

THE

Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station, Pittsburgh Pa.



# FLY OVER

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**Family farewell  
scrapbook page 6**



# The Flyover

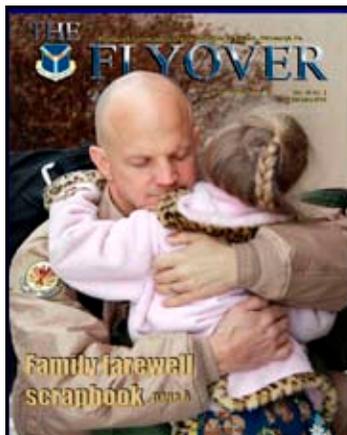


## On the Cover

### Members deploy

Maj. Shawn Donahey, 758th Airlift Squadron, gives daughter, Molly, a big hug before departing for a four-month deployment in support of Overseas Contingency Operations. The deployment will involve multiple aircrews and aircraft, as well as numerous maintenance personnel and support functions to various locations throughout the Area of Responsibility.

(Photo by Master Sgt. Mark A. Winklosky)



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Col. Gordon H. Elwell, Jr.

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## Inside This Edition



911th Airlift Wing members step-up, volunteer in support of the Haiti relief efforts.

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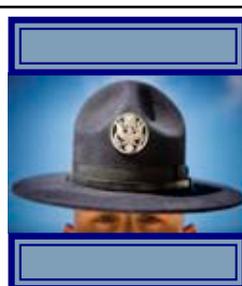
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## UTA Schedule

Month	A	B
March	6 & 7	20 & 21
April	10 & 11	24 & 25
May	1 & 2	15 & 16



# Commander's Comment...



## **The Pittsburgh Spirit**

### *Personifying true excellence*

I am the newest member of the 911th Team and have been here, full time, for over a month. Yet in that short time, I have observed an esprit-de-corps, work ethic and concern for others that are most remarkable.

Just days after completing-and passing-a grueling Operational Readiness Inspection, 911th members turned their attention to readying aircraft and personnel for the four-month long deployment to the Area of Responsibility. This involved countless hours of preparation and creative problem-solving in many areas. Despite numerous setbacks, horrendous weather, and deicing/deicing/deicing/deicing/deicing aircraft, no one complained. No one gave up. No one walked away. Everyone worked together. Launch and timely AOR arrival accomplished.

Soon thereafter, the destructive earthquake in Haiti occurred. Despite home-station manning shortages and increased workloads caused by the AOR deployment and other issues, 911th personnel did not hesitate to volunteer to assist those so thoroughly traumatized and destroyed by this natural disaster. People who were already making personal sacrifices of time, energy and resources did not hesitate to reach out to those who had undergone such utter and complete devastation.

In summary, the 911th Airlift Wing personifies true excellence, human spirit and sense of pride.

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**Rebecca A. Oroukin, Colonel, USAFR**  
**911th Maintenance Group Commander**



# LRS, Services personnel support Operation Unified Response

by Lt. Shawn M. Walleck  
Public Affairs

At approximately 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 12, an earthquake measuring 7.0 struck near Port-au-Prince, Haiti, followed by multiple aftershocks. On Jan. 13, Air Mobility Command was tasked by U.S. Transportation Command through U.S. Southern Command to begin providing assistance. On Jan. 16, USSOUTHCOM established Joint Task Force Haiti to oversee U.S. military relief efforts in Haiti and appointed U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Ken Keen to command the task force. The task force mission has been designated Operation Unified Response.

Operation Unified Response is part of a larger U.S. response to a request from the government of Haiti for humanitarian aid. USSOUTHCOM is working closely with the Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development and the international community to aggressively provide life-sustaining services to the people of Haiti.

“Our hearts go out to our Haitian friends and all those affected by the devastation caused by the earthquake. We offer our sincere condolences backed with our commitment to help them work through these trying times,” said Col. Gordon H. Elwell, Jr., 911th Airlift Wing commander.

To date the 911th has sent 11 Airmen from the Services Squadron and two personnel from the Logistics Readiness Squadron to Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., which has become a hub for relief effort coordination.

Homestead is important to the Haiti relief effort because of its strategic location, Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr. told bloggers and online journalists during a “DoDLive” bloggers roundtable Jan. 19. Homestead ARB, the general said, has been serving as a secondary aerial port of embarkation. Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., is serving as the primary.

“Our LRS personnel were by-name requested from AFRC and that speaks volumes to the level of expertise we have right here in Pittsburgh. I am extremely grateful to our personnel who willingly stepped-up to volunteer in support of the relief efforts.

This will be a long-term effort extending for many months, perhaps over a year,” Colonel Elwell said.

“We are the central staging area for moving equipment and supplies into Haiti and the focal point to move people from the island to other places in the U.S. Aircraft leave Homestead full of relief supplies bound for Haiti and then they return back to Homestead full of evacuees. As of Jan. 21 we have moved more than 2,000 people from Haiti and shipped more than 800,000 pounds of equipment and supplies to Haiti so far,” said Maj. Todd McCrann, Operation Unified Response Night Shift deployment Control Center director and 911th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander.



**Airmen from the 911th are providing logistical readiness expertise and food service support as part of Operation Unified Response, a multinational relief effort, being coordinated out of Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. in response to the devastation Haiti suffered from the 7.0 earthquake that struck the island Jan. 12, 2010. The box lunches will be served to Haitian evacuees being in-processed on base. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Chance Babin)**

On the Services side of the operation things are just as busy. “911th personnel are cranking out box lunches at a rate of approximately 200 per hour or 4,800 per day,” said Master Sgt. Tim Benning, Services Squadron superintendent. “They’re working 12-hour days in an effort to ensure food makes it over to Haiti and that evacuees get fed once they get on the ground in Homestead.”

U.S. Air Force forces are part of a larger Department of Defense and U.S. response to the Government of Haiti request for humanitarian aid. The total effort includes multiple U.S. agencies, international partners,

and non-governmental organizations aggressively providing life-sustaining services to the people of Haiti.

As expressed by President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton, the U.S. government remains committed to comprehensive support of the government of Haiti and the Haitian people in this time of crisis.

“Airmen are supporting U.S. Southern Command efforts in Haiti as part of the Department of Defense team, in conjunction with other U.S. government agencies and the International community to help provide critical aid and comfort to hundreds of thousands of Haitians at a time of great need. Whether helping to ensure planes carrying much-needed supplies and personnel get into Port-au-Prince around-the clock, repatriating U.S. citizens out of Haiti, or assisting with desperately needed medical care, the contributions made by the men and women of the Air Force supporting USSOUTHCOM have been integral to overall relief efforts,” said Secretary of the Air Force, Michael B. Donley.

# CMSAF to speak at annual awards banquet

## *First Sergeant's get top enlisted for celebration*

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by Staff Sgt. Roberto Modelo  
Public Affairs

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Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James A. Roy is scheduled to be the guest speaker of this year's annual awards banquet. The banquet is slated for March 6, 2010 at the Embassy Suites Hotel Pittsburgh International Airport.

"He is very excited to come here," said Capt. Tanaka Dunn, 911th Airlift Wing protocol advisor to the First Sergeants Council.

The annual awards banquet is held to commend both the Airmen and civilian components of the 911th AW. This year's plans include a cocktail hour, dinner, followed by the guest speaker and awards. The events are scheduled to start at 5 p.m. The price structure will differ from previous years. This year, the prices will be on a graduated scale for 911th AW attendees and their guests. The fee scale per person is:

-airman through senior airman \$15

- staff sgt. through tech.sgt. \$25
- master sgt. through chief master sgt. \$30
- 2nd lieutenant through captain \$30
- major and above \$35
- Dod civilians \$30

Airmen purchasing a ticket and living outside of the commuting area can stay at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Dress attire will be mess dress for officers and semi-formal dress uniform or mess dress for enlisted Airmen. The best source for information on the wear requirements is AFI 36-2903. This publication can be found at [www.e-publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-publishing.af.mil).

"This is a way to celebrate the deeds of our Airmen and our civilian counterparts," said Master Sgt. Frederick Rock, 911th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron first sergeant.

Airmen are urged to contact their first sergeants with any questions about the planned event. However, during the month, civilians can call Sergeant Rock at (412) 474-8142.



Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James A. Roy is scheduled to be the guest speaker at the 911th Airlift Wing Annual Awards Banquet, March 6, 2010. CMSAF Roy is the highest ranking enlisted member in the United States Air Force.

## NCO Leadership Course slated for April 2010

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by Tech. Sgt. Scott Pryor  
Public Affairs

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Junior noncommissioned officers will have the opportunity to further their military knowledge by attending the Air Force Reserve Command NCO Leadership Course here in April.

This two-week leadership course will focus on technical and staff sergeants, although fast-track senior airmen will also be considered. The 32nd Aerial Port Squadron will host the class starting April 5.

"Anyone who's attended this course has loved it," said Senior Master Sgt. MaryAnn Grow, chief of education and training for the 911th Airlift Wing. "I've never had anyone complain about attending."

Nominees must be recommended by their supervisor or commander. A Form 101 must be submitted to reserve a seat. A maximum of 25 students is allotted.

"There is a possibility in the future that this course will

be a requirement for promotion to technical sergeant," said Sergeant Grow.

The course was established in 1989 and is administered in two phases. It combines college-level academic management and leadership instruction, with a military practical, experiential, hands-on application.

Phase One covers the first week. The first three days will address the management process, leadership and military heritage. The other two days will involve students applying learned techniques to a military environment.

Phase Two will address communication skills, principles of counseling, time management, stress in the workplace and effective writing. Students will then apply that knowledge in a military environment, followed by a leadership exchange.

Students will earn two college credit hours in management through Central Texas College.

For more information about the program, or how you can become involved as a course facilitator, call Senior Master Sgt. Grow at (412) 474-8516.

# 911th Reservist's deploy for Overseas

## Family, friends brave winter weather for send-off

by Master Sgt. Mark A. Winklosky  
Public Affairs

Nearly 300 members from the 911th Airlift Wing deployed early January 2010 to various parts of the world to take part in a four-month deployment to the Area of Responsibility in support of overseas contingency operations.

No sooner did the new year get started when multiple aircrews, numerous maintenance personnel, aerial porters and other support functions were tasked to bid farewell and say their good-byes with hugs, kisses and some tears.

"It's hard for the Reservist's to say good-bye, but they know where they're going and what they have to do," said Col. Gordon H. Elwell, Jr., 911th AW commander.

"The families are the one's who will be left trying to fill the void of their missing loved one. Spouse's trying to fulfill the role of both parents is no easy task," he said. "They have it much harder."

"Time goes by quickly because there are really only four

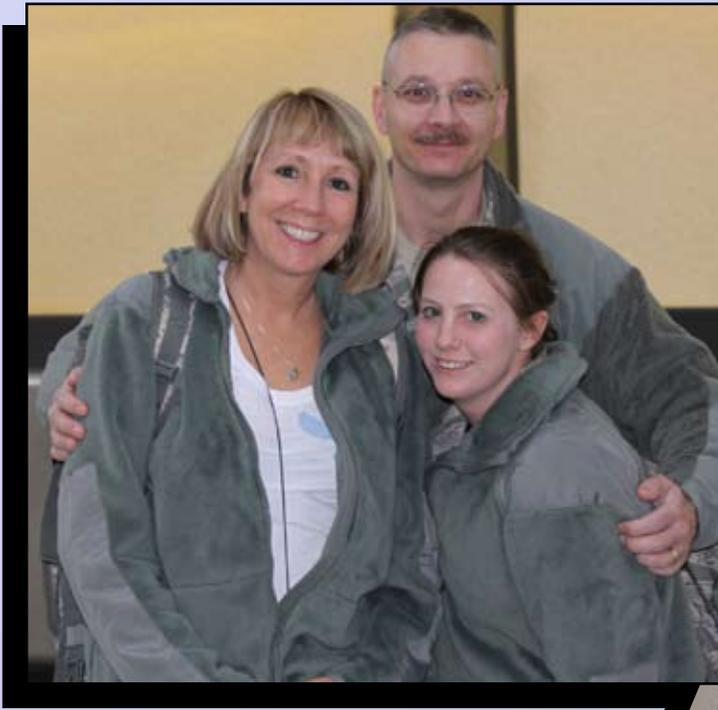
things to do when you're deployed," said Col. James B. Hurley, 911th Mission Support Group commander.

"It's simple: you eat, sleep, work and do whatever else it is that fills the rest of your day," he said.

"They'll be back before you know it, and their families will be here to great them when they return home," he said.



# as Contingency Operations



# Forging Steel Wingmen seminars begin

## *Airmanship yesterday, today and tomorrow*

by Master Sgt. Mark A. Winklosky  
Public Affairs

In February, the 911th Airlift Wing will begin a series of seminars aimed at development within the Profession of Arms and geared toward helping us learn more about our Air Force heritage. The first of the series will touch upon "Customs and Courtesies."

Tech. Sgt. Michael Perkins, currently a recruiter at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, will be the guest speaker for this first segment. For six years, Sergeant Perkins was a military training instructor for the Air Force Basic Training Course held at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

"Tech. Sgt. Perkins is an awesome speaker," said Senior Airman Jamie Perry, public affairs specialist. "I had the opportunity to hear him speak recently during the enlisted workshop and it was very enjoyable. He has a lot of energy and likes to get the crowd involved," said Airman Perry.

According to Tech. Sgt. Perkins, it will not be a dry slideshow. He plans to get interaction and involvement from the audience. There will also be some videos.

"The seminars are not going to be mandatory, but highly encouraged," said Master Sgt. Denise Gerst, chief of personnel employment. "There will even be some door prizes given away at the event to help in persuading members to attend," she said.

"I'm confident that once the word gets out about this program, we'll have to find another venue for better seating arrangements," said Sergeant Gerst.

Until notified of any changes, the seminars will take place in the operations briefing room located in basement of Building 419, on Saturday of the unit training assembly, at 2 p.m. Each presentation is scheduled for approximately 45-60 minutes.



I'm expecting to see you at my Customs and Courtesies seminar, Feb. 6, 2010. It begins at 1400 hours sharp in the operations group briefing room. Don't be late or you'll be seeing a lot more of me.

The tentative schedule for the seminars is as follows:

February - **Customs and Courtesies**  
March - **Leadership from the ground up**  
April - **Dress and appearance**  
May - **Ethical and Core Values**  
June - **Enlisted Force Structure**  
July - **Air Force Seal and Code of Arms**  
August - **Mentoring Responsibilities/Mentor and Mentee**  
September - **Promotion/Commissioning Programs**  
October - **Drill and Ceremony**  
November - **Profession of Arms**  
December - **Politics and Civic Involvement**

If you have any questions, or would like to become involved with any of the planning, please contact Master Sgt. Denise Gerst at (412)474-8528.



In 2010, USAF Services will host three AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summits. For information about the various locations and activities of each Summit, please refer to the Teen Summit Information and Guidelines.

- Teens may only apply for one Summit.
- Deadline to apply is April 16, 2010.
- A complete application package must have the Application form, Code of Conduct and Transportation Form.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to confirm receipt of complete application package.

Visit [www.georgia4h.org/AFRANGTeenSummit](http://www.georgia4h.org/AFRANGTeenSummit) for more details.

# Tips for your personal and family safety

In the pamphlet, *Crime Prevention - What Can You Do?*, there are several ways to help increase the protection and awareness levels for you and your family.

- Never carry a large amount of money. Whatever the amount, don't flash it around. Never resist an armed robber.

- Women with purses should keep them under their arm when walking down the street, not freely hanging from their shoulder. Do not leave pocketbooks in a shopping cart or walk away from a checkout counter. If the handbag has a top flap, keep it facing you. Always lock your purse up at work. This is a prime place for theft. In the restroom, don't hang it on a hook inside the stall where it can easily be snatched.

- Men should carry their wallets close to their skin. Don't have a bulging wallet in a hip pocket or coat pocket as it slips out easily. Be alert in public places for pickpockets. If you are bumped, it could be a distraction allowing a second thief to grab your wallet.



- If your wallet or pocketbook is lost or stolen, be aware of someone calling you to tell you to pick it up at a specific location.

When you leave to get your wallet or purse, someone may burglarize your home.

Avoid dark alleys, streets and parking lots. Stay clear of sidewalks bordered by high bushes.

- The Pennsylvania Crime Code allows residents to use reasonable force to resist a criminal attack. You also have the right to hold for the police any person who commits or attempts to commit a crime against you.

- Consider a course in self-defense, and carry something to scare off an attacker such as a whistle.

- If during a crime you get a look at the criminal's face, immediately write down a description.

## For Children and Parents

- Warn children never to go anywhere with strangers.

- Know where your children are at all times.

- Tell them to always stand at least 6 feet away from a stopped car who is asking directions and to refuse gifts from strangers.

- Children should always travel in groups when walking to school or other distances from home.

- Organize a block parent program. Select at least one home per block where children can go if there's trouble. That parent should keep an eye out for when children are coming home from school.

- Teach children to go to parents, teachers, and counselors or others responsible persons if threatened or if a problem exists.

The Crime Prevention officer for the 911 AW, Jack Gladd, can be reached at (412) 474-7131. He has material and equipment, such as engravers, available for you to use to help protect your family.

## Annual retiree myPay account statements available

Air Force retirees with a **myPay** online account can now download their annual account statements. Annuitant statements became available online Dec. 14.

There will not be a cost-of-living adjustment increase for military retirees or annuitants in 2010.

COLA increases are determined each year based on the rise in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index for urban wage earners and clerical workers. The Department of Labor statisticians calculate the change in the CPI for goods and services from the third quarter average of the previous year to the third quarter average for the current year.

Although Congress and the Administration decide how much to increase federal pay, because military retirees and annuitants do not receive pay

increases but cost-of-living adjustments, they rely on the final CPI results.

Internal Revenue Service 1099R forms for retirees and annuitants were posted Dec. 14.

Retirees and annuitants who rely on the U.S. Postal Service for Defense Finance and Accounting Service correspondence should have received their account statements and tax forms starting in mid-December. DFAS officials mailed the documents Dec. 16 to 31. The 1099R and account statement were together in one envelope.

Statements and forms are mailed to the address on file with DFAS.

Retirees with questions about account statements or tax forms should call the DFAS Contact Center at 800-321-1080.

(Courtesy of DFAS)

# Promotions

## To Airman

Ashley Wiley, 911 MXS  
Yurie Fernand, 911 SFS

## To Senior Airman

Patrick Winebrenner, 911 SVS  
Zachary Zappas, 911 LRS  
Anthony Salvio, 758 AS  
Christopher Karawowski, 758 AS  
Justin Thomas, 758 AS  
Adam Kroll, 911 CS  
Virginia Howe, 911 OG  
Cynthia Robinson, 911 ASTS

## To Staff Sergeant

Todd Bailey, 911 SFS  
Lee Crusa, 911 SFS

Joshua Dahman, 32 APS

Kenneth Fuller, 911 SVS

Christopher Hyde, 911 SFS

Stacie Mendes, 911 SVS

Lawrence Wingfield, 911 SVS

James Wolfe, 911 LRS

## To Technical Sergeant

Ross Gordon, 911 MXS

Shana Harrisholyfield, 911 ASTS

## To Master Sergeant

Dennis Jendrzejewski, 32 APS

## To Senior Master Sergeant

Dale Canofari, 911 SFS

Martin Meyers, 32 APS



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-IPOD NANO-XMSATILLITE RADIO-COMPUTER SPEAKERS-

4-6 REFERRALS=LEVEL 2:  
-MINIDV DIGITAL CAMCORDER-TIVO-GPS NAVIGATION SYSTEM-  
-DIGITAL CAMERA-DIGITAL PHOTO FRAME-OAKLEY BLUETOOTH SUNGLASSES

7-9 REFERRALS=LEVEL 3:  
-19" FLAT-SCREEN HDTV-BOSE SOUNDOCK STATION-IPOD TOUCH-  
-SONY PLAYSTATION 3-ABU WEATHER JACKET-

10+ REFERRALS=LEVEL 4:  
-LAPTOP COMPUTER-

**NEED HELP? CALL 877-786-2378**

# News Briefs

## Celebrate Black History Month

Come join in the celebration of Black History at the base chapel, Feb. 6, from 1 - 2 p.m. This year's theme is "The History of Black Economic Empowerment."

## Scholarship applications now available

Scholarships for Military Children applications are now available in commissaries worldwide and online through a link at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) and directly at [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org). The scholarships program is administered by Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance to service members and their families.

Scholarship Managers, a national, nonprofit, scholarship management services organization, manages and awards the scholarships. Commissary vendors, manufacturers, brokers, suppliers and the general public donate money to the program, and every dollar donated goes directly to funding the scholarships.

Dependent, unmarried children, younger than age 21 (age 23 if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university) of active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military members, survivors of service members who died while on active duty, or survivors of individuals who died while receiving retired pay from the military may apply for a scholarship.

The applicant must be planning to attend, or already be attending, an accredited college or university full time in the fall of 2010, or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

## Commissioning opportunity

An opportunity exists for a deserving airman to obtain an officer position in the Security Forces Squadron through the Deserving Airman Commissioning Program.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree and meet qualifying scores on the Air Force Officer Qualification Test: 15 for verbal, 10 for quantitative and 15 for aptitude. Age waivers will be considered by our local board for this position, but do not guarantee approval at higher headquarters. Initial applications are due to Career Enhancement no later than March 21, 2010.

Contact Senior Master Sgt. MaryAnn Grow at (412) 474-8516 to schedule an appointment to test, or Master Sgt. Linda Davis at (412) 474-8517 for more information about this commissioning opportunity.

## SFS conducting vehicle checks

Security Forces began conducting Random Installation Entry/Exit Vehicle Checks Jan. 19. The program is directed to protect the security of the command and government property. The selection times and vehicles are run by a random program.

## Pittsburgh Military Family Support Group

Our meeting/social, Jan. 23, 2010 at billeting was very productive and informative. PMFSG is here to assist and provide fellowship to all family members of this unit. Please contact group members via our internet website at [www.pittsburghfamilysupport.com](http://www.pittsburghfamilysupport.com), or email us at [pmfsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:pmfsgroup@gmail.com), or call the Airman and Family Readiness Office at (412) 474-8544. Check our website for upcoming events, phone numbers, membership info, military discounts,

scholarship opportunities and resources.

At the last social, we enjoyed yummy finger foods while discussing group business. We have finalized the dissolution of the formal private organization and now will operate as an informal group. Also discussed were The Yellow Ribbon Program, Airshow Table, Family Day Table and Key Spouse Program (not affiliated with our group). Please check the website for the posting of the meeting Minutes.

Join the fun: We are forming a BUNCO group. Details will be provided to our members via email and website. Bunco is a fun and easy dice game and is a great way to get to know other spouses and family members. If interested, please email the PMFSG.

**Help:** We need volunteers for the new committees.

**Note:** We still have C-130 Christmas ornaments for sale. Contact Airman & Family Readiness.

**February social date:** TBD Check our website, or call Airman and Family Readiness to inquire.

## Pay Dates

**Primary  
February 17**

**Secondary  
March 3**



# When snow flies things heat up



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