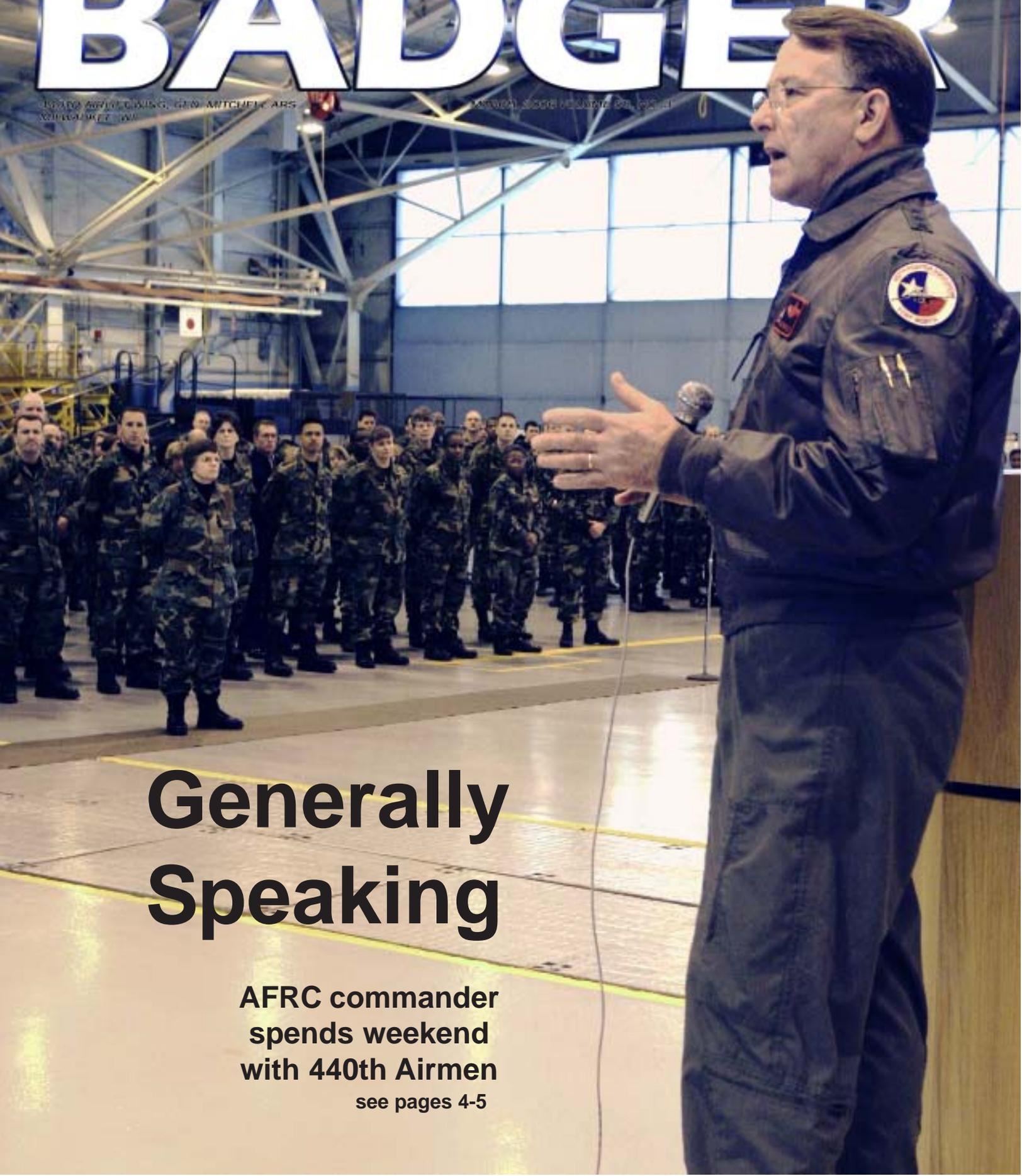


# FLYING BADGER

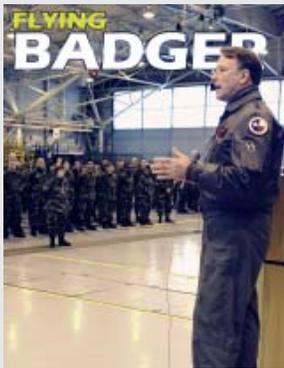
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## Generally Speaking

**AFRC commander  
spends weekend  
with 440th Airmen**  
see pages 4-5



Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, AFRC commander, speaks to wing Airmen during a commander's call Feb. 4.

photo by Tech. Sgt. Pat Kuminecz

## The Flying Badger

March 2006

Volume 58 Number 3

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## PERSPECTIVE

# Weathering the Storm

### Despite uncertainties, 440th Airmen persevere in 2005

by Col. Jay Flournoy  
Commander 440th Operations Group

*"I'm not afraid of storms, for I am learning how to sail my ship." Helen Keller*

Congratulations to the entire wing for a job well done in 2005. The headquarters Air Force Reserve Command commander recently awarded the 440th Airlift Wing the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for 2005. All air reserve technicians, Reserve, civilian, and contract employees made tremendous contributions to the overall mission of this wing and should be extremely proud of this significant achievement.

As you are aware, this recognition comes at a very trying time in the history of the 440th Airlift Wing. Although the outstanding unit award was for accomplishments in 2005, it speaks volumes for the character that each one of you has shown in the face of extreme adversity every day of every year. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." You have accepted several challenges over the past year and you continue to perform with tremendous results.

Whether supporting combat operations in Central Command, conducting counter drug operations the Southern Command, fighting global terrorism in European Command, or providing humanitarian support right here in the good ole USA, you have proven that we in the 440th are key players in the global "total force" team. The reputation of this wing and its personnel are known throughout the Air Force and will carry us through the days ahead only if we continue to

maintain the highest standards that our customers have grown accustomed to.

The wing started off 2006 with a bang. The medical squadron showcased its talents and received an "excellent" on its recent Health Services Inspection. Its

score of 92 was the highest score given to any AFRC stand-alone unit. As you all know, 77 members of a 22nd Air Force staff assistance visit team were here during the February UTA to inspect and assist with the wing with compliance readiness. Once again, each member of this wing played a critical role in the success of the visit, impressing the team with an incredible zero "answerable observations." The team left here knowing that the 440th is still as ready today as we were prior to the BRAC announcement.

I congratulate you on your success and challenge you to keep your blades sharpened because the road ahead will test our resolve. I have no doubt that we will persevere with our outstanding reputation intact. Bring on the storm!

*"When it is dark enough, you can see the stars."*  
Ralph Waldo Emerson



Col. Jay Flournoy

## Wing Passes SAV Inspection with Flying Colors

by Dennis Mehring

The February UTA had "a little something extra" 77 inspectors from 22nd Air Force Headquarters at Dobbins AFB, Ga., were here to conduct a staff assistance visit (SAV).

They came, they saw and they were impressed. Colonel Michael Ochs, SAV team chief said, "This is the best SAV I've seen in my eight years at 22nd Air Force."

Detailed results of inspections are for "official use only" and are therefore not releasable. What can be reported is that the wing had 75 write-ups. Wing functional areas had only 19 write-ups. Col. Jay

Flournoy, 440th Operations Group commander, said the results were remarkable because it is not unusual to see one office or unit in a wing have 19 write-ups. There were no "answerable observations," which are problems that must be addressed immediately. The Safety Award Program, Military Personnel Flight Access Database for data retrieval, and the Services Access data base for training were called noteworthy programs. The 440th's "Fit to Fight" was noted as an especially good local program.

"I could not be more proud of our people," said Col. Merle Hart,

440th Airlift Wing commander. "This wing has endured so much in the last two years that would make ordinary people insist they were entitled to let things slide and yet they have continued to excel. Our flying package was continually deployed for two years and our aerial porters are just finishing a year-long activation. The 440th Medical Squadron delivered one of the best inspections that the Reserve Command has ever seen at the end of January, and with all the uncertainty surrounding BRAC, the wing has proven that excellence in all we do is more than just a slogan."

# Donations Accepted Through May for 2006 AFAP Campaign

The annual Air Force Assistance Fund (AFAP) Campaign officially kicks off again during the first UTA in March and runs through May. Maj. Jenny Carpentier, chief of personnel operations, said after an extremely successful campaign in 2005, where wing raised more than \$1,300, she's looking forward to another outstanding year of supporting our troops. The continuing campaign theme is "Commitment to Caring."

As in years past, the AFAP benefits four charities: the Air Force Aid Society (AFAS), the Air Force Village Indigent Widows' Fund (AFV), the Air Force Enlisted Village Indigent Widows' Fund (AFEV), and the LeMay Foundation Indigent Widows' Fund (LEMAY).

Although the benefits available to Reserve members are limited while serving at home station, reservists may receive full emergency relief benefits from the AFAS after a period of activation. Likewise, retired Air Force Reserve members and their families receive the same benefits as other Air Force retirees, and may use the retirement communities.

The Air Force Aid Society has directly touched the

lives of many 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Airmen in the recent past. In the past two years the wing has contributed \$546 to the Air Force Aid Society through this campaign.

In return, wing Airmen have received \$2,898 in emergency assistance. This amount is in addition to the thousands of dollars our wing has received through Air Force Aid Society community programs such as Bundles for Babies, phone cards and the Heart Link programs.

Our goal is to raise about \$1 per member assigned. Donations, which are tax deductible, must be made by cash or check payable to the Air Force Assistance Fund. Keep in mind, payroll deductions cannot be accepted by Reserve Airmen in any status. Collection boxes are located in each unit and monitored by unit first sergeants.

For more information about the 2006 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign, contact Maj. Jenny Carpentier at (414) 482-5333 or Master Sgt. Meredith Roso at (414) 482-5218.

## AF Gets A-Staff Realignment

The Air Staff at Headquarters Air Force made a change on Feb. 1 that will make it look a lot more like its counterparts in the Army, Navy and Joint world by realigning under an "A-staff" structure. Major commands have followed suit with full implementation set for May 1.

The A-staff realignment will enhance warfighting capability by improving Air Force communications internally and with the other Services and Joint organizations.

By adopting the well-known staff structure, the Air Force will eliminate the difficulty sometimes encountered when leadership at one headquarters attempts to contact functional counterparts at another headquarters.

Here's how the standard A-staff template looks:

- √ A1 - Manpower and Personnel
- √ A2 - Intelligence
- √ A3 - Air, Space and Information Operations
- √ A4 - Logistics
- √ A5 - Plans and Requirements
- √ A6 - Communications
- √ A7 - Installations and Mission Support
- √ A8 - Strategic Plans and Programs
- √ A9 - Analyses, Assessments and Lessons Learned

At Headquarters Air Force, the "A3" and "A5" staff functions will be paired together as will be the "A4" and "A7." Intelligence will be elevated from a director under the AF/XO to an assistant chief of staff.

This staff realignment will neither create nor eliminate jobs. Instead, it will make it easier for Airmen to do their jobs, both within the Air Force and within the joint environment.

## Quite an Exciting Ride

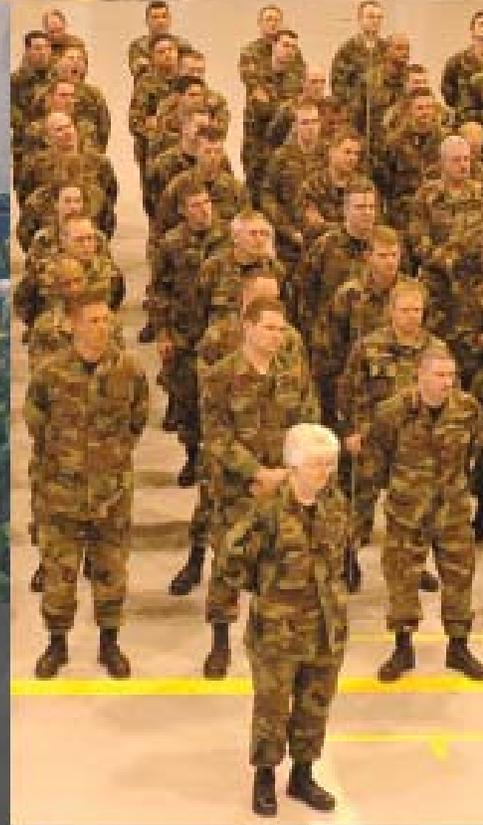


**Maj. John Eric Hall, Tech. Sgt. Craig Schueller and Capt. Tim Pemberton approach a runway, and its lights, in a C-130 Hercules after completing a combat support mission. The Reservists are with the 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron. Major Hall, the pilot, and Captain Pemberton, the co-pilot, are from the 731st Airlift Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. Sergeant Schueller, the flight engineer, is with the 95th Airlift Squadron at General Mitchell Air Reserve Station, Wis.**

*photo by Master Sgt. Lance Cheung*

The 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing's Feb. 4-5 training weekend had several events that were unique for a UTA weekend.

A wing commander's call is an occasional event, but a unit gathering featuring the Chief of the Air Force Reserve, Lt. Gen. John Bradley, is a little out of the norm. General Bradley arrived early enough on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> so that he could meet with Col. Merle Hart, the wing commander, and then with the rest of the wing.



Saturday afternoon, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, members of the 440<sup>th</sup> assembled for a commander's call in the Maintenance Hangar to hear General Bradley's report on the current state of the Air Force Reserve Command. Lt. Gen. Bradley praised the 440<sup>th</sup> for its outstanding work ethic and thanked the troops for the hard work they have done for the. The general's comments were followed by a question and answer session.

The 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Military Ball was held that same evening at the Italian Conference Center near downtown Milwaukee. The ball brought more than 400 people, current and retired members of the 440<sup>th</sup> and their guests, together for an evening of formal celebration, song and dance. The entertainment was provided by "Afterburner," a performing group that is part of the U.S. Force Band of Liberty which is based at Hanscom AFB, Mass. General Bradley also spoke at the ball where he addressed current Air Force issues and Air Force goals for the coming years.



440th Airlift Wing

# FORMATION & CELEBRATION

## DIVERSITY

mydiversity | Senior Airman Rocio Resendiz - bilingual



“I speak two languages fluently: English and Spanish. I was born in Chicago, but spent several years going to school in Mexico when I was young.”

I work in the Services Flight here at the 440<sup>th</sup>, and I work in services at my civilian job as well. I'm a staffing agent for a company that does hiring and job placement and I get the opportunity to work with people from all different backgrounds.

It's interesting to talk to people who come from such a wide variety of experiences. I also get the chance to use my Spanish there, since I am the only one in my office who can interview our non-English speaking workers. I am also attending school part-time for culinary arts so that someday I can open my own small restaurant.

I joined the active duty Air Force out of high school and was stationed on bases in Germany and Italy working in supply squadrons. It was a wonderful experience. I got the chance to travel around Europe, experience different cultures and people, and even managed to learn a little Italian.

Coming from Chicago, it was strange coming here to the 440<sup>th</sup> at first. I wasn't used to people you passed on the sidewalk saying hello. But everyone here is so friendly, and it makes it a great place to work. I love this unit—it's like family.

### Come One, Come All - HRDC Meeting March 18

The 440th Airlift Wing Human Resources Development Council will meet at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 18, in Heritage Hall. The meeting will focus on hearing from the sub-committees on recruitment, retention and diversity.

The HRDC affords Airmen the opportunity to share ideas and information on strategies, marketing challenges and community programs to increase the wing's diversity.

All Airmen are invited to attend.



### WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

There was a time when the thought of women in military service was unheard of.

Conventional wisdom had it that men fought wars and women shouldn't be put in harm's way.

Women now comprise 15 percent of the 1.4 million active duty personnel. In the Air Force, they tally 19 percent of active duty and 22 percent of Reserve members; 99 percent of AFSCs are open to females.

The 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing counts almost 20 percent of officers and 20 percent of enlisted members on the distaff side.

Within the wing, women are C-130 co-pilots, navigators and loadmasters; command three groups; head the Public Affairs Reserve staff; and serve in key roles in every unit.

The so-called weaker sex has demonstrated that its dedication, commitment and performance are anything but weak. Given the opportunity, women answered the call to serve and have done so with distinction. Diversity ... isn't it great?!

Diversity ... isn't it great?!

**Donations accepted on behalf of Jesse Glover**

Jesse Glover, a member of the 440th Services Flight, died of cancer Jan. 23. Jesse worked in the squadron since July 2003 as a recreation aide. He came to Milwaukee from Offutt AFB, Neb.

Memorial donations may be made to the Manor Park Foundation, 3023 S. 84th St., Milwaukee, Wis., 53227. Donations can also be made to the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic, St. Luke's South Shore, 5900 S. Lake Drive, Cudahy, Wis., 53110. Please write "In memory of Jesse Glover" at the bottom of the check.

**Expanded benefits for deployed reservists**

The 2006 National Defense Authorization Act signed into law Jan. 6 lets the Department of Defense offer reservists a variety of benefits more on par with their active-duty counterparts.

One provision of the bill shortens the duty time before reservists qualify for the full housing allowance.

People called to active duty for non-contingency operations for more than 30 days will get the full allowance. Before, they had to be called to active duty for at least 140 days.

**Fewer reservists in 2006**

Air Force Reserve Command will have a smaller force in 2006.

The 2006 Defense Appropriations Act funds an end-strength of 74,000 reservists. That's 2,100 fewer reservists compared to the 2005 end-strength of 76,100. The new legislation also approves 9,852 full-time Air Reserve technicians and 2,290 full-time Active Guard and Reserve reservists.

**PT gear available**

All PT forms and uniforms have been released to 440th AW units. Some Airmen will not have all the gear as some items are on back order. However, there will be a document number annotated on order forms indicating back order. When your remaining items are received, people will be notified for pickup. Also, no exchanges will be possible until the first UTA in March. For more information call Leonard Mettlach at (414) 482-5846.

**Two UTAs in March**

As a reminder the July UTA has been moved up to March, meaning there will be two UTAs in March.

The March UTA will be March 4-5, and the July UTA will take place March 18-19. There will be no UTA in July.

**Thunderbirds are coming**

The U.S. Air Force air demonstration team, the Thunderbirds, will be performing over Milwaukee's lake front, July 15-16.

**Welcome** The 440th Airlift Wing welcomes these new reservists to the wing:

Capt. Wyanet Robinson	440 MDS
SSgt. Douglas Brox	440 SFS
SSgt. Richard Loudbear	440 MXS
SrA. Randy Novak Jr.	440 SFS
A1C Melissa Lompre	440 SFS
AMN Danielle Kakwitch	440 SVF
AB Danielle Taylor	440 SVF

**So long** The 440th Airlift Wing says good bye to the following reservists who have either retired, separated or taken another assignment:

Lt. Col. John LaSota	95 AS
CMSgt. David Schneider	440 MXS
MSgt. Robert Ball	440 LRS
MSgt. Daniel Berg	440 MXS
MSgt. Leonard Gant Jr.	34 APS
MSgt. Michael Johnson	440 CES
MSgt. Daniel Mehail	440 MXS
MSgt. Ronald Noble	440 AMXS
TSgt. Shon Johnson	95 AS
TSgt. Douglas Koch	440 SVF
TSgt. David Sweet	440 CES
TSgt. Robert Tedesco	440 SFS
SSgt. Gary Rost	440 MDS

**Outstanding** The 440th Airlift Wing congratulates the following reservists received their Community College of the Air Force Diploma:

SMSgt. Kenneth Schuetz	440 MXS
MSgt. Richard Rehbock	440 MDS
MSgt. John Sacco	440 MXS
MSgt. Simone Wilhoit	440 LRS
TSgt. Keith Dodge	34 APS
TSgt. David Livingston	34 APS
TSgt. Scott Schweighauser	440 MSF
TSgt. Julie Stubblefield	440 AW
SSgt. Wayne Foy	440 MXS
SSgt. Rolando Gozun	440 MXS
SSgt. Jeffrey Strum	440 MSF

**High Tech Parenting**

**Deployed mom keeps in touch with son back home by book readings on DVD** *by Maj. Ann Peru Knabe*

When Senior Airman Katie Pinar deployed to Southwest Asia on her first Air Expeditionary Flight rotation, the 440th Airlift Wing reservist wanted a special way to keep in contact with her 2-year-old son, Zach.

"I knew I would miss him," said the Airman, who is currently assigned to 379th Expeditionary Mission Support Group. "And I was looking for a way for Zach to remember what 'Mommy' looked like and sounded like."

The answer was right on base. Another Air Force reservist told Airman Pinar about "Hearts Apart," a program that allows reservists to videotape themselves reading a book. Service members then mail the DVD back home to the United States for their children and



**TIME TO READ:** Senior Airman Katie Pinar reads a book to her son.

loved ones to listen to, view and follow along.

The library in the desert had more than 200 children's books to choose from, but Airman Pinar immediately spotted one of Zach's favorite books, *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam Mabry.

"I couldn't believe my luck," said Airman Pinar. "I read this book to Zach every night before bed, and now I could send a DVD version home for him so he could continue to hear this story ... and see me smiling at him, telling him I love him."

The second book she read was *Just Mommy and Me* by Tara Jaye Monow. She also showed Zach a picture book called *Baby Faces*. "I hope Zach looks back on my deployment some day and has fond memories of how we connected," she said.

# Military Clearing House Helps TRs Find New Homes

by SMSgt. Keith Heapes  
Military Personnel Programs

The Military Personnel Assignment Clearing House is the primary tool that 440<sup>th</sup> traditional Reservists will use to indicate their career choices. In addition, it will assist the Military Personnel Flight (MPF) in focusing its assistance efforts. The Clearing House is a website that can be reached through the AFRC limited website or at home through the Air Force Portal. Wing members will not be able to enroll and use the Clearing House until we are one year from the programmed base closure date.

Once wing members are cleared to access the Clearing House, they will update their contact information (phone numbers, address, e-mail) and review their mili-

tary personnel records to make sure they are current. Members will then choose a career option: reassignment to another location, retraining, transfer to the Inactive Ready Reserve, another service, the active duty Air Force, or retirement. Members will be asked to indicate their willingness to travel and the desired effective date of transfer. If members are interested in becoming an Individual Mobilization Augmentee, the website will put them in touch with a major command program manager.

All hiring commanders are en-

couraged to use the Clearing House for filling vacancies before considering candidates from non-BRAC affected units.

The command hopes to match displaced reservists with vacant positions and as overages. In the future, members will be able to access the Military Clearing House, by going to the

AFRC Home Page ([www.mil.afrc.af.mil/](http://www.mil.afrc.af.mil/)) and looking for the website reference to "HQ AFRC BRAC Personnel Information."

For more information call the MPF at 482-5304.

**New Orleans first to close**  
Air Force Reserve Command's 926th Fighter Wing at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans will be the command's first wing to close under the BRAC by Sept. 30.

## Cheap Tix Milwaukee Bucks Salute 440th Airmen

The Milwaukee Bucks are saluting the 440th and 128th wings by offering reduced ticket prices for their Wednesday, April 12 game against the Washington Wizards.

Airmen can purchase lower level tickets normally priced at \$48 for \$25. Upper level tickets normally sold for \$36 can be purchased for \$20. Game starts at 7 p.m. at the Bradley Center.

Additionally a game between Airmen from the 440th Airlift Wing and the 128th Wisconsin Air National Guard will tip-off prior to the Bucks game.

Ticket order forms are in unit orderly rooms, or call the Bucks at (414) 227-0539.

### AFRC helps BRAC-affected personnel

Air Force Reserve Command has created a new program to help reservists and civilians navigate Base Realignment and Closure, or BRAC, changes.

The programs include a BRAC guide, member-tracking codes, two clearing houses, e-mail boxes and an archive. All are designed to assist those affected by the current BRAC and to create a future system for Air Force Reserve Command.

In addition to explaining the programs and their applications, the guide has a broad range of military and civilian personnel information pertaining to BRAC.

Members can access the guide from a military computer at [www.mil.afrc.af.mil/hq/dp/brac](http://www.mil.afrc.af.mil/hq/dp/brac).

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