program designed to get every reservist on board the effort to bring in more qualified people.

"Traditionally, Westover's recruiting efforts have been successful because of referrals. Now, we want to increase that program and we depend on reservists getting out there and bringing in family, friends and neighbors," said CMSgt. Gary Anderson, sen-

ior Westover recruiter.

Get One is simple to use. Just fill out a response card, available in the October issue of *Citizen Airman* or at the Westover recruiting office in Building 1502.

The card includes space for a potential recruit's name, address and telephone number, as well as your own information for recognition purposes. The card is postage paid and pre-addressed, so once it's filled out, just drop it in a mailbox.

If you don't want to use regular mail, information about a potential recruit may be entered onto Recruiting's web site at [www.afreserve.com/getone](http://www.afreserve.com/getone). The toll-free number, 1-877-786-2372 is also available.

Check the web page for description of recognition awards for those who successfully help the recruiting effort. Recognition includes

a watch for bringing in two recruits.

Those who gain five enlistees will receive a \$50 BX gift certificate, 12 months of paid club membership and other recognition.

"There is also the reward of contributing to quality of the Wing. I guarantee that recruiters follow up on every referral from reservists. I feel reservists are the best source for people who can meet our high standards," said SMSgt. Ron Tyson, assistant senior recruiter.

"There are only 10 Reserve recruiters for New England and eastern New York and there are more than 2,000 reservists. If everyone gave us just one referral, we'd fill the wing with outstanding people," he said.

To learn more about recruiting, call the Westover recruiters at Ext. 2330.

## Patriot People

**Name:** Theresa A. Negron  
**Rank:** Lt. Col.  
**Age:** 43  
**Address:** Nashua, N.H.  
**Unit:** 439th Airlift Wing  
**Position:** Staff Judge Advocate  
**Civilian position:** Mom  
**Favorite food:** Italian  
**Years of service:** 17 years  
**Favorite sport:** Gymnastics  
**Favorite hobby:** Aerobics  
**Ideal vacation:** Puerto Rico  
**Best way to relax:** Extra sleep  
**Preferred entertainment:** Ballet  
**Favorite hero:** Sacajewea  
**Favorite music:** Salsa  
**Favorite movie:** "Gone with the Wind"  
**Favorite aircraft:** Any one that lands safely  
**Pet peeve:** Solicitors who call at all hours  
**What I would do if I won \$1 million:** Hide



Photo by SSgt. Andrew Reitano

Lt. Col. Theresa A. Negron

## Patriot Praises

### Promotions

SM Sgt. Beaulieu, Ronald  
 SMSgt. Groeber, William  
 SMSgt. Sullivan, Thomas E.  
 MSgt. Cassidy, Patrick C.  
 MSgt. Degiule, Michael A.  
 MSgt. Devaney, Mary C.  
 MSgt. Dunfield, Michelle M.  
 MSgt. Fitzgibbon, Joseph E.  
 MSgt. Gitzen, Charles H.  
 MSgt. Hackett, Michael K.  
 MSgt. Lavigne, Jennifer A.  
 MSgt. Raines, Larry W.  
 MSgt. Robitaille, Shane C.  
 MSgt. Sneed, Robert R., Jr.  
 MSgt. Ward, Woodley W.  
 MSgt. Williams, Timothy G.  
 MSgt. Wright, Michael P.  
 MSgt. Zackaricz, Heather A.  
 TSgt. Arsenaault, Robert L., Jr.  
 TSgt. Aylward, James T.  
 TSgt. Barklow, Richard H.  
 TSgt. Carter, Randy S.  
 TSgt. Chapp, Richard D.  
 TSgt. Crum, Sean W.  
 TSgt. Durham, Holly C.  
 TSgt. Durocher, Robert G.  
 TSgt. Foster, Leo  
 TSgt. Lackman, Michael E.  
 TSgt. Leblanc, David J.  
 TSgt. Lebron, Antonio  
 TSgt. McElligott, Frederick J.  
 TSgt. Merrill, Stanley E.  
 TSgt. Mitchell, Alice L.  
 TSgt. Padden, William C.  
 TSgt. Sorber, David H.  
 TSgt. Tolar, Floyd L.  
 TSgt. Velky, John S., II  
 TSgt. Walton, Jeffrey A.  
 TSgt. Wasuk, Mark D.  
 TSgt. Wilson, David A., Jr.  
 TSgt. Winters, Stephen D.  
 TSgt. Wilk, Thomas M.

SSgt. Ajmeri, Rupesh R.  
 SSgt. Creighton, Lesli A.  
 SSgt. Diaz, Gregory D.  
 SSgt. Dion, Winnifred A.  
 SSgt. Dufresne, Gerald E., Jr.  
 SSgt. Krawiec, Ryszard S.  
 SSgt. Phelps, Ronald C.  
 SSgt. Plant, Edward L.  
 SSgt. Roy, Caroline  
 SSgt. Spruill, Brent S.  
 SSgt. Walker, Phaly S.  
 SSgt. Wayne, Michael L.  
 SrA. Carlin, Patrick J.  
 SrA. Choi, Ernest D. H.  
 SrA. Faho, Yann C.  
 SrA. Foti, Susan M.  
 SrA. Frost, Stacey J.  
 SrA. Greene, Michelle A.  
 SrA. Martinez, Wilmer  
 SrA. Mazzarella, Sherrie A.  
 SrA. Moody, Christopher J.  
 SrA. Ros, Vasina  
 A1C King, Elizabeth M.

### Enlistments

SrA. Harris, Raymond D.  
 SrA. Jones, Donald R.  
 SrA. Wright, Rodney K.  
 A1C Altino, Marjorie  
 A1C Parker, Rachell D.  
 A1C Roberts, Andy A.  
 A1C Smith, Charlene C.  
 A1C Szafranowicz, Daniel E.  
 AB Csernick, Scott R.  
 AB DeJesus, Miguel A.  
 AB Dupell, Michael J., Jr.

### Reenlistments

CM Sgt. Gilyard, Mark S.  
 MSgt. Lefave, Albert J.  
 MSgt. Newton, Edward R.  
 MSgt. Orzechowski, Ronald J.  
 MSgt. Robitaille, Shane C.

MSgt. Shaughnessy, Thomas J.  
 TSgt. Bathgate, Robert A.  
 TSgt. Bushnell, Frederick W.  
 TSgt. Evelyn, Aidan F.  
 TSgt. Hayford, Albert C., Jr.  
 TSgt. Holt, Todd T.  
 TSgt. Nash, Charles W.  
 TSgt. Ritchens, Euclid B.  
 TSgt. Ryan, Lester W., III  
 SSgt. Archambault, James M.  
 SSgt. Bentley, Scott J.  
 SSgt. Cormier, Ronald J.  
 SSgt. Fydenkevez, James J.  
 SSgt. Grof, Kevin J.  
 SSgt. Hetu, Frederick E.  
 SSgt. Ruel, Marc J.  
 SSgt. Welch, Michael J.  
 SSgt. Widor, Andrzej K.  
 SrA. Greenberg, Jack A.  
 SrA. Harris, Raymond D.  
 SrA. Jones, Donald R.

SrA. Mullally, Desmond B.  
 SrA. Subjects, March J., II

### Newly Assigned

Capt. Alexander, Victor  
 TSgt. Culpepper, Teresa L.  
 TSgt. Ruel, Marc J.  
 TSgt. Wallius, Michael R.  
 SSgt. Brunelle, Gary P.  
 SSgt. Caldwell, Dainard  
 SSgt. Foley, Denise L.  
 SSgt. Maiello, Salvatore K.  
 SrA. Aquino, Irwin T.  
 SrA. Roy, Caroline  
 SrA. Shaffer, Tamara A.  
 Amn. Long, William B. E.

### Retirements

SMSgt. Fiamma, Benedict B., Jr.  
 TSgt. Jenkins, Valerie

## Awards and Decorations

### Air Force Commendation Medal

Capt. James G. Bishop\*\*\*\* 439 AW  
 MSgt. Vikki J. Stokes 42 APS

### Air Force Achievement Medal

SSgt. Dana A. Dupuis 42 APS  
 SSgt. Timothy B. McGuire 42 APS  
 SrA. John P. Skaza, III 42 APS

\*\*\*\*fourth award

## Shadow program mentors high school students

by MSgt. W.C. Pope

Who knows what jobs lurk in the Reserve - the Shadow Program at Westover does.

In November, a Shadow Program began at Westover, with juniors and seniors from Chicopee High and Chicopee Comprehensive's vocational section.

Three or four students will come in each week for three days for three hours and shadow members of the 439<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron in order to see first hand exactly what reservists do.

"This is a test program to show the kids that we actually do a job in the military — not just shoot'em up like they show in the movies," said SMSgt. Robert Merchant, ISO Dock night shift supervisor. "This will give the kids a one-on-one chance to shadow a technician on the job."

The Shadow Program is the brainchild of TSgt. Dan Snow of the squadron. "I've seen shadow programs working in the civilian community and thought what a great way to get high school students involved with us here at base," said Snow.

"Not only is it showing kids what we do, but it could potentially help recruit them into the Reserve."

Early in November, Snow and recruiter TSgt. Sirita Day brought in 32 students to tour the DC hangar and a C-5.

"We got a great response from the kids and many of them volunteered to participate in the Shadow Program," Snow said.



**WING TOUR** — High school students from Chicopee tour the C-5 in the DC hangar during a recent visit to drum up volunteers for the aircraft maintenance Shadow Program.

—photo by TSgt. Sirita Day

"My ultimate hope is that this builds and spreads across the base into all the career fields," said Snow. "Not only will we have a new avenue for recruitment, but we will be introducing the Air Force Reserve to a new generation that may not know what we do."

# PATRIOT

PATRIOT online: <http://www.afrc.af.mil/units/439aw>



Published monthly for Patriots like TSgt. Danial Breckenridge of Rome, NY, and 2,311 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

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