

# Prevailing Wind

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## Hawgsmoke 2010



*Photo by MSgt. Terry Atwell, 127th Wing Public Affairs*

The Michigan Air National Guard's 107th Fighter Squadron participated in their first competitive training event with the A-10C Thunderbolt II, from Oct. 13 – 16. Hawgsmoke, a biannual event, was hosted this year by the 190th Fighter Wing, Boise, Idaho. The competition challenged each A-10 pilot's ability to acquire a target, select the appropriate weapons delivery, and use the necessary flight maneuvers that would allow them to be successful in combat. More than 40 A-10 aircraft were involved in the competition. The 107th attack pilots performed remarkably, taking on the A-10 mission just over a year ago, after converting from the F-16. The 107th is part of the 127th Wing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. See story on page 4.



# Commander's Column



**By Col. Sidney Martin**  
*127th Medical Group Commander*

Good day to you all. A hardy round of applause goes out to the members of the Air Refueling Group and the Air Refueling Squadron. They passed both the Nuclear Operation Readiness Inspection (NORI) and the Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI). Their success is the result of months of planning, practicing and sacrifice and we should all be proud of how well each and every one of them performed during this grueling inspection process.

This success was the result of and the accomplishments of a group of people, not just one or two individuals. This was a team effort and was therefore a team success. This is the character of any successful organization. Teams have many working parts and an entire section of psychology is devoted to understanding team dynamics. Teams have players, a few of whom may be stars. Teams have coaches and managers. Teams have trainers and even water boys. In the end they win or lose, live or die as a

team. Even if the quarterback has the best game of his career if the team loses so does he.

Successful teams whether on the playing field, the field of battle or in industry are the ones made up of people who put the organization and its' needs first and subjugate their own professional needs, wants and desires to the greater good of the team. A Marine general put it this way, "in battle a commander must unequivocally commit to two objectives (1) Accomplish the mission and (2) Bring all your people back from the battle field, whatever their condition. Mission first, then team, then self." It is this quality about the military, that willingness to put mission and team above self that has led to the success of so many former military officers in the world of business. Only three percent of the adult male population are former military officers yet nearly three times that many are CEO's in Fortune 500 companies.

**Continued, pg. 6**



## ...From the Chief's Desk



**By Chief Master Sgt. Allyn C. Finkbeiner**  
*127th Comm. Squadron Chief, Plans & Resources*

By the time you read this article, I will be well on my way to a second AEF deployment to the middle east. What an opportunity! I hope all of you have a chance to deploy and work with all branches of the defense machine. I've always mentioned

throughout my career that everyone should have an opportunity to support the war effort if at all possible, knowing there are situations that doesn't make this always possible. I recently had the experience of a two day AFCENT AOR briefing at Shaw AFB, SC and the

knowledge and information received was extremely helpful in my preparation to perform as the Chief Enlisted Manager for the communication squadron where I will be deployed. The information prepared me to hit the ground running and be totally involved in my job with being aware of the current issues, projects, and challenges that are currently being experienced at the deployed base. My first deployment did not offer a two day briefing. My first deployment did not offer this opportunity and seemed like the deployment was half over before I felt

knowledgeable enough to make the serious contributions required of such a position.

I want to personally thank many of those who help me in the processing event that happens here at Selfridge. Individuals such as my Unit Deployment Manager, Master Sgt. Dawn Kurzatkowski, Master Sgt. Gerald Morgan, Logistics Readiness, Ms. Nancy Wessel, Individual equipment, Ms. Debby Schroeder,

**"Many of the great people in this organization are here to assist and help where they can."**

**- Chief Master Sgt. Allyn Finkbeiner**

Family readiness and Senior Master Sgt. Bigham, 107th Intelligence, must be commended for their help and assistance in making this a pleasant experience. They are individuals who demonstrate day in and day out the team personality needed in these

customer service sections. There are areas that require additional attention, but the majority of the processing steps were very uneventful and a great improvement from my deployment back in 2007.

I have learned each time the criticality and priority of the areas that must be visited to avoid complications that can arise in the deployment preparation phase. Many of the things could have been avoided by being more proactive and being ready both here within the organization and also at home.



The Official  
Newspaper  
of the 127th  
Wing

*A proud military organization characterized by excellence and integrity in the fulfillment of our duties to our nation, community and to one another.*

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For story or photograph submissions, ideas or comments for the paper, e-mail the Prevailing Wind staff at:  
**127.WG.Prevailingwind@ang.af.mil**

Deadline for December edition:  
Tuesday, November 23

## Air Guard looks to expand home childcare program

**By Tech. Sgt. John Orrell**

*National Guard Bureau*

The Air National Guard hopes to increase the number of Home Community Care program providers around the country, the service's child and youth specialist said here recently.

The goal is to increase the number from 35 to 59, so Airmen will have access to free childcare during their monthly unit training assemblies.

"Air National Guardsmen in need of quality, affordable childcare during drill weekends can turn to (an) ... approved provider and receive free childcare services for dependants age two weeks through 12 years old," said Sandra Mason.

The HCC program, which started in 2004 with only five wings participating in the program, has a detailed approval process that providers must meet just to be considered. "The first step is the wing deciding that they want this service to be available to its members," Mason said. "The wing must complete a survey that demonstrates a need for childcare in their location."

If the wing has enough interested members -- at least six children -- they move forward in the process.

"The wing point of contact, usually a services rep or ... the Airman and Family Support office, applies for funding to pay the provider," she said.

Once they are approved for funding, NGB goes through the child care local resource and referral office to help locate any providers with a 20-mile radius of the wing.

"The biggest challenge in locating qualified providers is ensuring they are fully licensed by the state, county and municipality for at least three months and that they do not contract with group homes or centers," Mason said.

When the wing becomes interested in a provider, they inform them of their intent either through the wing's point of contact or by NGB sending an informational packet, she said.

If the provider agrees to the stipulations of the HCC program, they then go through a rigorous application process, said Mason.

NGB or the wing point of contact performs a state license inspection, criminal background check and ensures that they take part in a U.S. Department of Agriculture feeding program.

"We also conduct a safety inspection of the home, both inside and out, and require them to have a fire extinguisher, an emergency escape plan, routine fire drills, emergency contact information for the children, shot records, CPR and first-aid certification ... and a \$300,000 liability insurance coverage," Mason said.

Providers who are selected are also required to subscribe with the Childcare Educational Institute, which offers 120 childcare courses, to take two hours of classes a month and show proof of completion of 24 hours each calendar year they are contracted, she said.

"We have this system to protect our children," Mason said. "We have to ensure that the people we pick to watch (our children) are the highest level and can be trusted whole-heartedly."

ANG members are reminded that this is not a drop off system or an overnight babysitter. These contractors provide their services from 6 a.m., to 6 p.m., she said adding "just because this program is available doesn't mean it should be abused."

"For your child to take part in this program means you have a dual military family drilling at the same time, the military member is a single parent or they have a spouse that works during drill weekends," she said. The program is important to ANG members, Mason said adding that childcare is a readiness issue.

"They really appreciate the program ... some members have actually considered separating from the ANG, because childcare is so expensive," she said. "Their pay from weekend drills was going almost 100 percent to paying weekend childcare."

# 107th Fighter Squadron Combat Survival Training

By 1st Lt. Anthony J. Lesterson  
127th Public Affairs

In the heat of battle, sometimes Airmen may find themselves in life threatening situations requiring them to make quick decisions and rely on their training to survive.

The 107th Fighter Squadron of the Michigan Air National Guard conducted combat survival refresher training, while simulating being ejected from a downed aircraft on Oct. 17, 2010 at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. Each pilot went through seven stations to test their ability to effectively evade the enemy and survive in a combat zone.

The seven stations were comprised of concealment, navigation, communications, and several other survival tactics that will create the opportunity to be rescued. Each Airman must be able to evade the enemy and make friendly forces aware of their position. This is accomplished by using methods like radio communication, signaling with a mirror, and using a flare

moments before being rescued, to give the rescuing party just enough time to locate them without alerting the enemy.

This training is required every two years to help prepare for the possible survival situation that every military pilot faces. Each Airman may be challenged with additional obstacles like extreme cold or heat, or a lack of resources ranging from food and water to first-aid gear.

"The 107th Flight Equipment provides outstanding post ejection, survival, and recovery training, to prepare us for an ejection in a combat environment," said Maj. Brian Davis,

107th fighter pilot. As an A-10C pilot, this training will also enhance our capability to conduct Combat Search & Rescue Missions by providing us with a hands-on survivor perspective."

"Hopefully, this will be the best training I'll never get to use," said Davis.

**"Hopefully, this will be the best training I'll never get to use"**

**- Maj. Brian Davis**

## Hawgsmoke 2010

By 1st Lt. Anthony J. Lesterson  
127th Public Affairs

In the Wild West, the outlaws used to have draw downs on the street with their six-shooters; however, in modern times a much more advanced approach takes place.

The Michigan Air National Guard's 107th Fighter Squadron participated in their first competitive training event with the A-10 Thunderbolt II, from Oct. 13 – 16, hosted by the 190th Fighter Wing, Boise, Idaho. The 107th is part of a dual aircraft Wing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. The attack pilots at the 107th Fighter Squadron jumped at the challenge to compete with active duty and Guard and Reserve A-10 pilots and maintenance personnel after taking on the A-10 mission just over a year ago, converting from the F-16 Falcon.

Hawgsmoke challenged each A-10 pilot's ability to acquire a target, select the appropriate weapons delivery, and use the necessary flight maneuvers to be successful. More than 40 A-10 aircraft were in the competition. Pilots and maintainers from 17 teams, equaling

approximately 150 Airmen, were in Boise, Idaho for the showdown.

"Hawgsmoke allows us to compete against representatives from each of the organizations in the Combat Air Forces that fly the A-10," said Lt. Col. Sean Campbell, 107th fighter pilot. In addition, there is a traditional remembrance ceremony for fallen comrades.

"Throughout the competition, Hawgdrivers have spirited discussions with the attempt to solve all tactical situations," said Campbell.

Of course, the event is not just for the pilots but it requires the expertise of the maintainers to keep the jets flying mission ready with very little response time. The maintainers met the challenge.

"Our representation of our unit and wing was fulfilled with great success and our maintenance was second to none," said Chief Master Sgt. Henry Ryan, 127th AMXS Superintendent.



Photo by MSgt. Terry Atwell, 127th Wing Public Affairs

**A 107th Fighter Squadron, A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft soars through the air during the units first competitive training event since taking on the A-10 mission on May 3, 2009. Four aircraft flew to Boise, Idaho to compete against some of the best A-10 pilots from around the Combat Air Force.**

# Let's Keep Energy Awareness a High Priority All Year Around

By Mr. John Frost

ANG Civil Engineer Technical Support Center

As we wrap-up the official Energy Awareness Month, let us continue to keep energy awareness a high priority all year around. Keep in mind the theme of "A New Culture: Energy as an Operations Enabler" as you continue accomplishing the mission every day of the year.

The theme depicts how, across the nation, Federal agencies including the Air Force and the Air National Guard continue to change and how this cultural change is positively impacting day to day operations as we stimulate the economy, lower operating expenses, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and achieve long-term energy and economic security. Energy impacts all Air Force missions, operations, and organizations. Investments in clean energy technologies are accelerating at an unprecedented pace. Advancements in aircraft fuels, replacement of outdated vehicles with fuel-efficient hybrid and alternative fueled vehicles, procurement of efficient products (Energy Star), and investments in sustainable facilities, infrastructure, and renewable technologies are reducing energy demand. We, the Air National Guard, must position ourselves to integrate these innovations in technology into the way we operate as we find new ways to fly and fight more efficiently.

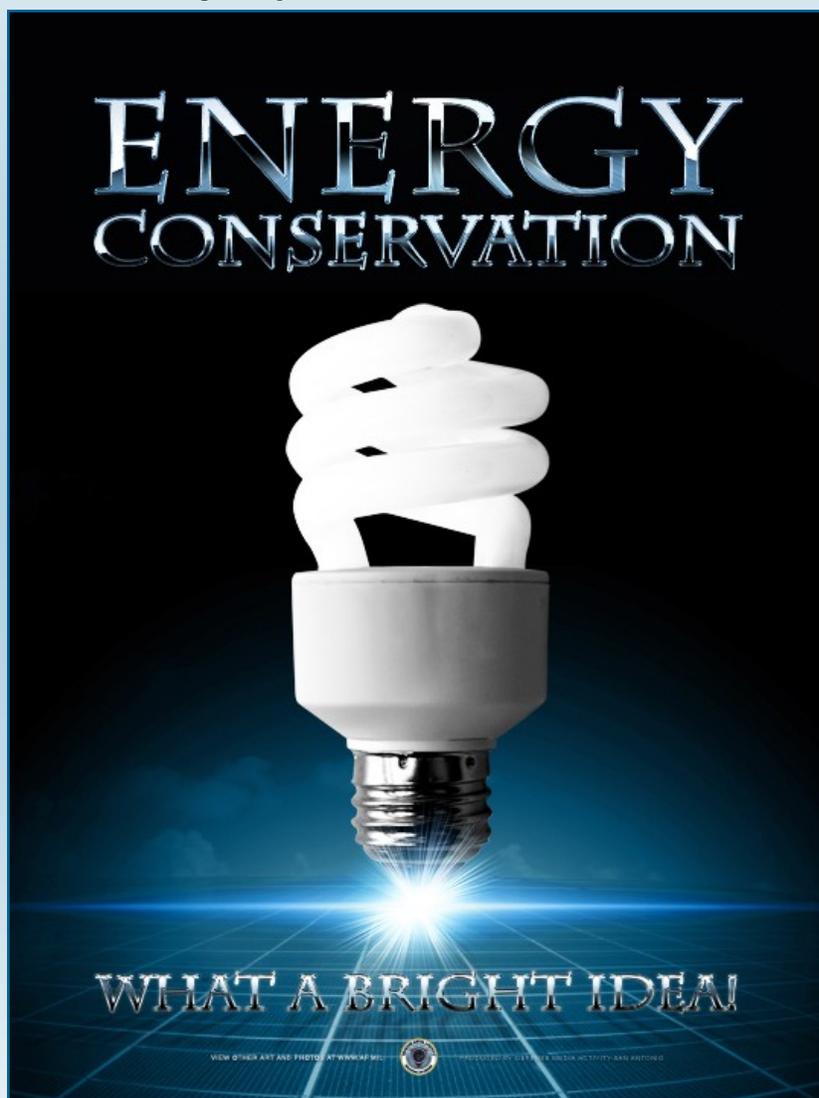
Although we have other energy consumers such as our aircraft and our vehicle ground fleet, our focus today is energy awareness in your facilities at your installations. Civil Engineering is pouring millions into building sustainable installations through extensive facility audits, retro commissioning, energy saving projects, and energy awareness. Our challenge is to take these lessons and investments, learn from them and incorpo-

rate them to maximize our efficiency. The Air National Guard requires your leadership to inspire your wings, groups, squadrons and flights to accomplish their missions smarter, faster, better, and cheaper; however we must do this without compromising quality and operations effectiveness and national security. We are nearly half way through the current energy initiative that began with executive order 13423 in 2007. This is further supported by

Executive Order 13514, sign by President Obama on 5 October 2009. The initiative calls for a three percent per year reduction. The low hanging fruit has been picked and it is becoming more challenging to meet the energy goals set for implementation by 2015. Many of our bases are fully engaged, grasping the challenges and opportunities. Now is the time to get behind your energy teams and collectively attack the program.

As last year's theme stated, we must stay on target, work together as a team from the Wing Commanders to the young Airmen, and get the entire Air National Guard engaged in this effort. Air Force Instruction 90-1701, Energy Management, published July 16, 2009, provides the Wing guidance on developing the Energy Management Steering Group as well as guidance in developing an energy management plan at each of your installations. The Energy

Management Steering Group at your installation is your key to enhancing energy awareness, your key in identifying energy initiatives, and your key in meeting the goals of the Air Force and the Air National Guard.



## Commanders's Cont.

When do the people on our team learn this quality? Who are the teachers, who are the keepers of this magical flame? They are you, the functional area supervisors, the NCO's, the flight and squadron commanders. They are the first sergeants and Chiefs. They are the commanders. Major Dick Winters the commander of Easy Company, 506 PIR, 101st Airborne, made famous by Stephen Ambrose's book, *Band of Brothers*, was asked what made his unit better than the others. He simply said it was the leadership of his platoon leaders and sergeants. How did they do this? They modeled it. People do what people see. "When leaders show the way with the right actions, their followers copy them and succeed." (Maxwell, *Laws of Leadership*, pg. 158) I know that many of you are now breathing a collective sigh of relief because you are off of the hook. I am not in a leadership position; I am not the NCOIC of anything so all I have to do is show up and watch what the "leaders" do. That is not the case at all. Jim Collins, in his book *Good to Great* describes five levels of leadership.

The first level of leadership is the "highly capable individual who makes productive contributions through talent, knowledge, skills and good work habits." If you are one of these highly capable individuals you now qualify as one of the leaders in the Wing. Collins goes on to describe Level 5 Leadership in a way very similar to the Marine General I quoted above. "Level 5 leaders channel their ego needs away from themselves and into

the larger goal of building a great company. It is not that level five leaders have no ego or self-interest. Indeed they are incredibly ambitious but their ambition is first and foremost for the institution, not themselves."(pg. 20-21) This is the embodiment of one of the Air Force's core values of service before self. Maybe we need to simply restate this as mission and team before self.

I am proud and honored to be a very small part of the successful team that did so well on the NORI and ORI. Go Team! Dare to make a difference, dare to make a decision, dare to do what is right, dare to become the best leader you can be.



## Customer Service Hours 127th Wing Public Affairs



### **Customer Service Mon - Fri & UTAs**

0900-1100, 1300-1600



### **Passport Hours Tues - Thurs & UTAs**

(No Appointment Necessary, Call x5415 Before Coming Over)

0900-1100, 1300-1500



### **Studio Hours Tues-Thurs & UTAs**

(By Appointment Only, Call x5415)

0900-1100, 1300-1500



### **Unit Training Assemblies**

All UTA Projects and Appointments must be scheduled by the Wednesday prior to UTA

Public Affairs Personnel are commonly called out of the office; always call ahead to ensure someone will be available to assist you.

## Promotions

### Senior Airman

Thomas C. Doerscher, 127 OSF

### Staff Sergeant

David A. Dalton, 127 LRS  
Joseph B. Fournier, 127 LRS  
John W. Sacker, 191 AMX

### Technical Sergeant

Lana C. Allred, 127 WG  
Sarah A. Brunsmann, 127 WG  
James A. Donaldson, 127 WG  
Joseph E. Gootee, 191 MXS  
Patrick C. Shaltry, 127 WG

**Master Sergeant**  
Michael J. McGann, 107 WF

**Senior Master Sergeant**  
Jeffrey R. Talaga, 127 CES



Photo by MSgt. Terry Atwell, 127th Wing Public Affairs

## Newcomers

Robert Akers  
Sarah Barker  
Joseph Di Giovanni  
Kenneth Evans  
Michael Gregg  
Cassandra Lyons  
Craig Miller  
Sean Murphy  
Jason Nichols  
Kristafen Stewart  
Kurt Trimas

# Briefly ...

### Want to Do More?

On [www.Serve.gov](http://www.Serve.gov), you can find opportunities to support and engage servicemembers and their families. From organizing a care package event to volunteering at a camp for military children, there are a number of key ways to get involved. Everyday our brave men and women in uniform make a selfless commitment to our nation. Now, it's our turn to take some time to serve those that have served us. Get started on [www.serve.gov/militaryfamilies.asp](http://www.serve.gov/militaryfamilies.asp)

### Employment Partnership Program

Get hired through the employer partnership program. The employer partnership office caters to all branches of the armed forces. You are invited to search through the employment search engine at: [www.jobcentral.org/vetcentral/army-reserve-employer-program](http://www.jobcentral.org/vetcentral/army-reserve-employer-program)

So take a look and look for numerous great opportunities that may be out there for you.

### Transition Assistance Program

There will be a Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop on Dec. 7-10 at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base in building 105. The workshop

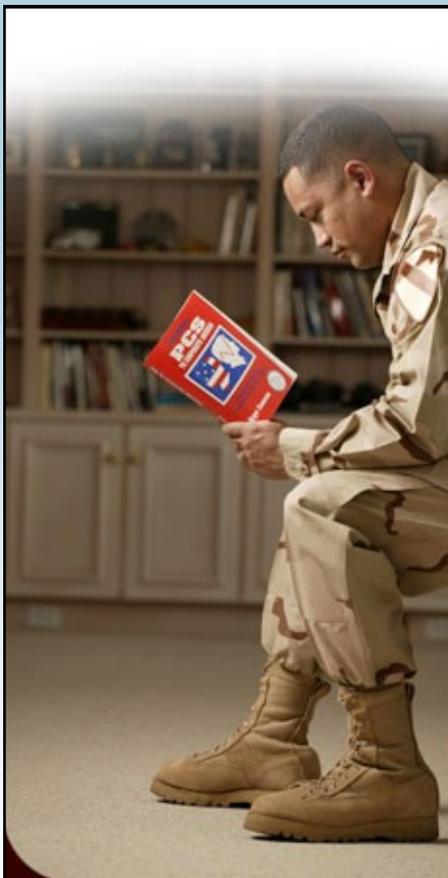
will include 10 steps to a federal job. For more information call 586-282-0489.

### Exceptional Family Member

If you have family members within your unit that would qualify as "Exceptional" as explained in more detail in the attachment link below, please contact Deborah Schroeder at 586-239-5583 or email [Deborah.schroeder@ang.af.mil](mailto:Deborah.schroeder@ang.af.mil). Your information will help us get more help in the area for the member. Exceptional family member link: <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/DocView.asp?DocID=967616>

#### Exceptional Family Member Description

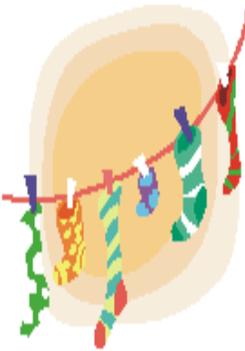
1. Potentially life-threatening conditions
2. Current and chronic mental health condition for six months or longer
3. A diagnosis of attention deficit disorder
4. Required adaptive equipment such as wheelchair, hearing aids, and apnea home monitor



## Information about our Program

There are many community groups and individuals who wish to help our military families during the holiday season.

As part of our Christmas Adopt a Family, we will try to match your family with a



sponsor who will do their best to shop for you. At the very least we will try to get some donated gift cards.

If you are requesting to be sponsored, you are agreeing that you need a little extra help for this year or you are a family currently going through deployment. You are also agreeing that you are NOT receiving help from another source.

These donations are not meant for all military families, they are set aside for those that could use the extra help.

*Fax your form to 586-239-5786 or scan and email to [Deborah.schroeder@ang.af.mil](mailto:Deborah.schroeder@ang.af.mil)*



## Selfridge Family Programs



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## Adopt—A—Family

## Christmas



*Information &  
Registration Form*