

the 102nd Intelligence Wing's Seagull

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Seasons Greetings from the
102nd Intelligence Wing

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 1ST PLACE, NGB MEDIA AWARDS
2ND PLACE, USAF MEDIA AWARDS
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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



The duty of Mentorship as a leader

By Col. Virginia Gaglio
102 IW/Commander

I get the honor of writing the last Commander's Column of the year for the Seagull each year as your wing commander. It's been 2 ½ years in this position and every day I feel humbled and thankful that I've been given the opportunity to lead this stellar organization.

There have been some fantastic highs during my command (last month we were notified the 102nd received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award – AFOUA) and unfortunately, some sad lows. What's amazing to me is how our wing of over 1,200 members can rally together to take care of each other. You don't always find that in your workplace and that's because being a member of the 102nd is more than work – it is part of who we are. For that reason, I've always felt a particular responsibility to make it a better place than I found it. **That's where mentoring comes in.**

The Air Force talks about mentoring a lot. We've even set up our own website where you can connect with a mentor/mentee online, providing a standardized process (MyVector). But what does it mean to actually mentor? In my opinion, it means you care enough to help the Airman that are "younger" than you succeed in their careers. **You take the time to get to know them and provide valuable and concrete advice how to achieve their goals. You give them support and you care enough to provide feedback that is meaningful.**

In my career, I've been blessed with some great mentors while I was enlisted, as a young officer and now a more "mature" officer.... At each step in my career I've found new ones. **Sometimes they picked me, they saw potential if cultivated, and other times I went directly to someone for advice because I wanted to know what they knew and how to make myself better.** Many of

these relationships have lasted decades and others, for short durations.

I try to do the same with people in our organization and in the greater Air Guard and Air Force. It's incredibly gratifying and occasionally frustrating to mentor Airmen who I see with potential. **The one thing I know, is that it's absolutely a key to someone's success and motivation to be provided mentorship. When we move on, we want to see our replacement succeed!**

Recently, I was asked to participate in a workshop at Joint Force Headquarters called "speed mentoring" as part of the Diversity and Inclusion Conference. I volunteered as a mentor, but was skeptical how successful it would be. It was patterned after "speed dating" where you have 8-10 minutes to talk to someone and you speak to multiple people who select you for a three hour period. I found myself laughing inside, but put my best effort forward as I sat down and wrote out some nuggets of wisdom I could share. As an Air Force officer, I wasn't sure that I'd be able to help an Army soldier with much, but found that preparing for the event gave me the courage to share. What I found was the evening was enlightening. Although 10 minutes isn't long; I really enjoyed talking to each person, learning quickly about their burning question and providing some guidance; a quick hand up for that evening. Maybe the mentoring won't go past that 10 minutes, but I know if I meet them again, we'll have already started a conversation.

What were some of my "nuggets" you ask? Here are a few:

- Keep your sense of humor, especially when it relates to yourself.
- Nothing in life worth having is easy... so do the hard work to make it happen.
- Make sure the basics are complete (PME, skill level, fitness, education). **If you're waiting for the opportunity for advancement before finishing what you need for the next level, you've already missed out.**

- Balance family, career and civilian career. One of them will be more important than others at different times. I know in my own career, I've never regretted putting family first. Maybe my career didn't move at the speed I wanted, but having my loved ones happy meant more.
- **Get outside your comfort zone** – always look for opportunities to stretch your limits. Volunteer for a new assignment, extra duty or learn something new. **If you're comfortable for too long, you're wasting your potential.**
- Set-backs in your career or disappointments **will happen**, and can be as important to your development as opportunities and promotions in your growth. **How you use them as a learning opportunity speaks more about you than your skills.**
- Be kind to those below, beside and above you. Don't push others down, when you could lift them up instead.

I find in my long term relationships either as mentor or mentee, the mentor assumes various roles over time. If successful, the number of roles can increase as the mentorship continues to grow: teacher, role model, guide, advocate or supporter, sometimes challenger and finally friend. **It can be a rich relationship that goes well past what the person initially needed for advice or assistance.** Some of my mentors have long been retired, yet I still look to them for support, advice and friendship. I know when I mentor someone, the gratification of their success is highly rewarding and I have a personal lifelong interest, even if we don't stay in communication.

My advice in this column is this – **if you've been blessed with a great career, it's your duty to share the wealth and help others.** Some you'll choose, others will choose you. Embrace the opportunity and give a hand. If you need a mentor, then look to someone you admire. It could be a supervisor, it could be a peer, or it could be someone you've met in another part of the organization that you respect. Don't be afraid to take the opportunity to ask for their keys to success. **You may just find a lifelong supporter.**

DPH: SAD-SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER

Ms. Jill Garvin
102nd IW/Director of Psychological Health

For those of you struggling with the time change and our New England winter season – yes the winter blues are back!

This time of year isn't always festive for everyone. I have had many conversations with members about how the weather effects our mood. There are many that are dealing with the death of loved ones or who have family that may be sick or dealing with an illness. This combined with less light can be very taxing on our system and psyche.

Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD for short, is a type of depression that occurs at the same time every year, usually starting in the fall and continuing through the winter. It is believed that SAD may be caused by a lack of natural sunlight.

If you watch the local news and weather you will see that from now until around December 21st we lose about 5-10 minutes of daylight per day. The most common symptoms of SAD include: moodiness, weight gain, increased sleep, less energy, inability to concentrate, loss of interest in work or other activities, sluggish movements, social withdrawal, unhappiness and irritability.

If you are experiencing some of these symptoms you are not alone! Seasonal Affective Disorder is estimated to affect 10 million Americans. I recently got a blood test and found I was low on vitamin D and I'm outside a lot! This effects mood, so next time you are at the Dr., consider getting a blood test.

There is treatment for SAD which can include light therapy (I have 2 lamps over in our intel "reset" room), medication, or counseling, depending on the severity of symptoms. Below are a few tips that may be helpful:

- Make your environment sunnier and brighter. Open blinds, trim tree branches that block sunlight or add skylights to your home. Sit closer to bright windows while at home or in the office.
- Get outside. Take a long walk, eat lunch at a nearby park or simply sit on a bench and soak up the sun.
- Exercise regularly. Physical exercise helps relieve stress and anxiety, both of which can increase seasonal affective disorder symptoms. Come to one of our yoga classes!

If you would like more information on Seasonal Affective Disorder ask your physician, check out info on-line or contact your DPH!



WING CARE PROVIDERS

This listing was compiled to assist you in caring for your Wingman. Please use this page for your information and as guidance for referral.

DIRECTOR OF PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH

The Psychological Health Program offers free of charge, confidential psychological assessments and brief solution focused coaching, consultations, referrals and case management. [Contact Ms. Jill Garvin, jill.a.garvin.civ@mail.mil, \(P\) 508.968.4827 \(C\) 508.237.6652](#)

SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Director of Psychological Health can be the first contact for individuals in suicidal crisis or those having thoughts of suicide. She can advise supervisors and peers regarding support for distressed coworkers, and is Point of Contact for Suicide Prevention Training and Education. [Contact Ms. Jill Garvin, jill.a.garvin.civ@mail.mil \(P\) 508.968.4827 \(C\) 508.237.6652](#)

AIRMAN AND FAMILY READINESS

The Otis Airman and Family Readiness Office offers a wide variety of services and programs that contribute to the mission readiness, resiliency, and well-being of the Air Force community by taking care of people. A&FR programs are available free of charge to military personnel, DoD civilians, retired military and family members. [Contact Ms. Erin Faye, erin.k.faye.civ@mail.mil \(P\) 508.968.4855 \(C\) 774.313.8534](#)

CHAPEL OFFICE

The mission of the Chapel Team is to provide a holistic ministry of presence, care and hope to members of the Wing in a flexible, responsive, and competent way. Private conversations of those seeking the counsel of Chaplain Corps personnel as matters of faith or acts of conscience are strictly privileged communication. [Contact the Chapel Office \(P\) 508.968.4508](#)

VETERAN'S CENTERS

We are the people in the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs who welcome home the war veterans with honor by providing quality readjustment services in a caring manner. We assist veterans and their family members toward a successful postwar adjustment. [1.800.905.4675 \(local - Hyannis 508.778.0124\)](#)

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATOR (SARC)

Providing private, confidential care for assault victims and assistance with reporting both unrestricted and restricted. [Contact Ms. Robin Mungin, JFHQ SARC at robin.m.mungin.civ@mail.mil, \(O\) 339.202.3118 \(C\) 774.286.1164](#)
[SARC Helpline: 508-889-6644](#)

MEDICAL GROUP

A resource for both medical and psychological conditions affecting the wellness of airmen: Provider consultation can be arranged for discussion of these and other conditions by contacting the reception desk or via your Unit Health Monitor. [Contact the Medical Group \(P\) 508.968.4091](#)



By Master Sgt. Steven Sargent
102 SFS/First Sergeant

In the Air Force, or military for that matter we rely heavily on each and every one to accomplish a highly complex and diverse mission for our national defense. We are all intertwined through communicating on multiple operational platforms in order to do what we were trained to do. Whether it's

going behind enemy lines to rescue our warriors from harm's way, providing precise coordinates to drop ordinance, relaying time sensitive information via Base Security Forces Defense, or intelligence gathering across the globe. We communicate all day, every day, in order to get the mission complete! And we do it very well.

With that said, the "communication" focus in this piece has to do with how we as Airman and Leaders share information through interpersonal communication. In this rapid fire information super highway world we live in, communication comes in all forms including, phone, email, text, Facebook, Twitter, etc...however, sometimes all we need to do is slow down and have better conversations. Communication can sometimes be overlooked as we race through our professional lives as Airmen, but it is arguably one of the most important elements to be an effective force, that starts with the men and women who wear the uniform every day.

In the 21st century Air Force, we communicate daily and the most effective way to relay a message quickly to a mass audience is usually through email. There are several ways to communicate in an efficient manner to the get a message out, but what about the one on one communication? It's the most personal form of communication we can engage in. This is by

far the most common and often the most difficult to perfect. To listen, not "hear", and listen effectively is in my opinion the most important part of communication. When you are truly part of a conversation you need to listen. We need to place those 1000+ thoughts prior to starting the conversation into temporary storage, stop thinking about what's for lunch, or what you plan to do during the upcoming weekend, and even professional and personal opinions in order to truly be in the moment and listen. Columnist Doug Larson said it perfectly, "Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd have preferred to talk." So in order to learn a thing or two within a conversation you need to stop talking and, you got it, listen. Listening is a discipline that a lot of us struggle with in our extremely busy and demanding military careers. In order to connect with each other and be a more cohesive and seamless Air Force, the key communication technique is, and I can't stress it enough, is to just listen.

So, the next time you are in a conversation with your Airmen, your supervisor, or just a great friend, sit back, set your voice to mute and turn the ears up.

You'll be amazed with the result.

By Office of The Adjutant General
Massachusetts National Guard

Stay up to date and informed of all the resources and benefits available to you. Connecting with us is easier than you think! Download the Massachusetts National Guard today for exclusive updates on events, job announcements, resources and benefits available to you and your family.

Check out the promo video on YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPxMR8xdigu&authuser=0>

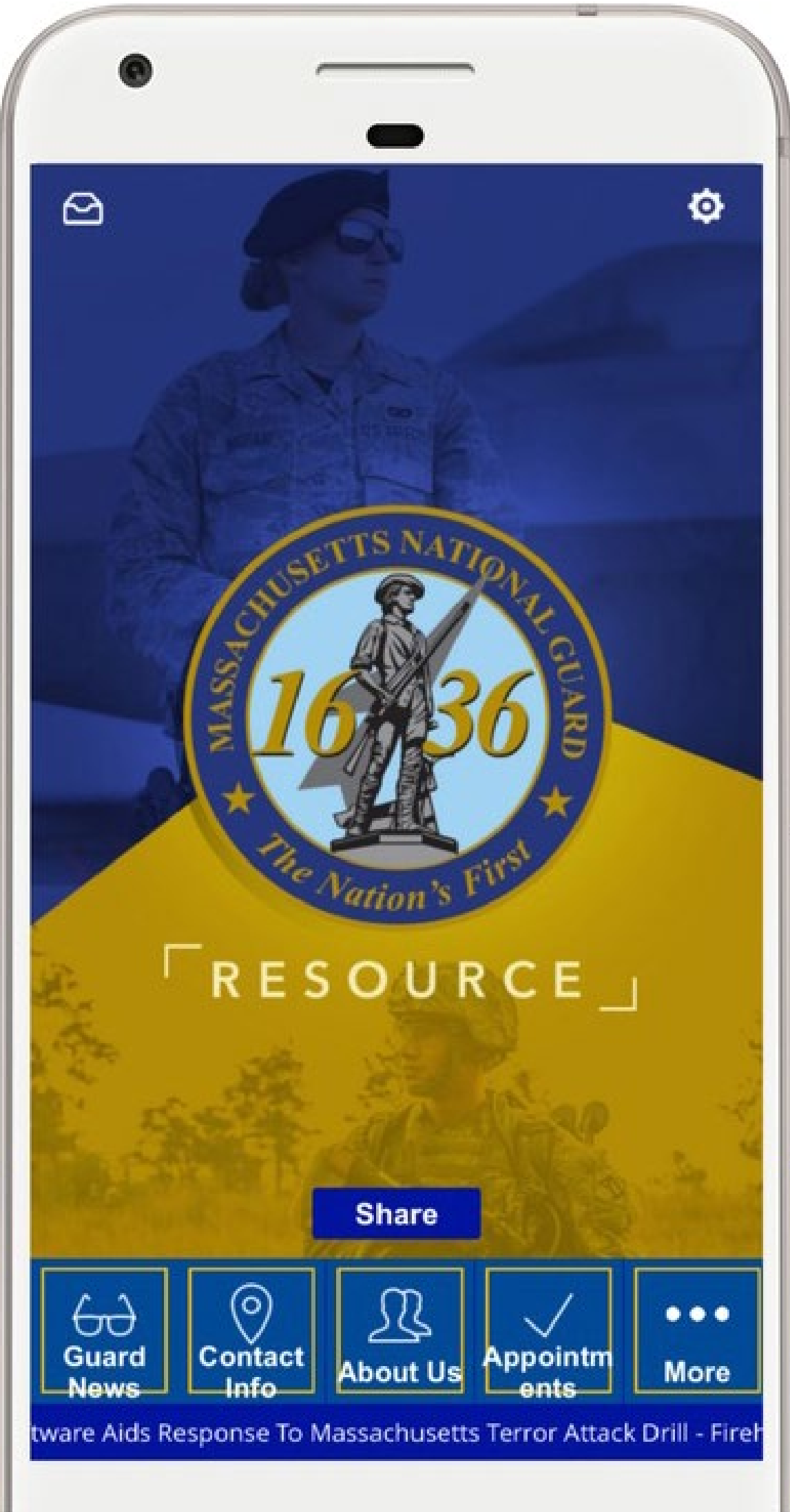
Search for MA NATIONAL GUARD in your preferred app store or click one of the links below:

Apple App Store:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ma-national-guard/id1347287039?mt=8>

Google Play Store:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.app_madigitalmedia.layout



CHAPEL CALL: THE HOLIDAY SEASON APPROACHES



By Chaplain (Maj.) Darrin Colarusso
102nd IW/Chapel

I hope this finds you all well-rested and fed after Thanksgiving, in good spirits with pleasant thoughts at the approach of the holidays. May whatever cultural expression of the season you await with excitement be fulfilling for you this year. That is, if you're a big fan of Black Friday and the subsequent mall rush (or the exact opposite!), I hope it is in full swing for you. Personally, for example, I tend to stay away

from the race of radio stations competing to see who can play holiday music the earliest, at least until after halfway through the Christian season of Advent. Nevertheless, I have seen the most Grinch-like personalities turn to childlike glee when that first Christmas carol hits the airwaves sometime during Thanksgiving weekend. Creating your own internet streaming channel at your own convenience just doesn't have the same effect as the change in the program lineup of the local station. I vote that be the official ushering in of the Holiday Season because we are not listening alone, but with everyone else.

Let's ponder that for a second. Humans are social creatures. Somehow when everyone is involved in the same event or we are sharing in the same celebration, it adds to our individual enjoyment of it. Just think of how much we get fired up for the true final holiday of the season: the Super Bowl. In contrast, no matter how much I like Christmas music, it's not the same pulling it up on my phone in July to hear it by myself. Some of that technology has great personal benefit. It is a genuine, remarkable advance to be able to link my phone to a miniature speaker with outstanding sound quality so that I can relax pretty much anywhere on a summer evening without hauling my component stereo system along (if you're old enough to know what that was, or hip enough to be back into that sort of thing). However, it is also true that as we have become more individually empowered by technology, the sense of shared cultural experience has diminished, which can really have the effect not only of being an individual, but being isolated.

My father says that his evocative memory of Christmas youth is walking down the streets of Boston and smelling the roasting chestnuts and hearing the sound of Christmas bells from private stores. I guess mine is going to a decorated mall or waiting for a claymation Santa to air on TV. Pathetic in comparison, really, which is why I'm the king of lamenting the consumerism that has altered the feel of this Holy Season, just as I am wary of the further isolating effects of our personal technology. Nevertheless, I highly recommend one of those miniature speakers as gifts. Just don't buy it online. Go to the overcrowded mall and get the waft of any number of manufactured fragrances available, from Cinnabon to Yankee Candle, and hear the sounds of whirring radio control devices and the pitch of those guys in the kiosks. And don't go alone. Bring a wingman who tends to get lost in personal devices.

You'll notice the sounds of kids in their not-yet-lost youthful wonder along with everyone else.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE RSD

Saturday	
1500 hrs	Roman Catholic Mass, Army Chapel (the white chapel outside the Inner Gate) Building 1201
Sunday	
1030 hrs	Roman Catholic Mass, Building 158, 3rd Floor - Band Room
1100 hrs	Christian Worship, Building 330, Conference Room 7
Thursday	
1130 hrs	Weekly Bible Study, Building 170, Chaplain Office

If you need or want a worship experience other than these, contact us at 508-968-4508. We will be happy to help you.

DECEMBER RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

2-24	Advent - Christian - 40 days of prayers in anticipation of the Messiah's coming
3-10	Hanukkah * - Jewish - Jewish Festival of Lights. Commemorates the Maccabean revolt in 165-164 b.c.e. recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem Temple. Special readings and praise songs focus on liberty and freedom. The eight candle Menorah is lighted
6	Saint Nicholas Day - Christian - patron saint of children and role model for gift giving
8	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu) ** - Buddhist - Prince Gautama sat under Bodhi tree, vowing to remain there until he attained supreme enlightenment
8	Immaculate Conception of Mary - Catholic Christian - Belief Mary was preserved from original sin all of her life.
12	Feast day Our Lady of Guadalupe - Catholic Christian - appearance of the Virgin Mary
16-25	Posadas Navidenas - Hispanic Christian - journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem
21	Solstice - Day when light returns to the world and sunlight lasts longer
21	Saint Thomas the Apostle - Christian
21	Yule * - Wicca/Pagan northern hemisphere
21	Litha * - Wicca/Pagan southern hemisphere
24	Christmas Eve - Christian - Night before the birth of Jesus
25	Christmas * - Christian - Birth of Jesus
25	Feast of the Nativity ** - Orthodox Christian
26	Zarathosht Diso ** - Zoroastrian - Death of Prophet Zarathushtra
26	St Stephen's Day - Christian - Remembrance of the first Christian martyr
28	Holy Innocents - Christian - Remembrance of children killed by King Herod
30	Holy Family - Catholic Christian - celebration of the love between the family of Jesus
31	Watch Night - Christian

TEAM IN FOCUS: 102ND COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT

By Staff Sgt. Thomas Swanson
102 IW/Public Affairs

One essential characteristic that all military units have in common is the need to communicate. We communicate to share information, to share ideas and to coordinate action. Unless face to face, this transfer requires electricity and technology; to carry our messages across systems, and invisibly through space on electromagnetic wavelengths.

Here at the 102nd Intelligence Wing our missions almost completely rely on electronic communication. Providing and maintaining this critical function is the responsibility of the 102nd Communications Flight. The 102 CF is comprised of 36 military and civilian personnel committed to satisfying the electronic communications needs of our Airmen.

“Our mission is to deliver and maintain the highest levels of cyber communications to the wing, the mission and to our customers. That includes phone, radio and computer services,” explained Chief Master Sergeant Michael Ulich, 102 CF Chief Enlisted Manager. “How it applies to the intelligence missions, we’re providing them the capabilities to pull all that imagery and information in to do their jobs, and get the information back out to people.”

According to Chief Ulich the 102 CF is broken out into two main branches, Plans and Operations.

“Our Plans folks definitely are the pulse of our current and future cyber planning and programming. They organize and direct sustainment activities to maintain our current base cyber capabilities while expertly managing the implementation and project installation of future technological capabilities,” said Ulich. “Any new building that’s being built works with the Plans shop to ensure base communications architecture, configuration and integration conformity.”

Functions within the Plans section include

a number of different career Air Force Specialty Codes. Client Systems specialists provide planning and programming expertise support relating to software, hardware and client-level information technology support functions, while Cyber Transport Systems specialists contribute voice, data, and video services expertise. Also within the Plan Branch are Cyber Surety specialists or “Cyber Defenders” as Ulich calls them, who focus on network vulnerabilities. Unfortunately, Department of Defense communication networks are always a target for unwanted intrusion by our adversaries.

“There’s always efforts to get into the network,” said Ulich.

While the Plans branch performs planning and implementation activities, the Operations branch is focused on mission execution, performing hands-on administration of the communication networks. With several of the same AFSCs including Client Systems and Cyber Transport, the Operations branch also has Cyber Systems Operations specialists who work directly with the network control center, Radio Frequency Transmission Systems specialists who operate and maintain the unit’s radio equipment and Knowledge Operations Management Airmen responsible for records management and replying to Freedom of Information Act requests.

In addition, the 102 CF includes a command staff function and the Quality Assurance office. QA ensures unit members are meeting or exceeding requirements by evaluating, providing guidance and references to these cyber professionals.

“QA is definitely the eyes and ears of the 102 CF Commander,” said Ulich.

Not only does the 102 CF support two federal intelligence missions and 30 tenant organizations across Joint Base Cape Cod – they do it around the clock with

the highest levels of cyber communication support. Additionally, the 102 CF assists the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a mobile domestic operations communications services function called the Joint Incident Site Communication Capability (JISCC).

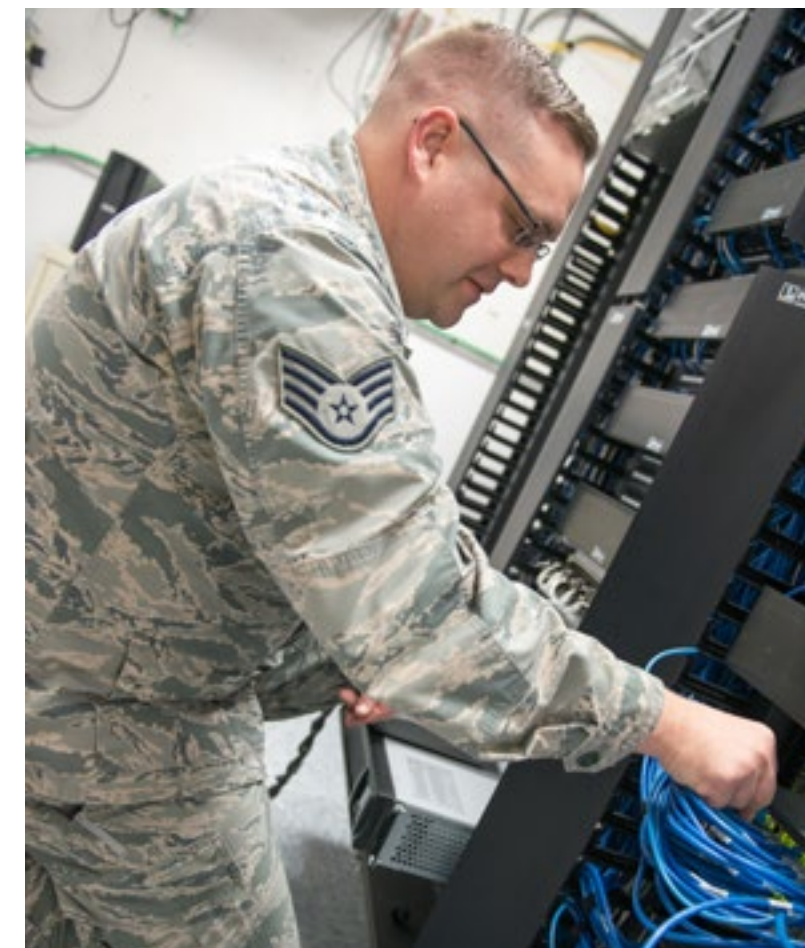
“Our JISCC is heavily relied on in Massachusetts supporting the CBRN Task Force,” said Ulich.

The JISCC provides emergency communications capabilities including radio, telephone and internet access for first responders and was used most recently this summer during the 4th of July celebrations in Boston, and earlier in the year on standby for the Boston Marathon.

Some users of the network may notice that there’s a difference between the military network and those they use in the civilian sector. Ulich explained that some of the security measures that are put in place can sometimes “slow people down,” he continued, “but it’s in the efforts to protect the network, and ultimately protect the mission. With two intel missions, that’s paramount.”

The 102 CF is a small organization with a big job – providing cyber communications service and support throughout the base. “I am constantly amazed at the professionalism, technical abilities and “can-do” attitude of our cyber professionals at the 102 CF,” said Major Rick Haddon, 102 CF commander. “It is evident that our cyber team is preparing our customers for tomorrow’s challenges by providing excellence in cyber communications today. “

One thing’s for sure, we all rely on the vigilant work of the 102 CF to provide us a reliable network, defend us against an increasing number of cyber threats and to keep our crucial missions up and running.





VIGILANT GUARD 19-1

Vigilant Guard is a full-scale civil-military exercise program sponsored by U.S. Northern Command in conjunction with the National Guard Bureau. The program provides an opportunity for local, state, and federal agencies, National Guard units, and private sector partners to improve emergency response plans, inter-agency relationships and interoperability. The five-day exercise was held at various locations throughout Massachusetts from 5-9 November 2018. video: <https://dvidshub.net/r/69pqsb>



HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM THE SECAF, CSAF AND CMSAF



WARRIOR FIT II EVENT TO BE HELD IN JANUARY

By Senior Master Sgt. Sean Sullivan
102nd IW/First Sergeant

As we move into the Holiday season it is common for most people to loosen up a bit, indulge more and just enjoy the festive season. But when the calendar turns to January 2 and we step on the scale for the first time in weeks the number looking up at you is not always a good one. How can you get back on track and meet your 2019 fitness goals? By attending the Warrior Wellness II program being held January 7-11.

So what is the mission statement of the WWII program? To improve the lives of our Airmen who are struggling to meet health and fitness goals by addressing the five pillars of wellness and providing program aftercare, motivation and program monitoring. This program is NOT just for those who have struggled to meet the AFPT requirements, this is for anyone who has not met fitness goals and is looking for a comprehensive education. Those goals may be to score a 95% or better on the AFPT, lose the last few pounds of body fat or address a recent APFT failure.

How will we do this? First we will provide quality education from subject matter experts on the five pillars of wellness; physical, spiritual, emotional, social and family and to tie them together for a holistic approach to better fitness. Next, we will address fitness needs by teaching, coaching and mentoring the students to self-improvement. By addressing the five pillars we can increase personal value through the balanced human concept therefore increasing productivity of the individual.

This is not a fat camp, this is an educational and motivational experience that will provide the student with vast knowledge on exercise and diet and reinforce that information by strengthening all the pillars of wellness. The synergistic approach is the key to success and will improve your resiliency.

If you're interested in attending please contact Senior Master Sgt. Sean R. Sullivan at sean.r.sullivan3.mil@mail.mil and start taking control of your destiny as a warrior in the Mass. Air National Guard.

Check out this video from the last event: <https://dvidshub.net/r/p6ub9c>

The Details:

When? – January 7 through 11, 2019

Where? – Building 158 fitness area

Who? – Any 102 IW Airman who would like to break through physical barriers, learn more about the science of diet, exercise, fat loss, the nuances of diet for muscle building and improved quality of life.

How? – If you are interested, see your First Sergeant or contact SMSgt Sean Sullivan at sean.r.sullivan3.mil@mail.mil or call 774-836-0313. Class will be limited to sixteen participants so don't delay – sign up now!



THE 2019 COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

By Chaplain (Capt.) Derek White
102nd IW/CFC Coordinator

Members may opt into the uniform buyout for Drill weekend and all Fridays during the month of December and January by participating in giving through the CFC. Monday is the alternate day for those who take AWS on Friday. The process is easy. Simply go to www.newenglandcfc.org and select a charity of your choice from the website to give too. The rates for the uniform buyout are below:

- E1-E6: \$10 per day of Dec 2018 and Jan 2019 RSD -- \$40 for Dec and Jan RSDs
- E7-E8: \$12 per day of Dec 2018 and Jan 2019 RSD -- \$48 for Dec and Jan RSDs
- E9/O1-O3: \$15 per day of Dec 2018 and Jan 2019 RSD -- \$60 for Dec and Jan RSDs
- O4-O5: \$20 per day of Dec 2018 and Jan 2019 RSD -- \$80 for Dec and Jan RSDs
- O6: \$25 per day of Dec 2018 and Jan 2019 RSD -- \$100 for Dec and Jan RSDs
- E1-O6: \$5 per Friday from 01DEC2018 – 30JAN2019 -- \$40 for all Fridays in Dec and Jan

Turn in a copy of the printed receipt to your CFC Representative for your Group or Squadron. Members must have a set of uniforms on hand in the event they are needed. Members can donate time, money, or nominate a charity to be included for 2019.

The CFC allows Federal Employees to give through payroll deduction, online giving, or check. Each charity listed is heavily vetted to ensure the charity you give to is a trustworthy organization. The online giving option of the CFC allows multiple charitable donations to be made through one convenient website.

INSTRUCTIONS HOW TO GIVE:

- Go to <https://www.newenglandcfc.org/>
- **IMPORTANT:** MUST CREATE OR UPDATE PAST PROFILES TO INCLUDE
 - **YOUR DEPARTMENT:** MILITARY – AIR FORCE
 - **YOUR AGENCY:** AIR NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT CENTER
 - **YOUR OFFICE:** ANG READINESS (UIC:FFG1V1) (Otis AGB, MA) (CFC:92LFV6)
- Select a Charity / Charities and amount
- Print Certificate and give to Squadron or Group CFC Coordinator

Primary Work Location ZIP or Postal Code ⓘ

02542

☐ I am located in a non-US or foreign territory without a ZIP code.

Military or Civilian ⓘ

☒ Military ☐ Civilian

Your Department

Military - Air Force ▼

Your Agency

Air National Guard Support Center ▼

Your Office

ANG READINESS (UIC:FFG1V1) (Otis AGB, MA) (CFC:92LFV6) ▼

MARAJUANA STILL ILLEGAL FOR AIRMEN DESPITE LOCAL AVAILABILITY

By Staff Sgt. Thomas Swanson
102 IW/Public Affairs

As you may have heard, marijuana recently became legal to purchase and consume under Massachusetts state law.

That said, it's still illegal under federal law all across the country. As communities and law enforcement officials work through the questions that have been raised in states that have voted in these new laws, military members should know that there is no debate regarding marijuana use for those serving in uniform.

Marijuana consumption is not permitted in any fashion, period.

As members of the United States military we are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which places specific standards of conduct on Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines. In Article 112A of the UCMJ it states that anyone who wrongfully uses, possesses, manufactures or distributes any controlled substances including marijuana or any of its compounds or derivatives will be "punished as a court-martial may direct." That includes all cannabinoid derivatives, including products infused with Tetrahydrocannabinol, the main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, more commonly known as THC.

On November 19, 2018 the first retail marijuana shops opened for business in Massachusetts. Due to the new commercial availability of THC containing products, military members need to be extra vigilant about the foods and drinks they consume, especially during the holiday season. Many of us attend parties or gatherings with friends and relatives and have meals and libations prepared by others.

With the recent change to Massachusetts state law, some food and drink products are now being sold with THC intentionally added to them. In fact, THC could potentially be lurking in almost any kind of food item. THC infused products currently on the market include items like candy,

spaghetti sauce, chips, carbonated beverages and an assortment of baked goods. These products are being marketed as "edibles" and contain enough THC to cause a military member to fail a drug screen urinalysis.

It doesn't matter if you're off duty, working under Title 32, Title 10 or as a traditional guardsman. If you test positive for illicit drugs, no matter your status, you will jeopardize your security clearance and face disciplinary actions including likely separation from the military under less than honorable conditions. Additionally, all civilian employees of the federal government are also prohibited from any illegal drug use under federal law as a condition of their employment.

The bottom line is, with the increased availability of marijuana and the introduction of THC infused products to the marketplace in Massachusetts and other states, it's more important than ever to be aware of everything you put into your body.

Your friend's grandma's miracle sticky buns might look mighty tasty and get rave reviews at the big shindig, but if you're in the military or work for the federal government you might want to think twice and make sure they weren't made to treat her bad hip first before you jeopardize your career.



AROUND OTIS

(below) Col. Christopher Hurley, 102nd Mission Support Group commander presents Kim Scudder a shadow box in recognition of her 40 years of service on the occasion of her retirement. (top center) Full-time Airmen of the 102nd Intelligence Wing got together for the annual pre-Thanksgiving potluck held in Bldg 170. (top right) Members of the 102nd Intelligence Wing Diversity Team attended the Diversity and Inclusion conference at Hanscom AFB on Nov 3, 2018. The objective of the conference focused on the overwhelming impact of unconscious and implicit bias in the workplace and a three-pronged approach to maximizing humanity

through diversity. (bottom center) The 102nd Intelligence Wing joined with members of the Joint Base Cape Cod community as well as representatives from local and state police to conduct a table-top exercise to measure the capabilities interactions and engagement during an emergency situation, such as an active shooter scenario. (bottom right) Mass. Air National Guard commander, Brig. Gen. James LeFavor presided over the retirement ceremony for Lt. Col. David Bascom of the 102nd Intelligence Wing Plans Office. Bascom was joined by his wife, family and friends to celebrate his 39 years of military service.



REMEMBERING A CHRISTMAS TRUCE

From the Seagull Archives

The following story appeared in the December 2005 issue of the Seagull and was written by Chief Master Sgt. Don Nelson who was then the wing human resources adviser. As we have just marked one-hundred years since the armistice of World War I, Chief Nelson’s story is worthy of republishing. He wrote:

More than a few years ago, I heard the unbelievable story of when British and German soldiers celebrated Christmas together during the early days of World War I.

At first, I thought little about its significance but then I visited the Ypres battlefield where the event took place.

On Christmas Eve 1914 along the Western Front, the mud froze, shell-stunted trees were covered with frost, and the terrible smell of rotting flesh faded. The night was cold yet quiet.

German troops erected a few candle-lit trees and Chinese lanterns. They softly began to sing “Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht” In a gesture of retaliation, the British sang “The First Noel” followed by the Germans singing “O Tannenbaum.” While the British sang “O Come All Ye Faithful,” the Germans sang “Adeste Fideles.” Imagine in the middle of a war two warring nations both singing the same carol!

A German soldier invited a British soldier to cross over and one man ventured over the top and they shook hands in no man’s land. Soon thereafter, troops from both sides greeted each other in an area that just hours before was a killing field.

Small groups formed, giving way to larger ones. In some places, hundreds mixed, shaking hands and offering each other drinks and cigarettes.

A Scottish soldier produced a football and used hats as goalposts with the Germans doing the same things with their helmets. The game lasted an hour before a German commanding officer ordered his men back.

The unofficial truce lasted nearly a week. By then, the rain returned, the frozen mud softened and the guns opened up again. Men at the front remembered that they and their enemies had, in a time of inhuman horror, reasserted their basic humanity.

Christmas Eve 1914 was so long ago. Since then other wars have been waged, countless lives were lost, and hardship endured by soldier and civilian alike. The cost in all accounts has been incalculable.

What has not changed is the meaning of this season. The way people greet one other, the respect given to friends and strangers, and the accommodation extended to those in need all show the human side of this season.

It is comforting to know that people genuinely care for their fellow human beings regardless of their circumstances, religion, political affiliation, race or religion.

Let us try to keep this thought throughout the year!



An artist’s impression from The Illustrated London News of 9 January 1915: “British and German Soldiers Arm-in-Arm Exchanging Headgear: A Christmas Truce between Opposing Trenches. Saxons and Anglo-Saxons fraternising on the field of battle at the season of peace and goodwill: Officers and men from the German and British trenches meet and greet one another—A German officer photographing a group of foes and friends.” A. C. Michael - The Guardian Originally published in The Illustrated London News, January 9, 1915.

ON THIS DAY

December 1, 1955 – In Montgomery, Alabama, seamstress Rosa Parks refuses to give up her bus seat to a white man and is arrested for violating the city’s racial segregation laws, an incident which leads to the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

December 1, 1959 – Twelve nations, including the United States and the Soviet Union, sign the Antarctica Treaty, which bans military activity and weapons testing on that continent.

December 2, 1775 – The USS Alfred becomes the first vessel to fly the Grand Union Flag (the precursor to the Stars and Stripes); the flag is hoisted by John Paul Jones.

December 5, 1933 - The 18th Amendment (Prohibition) to the U.S. Constitution was repealed. For nearly 14 years, since January 29, 1920, it had outlawed the manufacture, transportation, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the U.S.

December 7, 1941 - The U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was attacked by nearly 200 Japanese aircraft in a raid that lasted just over one hour and left nearly 3,000 Americans dead.

December 8, 1765 – Cotton gin inventor Eli Whitney was born in Westboro, Mass. His invention used comb-like teeth to remove seeds from harvested cotton and had a tremendous impact on the economy of the South. By 1800, cotton production increased from about 3,000 bales a year to 73,000. He also developed the concept of mass production of interchangeable parts and the assembly line.

December 14, 1896 - World War II General James Doolittle was born in Alameda, Cali. On April 18, 1942, he led a squadron of B-25 bombers launched from the aircraft carrier Hornet to conduct the first American air raid of the war against mainland Japan. He also headed the Eighth Air Force during the Normandy invasion and was awarded the Medal of Honor.

December 15, 1791 - The Bill of Rights became effective following ratification by Virginia.

December 17, 1903 - After three years of experimentation, Orville and Wilbur Wright achieved the first powered, controlled airplane flights. They made four flights near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the longest lasting about a minute.

December 17, 1760 – Deborah Sampson was born in Plympton, Mass. During the American Revolutionary War, she disguised herself as a man and enlisted in the Continental Army under the name Robert Shurtleff. Although wounded in battle, she was not discovered until a severe fever unmasked her identity. She was dismissed from the army in 1783. In later life, she lectured professionally on her wartime experiences.

December 19, 1732 - Benjamin Franklin first published Poor Richard’s Almanac containing weather predictions, humor, proverbs and epigrams, eventually selling nearly 10,000 copies per year.

December 20, 1860 - South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union in a prelude to the American Civil War. Within two months Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas seceded. In April 1861, Virginia seceded, followed within five weeks by Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina, thus forming an eleven state Confederacy with a population of 9 million, including nearly 4 million slaves. The Union had 21 states and a population of over 20 million.

December 22, 1783 - Following a triumphant journey from New York to Annapolis, Maryland, George Washington, victorious Commander-in-Chief of the American Revolutionary Army, appeared before Congress and voluntarily resigned his commission.

December 24, 1942 - The first surface-to-surface guided missile, later known as the V-1 Flying Bomb, was launched by German rocket engineer Wernher von Braun. Called “Buzz Bombs” for the loud buzzing sound of their motor, they were used by Nazi Germany against Britain beginning in September 1944.

December 25, 1776 - During the American Revolution, George Washington took 2,400 of his men across the Delaware River. Washington then conducted a surprise raid on 1,500 British-Hessians (German mercenaries) at Trenton, New Jersey. The Hessians surrendered after an hour with nearly 1,000 taken prisoner by Washington who suffered only six wounded (including future president Lt. James Monroe). The victory provided a much needed boost to American morale.

December 27, 1571 – German astronomer Johannes Kepler was born in Wurttemberg, Germany. Considered the father of modern astronomy, he discovered the elliptical (oval) shape of the orbits in which the earth and other planets travel around the sun at a speed that varies according to each planet’s distance from the sun.

December 30, 1803 - The Stars and Stripes flag was raised over New Orleans as the United States took formal possession of the territory of Louisiana, an area of 885,000 square miles, nearly doubling the size of the U.S. The territory had been purchased from France for approximately \$15 million.

December 30, 1862 - During the American Civil War, the Union ironclad ship USS Monitor sank off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, during a storm, resulting in the loss of sixteen crewmen.

PROMOTIONS

SENIOR AIRMAN

Max Kirsis
Mark Halloran
*(Senior Airman Halloran was listed in last month's
Seagull but his first name was incorrect - Editor)*

STAFF SERGEANT

Andrew Klegraefe

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Marisela Garcia

MASTER SERGEANT

Christopher DeLuca
Andrew Perry
Joshua Emerson
Allen Nancarrow

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

Sarah Perry

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT

Christine Fallo

PERFECT FITNESS TEST

Lt. Col. John Keel
Maj. Mary Frisella
Master Sgt. Dwain West
Tech. Sgt. Richard Black
Senior Airman Gregory Blair
Airman 1st Class John Granfield

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Have you recognized an Airman lately?



Meritorious Service Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal
Air Force Achievement Medal
Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

Recognition can be both formal and informal. Medals are an important way to formally recognize Airmen. There are many medals and ribbons an Airman may be eligible to receive during their career. The most commonly earned medals are those for achievement, commendation and meritorious service which an Airman may be eligible for. There is also quarterly and annual awards - vital programs that provide deserved recognition and as a byproduct provide excellent material for medal packages. For more information on these programs, contact your supervisor, mentor, first sergeant, Commander's Support Staff or the Force Support Flight. Recognize an Airman today!

TREES FOR TROOPS PROJECT

Get a FREE Christmas tree and meet members of the Boston Bruins! Dec. 14, 2018 at Fort Devens Chapel, Bldg 683 from 1200-1500 hrs. Operation Service and the Boston Bruins Foundation are partnering to provide free Christmas trees to all Uniformed Service Members and their families, retirees and veterans. Coffee, hot chocolate, and snacks are available for a donation fee. Indoor warming area provided. POC: Mr. Scott Carter 978-796-2113.

PRESCRIPTIONS REMINDER

IAW AFI 48-123 chap 10, each ANG member is responsible for promptly (within 72 hours) reporting an illness, injury, disease, operative procedure or hospitalization to include MEDICATIONS to the Medical Group. Members who refuse to comply with requests for medical information are considered medically unfit for continued military duty and are referred to their immediate commander for administrative discharge processing IAW AFI 36-3209. Documentation may be faxed to (508) 968-4061, emailed to MSgt Amy McNeill, amy.t.mcneill2.mil@mail.mil or hand carried on Saturday mornings of each RSD.

CHIEFS COUNCIL CORNER

102nd Intelligence Wing Outdoor Recreation offers the area's best prices on boat, camper and trailer storage, with a secure on-base location to serve you. New customers are welcome now! Fees and charges are \$125.00 per calendar year. Please take a look at us, located inside the I-Gate next to Eagles Nest. We currently have nine slots open with plans to add additional spots this summer. E-mail Chief Walsh for terms and conditions at: michael.p.walsh6.mil@mail.mil or call 508-968-4380.

MASSACHUSETTS TUITION AND FEES WAIVER

Eligibility for the Massachusetts Tuition and Fees Waiver Certificate for state schools is determined by your status as a member of the 102nd Intelligence Wing. Members are eligible for the benefit the day they enlist or are appointed with the Massachusetts Air National Guard. The benefit may be used at any point during your membership with the 102nd IW. Contact the Base Training Office for more information at 508-968-4189.

HONOR GUARD OPENINGS

The 102 IW Honor Guard is seeking motivated airman of any rank to fill volunteer rolls in the Base Honor Guard. This is a rewarding opportunity that will allow you to show your dedication the Air Force and your strong military bearing. Honor Guard members are required to participate in a minimum of four details per year. These details include military funeral honors as well as wing and community colors events. While the Honor Guard would be glad to have you participate anytime of the month, if you can only participate on drill weekends that is acceptable as we are currently working on having at least 2 members from each squadron train to do retirements and special occasion events . Please stop by or call 968-4431 and see an Honor Guard member and inquire about this rewarding all volunteer force opportunity.

DEFENSE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT OFFICE NEWSLETTER

The Defense Travel Management Office is pleased to publish the fall edition of our quarterly newsletter, The Dispatch. Recognizing the need for better communication between the Defense Travel Management Office and the travel community, The Dispatch aims to provide timely travel-related news and updates. To view, go to: http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Docs/Dispatch/Defense_Travel_Dispatch_Fall_2017.pdf

MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The Massachusetts Air National Guard Historical Association's mission is to preserve the history of the Air National Guard in Massachusetts. Check out their Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pg/MassANGHA>

SEAGULL SUBMISSIONS

The 102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs Office welcomes your feedback and submissions. Got a great story idea? Is your unit or shop doing something impressive? We welcome articles written by unit members on topics of interest to the wing and its personnel.

WRITTEN STORY SUBMISSIONS

If you like to write and would like to submit a full article for publishing in the Seagull, we would be happy to take a look at it. Typically written stories are between 500-800 words and are formatted in the Associated Press (AP) format. Stories should have some relevance to the wing, its mission or its people. We reserve the right to review and edit your piece but will talk any edits over with you.

TELL US YOUR STORY IDEA

If you aren't interested in writing your own story but would still like to call attention to someone or something great happening in the wing, contact wing PA. Give us some background details and we will take it from there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Got something to say that doesn't warrant a full article? Send us your announcements and we will include them in the appropriate section of the Seagull. Please limit your message to a short paragraph or less.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Did you capture some great shots while training on a cool piece of equipment at some obscure training site out in the woods? Maybe you went to a great going away luncheon or a promotion ceremony. Perhaps you snapped a picture of you and your team working hard and building camaraderie. Send us your shots! Public Affairs can't always be there but we still want to share those moments with the wing. For submissions, just give us a few lines about what was going on, where the photo was taken, who is in it and who took the photo. We might be able to get them in the Around Otis section of the Seagull and possibly on our Facebook page.

FIND US

Public Affairs can be reached at x4516 or x7200, via email at usaf.ma.102-iw.mbx.pa@mail.mil or by simply dropping by our office in Bldg 170, Room 219. For official portraits and studio photography, we take appointments for Tues-Thurs from 0730-1130 or walk-ins on RSD Sundays from 0800-0900.

FY19 SEAGULL DEADLINES

Typically, 10 issues of the Seagull are published annually. Below you will find the deadlines for submission of content for each issue. The basic guidelines for submissions can be found on the left side of this page. Although Public Affairs makes every effort to accept your stories and images, we cannot guarantee content received after the submission deadline will make it in.

ISSUE SUBMISSION DEADLINE	
OCTOBER	1 Oct 2018
NOVEMBER	22 Oct 2018
DECEMBER	19 Nov 2018
JANUARY	24 Dec 2019
FEBRUARY	28 Jan 2019
MARCH	18 Feb 2019
APRIL	25 Mar 2019
MAY	22 Apr 2019
JUNE / JULY	20 May 2019
AUGUST / SEPTEMBER	12 Aug 2019



THE 102D INTELLIGENCE WING SMART PHONE APP

Available at an app store near you is the official smart phone app for the wing. With it, you will be able to access commonly used phone numbers, check on events happening in the wing, and find useful applications such as fitness, commonly used instructions and checklists, as well as the latest news from the wing.

GET IT TODAY!



THOSE AGING GHOSTS OF PEARL HARBOR

By Ted R. Sturm
Airman Magazine

The following story was published in Airman Magazine in 1971. With the losses suffered by the U.S. Navy well-documented, this story is told from the perspective of the Airman and the damage that was inflicted on U.S. Army Air Corp installations on the island of Oahu that fateful day. It also serves as a reminder to never forget.

If you are under 30, Dec. 7, 1941, is probably only another date in your history book. The day the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Ho-hum.

If you are over 40, the date is one you may never forget. And like everyone else in that age group, you probably have your own story of “what I was doing when I got the news that winter Sunday 30 years ago.” [Editor’s note: this article published in 1971.]

While nobody remembers the event like those who were actually there, it is still almost impossible to visit the Air Force bases on Oahu today without seeing visions of what it must have been like when the bombs rained down.

It’s not just the physical evidence, although some of that remains. It is more of an atmosphere, a still-vivid state of mind originally created and perpetuated by the concentrated, detailed accounts drummed into you by the press and radio during the weeks following the attack. Instantly you remember things like, “They strafed Hickam’s Hale Makai, the 3,000-man consolidated barracks.”

And there it is before you, today the headquarters for the Pacific Air Forces. You still see the bullet holes on the outside walls and on the metal stairways within.

You remember, “The hangar line is in flames,” and there it sits, many of the original buildings now restored but still carrying above the main hangar doors the painted-over emblem of the old Army Air Corps.

“B-17s of the 18th Bombardment Wing were destroyed on the ramp.” No B-17 Flying Fortresses there now. Several C-141s, a C-5, a couple of F-4s, some C-130s. No B-17s. Still, you can close your eyes and see the ghosts -- once proud birds, the elite of the force, backs now broken, the distinctive dorsal fin obscured by smoke.

The ghosts are there if you look for them, all right, though Hickam Air Force Base today bears little resemblance to the Hickam of 1941, the obvious landmarks, buildings and general layout are the same. But the original runway has been closed for years, and today’s jets share the main runway of adjoining Honolulu International Airport with the constantly arriving and departing commercial jetliners.

Once in a while an F-102 of the Hawaii Air National Guard roars out of the alert hangars across the base on the ocean side and disappears into Oahu’s blue skies. And almost daily, the dawn is shattered by C-141 transports departing for Southeast Asia or other parts of the world.

The four main Air Force installations in the Hawaiian Islands are on Oahu.

They include Hickam, Wheeler and Dillingham AFBs, and Bellows, now only an Air Force Station. All the bases except Dillingham were active in 1941. Altogether, there are about 13,000 USAF military and civilian personnel in Hawaii. Add family members, and you kick the total of Air Force people to more than 33,000.

For years now, Hickam has been known as the crossroads of the Pacific. The base services several tenant organizations and has a maintenance capability that boasts spares for every USAF aircraft in the inventory that can make the long, overwater flight from mainland. Although there are only 85 aircraft assigned, some 13,000 transient aircraft go through the base each year.

Wheeler, on the other hand, is just a shadow of the base it was in 1941. There is no flying other than that by Wheeler-based U.S. Army helicopters and several varieties of light aircraft. Wheeler is mainly a tenant, run by an air base squadron that furnishes administrative and logistic support to the Hawaiian Air Defense Division as well as to other agencies.

Bellows today has no aircraft at all. It is mainly a communications site and a recreation area, and is used by the Marine Corps for maneuvers.

It was different in 1941. Then, the Hawaiian Air Force boasted 231 aircraft, almost three times as many as the Air Force now has in Hawaii. To be accurate, however, it must be noted that Navy, Marine and Air National Guard aircraft bring today’s total -- and the defense capability -- up considerably.

There were 745 officers and 6,706 enlisted men in the HAF. Units were deployed at the three major bases. At Hickam, for example, were the 5th and 11th Bomb Groups (Heavy) and the 58th Bomb Squadron (Light), both part of the 18th Bombardment Wing. The headquarters of the 14th Pursuit Wing was at Wheeler, along with the wing’s 15th Pursuit Group, 18th Air Base Group and three support squadrons. Aircraft included P-40s and P-36s, plus a few other types. The 86th Observation Squadron was at Bellows.

The enemy aircraft attacked in two waves. In the first, 50 fighters, 50 horizontal bombers, 40 torpedo bombers and 50 attack bombers droned in from the north. In the second wave, which came 45 minutes later, there were 50 horizontal bombers, 80 divebombers and 40 fighters.

Hickam and Wheeler were hardest hit. Pursuits and 28 bombers launched the first attack on Hickam, a 10-minute raid on buildings of the Hawaiian Air Depot and the hangar line. After a 15-minute lull, five or six high-level

bombers hit the baseball diamond: six to nine others dropped to 150 feet and hit the water system, technical buildings, consolidated barracks and the planes parked wingtip to wingtip on the warming-up apron.

Later, more airplanes attacked other technical buildings, dispersed aircraft, barracks, the parade ground and the post exchange.

Wheeler was hit by 25 dive-bombers that spent 15 minutes making sure no aircraft would rise to challenge them. Despite that, four P-40s and two P-36s managed to get airborne 35 minutes after the initial attack. They flew 25 sorties in an hour. Other effective sorties were carried out by pilots of the 47th Pursuit Squadron a small Wheeler detachment training at Haleiwa. An hour later, enemy planes again strafed Wheeler.

Bellows got off easy. Only one fighter hit the base in the first wave, although nine more came in later for a 15-minute attack.

When the Japanese left for good, the HAF took stock of the damage. Of the 231 aircraft, 64 had been totally destroyed and no more than 79 of those left were usable. Hickam counted 121 people killed, 37 missing and 274 wounded. Wheeler lost 37 killed, 6 missing and 53 wounded. At Bellows, five died and nine were wounded.

The primary objective of Japan’s attack was the destruction of the Pacific fleet. Hard-pressed by the embargo put on by the United States and desperately in need of oil, tin and rubber from Borneo and the Celebes, the Japanese knew they must strike south. By destroying or crippling the fleet for six months, they hoped to have time to attack in the south, solidify their positions and prepare for American retaliation.

Naturally, Hickam, Wheeler and Bellows had to be hit to neutralize the air defense that might have caused the attack to fail.

From a military standpoint, the raid was a total success. Japanese losses were insignificant in comparison to the damage done to the United States’ forces. Of the 360 planes that roared in from the Japanese Navy task force, only 29 failed to return to the aircraft lying 200 miles to the north, and about 50 crashed while trying to land on the carriers.

Many things and many people have changed in 30 years. Hawaii is beautiful and peaceful again, its tropical serenity marred only by the knowledge that wars still plague our world.

This article reprinted from Airman magazine, December, 1971.

By the Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

WASHINGTON — This week the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) took a key step in its digital modernization effort by revamping its website accessed by 10 million customers per month who use VA's tools and content online.

To improve this experience VA's Veterans Experience Office and VA Digital Service gathered feedback from more than 5,000 Veterans, service members, their families, caregivers and survivors.

Many customers said they were having a frustrating experience, encountering a complicated collection of websites, forms, logins and tools. Through feedback, VA learned that many of them struggled to find what they needed. By listening to Veterans and working across VA organizational boundaries, the new VA.gov website shifts from a "VA as an organization" to a "customer-first" platform.

"Veterans, their families, caregivers and our many customers have successful online transactions in their day-to-day lives," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "They should expect the same exceptional digital experience when coming to VA. Our customers will receive a more simple and intuitive experience when accessing our online front door – the new VA.gov."

The new site contains homepage content that focuses on the top 20 tasks that 80 percent of VA's customer's need, the ability to login to receive a personalized experience and easy to understand plain language content. Logged in customers will find a dashboard summarizing the current status of services they receive from VA, whether those services are provided by the Veterans Health

Administration – such as prescription refills or the Veterans Benefits Administration – such as claim status. Customers can also update their contact information in one location rather than visiting multiple VA websites or making multiple calls.

VA is demonstrating that it is possible for Federal agencies to give the American people the online experience they expect and deserve. VA has been identified as the "co-lead" of the White House cross-agency priority goal on improving customer service.

The improved website is available at the VA's existing address, <https://www.va.gov>

View Secretary Wilkie's announcement here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DEfRIL63nCc&feature=youtu.be>

By National Guard Association of Massachusetts

The National Guard Association of Massachusetts (NGAMA) and The Adjutant General are pleased to announce two scholarships in 2019. In anticipation of NGAMA hosting the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) General Conference and Exhibition in 2020 – "Boston 2020" - the winner of the first scholarship will receive \$2020. In recognition of the first muster of the National Guard (December 13, 1636), the second scholarship prize amount is \$1636.

The NGAMA scholarships are to be awarded to Massachusetts National Guard members, their sons, daughters, or spouses.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: 14 January 2019

WHO CAN APPLY:

- A. Current members of the Massachusetts National Guard.
- B. Sons, daughters or spouses of a current member of the Massachusetts National Guard.
- C. Sons, daughters or spouses of a current member of the National Guard Association of Massachusetts (NGAMA).
- D. Applicants must be enrolled in or accepted to attend a regionally or nationally accredited degree or technical program.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

One application is considered an application for both scholarships. Typed applications and statements are preferred.

1. Scholarship Application (**see last page of the Seagull**).
2. One letter of recommendation (8 1/2 x 11) from an individual who can provide us with information regarding your character traits.
3. On a separate sheet (8 1/2 x 11) list extra curricular activities: i.e. clubs, athletics, community involvement and other significant accomplishments. College students are urged to list their high school activities and awards.
4. Official high school or college transcript(s). Transcripts must indicate grade point average.
5. Typed and double spaced, answer the following question: (Requirement – 3 pages, 8 1/2 x 11) Note: this essay is not intended to

be only a history of the topic, but should include a thoughtful opinion from the author.

Please conduct research, fully justify your position, and cite your sources.

How do you think the nature and/or scope of the National Guard's mission (to include your view of the citizen-soldier) could change in the next 20 years?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Complete application packets must be received via email or postmarked no later than January 14, 2019.
2. Only scholarship awardees will be notified.
3. Awards will be presented at the NGAMA Professional Development Conference on Saturday March 9, 2019. Scholarship recipients should plan to attend.

Email APPLICATIONS and Questions to:
NGAMA.SCHOLARSHIP@GMAIL.COM

All applications must be emailed by midnight January 14, 2019

A look back at all of the images that have graced the cover of the Seagull Magazine over the last year. The wing and it's Airmen have had some great experiences in 2018. Thank you for helping us tell the wing's story!





IN MEMORIAM

The 102nd Intelligence Wing is saddened to learn of the passing of Deborah Reade-Kochka. Debbie was a respected member of the 102nd Intelligence Wing family whose service as a key spouse and dedicated member of the Massachusetts National Guard Family Program positively impacted the welfare of the wing's family members.

Debbie volunteered countless hours of her time, ensuring the families of our Airmen were well taken care of and supported during their loved ones deployments. She organized events, provided outreach morale calls and was a key organizer of the annual children's Christmas party. Debbie was instrumental

in implementing a number of initiatives that supported the children of wing Airmen, such as a laptops for kids program and the Beehive food program.

Debbie was a multi-year recipient of the President's Volunteer Service Award having committed countless hours to our families.

Our thoughts go out to Debbie's husband, Senior Master Sgt. Donald Kochka, as well as her friends and family – she will be deeply missed.



NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS

Scholarship Application



Note: You must be enrolled in, or accepted to attend a regionally or nationally accredited degree or technical program to apply for this scholarship

Last Name		First Name		MI
Street		City/Town		
State		Zip Code		
Phone Number		Email		Birth Date
				Rank
Name of Parent, Guardian, Spouse, or Self				
School				
You are presently attending				
School				
You plan to attend				
Check All Boxes that Apply				
My Current Unit of Assignment: A. <input type="checkbox"/>			I am a current member of the Massachusetts National Guard	
My parent or spouse who is a member of the Massachusetts National Guard Association:				
B. <input type="checkbox"/>			I am a son, daughter or spouse of a current member of the Massachusetts National Guard Association	
My parent or spouse's name and Current Unit of Assignment:				
C. <input type="checkbox"/>			I am a son, daughter or spouse of a current member of the Massachusetts National Guard	

Must be emailed no later than January 14, 2019 Deadline

Attach official high school or college transcript(s), as appropriate, to this application.