



The Stinger

180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, Toledo, Ohio



On the Horizon



12-13 April

Pays 23 April
SUTA 19-20 April

3-4 May

Pays 13 May
SUTA 17-18 May

7-8 June

Master
Pays 18 June

12-13 July

Pays 23 July
SUTA 26-27 July

9-10 August

Pays August 22
SUTA 16-17 August

6-7 September

Pays September 19
SUTA 27-28 September

4-5 October

Master
Pays October 15

1-2 November

Pays November 12
SUTA 15-16

180th prepares to stay alert 24/7

By Capt. Katherine Cherolis
Public Affairs Officer

This fall as some of our jets and unit members leave to support the Air Expeditionary Forces mission, those jets left behind will be supporting a new mission just as important, the Air Sovereignty Alert mission.

The ASA mission will be to protect the continental United States and Canada under direction of North American Air Defense Command. There will be jets and support staff on alert, ready to respond to tasking at a moments notice, 24/7, 365 days a year.

Lt.Col. Steve Nordhaus, 180th FW/ASA Commander, stated, "This is a critical mission for NORAD and the Nation."

Other Air National Guard units have been accomplishing this mission in other parts of the country since the attacks of September 11th, 2001. The 180th was recently se-



Photo by Senior Airman Sheena Meyer

Pictured is the Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing system. This system allows for greater data link and targeting capabilities. The upgrades give the 180th greater ability to perform every type mission they could possibly fly, including ASA.

lected to continue the effort. The Wing is scheduled to start this assignment between the beginning of August and October 1. This is earlier than originally planned.

Due to the hard work of the Civil Engineering Squadron, Wing Safety, and the Communication Squadron and additional support staff, the unit was able to show a savings by bringing the mission here

earlier. All those involved in the process are handling the accelerated timeline well.

"They have enabled the wing to not only secure the mission," said Col. Nordhaus, "but have met never ending challenges to the movement of the mission to Toledo and never waived in their commit-

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What's Said

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure."

Colin Powell



What's Inside

Employer support of the Guard and Reserve - What YOU can do to help

Page 4



What's Ahead

Mobility exercise scheduled for May

BE PREPARED!

“Commander's Comments”

THE 180TH TOTAL FORCE

By Chief Master Sgt. Michael E. Haas 180th Airfield Manager

For those of you who do not know me, I am an Active Guard Reservist assigned to the 180th Operations Support Flight as the Airfield Manager. I also function as the Operation's Group Superintendent. It is a privilege to do both, and I truly enjoy what I do here at the 180th Fighter Wing. I was told I could pick the topic I wanted to write about. I decided to write about Total Force. Now before you turn the page, read on. It might not be what you think.

We have all heard about the Air Force Total Force Initiative. Its goal is to provide the Air Force the best possible capabilities by combining the resources of the Active Duty Air Force, the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserves. This is done by aligning equipment, missions, infrastructure and manpower resources to be more effective and efficient. However, what I want to write about is what I call the 180th Total Force. This “Total Force” is made up of Federal Technicians, AGRs, State Employees (all of these encompass the full time force) as well as Traditional Guardsmen. On top of that, we will be adding a full-time force for the Air Sovereignty Alert mission coming on line this calendar year. While the hours, the pay and the benefits differ in these areas, we all work towards the same mission “to train, organize, and equip expeditionary war fighters to deploy, fight and win world-wide, with minimum response time, in cases of national emergency or war.” In other words, as the Airman's Creed says “to fly, fight and win”.

Think of a bicycle wheel. The outer rim is the 180th mission and the spokes are the 180th Total Force. Without all the spokes (the Total Force) in place and properly aligned (trained and functioning) and supporting that rim (the mission), that rim will weaken and will probably eventually fail. Without all the components of the 180th FW total force doing their part, the mission of the 180th would suffer.

What are the functions of the 180th Total Force? Technicians and AGRs carryout the day-to-day mis-



**Chief Master Sgt. Michael E. Haas
180th Airfield Manager**

sion of the 180th Fighter Wing. They ensure it remains functional in between drill periods. Not only are they responsible for that, but they must also ensure that they are setting our Traditional Guardsmen up for success when they are out here for UTAs and on Annual Training days.

How do they do this? They need to ensure the Traditional Guardsman are allotted time to train in their primary AFSCs, and that they attain/retain qualification in their primary duties. This takes preparation during the week. The full-time force has to ensure our Traditional Guardsmen are given every opportunity to have the same hands on experience during drills and Annual Training that the full-time force gets during the week. They must ensure a quality UTA and Annual Training period for our traditional force. They are responsible for a lot, but that is why they are out here full time.

Our traditional force is required to accomplish a lot in a short amount of time. They need to ensure they make the most of every training opportunity to improve/maintain skills in their primary jobs. The Guardsmen need to ensure they are afforded the same hands on opportunity in their primary job as the full-time force.

State Employees can be found in Civil Engineering, Security

Forces and Medical Group. They may or may not be assigned to the 180th Fighter Wing as a military member. Civil Engineering State employees work either in State Maintenance or in the Fire Station. The State Maintenance employees mainly deal with building and grounds maintenance. If something is broke, they fix it. If it snows, they plow it. If it grows, they mow it. They do a great job maintaining our facilities so we have a place to perform our jobs safely. State employees in the Fire Station work shifts to ensure the facility is manned 24/7. They not only support our flying and fire protection for the 180th, they also are first responders for the civilian side of the airport. State employees in Security Forces are a vital part of our overall base security. They may be at the main gate, doing building security checks, out on the flight line or responding to alarms around the base. The Bio Environmental position in the Medical Group is also a State employee position. There are also various administrative positions around the base that are filled with State employees. These individual do not deploy as State Employees.

The ASA mission has brought on new positions in various sections around the base. You will see a change out on the 180th flight line over the next few months. There will be construction on new alert facilities and other projects happening out there. These positions will be filled by temporary AGR personnel who are members of the 180th Fighter Wing.

We cannot allow there to be a difference in qualification and readiness levels between our Technicians, AGRs, ASA personnel and Traditional Guardsmen. When deployed, no one should be able to tell the difference between Active Duty Air Force, Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve personnel. The same holds true when you walk into the different sections on base. You should not be able to tell who is Technician, AGR, Traditional Guardsman or ASA. We here at the 180th are our own total force. In the words of Lt.Col Steve Nordhaus, ASA Commander, “One Team, One Fight!”

Tax exemption for military retirement pay signed into law

by John W. McCance
President, Air Force Association
State of Ohio

It is indeed an honor and pleasure to inform you that at noon, December 20, 2007, I had the opportunity to represent each member of the Air Force Association across Ohio as Governor Ted Strickland signed into law House Bill 372 that allows tax exemption of military retirement pay, along with other benefits.

This landmark legislation was championed by a by-partisan group of Ohio legislators from both the Senate and House of Representatives. Leading this effort was State Senator Larry Cates, Senator Steve Austria, Senator Ron Amstutz, Speaker of the House Jon Husted, Representative Ross McGregor, Representative Pete Ujvagi, and many others.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the entire Ohio General Assembly for their recognition of the importance of this legislation and the speed in which they moved it through both chambers and on to the governor. Governor Strickland is to be commended for his leadership, vision and speed which he



demonstrated in signing it into law today.

Numerous organizations across Ohio joined with the Air Force Association in supporting and testifying on behalf of this bill. Significant leadership was provided by the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce, among others.

Thanks also to those of you who reached out to your elected officials in support of this legislation. Your efforts paid off today and in the future for all Ohioans as we reap the benefits of keeping those military members, the best and brightest our nation has to offer, here in Ohio.

Promotions

Chief Master Sergeant

John Clark

Senior Master Sergeant

Robert Baker
John Kelly

Master Sergeant

Thomas Wright

Technical Sergeant

Steve Bertonaschi
Kathryn Buchwald
Jeffrey Rosebrock

Staff Sergeant

Zachariah Cramer
Jerry Risner
Sally Stalnaker
Kevin Stevens
Jerry W. Watts, II
Laura Woronec

Senior Airman

Ashlee Guess
Steven Przyojski

Airman First Class

Scott Sonnenberg

Enlisted Vacancies E-6 and Above

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>AFSC</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Close</u>
CES	Fire Operations, NCOIC	3E771	TSgt	17-Mar-08
MXS	Power Supt Sys Mech	2A672	MSgt	17-Mar-08
MXS	Maintenance Training Mgr	3S271	TSgt	12-Apr-08
MDG	Medical Superintendent	4N091	SMSgt	12-Apr-08
CF	CE Admin NCO	3A071	TSgt	12-Apr-08

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ment and 'Yes We Can' attitudes."

To support this additional undertaking, there will be some changes to manning and infrastructure.

There will be an increase in full-time opportunities for traditional airman. Manning will increase in Maintenance, Operations and Security Forces. The Command Post will begin operating around the clock as well.

By the end of February, alert crew shelters will be constructed, followed

by aircraft shelters on the existing ramp. Currently, around \$4.5 million has been spent on 10 facilities on base to get ready for the new undertaking.

To compliment the ASA mission, the Wing's jets have been going through performance upgrades since 2006. These upgrades include new, more powerful engines, CCIP avionics upgrades, to include Link 16 and Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing system. These systems allow for greater data link and targeting

capabilities. The upgrades give the unit greater ability to perform every type mission we could possibly fly, including ASA.

In the future, the ASA will become the Wing's number one priority mission day-to-day on base, while balancing other missions. It will not degrade or reduce the 180th's capability to deploy in support of our Nation's contingencies. Rather, it will help to solidify our position as one of this country's premier Air National Guard units.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

**By Capt. Gary Bentley
180th Fighter Wing Executive**

In my former position as a human resource manager for the United States Postal Service, I often was called upon to intervene when issues occurred between National Guard/Reservists and their supervisors. These issues usually developed because a supervisor did not understand Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act and the support of the Guard and Reserve guaranteed by law. It normally wasn't that the supervisor was intentionally trying to violate the rights given by Congress to Reservists, but that the supervisor was trying to manage resources for his/her employer. My intervention in most of these situations was to educate the supervisor on the law, and also to educate the employee on his/her obligation to the employer.

As a member of our unit, you have an obligation to your employer, your family and the military. All three of these obligations are important and we all must ensure we are maintaining the critical balance involved. For most members, an excellent working relationship is vital with our primary employer. Employers have basic expectations of their employees such as getting to work on time, completing the work day, performing your job and completing work as instructed. As a military member you also have expectations of your employer. Your primary expectation is that your job is secure and will not be affected negatively by your military commitment. USERRA is a law that attempts to meet your expectations of your employer because it basically prohibits discrimination against those who choose to serve in the uniformed services.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is a Department of Defense organization that was established in 1972 to promote

cooperation and understanding between Reserve component members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment. This nationwide group of volunteers works diligently to ensure a harmonious relationship between Reserve component members and civilian employers.

Two primary roles of ESGR are education and communication. ESGR encourages all unit members

***“We need our
employers to support
our members, and we
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Capt. Gary Bentley
180th Fighter Wing Executive
Officer

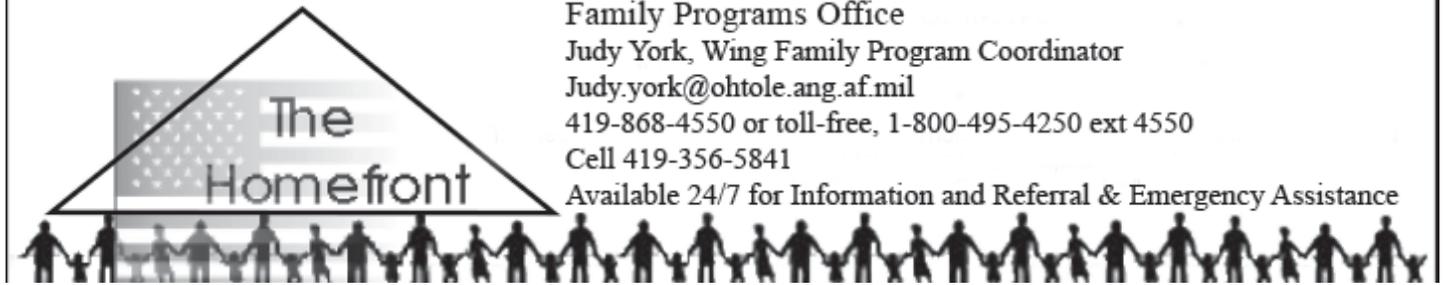
to keep employers current concerning drill schedules, deployments, training opportunities and the value these things bring to the member and the employer. Most issues that come up between members and employers usually involve poor or ineffective communications. We all know that Ops Tempo is ever increasing and the possibility of deployments or extended absences from work are very real. Ongoing communication is critical to success in preventing issues from arising.

It is important to remember that this employer/reservist support is critical both ways. We need our employers to support our members, and we also need our members to support their employers. ESGR recognizes this principle and has worked very hard to provide methods of ensuring employers receive support. The National Committee of ESGR sponsors an

awards program designed to recognize employers for employment policies and practices that are supportive of their employees' participation in the National Guard and Reserve. All employer recognition and awards originate from nominations by individual Reserve component members. It is very simple to nominate your employer for these awards by visiting ESGR's website at <http://esgr.org>. At this site you can nominate your employer for the Patriot Award. After providing a very limited amount of information, your employer will receive a Department of Defense Certificate of Appreciation and a Patriot lapel pin. Another way of educating and recognizing employers is by nominating your supervisor for a Boss Lift. A Boss Lift is an event that includes a unit briefing, tour of the hangar, an up-close view of an F-16 and a ride on a KC-135 refueling tanker. This type of event helps educate employers on the role their employee fulfills in the overall mission of the 180th Fighter Wing and the Ohio National Guard. This year I am working toward conducting two of these events. Further information and procedures to nominate employers will be given out in the near future.

Please take a few minutes and visit the ESGR website. If your employer has been supportive, nominate your supervisor for the Patriot Award. When possible, your commander will come to your place of employment and present the award. Another possibility is to invite your supervisor to the base for an award presentation. This type of employer recognition goes a long way in helping each of us with maintaining the critical balance mentioned earlier.

If you are currently experiencing issues with your employer concerning your military commitment, call me at 419-868-4380. I will gladly assist you in seeking resolution of your concerns.



Family Programs Office

Judy York, Wing Family Program Coordinator

Judy.york@ohtole.af.mil

419-868-4550 or toll-free, 1-800-495-4250 ext 4550

Cell 419-356-5841

Available 24/7 for Information and Referral & Emergency Assistance

Operation Military Kids to host Kelley's Island camp

Operation: Military Kids is a national initiative created through a cooperation of the Armed Forces and 4-H involving 34 states with high levels of National Guard and Reserve deployment. OMK is designed to bring services to all geographically dispersed youth of military personnel. Ohio is one of the 34 states that currently have OMK programs established. The Ohio program has been active for the past three years when the program was first started.

One program that has been the biggest hit in Ohio is Camp Kelley's Island. Many 180th FW Youth have taken advantage of this great four day camp. This year's camp will be held August 11-15 for military youth ages 9-13.

Another program that Ohio implemented is the Hero Packs.

Hero Packs are OMK backpacks filled with a variety of items from the OMK Partner Agencies, which are given to military youth as a "Thank You" for the sacrifices that they make while their parents are deployed. The packs contain a variety of items intended to provide children with fun activities and ways to stay connected to their deployed parents. In addition, information is provided to parents regarding local support programs for children and families.

Today, through additional resources, the OMK program is growing by leaps and bonds. The state of Ohio has created a team of staff and volunteers to expand the OMK programs offered and reach military youth in all regions in the state. Judy York, Wing Family Program Coordinator, and Pamela

Thibert, Family volunteer, attended a training and action planning session the first week in March. This training provided the tools needed to bring OMK programs to Ohio's Region 5, which includes 15 counties in NW Ohio. There are over 900 military youth in Region 5 that have not been reached by OMK. Pamela will be developing a Region 5 OMK team to implement OMK programs. Activities of this team will include planning fun events for the youth to develop friendships, creating opportunities for military youth to gain leadership and speaking skills, and training school teachers, counselors, and principals on the effects of deployment on military children.

If anyone would like to be a part of this team, please contact the Family Programs Office for more information.

Operation Pillowcase Program offers comfort to kids of deployed members

"I can't even begin to explain how much the pillowcases and buttons with my husbands picture on it means to us. It is a tremendous source of comfort to myself and my two young children. This is a very difficult time for us, and it means the world to know that there are others who understand and support us."

"I am the wife of a Marine whose face you put on a pillowcase. I can't express enough how much I appreciated it. My daughter will be 3 next month and she just can't figure out why her daddy isn't coming back. She likes to say that she and her Daddy have dreams together now that his picture is right beside her."

These are just two of the thank yous received from families that were recipients of the 180th FW Operation Pillowcase Program. Operation Pillowcase is a program designed to make children feel less anxious and soften the sting when their parent is away on military duty. The children of deployed military personnel receive a pillowcase and pin with a picture of their parent on it. Operation Pillowcase was started by 180th FW FRG volunteers and began supporting NW Ohio military families June 2002 and has expanded to support families throughout the entire state of Ohio, plus some in Pennsylvania. When a member deploys, pillowcases are available at no cost to the family. To date we have provided nearly 9,000 pillowcases to spouses, parents and children of deployed service members from all branches of service. Most recently Operation Pillowcase completed its largest order of over 2500 pillowcases and over 3500 pins for the 37th ICBT of the Ohio Army National Guard.

This program has blossomed over the last several years to the point that it is now being funded and operated by the Northwest Ohio Military Friends. NWOMF is a non-profit 501c(3) whose sole purpose is to support programs of Military Family Readiness Groups in Ohio. They receive monetary support for the program from community donations. The Ohio Charities of the VFW sponsored the production of the pillowcases and pins for the 37th ICBT by donating \$21,000.

Ron Boston, FRG volunteer and 180th FW retiree, is the driving force behind this program. He is dedicated to making a difference for all Ohio Military families that are affected by deployment. So if you or someone you know has a loved one getting ready to deploy, contact the 180th FW Family Programs Office to place your order for your free pillowcases and pins.

Former Toledo First Lady Cynthia Ford visits the 180th

**By 2nd Lt. Tiffany Pasker, Public Affairs Officer
and Tech Sgt. Annette R. Kornasiewicz, Public Affairs Editor**

The 180th Fighter Wing Human Resource Advisor's Office welcomed Toledo's former First Lady Cynthia Ford March 9, at the hangar's 2nd floor classroom. Mrs. Ford was on hand to address different topics in celebration of Women's History Month.

As a member of the Alive Coalition of Northwest Ohio, Mrs. Ford has completed extensive research on prominent women past and present in the Northwest Ohio community. As a part of her exploration into women's history, Mrs. Ford has helped to accomplish a ten volume series titled, *Women Alive: Making History*. As a part of her illuminating speech, she shared with 180th members a few of her favorite women of Northwest Ohio.

Mrs. Ford spoke of Ella P. Stewart, who was a noteworthy member of Delta Sigma Theta So-

rarity Inc., born in 1893. She became the first African-American woman in the United States to be licensed as a pharmacist, Mrs. Ford said. Her contributions to the Toledo Area were phenomenal as she was the only pharmacist of color in the city, as well as avidly participating in various organizations local and international who advocated for civil reform and women's rights.

Mrs. Ford highlighted another significant female who lived in Toledo. Mary "Stagecoach" Fields, a former slave who moved to Toledo and found work at the now Ursuline Convent. Stagecoach Mary eventually found herself in Montana when the nuns moved out west, said Mrs. Ford. In 1895, her strong will and stature gave her the ability to land a job with the United States Postal Service. Stagecoach Mary never missed a day and her efforts are



Photo by Senior Airman Jodi Joice

Former First Lady Cynthia Ford displays a picture of herself dressed as Amelia Earhart at a parade last year during Women's History Month. Mrs. Ford spoke to members of the 180th Fighter Wing here March 9.

largely credited to the development of Central Montana.

Through Mrs. Ford's light-hearted, yet sincere depictions of these phenomenal women, she wanted to remind and empower women "to step forward to be noticed," and that we all should "stand on the women who came before us" as they have contributed largely to the people and success that we have today.

Currently, Mrs. Ford and her husband, former Toledo Mayor Jack Ford, who was also present, host a weekly talk show, "Coffee with the Fords." The show focuses on local businesses, arts and entertainment, and health and wellness issues. Mrs. Ford is a graduate of Bowling Green State University and has served in leadership roles for many organizations, including Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Northwest Ohio, National Center for Parents, Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center NOW, and Mom's House Toledo, for young parents finishing high school or college course work.



Photo by Senior Airman Jodi Joice

The 180th Fighter Wing Human Resource Advisor's Office welcomed Toledo's former First Lady Cynthia Ford, third from left, March 9 at the hangar's 2nd floor classroom. Mrs. Ford was on hand to address different topics in celebration of Women's History Month. Pictured from left, Senior Master Sgt. Lee Trompeter Burgy, 180th Human Resources Advisor, Col. Nancy August, Mission Support Group Commander, Mrs. Ford and 2nd Lt. Tiffany Pasker, Public Affairs Officer.

Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Workshop

2008 DATES AND LOCATIONS

40 Couples Per Workshop
Saturday and Sunday morning Activities
(dress is business casual)

Sat/Sun 15 & 16 March 2008

Cleveland Area
Punderson State Park
11755 Kinsman Road
Newbury, OH 44065-9684
Suspense date for Registration: February 29

Sat/Sun 29 & 30 March 2008

Dayton Area
Hueston Woods State Park
5201 Lodge Road
College Corner, OH 45003
Suspense date for Registration: March 14

Sat/Sun 26 & 27 April 2008

Columbus Area
Deer Creek State Park
20635 Waterloo Road
Mt. Sterling, OH 43143
Suspense date for Registration: April 11

Sat/Sun 26 & 27 April 2008

Toledo Area
Maumee Bay State Park
1750 State Park Road
Oregon, OH 43618-9713
Suspense date for Registration: April 11

Sat/Sun 3 & 4 May 2008

Cambridge/Zanesville Area
Salt Fork State Park
14755 Cadiz Road
Lore City, OH 43755
Suspense date for Registration: April 18

To register for a PREP Workshop go to
www.ong.ohio.gov/family

Enjoy quality time with your spouse
during a FREE weekend Marriage
Enrichment Program at one of
Ohio's great state parks.



Best Friends Forever is what Marriage is all about!

The PREP Approach

(Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program)

The Ohio National Guard Chaplain and Family Programs Office have teamed up to offer you a truly outstanding program. *PREP* is:

- For Married Couples
- Open to all branches of Military service in Ohio through grant money from The Governor's Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives
- Open to retirees (veterans) from the Global War On Terrorism
- Easy registration on-line

Read on to learn more about this exciting opportunity and how to register for it!



LESSONS LEARNED

- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for which battery to use in flashlights and other equipment. Read the warnings and small print before installing.
- Never mix batteries, not by manufacturer or by type.
- Never mix old and new batteries. Always remove and replace all the batteries in any device at the same time. Always replace the batteries with batteries from the same package or with the same expiration date. Avoid at all costs batteries that have unequal charges.
- Do not carry lithium powered flashlights close to the face or use close to flammable material.

SAFETY FLASH

February 2008

Lithium Battery Safety

Description:

Lithium batteries are used daily in our work activities from flashlights, cell phones, cameras, laptop computers and etc. A recent incident at ORNL involved a SureFire G2 Nitrolon flashlight containing one SureFire 3-volt non-rechargeable 123 lithium battery and one Interstate 3-volt non-rechargeable 123 lithium battery. A Garage Mechanic had the SureFire flashlight in his shirt pocket with the lens facing up when the flashlight spontaneously combusted and vented inside the flashlight. The energy force venting inside the sealed flashlight body resulted in both ends of the flashlight being propelled from the body of the flashlight, splitting the bottom seam of the employee's shirt pocket. The employee received only minor abrasions to his upper chest not requiring treatment.

This incident is similar in nature to several other recorded nationwide events, involving flashlights and lithium cell batteries and shows that we must be cautious when choosing batteries.



Analysis:

An Operational Review was conducted with the following observations being noted:

- The flashlight contained a SureFire 3-volt non-rechargeable 123 lithium battery and an imported Interstate 3-volt non-rechargeable 123 lithium battery. When the batteries were changed out in the flashlight, one SureFire was installed and an imported Interstate battery was purchased at the garage stockroom, thinking it would compliment the other battery.

- This type of lithium battery has a vent safety feature design and when used in a sealed flashlight, the safety feature is partially defeated by not allowing a vent path.



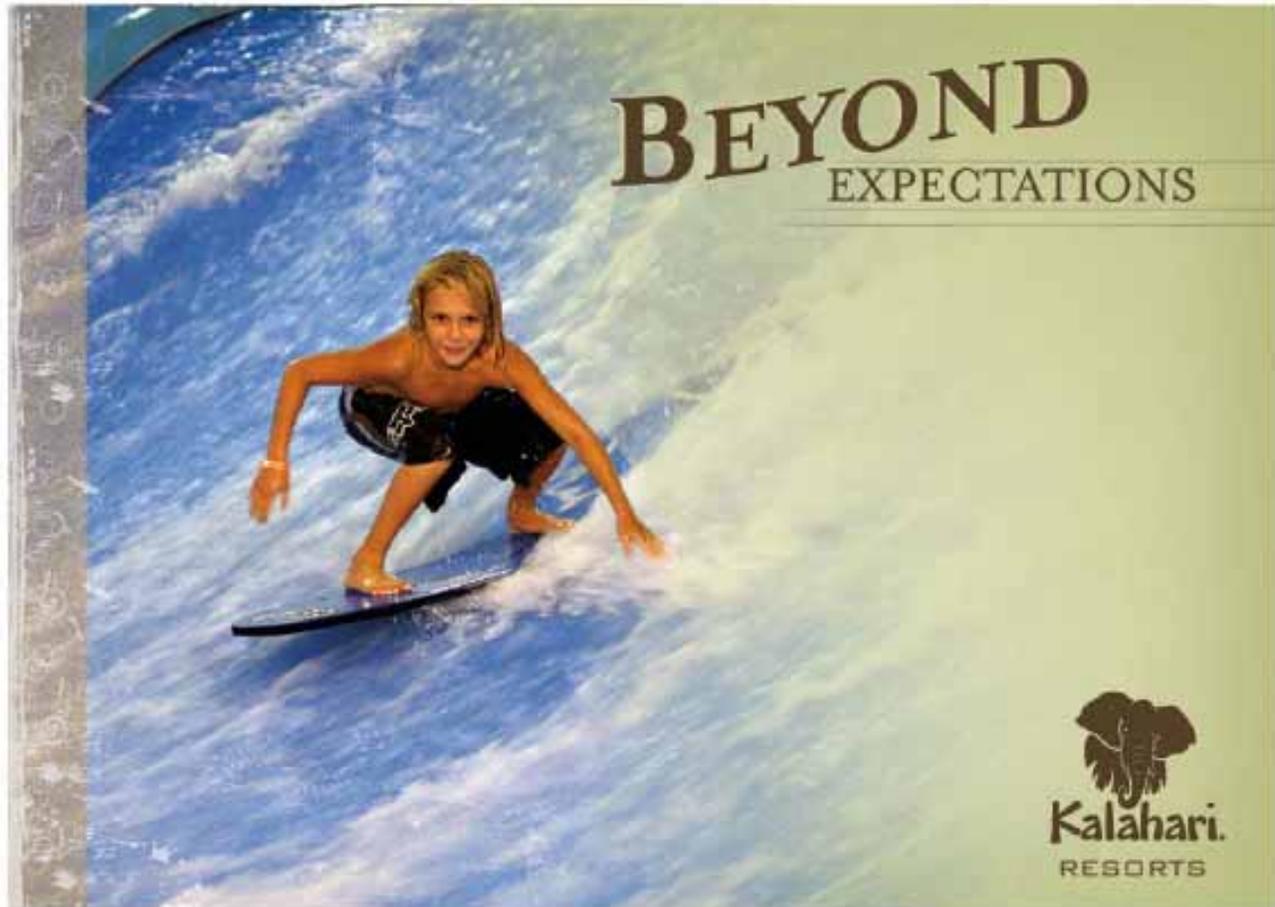
- In this case, the manufacturer strongly recommends that the user use only their brand of lithium batteries, which contain built-in fault/heat protection, or those of other well-known manufacturers that have the same safety feature.
- The Interstate battery data sheet stated that this replacement battery was not recommended for use in flashlights.
- The instructions on the battery packaging is usually in very small print and difficult to read. Normally a battery is picked by the voltage, size and type since these numbers are in larger print, and small print is not read.
- The flashlight was being carried in a pocket close to the face and if the employee had been in a little different position, the force of the venting could have been directed toward the eyes.

Corrective Actions:

- Removed the Interstate lithium batteries from the garage stockroom.
- Communicate this incident through this Safety Flash to all DOE sites as a reminder that by following certain guidelines when using lithium batteries, an injury might be prevented.

Contact Information:

Don Shupe
dshupe@ornl.gov
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Safety Services Division



Military Families Getaway

Friday & Saturday, April 18 & 19 • From \$134/night

Stay Fri, Sat. or both! Guest Rooms sleep 4-6, feature 2 queen beds, optional sofa sleeper and 4 waterpark passes. Up to 2 additional passes may be added for \$20 each.

Call 1-877-KALAHARI (525-2427) and mention the Group Block "Military Families"

Must specify how many in room. 2 nite stay - \$134/nite; Fri. only - \$134; Sat only - \$164



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indoor waterparks



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taken with a lion



"Big game" room



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Standard room sleeps 4 and includes admission for 4 to America's Largest Indoor Waterpark!
Limited rooms based upon availability. Rates may vary according to room styles.

STATE OF OHIO
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
2825 West Dublin Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789

February 6, 2008

Recently, the Ohio National Guard conducted the largest unit mobilization and deployment since World War II, bringing to over 13,000 the number of Ohio National Guard members, Army and Air, who have deployed in Federal service since the tragic events of September 11, 2001. This represents only a portion of Ohio's contribution to the Global War on Terrorism as many Ohioans in the Active and Reserve components have answered the call to duty. Each service member who deploys leaves behind family members who make their own sacrifices and need our support.

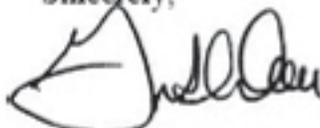
With this in mind, I would like to invite you to attend Operation Ohio Helps Its Own (O-OHIO), a town hall meeting focusing on how you, your organization and others can work together in support of Ohio's military Families. The purpose of each town hall event is to provide the opportunity for all Ohioans to assist our military Families. Beginning in March and continuing through May 2008, these events will be held throughout Ohio. Meeting dates and locations are attached.

These town hall meetings will provide information on our system of support for *all* Ohio military Families. An interactive forum and review of our existing support structure will provide community leaders, organizations and local citizens an opportunity to ensure the needs of Ohio's military Families are met.

I recognize your strengths, capabilities, and resources as individuals and organizations to contribute to this effort. Outreach from local communities and organizations continues to be a critical source of support for our military Families.

I look forward to developing a lasting relationship with you in service to those that are sacrificing so much for our country. I invite you to join me to ensure that the homefront for every service member receives care and support from Ohio's communities. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Ohio National Guard Public Affairs Office at (614) 336-7000.

Sincerely,



Gregory L. Wayt
Major General
The Adjutant General

OPERATION: O.H.I.O.

(O H I O H E L P S I T S O W N)

A CALL TO ACTION

Town Hall Meetings

Six Meetings in Six Locations State-Wide

Wednesday, March 5 2008

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Medina Performing Arts Center

777 East Union Street

Medina, Ohio 44256

Thursday, March 13 2008

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Hocking College Student Center

3301 Hocking Parkway

Nelsonville, Ohio 45764

Tuesday, March 18 2008

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Dublin Scioto High School

4000 Hard Road

Dublin, Ohio 43016

Tuesday, April 1 2008

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Owens Community College
Performing Arts Auditorium**

30335 Oregon Road

Perrysburg, Ohio 43451

Tuesday, April 15 2008

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Kettering Government Center

3600 Shroyer Road

Kettering, Ohio 45429

Tuesday, May 20 2008

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

First Church of God

3100 Princeton Road

Hamilton, Ohio 45011

**The Adjutant General of Ohio,
Major General Gregory L. Wayt,
Invites you to come and learn how to support
Ohio military Families!**

All are welcome! For more information, call:

(614) 336-7000

Revised February 6 2008

The Stinger

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Stinger Deadline

Deadline for the next Stinger is the Saturday of UTA @ 4 p.m. Hand deliver articles to the Public Affairs Office in Building 114 or e-mail: 180.stinger@ohtole.ang.af.mil. For more information call ext. 4014 during the UTA.

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*The
Stinger* 

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To the family of...

Upcoming Events

112th Fighter Squadron Promotion Party and Pig Roast

WHEN: Saturday, April 12

TIME: 4:30 p.m. to close

WHERE: 180th NCO Club

WHO: Event is welcome to the whole base!

Come and join us for a FREE dinner, FREE music and FREE drinks!