

Heartland WARRIOR

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The editorial content is edited, and prepared by the Public Affairs Office of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB, IN, 46971-5000.

Any questions regarding any content should be directed to the editor at (765) 688-3348.

Staff

Col. William 'Tim' Cahoon.....commander
Lt. Col. Gary Lockard.....chief, public affairs
Capt. Kelly Howard.....public affairs officer
Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays.....editor
Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner.....assistant editor
SrA. Carl Berry.....staff writer
SrA. Andrew McLaughlin.....staff writer

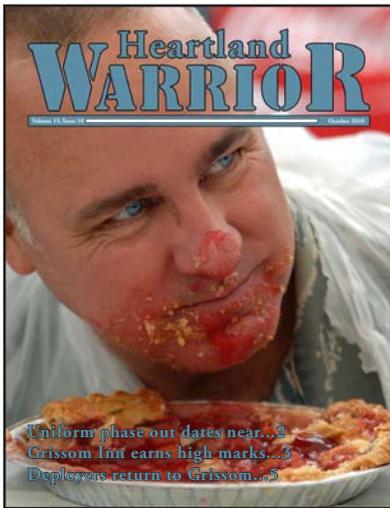
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On the cover...

With cherry pie glaze covering his chin, Chief Master Sgt. Larry Brady, 434th Air Refueling Wing command chief, gazes at the competition during the pie eating contest held during the family day picnic. For a closer look at family day, check out the photos on page 4. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Douglas Hays)

Uniform phaseout dates near

By Brad Jessmer

Air Force Uniform Office

gloves, mittens and earmuffs

Oct. 1, 2011

-- 33S legacy badges

Nov. 1, 2011

-- Battle Dress Uniform
-- Desert Camouflage Uniform
-- Tan boots (excluding Airmen deployed to the area of responsibility)

Wear of the Airman Battle Uniform and ABU items will be mandatory as of Nov. 1, 2011.

As of Oct. 1, 2010, the optional green fleece without nametapes and rank may only be worn as a liner to the All-Purpose Environmental Clothing System.

If worn as an outer garment, the green fleece must have the Airman's name, Air Force tape and rank attached.

For more information on uniform items, visit the Air Force uniform website at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dress/index.asp>. (AFNS)

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio -- With many phaseout and mandatory wear dates approaching, the look of Air Force uniforms will change slightly over the next year.

Here are a few dates to remember for uniform and policy changes.

As of the following dates, wear of the listed uniform items will be phased out:

Oct. 1, 2010

-- 100 percent wool pullover sweater, replaced with the looser fitting, smooth fabric pullover sweater

-- 2EXXX, 3AXXX and 3CXXX legacy badges

-- Green fleece used as outer garment without name, service designer and rank

-- Black fleece

Dec. 31, 2010

-- Gray and dark blue scarves,



Remembering 9/11

Senior Airman Nikkia Jackson plays Taps on the bugle while members of the 434th Security Forces Squadron and 434th Air Refueling Wing leadership salute as they pay respect to those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001. Grissom held a ceremony Sept. 12 in remembrance of those who lost their lives. Airman Jackson is a services specialist with the 434th Services Flight. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

Grissom Inn eligible for 'Innkeeper' award



Brandi Richards, a custodial worker at the Grissom Inn, makes a guest's bed Sept. 29. The Grissom Inn recently earned high marks on its annual certification. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner

Public Affairs staff

Offering more than a good night's stay and mints on a pillow, the Grissom AF

Inn was recently recognized for going above and beyond, far exceeding Air Force Inn expectations.

Earning a high grade of 94.5 percent on an annual certification test puts the on-base lodging facility in the top percent of Air Force Inns, said Mary McLean, Grissom Inn manager.

"Each Air Force Inn undergoes a yearly certification process which requires a score of 85 percent to pass," said Ms. McLean. "The checklist used to scrutinize our operation is extensive with a total of 452 graded areas and 1,783 possible points."

This is the first time the Grissom Inn has scored this high on the certification, which is due in part to the many changes that have taken
October 2010



Ritta Baker, a guest services manager at the Grissom Inn, assists guests as they check out Sept. 29.

place at the facility recently.

"We hope that (guests) have noticed the changes we have

made over the past 9 months with the install of (wireless internet), new phone system and our recent renovation of our largest building," stated Ms. McLean. "We are always striving to improve our operation."

And, those improvements and high scores provide a two-fold benefit to Grissom and those who stay on base.

"Achieving certifications allows our guests to feel secure in knowing that we are meeting Air Force lodging standards and providing the best possible service day-in and day-out," said Ms. McLean. "Our score also puts us in the category needed to compete for the Air Force Innkeeper Award, which is the highest award given to an Air Force Inn lodging operation."

When asked where the Grissom Inn and staff will go from here, Ms. McLean said, "We hope only up.

"The entire lodging team is energized to make the operation better each day," she added.

Grissom hosts family day picnic



Madison Schmidt, 8, leaps through the air inside a bounce castle at this year's Grissom Family Day picnic. Madison is the daughter of Senior Airman Doug Schmidt, a pest management specialist with the 434th Civil Engineer Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)



Tech. Sgt. Jonna Sullivan and her 2-year-old son Conner ride on the back of a horse during a family day picnic here Sept. 11. Sergeant Sullivan is an operations assistant with the 434th Operations Support Squadron.



Chief Master Sgt. Tamara Jones races by during a sphere race Sept. 11 during the Grissom Family Day picnic. Chief Jones is the 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron supply management superintendent.

Grissom welcomes back deployers



Maj. Chadd Kobielush plants a big kiss on his daughter's cheek as she smiles with joy as his wife hugs them both recently. The family was reunited here after Major Kobielush and other Grissom Airmen from the 434th Air Refueling Wing returned from a deployment to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

Families from several organizations had homecomings as Grissom deployers from around the Middle East returned to Grissom.

Operators, maintainers, and support personnel returned from Turkey, while civil engineers returned from a deployment to Afghanistan.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center assisted families in making signs welcoming the deployers and offered tips and information on positive homecomings.

Grissom KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft and Airmen routinely deploy around the world in support of Air Force operations.

Master Sgt. Jack Vollriede, 434th Civil Engineer Squadron electrician, is greeted by his family after returning home from a deployment to Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Carl Berry)



Tech. Sgt. Steve Price, 434th Communications Squadron computer systems operations specialist, is greeted by his wife and daughter after he returned from Turkey. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

Seasoning flight Airmen stay fit to fight

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner
Public Affairs staff

Members of the 434th Seasoning Training Flight here know staying fit is key to a successful Air Force Reserve career, so they meet every Tuesday and Thursday for physical training.

But the PT is not just good for the body alone, said Master Sgt. Jim Malloy, 434th STF first sergeant.

“It’s important for team building and for the excitement of future leaders of the Air Force to be both physically and mentally fit for any challenge that presents itself,” Sergeant Malloy elaborated.

Typical activities for the 434th STF Airmen can range from lifting weights individually to a spirited game of flag football as a group.

The 434th STF is part of the Air Force Reserve Command’s Seasoning Training Program, which is designed to build a ready force by allowing recent technical training

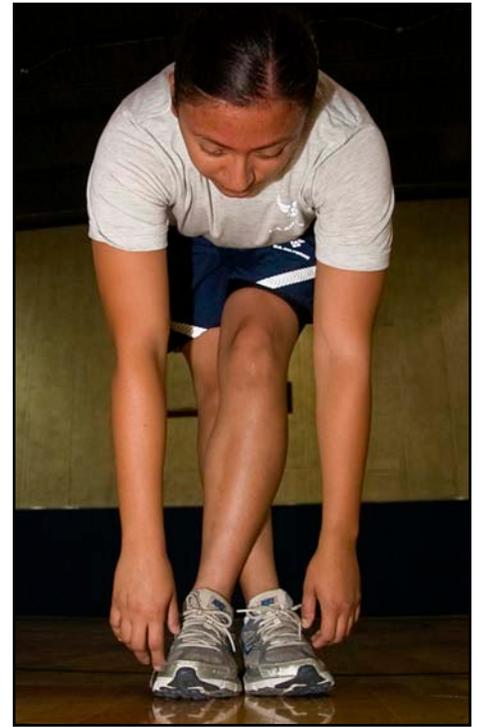
school graduates to voluntarily remain on active duty for on-the-job training.

The primary objective of the 434th STF is to accelerate training to a 5-skill level. The flight also helps develop life skills, increased responsibility and fitness, which are key components of a successful Air Force Reserve career.

Sergeant Malloy said it’s about building good habits as part of a routine.

“It’s easier to stay fit than try to get in shape,” he said. “As student return from Basic Military Training they’re in great shape, and they need to stay on fitness maintenance schedule so they’re not trying to do a fitness overhaul later when they are 20 pounds overweight.”

Sergeant Malloy also mentioned that although the PT sessions are for seasoning trainees, any base personnel are more than welcome to join them. The group meets at the base fitness center every Tuesday and Thursday at 3 p.m.



Senior Airman Theresa Daniel, an aerospace ground equipment apprentice with the 434th Maintenance Squadron, stretches during a circuit training exercise.



Airman 1st Class Bryan Sevrence, a fuels apprentice with the 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron, does pushups during circuit training with the 434th Seasoning Training Flight. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)