



**SPRING 2016**



# RESILIENCE FROM A COMMANDER'S PERSPECTIVE

Capt. Ashley Schmiegel

Resilience is defined as “the ability to withstand, recover, and grow in the face of stressors and changing demands.” As Citizen-Airmen, each one of us deals with changing demands and stressors every day. The Comprehensive Airman Fitness Program, or CAF, is a holistic approach supporting individual resilience and fitness through skills and tools that help Airmen maintain balance in four key domains: physical, mental, social, and spiritual.

The four domains of the CAF each address an individual ability, have associated tenets, and have skills and tools to assist in developing resilience. The mental domain is the ability to effectively cope with unique mental stressors and challenges. The tenets of the mental domain are awareness, adaptability, decision making, and positive thinking. The physical domain is adopting and sustaining healthy behaviors with tenets of endurance, recovery, nutrition, and strength. The social domain is the ability to engage in healthy social networks. Its tenets are communication, connectedness, social support, and teamwork. Finally, the spiritual domain is the ability to adhere to beliefs, principles, or values to persevere and prevail. The tenets of the spiritual domain are core values, perseverance, perspective, and purpose.

From a commander's perspective, individual resilience is critical for multiple reasons. First and foremost, developing and promoting resilience is about taking care of our Airmen. Encouraging the development of resilience skills helps individuals to manage stressors and find balance in life in order to perform at the optimal level in all areas – family, civilian life, and military service.

As members of the Air National Guard, we each face unique stressors. Without the ability and skills to recover from adversity and adjust, it is extremely challenging to be prepared to serve. Studies have also shown that a positive attitude and resilience contribute to greater mental and physical well-being.

Secondly, organizational resilience is a function of personal resilience. The greater the resilience of our individual members, the stronger our unit and the better prepared we are to execute our mission. Airmen who are resilient are able to deal with the daily demands of life and focus on accomplishing the mission. In addition, fostering resilience within the organization contributes to greater trust and cooperation among members.



*Continued on page 3*



*Continued from page 2*

As commanders, we want our Airmen to share in a common purpose, one of the tenets of resilience, and be engaged and dedicated to the mission. Resilience skills help our members to manage stress and maintain balance in life, and allow our units to achieve excellence in their performance of the mission.

Resilience provides outstanding benefits to both an individual and to the unit. From a commander's perspective, all of these benefits are positives for the organization. Resilience is a skill that needs to be practiced and continually strengthened like any other skill in life, a concept supported by the Comprehensive Airman Fitness program. The more resilient our members are, the better prepared we all will be to support our wing's mission while exemplifying the motto of the National Guard – "Always Ready, Always There."







# Welcome Home

**NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION, N.Y. (Feb. 6, 2015) -** Family members, friends and loved ones wait patiently with their signs and American flags, creating a sea of red, white and blue. They are patient, though highly anxious because it is the day that has been looked forward to for more than six months.

During that time, it has been a roller coaster of emotions, bringing everything from how to say goodbye for the last time to the thrilling moments of being able to talk to a loved one that is seemingly a million miles away. Now however, it all comes full circle and families can be reunited and start once again.

The excitement builds as notification arrives that the plane has landed. Children are waiting for their parents with balloons in hand, and mothers are waiting teary eyed for their children.

For the more than 30 Airmen from the 107th Security Forces Squadron here arriving at Buffalo International Airport, this is the day they finally get to come home. The Airmen are returning from a six-month deployment to Kuwait.

"It was a long wait," said Susan Henderson with a laugh, mother of Senior Airman Shannon Carr who was one of the deployed Airmen. "We're so proud of what he's doing. Things just get easier and easier now with FaceTime. He's got a baby nephew and he can watch him grow when he's gone."

Though families can remain in routine contact, the distance still makes it difficult said Henderson. So many important events were missed, but they are going to make up for it said Henderson. In the end, it is all about being proud Americans, said the mother with outstretched arms.

Capt. Nicholas Schmiegel, the 107th SFS commander, proudly echoes these sentiments and the service his Airmen have given these past several months.





"It's great to see them come back and see what they accomplished," said Schmiegel. "They get to be with their families, who have a sense of pride in what they do serving their country, and see them recognized by their unit."

The support that the Airmen receive from everyone back home can be vital to them accomplishing their mission. It gives the Airmen a sense of accomplishment, as well as helps them with reintegration once they get home, said Schmiegel.

"It's nice to see a familiar face once you come through those doors," said Schmiegel.

Beyond seeing a familiar face, there are also new faces to see. With newborns that some of the deployed Airmen have yet to meet, the anticipation is immeasurable.

"We're so proud," said Kathy Owczarczak, mother of Master Sgt. Daniel Owczarczak who had a daughter born while deployed. "It's just a culmination of so many events. We missed him so much. To see him come home and meet his little baby daughter and see his two boys and his wife, who has been the hero of all of this and to come through all of this and be so strong and supportive."

Missing so much can be heartbreaking, but the family is proud of his service, said Owczarczak. Though far away, the Airmen have at their disposal the means to ease the struggle of being so far away.

"He did get to Skype, and he was right there on the iPad," said Owczarczak, clasping her hands. "It was like a miracle, just a moment we will never forget."

"It was amazing," said Master Sgt. Daniel Owczarczak, while holding one of his two eager sons. "Coming home to my family and my kids, last time I deployed I didn't have a wife and kids. Especially not being there for my daughter's birth, and seeing her for the first time was a pretty surreal experience."

Such a moment can undoubtedly bring on a wave of emotions, but the proud father said the only thing he wanted to do was hold his daughter. The master sergeant also took time to make sure the Airmen he served with got the credit they deserve.

"Niagara has a lot to be proud of," said Owczarczak. "They did an amazing job over there. Even in times of controversy or things came up where there were hardships, they always persevered through everything and they really, really did an amazing job."

The deployed members of the 107th SFS never lost sight of their job and always went to work and never complained, said Owczarczak, his eyes beaming. They always went in with a smile on their faces no matter how hard things got, said Owczarczak.

From celebrating a new life, there are also those who are going to celebrate a new future together. The homecoming saw Airman 1st Class Amanda Lavocat come home to a surprise engagement.

"I've had it planned for a while now, probably almost a year," said Justin Jurs, a member of the Army's 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York. "When I knew she was deploying, I knew as soon as she got back it would be all planned."

Being a fellow service member allows Jurs to have a perspective into what it is like to be in his new fiancée's shoes. Being able to share those feelings while Lavocat was away helped them get through the time apart together, said Jurs, who remains calm amid the excitement around him.

"The best day of my life," said Lavocat, raising her voice with a smile.





Standing with her 4-year-old daughter, Brooklyn, at her side, Lavocat said all she wanted to do was come home and see her. It was difficult being away and missing her family, but the experience was worth it, said Lavocat, nodding her head.

For the returning Airmen of the 107th SFS, the deployment is over and the immediate future involves plenty of family time. Six months can seem like a lifetime when you are away from everything that is familiar.

The 107th Airlift Wing here is proud, and so are the family members and friends that turned out to see their loved ones come home. After the festivities of being welcomed home, there is some well-earned down time.

"I'm just going to enjoy being home," said the future Mrs. Justin Jurs.





## Mission Ready = Inspection Ready

Know this acronym- AFIS=Air Force Inspection System

The **purpose** of AFIS is to effectively/efficiently provide CCs timely and relevant information to improve unit effectiveness. The **goal** of AFIS is to strengthen commanders' ability to focus on mission readiness, not inspection readiness... *If you are always mission ready, then you should always be inspection ready!*

AFIS is built around the 4 key areas of CC responsibility. *Every unit member should know these!*

Managing resources  
Leading people  
Improving the unit  
Executing the mission

**Internal inspections, exercises, and observations** are conducted as part of the Commander's Inspection Program. The Wing IG executes the CCIP with the support of a **Wing Inspection Team (WIT)**, which is comprised of personnel across the wing that have been nominated by their CC. The inspections provide a reliable assessment of the wing's mission readiness and state of discipline. Deficiencies discovered are usually corrected through a **Deficiency Manager** and closed by a Commander.

The Wing CC also relies on sections to run a mandated **Self-assessment Program (SAP)**. This program is usually facilitated by the appointed **Self-assessment program manager (SAPM)**. This allows CCs at all levels to verify compliance with directives and identify areas of non-compliance - *it is a critical part of the CCIP*. SAPS allow issues to be identified and corrected at the lowest level. The most common method is the Management Internal Control Toolset (MICT). MICT also allows the IG and HHQ to do a virtual inspection of a program. \*\*\*MICT cannot be used alone!\*\*\* Other avenues such as SAVs, audits, internal meetings etc. must also be used and recorded to substantiate the SAP.

**External inspections** such as the **Unit Effectiveness Inspection (UEI)** are conducted by personnel above the wing level. A UEI cycle is a continuous evaluation of the wing's performance over a four year cycle. The UEI cycle culminates with a HHQ **Capstone** inspection and then the cycle starts over. The 107AW Capstone is scheduled for **21-26 Jul 16**. EVERY AIRMAN IS CRITICAL TO MISSION READINESS! The old phrase "the chain is only as strong as its weakest link" applies strongly to our success. If you can improve something, please take the initiative to do so! If you are aware of an area of non-compliance, you have a responsibility to inform your chain of command.

If every 107<sup>th</sup> member can speak to the details above we will shine. You can stop by the IG office any time if you have questions about the new inspection system.

LtCol Chris Thurn  
107AW Inspector General



## WING DIRECTOR OF PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH

It won't be long until we're out of the short, gray, cold, bitter days of winter. Soon it will be spring. The days will be longer, warmer and for most of us more enjoyable. Spring is a time where many of us conduct spring cleaning and switch out our tools. Snow blowers go back into the shed and we break out the lawn mowers. Spring is also a good time to reset ourselves mentally. When you start thinking about your spring cleaning checklist, perhaps you should think about a mental wellbeing checklist as well. Below are five steps that, according to research can really help improve our mental and emotional wellbeing.

**Connect** – connect with the people around you, your family, friends, colleagues and neighbors. Spend time developing these relationships. The quality of our relationships are a key ingredient in our ability to be resilient.

**Get physical** –Go to the gym (it is free on base after all). Take a walk, ride a bike or do some yoga. Better yet, go run with Team RWB on Wednesday's in Delaware Park. Healthy body = Healthy mind.

**Keep learning** – learning new skills can give you a sense of achievement and a new confidence. So why not sign up for that cooking course, start learning to play a musical instrument, or figure out how to fix your bike?

**Give to others** – even the smallest act can count whether it's a smile, a thank you or a kind word. Larger acts, such as volunteering at your local community center, can improve your mental wellbeing and help you build new social networks.

**Be mindful** – be more aware of the present moment, including your thoughts and feelings, your body and the world around you. Some people call this awareness "mindfulness". It can positively change the way you feel about life and how you approach challenges.

This is just a small list of ways to start recharging yourself this spring. This list is hardly comprehensive. If you'd like help on your list please give me a call 236-2401 or stop on by. I'm in the CE building, 1<sup>st</sup> door on the left.

Best Regards,  
Jason Masker, LMHC

**Does this sound like you?**

- No one knows how I feel
- I can't stop thinking about my problems
- My spouse says I am drinking too much
- I have difficulty sleeping
- People tell me I'm not the same person I used to be
- I'm constantly arguing at home

**ANG**  
AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
Psychological Health Program

**Wing Director of Psychological Health**





# 107th photo history



# Promotion Requirements

Where are you now?  
Are you ready to take the next step?

Amn-E-2	A1C - E3	SrA - E4	SSgt - E5	TSgt - E6	MSgt - E7	SMSgt - E8	CMSgt - E9
				Sole occupant of at least a TSgt UMD position	Sole occupant of at least a MSgt UMD position	Sole occupant of at least a SMSgt UMD position	Sole occupant of at least a CMSgt UMD position
6 months TIG	6 months TIG	1 year TIG	2 years TIG	2 years TIG	2 years TIG	2 years TIG	2 years TIG
6 months TIS	1 year TIS	2 years TIS	4 years TIS	6 years TIS	9 years TIS	11 years TIS	14 years TIS
3 level PAFSC	3 level PAFSC	3 level PAFSC	5 level PAFSC	7 level PAFSC	7 level PAFSC	7 level PAFSC	9 level PAFSC
PME - BMT (Note 1)	PME - BMT (Note 2)	PME - N/A	PME - ALS	PME - N/A	PME - NCOA	PME - SNCOA & CCAF (Note 3)	PME - CCAF (Note 3)



**Note 1:** Promotion to Amn (E2) will be automatic, 6 months from the date member departs for basic military training (BMT) / tech school, unless the unit commander requests the promotion be delayed. (The Military Personnel Flight (MPF) will publish orders/update the Personnel Data System for promotion to E2).

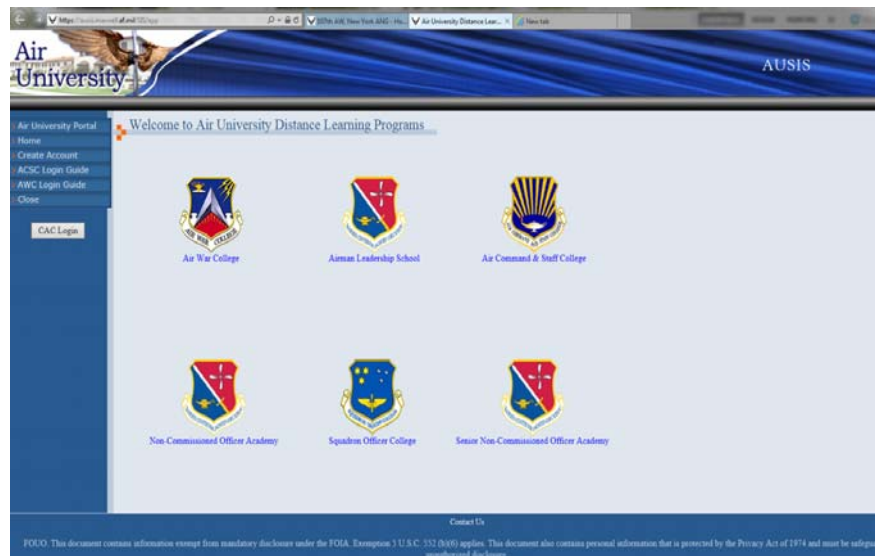
**Note 2:** Time in grade (TIG) requirement is computed from the date of entry on the initial active duty training (date member departs for BMT / tech school)

**Note 3:** 107th Sup - SEJPME required for promotion to SMSgt and CMSgt

## Career Advancement-

Here is where you go for your PME  
<https://ausis.maxwell.af.mil/SIS/app>

Continue your professional development though on and off-duty education. Join professional organizations (for example, base advisory and enlisted councils) and participate in organization and community events through volunteerism.





# Chaplain's Thoughts

**Look at your schedule. What is written on your calendar?** I am sure I would see appointments for meetings, perhaps dentist and doctor wellness appointments, physical fitness, professional development, maybe your children's sporting events or dance classes and, of course, when reports and training assignments are due. On our schedules now are things like our Cap Stone and inspection days. Look at the 107<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing CY2016 Work Schedule. We have our UTAs color-coded in blue, our Off days in red and Holidays in purple. Important reminders are written on our calendars to help us keep on track all the time.

**It's important to keep on track with our schedules.** However, it is also important to keep on track with our relationships. We need to keep strong bonds between our loved ones and ourselves so we can be resilient in everything else that we do. Look at your calendar, your iPhone. Anything important is written on your calendar so you are reminded of important happenings in your life.

**One of the most important occurrences in your life should be the strong bonds** you place on your relationships. Those relationships are what make you who you are today, and they keep you strong for the mission. As Chaplain, when I am working with an engaged couple doing premarital counseling, I remind couples to intentionally make date nights and get-a-ways with their spouses and write them on their calendars. What you regard important in your life, you need to take time for. Relationships are important. Take time for your relationships and write scheduled time for them on your calendar. One thing we humans cannot do is make time. We only can take the time. There are only 24 hours in a day, and this month in fact, we are losing one hour for daylight savings.

*Continued on page 12*

**So for those of you who are married, here is a “heads up”** so you can take time with your spouse in a purposeful and wonderful setting. Remember, resiliency in our relationships is important! **So please set aside 29 April – 1 May for a Strong Bonds Couples Retreat.** Your Chaplain’s Corps and New York Air Wing Integrator, Gabrielle Olszewski will be offering a Strong Bonds event called, *“Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage”* by Mark Gungor for married couples. By using a blend of humor and tell-it-like-it-is honesty, Mark Gungor helps couples get along and have fun doing it. He proves that the key to marital bliss is not romance or destiny – it is work and skill. Couples need to work hard at maintaining their relationship and to have the skills to pull it off. If your spouse is in DEERS, you both can come and partake for free. We are working to make arrangements with contracting so this can be in a lovely setting in Rochester, NY. Registration details will be forthcoming soon.

**Why not work at investing the time for your relationship with your spouse.** You work at investing and maintaining your schedule for your job and for your physical health. Gungor says, “The longer spouses wait to learn these skills, the greater their chance of wanting to bail. Bring your relationship to the next level, take the time for your relationship with your spouse and continue to “Aim High Airmen.”

*P.S. For single Airmen, we are looking to do a Strong Bonds Singles Retreat later on in the year. Your relationships are important too.*

## CHAPLAIN SERVICES

### Wing Chaplain

LtCol Jackie Ann Rose Kraft  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
P.O. BOX 743  
850 Dodge Road  
Getzville, New York 14068-0743  
Office: (716) 688-8677  
Home: (716) 625-6266  
Chaplain Crisis Phone: (716) 228-7719

### PROTESTANT SERVICE

Saturday-1600  
Wing Conference Room-Building 901

### CATHOLIC MASS

St. Leo’s R.C. Church  
2748 Military Road  
Niagara Falls, NY  
Sat. Mass 1600  
Sun. Mass 0900

\*\*If you need to see a chaplain please call Chaplain Services, at extension 2395 or the numbers listed above. Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants are always on call

**For Service schedules of other religious communities contact the Chaplains’ office at ext. 2395.**







**DoD Safe Helpline**  
Sexual Assault Support for the DoD Community

Live 1-on-1 Help Confidential Worldwide 24/7

Click: [www.SafeHelpline.org](http://www.SafeHelpline.org)

Call: 877-995-5247

Text: 55-247 (INSIDE THE U.S.)  
202-470-5546 (OUTSIDE THE U.S.)

*A confidential and anonymous sexual assault hotline for the DoD Community.*

Keep up with the latest and greatest right from your smartphone.



Just click on one of these icons and see what's out there.



**“If You See Something, Say Something™”**

“If You See Something, Say Something™” is a national campaign that raises public awareness of the indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime as well as the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement. Given the recent terrorism related events throughout the world, the Chief’s Council thought this article would be a great opportunity to draw each unit member’s attention to the campaign and refocus his/her efforts. This campaign was initiated in 2010 by the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and has been successful in educating the public and assisting authorities in detecting possible terrorism-related events.

The DHS website defines suspicious activity as any observed behavior that could indicate terrorism or terrorism-related crime and includes, but not limited to:

**Unusual items or situations:** A vehicle is parked in an odd location, a package/luggage is unattended, a window/door is open that is usually closed, or other out-of-the-ordinary situations occur.

**Eliciting information:** A person questions individuals at a level beyond curiosity about a building’s purpose, operations, security procedures and/or personnel, shift changes, etc.

**Observation/surveillance:** Someone pays unusual attention to facilities or buildings beyond a casual or professional interest. This includes extended loitering without explanation (particularly in concealed locations); unusual, repeated, and/or prolonged observation of a building (e.g., with binoculars or video camera); taking notes or measurements; counting paces; sketching floor plans, etc.

It is important to note that some of these ac-

tivities could be innocent—it’s up to law enforcement to determine whether the behavior warrants investigation. The activities above are not all-inclusive, but have been compiled based on studies of pre-operational aspects of both successful and thwarted terrorist events over several years.

An important component of the campaign is that you should focus on the behavior of the individuals rather than just their respective appearances. Report only those suspicious behaviors in a given situation to the proper authorities.

If you observe any suspicious behavior, take note of the following and report it to local law enforcement or Security Forces as soon as it is SAFE and practical to do so:

- Who or what you saw
- When you saw it
- Where it occurred
- Why it’s suspicious

Now more than ever, YOUR vigilance is critical to safeguarding your family, your coworkers, and your country. Each of us, by virtue of being a member of the US Military, is a desirable target of terrorists and their ill intent. It is through increased vigilance on all of our parts, that we may be able to help in preventing the next terrorist attack. This applies to you, both at home and abroad, as you carry out the missions that our state and country charge you with successfully completing. Look out for yourselves, your families, and our communities, and remember:

“If You See Something, Say Something™”

\*Parts of this article were obtained from DHS and other law enforcement sources







**2016 COMMANDER'S BALL**  
**"Come Fly With Us"**  
at  
**Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa**

*Colonel Robert G. Kilgore, 107<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Commander  
requests the pleasure of your company on Friday,  
05 August at the Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa*

**Come to a "Black Tie affair" and enjoy a grand evening with the Airmen of the 107<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing with fine dining, drinks (Top Shelf) and dancing!!**

The menu for the evening will be:



**Hors D' Oeuvres:** Bruschetta Pomadora, Clams casino with Applewood smoked bacon and Imported and domestic cheeses with fresh fruit and crackers

**Salad:** Baby Spinach w/ mixed Greens served tomatoes, cucumbers and Chef's fresh balsamic vinaigrette dressing

**Entrée:** 10oz Prime Rib or Chicken Milanese (Vegetarian Option Avail on request)

Twice baked potatoes

chef's choice mixed grilled vegetables

Rolls & butter

Coffee & Iced tea

**Desserts:** Assorted desserts

\*\* Cocktails begin at 1800 followed by Dinner at 1930, Dancing at 2030



**Tickets on Sale NOW!!**  
**\$50 a ticket**

Please see the following personnel for ticket:

- CMSgt Jason Folckemer, DSN 238-2562
- SMSgt Raymond Fitzpatrick, DSN 238-3391
- MSgt Jennifer Blamowski, DSN 238-3349
- SSgt Stasha Haag, DSN 238-2430

Hotel reservations can be made by calling  
716-773-1111, Room Reservations under  
107th Airlift Wing Military Ball & Block ID is 1817830  
or [www.byblosniagara.com](http://www.byblosniagara.com)  
Room Cost \$107 plus taxes

# Social Media Tips

**Please keep the following in mind when posting to social media sites like Facebook or Twitter.**

## **Once it's out there, it's there forever**

- When you post something on social media, you can't "get it back." Even deleting the post doesn't mean it's truly gone, so consider carefully before you hit enter.

## **No classified information**

- Don't post classified or sensitive information (for example, troop movement, force size, weapons details, etc.). If in doubt, talk to your supervisor or security manager. "Think OPSEC!"

## **Replace error with fact, not argument**

- When you see misrepresentations made about the Air Force in social media, you may certainly use your social media property or someone else's to correct the error. Always do so with respect and with the facts. When you speak to someone who has an adversarial position, make sure what you say is factual and respectful. No arguments, just correct the record.

## **Admit mistakes**

- Be the first to respond to your own mistakes. If you make an error, be up front about your mistake and correct it quickly. If you choose to modify an earlier post, make it clear you have done so (e.g., use the strikethrough function).

## **Use your best judgment**

- What you write may have serious consequences. If you're unsure about a post, discuss your proposed post with your supervisor. Ultimately, you bear sole responsibility for what you post.

## **Avoid the offensive**

- Don't post any defamatory, libelous, vulgar, obscene, abusive, profane, threatening, racially and ethnically hateful or otherwise offensive or illegal information or material.

## **Don't violate copyright**

- Don't post any information or other material protected by copyright without the permission of the copyright owner.

## **Don't misuse trademarks**

- Don't use any words, logos or other marks that would infringe upon the trade mark, service mark, certification mark or other intellectual property rights of the owners of such marks without owner permission.

## **Don't violate privacy**

- Don't post any information that would infringe upon the proprietary, privacy or personal rights of others.

## **No endorsements**

- Don't use the Air Force name to endorse or promote products, political positions or religious ideologies.

## **No impersonations**

- Don't manipulate identifiers in your post in an attempt to disguise, impersonate or otherwise misrepresent your identity or affiliation.

## **Stay in your lane**

- Discussing issues related to your career field or personal experiences are acceptable and encouraged, but you shouldn't discuss areas of expertise where you have no firsthand, direct experience or knowledge.

## **Be cautious with the information you share**

- Be careful about the personal details you share on the Internet. Maintain privacy settings on your social media accounts, change your passwords regularly and don't give out personally identifiable information. Also, be mindful of who you allow to access your social media accounts.

## **Don't promote yourself for personal or financial gain**

- Don't use your Air Force affiliation, official title or position to promote, endorse or benefit yourself or any profit-making group or agency. For details, refer to Code of Federal Regulations, Title 5, Volume 3, sec. 2635.702, Use of Public Office for Private Gain, in the Joint Ethics Regulation or Air Force Instruction 35-101, Public Affairs Responsibilities and Management.



# HEY NIAGARA...

**We want your feedback!!!**

If you have content you would like to share,  
Please send it our way!

Email us @

USAF.NY.107-AW.LIST.PA-TBIRD@mail.mil

# THUNDERBIRD

Brought to you by:

## 107th Airlift Wing

**Commander**  
Col. Robert G. Kilgore

**Vice Commander**  
Col. Michael W. Bank

**Executive Officer**  
Capt. Lindsay A. Doak

### Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Elaine Nowak

### Public Affairs Superintendent

Senior Master Sgt. Ray Lloyd

### Broadcast Journalist

Master Sgt. Brandy Fowler

### Photojournalist

Staff Sgt. Ryan Campbell

The *Thunderbird* is a funded Class 1 Air Force Newspaper published quarterly Niagara Falls A.R.S., N.Y. The *Thunderbird* is an authorized publication for members of the United States military services. Contents of the *Thunderbird* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, DOD, the Department of the Air Force, or the Air National Guard. The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 107th Airlift Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. The *Thunderbird* uses material from Armed Forces Press Service, AFNS, AMC News Service, af.mil, NGAUS, Air Force Retiree News and unit members.

