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Current Issues

Airmen in demand — Buckle up; it's going to be a bumpy year. From Afghanistan to Africa, to wherever the next flashpoint is, airmen are going to have a busy 2013. [Read the Air Force Times article HERE.](#)

Curbing sexual assaults — Defense Secretary Leon Panetta has ordered the nation's military services to improve the quality of sexual assault prevention training for their prospective commanders and senior enlisted leaders. [Get the whole story HERE.](#)

Sequestration could mean furloughs — According to a Federal Times article you can [read HERE](#), automatic budget cuts set to take affect early next year could mean unpaid furloughs. Across-the-board budget cuts, formally known as sequestration, were written into last year's Budget Control Act.

Samsung Series 7 Slate first network tablet for Air Force — The U.S. Air Force has selected the Samsung Series 7 Slate as the first network slate tablet in a blanket purchase agreement for bases worldwide. The 11.6 inch touch screen tablet supports the USAF standard desktop, and supports the same programs as a full-size PC. [Get the full scoop HERE.](#)



Healthcare and Insurance

Quality Benefits for the Federal Family

OPM announces dates for 2012 Federal Benefits Open Season

[CLICK HERE to make a FEHB election or change.](#)

The dates for the 2012 Federal Benefits Open Season are from Monday, November 12 through Monday, December 10. During the annual open season, employees can enroll and take other actions for the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program (FSAFEDS), Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) and the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management has posted the full 2013 dental, vision and FEHB premium rate charts. [Click HERE](#) for all of the info.



"If you can dodge the wrench, you can dodge the ball." During the most recent UTA, the Force Support Squadron took on the Development and Training Flight in a spirited dodge ball match. Despite many hard throws, only egos were bruised.

Senior Joint Development Course

The Senior Joint Development Course (SEJPME) is a stand-alone, web-based, course that uses multi-media instruction. Enrollees can expect a pre-test, section knowledge checks (quizzes) and a final examination.

Eligible Rank: Senior non-commissioned and petty officers E-6 to E-9. Warrant officers, commissioned officers and U.S. federal government civilian personnel of equivalent grade.

Eligibility: Registration is open to all components (active duty, reserves and National Guard), and federal government agencies.

Prerequisites: Students should have completed their rank required service PME prior to registering for this course.

Computer Requirements: High-speed Internet connectivity; Java version 7 or above; Flash player 8 or above; speakers/headphones.

Reservists earn retirement points.

[Click HERE to learn more and to enroll.](#)

Game Shows featuring Airmen, Jeopardy opportunity

Lately, several game shows have been preparing for special military salute shows, and one is seeking out the best of the U.S. Armed Forces. Here's the breakdown:

Price is Right — A special Air Force Price is Right show was taped on September 6, featuring 60 Airmen from Vandenberg and Edwards Air Force bases. Two Airmen actually participated as contestants. The show is slated to air on November 9.



Wheel of Fortune — Wheel of Fortune is taping a special military appreciation show on October 17. Through an open casting call, so far three Airmen have made the grade for the show: Col. Jennifer L. Kilbourn from Langley AFB, Master Sgt. Gregory Coleman from Joint Base Andrews and Tech. Sgt. Glen E. Coleman from the Pentagon.

Jeopardy — America's Favorite Quiz Show is seeking out the best of the military for an all new "Salute to the Military." Any active-duty, reserve or National Guard troop can participate in a nationwide online test being held at www.jeopardy.com on Tuesday, October 9 at 8:00 p.m. ET.



This is open casting, so anyone can go online and register prior to taking the online test. A lucky few who pass the test will be invited to in-person auditions held in late 2012 and early 2013.

Remember, a member must coordinate with his or her base-level Public Affairs office before registering or agreeing to appearing on any game show.



It's time for the annual Combined Federal Campaign. Your CFC representative will be visiting with you shortly to help you help make a difference in the world.

[What is the CFC? Check it out here.](#)

MiIPDS "Blackout" coming — are you ready?



Air Force officials are urging Airmen to reenlist, extend current enlistments and submit retraining requests before the upcoming MiIPDS upgrade.

Be on the lookout for an RNT message to those Air Force Reserve members who have an ETS that expires Nov. 15, 2012 through Jan. 15, 2013, reminding them to reenlist in advance of the blackout period. [Get the reenlistment story HERE.](#)

[Get the retraining story HERE.](#)