

# Aircrew helps humanitarian mission

By Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel  
 Wing Public Affairs

Reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing helped send 100 pediatric wheelchairs to Iraq and a fire truck to Nicaragua Oct. 5 as part of a humanitarian mission in support of the Denton Program.

“There isn’t a better mission that I could think of,” said Lt. Col. Kevin Welin, who was the 446th AW aircraft commander for the mission. “Having us work with these philanthropic organizations and individuals is a proven partnership that benefits those who need it most.”

The pediatric wheelchairs will be distributed in northern Iraq, in an area Saddam Hussein ordered a chemical attack on 16 years ago. Having noticed a disproportionate number of children in that region with disabilities such as Cerebral Palsy and Spina-Bifida, Army medical personnel worked with a non-profit organization, Wheelchairs for Iraqi Kids, to aid the children.

Hope Haven International Ministries provided the wheelchairs, which were picked up by the 446th AW aircrew in Sioux City, Iowa. After delivery to Iraq, Wheelchairs for Iraqi Kids will customize the wheelchairs for each child and distribute them with help from the Army.

The fire truck was delivered to the Nicaraguan city of Condega. Currently, a fire department from Esteli, which is 45 minutes away from Condega, is the closest responder



Photo by Maj. Jon Karnes

**A donated fire truck was picked up in Klamath Falls, Ore., Oct. 5 by an Air Force Reserve aircrew from the 446th Airlift Wing. The Reservists flew the fire truck, as well as 100 pediatric wheelchairs picked up in Sioux City, Iowa, on the first leg of a Denton Program mission. The fire truck was destined for Nicaragua and the wheelchairs were bound for Iraq.**

to fires in that city. The delivery of the fire truck will allow Condega to start its own volunteer fire department.

The 446th AW aircrew flew all of the assets to Charleston AFB, S.C., and a crew

from that base flew the fire truck and wheelchairs into the respective countries.

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Visit our homepage at [www.446aw.afrc.af.mil/](http://www.446aw.afrc.af.mil/) for these web-exclusive stories

**Security Forces firearm training**

When deployed, there’s no one else you’d rather have watch your back. Catch a glimpse of the 446th Airlift Wing’s cops in training.



**They’re not your average dummies**

Go online and learn about the 446th AW’s Aeromedical Staging Squadron’s new high-tech skills laboratory ... and the plastic people who live there.



**The 446th Associate Press**  
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Nov. 19 is the deadline for articles in the December issue of **The 446th Associate Press**.

All articles and photographs must be turned in to the 446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office, Bldg. 1214, Room 124 by 4 p.m.

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**Chief, Public Affairs**

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# Keep up the good work

By Col. William Flanigan  
Wing commander

I want to start by saying thank you for continuing your commitment to the Air Force Reserve and the 446th Airlift Wing mission. Although I've only been your commander for a few weeks, it doesn't take long to see how hard each of you works and the level of professionalism you exhibit.

**Be a wingman**

As we move into the holiday season it's natural for our people to begin feeling the stress between family commitments and our high operations tempo. For some, these feelings lead them down a tragic path. While we may not be able to stop someone from heading down that path, it is our responsibility as wingmen to help them do a U-turn, and hopefully, get the



person back on the right path.

Take care of your wingman. Recognize and understand the signs of stress and depression. If you see someone who needs help, empower them to seek help and show them where to find it. We have a variety of excellent people and programs available to help.

**Start at home**

Helping others is an enormous part of the military mission. Since 1934, the military has been giving supplies

to people in need. Recently, we flew 100 pediatric wheelchairs for Iraqi children with disabilities like Cerebral Palsy and Spina Bifida. And, while that is a significant mission, each of us can make a difference here at McChord.

Our family support office will start their annual Angel Tree program and the holiday food basket program.

Each year, these programs help Reserve families have a little brighter holiday. Whether it be buying a present for a child on the Angel Tree, or helping pack a basket with food, I encourage you to contact their office and find out how you can help.

The bottom: We need to take care of each other. If you see someone who needs help, or a better way to help these programs improve, talk to your supervisor. Let's all be good wingmen.

## Update: Modernizing the Air Force

*An excerpt from Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynn's Oct. 10 letter*

A few years ago we set out to recapitalize our aging fleet while maintaining the quality of life for our people and their families, winning the war on terror, and continuing to be the nation's strategic shield and sword. This continues to be a daunting task as we are pushed and pulled towards a future we cannot always control.

We are not shirking from our goals. It is the duty of every Airman to ensure, to the maximum extent possible, that future Airmen are equipped and confident so they can deter, dissuade, and when called upon, defeat enemies of our great nation. We recognize that achieving our goal must be reflected in the national will to have a well equipped Air Force; we must be allowed to acquire and retire our equipment whether in air, space, missiles, or cyberspace.

I want to report back to you that our modernization efforts are bearing fruit, but not at a rate that satisfies me. Despite our advances, the average age of our inventory continues to increase. However, in areas of operational availability and number of aircraft down for maintenance, there has been great progress.

This all means that you, our Airmen, have responded to the call, set yourselves to the tasks, and set our great Air Force on a path to success.

We are investing across the board to modernize and, though the pace is not what I want as yet, there should be no doubt that your determined efforts will result in a future where commemorations to come will salute our efforts today, much as we saluted the efforts of our predecessors over the course of our 60th year celebration.

# Tips to help you ace the UCI

As the New Year rolls into town Jan. 1, it will be quickly followed by an inspector general team from Air Force Reserve Command. The AFRC IG will conduct a Unit Compliance Inspection inspect for the 446th Airlift Wing Jan. 8-13.

A UCI measures how effectively the wing Reservists comply with Air Force Instructions, Department of Defense regulations, and public law. The inspection team evaluates the wing's programs using common core and functional check-

lists at every level of the organization. Equipment inventories, financial management procedures, safety, security, and personnel programs are just some of the many areas that will be inspected.

Obviously, there is much that every unit needs to do to prepare for the UCI. While each squadron has a wide array of unique checklist items to prepare for, the basics remain the same across the board. With that in mind, here are a few pointers that every Reservist can follow to ace the big test.

## Total involvement

All unit members play an important role in the UCI process. Even if a Reservist does not outright manage a functional program, each Airman has a skill that makes them a valuable part of the team.

Using those skills to perform assigned duties with the utmost professionalism and integrity is foundational to accomplishing the mission.



## Make it shine

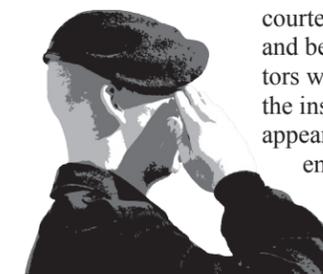
"Prepare to toot your horn if you believe that your unit has a benchmark program," said Lt. Col. Pat Kearney, 446th AW programs manager. "The IG doesn't just come just to look for non-compliance. They also look for best practices and they enthusiastically give laudatory recognition to both programs and individuals that communicate an attitude of continuous improvement."

Workplace safety and security is another area everyone can help maintain. For instance, use only approved heaters; store combustibles properly; shred old recycling; secure privacy act documents out of sight; and don't leave CAC cards unattended at workstations.



## Maintain professionalism

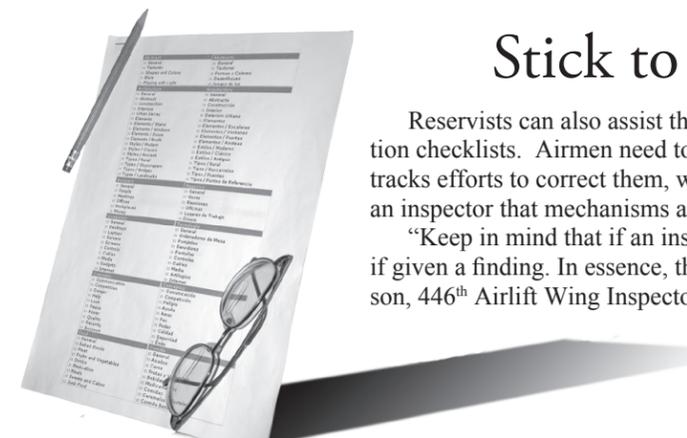
Little things mean a lot. Customs and courtesies are expected of all Reservists, and be especially cognizant of inspectors when they visit. Stand to welcome the inspectors. Always be professional in appearance and demeanor, and keep your emotions in check. Don't argue with inspectors, but if there's a disagreement, present facts and evidence to back-up a case.



## Stick to the list

Reservists can also assist their supervisors or functional leaders when they use their self-inspection checklists. Airmen need to identify any non-compliant areas and demonstrate a process that tracks efforts to correct them, well in advance of the IG team's arrival. Doing so will demonstrate to an inspector that mechanisms are in place to catch and fix wing problem areas.

"Keep in mind that if an inspector is the one who identifies an area of non-compliance, the unit is given a finding. In essence, this is like getting an F on a report card," said Lt. Col. Barbara Henson, 446th Airlift Wing Inspector General.



*(Staff report submitted from the 446th AW/IG)*

# Reservists show generosity through Angel Tree program

By Capt. Jennifer Gerhardt  
Wing Public

For the third consecutive year, Reservists within the 446th Airlift Wing will come together and participate in the Angel Tree program. Last year netted more than 208 presents that were delivered to 59 children and 28 families.

Two Angel Trees will be set up this year. The tree located in the family support office in Bldg. 1207 is exclusively for Reservists and their families. The second set up in the Base Exchange is for active duty families.

"While it does cause some confusion, the presents are going to someone in need, just the same," said Tech. Sgt. Mi-

chael Bray, a family support specialist.

The Angel Tree represents the wants and needs of youngsters from Reservist families. Anyone who knows someone in need can tell the Family Support office, or a family can request help for themselves.

"Last year we included the parents for the first time," said Sergeant Bray. "Although we haven't turned anyone away, we try to limit it to reservists and anyone who works for the 446th Airlift Wing."

One recipient from 2006, who wished to remain anonymous said it best: "We have been on the receiving end of one of the food baskets and gifts at Christmas. It made such a difference to be given hope that

things can and will get better."

While several of the gifts went to families in the local area, there were some presents that went as far away as Oregon and Idaho.

"These activities show families the Air Force Reserve cares about its people and reflects positively on retention and reenlistment," said Sergeant Bray. "This also helps to make families more financially and emotionally stable for deploy-

ments.

Not only do the presents help children, but adults' emotional well-being too.

"I know those who donated were instrumental in preventing one suicide during the 2006 holiday season," said Sergeant Bray. "They found hope due to (their) efforts. Family Support provided the support, counseling and resources for them to get more help."

## How you can help

The Family Support office is taking donations for Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets. They are accepting nonperishable items, gift cards or cash that can be used for a sit-down holiday dinner. In 2006, more than 3,885 pounds of complete dinners were donated, assembled and distributed to more than 66 families, plus one civilian support agency.

## Denton

Continued from Page 1

Making all this possible is the Denton Program, which allows private U.S. citizens and organizations to use space available on U.S. military cargo planes to transport humanitarian goods, such as clothing, food, medical, educational supplies and vehicles, to countries in need.

So far, Reserve aircrews from the 446th AW have flown Denton cargo on seven missions this year, according to Ken Hundemer, a Denton Program coordinator for Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Ill.

## Play ball!



Photo courtesy of Seattle Mariners

Senior Airman Jason Walsh, 97th Airlift Squadron, throws the first pitch Sept. 19 at the Seattle Mariners game during the United States Air Force Day celebration.

# Explosive ordnance disposal teams to deploy

By Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz  
Wing Public Affairs

Reservists from the 446th Civil Engineer Squadron, Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight, will deploy yet again, as six Airmen from the unit are slated to travel overseas in support of the War on Terror.

The six Airmen will split into two, three-man teams. One team will deploy to Afghanistan and the other team will deploy to help train the Royal Police Force in Thailand.

The Afghanistan team will deploy for 177 days, and the Thai team will be gone for two weeks.

Tech. Sgt. Dave Warwick, 446th CES, said deployments are nothing new: "Since 2003, our group has constantly had volunteers deploying to support the war efforts around the globe. We've had people go to

Iraq, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Qatar and Diego Garcia."

EOD technicians have been deployed almost 4,000 days and responsible for almost 5,500 square miles, according to Sergeant Warwick.

Deploying to Afghanistan provides the EOD team an opportunity to apply its knowledge and skills acquired throughout technical school and year of upgrade training to a deployed setting. It also allows the Reservists to learn in a less threatening environment than other deployed locations.

"I decided I wanted to go to Afghanistan because, bottom line, I want to do my job. In Afghanistan, I'll get the real-world experience before just being thrown completely to the wolves in Iraq," said Tech. Sgt. Richard Zuck, 446th CES.

Another important aspect to this round of deployments is the exchange mission with

the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group in Thailand. This mission will provide the opportunity to standardize training with experts from the Thai airport police by conducting several real-world scenarios.

A big portion of the deployment is to run real-world scenarios with the police and see how they will respond to each situation, which provides a learning environment for technical skills, reasoning and knowledge.

Master Sgt. Chris Rumley, 446th EOD, participated in this exchange once already. "This exchange allows us to get international exposure to see how other EOD teams operate and helps us build team-leading abilities that are essential in a time of war," he said.

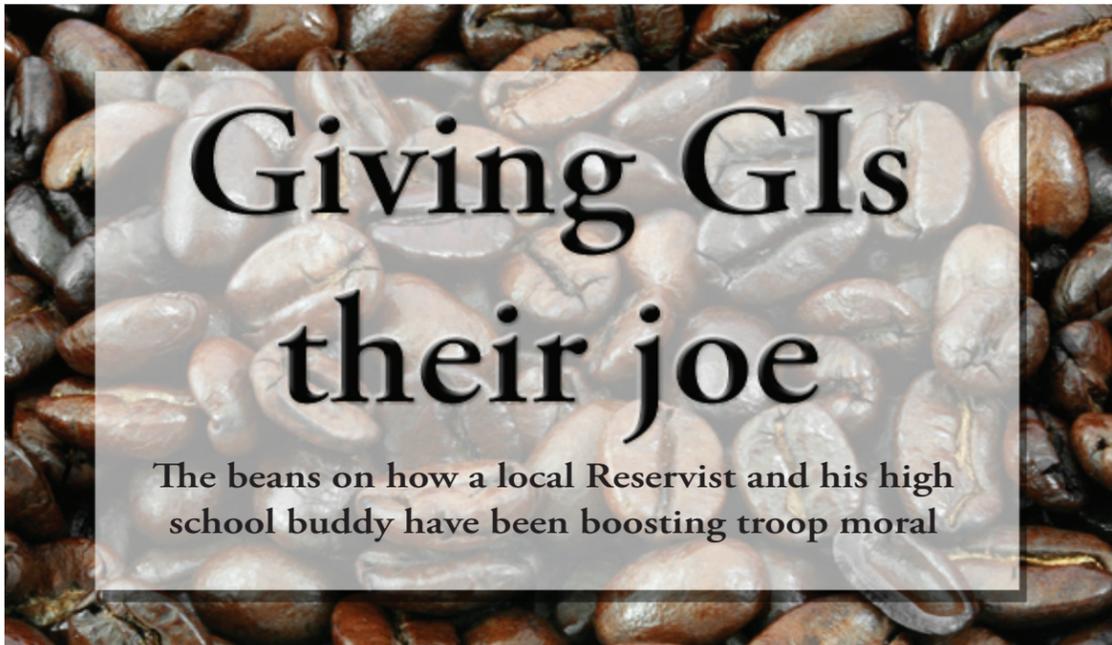
Deployments provide Reservists the greatest learning tool available – personal experience. This group of six has a lot to look forward to, said Sergeant Rumley.

## Employers get explosive orientation



Photo by Senior Airman Grant Saylor

Tech. Sgt. Glen Tuttle, 446th Civil Engineer Squadron, explains to a group of civilian employers some of the gear he wears in the field as an explosive ordnance disposal specialist. The employers were participating in Employer Orientation Day to gain insight on the Reserve mission and capabilities. The next Employer Orientation Day will be held April 5. Go to <http://www.446aw.afrc.af.mil/> to see more photos from the event.



# Giving GIs their joe

The beans on how a local Reservist and his high school buddy have been boosting troop moral

By Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel  
Wing Public Affairs

It's an old saying that an army marches on its stomach. However, there's also a common assumption that even the most satiated soldiers have a few gripes about the quality of their grub.

But a lot has changed from the John Wayne days of war fighting (think images of green meat and chemically preserved gruel-in-a-can, ala "Sands of Iwo Jima"). While today's field rations may not be gastronomic works of art, they have become rather palatable over the years.

And thanks to a couple of old high school buddies, many servicemembers have something delicious to swig those meals down with. Together, both men – one an Air Force Reserve C-17 loadmaster and the other a Starbucks's manufacturing manager – have helped provide what they estimate to be more than 10,000 pounds of Seattle's iconic brand of coffee to military servicemembers.

Master Sgt. Terry Acton, an Air Force Reservist from the 728th Airlift Squadron here, and his life-long friend, Starbucks's employee Bret Frye, have actually given away more than just gourmet coffee since beginning the endeavor four years ago. From bean grinders and espresso machines, to flavored syrups and exotic teas, the two buddies are doing more than their part to keep our troops caffeinated on the battlefield and at home.

To put the amount of coffee given away into perspective, one just has to do a little math. At 50 shots of espresso per pound, converted into 12 ounce lattes (a Pacific Northwest favorite), there's enough coffee to fill 1,302 bathtubs.

"It makes me feel good to support not only

Terry, but also the troops over there," Mr. Frye said. "They're gone for 18 to 24 months and it's nice to give them a taste of home."

For his part, Sergeant Acton delivers the goods for completely altruistic purposes – there is no skimming off the top, despite what would be an impossible temptation for most.

"It's just something extra for me to carry. I don't



Master Sgt. Terry Acton (left), 728th Airlift Squadron, receives a box of Starbucks goods from Starbucks manufacturing manager Terry Frye.

“We’ve got our own Starbucks in our in-flight kitchen.”

Master Sgt. Terry Acton

even drink coffee,” said the loadmaster, who flies on regular missions into Iraq and Afghanistan.

What makes Mr. Frye and Sergeant Acton's effort even more impressive is the fact that it isn't part of an official partnership between the company and the Department of Defense. Instead, it's just something that two friends have scrapped together on their own, with a bit of help from co-workers.

"Many Starbucks partners like Bret have taken their own time and efforts to bring our troops a taste of home," said Bridget Baker, a Starbucks spokesperson. "As a company, we've been able to donate 100,000 pounds of coffee to the Red Cross that is then distributed to troops serving overseas."

The deal works like this:

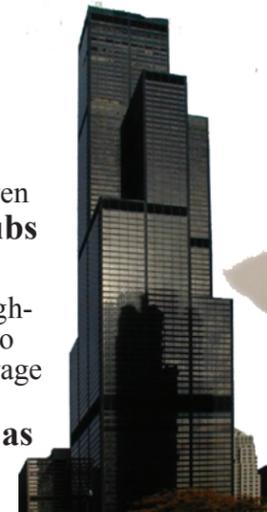
Mr. Frye receives giant boxes of surplus Starbucks goods that are no longer marketable, but still fresh, from the roasting plant and distribution center he works at in Kent. From there, he drops it off to

## How much coffee are we talking about?



Master Sgt. Terry Acton and Starbucks manufacturer manager Bret Frye have given away enough coffee to fill **1,302 bathtubs** with Cafe Latte.

If the coffee was served as straight-up, high-octane espresso, there would be enough to make 500,000 shots. Considering the average espresso cup is three inches tall, stacked end-to-end, the cups would be **23 times as high as the Sears Tower.**



Sergeant Acton, who relies on help from his co-workers to get it on a C-17 and downrange.

Since DoD transportation regulations prohibit the transportation of cargo from outside agencies in most cases, Sergeant Acton or one of his squadron mates has to treat the shipment – normally about 500 pounds per trip – as personal luggage.

For helping Sergeant Acton lug the 10-20 boxes on and off the airplane, he'll hand out a bit of the beans as a reward to whoever decides to be a good samaritan that day.

"They don't even know what's in the boxes when they're piled on the bus. But for stepping up and helping me get them off the bus and onto the plane, I'll give them a bag of coffee or two," he said.

He'll leave a little less than half of the shipment with the aircrew and people transported overseas. It's one perk that most first-class travelers on commercial airliners don't even have: "We've got our own Starbucks in our in-flight kitchen," Sergeant Acton joked.

After landing at a base in a staging area, the rest of the coffee gets stored until Sergeant Acton can take the beans into Iraq or Afghanistan. Once there, he'll give it to whomever he can, no matter what branch of service, to make their life a bit

more comfortable.

"It all goes out to individuals. The stuff doesn't end up in the commander's office, or anything like that. It's just a way of rewarding anyone who wears a uniform for the jobs they do everyday," Sergeant Acton said.

Although Mr. Frye is Sergeant Acton's source, Mr. Frye emphasized he has received a lot of help from his employees at the Kent roasting plant. "I can't even take credit for the idea," he said.

When several of Mr. Frye's coworkers began trying to ship coffee to deployed servicemembers with their own money about five years ago, their efforts had limited results. Sometimes the packages would get to the wrong person, sometimes they would be sent back to the sender.

"Then we tried to get Terry to deliver it to specific soldiers whenever he flew into Iraq, but that didn't work out, either. So, we thought, 'Hey, why don't we just do it for everyone?'" Mr. Frye said.

Four years and thousands of grateful, if jittery, servicemembers later, both Mr. Frye and Sergeant Acton are humble about their roles.

"Basically our whole plant and lots of Terry's coworkers are involved in this – it's bigger than just us," Mr. Frye said. "It's like that old quote, 'Do good by stealth, and blush to find it fame.'"



## Promotions

### Promotion Enhancement Program

**Chief Master Sergeant**  
• James Masura, 446th OG

**Master Sergeant**  
• Kathleen Disney, 313th AS  
• Scott Tera, 728th AS

**Technical Sergeant**  
• James Martin, 446th AMXS

**Chief Master Sergeant**  
Amanda Dykens, 446th AMDS

**Senior Master Sergeant**  
Richard Graziano, 86th APS  
Franklin Heerspink, 36th APS

**Master Sergeant**  
Erika McFarlane, 4446th AW  
William Pederson, 446th AES  
Patricia Shedd, 446th AMXS

**Technical Sergeant**  
Shane Barker, 446th MSS  
Brett Bussell, 446th CE  
Jake Chappelle, 446th SV  
Gerard Hudson, 446th AMXS  
Dallas Powers, 446th MSS  
Ricky Martini, 313th AS  
Erik Matteson, 446th MXS  
Martin Peterson, 446th AMXS  
Elliott Standish, 446th AMXS

**Staff Sergeant**  
Anthony Bigelow, 446th CE  
Regina Cook, 446th ASTS  
Michael Davis, 446th AMXS  
Yulanda Dofredo, 313th AS  
Kimila Howard, 97th AS  
Keith Nagel, 446th CE  
Heather Normand, 728th AS  
Casey Robbins, 86th APS  
Holly Rothschadl, 446th ASTS  
Amanda Spayde, 446th ASTS

**Senior Airman**  
Nathan Debord, 446th AMXS-

Ryan Denby, 446th AMXS  
Steven Hopper, 446th AMXS  
Ryan Maughan, 446th AMXS  
Nicole McDaniel, 446th AMXS  
Jalearnchi Sirisin, 446th AMXS  
Corey Sobania, 446th AMXS

**Airman**  
Heather Normand, 728th AS

### Newcomers

**First Lieutenant**  
Jenny Dalstra, 446th AES  
John Lever, 446th AMDS

**Major**  
Christopher Buzo, 446th CES  
Joseph Tomsic, 446th ASTS

**Captain**  
Carissa Christensen, 446th AMDS  
Brian Cunningham, 446th ASTS

**Senior Master Sergeant**  
Dale Dorszynski, 446th CES  
Bruce Pritchett, 446th CES

**Master Sergeant**  
Quentin Graham, 446th CES  
Paul Grinter, 446th AMDS  
Robert Smithline, 446th LRF

**Technical Sergeant**  
Melissa Adams, 446th AMDS  
Timothy Bennett, 446th LRF  
Anthony English, 446th LRF  
James Macie, 446th CES  
David Washington, 86th APS

**Staff Sergeant**  
Matthew Burger, 446th MXS  
Brandon Church, 446th CES  
Joshua Erickson, 446th CES  
Mary Hall, 86th APS  
Dawn Johnson, 446th SVF  
Delena Jones, 446th AMDS  
Angelique Nespoli, 446th SFS  
Gene Nolen, 446th CES  
Carol Vigil, 446th AMXS  
Shaun Strauss, 86th APS

**Senior Airman**  
Mathew Davis, 446th LRF  
Christopher Eaton, 446th ASTS

Rebecca Glennon, 446th CES  
Marquita Graves, 446th ASTS  
Jeffery Hofmann, 446th CES  
Cassandra Martin, 446th OSF  
Brandon Meyer, 446th MXS  
Stevan Novoasalanda, 446th LRF  
Christopher Rafko, 446th LRF  
Sherri Scott, 446th MXS  
Jeffrey Shea, 446th MXS  
Kathrine Truax, 446th LRF  
Kyle Yates, 446th MXS

**Airman First Class**  
Robert Jacobson, III, 446th MSS  
Andrew Knight, 446th AMXS  
Stephen Martines  
Brianna Parkyn, 446th AMXS

**Airman Basic**  
Amanda Dykens, 446th AMDS  
Tim Keener, 446th CES  
Andrue Morris, 446th MXS  
Jedediah Ryan, 446th AMXS

### Retirements

**Captain**  
Debra Huston, 446th OG

**Chief Master Sergeant**  
David Burrell, 36th APS

**Senior Master Sergeant**  
William Collings, 446th CES  
Trisha Reithaar, 446th AMXS

**Master Sergeant**  
John Beal, 446th MOF  
Owen O'Neal, 86th APS

**Technical Sergeant**  
Scott Brihn, 446th AW  
Shawn Dewesse, 36th APS  
Patrick Sigglin, 446th CES

### Quarterly Awards

Senior Airman Ashley Durand, 446th AMXS  
Tech. Sgt. James Hilley, 446th AMXS  
Master Sgt. Howard D. Halter, 446th AES



### With Thanksgiving approaching, what are you thankful for?

**Family**

Family, friends, and the support they give me being in the Reserve. I'm thankful to be part of the military - for the sense of pride it gives me.



◆ 2nd Lt. Bethany Ransier  
446th Maintenance Squadron

**Comraderie**

Family, friends... and fellow airmen for the camaraderie and sense of team work they provide. It's sort of like having a second family.



◆ Staff Sgt. Kyle Schnel  
86th Aerial Port Squadron

**Freedom**

Family, number one. Second, I'm thankful for living in such an amazing country where we can celebrate Thanksgiving.



◆ 2nd Lt. Andru Miller  
86th Aerial Port Squadron

**Security**

With the recent job report, I'm thankful to have steady employment, both with the Reserve and in my civilian career. I'm also fortunate to have family nearby.



◆ Tech Sgt. Joshua Craig  
446th Logistics Readiness Flight

### Command selects 446th AW pilot for Sijan Award

The Air Force Reserve command selected the 446th Operations Group deputy commander, Lt. Col. Colin Carr, for the 2007 Lance P. Sijan Award in the senior officer category. The reward is given annually in four categories to recognize outstanding leadership achievements.

### McChord Reserve maintainer nabs command-level award

Master Sgt. Jeff Barsaloux was named as the Air Force Reserve Command nominee for the General Lew Allen, Jr. Trophy. He will next compete at the Air Force-level competition.

### Care and Share looks for a volunteer bookkeeper

Care and Share, a non-profit organization benefiting 446th AW Reservists and their families, is looking for someone who has bookkeeping or account experience. If you are interested, please contact Carl Supplee at 982-5330.

### TRICARE Reserve Select re-enrollment deadline extended

Did you miss the September 30 deadline to re-enroll into TRICARE Reserve Select? Previously enrolled and eligible Reserve Component members still have until Nov. 29 to re-enroll in TRS and still have continuous TRICARE coverage.

Eligible Reservists who have not previously enrolled may do so at any time under the continuous open enrollment. To find out more information or to enroll, go to <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/trs/>.

### Program ensures pregnant Reservists health, safety

The Fetal Protection Program evaluates the workplace exposures of pregnant workers to ensure the health and safety of the pregnant worker and her unborn child.

Upon confirmation of pregnancy, pregnant Reservists must provide a copy of their pregnancy verification to the 446th Aerospace Medicine Squadron. Pregnant members then visit public health for an interview on their next UTA. Fetal Protection interviews can be accomplished between 9:30 and 11 a.m. on UTA Sundays.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please call the 446th AMDS at 982-3518.

### Annual coat drive underway

It's time to clean out those closets and donate your gently worn coats, hats and

gloves. Units can set up collection points in their facilities and bring all collections to Senior Master Sgt. Cheryl Lewis on Dec. 12. All donations will be delivered to the Tacoma Rescue Mission.

### Airmen invited to 'Do Something Amazing' in campaign

As part of the "Do Something Amazing" national advertising campaign, Air Force officials are offering Airmen the opportunity to submit videos showing Air Force members in action, and the best videos will be posted to the official Web site. For submission guidelines and specifications, go to the Web site [www.dosomethingamazing.com](http://www.dosomethingamazing.com).

### E-pubs moves to public Web site

The Air Force Departmental Publishing Office, commonly known as e-Pubs, will now be accessible at [www.e-publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-publishing.af.mil). A link to the new e-Pubs Web site is also available for customers on Air Force Link at [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

### Voices of McChord looking for faces, new voices

If you like to sing and are looking for a way to showcase your talent, Voices of McChord wants to see what you've got. Members have the chance to sing at multiple events. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Kristy Fry at 982-5134.

### AAFES to give away deluxe Disney vacation to lucky Airman

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is partnering with Disney watch maker Seiko Instruments to offer military Families an opportunity to experience the magic of a Disney vacation with an exclusive, military-only sweepstakes.

The winner of the "Disney Sweepstakes" will receive a vacation for four, including five-day, four-night deluxe hotel accommodations, airfare from any city in the world and a four-day pass to a Disney World amusement park, all with an estimated value of \$10,000.

Now through Dec. 24, exchange shoppers can enter to win the "Disney Sweepstakes" at BX/PX locations worldwide. No purchase is necessary to enter and entrants do not have to be present to win. The only requirement to enter is a military identification card authorizing contestants to shop at AAFES (see entry forms for complete details).

The "Disney Sweepstakes" drawing will take place in February 2008.

## Air Force officials release new annual training plan

By Senior Airman Grant Saylor  
Wing Public Affairs

Air Force leadership recently approved a plan to significantly reduce annual ancillary training requirements across the Total Force.

Starting Oct. 15, annual awareness training, was organized into three blocks of instruction covering nine courses. Total ancillary training can now be accomplished in just 90 minutes.

The plan will save the Air Force more than 6 million man hours per year.

Response to the change has been met with enthusiasm by Reserve Airmen. "This will give us more time to concentrate on our already knowledge-intensive primary career field," said Senior Airman Glenn Trowbridge, 446th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "It will allow us more time on the flightline, and that's a good thing."

Supervisors agree.

"If they can make it work, it seems like a good idea. Our Airmen don't come out here to do annual training, they come here to get out on the flightline," said Tech Sgt. Edward Sundquist, 446th AMXS. With the old training, "you get into this mode of 'death by Power Point,'" he said.

A recent assessment showed ancillary training consumed a disproportionate amount of the Airmen's time, thus necessitating the change.

"This is a huge win for the entire Air Force," said Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Moseley. "By tightening up our ancillary training requirements, we've returned vital time to all Airmen."

Three new training blocks satisfy all annual requirements in the following subject areas:

- Force Protection – covers anti-terrorism training
- Information Protection – five courses including Info Security, Info Assurance, Re-

cords Management, Privacy Act Training and NATO Security

- Human Relations – covering suicide awareness, violence prevention and combating trafficking in persons

All training blocks will be available through the Advanced Distributed Learning Service Web site. At the discretion of the unit commander, they will also be made available through downloadable take-home computer-based training and as instructor-lead group training.

Airmen who complete the training using ADLS will have their record updated automatically. If the off-line delivery method is used, unit training managers will manually upload course completion data into ADLS to ensure full credit.

(Air Force news contributed to this report)

## AF snapshot

### Australians train to save lives on C-17

Full story: [http://www.af.mil/news/story\\_print.asp?id=123072736](http://www.af.mil/news/story_print.asp?id=123072736)

**HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii (AFP)** -- Five Airmen from the 18th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Japan, showed 11 members of the Royal Australian Air Force's Health Services Wing how the Air Force uses the C-17 Globemaster III for medical evacuations.

Medical teams use mobile equipment during aeromedical evacuation to care for the injured and sick en route to traditional medical facilities.

The Air Force's newest cargo jet, the C-17 is well suited for the AE mission. The versatile jet is also the newest addition to the RAAF's arsenal.

The training introduced the Australians to some of the support equipment the U.S. teams use, which the Aussies are also planning to buy. Updated equipment brings medics enhanced lifesaving power, but Wing Commander Sandy Riley, health training staff officer for the RAAF, said that equipment also comes with a learning curve. This training is designed to counter that.



"We've got expertise in AE, but not on the C-17," she said. "The C-17 was rapidly introduced into service (in Australia), so this is invaluable training for us to use the expertise of the (Pacific Air Forces) guys and the 18th AES."

The RAAF now has three C-17s, and will soon get its fourth. Wing Commander Riley said the aircraft is changing how AE operations are executed in her country.

**Editor's Note:** AF snapshot features stories on the Air Force News web site. For the full story, type the hyperlink into your web browser.

### Working dog dies in line of duty

Full story: [http://www.af.mil/news/story\\_print.asp?id=123072736](http://www.af.mil/news/story_print.asp?id=123072736)

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFP)** – Arras, a 5-year-old Dutch shepherd explosives detector and patrol dog temporarily assigned to the 447th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron and Joint Operations at Sather Air Base, Iraq, was killed Sept. 25 when he was electrified by power cables during a search for weapons and explosives in a building.

The unit honored Arras with a memorial service at the deployed location Oct. 19, and officials at Robins AFB plan to host a memorial service for Arras later this year.

Sergeant Marcus Reaves, who had worked with Arras for six months out of 18 months the dog served with his unit, said Sept. 25 started like most days, with a fun-loving game of tug-of-war.



## C-17 crew makes record airdrop

**BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan (AFP)** – Two C-17 Globemaster III crews marked an historic highpoint Oct. 11 as they completed one of the largest single airdrops in Afghanistan since Operation Enduring Freedom began.

McChord Airmen from the 62nd Airlift wing, deployed as part of the 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron from Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, dropped 62 bundles of cargo, weighing more than 85,000 pounds, over the Paktika province in southeastern Afghanistan.

The drop provided personnel on the ground with supplies needed to operate through the winter, said Lt. Col. Brian Robinson, the Air Mobility Division chief at the Combined Air and Space Operations Center.

"What sets this mission apart from previous ones is this is the first time we've used two aircraft to drop simultaneously on the same drop zone in the (area of responsibility)," said Tech. Sgt. Marvin Mosley, a loadmaster

from the 62nd Operations Group, on the mission. "We've done several single-ship drops, which limits the amount of cargo you can drop at once. This particular mission consisted of two aircraft over the target at the same time and it's the first time (during combat) cargo has been airdropped in a formation scenario."

Because the ground units required a large amount of supplies, two C-17s were used to complete the mission, instead of four C-130 Hercules aircraft.

The decision to make the drop came about due to poor road conditions leading to the forward operating base, as well as force protection concerns, Colonel Robinson said.

"Airdrop could deliver all the supplies in two to three minutes using the C-17s and minimize blue forces exposure on the ground and in the air," Colonel Robinson said.

The crews flew from Manas AB to pick up the cargo at Bagram AB. They then flew over the drop zone and delivered



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brian Ferguson

Tech. Sgt. Marvin Mosley, a loadmaster from the 62nd Operations Group, checks one of the gates securing the bundles before dropping them from a C-17 Globemaster III Oct 11 over Afghanistan. Sixty-two cargo bundles were dropped from two C-17s to a drop zone in Afghanistan. This was the first time a combat cargo drop of this magnitude has taken place from two C-17s in formation over one drop zone.

the supplies before returning to Manas AB. The approximately four-hour trip spared Airmen from having to drive a possibly life-threatening convoy over a more than 200-mile route.

Capt. Ryan Orfe, 7th Airlift Squadron, piloted one of the air-

craft on the mission. He said the airdrop not only got much needed supplies out ahead of harsh weather, but also helped keep convoy drivers out of harm's way.

"Hopefully we're doing good and taking convoys off the road," Captain Orfe said.

### LeAnn Rimes to headline Air Force holiday special

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP)** – Multiple Grammy-award winner LeAnn Rimes recalls her fondest holiday memories as the featured artist in the "Red, White and Air Force Blue Christmas" radio special to be released in November.

Produced and marketed by the Air Force Recruiting Service's strategic communications division, the one-hour show features an in-depth interview with Ms. Rimes along with songs from her holiday album and new release, "Family."

In its 13th year, the program is sent to more than 3,300 country radio stations throughout the nation in late November and broadcast worldwide over American Forces Radio and Television affiliates on Christmas day, said Jimmy Spacek, AFRS broadcasting manager. The public service program aims to raise awareness of the Air Force and military service through messages of support and encour-

agement from various country music stars.

Tech. Sgt. John Somheil, a broadcast producer at AFRS headquarters here, co-produced the show with Spotland Productions, of Nashville, Tenn. Sergeant Somheil said that in addition to some seasonal classics and tracks from her newest release, the show includes a candid conversation about Ms. Rimes' efforts to champion support for servicemembers serving away from home.

"Christmas is my favorite holiday, so I jumped at the chance to hopefully bring a familiar voice from home to so many people overseas," Ms. Rimes said. "I do appreciate what they do so much. I have a great respect for not only the men and women fighting but the families ... away from their loved ones."

Ms. Rimes' longstanding support has extended to performances as part of a USO tour as well as visits with wounded soldiers who have come home.



Courtesy photo

LeAnn Rimes is the featured performer for the "Red, White and Air Force Blue Christmas" radio special being produced by Air Force Recruiting Service for play during the holiday.

# Kick the Habit

With the Great American Smokeout happening Nov. 15, here are a few resources Reservists can use to quit using tobacco for good.

## Smoking cessation class

Offered at McChord's Health and Wellness Center, the free tobacco cessation class is focused on behavior change. The class consists of a series of five sessions and offers free nicotine replacement therapy for Tricare members. To register, call (253) 982-2393.

## Online resources

Quit Tobacco is the DOD-sponsored Web site designed to help military personnel stop smoking. All of the features are offered free to servicemembers. Go to <http://www.ucanquit2.org/> to learn more.

## Local support groups

Several free support groups meet at various locations throughout Western Washington. For a list of locations in Pierce County, go to <http://www.tpchd.org/page.php?id=275>. For King county locations, visit <http://www.metrokc.gov/health/tobacco/ctcp.htm>.

Graphic by Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel

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