

# VANGUARD



Virginia Air National Guard

192nd Fighter Wing

January 2002

## Inside

### Commander's Call

The base's civilian security force has more military experience than you can shake a nightstick at. Page 2.

### Family Readiness

Angie Wade is the base's new family readiness and support coordinator. Page 5.



### Rally at Seven Pines

The Air Guard's Lunch Buddy program brings dividends in many ways. Pages 8-9.

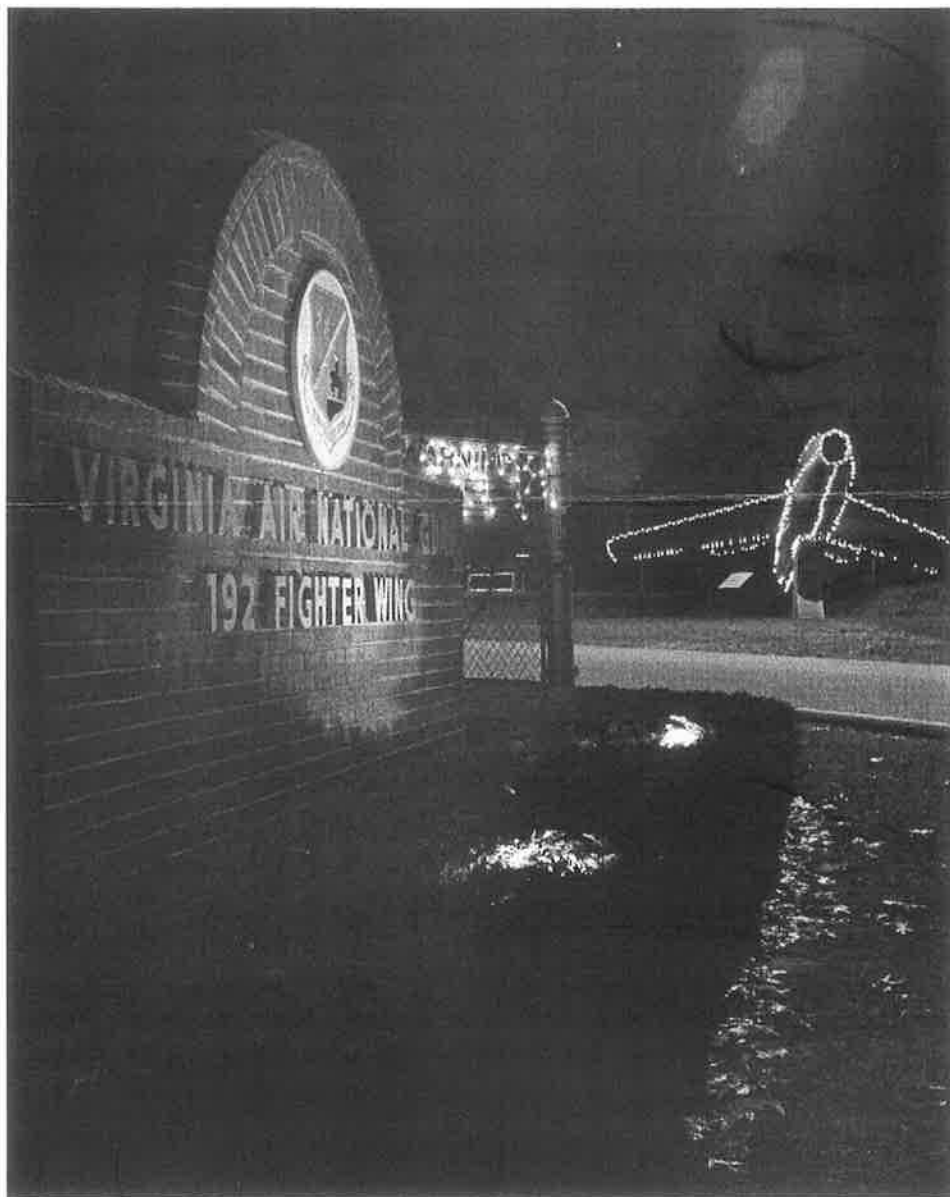
### Who's Who in Finance

A guide to the people to see for pay, travel and other financial issues. Page 10.

### Drill dates

Here are scheduled UTA dates through September 2002:

Jan. 12-13; Feb. 9-10,  
March 9-10, April 13-14  
May 18-19, June 8-9  
July 13-14, Aug. 17-18  
Sept. 14-15  
Annual Training: Aug. 19-31



SSgt. Dave Buttner/192CF Multimedia

## Let there be lights

Every year-end holiday season, the front gate of the 192nd Fighter Wing base magically sprouts an array of festive lights. This year, in addition to the brightly outlined F-84 and the traditional "Merry Christmas" on the fence, the holiday lights spell out a distinctly patriotic theme. To read about the man behind the decorations, see Page 6.



## ABOUT the VANGUARD

*This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for the U.S. military service. Its content does not necessarily reflect the views of, nor are they necessarily endorsed by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or the Virginia Air National Guard.*

### Submission Requirements

*The Vanguard is printed monthly. Deadline for submissions is **close of business on Saturday** of the drill weekend. Please submit material to: [Vanguard@varich.ang.af.mil](mailto:Vanguard@varich.ang.af.mil).*

*The publication is edited & prepared by the 192nd FW Public Affairs Office. Our address is: 192nd FW PA, Virginia Air National Guard, 50 Falcon Road, Suite 6, Sandston, VA 23150-2524.*

*We can be reached at (804) 236-6388.*

*Check out the electronic Vanguard on the base Intranet.*

**Wing Commander**  
Col. Stephen R. Hicks

**Chief, Public Affairs**  
**Editor-in-Chief**  
2d Lt Mark Widener

**Public Affairs Staff**  
TSgt. Michael Rawlings  
TSgt. Sabrina Reynolds-James  
SSgt. Ann Martin

**Photographic Support**  
Multimedia Support Center  
.....

## Let's hear it for the gate guards

The Vanguard cover this month features a photo of the base entrance, decorated for the holidays.

The decorations are the handiwork of Gerald Ellyson, a Virginia Air National Guard retiree and part-time member of the base's civilian security force.

Every time I pass through the entrance and look at the outlined F-84 and the "God Bless America 9/11" lit up on the front fence, I'm reminded of what a treasure we have in the state-employed officers who are such a vital part of our base security.

Because several of those officers are retirees of the 192nd Fighter Wing or other military components, they bring to the job a range of experience that many can only dream about.

Take Jackie Ellis, for instance. He's the civilian security supervisor, and he has more than 20 years on the job as well as 20 years active-duty Air Force.

"If a security question comes up, you just ask Jack Ellis," said Leroy Chisenhall, one of the 12 full-time members of the force. "He has all the answers."

Leroy is no slouch himself. When I came into the unit in the early 1970s, "Chis" was one of the main cogs in Ops. Back then, if you had a question about Ops,

you just asked Chis.

If you're looking for administrative experience, look no farther than Herbert Childress, another mainstay of the security force. He put in more than 30 years in the admin arena before retiring from the Air Guard.

Or there's George Mallory, who provided enlisted leadership in the 192nd Medical Squadron for years before retiring at the rank of chief master sergeant.

The list goes on and on. Rodger Jones is an Air Force retiree, and Reuben Turner has more than a dozen years experience in active duty Air Force and Air Guard.

The rest of the force -- Wayne Phillips, Junius Bland, William Cromartie, Robert Franchok, Eric Hunter and Jim Napier -- all offer experience encompassing either military or civilian security work.

My point is this: Just as we're inclined to take our national security for granted in times of peace and prosperity, we sometimes tend to take our base security for granted.

Recently the Air Guard has been given a lot of "attaboys" by the community for a job well done.

Next time you're driving through the gate, take a minute to tell our civilian security officers that we appreciate the job they're doing, too.

*Col. Stephen R. Hicks*  
*Wing Commander*

# Thursday special: Weekday Christian Bible Study

By TSgt. Sabrina Reynolds-James

Not by bread alone does man live, Jesus Christ said some 2,000 years ago.

Chaplain David W. Kelley has modernized that advice and applied it to his new Weekday Christian Bible Study. He offers homage to God and pizza to those who join him in prayer.

Kelley not only served pizza but he also compared its ingredients to the spiritual ingredients a person needs to live an enriched life.

SMSgt. Barry Coleman thinks the study session works well. "It was excellent, and was a good opportunity to learn and study the Word during the week, while at work," Coleman said.

TSgt. Lorraine Jackson said the sessions are well organized, enlightening and a good learning tool. But what impressed her most was the pizza analogy.

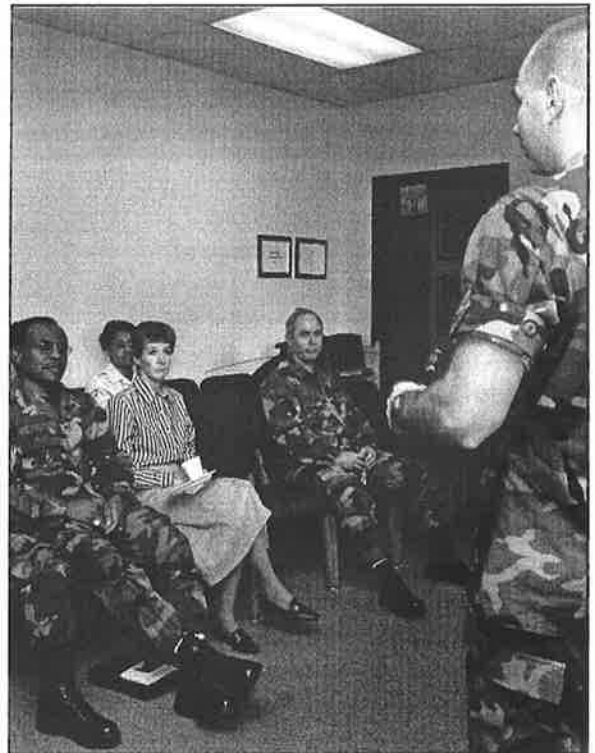
Kelley said he saw the need for weekly Bible sessions as the base population ballooned in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He began the Thursday sessions in November and holds them at noon in the base chapel and again at 7 p.m. in the Security Forces classroom in the hangar.

Lt.Col. Rick Turner, Wing executive officer, said the sessions are a welcome change to the normal workweek. "We have a new full-time Guard family that needs to be comfortable with its surroundings and environment," Turner said.

For more information about Weekday Christian Bible Study, call the Chaplain's Office at Ext. 6870.



**SrA. Shannon Johnson**  
(above) helps dish out pizza  
at the end of a Christian  
Bible Study session (right).



Images by SrA. Michele Misiano/192CF Multimedia

## A Thought On Perspectives

*It is not because you have a father, or because people in general have fathers, that God is called Father in heaven. Rather, it is because He is your father that all fatherhood in heaven and earth is named.*

*We need to be reminded that God ultimately defines the elements of life. For example, success is not defined by how much we accumulate, but by how much we give away. Joy is not the absence of problems but a choice in spite of our problems. Contentment is being able to live without, rather than aching for a little more. And finally, God judges a life to be good not by the number of years lived, but by the number of years lived for Him.*

*When life is all said and done, only two things will matter: God's perspective on the world and how well I engrafted that perspective into my own life.*

Chaplain (Capt.) David W. Kelley

### Just call her 'Chief'

The last we saw of Lisa Hernandez, she was the 192nd Fighter Wing's NCO in charge of explosive safety.

That was before she headed for Ramstein AB, Germany, in July 2000 with her active duty Air Force husband.

Now she's a munitions superintendent at HQ USAFE. As an individual mobilization augmentee (IMA), she normally would pull two days a month and a two-week annual tour.

"With the recent world events I am working extra days," she wrote recently in an e-mail from Ramstein. "As you might imagine, there is a lot



Image by MSgt. Carlos Claudio/192CF Multimedia

**CMSgt. Lisa Hernandez, in a photo shot at the VaANG in 1997, thanks Col. Bill Busby for taking her for an F-16 incentive ride.**

happening in the munitions world."

There's a lot happening in Lisa Hernandez' world, too. She recently

became the first female chief master sergeant in munitions in the Air Force — active, Guard or Reserve.

## The three most important words in your vocabulary

*By Lt. Col. Bobby Sandford  
192d Safety Officer*

Location, location, location.

For my dad, who migrated to a career in real estate after retiring from the Virginia Air National Guard, those are words to live by.

They are reputedly the three most important things in selling land and buildings.

We have a similar credo at the 192nd Fighter Wing, where we can easily identify the three most important things in carrying out a mission.

Safety, safety, and safety.

That applies to what we do in the air, on the ground, around the house,

and on the way to and from work.

All the skills we spend our lives perfecting aren't worth a hoot if they are marred by sloppiness and carelessness.

When we're dealing with people's lives — as we do every day — the Air Force simply doesn't accept anything less than excellence. An otherwise successful mission that is scarred by needless injury, loss of life or damaged equipment goes down on the books as a botched mission, not a success.

In our military lives, we've been operating at a high-paced tempo since Sept. 11. We conduct more night flying now, and working at night can be demanding whether flying an F-16

with night goggles on or doing any of the support functions necessary to maintain and arm the airplanes.

With that in mind, we've inserted in the Vanguard this month a brief questionnaire. Some of the 10 questions are designed for supervisors; others are for everyone.

Please take the time to look them over. You can fill them out and return them to your first sergeant — unsigned if you like — or you can go online by clicking on the Safety button on the 192FW's Intranet site and answer them electronically.

Whichever you choose, I hope you will think about ways to make our base, and our work force, the safest in the Air National Guard.

# Angie Wade to coordinate family programs

By SSgt Ann Martin

Next time you're on deployment and your spouse has an emergency, help is only a phone call away.

The 192<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing has opened a Family Readiness and Support Office. Its full-time coordinator is Angie Wade, president of Caller's Spring, a service organization hired to implement the Virginia Air Guard's Family Readiness and Support Program.

She's available to members of the 203<sup>rd</sup> RED HORSE Flight, the 200<sup>th</sup> Weather Squadron and VaANG State Headquarters, as well as the fighter wing.

Wade expects the majority of family issues she handles to be non-emergencies: how to get a military dependent ID card, understanding health benefits, how to manage family finances, and preparing for separation.

"A person can call me and know that I care, whether to solve a problem or to be there just to talk," she said. "If I need to go to your home, I will go to your home. Your concern will be my priority."

### Single point of contact

Because more than 400 members of the 192<sup>nd</sup> have been activated since Sept. 11, the need for this type of program is more pronounced than ever before, said Lt.Col. Rick Turner, wing executive officer, who oversees the family readiness program.

The Air National Guard recently authorized each flying wing to set up a Family Readiness and Support Office. Turner said a major benefit of the program is establishing a single point of contact for families of deployed or activated members in time of need.



Image by SrA. Shannon Johnson/  
192CF Multimedia

### Angie Wade

"Mrs. Wade will help provide products and services that will support unit family readiness," Turner said. "She will consult with wing leadership in identifying family issues and concerns. She'll visit all sections on base to help identify any needs our members or family members have. She will work closely with Ann Hicks, wife of our wing commander, in forming a volunteer support group."

"Now more than ever there's a need to promote family unity, and this service will go a long way to promote this effort," Turner said.

The Air Guard way of life is nothing new for Angie Wade. As the wife of TSgt. Jerome Wade of the 192<sup>nd</sup> Multimedia shop, she understands the needs and concerns family members face. Her husband has spent 12 years of his military career in the 192FW.

"We've been married 23-1/2 years, and his time in the military has helped me understand the military way of life," she said. "I've met a lot of wonderful people through the Guard. So when we get together, I feel like I'm greeting old friends!"

Wade said her job experience and volunteer efforts have helped prepare her

for the challenges she'll face as the family readiness and support coordinator.

"My first job was in public relations for four McDonald's restaurants in Baltimore," she said. "I learned to deal with and understand the public. I've also been an active member of the local PTA and a volunteer with STEP (Strategies To Elevate People), which is designed to empower residents of the low-income Gilpin Court community in Richmond."

Wade said her first initiatives on the job here involve making information clear and available to all members and families, so they can understand readiness, benefits and support. She plans on developing a Web site and producing a monthly newsletter highlighting topics of interest for families.

### Staff of volunteers

She will also coordinate a staff of family support volunteers. They will do mailings and articles and put together events that may be of interest to families. "I also hope to coordinate with businesses in the area that may be willing to give members a financial break," she added.

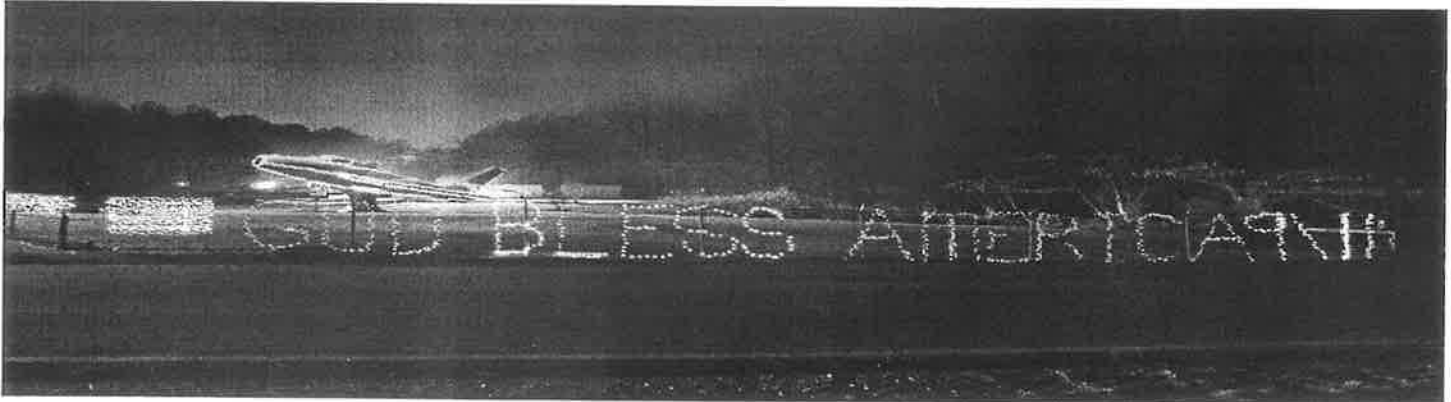
"The bottom line is we want to help families feel comfortable in case of deployments or crises," said Wade. "We want everyone's family members to feel connected with the Virginia Air Guard. This way everyone feels like the unit is a part of their extended family — a genuine community."

The Family Readiness and Support area is in the public affairs office in Wing Headquarters, Room 6, Ext. 7036.

"I'm really excited about this program," she said. "Everything I've seen so far really makes me respect the men and women of this unit. They make so many sacrifices of their time to protect our country. It's an inspiration for us all."



## Keeping the Base Beautiful



Images by SrA. Michele Misiano/192CF Multimedia

# A green thumb and a golden touch

By TSgt. Ed Kelleher

Many members of the 192nd Fighter Wing know Gerald Ellyson from the 33-plus years he spent as a technician and Guardsman.

Others know him as one of the friendly but vigilant members of the civilian security force on base.

What many people don't realize is what Ellyson does with much of his spare time.

He's a gardener, landscaper and — during the holidays — decorator who makes the entrance to the base blossom, bloom and shine.

This year he's added a special touch to the holiday wishes that he normally uses to adorn the fence line in multicolored lights.

He added a sparkling Stars and Stripes, along with the tribute "God Bless America 9/11."

"I look at it as a gift to everybody — to the unit and



**Retired SMSgt. Gerald Ellyson with his holiday decorations. The top view has been digitally enhanced to obscure the glare from a lightpole.**

everybody who goes by the gate," Ellyson said. He is quick to credit just-retired CMSgt. Paul Smith with the electrical savvy to make it all work.

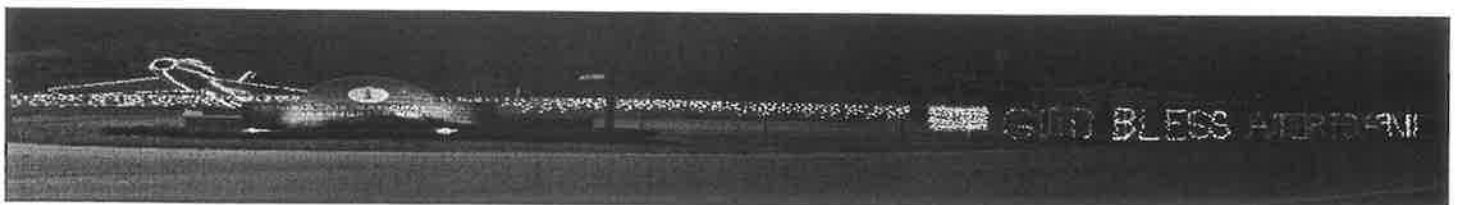
A New Kent County native, Ellyson, 58, spent his Guard career primarily in hydraulics. He would often bring vegetables grown by his father to the base to sell.

"Daddy had a garden since I was a little kid," he said. "...That's probably where I get my green thumb."

Ellyson started spreading his gardening expertise around the base in about 1992, when he started two flower beds near the maintenance hangar.

Later he took it upon himself to tend the flower beds at the airplanes on display near the front gate. Then, in the mid-1990s, he outlined the display F-84, and later started his annual holiday messages in lights on the fence.

"It's not really a chore," Ellyson said of the gardening and decorating, "not when you like what you're doing."



## MOVING IN, MOVING UP AND MOVING ON

### Gains for December

### Unit

MAJ Christian R. Falyar	Medical Squadron
MAJ Robert Percy	Fighter Wing
CPT Chadwick Sanders	Operations Support Flight
2LT Pamela R. Bowman	Communications Squadron
2LT Emily J. Kain	Communications Squadron
2LT David R. Lands	Communications Squadron
TSG Margaret L. Christensen	Logistics Flight
SSG David M. Buttner	Communications Squadron
SRA William T. Gorman	Communications Squadron
A1C Byron A. Cooper	203 <sup>rd</sup> Red Horse
A1C Isaac L. Duncan	203 <sup>rd</sup> Red Horse
A1C Sherod H. Julien	Logistics Squadron
A1C Ashley D. Lee	Medical Squadron
A1C Brian P. Moberley	Maintenance Squadron
A1C Kenneth A. Young	Maintenance Squadron

### Retirements

### Unit

LTC Raymond T. Fleischer	AGS
CMS Alvin Franklin	LG
CMS James Stanley	SFS
CMS Kenneth L. Vance	CES
SMS James W. Hague	LGS
MSG Charles H. Carnes	CF
MSG Deborah S. Elam	CES
MSG George R. Gross	LGMW
MSG David L. Kimmick	MS

### Promotions

### To

CPT Susan E. Collins	MAJ
MSG Richard L. Mabry	SMS
TSG Geoff Miltenberger	MSG
TSG Maria D. Ouellette	MSG
TSG Donald A. Matney	MSG
TSG Jodi Warrenmichal	MSG
SSG Robert E. Megginson	TSG
SSG Jeffrey W. Fowler	TSG
SSG Glennis Lightburn	TSG
SSG Cheryl Smith	TSG
SRA Rodney A. Hathaway	SSG
A1C Pamela R. Baker	SRA
A1C John C. Ferrell	SRA
A1C Monte C. Hieke	SRA
A1C Quadesha L. Joyner	SRA
A1C Ronald W.J. Whisner	SRA

## MILITARY VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### **POSITION: First Sergeant**

**UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT:** 192d Aircraft Generation Squadron, Richmond IAP, Sandston, VA

**PROJECTED ASSIGNMENT DATE:** On or about 1 April 2002

**GRADE REQUIREMENTS:** Senior master sergeants, master sergeants, or promotable technical sergeants

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Review Chapter 10, AFI 36-2113 on the EPL Web site.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** Submit a resume addressing both military and civilian work experience, a current AF Form 422 which shows physical profile (can be obtained from the 192d Medical Squadron), and a completed DP Form 13, Weight Management Program work slip (not over 60 days old at the time of application, which can be obtained from the 192d Military Personnel Flight), and a letter of recommendation from the individual's commander.

**FORWARD TO:** 192 MPF/DPM, 50 Falcon Road, Suite 37, Sandston, VA 23150-2524, to arrive NLT close of business 1 Feb 2002. Applications received after that date will not be considered. Eligible candidates will be notified by letter as to when they will meet a review panel.

**POINT OF CONTACT:** LtCol Woody (804) 236-6592 DSN:864-6592.

## A note of appreciation

The 192nd Fighter Wing extends its thanks to Dave Jones Associates, a Richmond printing company, and to the Richmond Times-Dispatch, for their donations of time, expertise and materials to help produce the post-Sept. 11 color edition of The Vanguard. The Times-Dispatch prepared the color negatives, and Dave Jones contributed the paper and the printing.

## Rally at Seven Pines



SMSgt. Sheryl Clark listens as student Veronica Lewis reads during lunch from a book that she chose. The books are marked E, M and H for “easy,” “medium” and “hard.” Pupils participating in the Lunch Buddy program are given the privilege of eating their lunch on the cafeteria stage.

Images by MSgt. Carlos Claudio/192CF Multimedia

## Lunch Buddy program is 2-way relationship

Now in its fourth year, the Air Guard's Lunch Buddy program at Seven Pines Elementary School in Sandston is providing benefits for both the children and participating Guard members.

MSgt. Beth Simmons of State Headquarters volunteers on Fridays and says she relishes the time she spends with the children.

“It reminds me that they’re smarter than we give them credit for,” Simmons said.

“We do read,” she said, “but for me [the big thing] is just spending time with them.

“Sometimes I don’t think adults realize how much children need to communicate with them.”

About 35 Air Guard members are involved with the program this year, said its coordinator,  
*(continued on next page)*



MSgt. Beth Simmons of the VaANG State Headquarters watches intently as student Cheryl Puryear reads from her book.



## Rally at Seven Pines

*(continued from previous page)*

Lt.Col. Garrie Denson.

But the benefits for the Guard go beyond personal satisfaction. Strong Air Guard/community relationships have been built.

For the past three drill weekends, students, parents, teachers and staff have turned out on Saturday mornings to wave flags and cheer on Guard members as they drove by.

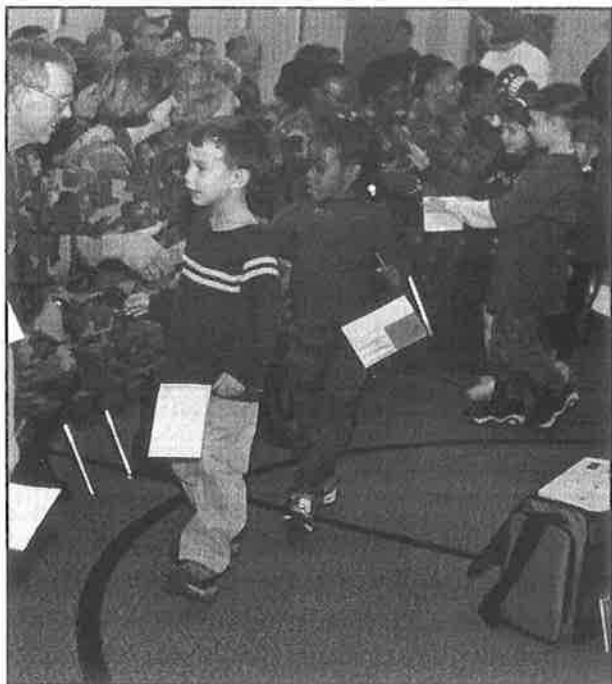
And on Nov. 23, the school staged a massive rally in the auditorium for the Air Guard, with the children waving hand-made paper flags, singing songs and reciting poems.

"It was very encouraging to see young people appreciate the military," Simmons said. "It made me proud to wear the uniform."



**Seven Pines Principal June Murphy introduces some of the youngsters to Air Guard members during the pep rally.**

Images by MSgt. Carlos Claudio/192CF Multimedia



**Air Guard members received plenty of handshakes and greetings. At right, red, white and blue were the colors of the day.**



### Questions about pay? Here's a 'Who's Who in Finance'

The VaANG Finance Web Site, <https://intranet.varich.ang.af.mil/Finance/default.htm>, contains valuable information about your pay. Finance forms are also available there.

#### HOURS OF OPERATION:

##### Monday:

0645 – 1530

##### Tuesday thru Friday:

0700-0800 Unlimited Customer Service in Room 33

0800-1130 Limited Customer Service in Room 34

1130-1730 Unlimited Customer Service in Room 33

#### POINTS OF CONTACT:

**Financial Manager:** Capt. Mike Lovell, Ext. 6747

**Budget:** SMSgt Ralph Pietromonaco, Ext. 6595;  
or TSgt. Robert Russin, Ext. 6312

**Financial Services Supervisor for Accounting, Travel, Military and Civilian Pay:** MSgt. Karen Long, Ext. 6594

**Government Travel Card,** Capt. Mike Lovell, Ext. 6747; or  
TSgt. Robert Russin, Ext. 6312.

**Lead Military Pay and Civilian Pay:** MSgt. Pearl Brooks, Ext. 6593

**Military Pay (New Gains and Long Tours):** SSgt. Michel Roach, Ext. 6313

**Military Pay (Inactive Duty, Short Tours, Miscellaneous):** SSgt. Nicci Washington, Ext. 6314

**Military Pay, (One-Year Mobilization Leave, Inactive Duty, Short Tours, Miscellaneous):** TSgt. Cheryl Smith, Ext. 6497

**Travel Pay:** TSgt. Sharon Baker, Ext. 6495

**Accounts Payable:** TSgt. Jose Mejia, Ext. 6382

## Word from MPF: Stop-Loss remains in effect

The Department of Defense continues operating under the Stop-Loss measures authorized by the secretary of defense on Sept. 19, in support of the war on terrorism.

Air Force Personnel Center officials, at Randolph AFB, Texas, recently indicated that the current Stop-Loss measures will continue to be in effect for the near future, for all bluesuiters.

"The purpose of this action is to meet mission requirements in support of Operation Noble Eagle and any follow-on operations regarding the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the nation," points out TSgt. Karen Lindsey, 192d Fighter

Wing personnel relocations technician. In the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks as many as 50,000 reservists — including people in each branch of service — have been called to active duty. Title 10 of the U.S. Code permits the president to enact Stop-Loss measures when such a call-up takes place. Stop Loss ensures that the service retains the critical skills needed for mission requirements. At least for the short-term future, this policy affects all active duty Air Force and Air Guard people in all career fields.

A few exceptions do apply, Lindsey explains. "This personnel freeze doesn't apply to the mandatory

separation or retirement of personnel for cause, disabilities, maximum age for years of service, or hardship reasons," she said. "Members going on Active Guard Reserve (AGR) or 'stat' tours may do so; and members may transfer between Guard units, as long as those transfers don't require waivers."

At this point, Stop-Loss isn't affecting promotions or training class schedules, she adds.

Based on the numerous calls received thus far, the Air Force Stop-Loss control center has put together a frequently-asked-questions (FAQ) Web page on the AFPC Web site at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil).

# About This Questionnaire

Some of the 10 safety-related questions on the other side of this page are designed for commanders and supervisors; others are for everyone.

Please take the time to look them over. You may fill them out and return this page to your unit first sergeant — unsigned if you like — or you can go online by clicking on the Safety button on the 192FW's Intranet site and answer them electronically.

Thank you very much for participating in this questionnaire,

*Lt.Col. Bobby Sandford*  
192d Safety Officer

Here is a list of first sergeants:

**Fighter Wing, Operations Group, 149<sup>th</sup> Fighter Sqdn:** SMSgt. Susanne Dates

**Support Group:** MSgt. Stacey Short

**Security Forces Squadron:** MSgt. Toni Vincent

**Civil Engineer Squadron:** MSgt. David Scott

**Medical Squadron:** MSgt. Richard Green

**Logistics Group:** MSgt. Bryant Thorpe

**Maintenance Squadron:** MSgt. Sherry Hankins

**Aircraft Generations Squadron:** MSgt. Anthony Harris

## Safety Questionnaire

1. What are the most significant hazards your personnel are exposed to and what are you doing to control the risks? (commander/supervisor)
2. How do you address personal safety concerns with your people? (commander/supervisor)
3. How do you hold your supervisors accountable for the safety of their people? (commander/supervisor)
4. How have you encouraged your subordinates to question a work practice they think is unsafe? (commander/supervisor)
5. Has operational risk management (ORM) had an impact on your operations and if so, how? (commander/supervisor/individual)
6. Tell me how you communicate safety as an integral part of the daily mission? (commander/supervisor)
7. Tell me the best safety training you ever had and what was the worst? (individual)
8. Tell me about the most hazardous task you accomplish and the safety precautions you take to control the risk? (individual)
9. Are you aware of any safety requirements that impede mission accomplishment? If so, explain. (everyone)
10. How do you ensure your explosives locations are appropriately sited? (commander/weapons personnel)

### TSP: Investors must do their homework

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN)** — With the first open season for the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) for service-members currently under way, officials from the Air Force Personnel Center say that military people need to understand the enrollment process, the five different funds, bonus and special pay options and more. The TSP is a retirement savings plan.

"This is a great program with the potential for servicemembers to accumulate a good sum of money by their retirement and save on taxes now, but people must do their homework," says Lt.Col. David Zeh, chief of the contact center, "especially since the first open season ends Jan. 31." Open season is the period during which people are allowed to designate into which funds their contributions will go. Two more open seasons will take place during the upcoming year: May 15 to July 31 and Nov. 15, 2002 to Jan. 31, 2003.

Military people can initially contribute up to 7 percent of their base pay. That percentage will increase to 10 percent by 2005. Military investors can also contribute all or part of bonuses or special pay up to the federal limits — \$11,000 in 2002.

"It's really not as complicated as people may think, especially for those who take a little bit of time to research, compare and contrast," Zeh says. "People need to decide how much to contribute from their base pay."

Once the contribution amount has been determined, a person must look at the five different funds, determine an acceptable risk and make the allocations. The five funds are:

— The Government Securities

Investment "G" Fund: This fixed income fund is known for being the safest investment of the five funds since the only way it will lose money is by some catastrophic event, such as if the federal government defaults on its loans. But with low risk usually comes a lower rate of return.

— The Fixed Income Index Investment "F" Fund: The second fixed income fund, the F Fund, is higher risk than the G Fund, but is still considered a low-risk investment because it is spread over many generally stable investments. Putting money into the F Fund is an investment in the Barclays U.S. Debt Index Fund, which tracks the bond market. A mathematical model determines the amount in which this fund distributes investors' money among the various types of U.S. government, mortgage-backed, corporate and foreign government sector securities.

— The Common Stock Index Investment "C" Fund: One of three common stock funds, the C Fund invests in 500 of the largest companies in the U.S. and is considered the least risky as stock investing goes.

— The International Stock Index Investment "I" Fund: This fund, along with the S Fund, are new funds to the TSP and have little historical background data. The I fund provides coverage of stock markets in the 21 countries the Morgan Stanley Capital International stock index represents, which includes 915 companies, 23 industry groups within 10 economic sectors.

— The Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment "S" Fund: While the Standard & Poor's index tracks 500 of the largest companies, this fund does just the opposite, but diversity is the key, officials said. It tracks small- and medium-sized companies through the Wilshire 4500 index (the Wilshire

5000 minus the 500 companies in the S&P). Its medium is the Barclays Extended Market Index Fund which buys stocks of those companies within the index that have market values more than \$1 billion — more than 3,400 stocks at the end of 2000.

Once a person decides to enroll, he or she can access the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site at [www.emss.dfas.mil](http://www.emss.dfas.mil) to establish an account. Or a person may get a hard copy of the form from the Military Personnel Flight. The initial election form is TSP-U-1.

Once the Web version or hard-copy form is filed, the account is established. TSP officials will then mail the member a confirmation letter along with a personal identification number to access his or her account via the Web. The participant may then make their contribution allocation.

For more information about the funds, people can go to the TSP Web site: [www.tsp.gov/index.html/](http://www.tsp.gov/index.html/).

### Activated personnel need active-duty ID cards

All Virginia Air National Guard members who have been activated over the past few months are reminded to stop by the MPF Customer Service Counter to replace their green, military Guard ID card with an active-duty green, military ID card.

"For these individuals and their family members to use their active-duty benefits (e.g. Tri-Care), they must turn in their Guard ID cards and replace them with the active duty or active-duty family-member ID cards," explains MSgt. Lorraine Jackson, Customer Service technician. "Your Guard ID card and a copy of your orders aren't an acceptable substitute in this case. You and your family members must come in for new ID cards."



## Menus for January 2002 UTA Weekend

### New Year "Good Luck Meals"

**Saturday, Jan. 12**

BBQ chicken  
Grilled pork chops  
Black-eyed peas w/tomato  
Collard greens  
Scalloped potatoes

**Sunday, Jan. 13**

Chicken fried steaks, onion gravy  
Fried catfish, tartar sauce  
Steamed rice  
Macaroni & cheese  
Seasoned green peas

Both days: Assorted desserts, bread  
and butter patties, beverages, salad  
bar and dressing.



SrA. Shannon Johnson/192CF Multimedia

### **In Memoriam**

Barbara Harvey laid a floral wreath on Veterans Day at the foot of the Virginia Air Guard Memorial. She is the widow of Charles Harvey, a retired 192FW member who also worked for years on the base's civilian security force. The wreath was a gift of the Chickahominy Junior Woman's Club.

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