

Government Travel Card Changes
U.S. Air Force graphic
In an effort to curtail government travel card abuse and delinquency, Air Force officials have piloted an unprecedented controlled spend account concept.

AF launches new travel card program

By Senior Airman Allison M. Boehm
2nd Bomb Wing Public Affairs
The Air Force is currently in the process of converting from the traditional government travel card to the controlled spend account card. The Air Force has partnered with Citi Bank to expand the controlled spend account program throughout the Air Force. Barksdale, home of Air Force Global Strike Command, and other bases are slated to be in a phased approach of the controlled spend account by April.

"The controlled spend account card is uniquely different from the government travel card and provides the traveler with increased flexibility to meet their travel needs," said 1st Lt. Shaun Carney, flight commander of the financial services office. "It is fueled by 'mission-driven' spend limits and unprecedented worldwide merchant acceptance. The new program allows the traveler to fulfill mission requirements while also minimizing the risk delinquency."

The controlled spend account is designed to deliver a higher level of card excellence so travelers can perform their missions with confidence while making travel-related purchases with ease.

"Using the card is simple and travelers no longer have to worry about using the card for the wrong

For more information

E-mail afcsa.travelcard@pentagon.af.mil or visit "virtual finance" on the Air Force Portal.

SEE NEW, 2A



Vice commanders of 20th Air Force and 8th Air Force and their command chiefs lead a formation including all six Global Strike Command wing commanders from the 341st, 91st and 90th Missile Wings; and the 509th, 5th, and 2nd Bomb Wings at the change of command ceremony here Jan. 6 at Hoban Hall. Brig. Gen. Sandra Finan, command Inspector General, leads the formation.

AFGSC gets new top leader

By Maja Stevanovich
Air Force Global Strike Command Public Affairs
Lt. Gen. James Kowalski assumed command of Air Force Global Strike Command here Jan. 6, becoming the second commander of the organization responsible for all of the nation's ICBMs and nuclear-capable bombers.

Presiding at the ceremony, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz said General Kowalski — who commanded Global Strike Command when it was a provisional unit — has "done remarkable work from the earliest days of Air Force Global Strike Command, and he is poised for success."

"I have complete confidence that he'll perform well," General Schwartz said.

General Kowalski addressed the crowd in Barksdale's historic Hoban Hall, which included a military formation led by the commanders of 8th Air Force, 20th Air Force and all six of the command's wing commanders. Also gathered were hundreds of Airmen and distinguished military and civilian leaders from North Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Missouri, Louisiana and throughout the Air Force.

"From our deployed Airmen who stand ready in the AOR, to our Airmen who stand ready in the missile fields, to our Airmen who stand ready to fly, fix, fuel (and) arm B-2 and B-52 bombers — this command is 23,000 American Airmen and civilians, committed to the defense of our nation," General Kowalski said. "To those warriors, I pledge to stand ready with you, and to give you the best leadership, guidance, and example I possibly can."

The new commander highlighted three challenges for Global Strike Command. The first is to consolidate the gains across the nuclear enterprise and complete the restoration of a culture that embraces "the special



Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz passes the Air Force Global Strike Command guidon to Lt. Gen. Jim Kowalski as he assumes command Jan. 6, becoming responsible for organizing, training and equipping all U.S. ICBMs and nuclear-capable bombers. Command Chief Master Sgt. Jack Johnson serves in his role as guidon bearer.

trust and responsibility of nuclear weapons."

Second, he said, "we have to be agile enough to maintain an intense focus on our nuclear deterrence mission while also aggressively supporting the current conventional fight."

Third, General Kowalski said "we must be innovative so we can sustain and enhance our current force while preparing to meet the challenges of the future."

As the crowd departed and walked outside, a crew from Barksdale's 2nd Bomb Wing piloted a B-52 Stratofortress in a flyover, in honor of the occasion.

General Kowalski comes to the top position after serving as the command's vice commander since the organization's activation Aug. 7, 2009. He was promoted to his three-star rank in a ceremony about an hour before the change of command.

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Showtime

FRIDAY
7 p.m.: "Burlesque" (PG-13)

SATURDAY
2 p.m.: "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" (PG-13)
7 p.m.: "The Next Three Days" (PG-13)

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For more AFGSC news, visit www.afgsc.af.mil.

For more 8th AF news, visit www.8af.af.mil.

For more Barksdale news, visit www.barksdale.af.mil.

For more 307th Bomb Wing news, visit www.307bw.afrc.af.mil.

Overcoming a PT test failure

By Tech. Sgt. Sandra Hummel
 10th Medical Group

U.S. AIR FORCE ACAD-EMY, Colo. — Throughout my 15 years in the military, I have always struggled with passing my physical fitness test. I'm not a huge person, and I am very active in sports. I run three to five times a week and coach youth sports as well.

But no matter what I did, I always came very close to failing my PT test, often passing by a mere 0.55 points.

In October 2009, I had a surgical procedure that limited the types of exercises I could do. I was limited to biking on a stationary bike, no push-ups, sit-ups or running. I don't have a bike and used it as an excuse to not exercise; as a result, I gained weight and lost my cardiovascular endurance. I took my PT test and, naturally, failed it.

I was devastated. I thought to myself, "What am I going to do?" I don't have a bike, I am still on a profile and limited to the types of exercises I could do.

My commander stepped in. She invited me to attend spin classes at the base gym with her at 5 a.m. Five a.m.! This meant I had to get up at 3:50 a.m.

and leave my house no later than 4:20 a.m. I struggled with the idea, but I knew I had to do something. I attended the classes regularly and, slowly but surely, lost the weight. Additionally, I made great friends and even encouraged some of my other co-workers to attend. It wasn't as bad as I had thought.

As my next PT test approached, I got stronger, and my profile changed from not doing anything to doing the bike and sit-ups. I passed that PT test but still had to worry about re-taking the test six months later the regular way, under the new standards.

As the time approached, I transitioned from the bike to running. I went on the dreaded track every day, starting off slow and barely able to run three laps. I practiced and became stronger every day and eventually I was able to run all 7 1/2 laps without stopping, but realized my run time was still slow. I consulted the gym experts and practiced all their suggestions to increase speed but nothing seemed to work.

A week away from my PT test, I was terrified I would not pass. Since

my surgery, I had lost 20 pounds with proper eating and exercise, but it still didn't seem to be enough. I knew I needed help.

I had heard rumors about a captain in our facility who was a great runner. She was so physically fit that she got a 100 on her PT test. I figured, what the heck, why not ask her to pace me on my PT test. I was embarrassed and shy at first about asking her, but I mustered up some courage, knowing I had to pass, and walked down to her office and asked her. She was honored to be asked and agreed without hesitation.

We talked about my strengths and weaknesses; she gave me hints about things to do prior to my PT test and gave me a run time goal. I told her that her goal was doubtful but any help I could get from her was greatly appreciated.

I followed the captain's suggestions, and the big day came. I was so nervous. I arrived early with butterflies in my stomach but with a good attitude. Time went by and the captain still was not there. My nervousness increased. All the testers lined up for the first portion of the test:

push-ups. Still no captain.

Then, all of a sudden, she arrived with her hair frazzled, water bottle in tow and sweaty from a 5K she just finished running. I thought to myself, "Wow, she just ran a 5K and is still willing and able to run with me. That is an amazing woman."

While we did our push-ups and sit-ups, she not only encouraged me but the other testers as well. Finally, the time came for the run and we walked out onto the track. I looked at this big circular track and told myself over and over, "I can do this!"

I began running with Capt. Tess Marcial encouraging me every step of the way, prodding me harder when I slowed down. What made this run even more eventful is that, to my surprise, my officer in charge, Capt. Michelle Fronzaglia, and my NCO in charge were also out there cheering me on. When I was close to finishing and neared the last bend, Captain Fronzaglia started to yell at me, "Where's that New York attitude you give me at work? Run it out!"

I finished the test in exactly the time Captain Marcial suggested earlier

that week. I was exhausted but exhilarated. When I caught my breath, I looked at my cheerleading team and asked them, "Did I pass?"

The score was tallied up, and I was amazed: I got 88.4 points, my best run time and PT test score ever. I was so excited that I told everyone who crossed my path, Even people who didn't know me. I overcame a PT test failure, not with a barely passing score but with a score I could be proud of.

If it weren't for such great wingmen in my life — my commander, OIC, NCOIC and a person with absolutely no connection to me other than a hello and goodbye — I would not have done as well. These people were there for me every step of the way, encouraging me to do better.

I hope to one day do the same for someone in my position. Even though my PT test is over, I still continue to strive for bigger and better things, including finishing my first biathlon with a good wingman. I may not be the fastest or strongest person in the world, but I know with wingmen like these, I don't need to be.

New GTC program begins

■ Continued from Page 1A

purchase," Lieutenant Carney said. "Once travel orders are approved, the controlled spend account spend limit automatically adjusts based on the estimated dollar amount for that particular mission. The unprecedented merchant acceptance allows the card's use for all reimbursable travel expenses to include temporary duty, permanent change of station and deployments."

However, even with the increased access to more merchants, Lieutenant Carney said the card does not pose more risks.

"The cards only have value when the traveler has an approved travel order," said Mike Billbrey, Air Force banking officer. "Spend limits adjust automatically when orders are issued, amended or canceled. Once the mission is complete, travelers simply submit their travel vouchers for processing and the payment updates the spend limit to reflect the actual cost of the trip. Any residual funds remaining on the CSA are available for use by the cardholder or can be transferred to another personal account."

The controlled spend account program will deliver a more efficient travel program that will allow the Air Force to better manage cash flows.

Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., recently completed a five-month test of the controlled spend account program.

"I've always felt my focus should be toward evaluating and improving processes to ensure customers are paid in an accurate and efficient manner," said 2nd Lt. Bill Kiser, Keesler's financial services officer. "The controlled spend account program allowed Kessler to transform the travel process by eliminating arduous tasks associated with setting up mission assignments and streamlining the reconciliation process."

"Translation, I'm saving 12 to 20 hours per week on tasks previously spent on the government travel card program and delinquency management."

A field of wildflowers



Senior Airman Alexandra M. Boutte/U.S. Air Force
 A henbit flower is thriving on the front lawn of the 2nd Bomb Wing headquarters building. The henbit is one of the most common winter annual wildflowers that grow in moist soil and can reach up to 12 inches.

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Senior Airman Marie Brown, 2nd Force Support Squadron food operations team member, serves lunch to a patron at the Red River Dining Facility, one of two main dining facilities on base. The Barksdale Food Operations Team was awarded the Air Force Global Strike Command 2011 John L. Hennessy Food Service Award and will continue on to compete at the Air Force level in May of this year.

Barksdale food operations team leads command

By Senior Airman Chad Warren

2nd Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The 2nd Force Support Squadron food operations team received the Air Force Global Strike Command 2011 John L. Hennessy Food Service Award on Dec. 21.

The award, which recognizes dining facilities and



Senior Airman Chad Warren/U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Liana Taylor, 2nd Force Support Squadron food operations team member, places chicken on the grill while preparing for lunch at the Red River Dining Facility. The team provides more than 20,000 hot meals every month.

Senior Airman Chad Warren/U.S. Air Force their staff for excellent food service and quality, is named for John L. Hennessy, a hotel and food service industry leader and adviser to the president on military food service issues.

Providing excellent customer service and ensuring the best possible food quality are two key factors in maintaining an award-winning food service program.

“As far as preparation and work, it is the things the staff does on a daily basis,” said Tech. Sgt. Willie Andino, Red River Dining Facility assistant manager. “This includes achieving excellent customer service, preparing the best meals possible and a continuous highly effective training program to every member in both facilities.”

Barksdale falls under the multiple category, reserved for bases with two or more main dining facilities. Both the Touch-N-Go Flight Kitchen and the Red River Dining Facility are fully operating kitchens, serving at least three meals per day, five days per week.

Although they do not do it for the recognition, the food operations team deserves and appreciates the accolades for their hard work.

“The staff members are very excited to earn this award,” Sergeant Andino said. “Recognition for hard work is always appreciated. It gives everyone the confidence and dedication to continue to work hard and to achieve excellence in the food service specialty.”

One innovative program the team has incorporated is the menu-planning board. Each squadron appoints a dorm Airman to attend quarterly meetings where they give feedback, shaping the future of the facilities to better serve the Airmen.

“We are constantly striving for new ways to meet our patrons’ needs,” said Master Sgt. Robert Sedberry, 2nd FSS food operations chief. “That is one of the reasons why our menu-planning board is so important. We get the necessary feedback straight from Barksdale’s Airmen.”

Representatives from the food operations team will attend the Restaurant Association Banquet in Chicago in May to represent the command in competing for the Air Force level John L. Hennessy Trophy.

President signs improvements to Post-9/11 GI Bill

WASHINGTON — To bring the educational benefits of the Post-9/11 GI Bill closer to more veterans and service-members, President Obama signed legislation Jan. 4 that streamlines the 18-month-old education program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“Since the first GI Bill in 1944, this unique educational program has adapted to the needs of America’s veterans, active-duty personnel, reservists and Guardsmen,” Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki said. “Like its forbearers, the Post-9/11 GI Bill is growing to ensure the men and women who serve this nation in uniform receive valuable education benefits from a grateful nation.”

“On behalf of veterans and the many who serve them at VA, we would like to thank the president for his support, as well as members of Congress and our veterans service organization partners for helping make this bill a reality,” Secretary Shinseki added.

Among the provisions of the legislation:

- ▶ Paying for on-the-job training, some flight training; apprenticeship training and correspondence courses.

- ▶ Allowing reservists and Guardsmen to have their time supporting emergencies called by their state governors credited to the time needed to qualify for educational benefits.

- ▶ Providing half of the national average for the program’s housing allowance to students enrolled in distance learning.

- ▶ Prorating the housing allowance to exclude payments when students are not in class.

- ▶ Allowing students on active duty to receive the sti-

“Like its forbearers, the Post-9/11 GI Bill is growing to ensure the men and women who serve this nation in uniform receive valuable education benefits from a grateful nation.”

Eric K. Shinseki
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

pend for books and supplies.

- ▶ Allowing people eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, but participating in VA’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment benefits, to choose between the GI Bill’s housing allowance or VRE’s subsistence allowance.

- ▶ Permitting reimbursement for more than one license and certification test.

- ▶ Reimbursing fees to take national admission tests, such as SAT, ACT, GMAT and LSAT.

- ▶ Establishing a national cap of \$17,500 annually for tuition and fees in a private or a foreign school, not including contributions by educational institutions under the “Yellow Ribbon” program.

Information about the new provisions is available on the Internet at www.gibill.va.gov.

In December, VA issued nearly \$7.2 billion in tuition, housing and stipends for more than 425,000 veterans or eligible family members pursuing higher education under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

— Courtesy of Veterans Affairs Public Affairs

New Immunization Clinic hours

The 2nd Medical Group Immunization Clinic will implement new hours beginning this month. They are as follows:

- ▶ 7:30 to 11 a.m. and noon to 4 p.m. Monday.
- ▶ 7:30 to 11 a.m. and noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday. Close at 3 p.m. for deployment vaccines only.
- ▶ 7:30 to 11 a.m. and noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday.
- ▶ 7:30 to 11 a.m. and noon to 3 p.m. Thursday. Close at noon on the second Thursday of every month for training.
- ▶ 7:30 to 11 a.m. and noon to 4 p.m. Friday.

There will be no tuberculosis test given on Thursdays or holiday weekends.

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MWDs: Taking a bite out of crime

Article & photos by Airman 1st Class Sean Martin

2nd Bomb Wing Public Affairs
He hears the sounds of footsteps behind him as he tries to remain hidden. He hears the handler give commands to his partner as the canine picks up his scent.

The handler shouts to release the dog. The last thing the perpetrator remembers is being tackled from behind and pulled to the ground. The handler calls the dog off and places the perpetrator under arrest.

It was not a good day to be hunted down by a 2nd Security Forces Squadron military working dog stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base, home of the Air Force Global Strike Command.

MWDs may not have all of the capabilities of their handlers, but the skills they bring to the mission are relied heavily upon during certain instances.

The MWDs' primary mission is similar to that

"Having the military working dogs by our side is a huge benefit for us. They are able to bring a heightened sense of awareness to the force."

Staff Sgt. Daniel Craig

2nd Security Forces Squadron MWD trainer

of their human counterparts. They are trained to support detection capabilities throughout the world, in contingency operations and provide the first line of explosive detection. MWDs are found in almost every branch of service.

The secondary mission of an MWD is to attack. They are taught how to bite an enemy and become proficient in listening to their handlers. MWDs are not trained to track an individual, but to scout for them. They seek out a criminal offender as compared to going out on a search/rescue mission and searching for lost or stranded people.

MWDs are trained in

many things such as street patrol, maintaining and guarding entry control points and detection of narcotics and ordnance. Sweeps of buildings, vehicles, warehouses, open fields or areas are conducted as well.

"Along with suppressing the use of illegal narcotics, MWDs are vital in protecting the armed forces valuable resources from explosives and hazardous materials," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Craig, 2 SFS MWD trainer.

Training is held at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and lasts 120 days with a 180-day option. The training consists of two parts: detection and patrol train-



Mila, 2nd Security Forces Squadron military working dog, identifies a simulated bomb during a training exercise on Barksdale. MWDs are trained in many things such as street patrol, maintaining and guarding entry control points, and detection of narcotics and ordnance. Sweeps of buildings, vehicles, warehouses, open fields or areas are conducted as well.

ing. It consists of the minimum number of tasks they must learn according to their Air Force instruction. They also learn the basic odors of chemicals, narcotics and explosive response.

"Look at it like an Airman coming out of technical school, they do not know everything, they just know the bare minimum," Sergeant Eversley said. "Once they get to their base, they start their upgrade training and become proficient in their job."

Sergeant Eversley said they are given tools and training so they are able to apply them in a work setting. It is up to the dog to

decide how long it will take to become fully proficient and mission ready. It can range from one to five years, although a dog is usually proficient after about two years of training. MWDs' military careers last approximately nine to 12 years. After about seven years, the dogs begin to slow down due to the rigorous training and activity they are put through.

"The drive will be there, but the physical aspect is not," Sergeant Eversley said. "So as the dogs get older, we begin to monitor them a lot more closely."

When their careers become too strenuous for

them, they retire from active duty. If dogs have no health issues, they are put up for adoption. When a medical issue is the problem and they cannot be adopted, the dogs are sent back to Lackland, where they are used as training aids. Retired MWDs try to be placed in military members' homes, whether individuals are active duty, retired or civilian. Some dogs may even be adopted by their previous handler.

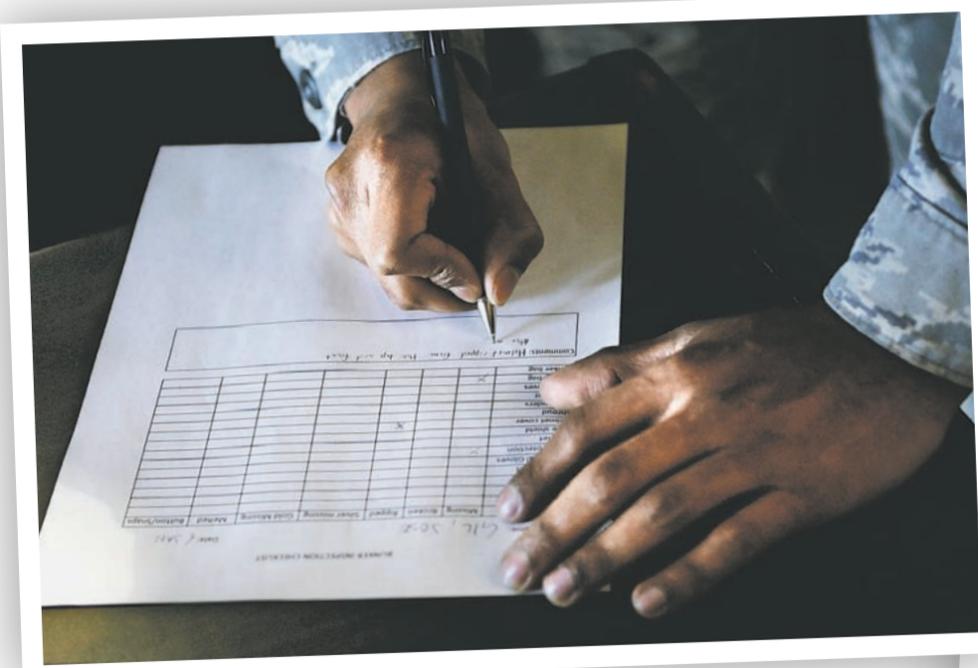
"Having the MWDs by our side is a huge benefit for us," concluded Sergeant Craig. "They are able to bring a heightened sense of awareness to the force."



Staff Sgt. Mark Chojnacki, 2nd Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, leads his dog Mila, MWD, on a search Jan. 7.

Inspecting the gear

U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. John Gordinier



A 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter signs for his bunker inspection. Firefighters perform bunker inspections at least once per month to ensure their equipment is in good working order and that it is all there. They inspect their equipment looking for tears, holes or anything that may hinder their safety.

Airman Jose Gil, 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, inspects his gear during a bunker inspection.





Senior Airman Alexandra M. Boutte/U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. John Bullock, 2nd Maintenance Squadron, reviews paperwork with Senior Airman Tyvenskione Humphrey and Staff Sgt. Jamey Lee, 2nd Security Forces Squadron, before getting his security badge photo taken. Nearly five percent of previously issued badges were lost or unaccounted for making a mass re-issue necessary. The mass re-issue is scheduled to be complete by the end of the month.

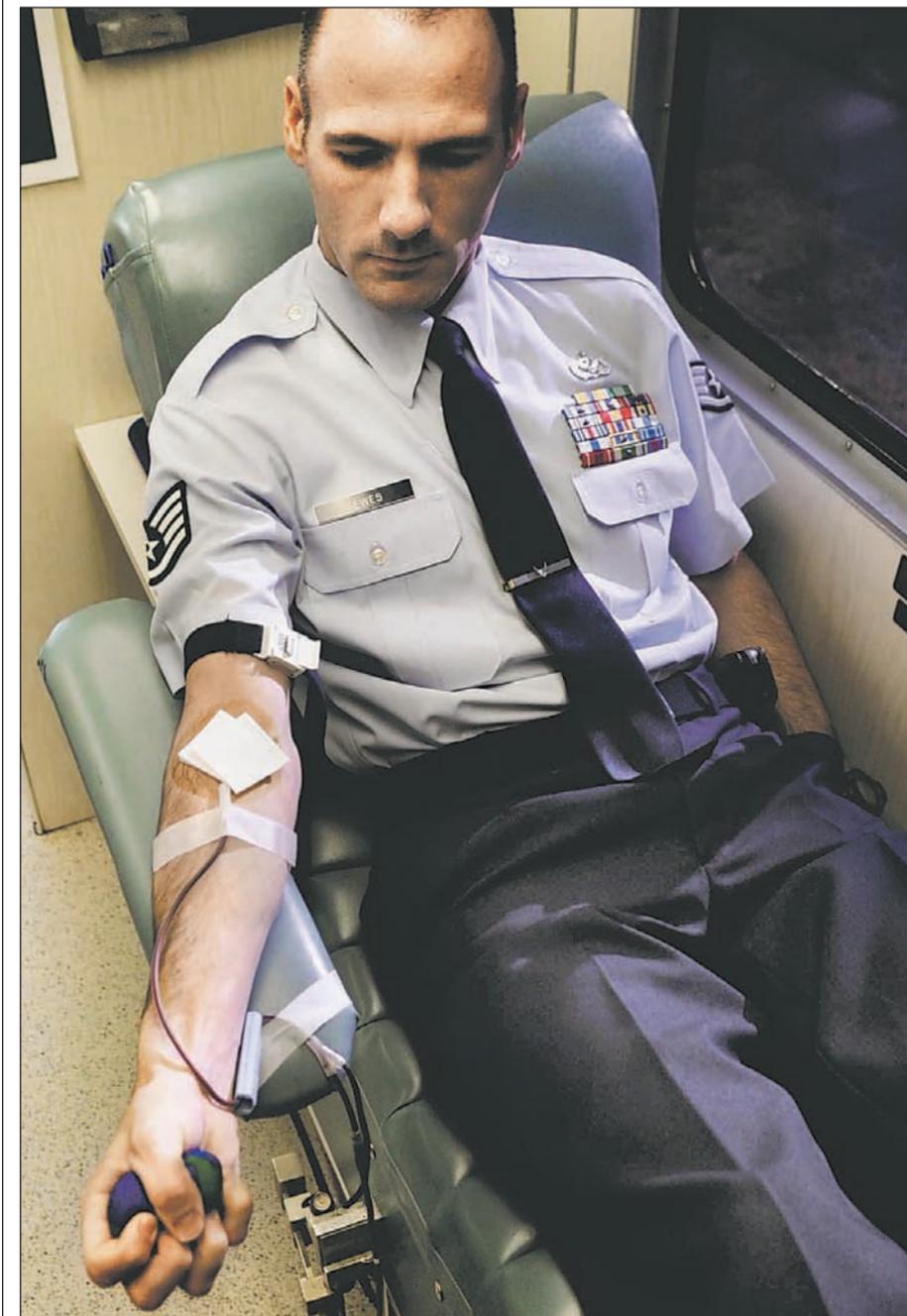
Do not pass on getting your new I.D.

By Senior Airman Alexandra M. Boutte
2nd Bomb Wing Public Affairs
The 2nd Security Forces Squadron is implementing a mass reissue of restricted area badges for Air Force Global Strike Command personnel at Barksdale Air Force Base.
Restricted area badges are critical items to the base, and indicate areas where Airmen are authorized to enter. Nearly 5 percent of previously issued badges were lost or unaccounted for making the reissue necessary. The mass reissue is scheduled

to be completed by the end of the month.
"We are approaching a loss rate percentage that constitutes a mass reissue," said Staff Sgt. Jamey Lee, 2 SFS assistant NCOIC of pass and ID.
According to the Standard Operating Instruction 31-2014, when the base has reached a certain lost badge rate, a mass reissue is mandatory.
The last mass reissue was performed nearly five years ago in 2006.
"Too many lost badges can be a problem if found in the wrong hands," said

Senior Airman Tyvenskione Humphrey, 2 SFS pass and ID clerk.
During the reissue, the pass and I.D. office processed more than 400 badges a week — up from the office's usual 80 badges per week maximum.
In addition to the restricted area badges, the pass and ID office controls the defense biometric identification system on base, Geneva Convention and civilian ID cards.
For information on receiving a new restricted area badge, contact your unit security manager.

Giving blood



Senior Airman Allison M. Boehm/U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Michael Tewes, 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron engineering technician, donates blood to the LifeShare blood organization. The 2 CES hosted the blood drive in order to help increase the local supply of units of blood.

Another star is born



Master Sgt. Corey Clements/U.S. Air Force Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and Mrs. Julie Kowalski pin the third star on Lt. Gen. Jim Kowalski on Jan. 6. About an hour later, General Kowalski assumed command of Air Force Global Strike Command, becoming responsible for organizing, training and equipping all U.S. ICBMs and nuclear-capable bombers.

Health plan to remain free for troops, officials emphasize

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Though Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates seeks modest premium increases for working-age military retirees who use the TRICARE Prime health plan, the benefit will remain free to servicemembers, defense officials emphasized Jan. 7.

Secretary Gates unveiled sweeping, cost-cutting initiatives Jan. 6, including a recommendation to increase TRICARE Prime premiums for working-age retirees in fiscal 2012, the first increase in the plan's 15-year history.

"For some time, I've spoken about the department's unaffordable health costs, and in particular the benefits provided to working-age retirees under the TRICARE program," he said.

"Many of these beneficiaries are employed fulltime while receiving their full pensions and often forego their employers' health plan to remain with TRICARE," he said. "This should not come as a surprise, given that the current TRICARE enrollment fee was set in 1995 at \$460 a year for the basic family plan, and has not been raised since."

Secretary Gates noted the dramatic increase in insurance premiums during that period for private-sector and other government employees. Federal workers pay roughly \$5,000 a year for a comparable health insurance program, he said.

"Accordingly, with the fiscal year 2012 budget, we will propose reforms in the area of military health care to better manage medical cost growth and better align the department with the rest of the country," Secretary Gates said. "These will include initiatives to become more efficient, as well as modest increases to TRICARE fees for ... working-age retirees, with fees indexed to

adjust for medical inflation."

These initiatives could save the department as much as \$7 billion over the next five years, he said.

Military retirees automatically are enrolled in one of two TRICARE plans, program spokesman Austin Camacho explained. Retirees who join TRICARE Prime, the system's managed-care option that covers active-duty members, pay an annual enrollment fee of \$230 per year for an individual, or \$460 for a family. Those in TRICARE Standard, a fee-for-service plan, pay no enrollment fee or premium. Instead, they pay a yearly deductible of \$150 per person or \$300 per family, as well as co-payments or cost shares for inpatient and outpatient care and medications, up to a \$3,000 annual cap on out-of-pocket expenses.

Military retirees aren't required to report whether they have jobs that offer insurance plans, Camacho said, noting that having other insurance does not take them off the TRICARE rolls. Rather, he explained, TRICARE becomes the "second payer" for health care, picking up co-payments and deductibles from the primary insurance plan.

Meanwhile, the senior TRICARE officer said the system is poised to support Secretary Gates' new efficiency measures and already is making progress as it strives to provide the best health care at the best cost.

"All of these things help us work together to help us achieve the secretary's goals, and we are already starting to make progress," Navy Rear Adm. (Dr.) Christine S. Hunter said. "We need to be very aware that there is a pressure (to improve efficiency and control costs) and the resources are not infinite. But we are all part of the solution."

Equipment check



Senior Airman Joanna M. Kresge/U.S. Air Force Airman Justin Schiraldi, 2nd Operations Squadron aircrew flight equipment apprentice, checks the luminescence points on a compass in a flight crew survival kit. In addition to survival kits, members of aircrew flight equipment maintain, inspect, repair and pack equipment such as helmets, masks, parachutes, flotation devices and night-vision devices.

General Klotz reflects on Command, career

By Carla Pampe

Air Force Global Strike Command
Public Affairs

Editor's Note: When he enlisted in the Air Force Reserve in 1968 to attend the Air Force Academy Prep School, Lt. Gen. Frank Klotz said he never imagined where his Air Force career would take him.

Now, after more than 37 years of commissioned service, he took a few minutes to sit down and reflect on a career that includes time as an Air Force Academy instructor, White House Fellow, Defense Attaché in Moscow, and commander at every level of the space and missile force. General Klotz's career culminated as the first commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, the job he left Jan. 6 as he transitioned from active duty.

What do you consider to be the highlight of your career?

►The highlight of my career is my current assignment as the commander of Global Strike Command. I've spent an entire career working on issues related to nuclear deterrence and global strike. So, the opportunity to lead a major command dedicated solely to that mission as my last job on active duty has been very special. It has also been a great honor and a privilege to work with the numbered Air Force and wing commanders, the NCO leaders, and the nearly 23,000 magnificent Airmen who make up Global Strike Command.

When the Command first stood up, what were the main priorities for AFGSC?

►At the outset, we concentrated primarily on getting the right people on board and into the right jobs. Then, we had to define the right mission, vision, values and goals to guide the organization as we began to move forward.

I think in retrospect we were enormously successful in both of those areas. One of the things we discovered early on was that there was a long line of highly-talented people knocking at the door, wanting to become a part of Global Strike Command. Many had a passion for our mission based on prior assignments and experiences. So, the opportunity to come back and to work in a major command that was focused on that mission really appealed to them.

Quite frankly, many of the people who came on board in the early days took an enormous personal risk. They were well established in other jobs and other commands, and for them to make the leap to this brand-new command required a tremendous amount of courage and faith. I'm sure glad they did.

Air Force Global Strike Command has put a lot of emphasis on visits to the wings from senior headquarters staff. Why did you feel that was important?

►We've made it a priority in this Command to get out of the headquarters and visit the wings on a regular and recurring basis. The purpose of a headquarters visit is to provide guidance, resources and people for our operational units.

Therefore, it's critically important that the headquarters staff understands ground truth at the level where the work is actually being accomplished. The only way you get that understanding is to go to the field and see for yourself, talk to the Airmen, and get a sense of what's on their minds.

One of the most outstanding achievements during your command of AFGSC was certainly Global Strike Challenge. Why is competition important to what we do?

►If we're going to be successful at building and sustaining a safe, secure and effective nuclear and global strike force, we must foster a culture of excellence. Competition helps build that culture.

In order to succeed in a competition like Global Strike Challenge, you have to be the very best in your particular field, whether its ops, cops or maintenance. To be the very best, you have to hit the books. You have to totally master the weapons system and the hardware. You have to think through a multitude of scenarios and how you would handle them if you ever confronted them in the air or in the field.

Through competition we raise the bar, we raise the standard for the entire force. Those individuals who were competitors become the centers of excellence within their own organizations. They serve as role models, and they pass on to others all the things that they have learned.

Now that the Command has achieved Full Operational Capability, where do we go from here, and what are the areas of focus for the future?

►I must say, I think the command has come a very long way in a short time. We've come a long way in terms of performance on nuclear inspections, and in the very focused and disciplined way in which we approach both ICBM and bomber operations and maintenance.

The Minuteman III, the B-52 and, to a significant degree, the B-2 are aging weapon systems. So, by necessity, our focus is rightly on sustaining and modernizing the forces which we now have responsibility for. At the same, we will also be full partners in the process of identifying the requirements for follow-on global

strike systems, as called for in the Department of Defense's Nuclear Posture Review released last April.

How are the local communities around our six wings, and two geographically-separated squadrons, important to Air Force Global Strike Command and its Airmen?

►We have marvelous support from our civic leaders and local communities, both for the mission and, more importantly, for our Airmen and their families.

The active duty military are assigned to a particular base for only a few short years, and then they move on. So our local community leaders in a sense become the institutional memory, the continuity between commanders at all levels. They share an immense pride in their local Air Force base and feel like it's their base, too. It's a magnificent, critically important relationship and a key to our continued success as an Air Force.

What are your plans post-retirement?

►My wife Nancy's one criterion for where we move is to live in the same time zone as our children and grandchildren. Given the pace of the last year-and-a-half, we honestly haven't had a moment to spend thinking about what we will do next in life or where we will live next. However, I do hope to continue my association with our Air Force family, and to continue to work on issues related to national security and the nuclear enterprise.

Will you miss the active-duty Air Force?

►What I'll miss the most are the two things that contributed to my decision to make the Air Force a career. The first was having the opportunity to do work for which the Air Force had educated and trained me. That has given me an enormous sense of personal and professional satisfaction.

The second thing I'll miss is the opportunity to work with Airmen. The work ethic, the devotion to duty, the commitment to something greater than oneself are all unique and very special attributes of the military profession.

If you had a parting message for the Airmen of AFGSC, what would it be?

►I'd like for them to know that the senior Air Force leadership under-



Beau Wade/U.S. Air Force
Lt. Gen. Frank Klotz, former Air Force Global Strike Command commander, speaks with Airmen during a recent commander's call.

stands the enduring importance of the nuclear and global strike mission to the security of our nation, and of our friends and allies. Over the last two Christmases, the Secretary of the Air Force, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force have all visited Global Strike Command bases, in some very challenging winter weather conditions, I might add. And the Under Secretary of the Air Force not only made her first official trip outside Washington to a Global Strike Command base, but she also flew down for Global Strike Innovation and Technology Symposium and the Challenge Strike Challenge score-posting in November.

Our senior leaders know the sacrifices and demands associated with being a part of the nuclear enterprise. As a result of that, they are extraordinarily proud of each and every one of our Airmen and the work that Global Strike Command does 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

With every sortie, every alert, every dispatch and every post, our Airmen set the conditions that help deter potential adversaries and assure our allies and friends around the world.

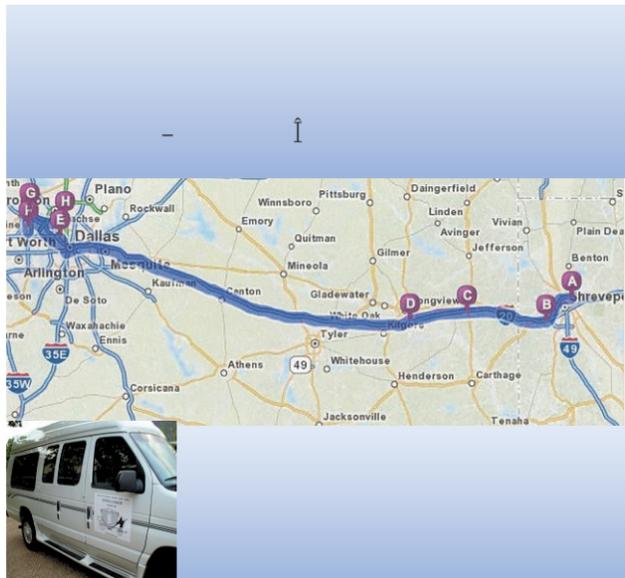
Our success in standing up this command while continuing the operational missions at home and abroad is due to the tireless, skilled and dedicated efforts of our total team — active duty, Guard, Reserves, government civilians and contractors.

Is there anything else

you'd like to add?

►I want to congratulate each and every member of Air Force Global Strike Command for successfully launching the Air Force's newest major command. The noble and worthy work they have performed in a very short period of time is both recognized and highly valued by the entire Air Force and Department of Defense.

On a more personal note, Nancy and I extend our very best wishes for the New Year to our Airmen and their families, and to the good citizens of the local communities around our bases. We are so grateful to them all for their selfless service in defense of our Nation, and for the opportunity to share this experience with them.



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Briefly

Exceptional Family Member Program

The Exceptional Family Member Program support group will meet from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Chapel II Annex. The guest speaker will be John Davis, manager of TRICARE Services for Barksdale. For more information, call Clifford Hawkins at (318) 456-8400.

2011 Community Assessment Survey

The Integrated Delivery System working group is sponsoring the 2011 Community Assessment Survey of servicemembers, spouses, reservists, spouses of reservists and civilians. This survey is the best way for Air Force community members to make their opinions and needs known. The results of the survey will be used by base leadership and the Air Force to target resources where they are most needed and enhance the well-being of the community.

Air Force community members at Air Force bases worldwide will be randomly selected to participate in the study. Participation is crucial to the success of the project; selected service members are strongly urged to take part.

Survey responses can directly influence family services and related support activities at local bases and throughout the Air Force.

If you have any questions regarding Barksdale's 2011

Community Assessment, contact Russell Cook at (318) 456-6595.

BESG open house

The Barksdale Enlisted Spouse Group will hold an open house Jan. 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. at The Landings at Barksdale Welcome Center, 201 Langley Drive. The event is free and open to anyone who wants to come and learn what the BESG has to offer. It is a come and go-type event and light refreshments will be served. Membership is open to spouses of active duty enlisted members of all branches, spouses of Air Force Reserve, spouses of retired enlisted, and civilians GS-8 and below. For more information, visit www.orgsites.com/la/barksdaleenlistedspousesgroup, call Kate Pease at (318) 525-6680 or e-mail besgmembership@hotmail.com.

The Landings at Barksdale January events

► **Jan. 14:** Pet Dress-Up Day at 4 p.m. at Welcome Center.

► **Jan. 19:** Taco Soup Day from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Welcome Center.

► **Jan. 25:** Bowling Night. RSVP by Jan. 21.

BESG scholarship

The Barksdale Enlisted Spouse Group will be awarding two college scholarships for the fall semester. These scholarships are for anyone pursuing an

Associates or Bachelors degree that meet the requirements outlined in the application packet. Application packets have a deadline of March 28. A packet can be obtained by emailing barksdaleenlisted-spousegroup@hotmail.com

TRAC briefing

The re-enlistment Transaction Reporting and Control briefing is a mandatory briefing for members who are pursuing a re-enlistment. The re-enlistments office will now be holding a TRAC briefing Wednesdays at 3 p.m. in the MPS building T-4353, Room 22. Appointments are not required. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of the briefing. Any questions, call (318) 456-7656.

Caregiver network

Military families now have free access to an online network of quality caregivers who can assist with everything from babysitting to dog walking. Sittercity is the nation's largest online source for local baby sitters, nannies, elder care providers, dog walkers, housekeepers and tutors, and contains more than 1 million caregiver profiles. Military members and their families can activate their membership at www.sittercity.com/dod. The Sittercity Corporate Program, funded by the Defense Department, offers military families — including active duty, Guard and Reserve — with a paid

membership to the site.

Education grant program

Concerned about the soaring cost of higher education for your children? Maybe the Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) can help. Under its General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program, the society awards \$2,000 each to selected applicants. The program continues to be offered to dependent sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 AGR/reservists on extended active duty, retired, retired reservists with 20-plus qualifying years of service, and deceased Air Force members. Spouses (residing stateside) of active duty and Title 10 AGR/reservists on extended active duty; and surviving spouses of deceased members are also eligible candidates.

Last year, 23 children and eight spouses from Barksdale were awarded \$2,000 education grants from the Air Force Aid Society through the General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program. For questions, contact an Air Force Aid representative at the Airman & Family Readiness Center at (318) 456-8400.

FLEP, ELP applications

Applications for this year's FLEP and ELP will be accepted starting on Jan. 1. Both the FLEP and ELP programs require at-

tendance at an American Bar Association (ABA) accredited law school. Upon graduation and admission to practice law in the highest court of any state, territory of the United States or a federal court, candidates are eligible for designation as judge advocates. To be considered for FLEP or ELP, applicants must complete all application forms, apply (acceptance is not required at the time of application for FLEP/ELP) to at least one ABA accredited law school, receive their Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) results, and complete a Staff Judge Advocate interview by Feb. 15. Officers must also provide a letter of conditional release from their current career field. The programs are both extremely competitive, so it is important for interested applicants to start working on their application packages now.

For more information on the programs or to obtain application materials, interested applicants should visit www.airforce.com/jag. Questions can also be directed to any Barksdale AFB judge advocate by calling (318) 456-2562.

Military & Family Life Consultants

Military and Family Life Consultants are here to listen and are available to help

service members and their families regarding deployment/reintegration, marriage and relationships, parenting/siblings and family, communication challenges, stress and anxiety, depression, grief and loss, and daily life issues. Consultations and training are free and anonymous. After-hours and weekend appointments are available. Call the MFLC directly at (318) 918-9379 or the Airman & Family Readiness Center at (318) 456-8400.

Pharmacy hours

Effective immediately, there will be a change in operating hours at the satellite pharmacy. In order to better serve our customers, we will be opening at 8:30 a.m. and closing at 6 p.m.

The main pharmacy will continue the same operating hours of 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and any of our customers can visit either pharmacy at their discretion to have their new prescriptions processed. Refill medications will still need to be called into the refill line and picked up at the satellite pharmacy.

Remember to please call in those refills on our call-in line at (318) 456-8348 so they will be ready and waiting for you when you arrive at the satellite pharmacy.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

fri.14

MONSTER NATION MONSTER TRUCKS

When: 8 p.m. Jan. 14-15. CenturyTel Center, 2000 CenturyTel Center Drive, Bossier City.
Featuring: monster trucks racing on an oval track, monster truck freestyle, freestyle motocross, including back flips and other surprising thrills.
Admission: \$19-\$27.
Info: (318) 747-2501.

sat.15

SATURDAY SPEAKER SERIES: STILL WITHIN EARSHOT: MUSICAL MOMENTS IN SHREVEPORT HISTORY

When: 2 p.m. R.W. Norton Art Gallery, 4747 Creswell Ave., Shreveport.
Featuring: Tracy Laird, author of "Shreveport Sounds in Black and White," explores some of the significant moments in Shreveport's musical history.
Admission: free.
Info: (318) 865-4201.

GEORGE WALLACE

When: 8 p.m. Horseshoe Casino & Hotel, 711 Horseshoe Blvd., Bossier City.
Admission: \$30-\$40.
Info: (888) 512-7469 or www.riverdome.com.

See: Monster Nation Monster Trucks, fri.14

thu.20

MUDBUGS VS. DAYTON GEMS
When: 6:35 p.m. CenturyTel Center, 2000 CenturyTel Center Drive, Bossier City.



Special to Warrior

The Monster Nation monster truck show will be at CenturyTel Center at 8 p.m. today and Saturday.

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Featuring: a professional hockey game.
Admission: \$17-\$36.
Info: (318) 747-2501 or www.ticketmaster.com.

HARLEM AMBASSADORS VS. LOUISIANA GUMBEAUX
When: 7 p.m. Captain Shreve High School, 6115 E. Kings Highway, Shreveport.
Featuring: a basketball game.
Admission: \$5-\$10; free, children ages 4 and younger.
Info: (832) 867-4660 or cbrown5530@aol.com.

THE HOUSE CONCERT SERIES
When: 7 p.m. Fairfield Studios, 1510 Fairfield Ave, Shreveport.
Featuring: Terri Hendrix with Lloyd Maines.
Admission: \$20.
Info: (318) 219-7688 or reservations@fairfieldstudios.com.

OWL NIGHT OPEN HOUSE
When: 5-8 p.m. Walter B. Jacobs Memorial Nature Park, 8012 Blanchard Furrh Road, Shreveport.
Featuring: captive owls, and exploration of the forest at night.
Admission: free.
Info: (318) 929-2806.

sat.22

MUDBUGS VS. LAREDO BUCKS
When: 7:05 p.m. CenturyTel Center, 2000 CenturyTel Center Drive, Bossier City.

sun.23

THE COLLINGSWORTH FAMILY IN CONCERT
When: 6 p.m. Central Assembly of God, 700 Highway 80, Haughton.
Admission: free.
Info: (318) 949-0010.

fri.28

MUDBUGS VS. FORT WAYNE KOMETS
When: 7:05 p.m. Jan. 28-29. CenturyTel Center, 2000 CenturyTel Center Drive, Bossier City.
Featuring: a professional hockey game.
Admission: \$17-\$36.
Info: (318) 747-2501 or www.ticketmaster.com.

sat.29

See: Mudbugs vs. Fort Wayne Komets, fri.28

february tue.08

KID ROCK
When: 7:30 p.m. CenturyTel Center, 2000 CenturyTel Center Drive, Bossier City.
Admission: \$33.35-\$99.05.
Info: (318) 747-2501.

thu.10

AN EVENING WITH THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA
When: 6 p.m. Horseshoe Casino & Hotel, 711 Horseshoe Blvd., Bossier City.
Featuring: a seated dinner and dancing to the sounds of the Glenn Miller Orchestra; benefiting the Shreveport Opera.
Admission: \$100, individual; \$1,500-\$7,500, sponsorships.
Info: (318) 227-9503 or www.shreveportopera.org.

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"HAIRSPRAY"
When: 7 p.m. Jan. 14-15; 2 p.m. Jan. 16. Riverview Theater, 600 Clyde Fant Memorial Parkway, Shreveport.
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 The DeSoto Parish Police Jury is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Accounting Clerk. Minimum qualifications include Associates or Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, desired, with a minimum of five (5) years related experience, preferably in a governmental setting. Only qualified applicants need apply. Applications will be accepted through 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 18th, 2011 DeSoto Parish Police Jury Administrative Office, 101 Franklin Street, Mansfield, LA. Applications and a copy of the job description may be obtained from the Police Jury Administrative Office.

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CLERICAL - SECRETARIAL

The DeSoto Parish Police Jury is seeking qualified applicants for the position of HUD Coordinator. Minimum qualifications include three years clerical experience in HUD related operations. Only qualified applicants need apply. Applications will be accepted through 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 18th, 2011 DeSoto Parish Police Jury Administrative Office, 101 Franklin Street, Mansfield, LA. Applications and a copy of the job description may be obtained from the Police Jury Administrative Office.

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CRAFTS, SKILL, TRADES

The DeSoto Parish Police Jury is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Kennel Technician I (part-time position). Qualifications include three to five years kennel experience. Applications will be accepted through 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 18th, 2011 DeSoto Parish Police Jury Administrative Office, 101 Franklin Street, Mansfield, LA. Applications and a copy of the job description may be obtained from the Police Jury Administrative Office.

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 All interested applicants please call 318-222-0526 (office hours M-Th 9 a-4p) Resumes may be mailed to: Light Hill Baptist Church, 1823 Pine Hill Road, Shreveport, LA 71107
 Attn: Pastor Alejandro Smith OR Resumes can be emailed to: lhbc01@bellsouth.net

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CertainTeed Corp., a leading building material manufacturer, is in search of a Production Supervisor, available to work any shift. Position requires a minimum of 5 yrs supervisory experience in a manufacturing environment. A college degree is preferred. Ideal candidate would have the following skills: competency in MS office applications, AS400 system experience, formal safety and quality training, experience managing 15-20 employees. CertainTeed has a comprehensive benefit package. Interested parties may email resume and cover letter to brandy.a.andrews@saint-gobain.com. No phone calls or walk-ins please.
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Looking for a sales management position? Local cemetery seeks experienced sales person to develop, hire, train and manage sales effort. Management experience helpful, but not necessary. We offer training, incentive based pay with salary, health, life, dental, vision, and retirement. Don't reject what you don't understand. Contact **Robert Lomison 318 861-3544** or e-mail your resume to rlomison@letuminc.com

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Horizon Bay Assisted Living has openings for caring, compassionate caregivers. Experience is preferred; Alzheimer's training is a plus. Full and part time positions available for 7-3, 4-8 and 11-7, must be able to work any day of the week.
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Brentwood
Behavioral Hospital

Brentwood Behavioral Hospital has positions available for the following positions:

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Part-Time & Relief
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- RN's / LPN's
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EOE/M/F/H

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Rural Hospital
Full Time position
Homer Memorial Hospital
EOE

Visit our web site www.homerhospital.com
For application and work criteria or contact Human Resources at 318-927-2024 x 203

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Baton Rouge General is the flagship entity of General Health System licensed for 544 beds and has two locations, hundreds of doctors and nurses, and a system-wide commitment to exceptional patient care. It has system net revenues of \$400 million and employs over 3,200 employees. Interested physicians may confidentially contact Anne Segura, Employment Manager, at (225) 381-6930 or via email anne.segura@brgeneral.org or apply on line at www.brgeneral.org

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RN
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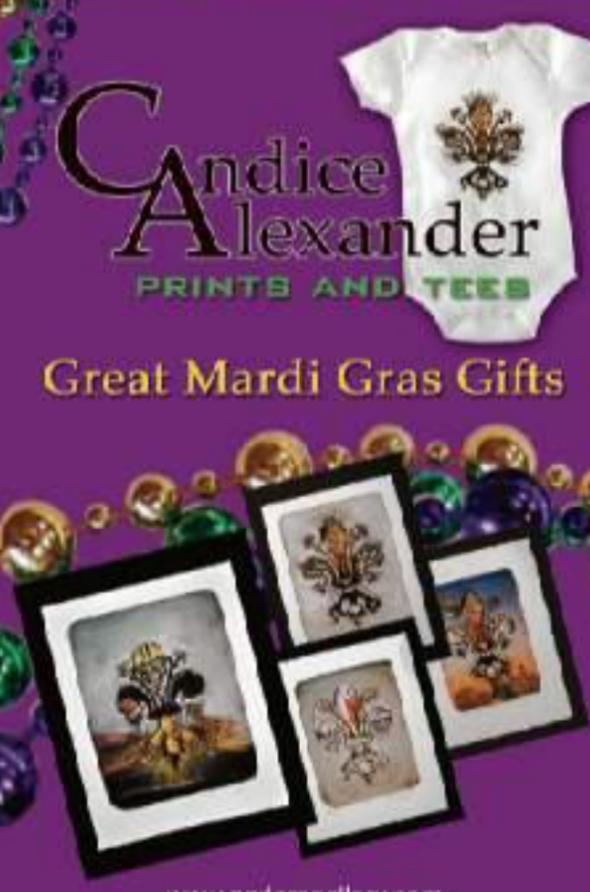
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