

SCOPE

193rd Special Operations Wing - Pennsylvania Air National Guard - Middletown, Pa.

Remembering, honoring fallen servicemembers



Photo by William Holt

Volunteers work to help members of the National Sojourners, Harrisburg Chapter 76 and the Navy Club, Lancaster County, Ship 166 place flags for the annual memorial displayed at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery during Memorial Day 2009. More than 5,000 small American flags were placed in ordered columns and rows to represent each of the servicemembers killed in action during the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

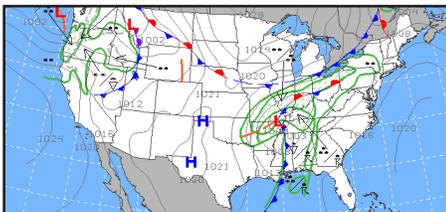
By Airman 1st Class Claire Behney

Public Affairs Specialist

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed an act establishing an official flag for the new nation. Since then the American flag has served as the icon of our nation's freedom and it's colors, each symbolic, wave strong every Memorial Day

along the entrance drive to the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, Pa. The color red symbolizes hardiness and valor; the white, purity and innocence; and the blue represents vigilance, perseverance and justice – the kind of vigilance, valor, and commitment displayed by the more than 5,000 servicemembers

See Annual, Page 6



Challenging Mother Nature



Earth Week highlights



Charity 5k run/walk registration



Brig. Gen. Eric G. Weller
Commander

Lt. Col. Susan Stuck
Wing Executive Officer

Capt. Jay Ostrich
Chief of Public Affairs

Senior Master Sgt. Dave Hawkins
NCOIC for Public Affairs

SCOPE Staff

Tech. Sgt. Erin Heiser

Tech. Sgt. Culeen Shaffer

Staff Sgt. Mariko Bender

Airman 1st Class Claire Behney

**THE VOICE OF THE
QUIET PROFESSIONALS**

This funded U.S. Air Force news-letter is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of Scope are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the Department of Defense, Air Force or Air National Guard. The content is edited, prepared and by the 193rd Special Operations Wing Public Affairs Office.

193rd Public Affairs
81 Constellation Court
Middletown, PA 17057
<http://www.193sow.ang.af.mil>



State Command Chief Perspective



By Chief Master Sgt. Ralph Braden

State Command Chief

Last month I wrote about the Community College of the Air Force. This month I will continue the theme of education with a discussion concerning the Post 9/11 GI Bill. If you are eligible, the Post 9/11 GI Bill can help you pay for your continuing educational development. Many Air National Guard members are eligible to take advantage of this financial benefit.

To be eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill you must have served on active duty after Sept. 11 for a period of at least 90 days or more, excluding service on active duty in entry level or skills training. Ninety days or more of qualifying active duty service after Sept. 11 entitles you to 40 percent of Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. Six months of qualifying active duty service after Sept. 11 entitles you to 50 percent of Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits.

The percentage of educational benefit increases up to 100 percent as the length of time served on active duty increases. In order to qualify for 100 percent of Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits the military member must have served an aggregate active duty military service of over 36 months. What this means is that if you have served 36 months of cumulative service in a qualify-

ing active duty status since Sept. 11 you are eligible for 100 percent of the Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits.

The maximum benefit includes the following:

- Cost of tuition and fees, not to exceed the most expensive in-state undergraduate tuition at a public institution in the state that you are attending school
- Yearly books and supplies stipend up to \$1,000
- Housing allowance equal to the basic allowance for housing payable to an E-5 with dependents; however, housing allowance is not applicable when enrolled in an online only educational program

All military members that served after Sept. 11 are eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Unlike the CCAF degree program that I discussed in last month's article which is a program restricted to enlisted personnel, the Post 9/11 GI Bill is available to all eligible Air National Guard officers and enlisted members.

The Post 9/11 GI Bill may be used to help you pay tuition for a graduate or undergraduate degree. Enlisted members that do not currently have a degree may use their Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to help finance a bachelor's degree. If you already have an undergraduate degree you may utilize the Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to start working on a graduate degree.

You can find more information and Post 9/11 GI Bill application procedures at <http://www.gibill.va.gov>.

I recommend that all Airmen that believe they are eligible apply for this valuable benefit.

As always, I encourage all Airmen to further their education and become a life-long learner. If eligible the Post 9/11 GI Bill can help pay for your continued educational growth. Furthering your education enriches your life and helps you contribute even more to the Pennsylvania Air National Guard.




Promotions

For the month of April

Promotion to Senior Master Sergeant

Antonio T. Powell 193 FSS
Dennis C. Strausser 201 RHS



Promotion to Master Sergeant

Christine Nicholson 112 AOS



Promoted to Staff Sergeant

Jason R. Fornwald 211 EIS
Jerrand T. Pinder 193 MXS



Congratulations!

News In Brief

193rd Association meeting scheduled

The 193rd Special Operations Wing Association is always looking for new members. If you are not a member you can visit their Web site, www.193sow.org, to print off a membership application. The application can be dropped off through base mail to the 193rd SOW Association's mailbox, to a board member, or you can deliver it yourself to the next Association meeting.

The meeting will be held Saturday at 4:15 p.m. in the base dining facility.

Deployment stress briefing announced

There are a lot of unknowns when deploying. Not just for the member, but also their families. Help yourself be better prepared to handle the stresses of deployments that you and your family may encounter.

Three combat/deployment briefings are scheduled for May drill weekend, which will feature guest speaker retired Lt. Col. George H. McNair.

Air Station three will have two briefings, 8-10 a.m., Saturday in the Operations Blue Room and Sunday, 9-11 a.m., in the Operations Blue Room. Air Station two will have a briefing on Saturday, 1-3 p.m., in Shambach Hall.

NG chief notes pain of transformation

The National Guard is transforming itself to meet the threats of the 21st century, but the transition is hard and will be painful for units, the chief of the National Guard Bureau said.

Air Force Gen. Craig R. McKinley spoke during a breakfast meeting of the Defense Writers Group.

"We are in transition to a new type of force to be more relevant in today's wars," McKinley said.

Balance is the operative word in the Defense Department this year, the general said.

"How do we make a balanced force -- both Army and Air Guard -- that allows us to do the services' requirements, but still gives the governors flexibility and capability at home?" McKinley asked. "The National Guard is adapting to the changing styles of warfare. I couldn't have predicted 15 years ago that we would have used more than 80 percent of our Army Guard in full rotation fighting over a period of almost nine years. But we were able to adapt."

In the mid-1990s, McKinley said, it was difficult to train up Guard formations for operations in the Balkans. "Now, we can take of formation of 2,000 people and within 90 days have them ready to deploy to Afghanistan," he said. "I don't think we could have done that 15 years ago."

Times have changed, the general said, and so has the National Guard. "We have to be a more agile and quick response force," he said. "The old rules of the 20th century are just not relevant."

**To read more about Gen. McKinley's stance on the National Guard's transformation to meet the threats of the 21st century, visit, www.ngb.mil.*



Challenging Mother Nature, forecasting what's to come

Story and photos by Airman 1st Class Claire Behney
Public Affairs Specialist

Thunderstorms and Nor'easters are two of the biggest weather threats that could ground a pilot. From behind the scenes the 193rd Special Operations Wing Weather Station works to forecast these conditions to ensure the safety of those transiting through Muir Army Air Field, Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, Pa.

Staged on the flight line of Muir Army Air Field, the Weather Station's three-man team has a combined total of more than 100 years of meteorology experience making them a key asset to the Gap.

"It's an aviation type of forecast, we're strictly pilot oriented here so it's much more detailed," said Don Roth, a meteorological technician with the Weather Station. "We're telling the pilots how high the clouds are, how far they'll be able to see, what the winds are going to be, what the pressure is going to be for their

their network so their customers can pull up the briefing and know what the weather is going to be.

"Even on the best weather days, we are always looking over the horizon for the next approaching storm to predict the impact that it will have on flying operations," Russell said of their daily tasks.

Aside from Army aviation, another major customer of the Weather Station is the Eastern Army Aviation Training Site, also located at the Gap. EAATS conducts aircraft qualification courses, instructor pilot training and many other aviation training courses. The Weather Station provides aviation forecasting for EAATS as well.

Other customers for the Weather Station include the post's non-flying operations and they support them with resource protection in the form of weather warnings. The Weather Station coordinates with the 15th Operational Weather Squadron, Scott Air Force Base, Ill., in order to issue weather advisories.

"We are the 15th's eyes forward," said Russell. "We are their local eyes and ears."

Along with working with the 15th during weather forecasting, the Weather Station also assists them in their training. The Weather Station provides required on-the-job training for the Airmen of the 15th, as well as the Airmen of the Wing's 203rd Weather Flight.

Gary Peel, a meteorological technician with the Weather Station, said once Airmen graduate from their military technical school they are able to report to the Weather Station to get key hands-on forecasting experience and are able to put to use what they've learned in school.

"The Airmen come in highly motivated and they've got the knowledge, we just help to fine tune them and get them mission ready," said Peel. "It's not something we have to do, but it's a way we can help."

Both the 203rd Weather Flight and the Weather Station fall under command of Col. Christopher Dutton, 193rd Regional Support Group commander; however, while the Weather Flight is the combat arm and deploys, the Weather Station is immobile and employed by civilian technicians, Russell said.

The team members of the Weather Station are all retired Air Force non-commissioned officers, who each dedicated more than 20 years of active duty service in the meteorology field, making them highly experienced with a lot of knowledge to share.

That experience and knowledge can be seen every day, whether on the job or working alongside new Airmen, sharing what they know.



Bruce Russell, manager of the 193rd Special Operations Wing Weather Station, works alongside meteorological technicians Gary Peel and Don Roth, to review satellite weather scans of the local area in preparation for reporting a local area weather briefing.

aircraft; so it's a little bit different than telling you that it's going to be cloudy with a chance of showers."

This information is given to the pilots in a mandatory weather briefing they receive from the Weather Station before every takeoff.

"The pilots report to us in the Weather Station for a DD Form 175-1 Weather Briefing," said Bruce Russell, manager of the Weather Station. "The weather briefing form then gets attached to their flight plan and the two documents go together to give the pilot a release to fly."

Along with briefing pilots, a typical day for the Weather Station involves putting out a local area weather briefing three times a day; morning, mid-day and evening. This report goes out onto

Continued on next page



Don Roth, a meteorological technician with the 193rd Special Operations Wing Weather Station, reviews one of several weather charts that are posted daily for the technician's assessment. Information obtained from these charts is given to pilots of Muir Army Air Field in mandatory weather briefings prior to every takeoff.

"Just last week we had a crew flying around during a thunderstorm watch and we were communicating over the FM radio with them," said Russell.

Russell said the pilot asked him to continue keeping him advised to the movement of the storm because he had priority issues to accomplish.

"When we saw the storm crossing the river headed for Muir we advised him to return to base immediately and he did, just beating the microburst - another save," Russell said.

The Weather Station was also able to rise to the challenges of this year's winter storms.

"What a year this has been and we've been doing really well in putting out the warnings," said Russell. "We've hit the snow fall amounts well this year and gave our customers enough lead time to be able to get things back into the hangers and cleared off the ramps."

So while the Weather Station is successfully mission focused, their dedication to the career field plays just as key of a role.

"I don't think I could do anything else," said Roth. "It's a new puzzle to solve every day and when you go to weather school, you never see the sky the same as the person that doesn't know what they're looking at."

Chaplain: Diversity our greatest strength

By Lt. Col. Richard Denison

193rd Special Operations Wing Chaplain

I Corinthians 112:4-6 NIV

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men."

Any great military unit is a bit like a great baseball team. It takes a variety of different skills and abilities to have a successful baseball team.

While some specialize in hitting home runs, others focus on hitting singles to fill the bases. While some run swiftly to catch

long fly balls, others have the reflexes to catch hard hit grounders. Some pitchers have the stamina to pitch into the late innings. Others have a marvelous fast ball that can get out nearly any batter in a difficult situation.

In our Wing it takes a variety of gifts and skills to be successful. While we often emphasize the flying mission, there are a variety of support functions that need to happen before any airplane takes off. Throughout our Wing there are so many important functions which all contribute to our nation's defense we can't mention them all. It takes unique skill for each career area. Our diverse talent and interest is what makes our Wing great.

Just as we have varied talents and interests, so do we come from many different

backgrounds. Sometimes, we become comfortable with folks who are similar to us. However, if we only socialize and befriend those who are like us, we limit our opportunities to grow. When we befriend someone from a different background we can gain insight from another's experience. By being open minded to learn from others we might grow in our understanding of complicated issues.

Let's celebrate our diversity. Through the many gifts and interests we have our wing is successful in many missions. Through our varied backgrounds we have opportunity to learn and grow. While we come from many different places and may have varied interests, let us unite in our common desire to serve our nation and commonwealth.



Join 193rd chaplain team: Anticipated chaplain assistant position

There is an anticipated opening for a chaplain assistant. The applicant must be fully qualified in another Air Force specialty code before applying for this staff sergeant position.

Those interested should please contact Chaplain Richard Denison at extension 2265 and submit a resume and letter of interest to him at richard.denison@ang.af.mil.



Annual memorial waves in remembrance (continued from Page 1)

killed in action during the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Twice a year, Memorial Day and Veterans Day, The National Sojourners, Harrisburg Chapter 76 sets out their traditional ordered rows of small American flags, each flag they place represents a single servicemember killed in action during the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“It gives me a great feeling to take part in doing something for the families of the men and women who lost their lives; to honor those servicemembers’ dedication and sacrifice,” said Vaughn Schwalm, president, National Sojourners, Harrisburg Chapter 76.

The National Sojourners, Harrisburg Chapter 76 works in conjunction with the Navy Club, Lancaster County, Ship 166 to create this flag memorial. The week-long process begins with gridding out the location of each flag along the entrance drive to the cemetery. Members and volunteers carefully measure out the exact location for each flag, creating straight and even columns and rows. After about a day and a half of gridding, approximately three days are spent punching holes in the ground and then placing the flags in those holes, where they will be displayed for about a week.

“When you’re actually putting a flag in the ground with your hand and you realize that flag represents the history of a person, their life from being born up until they die and everyone they’ve connected with through that life, it’s heart wrenching when you get involved in it,” said Schwalm.

Chapter 76 initially began this display on the lawn of the Zembo Shine, Harrisburg, Pa., in 2004 after the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

“When we started it was only about 800 flags and unfortunately it has grown since we now include those killed in action in both Iraq and Afghanistan,” said Larry Rutt, Chapter 76 member and former president.

Master Sgt. Scott Fritz, 193rd Special Operations Wing fuel cell supervisor and a ten-year-member of Chapter 76 said the memorial is all about paying tribute to those that have fallen while serving and honoring those touched by the servicemembers.

“Everybody in some way, shape or form has been affiliated



Photo by William Hall

Volunteers work to help members of the National Sojourners, Harrisburg Chapter 76 and the Navy Club, Lancaster County, Ship 166 place flags for the annual memorial displayed at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery’s entrance drive during Memorial Day 2009. The display is arranged into ordered rows and columns and takes approximately a week to create.

with the military, even if it’s just a family friend,” said Fritz. “They are able to look at the 5,000 plus flags in the memorial and say ‘they’re doing that for me’ and that’s what we’re hoping and I’m sure we do that.”

To Schwalm, remembering the significance of what each flag of the memorial represents is essential.

“When you come out you can walk through the flags and just look at them and think ‘they look really beautiful’, but when you walk through them and walk by every single flag you need to think of each of them as a person and the history of that person,” Schwalm said.

It’s that kind of remembrance that Rutt suggests should consume us all on this Memorial Day in honor of those fallen and those yet to come home, feelings he hopes the display is able to instill in those who visit the cemetery and see the memorial.

“The reason to keep doing this memorial is because we can never forget what the men and women of our brave armed forces have done for us,” said Rutt. “It’s [the memorial] to inspire pride in what our military does and if we can do that in a spectacular manor such as this then we will continue to do so for as long as we can.”



The National Sojourners, Harrisburg Chapter 76 and the Navy Club, Lancaster County, Ship 166 could use your help in setting up this year’s flag memorial.

They will begin setting up the display May 17 at 9 a.m. at the Indiantown Gap Cemetery. Volunteers are needed for the entire week, except for Wednesday, beginning every day at 9 a.m. Please call Vaughn Schwalm if you have any questions regarding the set up at 717-350-4858.

The National Sojourners, Harrisburg Chapter 76 will also have a booth at the Armed Forces Day event on City Island. Stop by to learn more about the organization and their annual memorial displays.



Sounding Off

What you need to know to keep you flying...

5k to support food bank announced

The 193rd Operations Association will have a 5K walk/run in support of the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank. The race will be held at 2:30 p.m. on June 13. The 5k and will start and stop at City Island Park in Harrisburg. The event will include a pasta meal, a t-shirt and tickets to the Harrisburg Senators baseball game starting at 6 p.m. Participants are asked to bring two canned food items in addition to their \$10 registration fee.

Please see page 11 for the registration form.

1st sergeant position announced

The 271st Combat Communications Squadron is looking to fill a first sergeant opening. Please submit packaged to Senior Master Sgt. Peter Mireles in the Logistic Readiness Squadron or Command Chief Master Sgt. Scott Keener by close of business June 6. The board will be held Friday, July 16, with the time and location still to be determined.

Air Liaison Officer positions announced

The 148th Air Support Operations Squadron, Fort Indiantown Gap, has traditional Guardsman officer vacancies for Career (non-rated) ALOs (13LXU). Applications are being accepted from non-rated officers in the grade of O-3 and below or enlisted personnel qualified for commissioning.

This is a male only career field. Previous Tactical Air Control Party or Joint Terminal Attack Controller experience highly desired. Interested applicants must send a letter of intent, resume and current physical fitness test scores to Lt. Col. Terrence Koudelka at terrence.koudelka@ang.af.mil or mail 1-520 O'Neil Street; An-nville, PA 17003 no later than May 23. Contact Lt. Col. Koudelka via e-mail or call 861-1148; DSN 423-1148 for any questions.

NCO seminar scheduled

The NCO Supervisor Leadership Management Seminar will be held at the new 201st RED HORSE Squadron facility, Fort Indiantown, June 24-27. This seminar is open to staff sergeants through senior non-commissioned officers. If you have attended this seminar in the past and desire to attend again, you may do so with first time attendees having priority status. Deadline for registration is June 16.

To register visit the 193rd global page under "Education and Retention". There is more seminar information on this form. The cost and methods for you to attend this seminar is the responsibility of your assigned unit.

The completed registration form should be forwarded to retired Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Isett at wayne.isett.ctr@ang.af.mil.

Chief Mulholland retirement

A retirement ceremony will be held for Chief Master Sgt. Lori Mulholland in the Operations Blue Room, Saturday at 3 p.m.

A reception in the joint training facility will immediately follow the ceremony.

What's on the Menu

Constellation Cafe

Hours of operation 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday

Main Line:

Teriyaki chicken
Veal parmesan
Rice Filipino
Pasta with
herbs and butter
Vegetable du jour

Snack Line:

Hamburger
Cheeseburger
Grilled ranch chicken
sandwich
French fries
Baked beans

Clancy's:

Cheese steak
Grilled hot dog
Beans
Chips, dessert and a drink

Sunday

Main Line:

Sweet and sour pork
Lemon herb chicken
Scalloped potatoes
Steamed rice
Cauliflower
Vegetable du jour

Snack Line:

Hamburger
Cheeseburger
Grilled hot dog
French fries

Clancy's:

Chicken tenders
Cheeseburger
Beans
Chips, dessert and a drink

UTA Payday: May 28



Chief: *Be proud of your service*



*Story by Chief Master Sgt. Robert Shartle
Civil Engineering*

Some personnel serving in the Armed Forces feel they are not directly involved in the missions undertaken by the United States military and therefore that their service is not important or does not contribute. This is certainly not the case. Each Soldier, Sailor, Marine, Airmen or Coast Guardsman is an essential part of the Armed Services.

Many years ago while working on a construction site, I had the opportunity to talk to the project manager. After a short period of conversation, it was apparent that we had both served in the military. I asked him about his service and he matter-of-factly told me where he had been. He served in the Marine Corps as a 4.2 inch mortar man and was part of the III Amphibious Force in Quang Tri Province, Vietnam, during the battle of Khe Sanh. This battle lasted from January to April, 1968. During the battle, his platoon sustained over 100 percent casualties.

He then asked about my service and I was almost embarrassed to tell him. After all, what did I really do? He stopped me

and pointed out how it takes everyone in every job to make the military machine move. This, coming from someone who could have easily taken the stance that the front line Soldier or Marine is the only one that counts. I've thought about this many times over the years and shared it with others.

When you serve in the military, you become part of something much bigger than yourself. You are part of the profession of arms. Your fellow countrymen are depending on you to protect them from others that would like to see harm come to our country. You are carrying on a tradition in the National Guard that started in 1636 in the Massachusetts

Bay Colony. You have taken an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. If that doesn't make your contribution count, nothing will.

There is even more to your service; you volunteered. You were not forced to enlist or accept a commission. There is not a draft requiring you to serve in the Armed Forces, you did it of your own free will. You may have done it as a family tradition or to simply find work. You may have done it to learn a trade or take advantage of the educational benefits. Whatever the initial reason, ultimately you did it to serve. There is only a small percentage of Americans that can say that. You can be proud of stepping forward.

Generally, the air crews are considered at the tip of the spear in the Air Force. It's easy to understand, since they are often the ones that put the weapons on target, but how did they arrive at that point?

The aircraft are able to fly due to the long hours spent by maintainers, completing maintenance and repairs. The fuel and repair parts, as well as, the uniforms

that the crew members are wearing are purchased by logistics readiness and the contracting office. Mission information is provided by intelligence after sorting through reports, briefs and news. The Communication Squadron keeps the flow of information moving on the ground and to the aircraft. The crew's ability to learn the intricacies of the aircraft is due to the training office providing all the courses necessary to stay current. The crew's safety is due to the equipment provided and the lessons taught by life support. Their physical health and well being are due to the Medical Group's continuous monitoring of the individuals' requirements. Their spiritual well-being is due to the never ending work of the chaplain's office. To ease the burden and allow the crew to concentrate on the mission, their families are assisted by family readiness while they are deployed. Pay, for the bills that are still with their families when they deploy is credited to finance. The records and orders providing them benefits and allowing them to deploy are prepared and maintained by personnel. Audio visual not only records parts of the mission for historical data and build up of moral, but also to show the taxpayers how their money is being used. The aircraft launch at an airfield provided by and maintained by the engineers. The aircraft launch and recovery is made safe by the fire fighters. Readiness has prepared them for hostile attacks and conditions of all types. The airfield remains secure because security forces are on the job. None of these Airmen would have ever been in the military, if it had not been for the recruiters.

This is not an aircraft on target; this is the military machine combining all of its' professional Airmen to put systems on target. As you can see, the Marine that I met so long ago was correct. It does take everyone serving to make the military machine move.

As a member of the United States military, you represent all those that served before you and are serving now. Honor the proud traditions of the Armed Forces, be professional, wear the uniform properly and be proud of your service.



193rd lends hand during Earth Week

Lt. Col. Blake Uhl, commander, 193rd Special Operations Wing, Detachment 1 at Bollen Range, loads bags of trash left at one of three drop off points in city of Lebanon. Employees of Lebanon city businesses volunteered an hour of their day, April 20, to collect trash around the city, while three Airmen of Detachment 1 collected the bags of trash gathered by the volunteers. During the opening ceremony for the day's event, Lebanon city mayor, Sherry Capello, proclaimed April 20 to be Earth Day for the city of Lebanon and thanked the local businesses and Airmen of Detachment 1 for their participation in helping to keep the city clean.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Claire Behney



Photo by Airman 1st Class Claire Behney

Master Sgt. Andrea Stine, 211th Engineering Installation Squadron, personnel, hands garbage she collect from the stream in Area 1 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, Pa., to Staff Sgt. Ashley Kessler, 148th Air Support Operations Squadron, personnel. These two Airmen were part of a group of nine that volunteered to participate in an Earth Day clean-up, April 22. The clean-up event was organized by 2nd Lt. David Colna, 201st Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers, environmental manager and focused on clearing the perimeter fence of Areas 1 and 2, as well as the stream that runs through these areas.

To see more of the 193rd Special Operations Wing's Earth Week clean-up efforts, please visit our public Web site at <http://www.193sow.ang.af.mil>.



E-Records become new standard for 193rd

Story by Master Sgt. Natalie White
E-Records Project Manager

The time has come- you've probably heard the term 'E-Records' floating around the last two years or so and the project is finally well underway.

E-Records is the process of all the Unit Personnel Records Groups being converted to an electronic format and stored in the Automated Records Management System. From this point forward, all paper copies of personnel records will be eliminated. Initiation, coordination, approval, transmission and storage of personnel actions will occur, in most cases, without a single piece of paper being generated; hence the creation of the vPC-GR system. This online transformation will also give you access to your personnel records 24/7 through the Air Force Portal. Not only can you review your own record from nearly any location at any time, but your command support staffs will have the capability for their respective units as well.

To tackle this massive project, the Force Sustainment Squadron Personnel Element recruited 21 knowledgeable members from within the squadron and around the Air Stations to assist. They had five stations set up to prepare the UPRGs for review, perform the audit, make the necessary corrections, complete the final review, and prepare the UPRGs for shipment to be scanned into ARMS. From this audit, you will receive a packet containing duplicate documents and documents considered unauthorized per AFI 36-2608, Military Personnel Records System. The E-Records Team will distribute all these packets to the CSS', who will then in turn distribute them to you. Please keep all these documents with your personal files, because though unauthorized, they are still pertinent to your career.

If you log into ARMS today to review your personnel record, you will see just a few documents throughout your military career that have already been uploaded. Once the E-Records project is complete, you will be notified by the FSS Personnel Element that your entire UPRG has been uploaded for your review. You will have 60 days from this notification to log into ARMS, review your entire record for discrepancies, and report any found discrepancies to the FSS for correction. After this 60 day window, hard copy UPRGs will no longer exist and your personnel record in ARMS will become the master personnel record for your military career. Once again, the FSS will notify you of when this review period begins and ends.

The FSS would like to thank all members who assisted with this project and their commanders and supervisors for allowing



Photo by Airman 1st Class Claire Behney

Master Sgt. Natalie White works alongside Master Sgt. Melanie Murray during the E-Records transition process. Twenty-one Airmen from throughout the Wing were recruited to assist in this process of transferring all paper personnel records to electronic files.

us to borrow them for a few weeks—everyone did a fantastic job; we couldn't have done it without them

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this exciting transformation, please contact the FSS Personnel Element; Master Sgt. Ashley Derickson at extension 2155 or Master Sgt. Natalie White at extension 2290.



Have a story to tell?

Contact your Public Affairs Office and share the good news!

Job vacancy?

Scope advertising works for you to get the word out!



193rd Operations Association 5k charity walk/run

Benefiting the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

WHEN: Sunday, June 13

LOCATION: Carousel Pavilion, City Island, Harrisburg, Pa.

REGISTRATION: 1-2:15 p.m.

FEES: \$10 plus two non-perishable food items

EVENT TIME: 2:30 p.m.

MEAL: 4 p.m.

AWARDS: 4:30 p.m.

Prizes will be awarded to the top male and female finisher in the following Age Groups: 19 and under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60 and over

Separate waiver form must be completed, signed, and returned to participate in the event

Mail registration form information (below) and completed waiver to:

271 CBCS
225 Harris St
Annville, Pa 17003
Attn: Maj Andrea Barlup or SMSgt Kim Shollenberger

Questions: Call (717) 861-1255 or 1265 or email andrea.barlup@ang.af.mil or kim.shollenberger@ang.af.mil

.....
Name (First, MI, Last) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age ____ Sex ____ Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Birth date _____ T-Shirt size (circle one) Adult: S M L XL XXL Youth S M L

Event: 5k Walk ____ 5k Run ____

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's Signature if under 18 years of age.