

A life behind

the wheel

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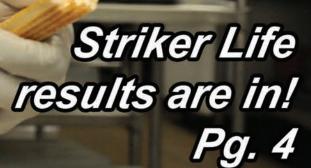


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Whiteman named top food service in USAF, Pg. 8

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## Commentary

## Reapers past, present celebrate heritage

**By Morgan Hildebrand, Unit plans coordinator** 13th Bomb Squadron

For more than 100 years, the 13th Bomb Squadron has flown numerous combat missions, during World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam and throughout the Global War on Terror.

On May 10, 2013, the unit hosted three former "Reapers" during an annual heritage day for the presentation of a shadow box to the unit.

The day was packed with storytelling, the sort of stories you never expect to hear face to face. The words were not to inform, but to help Airmen remember, and each story had a special meaning. The pride in each man as he told his stories, along with his desire to see what had become of the 13th BS since his own service, was overwhelming.

The three distinguished guests from the 13th Bomb Squadron Association each served more than 20 years, and individually made their own impacts on Reaper history. Retired Col. Robert L. Butterfield, president of the association; retired Chief Master Sgt. Robert Parks, treasurer; and retired Col. Charles J. Brown each had their own stories to tell.

The squadron, now proudly residing at Whiteman Air Force Base, originated on June 14, 1917, in Texas. The shadowbox the men presented held a Royal Australian Air Force flight cap and



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson The name of Tech. Sgt. Bill Cowan, a retired member of the 13th Bomb Squadron, is unveiled on the front landing gear door of a B-2 Spirit at Whiteman Air Force Base, May 10. 2013. Since Cowan recently passed away, the painting is a tribute to his contributions to the 13th BS. Cowan was instrumental in ensuring the 13th BS returned to active status in 2000.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sqt. Nick Wilson

Robert Butterfield, Charlie Brown and Robert Parks, all retired 13th Bomb Squadron members, united to view the unveiling of the name of one of their fallen comrades, which was painted on one of the doors of a B-2 Spirit at Whiteman Air Force Base, May 10, 2013. As one of the oldest bomb squadrons in Air Force history, the 13th BS has flown in combat during World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam and Southwest Asia.

patches, symbols of remembrance for the time the 13th flew with the Royal Australian Air Force during World War II.

To show appreciation to our guests, two of our own outstanding pilots, Capt. Charles Goetz and Capt. Marcus Antonini, led a very personal base tour, which included time in the B-2 Spirit simulator, as well as a look in the flight deck of the squadron's flagship jet, the "Spirit of Mississippi."

A touching moment, and one that likely stands out for all Reapers, was the unveiling of the name added on the front landing-gear door of the "Spirit of Mississippi."

Retired Tech. Sgt. Bill "Orb" Cowan's name was added alongside our commander's, Lt. Col. Jeffery Schreiner, in honor of Cowan's contributions to the 13th. Cowan was instrumental in ensuring the squadron returned to active status in 2000.

The day closed with Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander, joining the entire unit at the squadron heritage room for a formal presentation of the shadow box and a few more stories from Butterfield.

I was honored to participate in, and

be part of, all the events on this important day for all Reapers. The standout moment for me was when I arrived that morning to greet our visitors and one of the first questions asked of me was, "Did you ever think you would be standing here as a part of history?"

It was Brown who asked that question, and I was in awe from that moment on. Just before I left for the day, I was stopped by our guests and reminded that I may have only been with the 13th BS since December, but I will be a Reaper for the rest of my life.

The following quote is the opening to a piece of 13th Bomb Squadron Reaper history written by 1st Lt. Richards and S.M. Avery, two former Reapers:

"Just when the Numerical Mother gave birth to the original "wee Thirteen" is something we can't discuss, but a modern birthday which we shall never forget is that of a cactus-born squadron on an early June day—and when the christening came no one complained that the number was Thirteen. From then on, it was just a "hobby," a kind of self-inflicted task of ours to disprove the somewhat ancient belief that this number was anything but a good one, and we proudly believe we succeeded!

### THE WARRIOR

#### **Editorial Staff**

Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere **509th Bomb Wing Commander** 

Capt. John Severns Chief, Public Affairs

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Airman 1st Class Shelby R. Orozco Editor

Photojournalists

Staff Sgt. Alexandra Boutte Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson

Senior Airman Brigitte N. Brantley

Senior Airman Montse Belleau Airman 1st Class Bryan Crane

Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry

Ms. Heidi Hunt

The Sedalia Democrat

#### Layout and Design

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The deadline for article submissions to the Warrior is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submissions does not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-6123, email: Whiteman. Warrior@us.af.mil, fax us: 660-687-7948, or write to us at: 509th Bomb Wing, 1081 Arnold Ave., Bldg. 59, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305.

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## On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo/ Airman First Class Keenan Berry Airman 1st Class Curtis Esquibel, 509th Force Support Squadron services apprentice, prepares bacon at the Ozark Inn on Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 15, 2013. The 509th FSS was named as the John L. Hennessy Trophy winner, which is awarded to the Air Force's best food service unit.

## This Week in 509th Bomb Wing History: B-2 anniversaries

#### David Easley

509 Bomb Wing Historian

*May 16-21, 1994:* The "Spirit of Missouri" flew five sorties in six days, the first time the B-2 had flown that many sorties in such a short time span. In all, the B-2 logged 14.6 flying hours during the six-day period.

*May 17, 1990:* Colonels Frank Birk and Leroy Schroeder flew Northrop's B-2A on a six-hour, 36-minute test flight over Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. The bomber completed several performance tests and three air-to-air refuelings during the flight.

*May 23, 1998:* During ceremonies held at Jackson Air National Guard Base, Miss., the Air Force named the 509th's 19th B-2 the "Spirit of Mississippi."

*May 23-25, 1997:* A 509th Bomb Wing crew completed a then-record 29.9-hour Global Power mission. The aircraft took off from and returned to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The mission featured a flyover of RAF Mildenhall in the United Kingdom and simulated bomb runs over mid-America.

## **NEWS BRIEFS**

#### Whiteman spring graduation

Team Whiteman is invited to attend the Whiteman graduation ceremony at 6 p.m. on May 23 at Mission's End. Graduation candidates are scheduled to receive their diplomas from the Community College of the Air Force, State Fair Community College, Park University and Webster University.

#### 2013 Community Assessment Survey

The 2013 Community Assessment Survey is your opportunity to contribute to community action plans at your base, MAJCOM and the Air Force!

Starting 5 April 2013, you may be one of those chosen to receive an email invitation to participate in a survey concerning your experiences as a member serving in the Air Force. Sharing your experiences and opinions in this survey is voluntary and will help us improve life for families in the Air Force Active Duty, Reserve components and DoD Civilian workforce.

The survey's subject line will be '2013 Community Assessment Survey (Survey Control Number AF13-141SGHW)' and it will be from afcasurvey@ipsosresearch.com.

If you have questions about this survey, you may contact this survey's POC, Lt Col Wendy Travis at afmoa.communityassessmentsurvey@us.af.mil.

#### Found property

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The Public Affairs Office accepts story ideas for news and feature articles on people and organizations to help provide recognition of excellence in performance and set forth norms for mission accomplishment.

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For more news briefs, visit http:// www.whiteman.af.mil/news/announcements/index.asp

WEATHER		
Today	Saturday	
Chance of Storms	Mostly Sunny	
Hi 80	Hi 84	
Lo 60	Lo 65	
Sunday	Monday	
Chance of Storms	Storms Likely	
Hi 85	Hi 79	
Lo 67	Lo 66	

# April 2013 courts-martial, Article 15s and discharges

In April 2013, three Whiteman Air Force Base member were sentenced by courtmartial, three were punished under Article 15; Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), and seven members were administratively separated from the Air Force.

#### <u>Courts-Martial</u>

An airman first class from the 509th Maintenance Squadron was tried and found guilty by a Special Court-Martial for violation of UCMJ Article 121, Larceny. Punishment was a reduction to airman basic, forfeitures of \$1,000 pay per month for four months, 90 days confinement and a bad conduct discharge.

A senior airman from the 509th Force Support Squadron was tried and found guilty by a Special Court-Martial for violation of UCMJ Article 128, assault consummated by a battery. Punishment was a reduction to airman first class and 20 days confinement.

An airman basic from the 509th Security Forces Squadron was tried and found by a Special-Court Martial for violation of UCMJ Article 112a, wrongful use of a controlled substance. Punishment was five months confinement and a bad conduct discharge.

#### Article 15s

A senior airman from the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty. Punishment was reduction to the grade of airman first class, forfeiture of \$200 pay per month for two months suspended,20 days extra duty and a reprimand.

A staff sergeant from the 509th Operations Support Squadron received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty. Punishment was forfeitures of \$400 pay for one month,15 days extra duty, and a reprimand.

#### **Discharges**

An airman first class from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received a general discharge for pattern of misconduct.

An airman first class from the 509th

Operations Support Squadron received an honorable discharge for conditions that interfere with military service.

A senior airman from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an honorable discharge for fitness failure to meet fitness standards.

A senior airman from the 509th Medical Operations Squadron received an honorable discharge for failure to meet fitness standards.

An airman basic from the 509th Maintenance Squadron received a general discharge for drug use.

An airman first class from the 509th Maintenance Squadron received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions.

A senior airman from the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron received an under other than honorable conditions discharge for commission of a serious offense.

## Lapine takes command of OSS

Lt. Col. Eric Lapine, right, accepts the 509th Operations Support Squadron guidon from Col. Edward Martignetti, 509th Operations Group commander, during a change of command ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 10, 2013. Lapine was previously assigned as the 509th Bomb Wing chief of safety.



U.S. Air Force photo/Heidi Hunt

## **News** May 17, 2013 ne results are in!



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Shelby R. Orozco Brynn Kubalek, wife of Capt. Scott Kubalek, 709th Munitions Maintenance Group and Airman 1st Class Damon Becenti, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsions journeyman, proudly display their trophies for "Overall Female" and "Overall Male" for the Striker Life 10K at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 11, 2013. Kubalek's overall time was 43 minutes and 32 seconds and Becenti's overall time was 44 minutes and 45 seconds.

Half marathon overall and overall male Capt. Kevin Hostettler, 1:24

The Warrior

**10K overall male** Airman 1st Class Damon Becenti, 44:45

Half marathon overall female Deanna Krivitza, 1:48

10K overall and overall female Brynn Kubalek, 43:32

5K overall female Ashley Schaefer, 25:20

5K overall and 5k overall male

Chief Master Sgt. Stuart Allison, 23:56



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jason Huddleston Members from Whiteman participated in the Striker Life Half Marathon, 10k and 5K at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 11, 2013. Participants included service members, family members and the public.



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## **Feature**

## A life behind the wheel

**By Airman 1st Class Shelby R. Orozco** 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

All children have a dream of what they want to be when they grow up-- an astronaut, a fireman, a police officer. For one Airman here at Whiteman Air Force Base, his dream became a reality.

"How many times do you have a goal, when you're six [years old], to stand on the front stretch of your hometown track and you actually get to have that happen?" said Staff Sgt. Chris Brockway, who works in the 442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron traffic management office.

Brockway's dream as a six-year-old was to become a racecar driver. And he did it.

"To go way back, my grandpa has owned racecars for 40 to 50 years," Brockway said. "When I was younger, he would take me to the races and I'd go home and tell my mom I wanted to race cars."

Brockway's mother was not a fan of his racing dreams and did not let him go to the races with his grandpa for many years.

"I didn't go back until I was 16," Brockway said. "I had a couple of buddies that invited me to the races and I was like, 'Hey, my grandpa might still have a car!"

The pull of that night at the track was just enough for Brockway, who decided he was going to follow his dream and become a racecar driver.

"I never missed a night after that," Brockway said. "I ended up working on my grandpa's car, and then I bought it. I [wondered], 'Okay, who wants to sponsor me?""

Brockway races what is known as a B-Modified, which by racetrack rules is defined as an automobile designed solely for competition on oval race tracks, controlled from within by a driver.

"There are A-Modifieds and B-Modifieds," Brockway said. "A-Modifieds are full-blown, not very limited and have very few rules engine-wise. The B-Modifieds are a limited version of the A-Modifieds."

Even though racing has always been his dream, it did not start out very easily for Brockway.

"When I first started I literally knew nothing," Brockway said. "I am not a mechanic and that is not me. Once I started driving the car and it was obvious I wasn't going to go away -- fail or succeed – my grandpa started teaching me how to drive and what to do during different situations."

Brockway's excitement for racing did not just stay at the track; it often spilled into the workplace.

"I think initially my co-workers got tired of hearing about it because it's the only thing I did," Brockway said. "They'd ask what I did over the weekend and I'd say, 'I went and raced cars. Isn't that the greatest thing you've ever heard?"

Lieutenant Col. Allan Slavin, 442nd LRS commander, is very aware of Brockway's weekend getaways.

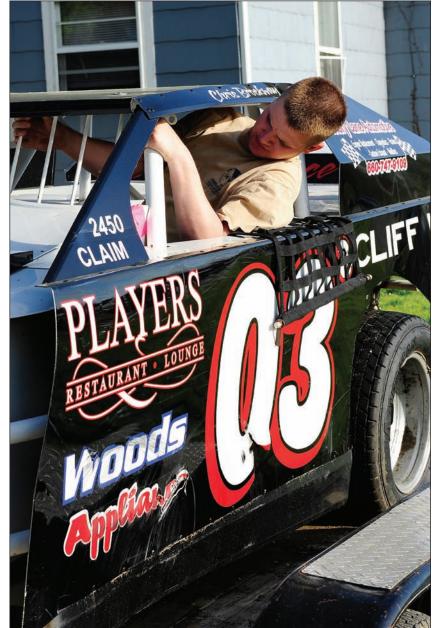
"He definitely has a love for the sport," Slavin said. "He often talks about racing in the workplace. With his experience behind the wheel, it's interesting to hear the inside scoop from a driver's perspective. I've been to one of his races and it's much more fun when you've got a driver to pull for."

Almost eight years later, racing is still Brockway's number one passion.

"Racing makes me feel good," Brockway said. "It's a lot of fun. I love the fact that when I get out on the track in my car, nothing else matters in the world. It's the one time I feel completely at peace."

Even though Brockway would be content just driving, at the end of the night there is only one thing on his mind.

"Winning is my favorite thing about racing," Brockway said. "There's a racing community that provides a great family atmosphere, but once the green flag drops it's about winning the race."



Staff Sgt. Chris Brockway, 442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron traffic management office apprentice, climbs into his B-Modified racecar to unload it from its trailer in Warrensburg, Mo., April 29, 2013. Brockway is racing for national points this year in a local racing series.



Staff Sgt. Chris Brockway, 442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron traffic management office apprentice, prepares to unload his B-Modified racecar from its trailer in Warrensburg, Mo., April 29, 2013. Brockway works on the car himself, with the help of only one crew member.



Staff Sgt. Chris Brockway, 442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron traffic management office apprentice, works on his B-Modified racecar in Warrensburg, Mo., April 29, 2013. Brockway works on the car from home to save money.



Staff Sgt. Chris Brockway, 442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron traffic management office apprentice, examines the engine of his B-Modified racecar in Warrensburg, Mo., April 29, 2013. The B-Modified Brockway races has to adhere to a strict set of engine rules and requirements.



Staff Sgt. Chris Brockway, 442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron traffic management office apprentice, repairs a muffler on his B-Modified racecar in Warrensburg, Mo., April 29, 2013. Brockway works on his car with a close friend who went through automotive school.

U.S. Air Force photos/ Airman 1st Class Shelby R. Orozco

#### 6 The Warrior May 17, 2013

## **News**

## Finance Airmen tackle challenges as a team

Staff Sgt. Traci Payne

131st Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The Airmen of the 131st Bomb Wing's finance office live by a simple credo: "No Money, No Mission."

The office's Airmen form a small but tight-knit group with the critical responsibility of ensuring the Wing's 1,100 Airmen are paid and their benefits are distributed properly, said Master Sgt. Cheryl Ropp.

"There is never a day that's not challenging," said Ropp, the superintendent. "But I enjoy those challenges and the personnel that I work with."

Ropp, who has 27 years of service, first entered the world of finance not through a door, but through a wall. She was serving as a structural technician with the 131st Civil Engineer Squadron, removing a wall from the finance section when the superintendent asked her if she had ever thought about working in an office. She applied, was hired and has now been working in the finance career field for 13 years.

She enjoys the ever-changing mission, and understands the importance of her team's role. For many Airmen, drill pay is critical in meeting expenses such as mortgages and car payments. Ropp and her team know that a small mistake on their part could have a major impact on an Airman's life.

"The last thing you want to do is have a member overpaid," she said. "When that happens, they get 80 percent of their pay taken back, so we try our best not to create debt."

Tech. Sgt. Mandy Pauley, who has worked in the wing's finance office for two years, came to the career field through a more traditional route. When she enlisted nine years ago, she said finance was her best career option.

"Being able to solve people's problems keeps me in the job," she said.

Tech. Sgt. Alan Castor, a military pay technician, said customer service is what he enjoys most about his job.

"When you solve a problem and you can make a frustrated customer happy – that's rewarding," Castor said. "You have to develop a thick skin."

Castor's Air Force career has been a constant search for new challenges. He began as a Black Hawk crew chief, cross-trained to become an optometry technician, and later transitioned to a combat arms training and maintenance with security forces. Now working in the finance office, Castor said he is challenged every day with the work he does. "This job is part detective, part problem solving," Castor said.

Although the team is dedicated to its mission, what keeps them enthusiastic about their role is being part of such a great team.

"The best part of finance isn't the work," Castor said. "It's the people you work with."



Advertisements

The Warrior May 17, 2013



## Roasting the competition: Whiteman dining facilities named best in Air Force



Airman Eric Sadsad, 509th Support Squadron services apprentice, serves food to a customer at the Ozark Inn on Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 15, 2013. Inspectors for the John L. Hennessy Trophy, which the 509th FSS won this year, graded dining facilities on 48 criteria in five separate categories.

#### By Senior Airman Brigitte N. Brantley 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

that a base's dining facilities have beaten out all competition to be named the best. It is the John L. Hennessy Trophy.

This year, the 509th Force Support Squadron food services flight nabbed this top honor, beating out other Air Force bases across the world. The actual trophy, which with its case weighs more than 115 pounds, is

on its way to Whiteman for the first time since 1989

"I'm just so proud of our Airmen and all the hard work and dedication they put into this food service operation on a daily basis," said Master Sgt. Robert Caldwell, 509th FSS food service section chief. "Many Airmen go people." their entire career without being able to say, 'I work in the best facility in the entire Air Force.' Now our guys can say that with pride.'

The hard work and long hours started late last year in preparation for the Air Force Global Strike Command competition. of which the 509th FSS was named winner in January. Once they knew they had won at that level, they really kicked it into overdrive.

"Never in my career have I seen so many people pull together like order. that," said Staff Sgt. Travis Keele, Touch N' Go Flight Kitchen manager. "Once we heard we had won the AFGSC award, we were pumped up and the effort of getting everything inspection-ready, had high praise for his there was no stopping us. It was like a proud-dad moment when I heard we had won'

Keele was also named as the Hennessy Travel winner, meaning the inspectors were so impressed with his performance and work ethic that they chose him to attend a two-week course in California this fall to learn from professional chefs.

Previously, the Hennessy was awarded on two levels – single facility and multiple facilities. This year, it changed to east and west region divisions. Whiteman was named winner in the east region. Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, won for the west region.

Inspectors from the National Restaurant Association visited here for three days in early April to assess the unit, grading them on four dozen separate criteria in five categories.

Some of the squadron's many notable accomplishments include maintaining \$20 million in assets, conducting 220 sanitation inspections, designing a dining facility landscape project, partnering with industry chefs for advanced training, overcoming a 38-percent manpower reduction,

hosting 90 world-class events and enabling 6,400 sorties.

Food service Airmen also won recognition repeatedly throughout the vear, including NCO of the vear at the AFGSC level, three below-the-zone It is the pinnacle of Air Force food services, literally the shining proof promotees and NCO of the quarter at the wing level. During the inspection, there were 23 superior performers; typically, fewer than 10 are given this honor.

> "The Hennessy Award reflects the dedication of our military and contractors, who take immense pride in what they do every day," said Lt. Col. Brett Gooden, 509th FSS commander. "They came together last fall determined to compete for this award and worked hard for more than six months to make it happen. This has been one of the most rewarding experiences I've had in my 17 years of service. I couldn't be prouder of my

> Gooden added that it was a wing-wide achievement made possible by 'the tremendous support of the wing leadership and all active duty, Guard and Reserve personnel at Whiteman."

> Other FSS members pitched in their off-duty time for various beautification projects, and the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron was instrumental in closing out 132 work orders in less than six months to get things in

> Another FSS leader, who was another part of the driving force behind Airmen.

> "It was a full-court press from the time we picked up the inspectors to the moment we dropped them off," said Chief Master Sgt. Robert Bell, the squadron's chief enlisted manager. "It's so rewarding for me to see the Airmen take care of business. This year, nobody can say they did it better than us.'

> All levels of the base felt the impact from this accomplishment, from the workers who made it happen all the way up to wing leadership.

> "Everyone who's eaten a meal in the dining facilities here at Whiteman already knows the incredible talent of our Force Support professionals," said Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander. "This year, the Hennessy evaluation team validated what we already knew to be true -- that our food service Airmen are the best in the Air Force. Thank you to Team Whiteman for supporting our food service warriors who enable our mission success everyday!"

> For the next year, the 509th FSS food service team will have bragging rights as it defends its title as the Air Force's best.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman First Class Keenan Berry Airman 1st Class Curtis Esquibel, 509th Force Support Squadron services apprentice, prepares bacon at the Ozark Inn on Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 15, 2013. The 509th FSS was named as the John L. Hennessy Trophy winner, which is awarded to the Air Force's best food service unit.

Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander; Col. Christopher Darling, 509th Mission Support Group commander; and Staff Sgt. Travis Keele, 509th Force Support Squadron Touch N' Go In-Flight Kitchen manager, describe how flight meals directly impact the B-2 Spirit mission to Air Force John L. Hennessy Trophy inspectors, April 2, 2013, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Whiteman was named winner of the 2013 Hennessy Trophy for having the best food service program in the Air Force.

#### The Warrior **News** 10 May 17, 2013 Whiteman celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage

#### Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

On May 7, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed a proclamation designating May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Today, 23 years later, the military emphasizes May as a time to reflect on, learn from and celebrate the impact Asian and Pacific Islanders have had in history.

"It's a recognition of our multicultural Air Force," said Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander."Our diversity and multicultural backgrounds and experiences are what make our nation and Air Force strong.'

For the first time in three years, volunteers from various organizations in the 509th Bomb Wing collaborated to host an event celebrating Asian American and Pacific American Heritage Month.

"We represented Guam, the Philippines, Hawaii,



Mirasol Contreras, a volunteer dancer, performs the "Guello Yan Guella" during an Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage celebration at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 8, 2013. Guam is the largest island of the Mariana Islands, located in the Pacific Micronesia. Guam's indigenous people are called the Chamorro.

Korea and Japan," said Staff Sgt. Jaime Vergara, 509th Medical Support Squadron NCO in charge of resource management. "Our volunteers came out to give various performances. Without them, this would not have been a success."

Vergara organized the entire event and said that it was open to the entire base although the purpose was to recognize Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the military

"It gives Airmen an opportunity to learn more about other backgrounds, heritages and cultures," Bussiere said. "Events like this are a small piece of that education.'

Bussiere said that heritage events like this help bring our Airmen and families closer together.

The event also featured food tasting, the playing of various Asian American and Pacific Islander national anthems, martial arts demonstrations, singing and dancing.

Vergara said this event was unique because it showcased a variety of martial arts skills, dancing forms and foods that Asians and Pacific Islanders have to offer to the world.

"Many people think, 'Oh they're Asian, so they eat egg rolls and rice," Vergara said. "At this event, people were able to see differences in the way each country makes egg rolls. There are also different types of rice and different types of noodles. To me, that is unique because people can see the differences in the Asian and Pacific Islander cultures."

Vergara was born in Manila, Philippines, and grew up there until he moved to Virginia at age 7. He said events like this help him show his three children his family heritage.

"It's hard for us to show our background since we live in Knob Noster, Mo.," Vergara said. "It's really hard for us to go back to our home country and this event is like an educational upbringing for our children."



Jessica Kahai, wife of Jairek Kahai, a member of the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, performs a Hawaiian dance as part of an Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage celebration at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 8, 2013. The objective of the celebration was to help educate members of Team Whiteman on the rich cultural tradition Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders provide to American society.

For more photos, see Asian, page 12

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## Feature

## 'Checking inn' with Lodging

#### By Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

There is a fresh scent in the air, a welcome mat to greet visitors, and friendly smiles behind the front desk to greet guests and make them feel at home. This is the atmosphere of the Whiteman Inn here on base.

Like many hotels, the staff of the Whiteman Inn consists of receptionists, accountants, managers, house keepers and maintenance workers. Each has a significant role that affects the hotel's operations.

Every manager is responsible for different duties which deal with different aspects of the hotel, said Whisper Maxwell, 509th Force Support Squadron lodging accountant.

The operations manager deals with services such as labor, linen, security and safety. The guest service manager oversees customer service and the front-desk employees. The housekeeping manager deals with the cleanliness of the hotel and supervises housekeepers. The supply technician works to ensure the employees and guests have all their various supply needs met. Finally, the general manager is, of course, responsible for all the hotel's operations in charge of the entire hotel.

Additionally, receptionists offer assistance with reservations and check-ins, while housekeepers are responsible for delivering room service and cleaning the rooms, said Staff Sgt. Derrick Walker, 509th FSS housekeeping manager.

As a lodging accountant, Maxwell also performs a vital function for the Whiteman Inn.

"I am responsible for doing daily paperwork and deposits," said Maxwell. "I also do group reservations, usually more than four people. For the Compliance Unit Inspection (CUI), there will be 150 people arriving. I've talked with their point of contact to get all of their lodging handled. We gather all the names and log them into the system and handle the inspector general bill, which pays for the rooms of individuals who are entitled to it. This also applies to smaller groups, such as flight crews or med group inspection teams."

Housekeeper managers have the important job of supervising housekeepers, as well as performing cleaning tasks to keep rooms in order.

"I am in charge of 17 housekeepers and [of] cleaning rooms. We do turnovers before check-outs (1100) and check-ins (1400)," said Walker. "This means we will have to clean all used rooms before check-in time when guests arrive. Time management is a big factor in what we do because of events like the up-coming CUI; we are constantly busy making sure rooms are prepared for the inspectors within a timely manner. Teamwork is very important; managers who do not normally clean will step in and help get the job done successfully."

Lodging contributes to the Whiteman mission through providing outstanding customer service and quality first impressions.

These attributes are important because they allow visitors to form good opinions of Whiteman and enjoy their stay on base, said Maxwell.For most visitors, Lodging personnel are the first people they see when they get to Whiteman, so that positive first impression is vital.

Distinguished visitor houses are used for anyone deemed a DV, such as a newly promoted general, a person whose relative has passed away, or the secretary of defense. Whether DVs or not, however, all guests are treated with the same level of respect and care.

The busiest time of the year for Lodging is the summer because of temporary duty travels, permanent changes of station and out and in-processing reach their high point. People traveling TDY or PCSing stay in the Whiteman Inn for the duration of their TDY, or until they find permanent housing upon PCSing.

At the end of the day, whether someone is PCSing, traveling TDY or just visiting the base, Whiteman Inn personnel aim to provide their guests with positive experiences, and make them feel welcomed and a part of the Whiteman family.

For more information, questions or concerns, please contact the Whiteman Inn at 660-687-1885.



Mary Miller, 509th Force Support Squadron housekeeper, wipes down a table at the Whiteman Inn, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 7, 2013. After each guest leaves, housekeepers must perform turnovers, which is the process of replacing toiletries and cleaning furniture and used linens.



Ryan Foltz, 509th Force Support Squadron maintenance crew member, restocks towels and linens at the Whiteman Inn, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 7, 2013. Maintenance crews will take count of used linens once they are collected, and then send them to be cleaned.



Mary Miller, 509th Force Support Squadron housekeeper,performs an inventory check on cleaning materials at the Whiteman Inn, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 7, 2013. Inventory checks are important in maintaining accountability for cleaning materials, and are performed before and after cleaning.



Melissa Bailey, 509th Force Support Squadron housekeeper, makes a bed at the Whiteman Inn, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 7, 2013. Room turnovers are completed between check-in and check-out times(11 a.m. and 2 p.m.) so that rooms are ready before guests arrive later in the day.

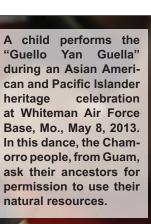


Melissa Bailey, 509th Force Support Squadron housekeeper, cleans furniture at the Whiteman Inn, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 7, 2013. Maintaining hotel rooms requires that housekeepers clean restrooms and furniture, de-ice refrigerators and exchange linens.

U.S. Air Force photos/Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry

#### The Warrior **2** May 17, 2013

## Asian Continued from Page 10-



**News** 

Crystal Vergara, wife of Staff Sgt. Jaime Vergara, 509th Medical Support Squadron NCO in charge of resource management,performs the "Panganggo" as part of an Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage celebration at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 8, 2013. "Pandanggo" is a popular folk dance in the Philippines, also known as "the dance of lights," and simulates fireflies at dusk and at night.

Airmen from the 509th Bomb Wing stand in line to taste specialty foods as part of an Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage celebration at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 8, 2013. In addition to food tasting, there were various performances and martial arts demonstrations representing Guam, the Philippines, Hawaii, Korea and Japan.



Jhen-li Gloria, daughter of Staff Sgt. Jen Gloria of the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, sings the Philippine national anthem,"LupangHinirang,"as part of an Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage celebration at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 8, 2013. The contributions Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have madeto American society and the armed forces are being celebrated throughout May and at Air Force bases around the world.



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## **FRIDAY 5/24**

Blue Plate Special- 11am-2pm- Royal Oaks G.C. Join us for "Fish Friday" at Royal Oak's Duffer's Grill and grab some lunch for only \$6.75. Includes main entree, 2 sides, 1 roll & a fountain soda. For more information please call Duffer's Grill at 687-5573.

## **COMING SOON!**

Whiteman AFB Triathlon- June 21- Fitness Center 5K Run, 10K Bike & 432 Meter Swim all included in this great chance to show off your physical strengths. Compete for the top award! For more information please call the Fitness Center at 687-5496

### Whiteman's Got Talent- June- Mission's End

Show off your talents & compete for 1st prize of \$750! Auditions begin in early June, from 6-8pm at Mission's End. For more information please call Mr. Joshua Bailey at 687-6130.

### Family Campout- June 21-23 - Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Rec has teamed up with the Missouri State Parks for a fun-filled day! Instructional classes for kayaking, archery, paddle boarding and much more. Participants are responsible for providing their own meals and sleeping bags. ODR will provide round trip transportation, tents and a grill to include charcoal and cooking utensils. Friday afternoon/night will be camp set up. Saturday is open to your choice of many different activities. Sunday morning there will be a sunrise hike for those who would like to watch the sun rise. After the hike we will break camp, pack and head back to Whiteman.For more information please call Outdoor Recreation at 687-5565.

Be sure to check out our weekly newsletter at www.whitemanfss.com, or in your email via: "whiteman all" message at the beginning of every week!

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FCC NEWS

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**509 FSS PAGE EDITOR: KYLE C. HAMRICK** CONTACT US! 687-7929

## News

## Congratulations to our **latest ALS graduates**

The Whiteman Airman Leadership School Class 13-D graduated 30 future supervisors May 9, 2013 in a ceremony at the Mission's End.

John L. Levitow Award Senior Airman Richard Ring, 509th Operations Support Squadron

**Distinguished Graduates** Senior Airman Ryan Farmer, 20th Reconnaissance Squadron Senior Airman Rachel Culver, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Academic Achievement Award Senior Airman Rachel Culver, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron

**Commandant Award** Senior Airman Kenneth Taylor.

509th Civil Engineer Squadron

The remaining graduates are: Senior Airman Zachary Archer, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Mark Baldone, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Eric Delay, 509th Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Belinda Francis, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron Senior Airman Matthew King, 509th Communications Squadron Senior Airman Matthew Langdon, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Rebecca Long, 509th Maintenance Squadron Staff Sgt. Thomas Moore, 509th Operations Support Squadron Senior Airman Chris Payne-Johnson, 509th Force Support Squadron

Senior Airman Brandon Poling, 509th Operations Support Squadron Senior Airman Richard Ring, 509th Operations Support Squadron Senior Airman Ryan Sederberg, 509th Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Kory Stanton, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Clay Stuedle, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Senior Airman Kenneth Taylor. 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Senior Airman Alexander Zeman, 131st Civil Engineer Squadron Senior Airman Brigitte Brantley, 509th Bomb Wing Staff Sgt. Steven Crump, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Senior Airman Rachel Culver, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron Senior Airman Eric Emmanuel. 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Senior Airman Ryan Farmer, 20th Reconnaissance Squadron Senior Airman Jesse Forsythe, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Christopher Kamuf, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Franklyn Kapuchuck, 509th Operations Support Squadron Senior Airman Michael Koeper, 509th Force Support Squadron Senior Airman Christopher Kuenzler, 509th Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Kyle Newcomb, 509th Maintenance Squadron Senior Airman Jennifer Ochoa. 509th Bomb Wing Senior Airman Jeremy Sherron, 509th Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Andrea Trueblood, 509th Munitions Squadron

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