



photo by Staff Sgt. Timm Huffman

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ON THE COVER >> The lift -- one of the primary items maintenance workers use to access the C-5's engines and fuselage, symbolizes the recent pay raise for Westover maintainers. Turn to page 6 for more.



WHEELING AND DEALING >> Tech. Sgt. Shawn Connolly, left, and Staff Sgt. Christopher Addley, work on a veteran's wheelchair at the Soldier's Home in Holyoke. Sergeant Connolly has led a volunteer effort at the local home to maintain about 40 wheelchairs for the more than 200 veterans that live there. Sergeant Connolly is an active duty technician in the isochronal inspection dock. Sergeant Addley is an air reserve technician assigned to the 439th Maintenance Squadron. In all, 23 Westover maintainers have been involved in the wheelchair project. (photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe)



Major Camelo

Congratulations to everyone at Westover on your new position in public affairs! Your appointment requires no tech school or interminable CBT courses. While I'm being a bit facetious, the reality (and the

regulations) is that everyone on this base shapes the image and perceptions of this wing, the Reserves and the Air Force.

When most people think of public affairs products or activities, producing the Patriot, working with the media, or giving tours may come to mind. Our overarching role is to enhance internal and external trust and support of our mission. When I say "our role," I actually mean the wing's collective role.

What we all do in and out of uniform makes a difference. Think of how the actions of a few at Abu Ghraib severely impacted the public's perception of the military and the war in Iraq — despite the tens of thousands serving with integrity

and valor. In today's world of cell phones and digital cameras, a YouTube clip of Airmen doing something inappropriate while deployed could lead the national and international news. With the growth of social media sites, blogs, Twitter, etc., our thoughts and actions are instantly available. So, too is our image.

Conversely, our positive actions also play a critical role in enhancing the public's trust and confidence is us and our mission. Twenty-two-year-old Zachary Rhyner wasn't thinking image last April when he continued to radio in airstrikes after he was shot through the leg during an intense firefight in Shok Valley in Afghanistan.

He received the Air Force Cross for valor, but portrayed far more than valor as a young airman. Westover's deployed reservists have received Bronze Stars for their bravery, and continue to receive accolades for their skills and contributions around the globe.

Our Airman and Family Readiness members recently won a nationally publicized Department of Defense award. One of our C-5 instructor pilots won an Air Force Reserve award for teaching combat flying tactics.

Off the battlefield, we make a positive difference in many other ways. It could be the maintenance troops who coach Boy's Club football that we recently profiled in the Patriot, or the reservist speaking in his child's classroom, the med tech pulling over to an accident on the way home from a UTA, the honor guard serving hundreds of veteran's funerals, or reservists spending their own money to work humanitarian missions. The list is thankfully long, but it may also include simply wearing our uniforms with pride, making a difference wherever we go.

The good news is that Americans' trust and confidence in the military has soared, even as it has declined in other institutions like corporations and Congress, according to a recent Gallop poll. In the latest Harris Poll's Annual Confidence Index, the military topped the list and also grew in percentage points.

It's upon all of us as public affairs representatives to keep it this way. We look forward to working together.

Maj. Wilson Camelo
Wing Public Affairs Officer

BRIEFS |

Help desk

In the near future, Westover computer and network trouble resolutions will change.

The Westover communications help desk will move to a Consolidated Help Desk (CHD) call center at Air Force Reserve Command headquarters (Robins Air Force Base, Ga.), where technicians will take initial computer or network trouble calls from Westover personnel.

People experiencing computer or network issues, should continue to dial Ext. 3499, as callers will be forwarded to the CHD after the transition.

Depending on the network or computer problem, technicians at Robins may open a trouble ticket back at Westover for further action with a local service technician.

Wing honors quarterly winners

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

Senior Airman Matthew Dauphinais, 42nd Aerial Port Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Michael Schneibner, 337th Airlift Squadron; Master Sgt. Jeffrey McCarthy, 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; 1st Lt. Susan Bolduc, 337th AS; Ronald Phelps, AMXS; and David Carbin, 439th Communications Squadron.

New travel voucher filing process

A new travel voucher process will begin May 15. Airmen will still file their vouchers at the office as previously, but the wing finance staff will no longer process the paperwork at Westover. Instead, the staff will review, scan, and send travel vouchers to the new Air Force service center at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. Airmen should ensure their paperwork is filled out correctly before submitting it to finance.

For more information, call the wing finance office at Ext. 3461 or 3880.

ALCF commander

A March *Patriot* article incorrectly named the incoming 439th Airlift Control Flight commander. Lt. Col. Patrick King took command of the ALCF March 7 from Col. Christopher Kreig.

Thumb drive ban

The ban continues for connecting flash media devices to Department of Defense computers. Flash media includes, but is not limited to, USB thumb drives, digital cameras, MP3 players, iPhones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), and flash memory cards.

For more information, e-mail the 439th Communications Squadron at 439CS.SCBN@westover.af.mil.

Gate hours

As of April 1, the James Street Gate will be open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., and the McMillan (Granby side) Gate will be open from 5:30-7:30 a.m. (inbound traffic) and 3-5 p.m. (outbound) on A and B UTAs only.

Survey brings morale, mission, quality of life in focus

by Maj. Wilson Camelo

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of articles on transformational changes at Westover in areas of morale, quality of life and mission.

As long as there has been a military it has been understood that maintaining the morale and esprit de corps of those in uniform is vital to the mission. Yet, real or perceived, morale problems have existed for just as long.

Complicating matters is how factors affecting morale have evolved. For instance, a current complaint by some that time-consuming computer-based training interferes with their primary job is not one Reservists had 10 years ago. Additionally, the unprecedented, sustained reliance on the Reserves for wartime tours is also a relatively new stressor.

However, there is one important factor for helping to improve morale that hasn't changed: clear and direct communication by leadership as to how they are addressing real and perceived morale issues, said Col. Robert Swain Jr., 439th Airlift Wing commander.

"Some of the feedback indicates there are challenges in how information on the changes we're making and issues we're tackling relative to morale flows down to the unit and individual," the colonel said. "When information doesn't flow, it could lead to a perception that leadership doesn't take morale issues seriously or that we're not taking action. So, from a transformation perspective, it's important that my commanders and I provide transparency on how we're addressing the issues."

To better understand what issues are affecting morale on base, the wing commander directed the Military Equal Opportunity (MEO) office to conduct a wing-wide climate assessment in February. This climate assessment differed from previous ones in that it contained an additional 10 questions targeting communication and morale, as well as a section for written responses, ac-

cording to Capt. Jennifer Jusseume, chief of MEO.

Nearly 1,000 people took the survey, she said, and the results indicated that Westover scored better or the same as other military organizations who took the survey in the last 12 months. Like other units, common issues included too much ancillary training and not enough time to complete it, the perception that standards are applied differently, and the perception of inequity in promotions.

"The survey gives us a good baseline for us to address perceptions versus realities," the colonel said. "For instance, we are looking at our promotions to ensure they are fair and merit-based. But, conversely, there is also a perception by some who feel they are 'next in line' for a promotion simply because they are the next highest ranking or have been in the unit the longest. Well, if you're not the

addressed," he said.

There were many positives regarding morale revealed in the survey. For instance, respondents said they were proud to be part of the wing, that Westover is a great place to work and it was filled with many people who care a lot about their people and the mission. Many issues brought up in wing committees reach the base leadership and get resolved, he added. For example, the colonel said they are looking into a proposal to lessen the burden on CBTs throughout the year by mandating one UTA, such as December, to ancillary training.

"Even small suggestions are important," he said. "For instance, a young Airman brought to my attention that the U.S. flag on the ellipse was torn. We replaced it, and I appreciated the feedback and the pride."

"I want people to understand that there are avenues for elevating their concerns,

that we will work the ones we can work, and encourage them to get involved in organizations like the Rising Six, Company Grade Officers Council and the Human Resource Development Council whom I rely on for feedback and suggestions," Colonel Swain said. "If you leave the base without elevating your issue, I can't do anything about it."

One way to provide feedback is through the Commander's Action Line at Ext. 3774. "I encourage people to use their chain of command, but the action line allows me to directly answer questions and help people understand the reasons behind some issue,"

One example the colonel cited is the calls he's received about changing the gym hours to accommodate shift workers and the high traffic at the gym due to tenant units. "Some people may simply complain and think we don't listen to their concern when the reality is that our hands are tied right now because facilities on this base are judged only on the amount of people in the wing. The good news is that we're attempting to change this, but it's important that we communicate this and that the information flows down to each person."

"The survey gives us a good baseline for us to address perceptions versus realities. For instance, we are looking at our promotions to ensure they are fair and merit-based. But, conversely, there is also a perception by some who feel they are 'next in line' for a promotion simply because they are the next highest-ranking or have been in the unit the longest."

-- Col. Robert Swain Jr., 439th AW commander

go-to person or you don't fit the bill for the next rank, you won't be promoted, and that has nothing to do with not being in a 'good old boy' network. However, we need to do a better job of letting people know why they weren't promoted, and commanders need to be accountable for proving our people this feedback."

One area of concern for the commander was the nearly 25 percent of people who said they have some fear of reprisal for expressing their opinion. "Reprisal is unacceptable at any level, and I can ensure our folks that I will provide education to our commanders so this fear is



Capt. Carrie Baker

SARC deploys

by Maj. Jennifer Christovich

"If you don't address inappropriate behavior immediately, you will be blindsided."

This is just one reality that Capt. Carrie K. Baker, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator here, brought back after deploying for four months to Southwest Asia.

Captain Baker deployed in September 2008 where she served as the SARC and victim advocate for a geographic region that included two Forward Operating Bases. It was there that she saw a direct relationship between leadership support and the number of sexual assaults committed or reported.

"Leadership is the key to a good program. . . they set the tone," she said.

To drive home the point, Captain Baker, who is fairly new to the job, said that while she was deployed she saw a commander who dismissed the importance of the program only to find, two weeks later, the Air Force began investigating two of his Airmen involved in a sexual assault.

"It is so important for everyone to under-

stand that intent is not a necessary ingredient to get convicted of a sexual assault," said Captain Baker.

"Specifically, I worked on a case in which a member was accused of indecent assault and even though there was no intent of assault, the touching was part of a joke by the alleged offender, the alleged victim was offended and pressed charges and the case went to a court martial hearing," she said.

"I also observed that in most cases, the assailant and victim had a mutual friendship that involved light flirting then progressed to sexual harassment and finally assault," said Capt Baker. "Gone unchecked, sexual harassment increases the odds of a sexual assault."

In the majority of the cases she handled, Captain Baker said most of the members involved were acquaintances and the majority of the cases involved indecent assault followed by rape and then sodomy.

In all, she was in charge of educating, coordinating, responding to and advocating for

approximately 8,000 service members in the Air Force, Army, Marines and Navy.

"Probably the thing that struck me the most in the beginning was the high volume of cases on my desk. I thought it would be relatively quiet," said Captain Baker.

Unfortunately, the number of sexual assault cases only increased during her tenure.

Surprisingly, she said, there was an abundance of volunteer victim-advocates who saw it as a way of doing something positive.

The time spent deployed made a significant difference in Captain Baker's approach to the SARC program. She said she learned how to work with so many different agencies while overseas, that she got a better perspective, overall.

"Sexual assault is very real and it has long-term effects. We need to take care of each other," she said. "Which is why I like the theme for 2009, 'Our strength is for defending'. It really states the importance of being aware and looking out for your wingman."

Defense Department releases assault stats

by John J. Kruzel
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Defense Department officials here released March 17 a congressional report that examines sexual assault allegations in the military services and sets policies for reducing incidents.

Key components of the annual analysis include a finding that indicates a rise in the number of incidents reported in fiscal 2008 and details of department-led initiatives aimed at preventing sexual assault and increasing the accountability of offenders.

The analysis found 2,923 sexual assault "reports" in fiscal 2008, which is roughly

an 8 percent increase compared to fiscal 2007. But officials cautioned that the rise in reporting -- a figure that represents the total number of sexual assaults reported -- is not necessarily indicative that more incidents occurred.

One possible explanation for the increase could be that higher numbers of victims are reporting incidents as people become more aware of sexual assault in general, and the military's robust support network, Dr. Whitley said.

Defense officials said that the aggregate number of reports combines incidents that vary in the degree of offense committed. Click on the Air Force web site for this article: <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp>.



"I have been here 20 years. Good things come to those who wait."

Master Sgt.
David Rodriguez,
maintenance
squadron



"I've only been an ART for a year. The maintenance ranks have really thinned out... those that stayed really deserve this raise."

Tech. Sgt. James
Willett, maintenance
squadron



"Raises have been promised for a long time... Colonel Varela ignored the naysayers and kept pushing for it... the raise reflects his character and commitment."

Tech. Sgt. Byron
LaBreche, maintenance
squadron

TROOP TALK | What do you think about the raise for the maintenance ARTs?

Pumped Up

Patriot Wing maintainers get pay hike



GAS 'N GO >> Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Watson, 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, refuels a C-5 on the March A UTA.

(photo by Staff Sgt. Timm Huffman)



by Maj. Jennifer Christovich

In a time of layoffs, cutbacks and unemployment, the news of a \$15,000-to-\$20,000-a-year raise for more than 250 Westover Wage-Grade workers is even more significant.

After a four-year pay equity battle, all of the Airmen, mostly assigned to the 439th Maintenance Group, now find their paychecks more consistent with similar jobs in the same geographic area.

While Wage-Grade maintenance workers were already not receiving equitable pay for their job specialties, it added insult to injury when a February 2005 cost-of-living pay increase was paid to Westover's salaried employees yet excluded them.

"I wasn't here at the time but people were quoted as saying, 'we felt like we were smacked in the face,'" said Col. Oreste Varela, commander of the 439th Maintenance Group.

For the hourly-paid staff, this difference in pay exacerbated morale issues and contributed to a mass exodus of skilled C-5 maintainers -- in a four-year period, about 45 people with approximately 15-years experience left their job.

When Colonel Varela arrived here in 2006, he asked his chiefs what the number one problem was at Westover. "The pay," was the overwhelming response.

For the next two years Colonel Varela, cited as an outspoken, no-nonsense leader, took every opportunity to tell anyone with insight and influence in the locality pay system, about the unfair, unbalanced and outdated pay disparity that was adding fuel to an already-lit maintenance fire.

The burning issue was the workload-to-staff ratio. In 2006, according to Colonel Varela, there were 50 maintenance vacancies. That has since swelled to 70 unfilled jobs and yet the operations tempo has increased.

"We have had a difficult time recruiting skilled, trained maintainers, especially when Westover has been the third lowest paying location in 22nd Air Force," Colonel Varela said. "Yet, we are one of the highest cost-of-living areas in the country."

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FEATURE |

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To make matters more challenging, in December 2006, shortly after the 2005 pay disparity, the Air Force, in an effort to save money, stated it was consolidating C-5 inspection stations by cutting five of eight

Isochronal Inspection Stations, leaving only three open across the U.S. They named Westover as one of the three.

That meant that instead of inspecting 16 C-5s, Westover maintainers would inspect about 28 aircraft per year, once fully operational.



A CLOSER LOOK >> Maintenance workers get a closer look from some 30 feet off the ground at the fuselage of a C-5. Three squadrons of 439th Airlift Wing Airmen assigned to Westover -- maintenance, maintenance operations, and aircraft maintenance -- take care of 16 of the Air Force's largest aircraft on the flight line. (photo by Staff Sgt. Timm Huffman)

While the news of an increased mission showed a lot of confidence in the wing's maintainers, it also meant more work, and with almost 60 vacancies already listed, Colonel Varela knew the pay issue was growing more important by the day.

Finally, to create the perfect storm, beginning in 2006, Westover began transferring its' C-5A models and started receiving C-5Bs, therefore increasing maintainer-workload again as they inspected and standardized the new aircraft.

Then as the swaps were happening, the B-models began the Avionics Modernization Program upgrade, taking the maintainers back to school and out-of-pocket for months. As the demands grew, so did the slow, steady exodus of maintainers due to higher paying jobs.

"I hope the pay increase will keep our skilled people from walking away and attract [Air Reserve Technicians] and Active Duty personnel to Westover" said Colonel Varela.

While it was a long, tedious, and at times unpopular process, involving layers of approval and tests of patience, the announcement couldn't have come at a better time since Colonel Varela is being reassigned to McGuire AFB in May.

"At one of my Commander Call's, I commented that if I could only do one thing while I was here, it would be to get the pay increased," Colonel Varela said. "I couldn't be happier to see this come to fruition."

If you ask the maintainers under his leadership how they feel about the long-awaited raise, they will voluntarily and enthusiastically tell you.

"A lot of people promised raises, but raises have been promised for a long time," said Tech. Sgt. Byron LaBreche, aircraft electrician assigned to the 439th Maintenance Squadron. "Colonel Varela kept going and didn't stop . . . he ignored the naysayers."

"He kept on it, he kept pushing . . . that is what he's about," said Sergeant LaBreche. "The raise reflects his character."

As daily headlines continue to broadcast dire economic forecasts, Westover maintainers can revel in their pay boost, and then get back to what they do best -- keep Westover C-5s the best in the fleet.

"Despite all the challenges and irritants, [the maintainers] always found a way to move the mission. They have finally been rewarded substantially for all their hard work," Colonel Varela said.

Base dials up energy consumption

by Staff Sgt. Timm Huffman

Amid fears of global climate change and a poor economy, Westover Air Reserve Base is taking steps to cut costs and shrink its carbon footprint.

A four-year energy consumption reduction program, the Energy Conservation Investment Program (ECIP), was completed in March. The ECIP improved systems in more than 40 base buildings, with about 10 percent energy savings, said William Makowiec, a Westover civil engineer.

The initiative began in 2004 when Air Force Reserve Command hired a heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) design contractor to do a base-wide energy audit, Mr. Makowiec said. The audit looked at all older buildings on base and noted any possible repairs or modifications that would result in energy savings. The energy audit was then used to create Energy Conservation Measures.

"The idea behind any ECIP is that the cost of funding the project gets entirely paid back from the total energy savings incurred from making the improvements," Mr. Makowiec said.

Westover's ECIP will achieve this goal in only six and a half years, recouping \$1,294,065 upfront costs used to make the improvements, he said. Because of the changes, Westover also qualifies for a \$30,000 energy incentive to be used to further cut energy usage.

Some of the changes made included testing and balancing HVAC and hydronic systems, using the base's local area network (LAN) to automatically set back HVAC systems during periods of low use, and replacing costly items that were outdated.

"As a result of this project, we hope the base will not only save money in energy costs, but existing HVAC systems will be more reliable," said Mr. Makowiec.

Individuals can also contribute to energy conservation, said Mr. Makowiec, by turning lights off when they aren't in use and shutting down unused equipment like space heaters and computer monitors.

"Energy conservation on our base is an important aspect of stewardship of the trust the command and government has given us at Westover."

--Col. Robert Swain Jr.,
439th AW
commander

The flying mission has also undergone recent changes regarding how the amount of fuel for each flight is selected, said Maj. Jonathan Carlson, a 337th Airlift Squadron aircraft commander.

For every pound of fuel, ten percent of that is burned to carry its own weight. By putting on the exact amount of fuel needed for each mission, it eliminates burning extra fuel.

Previously, it was up to the aircraft commander to determine the amount of fuel needed for each mission. Now, flight planners at Tanker Airlift Control Center (TACC) at Air Mobility Command headquarters, Scott Air Force Base, Ill., allocate the amount of fuel each flight is allowed to carry. If the pilot feels the mission needs additional fuel, they have to request it from the TACC flight planners, Major Carlson said.

The TACC is the nerve center for all airlift and tanker missions throughout the world.

The ECIP is complete but conservation is becoming a way of life at the base.

"Energy Conservation on our base is an important aspect of stewardship of the trust the command and government has given us at Westover. It is everyone's job on this base to ensure we are doing our best to use our resources wisely and the improvement project will be a small part of that equation," said Col. Robert Swain, Jr., 439th AW Commander.

Workshop helps families reduce debt

The Airman and Family Readiness Center held a Financial Workshop on March 7 as part of the 2009 Military Saves Campaign.

Military Saves is a DOD-wide financial readiness campaign to persuade military service and family members to reduce debt and save money. The Pioneer Valley Federal Credit Union presented helpful information about Debit and Credit Consolidation at a lunchtime seminar.

Workshop issues included:

- How a credit score is determined
- Wise use of credit
- How your credit affects you, or how you can affect your credit
- How to reduce spending and spend wisely
- Pay bills on time

Attending members had very positive feedback, according to Master Sgt. Kim Babin, Family Support Center superintendent. They also expressed an interest in longer seminars and other classes such as: savings, investments, foreclosure protection, different types of consolidation, and how credit affects your military career. Anyone interested in more financial workshops, especially an all-day event, should contact the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 413-557-3024 or 1-866-690-2161.

BRIEFS |

Education fair in June

The Base Education and Training Office and Rising Six members will host an education fair June 6 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Base Hangar.

Up to 30 colleges from the local area, online colleges, and representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs, DANTES, and ROTC representatives are scheduled to be part of this event.

The fair is intended to help Airmen achieve their higher education and career goals.

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Basile at Ext. 2042.

AFAF under way

Airmen and civilians may donate to the Air Force Assistance Fund drive, which runs until April 20. This year's goal is \$2,500. Donations go to such organizations as the Air Force Aid Society and the LeMay Foundation Indigent Widows Fund.

For more information, call Maj. Paul Neslusan at Ext. 3044.

Airmen help guide at Special Olympics

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

Three 439th Logistics Readiness Squadron Airmen recently traveled to New Hampshire to assist as trail marshals with the Special Olympics Winter Games. In the midst of a late winter snowstorm March 2, Tech. Sgt. Albert Czupkiewicz, Staff Sgt. Orlando Severino, and Senior Airman Joshua Gallien, helped snowshoers and cross-country skiers make their way around the Waterville Valley course. More than 400 handicapped men and women participated in the annual Winter Games.

"The kids took this very seriously," Airman Gallien said. "But it didn't matter whether they ended up in first place or fourth place. Encouraging the kids was among the highlights of what we did, and seeing their faces

light up during the spirit of the competition."

Bob Cousens, a Special Olympics volunteer coordinator, appreciated the Westover presence.

"These special people love men and women in uniform, from law enforcement to military people," he said. "They flocked to talk to them. And these reservists rose to the occasion, treating them with respect, talking to them as equals, and truly making a difference in their lives."

Airman Gallien, whose sister is handicapped, began volunteering with

Special Olympics when he was eight years old. "I take so much pride in it," he said, adding he plans on assisting at Special Olympics events for the rest of his life.

"I hope nothing ever stops me from doing it," he said.

"Encouraging the kids was among the highlights of what we did, and seeing their faces light up during the spirit of the competition."

--Senior Airman Joshua Gallien, 439th LRS and Special Olympics volunteer

Broomball set for April Commander's Cup

The 439th Security Forces Squadron leads the 2008-09 Commander's Cup.

By late March, the SFS team had racked up 62 points.

April's competition is broomball. It will begin at 4:30 p.m. April 4 at the fitness center.

For more information, call Rick Heller at Ext. 3958.

Cup standings as of late March

Security forces	62
58th APS	49
42nd APS	32
Aircraft maintenance	35
Maintenance	21
Maintenance operations	9
Services	9
Mission support	8
Logistics readiness	1

Public affairs seeks shutterbugs participation in photo challenge

by Senior Master Sgt. Sandi Michon

Westover Reservists (and our civilians and tenant units) are fascinating people. Together, we tell the Westover story. The Public Affairs Office is putting out a "photo challenge" to better represent the broad scope and diversity of the Westover team. Each month, the Patriot and Westover's public web site will feature select submitted photos that portray our people.

Think "whole person" for photo ideas. Consider mission photos that show the variety of work done at Westover ... action photos rather than posed, look-at-the-camera photos. Do you work with special equipment? Is it a joint force activity? Does it involve a unique location? Is it unusual airlift cargo? A unique challenge? Innovative technology?

Westover people often volunteer in their communities. Think photo opportuni-

ties. Reservists often have civilian jobs that complement their Reserve roles, or portray a sharp contrast. Do you have a significant civilian achievement? How do you help your community? Do you have a unique skill or hobby? Many Reservists are students. One student with the 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, participated in a school trip to Kenya as a humanitarian project. Athletic/sports photos also show skill and diversity. Situations that illustrate

Reserve skills used in civilian settings also portray a true Citizen/Airman.

A picture is worth a thousand words... imagine how pictures can tell Westover's corporate story for more than 3,000 people.

To participate in our photo challenge, please submit your entries in .jpeg or .tiff format to Westover's Public Affairs office. You may bring in images on a CD, thumb drive, or directly from your camera to our stand-alone graphic computer.

You may also e-mail individual photos to: 439aw.pa@westover.af.mil but individual images should not exceed two megabytes. Be sure to furnish basic information relating to the photos and don't hesitate to search the web for helpful photography tips.

For more information or questions, please contact the Public Affairs office at 413-557-2020 or e-mail us at 439aw.pa@westover.af.mil.

We look forward to your submissions.

Submission tips

>> Action photos are more natural and compelling than posed photos

>> Images should be in .jpeg or .tiff format, and should not exceed two megabytes each

>> We seek photos from 439th Airlift Wing units and tenant units at Westover as well.

PATRIOT PEOPLE |



Capt. Robert Sinclair

NAME : Robert Sinclair
 RANK: Captain
 AGE : 44
 HOMETOWN : Queens, N.Y.
 UNIT : 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
 POSITION : Medical service corps officer
 FAVORITE FOOD : Italian
 YEARS OF SERVICE: Twenty-five
 FAVORITE SPORT : Basketball
 FAVORITE HOBBY : Running
 IDEAL VACATION : St. Lucia
 BEST WAY TO RELAX : Yoga
 PREFERRED ENTERTAINMENT : Reading
 FAVORITE HERO : Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
 FAVORITE MUSIC STYLE : Reggae/jazz
 FAVORITE MOVIE : The Godfather
 FAVORITE AIRCRAFT : C-5
 PET PEEVE : People who complain without a solution
 WHAT WOULD I DO IF I WON \$1 MILLION : Invest in a commercial retail

EASTER AT THE CLUB >> Easter Brunch is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 12, with omelette, Belgian waffle and carving stations, and an Easter egg hunt for club members and their children. The band Emotion returns for the April B UTA (April 17), 8-11 p.m. For more information, call Ext. 2039.

BOWLING SPECIAL >> An Airmen's Social is scheduled for April 4 from 6-11 p.m. at the Westover Bowling Center. Members of the Rising 6 have coordinated the social, which includes discounted bowling (teams of three) and a trivia night. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Margaret Sullivan at Ext. 3024. There will be a kid's vacation special during lunch, April 20-24. Games and shoes will be \$1. Lanes will be open until 2 p.m. Pizzas and subs are available for delivery every UTA weekend. There is a \$10 minimum on delivery orders. Information: Ext. 3896.

FITNESS CENTER >> The following fitness classes are offered: Bring It!, Yoga and Zumba. Classes are held from 4-7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Karate-Judo/Jujutsu classes are from 7-8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and from 6:30 pm to 7:30 p.m. Friday. Information: Ext. 2039.

APRIL SERVICES CALENDER | www.westoverservices.com

Retirements

Col. Ronald R. Coffey

Lt. Col. David L. Maloy

Senior Master Sgt. Beverly A. Cote

Master sergeant

Eugene A. Gagne
 Daniel G. Florian
 Todd R. Zuzula
 Scott M. Pashko
 Timothy R. Smithers
 Barbara A. Jackson
 Daniel G. Hogan
 Wayne J. Georgiana

Technical sergeant

James Baisi
 David A. McKemmie



PATRIOT PRAISES | Reenlistments

Senior master sergeant

Timothy Boyer
 Michelle M. Dunfield
 Michael Terrance Dunn
 Glenn M. Flynn
 Keith Warren Landry
 Shane L. Newhart
 Barbara Sullivan
 John Louis Szafero Jr.

Master sergeant

Charles E. Loya
 James P. Rebman
 James W. Rivest

Technical sergeant

Brittany D. Boduch
 Daniel Duggan
 Brian D. Leclerc
 John Joseph Lupien
 Edward D. Pezanetti
 Marhla R. Taylor
 Silas P. Villareal

Staff sergeant

Stephanie E. Acosta
 Kristie M. Carl
 Matthew J. Hammer
 David A. Hernandez
 Andrew C. Hiserodt
 Jason Leigh Leyk
 Sean M. Livingstone

Paul F. Plankey
 Lui S. Puga
 Robert Wayne Roe
 Christopher L. Walters

Senior airman

Collin James Plummer
 James R. Rowlett
 Cassandra M. Delisle
 Michael K. Gaudette
 Jose Gomesmonteiro
 Garrett C. Grant
 Keith A. Herrick
 Janai O. Lee
 Jordin B. Mattes
 Stacia E. McKenna

Kelly E. O'Connor
 Marc J. Omerzu
 Eric A. Rittlinger
 Hector Rivera-Prudencio
 Sarah J. Slyter
 Justin S. Woolverton

Airman first class

Heather M. Marsolais
 Hurguel M.A. Montes
 Lisa M. Vicente

Airman

Elias C. Aponte
 Ryan M. Flynn
 Bryan M. Healy



MARINE MOMENTUM >> Westover Marines, assigned to Marine Air Support Squadron-6, are put through the paces March 7 during training. Doing step-ups on a log by the Westover Club are, from left, Staff Sgt. Timothy Travers, Lance Cpl. William Costa, Private First Class Aurlina Perez, Lance Cpl. Jonathan Wright, Cpl. Yesseria Colon, and Lance Cpl. Chastity Vangosen. The Marines did a two-minute drill after running 1.5 miles in boots and flack vests with weapons. They then proceeded to a 1/4-mile run/patrol in a creek, then a 1/2-mile run to the Base Ellipse, where they fought with pugil sticks and batons before returning to the Marine building for a room-clearing exercise. (photo by Lance Cpl. Pauline Martinez)

PATRIOT |

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Published monthly for Patriots like Airman 1st Class Anthony Boido, Feeding Hills, Mass., and 3,053 reservists and civilians of the 439th AW and the wing's geographically separated unit at Hanscom AFB, Mass.

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