

102nd INTELLIGENCE WING

Seagull



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Massachusetts National Guard supports 114TH Boston Marathon

| pg. 6

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SEAGULL IDEAS?

Do you have an idea for a Seagull article? Would you like to be the subject of a story? Births, marriages, sympathy notices and other information are always welcome. Let us know what is going on in your organization. *(Please limit articles to 500 words.)*

The next Seagull deadline is Saturday, June 5, 2010.

ON THE COVER >>



The 267th Combat Communications Squadron's Joint Incident Site Communications Capability (JISCC) television broadcasts the 114th Boston Marathon, April 19, at the 79th Troop Command Headquarters in Rehoboth, Mass., during the Massachusetts National Guard's support of the race. *(U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Evan Lagasse)*

UPCOMING UTAs >>

Unit Training Assembly duty hours are 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

JUNE 2010						
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**FROM THE DESK OF THE
102 IW
COMMANDER**

By Col. Anthony Schiavi



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
102D INTELLIGENCE WING (ACC)
MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD
OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE MASSACHUSETTS

June always feels like an ending and a new beginning, of sorts. The academic year is coming to an end and the long winter is behind us. Summer and its endless possibilities lie ahead of us. Life gets easier and somehow, we find more time in each day. At each of these transition points in the year, it's important to recap our accomplishments and reinforce the fundamentals.

I would like to thank all of you who were able to participate in the funeral honors for Massachusetts Army National Guard Sergeant Robert Barrett. I was never more proud of this organization than when I looked out over the sea of blue uniforms all standing at attention to honor a fallen comrade. I hope you all kept him and others like him in your thoughts this past Memorial Day weekend, for Memorial Day is a time for all Americans to reconnect with our history and core values by honoring those who gave their life for the ideals we cherish. Each of these men and women is not just a loss to their family and friends, but a loss to the community and the nation. With our operations tempo as busy as it is and our daily lives full of activities, we must find moments to reflect on why we serve and remember those who have gone before us and those that are currently in harm's way.

It is only fitting that just after we observe Memorial Day, we will hold our Hometown Heroes Salute ceremony. On June 6, we will be recognizing some of our fellow airmen who have left their home station in support of a named operation for more than 30 days. It is the beginning of an annual program which will be institutionalized in our wing to recognize those airmen who deploy to support our nation's operational missions. Please join me as we thank these unit members who represent the result of all the work everyone does in support of our national objectives.

It is with these same thoughts in mind that we welcome home our Civil Engineers and say goodbye to our Security Forces Squadron. For the second time, the 102nd Civil Engineer Squadron is returning from various locations throughout the Area of Responsibility (AOR) supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Simultaneously, we say goodbye to members of our 102nd Security Forces Squadron. We wish them the best and look forward to their safe and speedy return home.

Of course, this goes for all our unit members, at home and abroad. As I look across the Wing, I am continually impressed by the variety and importance of the real-world missions in which our members are engaged. We continue our outstanding execution of both our State and Federal missions on a daily basis. With just a few months of initial operation behind us in the Distributed

Ground Station (DGS), we have already settled into our mission and gained the respect of the entire Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS) enterprise community. Our 102nd Air Operations Group continues to lead the way in validating the strength of the Air National Guard in supporting real-world operations and exercises through distributed operations. On the home front, unit members have been tasked with state activations to support Operation Rising Water, the Boston Marathon and Operation Broken Pipe. As our support and involvement increases in these community based missions, we continue to refine our processes by which we execute them. Thanks to all of you who were involved with these missions – either directly or by supporting those who were tasked. I know our state and community leaders recognize our work and appreciate it.

Finally, it would not be the start of summer without a few words about safety. You, our unit members, are our greatest asset and to that end I task each of you with protecting that resource. Please be sure you monitor your own health and well being and find the time to exercise and rest. Use care and good judgment as you enjoy all the activities the summer season has to offer. Practice the Wingman concept and look out for your co-workers, friends and family. Err on the side of caution – accidents and injuries happen in seconds and most are preventable. Stay focused at work and at play. Slow down and take time to do things safely because if you avoid that one mistake the extra time will most certainly be well spent.

We will not be drilling as a unit in July, so have a productive June drill, enjoy our Hometown Heroes Salute ceremony, June 6, and I'll see you all at the next Unit Training Assembly in August. In the meantime, enjoy the summer months and be safe.



102ND SECURITY FORCES MARATHON SUPPORT IN WELLESLEY, MASS.

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Aaron Smith
102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

As runners began to crowd around the starting line of the 114th Boston Marathon, Airmen from the 102nd Intelligence Wing and the 104th Fighter Wing were gathering into the Wellesley Police Department's briefing room near the marathon's half-way point. These volunteers were there to assist the police department with keeping the large crowds along the marathon route under control while more than 27,000 runners streamed through the town. With years of experience in preparing for the Boston Marathon, Deputy Police Chief William Brooks III of the Wellesley Police Department soon had the Airmen fully briefed on the overall guidelines and plan for the day while other officers coordinated communication and location assignments with Guard members.

Soon, the Airmen and police officers were deployed to various intersections along the route and began their work. They quickly prepared the marathon route; setting up rope barriers along sidewalks, blocking off intersecting streets and directing traffic. As bystanders slowly started to gather on the sidewalks and lawns and the crowd started to build, the first marathoners of the day approached. Led by state police vehicles and a truck displaying the official race time, the leading wheelchair racers sped by on their way to Boston.

Throughout the day the Airmen were met with greetings and calls of "Thanks for your service!" from members of the crowd and even exhausted marathon runners. Staff Sgt. Alex Novak, 102nd Security Forces Squadron, who was working at the marathon for the third time said, "Every year the people are real nice, they're just grateful people. They come up and give you high-fives or just shake your hand. It's just really nice to get out there with the public and show a presence and show that 'we're there for you!'"

The marathon quickly swelled to its full size with runners crowding the street and spectators filling the sidewalks. The crowd continuously encouraged runners onward; clapping, shouting, ringing bells, blowing horns, and calling out names printed on the runner's shirts as Gatorade cups piled up on the sides of the course. After the quicker and more serious runners had gone by, on came the more lighthearted runners; some in tutus, some juggling, some in Elvis costumes. As the day wore on and the stream of runners thinned, workers began to rake up the massive piles of cups and debris that had collected on the side of the road. The Airmen helped take down the crowd control devices as roads slowly started to open and then they boarded buses headed for home after a safe and successful homeland mission protecting marathon runners and spectators.



Staff Sgt. Michael Moynihan, 102nd Security Forces Squadron, provides security as runners stream by during the 114th Boston Marathon, April 9.



Operational Readiness Exercise

Senior Master Sgt. Christine Lazarescu (right), 102nd Force Support Flight superintendent, assists Tech. Sgt. Patrick Simpson, 101st Intelligence Squadron, and other 102nd Intelligence Wing Airmen with reviewing their Standard Deployment Folders during a mobility exercise, May 1, 2010, on Otis ANGB. The exercise tested the readiness of both individual members and organizations involved in the deployment process by accurately replicating the experience of preparing for a real-world deployment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Aaron Smith)

Airman in the Spotlight



Airman 1st Class Jared Melchionno

Airman 1st Class Melchionno is assigned to the 102nd Operations Support Squadron. He has been at Otis for approximately 19 months. He recently returned from intelligence school and is looking to obtain full-time work with his unit.

The Peabody, Mass., native spends his drill weekends distinguishing images received from various unmanned aerial vehicles. He says the best part of his job is providing direct mission support to the troops deployed overseas.

Education: Airman 1st Class Melchionno currently has an associate degree in Criminal Justice. He would like to earn a bachelor's degree in International Relations. Melchionno wants to work for either the Central Intelligence Agency or the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency once he completes his studies.

Hobbies: Volunteering. He recently helped organize an Alzheimers walk along the Cape Cod Canal.

Ideal vacation: Tour Europe with a few good buddies and enjoy really great food.

If you would like to nominate a 102nd Intelligence Wing member for the monthly "Airman in the Spotlight" feature, contact Capt. Evan Lagasse at (508) 968-4003 or e-mail evan.lagasse@ang.af.mil.

102ND CIVIL ENGINEERS CONDUCT CROSS UTILIZATION TRAINING

Photos by Staff Sgt. Kerri Cole
102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs



Mike Burroughs, 102nd Civil Engineer Squadron, conducted chain saw training, April 30, as part of the squadron's Cross Utilization Training.



Members of the 102nd Civil Engineer Squadron work together to assemble an Alaska Structures small shelter system, May 1, during the squadron's Cross Utilization Training.

OPERATION: MARATHON

BOSTON MARATHON SUPPORT



Staff Sergeant Michael Forte (left) and Staff Sgt. Jonathon Fiore, 267th Combat Communications Squadron, troubleshoot the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability's (JISCC) satellite equipment during the Massachusetts National Guard's support of the 114th Boston Marathon, April 19, in Rehoboth, Mass.



Soldiers from the 79th Troop Command work in the 79th Emergency Operations Center in Rehoboth, Mass.



Staff Sergeant Michael Forte, 267th Combat Communications Squadron, establishes robust communications using the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability (JISCC).

Story and photos by Capt. Evan C. Lagasse
102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

The runners were only visible via cable television and the crowd noise was not within earshot as Massachusetts National Guardsmen from two units supported the 114th Boston Marathon from a location 30 miles away from the race's starting line.

Eighteen members of the Army National Guard's 79th Troop Command and seven members of the Air National Guard's 267th Combat Communications Squadron worked as a Joint team April 19, at the 79th Troop Command headquarters in Rehoboth, Mass.

The primary mission of the 79th Troop Command soldiers was to provide command and control (C2) from the 79th Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the more than 400 soldiers and airmen who were providing security along the marathon route.

"We are providing command and control and communications for the Boston Marathon; for the 400-plus soldiers and airmen that are activated. We coordinate with all the different units that provide soldiers and airmen to the field and we make sure they have lunches, bottled water and the right equipment. We also coordinate to get the buses to pick them up at their local armory and move them to their 'link up' location, which is traditionally a police station in each of the towns, where they get their Rules of Engagement (ROE) briefing and then we track them for pay and accountability purposes," said Maj. Jeffrey Winn, 79th Troop Command executive officer.

While the 79th Troop Command soldiers were providing C2 from their primary EOC, the 267th Combat Communications Squadron airmen were prepared to provide a robust backup communications service using their Joint Incident Site Communications Capability (JISCC) system which was set up behind the 79th Troop Command Headquarters.

"We are supporting the 79th Troop Command soldiers that are managing all of the National Guard troops supporting the Boston Marathon. The JISCC is a turn-key communications solution for small teams. We provide 15 laptops and phones with capability for additional user instruments as well. The [JISCC] is transportable, robust and relatively easy to configure and deploy in a short time frame," said Capt. Joseph Friel, Joint Incident Site Communications Capability officer in charge.

After the initial wave of runners had crossed the finish line, the Guardsmen took advantage of a valuable training opportunity. The 79th and 267th servicemembers demonstrated the capability to conduct their EOC operations in field conditions. The 79th soldiers set up two tents and the 267th airmen provided communication capabilities using the JISCC.

"[Today's mission] has gone really well. We have a great EOC here in Rehoboth. It has computers, internet, phones, cable television and connectivity with Joint Force Headquarters but one of our great lessons learned from Operation Rising Water [where we provided flood prevention and relief to Massachusetts residents] was bringing in the folks from the 267th Combat Communications Squadron. This is a great opportunity for us to train together and for the 267th to show us even more of what they're capable of bringing to the fight. Today we are practicing how they would come in and set up a Tactical Operations Center (TOC) because if they can set it up here, they can set it up on the Boston Common or on the Marathon route if we needed to be forward deployed," said Lt. Col. Paul Landry, 79th Troop Command commander.

Both the primary marathon support operations and the field training exercise showcased the strength of the Massachusetts National Guard and the importance of Joint operations.

"Although we're not a Joint unit here at the 79th, we are embracing the whole Joint activity and we're using some of the best and brightest that both the Army and the Air Force have to offer. We can conduct operations anywhere. We can be out of here and operational in as much time as it takes to pack up a bag and drive wherever we're going," said Lt. Col. Landry.

102ND CIVIL ENGINEER HONOR GRADUATE SHARES TRAINING EXPERIENCE

By Tech. Sgt. Andrew Reitano
102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

A member of the 102nd Civil Engineer Squadron recently earned honor graduate accolades at an engineering training school because of his hard work and dedication.

Staff Sgt. Peter Conley graduated at the top of his class in the Pavements and Construction Equipment course at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

The 14-week school provides engineers from all branches of the military the opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge of runway and road construction, earthworks, heavy equipment operation, and surveying.

Conley credits his strong work ethic and his commitment to be a compelling example to others for his academic achievement. Having a construction background and actually enjoying the work he does were also key to him beating out his 83 classmates for the top spot. The demanding course not only pushed Conley mentally but also physically. "By the time the course was over, I had lost more than 30 pounds," he said. "It looks like I was the biggest loser, but lucky for me it wasn't academically."

For Conley, the highlight of the course was learning how to properly construct and repair runways in peacetime and during contingency situations. "The high-level of instruction and the opportunity to work and learn with civil engineers from other branches of the military made this course one of the best I have ever attended," said Conley. "I came back to Otis not only as a better civil engineer, but a much better NCO."



101ST INTELLIGENCE SQUADRON MEMBER RUNS FOR CANCER RESEARCH

By Tech. Sgt. Andrew Reitano
102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

The year was 2001 and Michael Cornell had just graduated from law school and was ready to begin working as a trial attorney in Boston when he lost his father to pancreatic cancer at the age of 51.

"I wanted to do something meaningful to fight cancer and help other families avoid my family's experience but I didn't know where to best channel my efforts and intentions," said Cornell, a lieutenant colonel with the 101st Intelligence Squadron. "So, I contacted the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and they put me in touch with an organization called The Dana Farber Leadership Council." The council is a group of young business professionals in Boston that raises money and awareness for cancer research.

Through the friends he had made during many Dana Farber fundraising events, Cornell was introduced to the Dana Farber Marathon Challenge, which is a group of more than 500 people from across the United States who run the Boston Marathon to raise money for Dana Farber. Although Cornell played a variety of sports in high school including cross-country and track, he never imagined running marathons at a point in life when many people begin transitioning away from time-consuming and physically demanding activities.

During its 21-year existence, the Dana Farber Marathon Challenge has raised more than \$43 million for cancer research. All of the donations go to the Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research at Dana Farber Cancer Institute. The Barr Program allows scientists who have new ideas, but might not yet qualify for government research grants, to pursue innovative ways to cure cancers and improve patients' quality of life.

"Running for Dana Farber is, without question, one of the most rewarding things I have ever done with my life," said Cornell, who completed his fifth consecutive Boston Marathon, April 19. "Our team trains together for months, but the highlight is marathon weekend, especially the team's pasta dinner the night before the race." The dinner is an opportunity for the runners to listen to doctors and researchers who tell them how their fundraising efforts are helping to save lives and find cures for

certain types of cancer. The inspirational evening also includes testimonials from cancer survivors and spotlights the children who are patients at the Dana Farber. The program concludes with a slideshow of the children at the hospital who were paired with a runner but who did not live to see the marathon. "By the time you leave the dinner, there's no doubt in your mind that you will finish the marathon for these kids no matter how much you are hurting from the run," said Cornell. "Almost everyone knows someone who has battled cancer, so throughout the race itself, dozens of spectators will yell out things like 'thank you Dana Farber' or 'Dana Farber saved my mom,' which inspires me to keep putting one foot in front of the other."



BATTLEFIELD WEATHER NCO OF THE YEAR

By Capt. Evan C. Lagasse
102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

A Massachusetts Air National Guardsman stationed at Otis Air National Guard Base recently won a prestigious award for his exemplary service while deployed to a Forward Operating Base in the Middle East.

Technical Sergeant Kevin Phipps, 202nd Weather Flight, was named the Air Reserve Component (ARC) Battlefield Weather Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year for 2009.

Sergeant Phipps deployed to Afghanistan from January to July 2009 as a Battlefield Weather Liaison in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and two U.S. Army units; the 101st Airborne (Air Assault) Division and the 25th Airborne Division.

"Sergeant Phipps was charged with establishing the Battlefield Weather Liaison position. His ingenuity and persistence were evident as he immediately identified the requirements of the Brigade Combat Team. He then developed a new set of products and guidance for the new position tasked to U.S. Air Force Weather. Sergeant Phipps' initiative in networking provided critical up to the minute, command weather intelligence to the Brigade Combat Team and over 44 subordinate units," said U.S. Army Sergeant Major Roger Nevells Jr., Sergeant Phipps' supervisor in Afghanistan.

In the mountains of Afghanistan, quality weather professionals are a valuable asset to any military organization due to the dynamic weather conditions and the effect the weather has on military operations, especially those that involve aircraft.

"Sergeant Phipps' efforts in exploiting dynamic weather conditions enabled efficient mission execution of theater level assets including rotary wing, unmanned aerial vehicles, aerostats, fixed wing weapon sorties and reconnaissance platforms. Intelligence gathering was enhanced as kinetic enemy activity was predicted in part with Sergeant Phipps' routine snowpack assessments and climatology products. Sergeant Phipps' exemplary performance was commensurate with the highest of military standards," said Sergeant Major Nevells.

Working in a remote environment like Afghanistan taught Sergeant Phipps about the importance of technology and how much easier life can be when you have many different gadgets at your fingertips.

"Predicting the weather in Afghanistan is much more difficult than predicting the weather in the United States because you don't have all of the same tools available to you. For example,



in the U.S. there are multiple Doppler Radars in each state but over in Afghanistan those resources are scarce," said Sergeant Phipps.

While both honored and humbled by earning the title Battlefield Weather NCO of the Year, the award nomination came as a surprise to the good natured sergeant.

"I didn't know this award existed so when I heard I had been nominated and that I won, I was very surprised. My experience being deployed with the Army in Afghanistan was extremely challenging but incredibly rewarding at the same time," said Sergeant Phipps.

A full-time college student, with aspirations of becoming an officer in the Air National Guard, Sergeant Phipps is a professional, motivated Airman who exemplifies what it means to be a Guardsman.

"I am extremely proud of Sergeant Phipps and his recent honor is well deserved. His willingness to deploy to Afghanistan for six months, in a Joint operational environment, speaks volumes about his dedication to military service. He is an Airman in every sense of the word and the Massachusetts Air National Guard is proud to call him one of our own," said Col. Anthony Schiavi, 102nd Intelligence Wing commander.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kerri Cole

Airmen of the 102nd Intelligence Wing stand in formation at the Massachusetts National Cemetery, May 1, during Army National Guard Sgt. Robert J. Barrett's funeral.

Barrett, of Fall River, Mass., mobilized with the National Guard in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in January 2010 as a member of the 1st Battalion, 101st Field Artillery Regiment. Barrett died from injuries sustained April 19, while on a dismounted patrol south of Kabul International Airport. Eight other Soldiers of the 101st sustained injuries during the incident.

"The loss of this Soldier is truly a tragedy. May the family of Sergeant Barrett find solace in knowing that this brave Soldier gave the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation," said Maj. Gen. Joseph C. Carter, The Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard. "We also extend our heartfelt condolences to Sgt. Barrett's comrades in the 101st Field Artillery Regiment, particularly those injured alongside him. The entire Massachusetts National Guard family deeply mourns the tragic loss of this loyal and young patriot."

HOW TO TRANSFER YOUR MONTGOMERY G.I. BILL POST 9/11 BENEFITS TO A FAMILY MEMBER

To transfer your post 9/11 Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits to a family member, the first step is to determine your eligibility for the program. Do you have over 90 days aggregate of active duty/title 10 time after Sept. 11, 2001? This does not include basic training or technical school. If the answer is yes, you qualify for this benefit. Not sure? Call the retention office at (508) 968-4077. We can help you with the guess work, or call the V.A. Education center at 1-888-442-4551. Keep in mind the V.A. makes the final determination on eligibility.

The next step is logging on the web site: www.gib.va.gov and proceeding to "step two" on the tab. Open the tab and look for "to apply for TEB (Transfer of Educational Benefits) here". Click on the underlined "here", it will take you to the DMDC (DEERS) site. Once logged into the site, you should see family members who are enrolled in DEERS. If they do not appear on this page, click on the "edit" button on the right side on their name to proceed to the election page. Please leave the "transfer end date" blank and use the arrow keys to indicate the months you would like to transfer. Click save and it will take you back to the TEB page. Make sure all of the blocks are checked off before hitting the submit button.

Step three: fill out the V.A. form 22-1990. This is a fairly easy form to complete. Inside part ii, please check off 9a and 9f to include the appropriate MGIB election. The rest of the form is self explanatory. If possible attach any and all DD form 214's as a source document. If the VA records are not complete or updated, this will be your proof of service. Upon completion of this form, it can either be uploaded using the veteran's on-line application web site (VONAPP) or mailing it to the regional buffalo NY office. The address is located on the last page of instruction.

Last step: once you receive the letter of eligibility for the post 9/11 MGIB from the V.A., the family member who will be receiving the benefit will fill out a V.A. form 22-1990e in its entirety. Please check off 9a inside part ii, and complete part v with the service member's information. Once completed, it can be sent in via VONAPP, mail, or the family member's school V.A. office.

AMERICAN CORPORATE PARTNERS PROGRAM

American Corporate Partners (ACP) is a nationwide mentoring program that provides mentorship opportunities for transitioning veterans, Reserve, and National Guard personnel. ACP is designed to help veterans and military participants - free of charge - to form valuable relationships, develop key skills, network, and create a career plan. Some of America's largest corporations are supporting ACP's efforts nationwide, including the following corporations in the Boston Area: Liberty Mutual, Goldman Sachs, General Electric, Verizon and Harvard University.

While not a "jobs program," ACP aims to strengthen the relationship between employees of America's corporations and universities and those who have served our country, often at great sacrifice.

This program is open to Veterans and Service Members of all grades, as well as Spouses of our fallen Warriors. Candidates will be matched one-by-one with a mentor who is a leader from a large corporation or university according to your preferences. Over the course of 12 months you will meet with a mentor who will provide you with the opportunity to leverage your military skills and experiences in your career development.

ACP is a competitive program and those who are interested in applying should do so at their earliest convenience. To learn more about the program and to apply on-line, visit www.acp-usa.org or contact American Corporate Partners at info@acp-usa.org.

PROMOTIONS >>

Lieutenant Colonel

Robert D'Alto
Ann Shover

Master Sergeant

Thomas Jones

Senior Master Sergeant

James McNeil
Lorrie Moran
Christopher Reed

Technical Sergeant

Meghan Gehl

ANNOUNCEMENTS >>

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Otis Chief's Council is accepting applications for their two annual scholarships until Aug. 31, 2010. One \$1,000 and one \$500 scholarship are available. Please contact Chief Master Sgt. Carolyn Lucas, (508) 968-4057 or carolyn.lucas@ang.af.mil for application information.

MEDICAL CARE

All Air National Guard members must inform their servicing Air National Guard medical facility (102nd Medical Group) of any changes in their medical status to include (but not limited to) a medical illness, traumatic injury, surgery, and/or pregnancy. Written documentation from a Provider of all care rendered must be brought to the 102nd Medical Group for entry into the members' medical record for evaluation with a Massachusetts Air National Guard medical provider. Please contact Chief Master Sgt. Monica Lindell or Tech. Sgt. Cindy Thomas at (508) 968-4091 with any questions.

YOUNG AMERICA SAVES!

The Massachusetts Joint Family Support Assistance Program is sponsoring FREE programs for teens, ages 13 - 18 to help educate teens on:

Buying a car
Paying for college
Picking the right bank account
Using credit wisely
Making their money work for them

Day-long classes will take place at various locations around the state in June and July. Contact Erin Creighton (508) 968-4855 for schedule and details.

FIT FAMILY PROMOTES HEALTH

The Air Force recently launched FitFamily to increase fitness levels and reward children and adults for leading an active lifestyle. Because the program is Internet-based, it can be used anywhere. Families can enroll in the program by logging on to the USAF Fit Family website at www.USAFFitFamily.com.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Air Force Association, Otis Chapter
2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament
Date: Aug. 23, 2010
Location: Paul Harney Golf Course
POC: Brendan Simison
(brendan@simison.us)

CHAPEL CALL

By Chaplain (Maj.) David Berube
102nd Intelligence Wing Chaplain

Memorial Moments

On May 1, 2010, many of you joined me as we honored the service and sacrifice of Massachusetts Army National Guard Sergeant Robert Barrett, and laid him to rest in the Bourne National Cemetery. It was a moment that will live on in our memories. We were with the family of a fellow warrior at the conclusion of his journey from the battlefield to his place of final rest. We paused in the midst of our ongoing mission to bear witness that his mission was complete.

My time with Sergeant Barrett's family over those few days which included his funeral and burial were a time of deep reflection for me. As we greeted his flag draped casket at Hanscom AFB, Mass., I was keenly aware of the 180 times my team and I greeted the flag draped transfer cases of 205 fallen brothers and sisters at Dover AFB, Del. As I walked with the Barretts in their grief I remembered the grief we walked through with 611 family members at Dover. And I was aware in those moments

at Hanscom that the mission at Dover continued. Those memorial moments, while filled with pain and grief, will forever be moments of privileged and sacred service for me.

Our days of remembering and honoring Sergeant Barrett also caused me to reflect upon what it means to be part of the chain of comrades-at-arms who watch over and care for our fallen brothers and sisters from the battlefield to the field of rest. Whether at the start of the journey, where I know some of you have been, or at Dover, or at cemeteries in hometowns, or at any point in between, we fellow warriors are here to see that our comrades are cared for properly and respectfully. We are there as a visible reminder to their families that they did not serve alone; that they had brothers and sisters who lived with them, loved them, fought with them, will mourn for them, and always remember them. We stand in the line from the

battlefield to the cemetery as a witness that the sacrifice of our fallen comrades, and their families, will not be forgotten.

And all of that caused me to reflect upon the fact that the chain of caring between fellow warriors is not forged when one of us falls on the battlefield. We receive its first link when we raise our hand, accept our obligation, and join the clan of warriors. That link is tempered and joined to others as we face the early pains of basic training and military indoctrination. The chain is strengthened and lengthened as we serve in peacetime and war. We accept responsibility for our fellow warriors and their families when we accept the calling to serve and protect our nation, her citizens, and her ideals. We undertake the obligation to be part of one another on the day we join the military and bear that obligation throughout our lives. This is, truly, the full measure of our service commitment.

~Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

I'm writing this just before Memorial Day. Like many of you I will be part

of events on that day to honor and remember our comrades who have gone before us. I will have the privilege of rendering that honor as I stand with living comrades who served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and all the other places far and near since then, including Iraq and Afghanistan, where our nation has needed us. While I will be honoring the memory of those at rest I will also be thankful for the service of those still here, and very aware of my connection to all of you.

As I stand with comrades, surrounded by flags and supportive civilians on this Memorial Day, I will be forever grateful for our common mission shared through generations. I will recommit myself in those moments to renew my obligation to my fellow warriors - both living and dead - and I invite you to do the same.

UNIT SPOTLIGHT 102nd Air Operations Group Air Communications Squadron



The mission of the 102nd Air Communications Squadron is to manage communications, computer, and network systems supporting war fighting operations. The 102nd ACOMS provides communication infrastructure, hardware, and expertise to United States Strategic Command, Eighth Air Force and the 102nd Air Operations Group. The squadron's focus is to support communication and information requirements of the 102nd Air Operations Group. They also train and equip Airmen to maintain command, control, communications, and computers during war and peace.

102nd Airman and Family Readiness Program



Left: Airmen and families of the 102nd Security Forces Squadron prepare for their upcoming deployment by attending a Yellow Ribbon Program pre-mobilization event recently. This day-long event provided various ways for members and their families to access information on benefits, entitlements, deployment related issues and community resources.

Right: The 2010 Massachusetts National Guard Family Program Joint Services Volunteer Training focused on Military, Family, Community and State themes as they educated, enabled, and rewarded their invaluable volunteer force. Shown are the Otis Family Readiness Group volunteers who were in attendance.

Left to Right: Daniel Galli, Staff Sgt. Doris Galli, Erin Creighton, Master Sgt. Donald Kochka and Deborah Reade-Kochka.

(Not pictured: Senior Airman John Healy and Kimberly Healy)



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