



# PATRIOT

439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing | Westover ARB, Mass. | Volume 42 No. 2

February 2015 | Patriot Wing -- Leaders in Excellence



## Countdown to the Great New England Air Show

update on page 5



photos by Ken Middleton and W.C. Pope



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**439<sup>TH</sup> AIRLIFT WING COMMANDER**  
**Col. Al Lupenski**

<b>CHIEF OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS</b> Lt. Col. James Bishop	<b>LAYOUT/VISUAL INFORMATION</b> W.C. Pope
<b>WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Andre Bowser	<b>STAFF</b> TSgt. Brian Boynton TSgt. Stephen Winn SSgt. Kelly Goonan SrA. Alexander Brown SrA. Charles Hutchinson IV SrA. Monica Ricci
<b>SUPERINTENDENT</b> MSgt. Andrew Biscoe	
<b>NCOIC</b> MSgt. Timm Huffman	

**UTA SNAPSHOT -- SATURDAY**  
>> New UTA chapel service (Bldg. 1100), begins at 5 p.m. with live music. Information: 557-3031

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**ADVANCE ANGELS >>** The U.S. Navy Blue Angels made an advance visit in December for the 2015 Great New England Air Show. The air show will be held May 16-17. Turn to page 5 for more coverage.



**WAIT A MINUTE >>** The fickle New England weather has been unusually cold as the new year began. Temperatures have ranged from 45 degrees to 10 below. (photos by SSgt. Kelly Goonan and W.C.Pope)

**EDITORIAL Reaching out to help each other supports our mission**

As we enter the new year, I just want to thank everyone for the continued hard work and dedication to our mission. The 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing continues to excel as demonstrated by the numerous group and individual awards we received. I know this coming year will produce many more accolades.

Our wing leadership recently conducted a strategic planning session. Part of this event was to re-evaluate our mission statement. The goal was to determine exactly what we do and put it in a statement that Airmen can easily remember.

After much discussion the new mission statement of the 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing is:

*Provide global-reach capabilities with mission-ready Citizen Airmen*

The question is... how do we do this? We all know what training we require to be mission-ready. But the real focus is on our Airmen. We have superb programs in this wing that can assist our Airmen and families to be more resilient and ready to deal with the challenges of military service. A recent program offered aims to prevent suicide. Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training teaches not only prevention, but basic intervention as well. In 2014 we trained 40 members.

Word is spreading about its effectiveness. The next class filled up in two hours -- a testament to how much our wing's men and women look out for each other. The wing chaplain, our director of psychological health, and the Airmen and Family Readiness staff continue to team up and promote resiliency through their Resiliency Initiative.

We are lucky to have individuals and programs like this to ensure we continue to put our Airmen first. On page 8 of this *Patriot*, you can read an Airman's account of Westover taking care of its own.

While the member is volunteering to serve, we need to reach out to

families. That's where our Key Spouse Program comes in. Its volunteers enhance readiness and establish a sense of Air Force community. This program promotes not only individual readiness but family readiness and establishes continued contact with spouses and families. Please continue to support this valuable program.

For more information, contact the Airmen and Family Readiness staff at 557-3024.

Once again, thank you for all you do. These times are challenging. Our Airmen and their families are our most important resources. I know we will continue to make them our top priority.



**by Col. Al Lupenski**  
**439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander**

**BRIEFS**

**Relationship seminar**

A full-day relationship seminar will be held Feb. 12 from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Reservists and their spouses are welcome. Reservists may be married, dating, or single. The seminar will be held in the 439<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medicine Squadron clinic. Email Michelle Sanders, the base director of psychological health, to sign up at [michelle.sanders.1@us.af.mil](mailto:michelle.sanders.1@us.af.mil).

**UMass plans proposed research facility**

A partnership with UMass Amherst has brought funding to Westover with a proposed building project. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has allocated \$5 million to the renovation of the old Armed Forces Reserve Center (Bldg. 5550) for research and development. Plans call for collaboration between the state, UMass Amherst, Westover ARB, Westover Metropolitan Airport, and NASA. The proposal calls for training air traffic controllers and pilots. Other aviation-related training and research are planned. More information will be provided as soon as it becomes available.

**Youth Outreach needs volunteers**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Outreach is scheduled for May 27. Job Corps members from the Department of Interior will join this year's group of teenagers from five area schools. The main goal of this program is to foster community relations and impart leadership and mentorship. Volunteers may sign up at the Equal Opportunity office. Call 557-3225 for more information.

**Snowline provides base weather information**

In the event of inclement weather call the snowline at 557-3444 for information on base closure or delayed reporting.

**Wing Airmen earn command-level awards**

Westover Airmen recently earned command-level awards: Air Force Reserve Command Weapons Safety NCO of the Year: SMSgt. George Caprioli, 439<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron; Gen. Billy J. Boles Mentorship Award: SMSgt. Shane Robitaille, 439<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron; and the Air Force Informational Dominance Outstanding Cyber: SrA. Daniel Parker, 439<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron. In addition, the 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Equal Opportunity Office staff earned the Col. Joseph L. Brown Equal Opportunity Program Award.



# Wing welcomes honorary commander



Jendrysik retired in 2003. But he remains very active speaking in front of groups of people as the chairman of the Chicopee Historical Commission. He's also Chicopee's city historian. His historical knowledge -- which spans well behind us all and back into Chicopee's 19<sup>th</sup> century era -- has informed the 100,000-plus readership of the Springfield *Republican* newspaper for many years. Mr. Jendrysik has written more than 600 history columns. Jendrysik's thorough research on Chicopee has included Westover's 75 years of service to our nation. He was a writer and contributor

by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe

This year's honorary wing commander coincides with Westover's history.

A standing ovation honored Stephen Jendrysik, a historian and retired Chicopee teacher, as he concluded his remarks as the 2015 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing honorary commander, at the Jan. 10 Commander's Call.

Col. Albert Lupenski, 439<sup>th</sup> AW commander, chose Jendrysik, 75, as the honorary commander, reciting the oath in front of more than 1,000 439<sup>th</sup> Airmen at the Base Hangar.

"We're delighted to have you here; we're proud to have you here," he told the hangar full of reservists.

"I was born the same day this place opened," Jendrysik said. "As you celebrate your 75<sup>th</sup>, so do I -- this summer."

Jendrysik and his wife, Barbara, toured the base control tower just before Commander's Call, and took in one of the best views of the base and western Massachusetts.

Following more than 40 years of teaching in Chicopee, Mr.



to the local television documentary "50 Years at Westover," produced in 1990. The author of four historical books on Chicopee, Mr. Jendrysik has been married 51 years. They have two sons: Mark, a professor at the University of North Dakota; and Stephen, who is a commander in the U.S. Navy.

# Countdown to the Great New England Air Show

Additions to the list of performers for the May 16-17 Great New England Air Show include the Canadian Snowbirds. Air show organizers are working with the Galaxy Community Council in what may be one of the largest air shows at Westover in decades. Besides the Snowbirds, by mid-January, officials had confirmed three other major aerial acts for the show: The U.S. Navy Blue Angels, the Army's Golden Knights parachute team, and the Geico Skytypers. This year's air show honors the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the base. For more information, visit [greatnewenglandairshow.com](http://greatnewenglandairshow.com).



**COOL PERFORMANCE >>** The Canadian Snowbirds perform over Quonset Air National Guard Base in June 2009. The Snowbirds will join the Blue Angels for the 2015 Great New England Air Show. More information on the air show will be provided as soon as it becomes available. (photos by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe)



**SMOKIN' SHOW >>** The Geico Skytypers fly over the base during a pre-air show practice in August 2012. The World War II-era aircraft will also be part of this May's Great New England Air Show. (photo by SSgt. Kelly Goonan)



# TAX FILING HELP AFTER LOSS OF FREE TAX PREP ON BASE

by Debbie Gildea  
Air Force Personnel Center  
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON, (AFNS) -- With the new year comes the annual dread of tax-filing season and the confusion and stress that can go along with it, especially for military families whose tax returns can be further complicated by frequent relocations, involvement of rental properties and other aspects of military life.

To ease the burden, the Defense Depart-

ment, through Military OneSource, is teaming up again this year with H&R Block to offer no-cost tax preparation to the military community with a promise of guaranteed accuracy, a service that otherwise could cost military families hundreds of dollars or more.

## No-cost consultation, tax preparation

Military OneSource offers no-cost tax consultation and no-cost tax preparation and filing to service and family members,

as well as to reservists regardless of activation status, survivors, and separated service members until 180 days after their retirement, discharge or end-of-tour date, said Anthony Jackson, a Military OneSource program analyst.

Since it's online, the service is available to eligible tax-filers regardless of where they are. "They can do one federal and up to three state tax returns -- again, at no cost to the service or family member," Jackson said.

## New features this year

This year, he said, the service is adding features to accommodate those with special tax-filing needs. "If your tax situation includes rental property, charitable deductions or mortgage interest, this software can accommodate those particular situations," he explained.

Tax experts also are available by phone at no cost for anyone who may have questions before they start using the online tax preparation software.

"You're getting individuals when you're talk-

ing -- tax consultants who are thoroughly educated on the military situation, no matter what it is," Jackson said. They also have knowledge of special tax exemptions for combat duty and other situations unique to the military.

The tax service being offered by Military OneSource is currently active.

Military OneSource was established by the DOD in 2002 to provide comprehensive information on military life free of charge. The free service provided by the

volunteers with Massachusetts National Guard in previous years at the Airmen and Family Readiness Center, will not be available at Westover this year.







**439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing  
Commander**  
Col. Albert Lupenski

# 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing

January 2015



**Vice Wing Commander**  
Col. Richard Tubbs



**Command Chief**  
Command CMSgt. Timothy Maguire

# Westover

Air Reserve Base  
“Leaders in Excellence”

## The Patriot Wing



**439<sup>th</sup> Operations Group**  
Col. Michael Miller

**439<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group**  
Col. Kerry Kohler  
MSgt. Timothy Cawthra



**439<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group**  
Col. Kenneth Lute



**439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Staging Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Karen Gardner  
MSgt. Kimberly Kopp



**439<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medicine Squadron**  
Col. Stanley Chartoff  
MSgt. Matthew Mynczywor



**439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Joseph Matson  
MSgt. Rayanne Emerson



**439<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Stephen Taylor  
MSgt. Alexander Reno



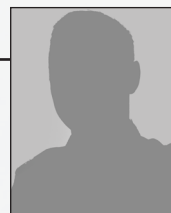
**337<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Michael Smith  
MSgt. Albert Raymond



**439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Control Flight**  
Lt. Col. Gilbert Kesser  
MSgt. Mark Seitz



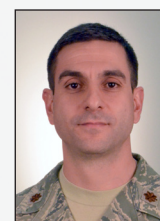
**439<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron**  
Maj. Nathan Meleo  
CMSgt. Frederick Hetu



**439<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron**  
Maj. Michael Smith  
Vacant



**439<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Wesley Thiel  
SMSgt. Daniel Howard



**439<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron**  
Maj. Robert Russo  
SMSgt. Stacy Gilman



**439<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Patrick Dufraine  
MSgt. David Owen



**439<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron**  
Maj. Trenton Holden  
MSgt. Shannon Donnelly



**42<sup>nd</sup> Aerial Port Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Qais Ajalat  
SMSgt. Dawn Rivet



**58<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron**  
Lt. Col. John Dugan  
SMSgt. Eric Harris



**439<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Xavian Draper  
MSgt. Chelsey Martin



# RELATIONSHIP RENOVATION

by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe

"This isn't treatment, this is all education." My wife and I recently spent the day in a classroom with a group of Patriot Wing Airmen and their "significant others," and heard these and many other words of reassurance -- and confirmation.

Three Westover staff members co-hosted a free "Relationship Renovation" seminar Dec. 5 at the 439<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medicine Squadron clinic. The staff included Shanna King, Airmen and Family Readiness Center; Chaplain (Maj.) Matthew Zimmerman, and Michelle Sanders, director of psychological health.

"The essence of humanity is our relationships," the chaplain told a group of about a dozen single and married reservists and their spouses. "We're here today to help you grab the general ideas with maintaining relationships. And develop them."

DeAnne and I knew the seminar's length would mean we'd miss a day of work -- and for me, this meant a day away from preparing for that weekend's UTA. But we realized that our marriage's strength would only

stand to gain from what we'd learn, and our supervisors had approved our attendance.

Sanders, a licensed psychologist, has been at Westover for about seven months. She's worked with the gamut of the human age range -- from a three-year-old to a person in their late 70s. She reassured the group that it's normal to have many things that are uncomfortable in a relationship.

"Change is very uncomfortable for people," she said. "Discomfort is a sign you're growing and changing."

All three of the facilitators reinforced a sense of the "Westover family." They provided easy-to-understand word pictures:

-- Create a "bank account" for your relationship. Make "deposits" into the account. Put positive stuff into the account first.

-- The keys: "Decide, don't slide... Make it safe to connect... Do your part... Time out."

-- The speaker-listener technique (for spousal discussions): Remember that the speaker has the floor. Wait until the speaker is finished talking before you speak.

-- Remember that conflict is normal and needed.

-- When there is conflict, you can feel

"flooded" with frustration and anger. Slow down and do not talk when flooded. Take a time out to let your brain calm down.

-- Spouses are "wired differently." People have personality differences. That's OK. There are perpetual problems with personality differences. Spouses should develop acceptance of these.

Sitting in a classroom for an entire day may not have sounded exciting from the outset, but DeAnne and I left the clinic that afternoon having learned from people that already know the Westover family well -- they know the base's mission rests on the coherence and continuity of the family. A day in a classroom with your significant other is worth the time and the prioritization amid the busy demands of our schedules.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: These seminars are open to reservists, their spouses, and civilian employees at Westover. For more information on these classes, email Michelle Sanders at michelle.sanders.1@us.af.mil. The next class will be held Feb. 12 from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the clinic classroom.*

## Around Westover

**ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS** >> The 2014 annual award winners are, from left, Capt. Frances Dixon, MSgt. Albert Raymond (first sergeant), MSgt. Gregory Pauli (SNCO), MSgt. Patrick Yarusso (NCO) and SrA. Anthony Secreto. At far right is SrA. Janet Izquierdo, the wing's Airman of the Fourth Quarter. Not pictured are Shirley LaFlamme and James Boudreau, Civilian and Civilian Supervisor, respectively, who were recognized at the Jan. 22 Civilian Commander's Call. (photo by TSgt. Brian Boynton)



**SHINING STAR** >> Col. Kenneth Lute, 439<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group commander, presents Capt. Vanna Nhem, 42<sup>nd</sup> Aerial Port Squadron, with a Bronze Star and citation during the December A UTA. (photo by TSgt. Kellie Miller)



## WESTOVER STRONG: Encourages Airmen to Set Ultra-goals



by SrA. Monica Ricci

Westover Strong "hit the ground running" in 2015 to begin the series' second year of inspiring discussion sessions, this time with a former Team USA trail runner.

Amy Rusiecki, an ultra-runner from Marlborough, Mass., spoke with Airmen about setting goals and actually reaching them, a fitting New Year topic.

"Challenge your weaknesses," Rusiecki said. "It's how you get stronger."

Rusiecki, who has run multiple 50 and 100 mile races, said the feeling of wanting to quit is all too familiar, but that the mind and its

ability to overcome those feelings is a much greater force.

"The brain is the most powerful muscle, it's the key to it all," Rusiecki said. "You have to truly believe that you are capable of achieving what you are going after, and you will."

Rusiecki said success can also come when its least expected, which is why it is important to plan goals and stay committed to achieving them without always worrying about when.

"Not every day is going to be the day," Rusiecki explained, "Just like not every race will be your personal record."

Amn. Max Castor, from the 439<sup>th</sup> Aero-

medical Squadron, was one of 25 who attended the lunch series, and said it inspired him to set more goals.

"What I will take away from this is that hard work is very important," Amn. Castor said. "And that never thinking about failure is just as important."

Command CMSgt. Timothy Maguire presented Rusiecki with a wing coin and reminded the audience that it's not always easy.

"They're interesting, those challenges in your mind," CMSgt. Maguire said. "But you have to look at it as fun more than anything."

## TROOP TALK What do you know about your heritage?

"Both my parents are from Puerto Rico. They have been here about 38 years. I was born and raised here. I love our music, food and culture."

>> SrA. Janet Izquierdo  
439<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron

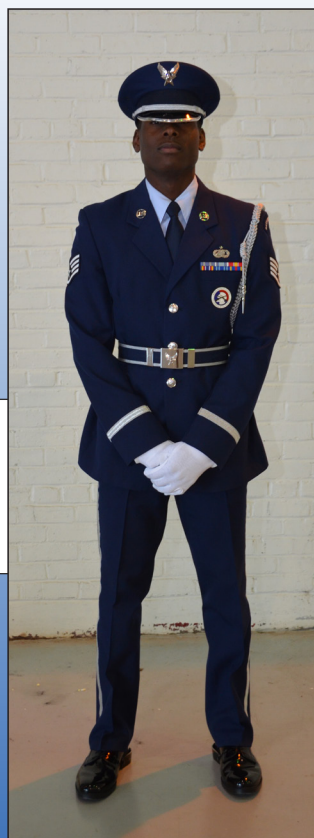


"Both my parents are from Ghana, I was born there but raised here since I was four years old."

>> SSgt. Abdul Addy  
439<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron

"My parents are from two of the largest islands in Greece, Crete and Rhodes. They met in the U.S. in the 1980s after emigrating, making me a first generation citizen. My great grandfather was involved in the Battle of Crete, making bombs in factories to fight against the Germans."

>> Cpl. Kostantinos Melabianakis  
Marine Air Support Squadron 6



"My father is from Columbia and my mother is from Puerto Rico. Our family speaks different styles of Spanish, some words are different but we all speak both styles. One of the things I like the most is the different foods we prepare."

>> MSgt. Sally Granada  
58<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron

photos by TSgt. Brian Boynton



WESTOVER PATRIOTS

# LIVING THE DREAM

by SrA. Monica Ricci

For centuries, the American Dream has enticed people around the world to move to the United States to live and prosper. For a new Patriot Wing Airman, this dream became a reality.

“To be an American is an honor, it’s a privilege,” SrA. Maurice Ojwang said. “Many people still believe America is the land of opportunity, and it truly has been for me.”

During his childhood, SrA. Ojwang, a 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing financial services technician, had only imagined the United States as portrayed in movies.

He was born and raised in Naruku, Kenya, until he was 19, when he decided to move to the United States without his immediate family. Once he arrived, he quickly observed the positive attitude of Americans and wanted to replicate that.

“My first major culture shock was the ‘can-do’ attitude exhibited by most Americans.

I was in college with people twice as old as me and they were just transitioning into new careers,” SrA. Ojwang said. “Not letting circumstances slow down your progress is definitely an American mentality that is evident every day.”

It wasn’t long before SrA. Ojwang adopted the same mindset. He landed a full-time job and became a full-time student at Springfield Technical College. Then, he realized he didn’t just want to live the American Dream; he wanted to give something back.

“The more I asked about the military, the more I became interested,” SrA. Ojwang said. “I decided to join the Air Force because I wanted

to make my own contribution to America, and also challenge myself.”

He served four years on active duty as a finance technician and resource advisor at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., before re-enlisting as a reservist at Westover.

In that short time, he was awarded two Air Force Achievement Medals for his remarkable efforts working in finance and supporting the nuclear mission. “It just goes to show you how everything and everyone in the Air Force matters. I worked in an office, so it was nice to see my part in the big picture.” Ojwang said. “It might be a small part, but it’s nice to see how it affects the whole mission.”

Now an American citizen, Ojwang said the hardest part about being away from home is being away from his family.

“Of course I miss my family,” Ojwang said. “But America has made up for that, when it comes to being able to pursue the things



I want to and even just having the opportunity to do so. A lot of my peers take it for granted, but I always remind them that it could be worse.”

SrA. Ojwang said the constant moral support from his family has allowed him to feel great about his choice to move to America. “Not having to worry about food, where the next meal will come from, security, or having somewhere to live, is a tremendous opportunity,” he said. “I can’t emphasize that enough.”

Now that the Airman has more free time as a reservist at Westover, he plans to live out more of the American Dream by earning a bachelor of arts in finance and biology. “It really has been a land of opportunity for me,” he said. “I’m going back to school, I traveled, and I bettered myself not only materially, but mentally. It’s been a blast. I thank the military for that.”

## POPE’S PUNS

by W.C.Pope



## PROMOTIONS

**Colonel select:**  
Patrick Dufraine  
Joseph Matson  
Laura Radley



**Senior Master Sgt.**  
Kara Stackpole



**Master Sergeant**  
Jessica Andersen  
Manuel Reyes



**Technical Sergeant**  
Timothy Bielecki  
Ian Leblanc  
Corina Scagliola



**Staff Sergeant**  
David Boido  
Patrick Fugler  
Peter Gauvin  
Lauren Greene  
Lee Ilec  
Nathan Richardson  
Robert Smyth  
Brian Valentin



**Senior Airman**  
Jared Allen  
Richard Bright  
Gabrielle Cartagena  
Josph Godlewski  
Shonsharay Norwood  
Alfredo Rosario Roman  
Christopher Smith  
Robert Smitherman  
Jordan Vert



**Airman First Class**  
Evan Crossman  
Sean Grendon  
DJ Grigg  
Kyle Johnson  
Josue Mendez  
Robert North  
Orion Russell  
Kim Tu  
Benson Sseriwagi  
Sean Morley



**Airman**  
Rodriguez Acevedo  
Ian Andrews  
Jared Pinnelle  
Casey Spaulding  
Nathaniel Wilcox



### Westover Helpers

**Psychological Health**  
557-2623 Building 2235  
**Sexual Assault**  
557-3862 Building 1100  
**Equal Opportunity**  
557-3225 Building 1850  
**Airman and Family Readiness**  
557-3024 Building 1100  
**Chaplain**  
557-3360 Building 1100

## FACES OF WESTOVER

### A1C Sarina Such

439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

The third time was a charm for A1C Sarina Such, a 439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron reservist.

“This is actually my third UTA,” said the Airman from Enfield, Conn. She said she was “learning the ropes,” and feeling welcome in her new military family.

When she’s not working in the dental unit of her squadron, A1C Such said she’s in school with her aim set high.

“I’m planning on finishing my nursing degree, which I’m in the midst of getting,” she said.

A1C Such said the military was new to her on many levels. “I’m just happy to be here and to be a part of the military — since none of my family has been (a part of the military).”

In being a trailblazer, A1C Such said some hurdles have come with the job. “The challenge here has just been getting used to military life in general: Having to put the hat on while walking outside and having to remember to salute anyone who has a symbol other than a few stripes.”

Despite the challenges of getting used to military life, A1C Such said things are getting easier by the day, and there’s always someone around to help her along the way.

“Today, I didn’t know where to go, and everyone was telling me where to go... around here everyone is willing to help, which I really like. Everyone who I work with seems really helpful. Everyone’s always very nice to me.”

-- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Andre Bowser



### RETIREMENTS

**Master Sergeant**  
Anthony Branco  
Martin Bray  
Charles Loya

**Technical Sergeant**  
Bradley Jordan  
Thomas Jourdan  
Steven Langevin  
Patrick Mooney  
Adam Mulkern

**Staff Sergeant**  
Stephanie Potter

### SERVICES CALENDER

westoverservices.com  
by Mollie Anello, services marketing assistant

**CLUB >>** Feb. 1 is the Super Bowl! Join us in the lounge for food and drink specials, games and prize giveaways, at halftime, football trivia and more; beginning at 3 p.m. Super Bowl Sunday! Join us Feb. 7 from 8 p.m.-12 a.m. for DJ Kuls in the Club Lounge. And then on Feb. 21, Emotion returns to the club from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m.! Don’t miss these events!

**BOWLING >>** Looking for something to do on Valentine’s Day? Join us for a Scotch Doubles Tournament, Feb. 13 and 14. Bowl anytime between 5 and 11p.m., You bowl the first ball and your partner bowls the second!

**FITNESS CENTER >>** Three-Point Shootout – Feb. 20 at 4 p.m., sign up today!

**OUTDOOR REC >>** Winter time is in full swing at ODR! Skis, snowboards, toboggans, snowshoes, ice fishing equipment and much more! Stop by or call today to check out our full winter line! For more information, call 557-2192.





Published monthly for Patriots like SrA. Ashley Dipallo, 439<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medicine Squadron, and more than 4,700 people assigned to Westover Air Reserve Base.

## EMPENNAGE

### Taking the plunge for the Pioneer Valley USO

A fund-raiser to support the Pioneer Valley USO will take place March 15 in South Hadley, Mass. Leprechaun Plunge participants who take the chilly dip in the Connecticut River need to raise at least \$100. The Pioneer Valley USO is among the charities. Executive Director of the Pioneer Valley USO Alan Tracy has issued a challenge; if \$2000 is raised for the USO he will make the plunge.

The event will be held at the Dockside Restaurant. For more information, visit [leprechaunplunge.com](http://leprechaunplunge.com).



**WESTOVER'S FUTURE >>** *Futures* magazine spotlights SSgt. Jose Gutierrez, a bio-environmental specialist with the 439<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medicine Squadron, for an upcoming issue. Westover's *Patriot* version of SSgt. Gutierrez will be featured in the March issue. (photos by SSgt. Kelly Goonan)