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The month of October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. An Early Breast Cancer Detection Plan should include:

- Beginning at age 20: Performing breast self-exams <<http://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/About-Breast-Cancer/What-Is-Breast-Cancer/Breast-Self-Exam.aspx>> and looking for any signs of change <<http://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/About-Breast-Cancer/What-Is-Breast-Cancer/Symptoms.aspx>> .
- Age 20 to 39: Scheduling clinical breast exams every three years.
- By the age of 40: Having a baseline mammogram and annual clinical breast exams.
- Ages 40 to 49: Having a mammogram every one to two years depending on previous findings.
- Ages 50 and older: Having a mammogram every year.
- All Ages: Recording personal exams, mammograms and doctors' appointments on a calendar or in a detailed file.
- Maintaining a healthy weight, following a low-fat diet, getting regular exercise, quitting smoking, and reducing alcohol consumption.

Realignment Eliminates Detachment 1

The Readiness Management Group's Detachment 1 is realigning its resources to other organizations within the RMG, and will effectively cease operation on May 2010. The realignment will not only free up manpower billets, but will also result in more effective management of certain groups of Individual Reservists (Individual Mobilization Augmentees and Participating Individual Ready Reservists) by realigning them to local units.

Organized in July 2005, Det. 1 was the first detachment created under the newly-formed Readiness Management Group. Prior to the stand-up of the RMG, other detachments servicing IRs already existed, but reported to the Air Reserve Personnel Center or the personnel (A-1) divisions of regular Air Force major commands. Det. 1 was the first to report directly to the RMG. Its mission was very broad, including developing organizational structures, communication plans and agreements with various defense agencies, joint commands and Pentagon functional organizations.

“Det. 1 was a holding pattern until RMG could further refine the organizational structure of both its own headquarters and the Dets. with their core populations. It became a home for not only Air Force organizations but also non-Air Force-specific organizations, together comprising more than 1,000 IRs,” said Col. Glen Rudd, Det. 1 program manager.

Those organizations are Air Force Reserve Command, ARPC, Military Postal Service Agency, Defense Contract Management Agency, Joint Forces Command, Defense Information Systems Agency and Defense Logistics Agency.

As Det. 1 realigns, organizations with a smaller number of IRs assigned will transition first. On Oct. 1, 2009, members assigned to the Air Force Reserve Command will

transition to Det. 12. Points of contact are Col. George Fenimore and Chief Master Sgt. Regina Hctor, who can be reached at 937-257-0376 or 9848, or DSN 787-0376.

Members assigned to the ARPC will transition to Det. 4 on Oct. 1 of this year as well. The points of contact are Col. Christopher Martin and Chief Master Sgt. Wai Li, who can be reached at 719-554-2532 or 2615, or DSN 692-2615.

On the same day, members assigned to the Military Postal Service Agency will transition to Det. 11. The points of contact are Col. Arthur Weber and Chief Master Sgt. Deannie Foster, who can be reached at 297-3080.

On Feb. 1, 2010, members of the Defense Contract Management Agency also will transition to Det. 11.

On March 1, 2010, members of the Joint Forces Command will transition to Det. 8. Points of contact are Col. Klesa Christian and Chief Master Sgt. Benjamin Patrick, who can be reached at 757-764-5101 or 4691, or DSN 574-5101.

On April 1, 2010, members assigned to the Defense Information Systems Agency will transition to Det. 11.

On May 1, 2010, members assigned to the Defense Logistics Agency also will transition to Det. 11.

“Servicing support for Individual Reservists will be seamless, with no degradation of service for either you or your organization. However, until the date of the transfer, Detachment 1 will continue to support you,” said Col. Nancy Zbyszinski, RMG commander.

For questions or more information, contact Chief Master Sgt. Tamara Scheffler, RMG Det 1 Superintendent at 478-327-2309 or DSN 497-2309.

A slower migration to Ellsworth for IMA Travel processing

Friendly Reminders

Help IMA Travel serve you better:

- Use the fax server rather than e-mail to submit documents, because travel voucher attachments are large and quickly fill up the IMA Travel in-box. The fax number is (478) 327-0625 or DSN 497-0625.
- When e-mailing attachments, use the PDF format.
- Do not submit e-mails that are spam-blocked. They will be deleted.
- Provide a primary e-mail address that you can access at all times (especially when frequently TDY or on a long-term deployment).
- Submit only one copy of your travel documents. Allow two business days to receive the e-mail notification of receipt from IMA Travel. Sending multiple copies slows down the process and consumes additional resources (time and paper).
- Use the IMA Travel organization e-mail box to submit inquiries: IMATravel@dobbins.af.mil.
- Once you have received a notification of receipt, allow IMA Travel 10 business days to process payment of your travel claim.
- All IMAs must file their travel vouchers with the IMA Travel Office. This applies to interim vouchers as well as reimbursement for TDY orders published while on long tours. The only exception is when an order is completely funded by another service. In this case, the address of the service's pay office should be provided in the remarks section of the orders and the voucher must be sent to that pay office. If the order is covered by Air Force funds, or a combination of Air Force and another service's funds, the voucher must be filed at IMA Travel.
- AFRC members cannot use Defense Travel System to file travel vouchers for TDYs funded by the active duty Air Force.

By Lt. Col. Cassandra Puryear, Chief, IMA Travel

A significant change to the travel pay system for Individual Reservists (Individual Mobilization Augmentees and Participating Individual Ready Reservists) has been delayed from July 2009 until the middle of 2010. The change is part of a plan to improve financial services Air Force-wide.

A major step in this plan was creating a single location for Air Force financial services: the Air Force Financial Services Center (AFFSC). It opened its doors in September 2007 at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., and has since become the largest single transformational effort in the Air Force financial management field. Its long-term goal is to consolidate routine travel and military pay transactions processed by over 100 base financial services offices worldwide into a single location, creating a one-stop shop for Airmen's financial services issues.

The consolidation has been delayed because the enabling electronic document management system has been essentially inoperable since May. This system, Enterprise Information Management (EIM), is the primary conduit to transfer and track documents sent by financial service offices to the AFFSC. The EIM system must be functional or a suitable substitute must be operational before the remaining bases begin their workload transfer.

The IMA Travel Office, located at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., is currently responsible for the complete process of travel pay for IRs. It will migrate its pay services in a three-step process.

In phase one of the migration, travel computation functions will move to the AFFSC. Travelers will continue to send travel claims and inquiries to the IMA Travel Office, which will interface with the AFFSC as needed. At no point will travelers submit initial claims directly to AFFSC.

The most visible change should take place in late 2010 or early 2011: In phase two of the migration, the AFFSC will stand up a 24-hour contact center where Airmen with finance needs can contact a representative by telephone, e-mail or the Internet. All travel and military pay customers will call directly to the AFFSC for inquiries. During this phase, IMA Travel customers will still send their travel claims to IMA Travel at Dobbins ARB.

By phase three, the remaining portion of the travel document processing at IMA Travel--receipt, review and transmittal of travel claims--will migrate to the AFFSC.

"Despite the delay in reaching full operations, the AFFSC continues to accomplish the mission for 82 migrated locations (66 bases, 16 Geographically Separated Units) through an alternative document transmission system. We have a committed staff of more than 500 military, civilian and contractor personnel who are focused on providing customer service in this changing environment. Like all major changes this effort will take time to mature," said Col. Judy Perry, Air Force Financial Services Center commander.

Further customer service initiatives are being

worked out between IMA Travel and the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller. These include an electronic finance travel voucher and an IR-specific travel voucher checklist. Customers would be able to route the electronic travel voucher electronically to their financial services office, which could transmit the document directly into EIM. Currently, members must use a fill-in PDF form, print and manually sign it, and fax or mail it to the IMA Travel Office.

A separate initiative is the IR-specific travel voucher checklist. The IMA Travel Office will use this when preparing travel voucher packages for submission to the AFFSC. This will ensure proper processing of full and partial settlements for IRs.

"IMA Travel personnel and the management staff at AFFSC are working together to improve financial services to IRs. We will take advantage of the delay in the transfer to make positive adjustments that will ensure a smooth transition and minimal customer service degradation", said Col. Nancy Zbyszinski, Readiness Management Group commander.

Voucher Timeliness Metric:

According to Public Law 105-264, government agencies must reimburse travel claims within 30 days of receipt. On January 16th, the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller established the timelines of Public Law 105-264 as the standard for all Air Force Financial Services Offices.

The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller also established a goal for FSOs to reimburse 95% of travelers within 10 business days of receipt of a computable travel claim. The IMA Travel Office adheres to this goal and reports on it to higher headquarters. The previous goal of five business days has been superseded. This is the reason why the voucher receipt message in Reserve Travel System now says, "Please allow 10 business days for notification of payment."

Joint Officer Management

Effective immediately, Air Force Reserve officers who have performed duties that meet the definition of joint matters--located in a joint location performing a joint job not just a member's Air Force job--and have served these duties while performing in a part-time pay status (inactive duty training, annual training, short RPA or MPA tours less than 30 consecutive days) may now submit that experience via the JMIS website. To submit joint experience information visit the JMIS website at <http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/library/jom/index.asp> for information on accessing JMIS. Airmen with questions or concerns can contact Air Reserve Personnel Center at 1-800-525-0102.

“Year of the Air Force Family” Web Site Launched

by 1st Lt. Derek White
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

9/26/2009 - WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Air Force officials have launched a new Web site to showcase the Year of the Air Force Family effort.

Airmen and their families can log on to <http://www.af.mil/yoaff/index.asp> to learn about AF-wide initiatives, monthly themes and programs, as well as contact local installation Airman Family and Readiness Centers to find out about local events and activities.

Earlier this year Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley designated July 2009 to July 2010 as the “Year of the Air Force Family,” a year-long focus on Air Force programs highlighting the importance of, and commitment to, the entire Air Force family: all Airmen, married and single; spouses; children; Air Force civilians; extended families; and retirees.

“We will devote this year to identifying what we are doing right and what we need to do better to support the entire Air Force family, and to rekindle the sense of community that has been

our tradition for so many generations,” General Schwartz said.

Findings from the April “Caring for People” forum provided direction for the year-long focus that highlights improvements to existing programs. It also introduces new initiatives built on four pillars that meet the unique needs of Air Force families to include health and wellness; Airman and family support; education, development and employment; and Airman and family housing.

Together with Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James Roy, the service’s senior leaders are addressing key areas of concern to airmen. Some of the programs receiving special emphasis include deployment support, fitness, family safety awareness, exceptional family member programs and single airmen initiatives.

“You can rest assured that taking care of families is a solemn promise we make to each Airman and family and one that Chief Roy, General Schwartz, and I each take very seriously,” Secretary Donley said. “And we make this commitment not only because it’s the right

thing to do for our Airmen, but because it is the smart thing to do for our Air Force.”

Airmen and their families can expect programs and events tailored to the needs of their individual communities. It may include reintroducing family support programs already available to them today, as well as announcing new initiatives that will serve as model Airman and family support programs long into the future.

“The strength of the nation’s Air Force is not the platforms we operate or the technologies we employ, as good as they are,” General Schwartz said. “It is our Airmen and their families. The Air Force is a great place to work, live, and play. Our intent is to make it even better.”



News Briefs

AF Portal now CAC restricted

Starting Jan. 1, the Air Force Portal will only be accessible via a Common Access Card reader. All Air Force Reserve members need a functioning CAC reader to access the Readiness Management Group Community of Practice Site or any site requiring use of the Air Force portal. These will no longer be accessible with just a username and password.”

The Air Force Portal is a key source of crucial information and resources for Individual Reservists (Individual Mobilizations Augmentees and Participating Individual Ready Reservists), such as v-MPF and vPC-GR-virtual Personnel Center-Guard Reserve. Any IRs who do not have a CAC reader should contact their program managers to receive a free reader and software.

Blog supports military families

Defense Department officials have launched a blog called “Family Matters” that is dedicated to providing resources and support to military families. The blog, which can be found at <http://afps.dodlive.mil>, features tips from experts and military-related topics that discuss anything from deployments and separations to education benefits and child care.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123164863>.

AF offers adoption aid

Through the Adoption Expense Reimbursement Program, parents using a legal adoption agency may be eligible for up to \$2,000 per adoptive child, with a maximum reimbursement of \$5,000 in a calendar year, for qualifying expenses.

For more information, visit your Force Support Squadron; call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102; or read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123157509>.

Civilian employment registration

All Reservists must annually register information about their civilian employer and job skills on the Department of Defense Civilian Employer Information Web site. By federal law, DOD is required to give consideration to civilian employment necessary to maintain national health, safety and interest when considering members for recall as well as ensure that members with critical civilian skills are not retained in numbers beyond what is needed for those skills. Additionally, CEI data helps facilitate open communications between the DOD and civilian employers of Guard and Reserve service members to inform servicemembers and employers of their rights, benefits and obligations. Registration takes less than five minutes and is required annually, even if a Reservist is an air reserve technician, has no civilian employer or has not changed jobs in the

past year. To register, go online at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/esgr/>.

New Tricare programs highlighted

One of the key Tricare initiatives is to enhance the contact beneficiaries and their family members have with their primary health care provider. Known as the ‘medical home concept,’ it emphasizes four health care pillars: accessibility, continuity, coordination and comprehensiveness.

Tricare officials also are giving beneficiaries access to a Web-based Tricare Assistance Program that will provide supportive counseling via a home web-enabled camera. The program enables visitors to obtain an unlimited number of sessions with the same counselor. It is for active-duty service members and their families, people in the Transitional Assistance Management Program, and selected Reserve members who purchase Tricare Reserve Select and their eligible family members.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123161843>.

New HRDC members

The RMG has selected the following candidates to serve a three-year term as IMA representatives to the Command Human Resources Development Council: Lt. Col. Pamela Bruner (Det. 2) and Maj. Anne Lima (Det. 6). Their terms began on Oct. 1.

The purpose of the Air Force Reserve Command Human Resources Development Council (HRDC) is to advise and make recommendations to the Commander, Air Force Reserve, as well as the subordinate Numbered Air Force and Wing Commanders, on any and all matters pertaining to human resources within the Command. Its areas of interest include, but are not limited to: force development, diversity, mentoring, recognition, community outreach, assignments, and promotion opportunities. The overall goal is to create and maintain a fully developed, skilled, motivated, enthusiastic, and diverse workforce.

More information is available at: <https://www.dmy.af.mil/afknprod/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=RC-DP-01-03>

ReserveNet is now ARCNet

Due to the new partnership with the Air National Guard, “ReserveNet” will officially become “ARCNet” on Sept. 1. Log in periodically as the application grows with new functionality over the coming months. Login and link information from the AF Portal will remain the same: <https://www.my.af.mil/reservenetprod>. Contact ARCNet Customer Support with any questions or concerns: arcnet@afrc.af.mil or (888) 723-2372.