

PLANETALK

167TH AIRLIFT WING
APRIL 2021

Next UTA 1-2 MAY 2021



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The 167th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office is always looking for story ideas and original content. PLEASE SEND ALL PLANE TALK SUBMISSIONS, INCLUDING STORIES, COLUMNS, AND PHOTOS TO: 167.AW.PA.Public.Affairs@us.af.mil

ON THE COVER

A C-17 Globemaster III aircraft undergoes routine cleaning in a hangar at the 167th Airlift Wing in Martinsburg, West Virginia, during a corrosion prevention wash, Apr. 6, 2021. Each of the wing's aircraft receive an intensive cleaning every six months to prevent corrosion, identify potential issues and maintain overall appearance and functionality of the aircraft. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Edward Michon).

ON THE BACK COVER

Members of the 167th Airlift Wing Maintenance Group scrub the belly of a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft during a corrosion prevention wash at the 167th Airlift Wing in Martinsburg, West Virginia, Apr. 6, 2021. A cleaning pad attached to a pole was used to scrub hard to reach areas of the aircraft to remove contaminants and enhance appearance. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Edward Michon).



167AW WING COMMANDER
Col. Martin Timko

Vision

The Premier Airlift Wing
Mission Ready, Committed to Airmen and Community,
and Dedicated to Continuous Improvement



167AW WING COMMAND CHIEF
Command Chief Master Sgt. Troy Brawner

Mighty Airlift Wing!

It's official: Spring has "sprung"! While Saturday brought overcast skies to Martinsburg, Sunday definitely brought some beautiful weather that highlighted the green grass and blooming flowers around base. I for one enjoyed being out and about the base this UTA and I am not at all sad to see the cold winter weather depart!

Each place or shop I stopped into this weekend all had one thing in common: a flurry of activity. No matter if I was in a shop or office, folks were taking care of business and working both the training and readiness portions of things. I look forward to receiving the monthly IG report on how we did towards building our readiness posture over April UTA. Keep to it!

Again, our base COVID-19 Immunization efforts this weekend proved efficient and impactful. Now with family members sixteen and older eligible for the vaccine, all of the shot allocation slots were quickly filled-up and the well-oiled machine kept the process flowing smoothly. Due to such demand for the vaccine, more distribution is scheduled in the near future as our members work to get shots in arms (including my oldest this weekend!)

Now that the warmer weather is here, expect to see more opportunities to exercise capabilities and plans as we go along this year. The end of April will have us participating in a Counter CBRN All-Hazards Management Response (CAMR) tabletop that will provide both training and experience to multiple base functions. Additionally, as we prep for the upcoming Super Drill in June, there will be base exercise injects amongst the busy training schedule. All of this is to make us a stronger and viable wing, ready to execute on mission when asked. UTAs will be busy and I know Team Martinsburg is ready to engage!

Chief Brawner and I were able to hit the track this weekend for a jog and I enjoyed seeing others around the base, enjoying the nice weather and getting some physical activity in. Don't just make time to exercise based on a Fitness Assessment but commit yourself to a lifestyle habit. If nothing else, doing some PT is a great way to join fellow members while working off some stress. I have directed all the group commanders to carve out time in each UTA schedule for members to work on fitness – a strong fitness habit can be life changing!

Short and sweet this month because I'll get to see you sooner than later. With a later April UTA in this month and the first Saturday in May being the 1st, May UTA will be upon us in a flash: until then, stay healthy, stay safe, and above all: STAY MIGHTY!

--Marty

Team,

It was so nice to finally see a larger footprint of our members during drill compared to drills over the past year. I know we are not out of the woods yet but with spring upon us the warm weather has brought with it a sense of hope. I ask that you continue your due diligence with keeping yourself and others safe. As Col. Timko and I made our way around the base and visited some shops it looked to us that you are taking the necessary precautions with the wearing of masks and keeping necessary distances amongst each other. We thank you for your commitment.

Our RCP cycle is upon us. Our deploying members along with support functions across base are in full focus with the very important task at hand. Let's make sure we continue to work together to make this a positive experience for our deployers and their families. It will take all of us to be successful. I know we are ready for the challenges ahead.

Along with the RCP cycle activities ramping up we have a busy May drill right around the corner and June super drill following that. Both UTAs will be packed full of training events. Let's prepare now so that we can jump into both drills with high energy and complete some good training before we take a summer break with our families. As far as super drill goes each section on base has a representative on the planning committee. All scheduling needs to go through them so that we have a solid plan. I am looking forward to it!

I know there are annual training trips scheduled or in the process of being scheduled. I hope all of you get a chance to travel to another location this year and get that critical on-the-job training that is hard if not impossible to accomplish here at home station. Please take every advantage of these opportunities. They not only give you a chance to gain valuable knowledge in your craft but more importantly they afford you the opportunity to build relationships with fellow teammates. I look back on my many annual training events over the years and can't help but smile thinking about all the great memories and friendships that I experienced. I hope you too have those same type of memories throughout your career.

Finally, I want to give a huge shoutout and thank our Family Readiness Group. During our February drill the FRG built and handed out over 800 goodie bags to our members. We are grateful for their commitment and continued support. The bags were great! In this past year Covid-19 has forced us to cancel many of the activities that our FRG plays a huge part in. We look forward to their support once again as soon as we can reintroduce our popular events.

I hope all of you can get out and enjoy the warm spring weather. Please be safe. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Your Chief,
Chief Brawner

167th Airmen remain force multipliers in fight against COVID-19

by Senior Airman Teddy Michon

Approximately 60 Airmen from the 167th Airlift Wing continue supporting COVID-19 relief efforts throughout West Virginia, remaining a key component in the fight against the pandemic.

Since the start of the pandemic, the 167th Airmen joined West Virginia National Guard members supporting multiple targeted task forces whose mission sets have evolved as response needs have changed.

Task Force Medical-East has shifted its focus from COVID-19 testing to administering the vaccine at vaccine clinics in the region.

The epidemiology team of Task Force Medical, who was originally tasked with contact tracing, is now also providing administrative support at the vaccine clinics.

"My folks did a great job of adjusting to the change in mission," said Maj. Blake Bennett, officer in charge of the epidemiology team.

Bennett's team, along with other task forces, are now assisting in a drive-thru mass vaccination site at the Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races. This clinic, open every Tuesday and Thursday, is replacing previous smaller clinics throughout the panhandle.

167th Airmen are also supporting Task Force Vaccines at Distribution Hub 5 in Berkeley County. This team has distributed approximately 140,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine since its inception in December of 2020, according to Maj. Terrence Etuk, officer in charge of Distribution Hub 5.

Etuk's team is also distributing the vaccines given during vaccine clinics at the 167th, such as the one hosted in the base dining facility by members of Task Force Medical-East on Sunday, Apr. 11 during April's unit training assembly.

By the conclusion of April's UTA, over one-third of wing members have been voluntarily vaccinated.

According to the Center of Disease Control, the most effective way to control the virus is to build herd immunity through vaccination, thus Airmen are encouraged to get vaccinated.

"Today is an important day for you to make decisions for your health, for your family, for others, the nation, the economy," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Kevin Culbert, 167th Medical Group commander. "And it really hinges upon the vaccine that we are lucky enough to be able to provide to our forces."

Culbert also attributes the effectiveness of the vaccine as another reason to get vaccinated, stating that its 95% effectiveness rate was very high.

"This is the real thing," said Culbert. "We have never had vaccines of any sort with that high effectiveness."

167th AW Airmen who have not yet been vaccinated, but want to be, should contact the 167th Medical Group to request a vaccine. 🐕



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Katie Farrell, an aerospace medical technician with the 167th Medical Group, currently assigned to the West Virginia National Guard's Task Force Medical – East, administers a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination to an airman as part of COVID-19 relief efforts in the 167th Airlift Wing dining facility, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Apr. 11, 2021. The vaccine is administered in two shots, with the second shot administered no more than six weeks after the first. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Edward Michon).



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Ian Miller and Master Sgt. Matthew Stickley, aerospace medical technicians with the 167th Medical Group, currently assigned to the West Virginia National Guard's Task Force Medical – East, prepare Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations for military members and families in the 167th Airlift Wing dining facility, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Apr. 11, 2021. The vaccine was offered to all military personnel and their dependents over 16-years-old. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Edward Michon.)

Air National Guard Director visits 167th Airlift Wing

by Capt. Stacy Gault

The director of the Air National Guard visited the 167th Airlift Wing March 9. Lt. Gen. Michael Loh and his wife, Diane, met with Airmen and saw first-hand how the unit adapted and continued the mission in a COVID-19 environment.

"He was very appreciative of the mission accomplishment performed over the past year by the 167th in the midst of the pandemic," said Col. Marty Timko, 167th Airlift Wing commander.

Timko's biggest takeaway from the visit was Loh's comments at the end of the visit and how impressed he was by the positive energy and professionalism displayed from all of the members he interacted with while touring base.

Loh visited various locations throughout the base, including the fire department, where he met with Fire Chief Master Sgt. Chris Taylor and the daylight shift. Loh also presented his coin to Tech. Sgt. Ryan Trochimowicz for his service as the liaison to the Young family in the aftermath of Senior Airman Logan Young's death.

Given the recent challenges members of the fire department have faced, Taylor said Loh stressed the importance of sticking together during adversity, learning from tough situations and taking that knowledge to make yourself better for your family, department, and wing.

"I believe that the greatest impact will be that these young men and women of the 167th AW can now see that we have leadership from the lowest level to the highest level that are willing to listen and care about the work that they are putting in to make a difference," Taylor said.

Loh met with squadron and group commanders at lunch, discussing challenges to the mission and how he can support the process for solutions and Diane shared lunch with a group of dual-military spouses to discuss family and readiness challenges.

"He drilled down into the details of each issue and offered some strategic-level solutions for us to consider," said Lt. Col. James Freid-Studlo, operations support squadron commander.

"The ability to have an in-depth discussion with the highest levels of leadership gives us Airmen comfort to know that higher headquarters is concerned with understanding our challenges," Freid-Studlo said.

But Loh didn't only hear from the wing senior leaders. Senior Airman Danielle Trucks escorted Loh through the base clinic, explaining daily operations, COVID-19 operations, and the different functions of each section. She said as she waited for him to arrive, the lyrics to Eminem's "Lose Yourself" played in her head, "palms are sweaty, knees weak, arms are heavy."

"I was definitely nervous. You don't see too many three-star generals around here," Trucks said. "Honestly, he was really nice and professional, so it was easy to talk with him."



U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Michael A. Loh, director, Air National Guard (ANG), speaks with Senior Airman Danielle Trucks, command support staff, 167th Airlift Wing (AW), West Virginia National Guard, during a visit to Shepherd Field Air National Guard Base in Martinsburg, West Virginia, March 9, 2021. Loh visited the 167th AW to receive updates on the unit's current operations and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Morgan R. Whitehouse)



U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Michael A. Loh, director, Air National Guard, addresses Airmen with the 167th Operations Group, 167th Airlift Wing, West Virginia National Guard, during a visit at Shepherd Field Air National Guard Base in Martinsburg, West Virginia, March 9, 2021. During his visit, Loh received updates on the unit's current operations and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Michael A. Loh, director, Air National Guard (ANG), presents a coin to Airman 1st Class Kyle Rodriguez, a public health technician assigned to the 167th Medical Group, 167th Airlift Wing, West Virginia National Guard, during a visit to Shepherd Field Air National Guard Base in Martinsburg, West Virginia, March 9, 2021. Loh recognized Rodriguez for his exceptional contributions while serving on the front lines of West Virginia's COVID-19 response effort. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Morgan R. Whitehouse)

STARBASE teams collaborate to deliver STEM education

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

With the pandemic in full-swing at the start of the 2020-2021 school year, school districts across the country made tough decisions to ensure education continued as effectively and safely as possible.

While some districts opted for distance learning, others offered in-class learning, and others instituted hybrid models of attendance.

Therefore many education programs including STARBASE, a Department of Defense-sponsored education program, had to rework their standard methods for delivering curriculum.

STARBASE Martinsburg and the Winchester STARBASE Academy took their Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program "on the road" since COVID-19 limitations precluded students from travelling to the STARBASE classrooms.

STARBASE Martinsburg, co-located with the 167th Airlift Wing at Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, typically hosts approximately 2,400 fifth graders from Berkeley, Morgan and Jefferson counties each year. Twenty-five miles south in Virginia, the Winchester STARBASE Academy at the Army National Guard 116th Infantry Regiment, Winchester Readiness Center, serves approximately 1,400 students in Frederick and Clarke counties annually.

"We really had to think outside the box this school year, rework our curriculum, and find ways to take our hands-on, minds-on activities out of our STARBASE classrooms and into the schools," said Sherra Triggs, STARBASE Martinsburg director.

Since the West Virginia schools were not permitting visitors as part of their COVID-19 restrictions earlier in the school year, Triggs and her team travelled to Greencastle, Pennsylvania, October through December to provide STEM lessons to students there.

Then the Winchester and Martinsburg staffs teamed up during February through mid-April, to deliver an abbreviated version of their curriculum to schools in Frederick County, Virginia.

"This meant that none of the fifth graders from the Frederick County Public Schools that had originally been scheduled this year missed out on our exceptional hands-on STEM program," said Dr. Susan Corrigan, Winchester STARBASE Academy director.

In mid-April, the partnership continued as the Martinsburg and Winchester staffs were granted permission to deliver the STARBASE lessons in Berkeley County schools.

"This collaboration has been a positive outcome of what has been a trying year for both sites," said Triggs. "We teach collaboration as part of our curriculum, and this is one more way we can demonstrate collaboration in action to our students." 🐾



Above: Martinsburg STARBASE and the Winchester STARBASE Academy staffs, photographed here in a Martinsburg STARBASE classroom, collaborated recently to deliver their science, technology engineering and math, lessons to students in Virginia and West Virginia. Typically students travel to the STARBASE locations but various COVID-19 pandemic policies in the schools created limitations on how the curriculum could be presented. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



Left: Students at Orchard View Intermediate School in Martinsburg, West Virginia, participate in rocketry activities as part of the "on-wheels" STARBASE curriculum, delivered by Martinsburg STARBASE and the Winchester STARBASE Academy staffs. (Photos courtesy Sherra Triggs)



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Daniel Coffman and Senior Airman Justin Ashby, firefighters for the 167th Civil Engineering Squadron, recently saved a man's life, pulling him out of a burning house. The firefighters credit the feat to their intensive training. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)

Firefighters train to save lives

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

Rigorous training, every shift, often blindfolded.

That's how 167th firefighters prepared to respond to a structure fire, pulling an unconscious man from a second story bedroom to medics on the ground below, saving him from imminent death.

Staff Sgt. Daniel Coffman and Senior Airman Justin Ashby shrug off the recent event because it's part of the job, it's what they train to do.

"Everyone on the piece that day did exactly what they were expected to do," Ashby said.

The 167th's five-man crew was the third unit to arrive on the scene that day. Everyone instinctively went to work, Coffman explained. Two of them joined firefighters from the other responding units to attack the fire. Coffman and Ashby entered the second story of the home to look for its occupant.

In an upstairs bedroom they met Tommy Pressly, the fire chief for the South Berkeley County Volunteer Fire Department, who had just found a man, unconscious, in a smoke-filled bedroom. Together, Pressly, Ashby and Coffman carried the man out to safety.

"It helps because we all volunteer in the county," said Coffman, who volunteers with Pressly at the South Berkeley County Volunteer Fire Department. "We all work together out there and we just know our job."

But it takes a lot of work to know the job.

"We train like there ain't no tomorrow to make sure we have our stuff down," Coffman said.

The 167th firefighters, who respond to approximately 300 calls a year, spend a lot of time honing their skills, repeating basic techniques, donning masks and other gear and navigating spaces with limited visibility.

"We do a lot of stuff blindfolded, for dexterity," Ashby said. "We train on how to look for people, how to get them out, what to do if your mask fails, how to open doors, how to force doors, drag hose, how to work your pack, turn it on, turn it off, put it back together, untangle it, those types of things."

Many may view their efforts as heroic, but for Coffman and Ashby it was just another day on the job. 🐾

Airman SPOTLIGHT

Name:

Staff Sgt. Mitchell Alerding

Hometown:

Warrenton, Va.

Job Title:

Firefighter

Staff Sgt. Mitchell Alerding is a lead firefighter for the 167th Civil Engineering Squadron and the 167th Airlift Wing's Airman Spotlight for April 2021.

Alerding directs firefighters during emergency responses to ensure their safety when operating on scene. He helps coordinate and leads training evolutions for 12 firefighters and serves as the 167th Fire Department's unit deployment manager.

"He has gone above and beyond to ensure that all members deploying have met all pre-deployment requirements, tracked all supply and PPE (personal protective equipment) requests, and set up avenues for service member's families to receive assistance while members are deployed," said Master Sgt. Chris Taylor, fire chief for the 167th Fire Department.

How long have you served in the unit? Since 2011

How does your job support the 167th's mission? I work as both a firefighter and the fire department's UDM, so I'm exposed to both the smaller picture of every day operations in the fire department, and how they fit into the Air Force's overall global mission. As a firefighter, my primary concern is with both responding to emergencies, and preparing junior personnel to do the same. As a UDM I do my best to ease stress of pre-deployment requirements for our firefighters, and ensure that our personnel are delivered to the AOR prepared and equipped for their mission.

My job here is important because: I don't consider myself very important, but as a whole the fire department's mission is. We provide life and property saving services both within the confines of the base and deployed locations, as well as assistance to the surrounding area. The 167th Fire Department does not just prepare firefighters for possible emergencies, it has and will continue to respond to real world situations with highly trained and motivated personnel. It's a team effort, and no one is more important than another in our organization.

Civilian job: Full-time state firefighter for the 167th

Education: Bachelor's in Fire Administration

Hobbies: Fly fishing, piano

Goals (military or civilian): I just want to do what I can do to help the fire department.

I am proudest of: I'm proud of the fire department as a whole, but within our organization I'm most proud of the guys on my shift. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing personnel who came in after you outshine you, and they all do that on a daily basis. They're very close to one



another, lead by example, are competent and motivated. They will continue to challenge me to be better.

People may be surprised to know this about me: I'm a music snob and chances are if it was written after the early 1900s I won't like it very much.

The most exciting thing I've done in the military is: I once witnessed a slightly inebriated active duty Airman from Eastern Europe almost fight a bear. It doesn't get much more exciting than that. I couldn't bring myself to intervene, but luckily a very angry MSgt put a stop to it before punches were thrown.

One of the most valuable lessons I've learned throughout my career: Your attitude can be infectious. Even as an A1C negativity about things impacts other people's moods and can have a detrimental effect on your overall organization. It's a lesson that I learned the hard way, but I was fortunate enough to have brutally honest friends that straightened me out.

My advice to the newest Airmen in the Wing: Stay positive. It's difficult to do when dealing with many bureaucratic, and more often than not tedious requirements that come with being an Airman. It's easy let frustration build, and it's even easier to stress out about the feeling of being behind on the myriad of readiness and paperwork requirements. Just do your best to keep up and help those around you keep up with it. Remember maintaining a positive attitude, even about things that seem dumb, helps those around you feel better about coming to work.

The best thing about working with my team is: The best thing about working with my shift is that they help to push me to do better in everything I do here. 🐕

167th ground transportation trains sherriff's office on MRAP vehicle



U.S. Air Force Tech Sgt. Thomas Shepherd, a ground transportation specialist with the 167th Airlift Wing, instructs the Jefferson County Sheriff Office's Special Response and Rescue Team on details about the Mine-Resistant, Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle they recently acquired as part of a familiarization training between 167th members and the JSCO in Kearneysville, West Virginia, Apr. 14, 2021. The training consisted of both classroom and hands-on learning. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Edward Michon).



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Thomas Shepherd, a ground transportation specialist with the 167th Airlift Wing, demonstrates how to access compartments on a Mine-Resistant, Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle during a familiarization training between 167th Airmen and the Jefferson County Sheriff Office's Special Response and Rescue Team in Kearneysville, West Virginia, Apr. 14, 2021. The training, conducted by Shepherd, served as a basic introduction to operation of the MRAP vehicle that the JSCO recently acquired. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Edward Michon)

The stimulus payments and your financial status

by Jerry Zeigler, AFC, 167th Airlift Wing Personal Financial Counselor



Jerry Zeigler, AFC
Personal Financial
Counselor

That third round of stimulus moved up the completion of our biggest financial goal for 2021. So did the second one. It wasn't supposed to be completed until October. So I'm hoping others who received the stimulus payments are like us – in a better financial position due to the stimulus payments.

When achieving a big financial goal it is a good time to review your financial status and progress towards goals. I like to start with reviewing goals and making sure the priorities haven't changed. Also, we look to see if we want to change them. Then we do our financial check-up. We check on our spending plan – do we want to change it? We check on our net worth – are we on track? We check on our timeline for goals – are we on track? Do we want to revisit the spending plan and make adjustments due to our timeline?

All of this takes a bit of thought and effort and discussion. But worth it, because we end up knowing what our path is and we control our money situation and our progress towards goals. We get to where we want to be because we are focus on getting there rather than just hoping to get there.

What I do for a financial check-up for clients is a similar process – goals, net worth, current spending and income, maybe a new spending plan, maybe identify some problem areas, and determining paths towards goals. You can do this on your own, but sometimes having help from someone with expertise can make the path forward a bit easier and more efficient. Sometimes having another set of eyes on the plan can improve the plan. And sometimes when you are stuck a financial counselor can help you get un-stuck.

So if you are interested in a financial check up to help assess where you are now and to look at the path going forward, please feel free to schedule an appointment. To schedule an appointment, click here: <https://calendly.com/martinsburg>

I have adjusted availability. Through the calendly link you can schedule phone, zoom, and in person appointments. I have added time for evening appointment availability since I know our lives can be busy. If you desire an appointment and nothing in calendly works for you please let me know via email or phone.

If it is financial, the Personal Financial Counselor can assist.

Jerry Zeigler, AFC®

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For Our Service Members And Their Families

April 2021 is Month of the Military Child - The Defense Department recognizes the resilience of Military Child and Youth and what they do to ensure military readiness. In this link you will find useful information for situational awareness: <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Month-of-the-Military-Child/?source=GovDelivery>

Every April we collectively celebrate Month of the Military Child. This year, there's something new and fun planned for our families. One way we are making this month special is by hosting child- and parent-focused events all month long. Featured speakers include bestselling children's book author Trevor Romain, noted pediatrician and adolescent medicine specialist Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg, Lt. Gen. Leslie Smith and more. These events will be available virtually on Military OneSource's Facebook events page.

Another way the Department of Defense is showing our appreciation is by offering an appreciation kit to eligible families. It contains items for military children, including: Chill Drills, Military OneSource book-mark, Military OneSource pop socket, Military OneSource photo frame, Sesame Street reusable face mask, Sesame Street enamel pin, Sesame Street magnet, Military Kids Connect passport, "Connecting With Kids in a Disconnected World" book by Trevor Romain

Military Child Appreciation Kits are available to eligible military service members and their immediate family members, as well as transitioning veterans within 365 days of their separation date. Service members and families can find event details, appreciation kit information and additional resources on the Month of the Military Child webpage, link provided above.

Armed Forces Entertainment, Month of the Military Child virtual performances - Join Armed Forces Entertainment (AFE) as they celebrate the Month of the Military Child (MoMC) with exclusive virtual shows! On April 15, there will be a collaboration between Armed Forces Entertainment and the hit YouTube children's show Pancake Manor! More details will be released soon. Enjoy the AFE virtual Month of the Military Child shows at www.armedforcesentertainment.com.

United Through Reading - Today, nearly all families face challenges with their children's educational development due to the impacts of COVID-19. Military families are not spared, and their challenges come with added complications due to military life. But literacy can help bridge the gap. Join us on April 21 as we kick off our Reading & Resiliency webinar series to dive deeper into how we can help military children and families stay reading ready. It will include education, military, and business leaders in conversation about how resiliency through reading is attainable, accessible, and adaptable for every child in our diverse military community. Our first webinar, Advancing Literacy Skills in Military Children, on April 21 at 11 am Eastern. Register Now <https://unitedthroughreading.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=fcc287ff82731bf47ed1f355d&id=a79ecc2b2d&e=00babd7856>

OSD/USDA Military Teen Adventure Camps – website has updated information on the 2021 camp offerings. Camps are open to military-connected youth between the ages of 14-18 years old. Military Teen Adventure Camp details and registration information can be found at: <https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/adventurecamps/Pages/default.aspx>

Although some states are still waiting to confirm current plans are viable due to COVID-19 restrictions and local guidance, interested families can visit the Military Teen Adventure Camps website to review eligibility, dates and locations. Parents can also confirm plans or updates with the POC listed for each camp.

2021 Air Force camps- No In-Residence camps this year and the Virtual Teen Aviation camp application is out and due in April.

Financial Capabilities Month: The DOD Office of Financial Readiness recognizes April as Financial Capability Month. This month highlights the importance of getting back to the basics as a method of financial preparedness for Service members. Service members and their Families have access to a wealth of information provided at no charge by the DOD, to assist with personal financial readiness. This month we will share tips on how to increase your personal financial capabilities.

Do you have the financial capability to withstand financial emergencies? -Through an emergency fund, you can save money over time by reducing the need for separate service plans and warranties for items such as cell phones, cars, appliances and computers. - Save smarter by automatically setting aside tax refunds and portions of your paycheck.

Not sure how to start? A free personal financial counselor can show you how to include an emergency fund in your spending plan. Contact the Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager for assistance in speaking with a financial counselor.

Learn more with some of the great resources available for Service members and Families such as articles concerning Emergency Funds: The First Step To Financial Freedom: <https://finred.usalearning.gov/Trending/Blog/EmergencyFund> and MilSpouse Money Mission Videos: <https://www.milspousemoneymission.org/money-ready-201-videos/>.

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) - Just like a meal can burn in the pan if we don't pay attention to it, personal and profession burnout can happen quick if we aren't mindful of addressing it. A routine thrown off, health concerns, and financial challenges can all have an impact on our stress levels and result in keeping us from being as productive and balanced as we would like. The Air Force Employee Assistance Program (AF EAP) can provide strategies and tools to help you navigate the stressors you may be facing and hopefully avoid burnout.

AF EAP has resources available for time management and organizational skill building, strategies for reducing the stress around big life events, and planning out for summer activities as we continue to navigate the challenges of our current environment. Check out www.afpc.af.mil/EAP (Company Name: US Air Force) or call 866-580-9078.

MONTHLY WEBINAR: Overcoming Stress and Burnout, Wednesday 14 April 21, 2 p.m. EST

Register at <http://magellanhealth.adobeconnect.com/e2vyejgdq6se/event/registration.html>

Note: You may need to access the webinar from a non-government computer to minimize connection problems.

WEEKLY WEBINARS: Improving Your Credit, Tuesday 6 April 21, 3 p.m. EST

Cultivating Civility in Your Workplace, Tuesday 13 April 21, 3 p.m. EST

Coping and Supporting Others Through Grief, Tuesday 20 April 21, 3 p.m. EST

Quick Stress Busters and Hacks, Tuesday 27 April 21, 3 p.m. EST

All webinars can be accessed at: <http://magellanhealth.adobeconnect.com/r1j7g4nqu0ht/>

Pre-registration is not needed, but attendance is limited to 100 participants on a first come basis.

Getting help to put out the fires that can cause burnout has never been easier.

For additional information on many life skills matters and other resources, stop by the Airman & Family Program Office, building 120, room G37. The Airman & Family Programs office is a resource office for all military service members and their family. The office has a wide-range of materials such as educational books, pamphlets, videos, journals, magnets, etc., as well as, website and/or contact information for many local, state, and national helping services.

Antiterrorism & Force Protection: Hostage Situation

submitted by Lt. Col. Tim Rice, Wing Antiterrorism Officer

These Antiterrorism tips are things you can do to prepare your family should you be kidnapped or taken hostage.

- Have your family affairs in order, including an up-to-date will, appropriate powers of attorney, and measures taken to ensure family financial security.
- Issues such as continuing the children's education, family relocation, and disposition of property should be discussed with family members.
- Your family should know that talking about your military affiliation to non-DOD people may place you, or them, in great danger.
- They must be convinced the US government will work to obtain your safe release.
- And finally, your family should not be depressed if negotiation efforts appear to be taking a long time. Remember, your chances of survival actually increase with time.

Keep these tips in mind to keep your family's peace of mind.

REMEMBER: Antiterrorism and Force Protection is EVERYONE'S job.

These tips, and other important information are located in the CJCS Guide 5260, Service Member's Personal Protection Guide: A Self-Help Handbook to Combating Terrorism, which can be found on the base intranet.

The 167th Airlift Wing Antiterrorism Officer is Lt. Col. Tim Rice, 242-5084.

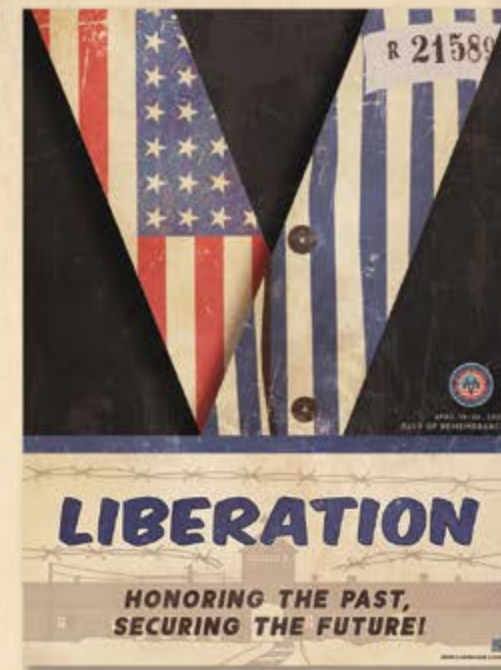


CULTURAL
AWARENESS

OBSERVANCE



DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE



FACTS

Each year, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum leads the nation in commemorating Days of Remembrance.

Days of Remembrance was established by the U.S. Congress to memorialize the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust—as well as the millions of non-Jewish victims of Nazi persecution.

The week of remembrance is set aside to honor and remember the victims of the Holocaust and their liberators. We must never forget the great atrocity of which mankind is capable.

In 1945, as the Nazi regime crumbled, American soldiers—members of the 4th, 5th, 11th, and 20th Armored Divisions, the 29th, 34th, 42nd, 45th, 71st, 80th, 89th and 90th Infantry Divisions, and the 82nd Airborne Division—along with their Allied counterparts, became not only liberators, but witnesses to one of the greatest massacres in history.

In the days after Allied forces liberated the first concentration camps, Generals Dwight Eisenhower, George Patton, and Omar Bradley inspected the camps, and saw firsthand the horrors that had occurred.

They were, in Eisenhower's words, atrocities "beyond the American mind to comprehend."

Eisenhower ordered every American soldier in the area who was not on the front line to tour the camps, so that could see themselves what they were fighting against and why they were fighting.

Later on Eisenhower wrote to his wife, Mamie, "I never dreamed that such cruelty, bestiality, and savagery could really exist in this world."

The United States remains forever indebted to WWII veterans, who demonstrated selfless service and sacrifice in defense of global peace and security.

Today, we carry forward the proud legacy of the men and women of the American Armed Forces who played an essential role in liberating the camps at Buchenwald, Dora-Mittelbau, Flossenburg, Dachau, and Mauthausen.

We remember the legacy of the "Greatest Generation" by Honoring the Past, Securing the Future.



COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE



**There's no
One face**



STOP Human Trafficking

Force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person to provide labor, services, or commercial sex.

Victims come from all backgrounds and can be women, men, and children.

Any minor (under 18 years of age) involved in commercial sex is a victim of human trafficking.

Recognize SIGNS

Physical/Environmental Indicators include signs of abuse, no identification, confined to worksite.

Psychological/Behavioral Indicators include submissive, anxious, lack of free will.

REPORT IT

Chain of Command

Local Law Enforcement

DoD Inspector General Hotline

1-800-424-9098 or visit <http://www.dodig.mil/hotline>

National Human Trafficking Hotline

1-888-373-7888.



167TH AW POC:
MSgt Michael Seavolt
CTIP Program Coordinator
ext 5759

For more information go to:
CTIP.defense.gov/

**DENIM
DAY**
INFO.ORG

**SEXUAL
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
AND EDUCATION
CAMPAIGN**

THERE IS NO
EXCUSE
AND NEVER
AN INVITATION
TO RAPE

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN AND STEP FORWARD TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual Assault
Awareness & Prevention Month



All employees of the West Virginia National Guard are authorized and highly encouraged to wear denim/jeans as their duty uniform in support of

Denim Day on 28 April 2021.

Post pictures in support of Denim Day on social media using #WVNGDenimDay21



Visit denimdayinfo.org for more information!

History:

In 1992, an 18-year-old girl in Italy was picked-up by her driving instructor to begin a driving lesson. Soon after, she was raped on the side of the road by her instructor. She pressed charges and won her case. The instructor appealed his conviction, and the case went to the Italian High Court.

In 1999, the Court overturned the conviction with a member of the High Court declaring "since the victim wore very tight jeans, the instructor could not have removed them himself; therefore the victim must have willingly participated."

Women of the Italian Legislature protested the decision by wearing jeans to work. As news of the decision spread, so did the protest. In April 1999, a social service agency in Los Angeles, California established the first Denim Day in the United States.

*Employees include all AGR, FTNG, Military Authority, DS/NDS Technicians, and Contracted employees for both the Air and Army National Guard.

*See Memorandum, SUBJECT: Wearing of Civilian Clothes by WVNG Full-Time Personnel for standards of dress



ACCOLADES



CCAF degree recipients

SMSgt Christopher Broschart
SSgt Jamie Bryner
SSgt Jared Conner
TSgt Nathan Craft
SSgt David Forbes
MSgt Travis Hall
SSgt Andrew Knotts
TSgt Caleb Smalley
SSgt Matthew Spurgeon
SSgt Jessie Trejo

Welcome

AB Malachi Cloud, AMXS
AB Avah Rivera, FSS
AB Ella Joseph, OG
AB Cameron Bragg, AS
A1C Destiny Shingleton, MDG
A1C Eric Flores, AS
SrA James Rand, SFS
SSgt Christopher Meyers, CF
TSgt Davey Black, AS
Maj Ashley Haney, AS

Welcome Back from Technical Training

AB Thomas Talkington, LRS
A1C John Kunkleman, AS
A1C Craig Sipes, CES
A1C Mark Segreti, AS

Promotions

To Senior Airman

Tyler Rice, MXG
Sage Burdette, FSS

To Staff Sergeant

John Nary, MXG
Bradley Knotts, SFS
Nathaniel Webb, SFS
Tristan Rowland, AS
Katlyn Valencia, FSS
Jordyn Zilian, LRS
Emerald Bandari, LRS

To Technical Sergeant

Lydia Miller, MSG
Ashley Peters, MDG
Jason Smith, CES
Kayla Hoffmaster, FSS

Promotions

To Master Sergeant

Donald Broschart, CES
To Senior Master Sergeant
Bradley Teter, MXS

To First Lieutenant

Rachel Spidell, CPTF
Max Vickerman, AS
Austin McKinney, MDG

To Captain

Kyle Koppenhaver, AS
Jillian Sanning, AS

Promotions

To Lieutenant Colonel

Benjamin Mathias, FSS
Brad Runkles, CF
Michael Battaglia, MDG

To Colonel

Michael Sherman, MXG

Retirements

TSgt Robert Scofield, CPTF

ATTENTION ALL 167TH AIRLIFT WING RETIREES

Brig. Gen. William “Bill” Crane, The Adjutant General of West Virginia, wants to keep in touch. If you’re interested in hearing from our TAG please send an email to

167.AW.PA.Public.Affairs@us.af.mil

with a subject line of “TAG contact” and include your first and last name in the message.

The 167th Airlift Wing Inspector General is soliciting new Wing Inspection Team (WIT) members. Volunteers must be E-6 to E-8 and have commander endorsement. Complete the WIT nomination form on IG sharepoint page: https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/13837/HQ/IG/_layouts/15/start.aspx#/SitePages/Home.aspx and send to MSgt Garey Difenderfer or SMSgt Michael Bittinger.

COUNTDOWN TO UEI

2

**Unit
Training
Assemblies**

111 days

Unit Effectiveness Inspection

4-12 August 2021

