

# RHODE WARRIOR LIGHT



Vol. 2 No. 4 - APRIL 2015

## MISSION FIRST, SAFETY ALWAYS!

### Briefs

#### UTA Lunch Menu

##### Saturday

Penne  
Fettuccini  
Chicken  
Meatballs  
Alfredo Sauce  
Marinara Sauce  
Broccoli  
Carrots  
Garlic Bread

##### Sunday

Glazed Ham  
Chicken Cordon Bleu  
Stuffing  
Oven Roasted Potatoes  
Mixed Veggie  
Corn  
Rolls

##### Available Both Days

Salad Bar featuring Shrimp,  
Tuna and Grilled Chicken  
Yellow Cake  
Ice Cream

##### Hours of Operation

1100-1300

\$5.55 for  
AGRs/Officers

#### \$\$Pay\$\$

April 2015 UTA is  
scheduled to pay on  
or about 18 April

#### Weather Forecast

Quonset ANGB, RI

Saturday - 58° Partly  
Cloudy and Windy

Sunday - 64°  
Lots of Sun!

**RHODE WARRIOR**  
143d Airlift Wing

### Proud To Serve With My Fellow Rhode Warriors



Col Walter  
Wing Commander

Fellow Rhode Warriors, friends, and family, let me start by saying it's been a fantastic couple of months since taking command. As I've moved around the base, getting more familiar with the work we're doing and problems we've been facing, it's really just impossible not to be proud of everyone. The work being done is incredible, even despite the roadblocks, and the mission focus is

solid. I look forward to helping knock down the roadblocks for you, and making sure you can keep that mission focus by taking care of you.

Some of you will remember I talked at the change of command about getting to know each other better. Well, the first UTA afterwards we formed up an MWR committee to strategize where we wanted to go. On the April UTA we meet again to begin fleshing out a schedule for the year, probably beginning in late May and continuing all year long. We're looking at things from trips to the cities for various events, to skiing, to fishing trips, even just low key picnics and hikes of various lengths. Watch for that and come out, and join the crew whenever you have the chance. And if you'd like to take part in the committee or be the creator of something like an Outing Club, just send a note to Tech Sgt Tina Scully. We work hard together. It's time we relaxed a little together, too.

It IS shaping up to be another challenging year for the 143d. Budget cuts in the area of 40% have hit us across the board, and in our base maintenance funds, a whopping 70% reduction from last year. At the same time, utility fees are

twice last year's level, and the base is badly in need of various infrastructure repairs. Still, it's not all bad news. We've managed to make badly-need repairs on the ramp, we're about to undergo a nearly \$10 million dollar rehab on the P-8 hangar, and construction of the new Flight Simulator building is about to start. We are also soon to begin the design process for a top-to-bottom renovation of building P-1, and have secured additional funding to look at relocating the Fire Dept off the ramp. That will make it easier to add aircraft parking in the future should the Air Force consider additional tails at Quonset.

One of the biggest changes you'll see this year is with our mighty Civil Engineering squadron. Rather do an off-station trainer this year, they've decided on all-hands, two week training / base improvement plan right here at home. These are folks already beat-up after fighting the winter to keep the base open...sleeping on base often times. Having them devote a full-court press for face-lift to our home here at Quonset is just what we need. When you see these folks, thank them for their hard work. Also, keep an eye out for a call to train augmentees to drive snow plows next year. Lt Col Wiggins will be happy to have you join him piloting a truck.

I want to thank each of you for what you do, and for staying part of the team. In particular I want to thank you for your high standards, professionalism, fitness, and most important, integrity. I've seen a lot of changes in this wing over the last 15 years, and it's always been steadily in the right direction.

Keep drivin'



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# AIRMAN SPOTLIGHT... MSgt Mario Comella

## 143d Security Forces Squadron

By: Tech. Sgt. Jason Long  
143d Airlift Wing, Public Affairs

### Rank/ First & Last Name:

Master Sergeant Mario Comella

### Squadron:

143d Security Forces Squadron

### Duty Title:

2nd Squad Leader/ Flight Chief

### Years of Service:

Thirteen Years

### What is your mission here?

Defend and protect the base and assist in training younger Airmen

### What are some of the best parts of your mission?

Watching the newer Airmen develop and excel due to the training/motivation I provided

### What are some of the challenges you face while conducting your mission and how do you overcome them?

Being a traditional guardsman I find time is an issue; I try to stay engaged during the month

### How many times have you deployed?

Once while I was in the Army and I am currently training for an upcoming deployment



### Why did you join the Air Force?

I left the Army for more opportunities and to do a different mission which the Air Force offers

### What are your short term goals in the Guard?

Looking to make Senior Master Sergeant

### What are your long term goals in the Guard?

To obtain my masters degree

### What is the proudest moment of your life?

When my son was born

### Do you do any volunteering?

Coach baseball and basketball

### Do you have any hobbies?

I have a busy schedule - falling asleep on the couch

### How do you stay fit to fight?

I lift 4-5 days a week - train BJJ 3 days a week

\*\*\*Each month the 143d AW Public Affairs Office will identify and interview an Airman from within the 143d AW for the Airman Spotlight. To nominate one of your Airmen (Enlisted or Officer) please contact the PA office at 143aw.pa@ang.af.mil\*\*\*

## Don't Miss the Low Hanging Fruit!

- Check your Fire Extinguisher Inspections
- Clean up your work centers
- Do your Safety Spot Inspections
- Check your Form 55's
- Do NOT have unauthorized equipment or chemicals in your work area
- Use proper waste receptacles
- Use Operational Risk Management - On and Off Duty
- Practice Customs and Courtesies
- Ensure Correct Wear of your Uniform
- Continue your MICT checklists - constant compliance
- Conserve Energy
- Be a Good Wingman

**Mission First, SAFETY ALWAYS**

## TROOP CARD Social Media Tips

Use these tips for when using social media. Please remember that you represent the U.S. Air Force and the RI National Guard when you post on social media - particularly if you are in uniform.

1. Once it's out there, it's there forever
2. No classified information; think OPSEC
3. Replace error with fact, not argument
4. Admit mistakes
5. Use your best judgement
6. Avoid the offensive
7. Don't violate copyright/misuse trademarks
8. Don't violate privacy
9. No official endorsements
10. No impersonations
11. Stay in your lane
12. Be cautious with information you share

**BE VIGILANT!**

## RHODE WARRIOR LIGHT

Volume 2 - Number 4

143D AIRLIFT WING  
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Tech Sgt. Sage Maker

The Rhode Warrior Light will be expanding to a four page newsletter beginning the May UTA. If you would like to submit an article or you have suggestions about what you would like to see more of please email 143aw.pa@ang.af.mil

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