

# FREEDOM FLYER

514TH AIR MOBILITY WING

OCTOBER 2012



**LOCAL AIRMEN INITIATE  
NEW VETS DAY TRADITION**

**SEASONING TRAINING OFFERS VALUABLE EXPERIENCE**



# FREEDOM FLYER

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## ON THE COVER

Airmen of the 514th Air Mobility Wing honor guard dip the Air Force flag while presenting the American flag during the singing of the national anthem prior to a Philadelphia Phillies baseball game.



*Photo by Hedy Bergsman*

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Senior Airman Michael Sue Low Chee, a jet engine mechanic with the 714th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron works on a KC-10 Extender auxiliary power unit while serving on seasoning training orders.

*Photo by Shawn J. Jones*

# Local Airmen start new Veterans Day tradition

By Shawn J. Jones  
Freedom Flyer editor

How to spend Veterans Day is an important decision for many Airmen in the 514th Air Mobility Wing.

Many choose to don their dress uniforms and march up New York City's 5th Avenue. Others may opt for something more casual, such as taking advantage of the free meal provided to veterans by many restaurants.

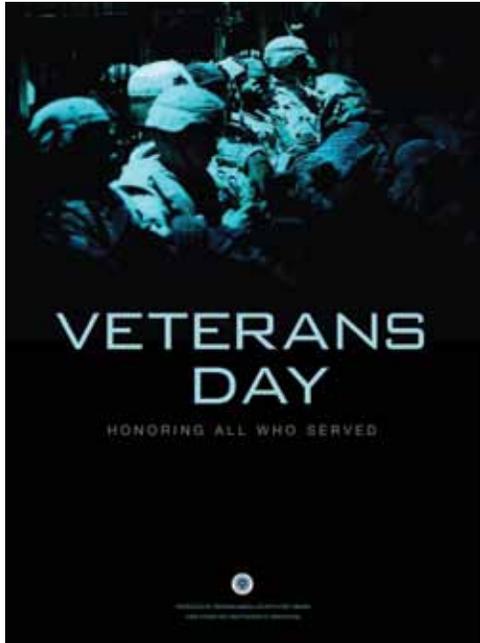
But the wing's human resource development council, more commonly known as HRDC, is looking to follow the example of Tech. Sgt. Timothy Mullin in starting a Veterans Day tradition that has a little more personal impact.

For the past few years, Mullin, a reservist serving with 88th Aerial Port Squadron, visits his son's elementary school classroom and reads a patriotic book to the students. Afterwards, he talks with them about his experience serving in the military.

Mullin, who is a member of the HRDC mentoring committee, said this tradition started out for him a few years ago when he learned his son had to attend school on Veteran's Day.

"At first I was disappointed the school district didn't feel Veteran's Day was a worthy holiday," he said, "but after thinking about it, I decided to turn it into a positive experience."

During his first Veteran's Day visit, Mul-



lin learned that of the 22 children in the class, he was the only parent who was a Veteran.

"Many of their eyes lit up when I walked in wearing my uniform."

He said the students were very curious, and the usual questions started immediately.

"Do you fly planes?"

"Were you ever in a war?"

"Did you ever jump out of an airplane?"

"Did you ever have to shoot anyone?"

Mullin said he was reluctant to disappoint the children by explaining how his job was a bit more mundane, but in the end, he opted for fact over fantasy.

"I told them I drive a forklift and I load and unload planes," he said. "It may not be a glamorous job — and they weren't as impressed with me anymore — but I still had their attention."

Mullin said his annual visit to the school has helped the students better understand the wide variety of roles and responsibilities that Airmen fulfill.

The HRDC mentoring committee is encouraging Airmen to visit the students in their local community schools during the week of Veteran's Day.

"Even if you don't have school-age children, make arrangements to go to a niece's or nephew's school, a friend's kid's school, a school you attended or any other school you choose," Mullin said. "Share your story with the leaders of tomorrow by being a positive role model for the kids of today."

Part of the program encourages Airmen to post a photo and a quick note about their experience on the wing's facebook page. The committee aims to start this tradition with Freedom Wing Airmen, but hopes to eventually expand it into a national program known as Vets Read Across America.

*Editor's note: The wing's facebook page is [www.facebook.com/514thAirMobilityWing](http://www.facebook.com/514thAirMobilityWing).*





Photos by Shawn J. Jones

# Table Top Exercise

## *Communication is the name of the game*



**Top Left:** Capt. Louis Kaltz (left), 514th Air Mobility Wing, works with Lt. Col. Anthony Polashek, 514th Operations Group, as members of the crisis action team during a table-top exercise here Sept. 22. Reserve Airmen from the 514th AMW and active-duty Airmen from the 87th Air Base Wing teamed up to practice war-time communication in preparation for the wings' operational readiness inspection, which is scheduled for April.

**Top Right:** Master Sgt. Tanya Anderson, 514th Aero-medical Staging Squadron, works the phone as Chief Master Sgt. Linda Menser, 514th Aircraft Maintenance Group, and Senior Master Sgt. Robert Henderson, 714th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, discuss how to resolve a problem during the training exercise. The three senior noncommissioned officers were working in the emergency operations center, which consists of experienced specialists from a variety of career fields who work together to solve problems during a crisis or emergency.

**Left:** During the table-top exercise, Col. Cynthia Wong (foreground), 514th Mission Support Group commander, discusses communication procedures with fellow Airmen, including Col. Michael Underkofler, 514th AMW commander. The training exercise enabled the Airmen to practice their crisis communication procedures, which will help them demonstrate effective command-and-control leadership during the upcoming inspection.

# Over stacks of canned corn, Airmen build relationships



By Shawn J. Jones  
Freedom Flyer editor

Thanks to the strong backs and volunteer spirit of five Freedom Wing Airmen, a local church's food pantry was reorganized in less than an hour's time.

Staff Sgt. Raul Rodriguez, a chaplain assistant with the 514th Air Mobility Wing, led the volunteers in helping move and stack hundreds of canned vegetables within the food pantry at St. Ann's Parish in Browns Mills, N.J., Sept. 18.

The storage garage that housed the food pantry was well stocked, but parish's volunteers, most of whom are seniors, hoped to organize the donations into categories. They welcomed the Airmen's help with the heavy lifting involved with the job.

Rodriguez said the purpose of the event was part of the chapel office's effort to build relationships with residents in the local community.

"It's just the right thing to do," he said. "We're just trying to be good citizen Airmen."

Although all of the volunteers sacrificed some of their time to help, one volunteer in particular put forth an extra effort. Staff Sgt. Ricardo Rivera, 88th Aerial Port Squadron, said it wasn't a difficult decision to put on his Air Force uniform and come all the way from New York City on an off-duty day.

As a police officer serving in New York City, Rivera said he understands the value of performing community outreach events while wearing his police or military uniforms, but that wasn't his only reason for volunteering.

He and Rodriguez are old friends. Before joining the Freedom Wing, they served together for seven years as religious program specialists in the Navy Reserve at Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Rivera said he wanted to help support the event that his friend had organized.

"I have known Raul for over 16 years, and he knows that with my upbringing, I was taught the importance of giving back to the community," Rivera said.

Rodriguez said that he plans to maintain the relationship with the parish by helping them distribute the food to members in the local community.

**Above:** Staff Sgt. Raul Rodriguez (right), 514th Air Mobility Wing chaplain assistant, passes a case of canned corn to Staff Sgt. Ricardo Rivera, 88th Aerial Port Squadron, during a community outreach event in the food pantry at St. Ann's Parish in Browns Mills, N.J., Sept. 18.

**Right:** Chaplain (Capt.) Recita High (right), 514th Air Mobility Wing, and her daughter Criscita stack boxes of donated food outside of the food pantry.

**Opposite Page:** Five volunteers from the Freedom Wing helped reorganize the food pantry at St. Ann's. The food will be distributed to those who need it in the local community.



Photos by Shawn J. Jones



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# DEVELOPING EXPERIENCE



**Immediately above:** Staff Sgt. Maurice Young (right), trains Senior Airman Michael Sue Low Chee on the procedures for removing and replacing a KC-10 Extender auxiliary power unit, which provides pneumatic and electrical power to the aircraft. Sue Low Chee is participating in the seasoning training program with the 714th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. The program provides several months of full-time work for Airmen who are learning new career fields. **Top Left:** Senior Airman Ebony Tucker (left) and Airman Susan Velasquez help a customer while serving as passenger services agents at the passenger terminal here. Both Airmen are per-

forming seasoning training. Tucker is with the 88th Aerial Port Squadron and Velasquez is with the 35th APS. **Top Right:** Airman 1st Class Gladielle Cifuentes, a knowledge management specialist on seasoning training orders with the 514th Air Mobility Wing, observes as Master Sgt. Derek Williams shows her how to update one of the wing's personnel databases. **Opposite Page:** Senior Airman Chandradeo Harry (lower left) trains Senior Airman Justin Carew and Airman 1st Class Johandy Martinez in a C-17 Globemaster III. Carew and Martinez are participating in the seasoning training program with the 514th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

# PULSE CHECK: *What's the craziest costume you've worn on Halloween?*



**Master Sgt.  
Cristina Hady**  
714th Aircraft  
Maintenance Squadron

"My craziest costume I wore during Halloween was dressing as a farmer. I had stuffed animals like cows, chickens, and horses attached to my costume. I had a straw hat and a jumper. I was a walking farm."



**Staff Sgt.  
Stephanie Blango**  
514th Security  
Forces Squadron

"The craziest costume I have worn during Halloween was Wonder Woman. The reason I chose the costume of Wonder Woman is because I always wanted to be a super hero growing up."



**Major  
Christopher E. Day**  
514th Aeromedical  
Evacuation Squadron

"I dressed as a female nurse with a white nurse uniform, dress and wig. Also there were areas enhanced with water balloons. My coworkers reacted with intense laughter and said that I made an ugly female nurse."



**Airman  
Hassan Pierce**  
514th Force  
Support Squadron

"I had shredded clothing with lots of make up, trying to mimic a zombie, but I turned out looking more like RuPaul."



**Tech. Sgt.  
Donna C. Trader**  
514th Aeromedical  
Evacuation Squadron

My daughter wanted to dress up as Raggedy Ann, but her friend who was supposed to be Raggedy Andy became sick, so my daughter begged me to dress up as Raggedy Andy. It took several days of begging and tears before I agreed.



*The following Airmen were promoted in September.*

**Major**

Julia Wriglesworth, 514 AMDS

**Airman**

John Felix, 514 AMDS  
Anthony Guerriero, 514 SFS  
Anthony Lopez, 514 CES  
Justine Slaughter, 514 SFS  
Karlle Sonnie, 514 SFS  
Charisse Strong, 514 AMDS  
Ameer Wilson, 514 AMXS

**Airman 1st Class**

Patrick Molina, 514 SFS  
Cynthia Roura, 514 AMXS  
Eric Schaefer, 714 AMXS  
Anthony Villalon, 514 SFS

**Senior Airman**

Francisco Acevedo, 714 AMXS  
Steven Armendariz, 514 ASTS  
Kevin Bretscher, 88 APS  
Sonny Caparro, 714 AMXS  
Justin Carew, 514 AMXS  
Tahjuwan Crawfordoscar, 514 SFS  
Derek Lee, 35 APS  
Oscar Lewis III, 514 AMDS  
Romeo Mendoza Jr., 514 AMXS  
Nicholas Monteleone, 714 AMXS  
Eddie Negrón, 714 AMXS  
Jill Sabina, 714 AMXS  
Jeremias Torres, 514 ASTS  
Rigoberto Trujillo, 35 APS  
Ebony Tucker, 88 APS  
Matthew Varela, 514 AMXS  
Marvin Wilson, 514 AMXS

**Staff Sergeant**

Nunzio Malara, 714 AMXS  
Richard Wiencek Jr., 514 AMXS

**Technical Sergeant**

Lisa Brule, 514 AMXS  
Luot Lewis, 514 AES  
Christian Recene, 514 AMXS  
Jose Reyes, 514 AMDS

**Master Sergeant**

Michael Borja, 514 AMXS  
Emery May IV, 76 ARS  
Hugh Rodney, 714 AMXS  
David Shartzter, 514 AMXS

**Senior Master Sergeant**

Jose Velez, 714 AMXS

# PEAK PERFORMANCE

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING AIRMEN FOR BEING SELECTED FOR:

## PROMOTIONS FOR EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE

Senior Master Sgt. Kelly Dykeman, 514th Force Support Squadron

## AIRMAN OF THE 3RD QUARTER

Airman Johnny M. Colon, 514th Security Forces Squadron

## NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE 3RD QUARTER

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Frantz, 514th Civil Engineer Squadron

## SENIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE 3RD QUARTER

Senior Master Sgt. Mark W. Wetzel, 514th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

## SELECTED FOR ACTIVE-DUTY COMMISSION

Senior Airman Lesley Toussaint, 88th Aerial Port Squadron

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## News Briefs

### Calling all marchers!

Volunteers are needed for the New York City Veterans Day parade, which is scheduled for Nov. 11. Join other Airmen on the 1.5 mile march up 5th Avenue. All marchers will wear their service dress uniform with black gloves. Skirts or high-heeled shoes are not permitted. Catch the bus from the base chapel parking lot at 6:30 a.m. or meet the group at 26th Street, between 5th Avenue and Madison Avenue at 9 a.m. Those interested should send their name to 514amw.pa@us.af.mil.

### Giving back on Vets Day

Another Veterans Day opportunity is open to wing members. Chosen 300, a non-profit organization that feeds many of Philadelphia's homeless has asked the wing to provide volunteer servers for its morning meal on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11. It is located at 1116 Spring Garden St., Philadelphia. Airmen will meet there at 8 a.m. and will wear their airman battle uniform. Those interested should e-mail public affairs at 514amw.pa@us.af.mil.

### Military Clothing Store Closed on Mondays

As part of the Department of Defense's continued focus on efficiencies, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service has decided to curtail operations at the store here on Mondays, which are typically the day of the week with the lowest sales volume. All other days and hours will remain the same.



Photo by Master Sgt. Donna T. Jeffries

## SPOTLIGHT: COL. CYNTHIA WONG

**Unit:** 514th Mission Support Group

**Position:** Commander

**Hometown:** I grew up in Wilmington, Del., I'm a legal resident of Newbury, Ohio, but I live with my family in Southamptn, N.J.

**Civilian employment:** Air Reserve Technician

**Little known fact about you:** I am addicted to the series Walking Dead. Don't tell my mother.

**Favorite childhood cereal:** Fruit Loops, for sure.

**A movie you never get tired of watching:** Patton because I really admire that leader. I have his picture in my office.

**Memorable vacation:** My honeymoon out west for three weeks. We toured 3,000 miles to see national parks. It was awesome.

**Most eye-opening moment:** When I realized how much I love my kids and would do almost anything for them to give them a better life than I had growing up—even becoming an Air Reserve Technician.

**Person you respect:** Jesus/God

**A phrase your mom or dad always said:** With great power comes great responsibility. Peter Parker's Uncle Ben said the same thing in Spiderman.

**A valuable lesson you've learned:** My most valuable lesson as a commander is how important it is to treat everyone with respect no matter what rank.

## FREEDOM FLYER

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FOR THE FAMILY OF:



Senior Airman Justin Carew (left) and Airman 1st Class Johandy Martinez watch the sun set behind several C-17 Globemaster III aircraft. The Airmen are crew chiefs with the 514th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

*Photo by Senior Airman Chandradeo Harry*