

WARRIOR



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A LOOK BACK

Monumental moments that defined 2013, Pg. 5

Merry Christmas!!!

Team Whiteman,

We're coming to the end of another year, and what a year it's been. For the 509th and 131st Bomb Wings, 2013 was a year of incredible triumphs, historical milestones and incalculable hours of hard work and dedication, all of which combined to make us the best bomb wings in the Air Force.

You might remember we started this year with a bang back in March, when the B-2 participated in Exercise FOAL EAGLE in South Korea. With that long-duration sortie, we accomplished what no other nation in the world could – flying around the world to deliver precision munitions on time, on target. To our friends in the region, that flight was a demonstration of our capability and commitment to their defense. It was America's way of showing that we had their backs. It was noticed, and it had an immediate impact on what was a tense international situation at the time.

We didn't get much of a break after that. In June, Whiteman completed its first Consolidated Unit Inspection in years, and just a few weeks later we hosted Air Force One during President Barack Obama's visit to the University of Central Missouri.

All summer, we scrimped and saved as we dealt with the most volatile budget situation in over a decade at war. The budget sequestration forced our civilian partners to stay home for several days this summer, and when the government shut down in October, we all experienced first-hand just how frustrating it is to lose an essential part of our team for a full week.

This year also saw us celebrate the 20th anniversary of the arrival of the "Spirit of Missouri," the first B-2 Spirit bomber delivered to Whiteman Air Force Base on a chilly December day in 1993. The Year of the B-2 saw this strategic asset featured in documentaries, magazines, on TV, and finally at a gala celebration here in September. Those of you who joined us that night and heard Congressman Ike Skelton recall the long process of bringing the B-2 to Whiteman will remember the beautiful image of a rainbow soaring over the "Spirit of America" for the rest of our lives.

In a few weeks, when we return from the holidays, we'll have another opportunity to demonstrate our professionalism in the January DNSI. I have seen your skill, dedication and expertise first-hand, and I know that we can show these inspectors why



we are the best bomb wings in the Air Force. To accomplish that task, however, I will need all of you to return safe and sound from your time with family and friends. Focus on safety, whether you're driving, in the kitchen or out in the snow.

Finally, remember that the next few weeks are a chance to relax and celebrate with your families. Remember your fellow Airmen who, because of their duties or deployments or personal circumstances, aren't able to head home for Christmas, and take time to make them feel at home. Wherever you go, Barb and I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

THOMAS A. BUSSIÈRE
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander

Happy Holidays from AFGSC!

Strikers,

As we head into the Christmas and New Year holiday, I want to thank you for what you do for our nation's strategic deterrence and assurance mission every single day.

Our mission requires long hours, long deployments and long periods of time spent away from your families. Without your efforts our nation becomes less safe and our adversaries become empowered. In our business, we are never afforded the opportunity to let down our guard.

Take this time to recharge and prepare for the year ahead. Treasure the moments spent with loved ones and thank them for their sacrifice and support. While you are focused on serving the nation, it's the home front patriots - be it your spouse, parents, children or friends - who help keep you going. For those who can't make it home for the holidays, know that you're not alone. You have an Air Force family and the support of your fellow Wingmen. Remember your deployed teammates, and their families, who are sacrificing their own holiday with family and friends to safeguard all of ours.

While I wish you a festive and happy holiday season, I also need you to return from travels and celebrations safely. Please avoid unnecessary risks and ensure that your Wingmen do the same. I need each and every one of you back for 2014!

Everyone in AFGSC has worked extremely hard this year and I am truly honored to serve with you. Wherever you find yourself, Nancy and I wish you and yours a very happy and fulfilling holiday season!

Lt. Gen. Wilson



THE WARRIOR

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The Sedalia Democrat

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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.

To advertise in *The Warrior*, call the *Sedalia Democrat* at: 1-800-892-7856.

On the cover

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

U.S. Air Force B-2 Spirit crew chiefs stand ready to perform maintenance on the "Spirit of Florida" after completing a historic training mission in which it became the first B-2 to reach 7,000 flight hours, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 1, 2013. Major Benjamin Kaminsky flew this historic mission, and crew chief Airman 1st Class Elijah Noel landed the aircraft.

NEWS BRIEFS

Base Exchange Information

- The BX's extended shopping hours end Dec. 23. Extended hours of operations are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Saturday.
- The gun counter will operate at same hours, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday, and is closed on Mondays.

Telephone news line set up for retirees

A toll-free telephone news line has been set up for retirees and surviving spouses who do not have computer access.

By calling 1-800-558-1404, retirees and spouses can stay informed using this new easy-to-use menu-driven service. Callers can select from several different topics that are compiled from various electronic news sources.

Topics include pay and annuity matters, medical and health care, and other benefits and entitlements.

New location for Retiree Activities Office

The Retiree Activities Office has officially moved to its new location. Their new address is:

750 Arnold Ave., Ste. 114
Whiteman AFB, MO 65305

They can still be reached at 660-687-6457 or toll-free at 1-800-303-5608. Office hours are still Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.. For updated information, visit <http://www.whiteman.af.mil/units/509thbombwing/whitemanretiree-activitiesoffice/index.asp>.

CCAF GEM Program

Military members avoiding taking classes because of work shifts, deployments or other time constraints have a new program to assist them. Community College of the Air Force degree requirements can be met through distance learning using the CCAF General Education Mobile (GEM), a partnership between CCAF and other schools. For more information call (660) 687-2420.

Air Force Housing Web Site

Visit www.Housing.af.mil to find your new home with the Air Force. This web site serves as a one-stop shop for Airmen and their families to obtain information about the housing options and support services available to them at Air Force bases worldwide.



WEATHER

Today Freezing Drizzle Hi 31 Lo 29	Saturday Freezing Rain Hi 35 Lo 26
Sunday Chance of Snow Hi 27 Lo 27	Monday Mostly Sunny Hi 21 Lo 8

Balfour Beatty celebrates Community Center grand opening

Staff Sgt. Brigitte N. Brantley
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Balfour Beatty Communities unveiled their new multi-facility complex during a ribbon-cutting ceremony Dec. 13 at Whiteman.

The new facility, which features a Recreation Center, Community Center and Maintenance Facility, is open to Whiteman family housing residents.

"I've lived here for more than 5 years and ever since Balfour Beatty took over, there have been major improvements," said Crystal Vergara, wife of deployed Staff Sgt. Jaime Vergara from the 509th Medical Support Squadron. "They provide so many different services that build morale. This is a huge addition and a place where families can get together on base."

Passes for the center can be picked up at the current housing office, which is located in Bldg. 3007 at 101 Gray Lane, across from the Whiteman Chapel.

According to a BBC press release, the new facility features the following amenities:

The Community Center is 4,500 square feet and also houses the BBC Leasing Office and Government Housing Management Office. Additionally, there is a spacious great room with a 42-inch flat-screen television, fireplace, conference room and children's play area.

A separate 16,000-square-foot Recreation Center features numerous amenities, including a 108,000-gallon indoor swimming pool with disability accessibility and kid's splash area, fitness center equipped with cardio equipment, weight machines, aerobic room, and a separate children's



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Brigitte N. Brantley

Members from the Whiteman community celebrate the grand opening of the new Balfour Beatty Communities multi-facility Dec. 13, 2013, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The facility features a Recreation Center, Community Center and Maintenance Facility, and is open to Whiteman family housing residents.

play area. Locker rooms with restrooms and showers are available for guests' use.

The third building, the BBC Maintenance Facility, also includes a self-help store where residents are welcome to complimentary home maintenance supplies.

On the exterior grounds, residents will have access to a playground, covered picnic areas with Adirondack chairs for relaxation, and on-site parking.

The goal of all these facilities is to make sure Whiteman families have a relaxing and fun place to go.

"It is our mission to give our military families world-class service and communi-

ties in which to do that," said Patrick Hoppaugh, BBC area manager. "In addition to the military members who serve and protect us around the world are the family members who remain behind and serve on the home front."

The Community Center is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended evening hours until 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. The Recreation Center is open Monday to Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All three facilities are located at 301 Summit Drive.

For more information, call Balfour Beatty Communities at 660-687-0559.

Force Support Establishing Shuttle Service

By Senior Airman Lacie Carmody
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The 509th Force Support squadron has established a contract with ETS Taxi of Warrensburg for a shuttle service that will be available to Airmen every week Thursday through Saturday evening.

The goal is to create a safe and reliable shuttle from Whiteman Air Force Base to local businesses for Airmen and their families. The pick-up and drop-off location will be located on Mitchell Ave adjacent to the Fitness Center parking lot, and will



be available strictly for travel from this location.

The proposed cost is \$8 one way and the ETS Taxi service will still be available 24/7 on base if Airmen miss the shuttle or need to travel at an hour when shuttle service is unavailable; this will be available for an additional fee. Those riding without a DOD-issued ID will be required to wait at the visitor's center until pick-up or drop-off is completed on the installation.

Hop-on and Hop-off service is available within Warrensburg upon arrival. Schedules will be distributed to all dormitory residents and will be posted on the FSS website. For more information please visit www.warrensburgtaxi.com and www.whitemanfss.com.

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509th MUNS Airman named November Diamond Sharp award winner



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Brigitte N. Brantley

Airman 1st Class Dalton Hammack, second from right, 509th Munitions Squadron munitions systems crewmember, accepts the November Diamond Sharp award from Whiteman first sergeants Dec. 12, 2013, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Hammack won the award for volunteering 24 hours for his squadron's booster club, emceeding his unit's commander's call, scoring an 85 on his end-of-course test and for being respectful to everyone he encounters. Also, after witnessing a vehicle hit and run, he sought out the victim and ensured funds were provided for the repair of the member's taillight.

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Making a mark in history

2013, the Year of the B-2, was a historic year for Whiteman Air Force Base. We saw our aircraft set new records, hosted our commander-in-chief and demonstrated American air power around the globe. The pictures below are just a small representation of the excellence that defined Team Whiteman this year, and we look forward to supporting the mission in 2014.



131st Bomb Wing pilot surpasses 1,000 flying hours in B-2 Spirit

By Senior Master Sgt. Mary-Dale Amison
131st Bomb Wing Public Affairs

In the early morning hours on Friday, Dec. 13, Maj. Tim Rezac became the second 131st Bomb Wing Missouri Air National Guard pilot this year to achieve 1,000 hours flying the B-2.

Crossing the 1,000-hour mark, Rezac joins fellow 131st pilot Maj. Luke Jayne, who reached this elite status on Sept 14; on June 1, retiring 131st pilot Lt. Col. Mike Means achieved 1,765.8 hours -- all amazing achievements as the 131st continues its total force integration partnership with the 509th Bomb Wing.

"Hitting 1,000 hours could not have happened at a better time," said Rezac. "We were taking part in an exercise while testing the long duration capability of the aircraft and crew on an overnight sortie during this flight.

"It was very demanding but the training we received before flight from the integrated operations support squadron ensured we were thoroughly prepared, the aircrew flight equipment gear was excellent, and the jet we received from maintenance was in superb condition. It took personnel from both the 131st and 509th Bomb Wings to make it happen. It is always a team effort."

Fewer than 600 active-duty Air Force and Air National Guard pilots have ever flown the B-2, and of those only 36 have logged 1,000 flying hours or more. Of the 13 still actively flying the B-2, six are members of the 131st Bomb Wing.



U.S. Air National Guard photo/Senior Master Sgt. Mary-Dale Amison
Lt. Col. Jared Kennish, 110th Bomb Squadron commander, presents Maj. Tim Rezac with his 1,000 B-2 flying hour patch, Dec 13. Only 36 pilots have ever reached 1,000 B-2 hours, and just 13 still actively fly the B-2 Spirit. Six of these elite pilots are 131st Bomb Wing Missouri Air National Guard members at Whiteman Air Force Base -- Col. Mike Pyburn, Lt. Col. Rhett Binger, Lt. Col. Dave Thompson, Lt. Col. Jared Kennish, Maj. Luke Jayne, and Maj. Tim Rezac. The 1,000 B2 flying hours patch presented to Rezac is included in inset.

"Maj. Rezac joins a distinguished group of aviators that have devoted their careers to employment of the B-2 and training future B-2 pi-

lots," said Lt. Col. Jared Kennish, 110th Bomb Squadron commander, who surpassed the 1,000 flying-hour mark as a Missouri Air Guardsman

in 2009. "He truly highlights the experience the 131st brings to the B-2 mission."

Rezac transferred to the Missouri Air National Guard in 2009. A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy in 1999, he spent 10 years on active duty.

"I'm proud to be in the 110th Bomb Squadron. We have great personnel that are all experienced and consummate professionals in their career fields. This is the best unit that I have been in - Air National Guard or active duty."

Currently the director of operations for the 110th BS, Rezac has flying time in the T-37 and T-38 trainers, as well as the B-1 and B-2 bombers. Friday he piloted the "Spirit of Ohio" alongside Capt. Andrew Kousgaard, chief of safety for the 13th Bomb Squadron.

The 131st Bomb Wing and 110th Bomb Squadron have operated for 90 years as a unit, serving through much of aviation history, and since relocating to Whiteman, have seen many achievements, most recently becoming the first Air National Guard bomb wing to become nuclear certified.

"The 131st and 110th have a rich aviation history," said Kennish. "We're proud to continue our great legacy as a wing and be a part of Team Whiteman."

"It was an honor to fly the B-2 just one time. It has been a privilege to continue to fly and achieve 1,000 hours in the world's most combat capable aircraft," said Rezac.

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U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte

The "Spirit of Washington" lands at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., December 16, 2013. The B-2 Spirit participated in its first training mission here after an engine fire in 2010 nearly destroyed the aircraft. The "Spirit of Washington" was preparing to fly a mission at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, when one of its four engines caught fire. After nearly four years, the aircraft was restored to full mission-ready status.

"One of the things that was most important to both the Air Force and Northrop was that the jet be returned to us without any flying or weapons delivery limitations. So far, it has been taking care of business perfectly."

-- Col. Chase McCown
509th Bomb Wing Maintenance Group commander

"Spirit of Washington" rises from the ashes

By Candy Knight
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Like the mythical Phoenix, the "Spirit of Washington" has risen from the ashes, ready to strike anywhere, anytime.

The "Spirit of Washington" participated in its first training mission at Whiteman Air Force Base, Dec. 16, 2013, after an engine fire in 2010 nearly destroyed the aircraft.

After three years and nine months in maintenance, the aircraft was restored to full mission-ready status. The behind-the-scenes story is an extraordinary tale of cooperation and teamwork between different Air Force organizations, as well as collaboration between the Air Force and Northrop Grumman, the Air Force's B-2 prime contractor.

"We recognize how much this means to the warfighter, to have this aircraft back in your hands," said David G. Mazur, vice president of long-range strike operations for Northrop Grumman.

The "Spirit of Washington" was preparing to fly a mission Feb. 26, 2010 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, when one of its four engines caught fire, resulting in significant

damage to the aircraft and the engine bay.

With only 20 B-2s in the Air Force inventory, the need to save and restore the aircraft was paramount; the challenge was finding a way to accomplish the task.

The B-2's technology, combined with the limited number of aircraft, made obtaining replacement parts challenging. A percentage of the parts could be remanufactured, but other parts could only be obtained from Air Force spare parts depots.

"One of the things that was most important to both the Air Force and Northrop was that the jet be returned to us without any flying or weapons delivery limitations. So far, it has been taking care of business perfectly," said Col. Chase McCown, 509th Bomb Wing Maintenance Group commander.

Perhaps the greatest challenge was making the necessary repairs to fly the aircraft from Guam to the Palmdale facility at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

"The goal was to get [aircraft] 0332 to the Palmdale facility before the beginning of FY12, a goal which was accomplished two months ahead of schedule," Mazur said.

Getting the aircraft to Palmdale ahead of schedule saved money, and more importantly, it allowed the Air Force and other organizations to conduct initial tests on not only the

engine itself, but also the other components of the aircraft.

Ultimately, the extra time to conduct these additional tests helped investigators determine the root cause of the engine fire, which is rare in accident investigations, as incidents like this one are typically caused by a number of factors, Mazur said.

Despite the less-than-ideal circumstances, the situation presented an opportunity for Airmen to develop best practices and come up with innovative ways for approaching maintenance issues.

One example of a best practice was using dry ice pellets to remove charcoal from the aircraft's skin. The team would spray pelletized dry ice on the aircraft, after which the ice would melt, leaving no additional residue or material for the maintainers to clean up.

"To my knowledge, this was the first time this technique had been used," Mazur said.

The hard work of both the Air Force and her partners enabled Team Whiteman to bring another B-2 back into the fold, further buttressing the United States' ability to deliver conventional and nuclear munitions, penetrate air defenses and threaten effective retaliation.

"Because of the B-2's importance to national security, we wanted to do everything we could to save it," Mazur said. "Everyone recognized this importance and everyone brought

their 'A' team. It took longer than expected, but the aircraft is back and better than before. Hoo-Rah."

"It was absolutely a whole team effort," said McCown. "Anything that happens on this weapon system is a partnership between Northrop and the Air Force. The complex repairs required for this aircraft would not have happened without that healthy relationship."

For the Airmen in charge of maintaining the "Spirit of Washington," there is nothing more gratifying than watching their aircraft take to the skies once again.

"It gives me a strong sense of pride to know that an aircraft that I am personally responsible for has returned to home station and is ready to answer our nation's call," Senior Airman Patrick Holter, dedicated crew chief for the "Spirit of Washington." "This is my first jet as a dedicated crew chief and knowing that the maintenance my team and I performed on our aircraft directly contributed to safe, effective, on-time sorties is what I love most about my job."

"It was a very cool experience to see the excitement in the maintainers when an aircraft many of them thought would never fly again returned to service as part of the 509th Bomb Wing," McCown said.

Holiday cooking safety

Whiteman Fire Department
509th Civil Engineer Squadron

The winter holidays are a time for celebrating with family and friends, which means more cooking and increases the risk of fire. Did you know that cooking is the leading cause of home fires and related injuries this year? The following are a few cooking tips from the National Fire Protection Association to help you have a happy and safe holiday season:

- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.
- Always stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling or broiling food.
- If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking and use a timer to remind yourself that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire – oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains – away from the stovetop.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.

IF YOU HAVE A COOKING FIRE JUST GET OUT!

- When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave
- If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear way out.
- Keep a proper-sized lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Never use water to put out a grease fire!
- Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered

until it is completely cooled.

- For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

Christmas Trees

What's a traditional Christmas morning scene without a beautifully decorated tree? If your household includes a natural tree in its festivities, take to heart the salesperson's suggestion – "Keep the tree watered." Christmas trees account for hundreds of fires annually. Typically, shorts in electrical lights or open flames from candles, lighters or matches start tree fires. Well-watered trees are not a problem. A dry and neglected tree can be.

Caring for Your Tree

Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks. Be careful not to drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

Maintain Your Holiday Lights

Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.

Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets

Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires – they should not be warm to the touch.

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Air Force's top officer outlines tough budget decisions

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — With sequestration cemented as law into the foreseeable future, the Air Force's top officer today discussed some tough choices the service faces as its leaders try to pare \$12 billion from the budget.

In the final session of the Joint Chiefs of Staff series at the American Enterprise Institute here, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III outlined the Air Force's core missions with a focus on balancing capability, capacity and readiness.

The Air Force is entangled in a "ready today" versus "modern tomorrow" challenge, Welsh said, while delivering air and space superiority, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, rapid global mobility, global strike and command and control.

"These five missions haven't changed at all," the general said. "This is still the core of what we are expected to provide our combatant commanders worldwide, ... (but) the way we've done it has changed pretty dramatically in some areas over the years."

Air superiority, Welsh said, allows ground and maritime forces freedom to attack and freedom from attack.

"Since the Korean War, this nation has deployed about 7 million men and women at arms to different contingencies around the world," Welsh said. "None of them have died as the result of enemy air attack -- that doesn't happen by accident."

Space superiority, while relatively new to the mission set, continues to grow in importance, with the Air Force controlling more than 170 satellites of the nearly 2,200 flying today in space.

"Our Air Force's job is to monitor that [and] to provide missile warning ... secure communication, secure and precise navigation and precise timing," Welsh said. "We have about 26,000 Airmen who do that every single day."

Whether managed by space forces or with airborne platforms, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance remains as an integral part of the mission, the general said. In 2006, the Air Force completed its goal -- a \$55 billion effort -- to field 21 orbits of full-motion video MQ-1B Predator unmanned aerial vehicles.

"Since then, we've added about 42 more orbits, and we're on our way to 65 total," Welsh said.

The Air Force chief of staff emphasized that his service is charged to support the combatant commander and the joint task force commander with an operational ISR capability.

"We have to figure out how to take what we now have, get rid of some of it, and reinvest it into what they really need for the future," he said.

Mobility, Welsh said, is another large enterprise for the Air

Force, with about 132,000 active, Guard and Reserve Airmen conducting the mission daily and with a strategic airlift sortie launch every two minutes of every hour, every day of the year.

"As we talk about whether to move a ground unit or humanitarian assistance to any part of the world, the one question that is never asked is 'Can we get it there?'" Welsh noted.

For everything from close-air support to nuclear strikes, some 40,000 Airmen work the nuclear deterrence mission around the clock for the Air Force's global strike capability. The general referred to a recent photo depicting successful strikes in Libya.

"One airplane, one pass, 16 independently-targeted, joint-directed (tactical) munitions against an airfield in Libya," Welsh said. "We're phenomenally good at what we do."

Commanders, with the help of about 53,000 Airmen each day, rely on command and control, whether for missile defense, air operations or humanitarian support, Welsh said.

"(It's) high technology, lots of people, and there's nothing easy about this work," the general said. "It drives every other part of the activity that goes on in the theater."

The Air Force differs from other services, specifically by providing support for ongoing operations from home stations, Welsh said.

"About 220,000 ... of the people in our Air Force today are engaged in supporting combatant commander operations all over the world," he said. "There's only 27,000 actually deployed, and ... 56,000 actually stationed overseas. ... The rest are all supporting 24/7 operations for home station."

Because this non-stop, global support requires money, training and a dedicated force of people who can perform their jobs on a large scale, Welsh said, the Joint Chiefs of Staff met at the White House to discuss ideas, concerns and a budget strategy with President Barack Obama, the White House chief of staff and national security advisers.

Welsh said he got "a pretty good feeling" that the president understands the issues.

"He was engaged in the conversation, he was knowledgeable about the issues, (and) he asked a lot of questions. ... Most importantly, he listened to the answers. He paid attention," Welsh said.

And now the service chiefs find themselves in the surreal position of figuring out the way ahead to meet the requirements of the law.

"Sequestration is the law, and it's time to start thinking about what that means to us," Welsh said. "You can't continue to defend

everything and pay a \$1.3 billion bill."

But life under sequestration requires a self-analysis and a well-defined objective, Welsh said.

"The assumption we are using is that you have an Air Force to fight and win the full-spectrum, high-end fight," Welsh said. "If you lose the counterinsurgency action, it'll be embarrassing. If you lose the full-spectrum conflict, it could be catastrophic -- that's why you build an Air Force."

With a significant portion of the budget earmarked for space, intelligence, installations, civilian pay, military pay and force structure, the challenge of where to cut persists, the general said.

"The reality of sequestration," he said, "is that even if we can adjust the cost of people ... and installations and get rid of those things we think are excess, that may be 1 percent of our overall budget. ... But it's not going to pay the \$12 billion a year we owe for sequestration."

Welsh put the figure into perspective in terms of flying hours and electricity.

"We'd have to stop flying every airplane in the Air Force for two years ... to get \$12 billion," he said. "We'd have to turn off the lights and utilities at every installation in our Air Force ... for 12 years to get that kind of savings."

He added that people who think they'll find the savings by decreasing temporary duty assignment accounts, cutting conferences or by decreasing bloated staffs "aren't living in the reality of today." Future budgets, the general underscored, will require cuts from readiness, force structure and modernization, not people or facilities.

"That's where the money is, that's where your savings have to be," he said. "Do we want a ready-for-today (force) or a modern force tomorrow? You can't have both."

Welsh said the Air Force is looking at cutting up to 50 percent of its modernization programs.

"There are three major programs, the F-35 (Lightning II), KC-46 and long-range bomber that we think are critical to being a viable, credible Air Force in the future," he said. "Because we're a platform-based force, we have to invest now to have those things by (the mid-2020s)."

To avoid cuts to vital training and other programs, the Air Force may face fleet divestitures until the budget is finalized, Welsh said.

"You don't save billions of dollars by nibbling around the edges of things -- you can't get there from here," he said.

Whiteman All-Stars show their basketball skills



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

U.S. Air Force Service members participated in the West vs. East all-star basketball game at Whiteman Air Force Base, Dec. 13, 2013. The West triumphed over the East, 72-71.

Senate confirms James as next secretary of the Air Force

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Deborah Lee James will be the next secretary of the Air Force, according to a Senate confirmation vote Dec 13.

James provided testimony to the Senate Armed Services Committee Sept. 19, before the full Senate voted on her confirmation. Now the president must appoint her before she can assume her new position.

"I view this opportunity as the privilege and an honor of a lifetime. I will work very hard to insure that I live up to what is an enormous amount of trust that may be placed in me," said James during her confirmation hearing. "My goal would be to leave our Air Force some years from now on a path toward greater capability and better affordability for our taxpayers, and with the people who underpin everything who are second to none."

Undersecretary of the Air Force Eric Fanning assumed the role of acting when then-Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley stepped down in June.

President Obama nominated James Aug. 1, 2013. At that time, she was serving as president of the technology and engineering sector at Science Applications International Corporation.

Pending the president's appointment,



U.S. Air Force photo/Jim Varhegyi
Deborah Lee James answers a question posed to her during a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee Sept. 19, 2013, in Washington, D.C. James will be the next secretary of the Air Force, according to a Senate confirmation vote Dec 13.

James will be sworn into the position this month.

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Masons—2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:00 p.m. - Knob Noster Masonic Lodge AF & AM
Garden Club—1st Thurs. of each month 6:30 p.m. - Trails Regional Library - Knob Noster Branch

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)—Every Fri. 8 p.m. - Basement of Methodist Church • Every Mon. Noon - Chapel Annex 2 at WAFB
Knob Noster Board of Aldermen—1st & 3rd Tues. each month - Basement of City Hall
Whiteman Area Piecemakers Quilt Guild—3rd Thurs. each month 7 p.m. - Methodist Church
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509th Force Support Squadron – Christmas Holiday Hours

	24 Dec 13 Tuesday	25 Dec 13 Wednesday	26 Dec 13 Thursday	27 Dec 13 Friday	28 Dec 13 Saturday	29 Dec 13 Sunday
Library	Closed	Closed	0830-1900	0830-1900	0830-1600	Closed
Outdoor Recreation	0830-1500	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Bowling	0700-1500	Closed	0700-2100	0700-2300	0900-2300	1200-2100
Golf	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
ITT	1000-1500	Closed	1000-1500	1000-1500	Closed	Closed
Mission's End Club	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Auto Skills	Closed	Closed	0800-1700	0800-1900	0900-1700	Closed
A&FRC	Closed	Closed	0730-1630	0730-1630	Closed	Closed
Child Development Center	Closed	Closed	0600-1900	0600-1900	Closed	Closed
Youth Center	Closed	Closed	0800-1800	0800-1800	Closed	Closed
Family Child Care	Closed	Closed	0730-1630	0730-1630	Closed	Closed
Fitness Center	0800-1800	Closed	0800-1800	0800-1800	0800-1800	0800-1800
Ozark Inn Dining Facility	Brunch 0700-1230 Supper 1800-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Breakfast 0700-0900 Christmas Meal 1100-1400 Supper 1800-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Breakfast 0800-0930 Lunch 1100-1300 Dinner 1700-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Breakfast 0800-0930 Lunch 1100-1300 Dinner 1700-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Brunch 0700-1230 Supper 1800-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Brunch 0700-1230 Supper 1800-2000 Midnight 2300-0030
Touch and Go Flight Line Dining Facility	Closed	Closed	Breakfast 0800-0930 Lunch 1100-1300	Breakfast 0800-0930 Lunch 1100-1300	Closed	Closed
Military Personnel Customer Service	0730-1630	Closed	0730-1630	0730-1630	Closed	Closed
AAFES Exchange Main Store	0900-1700	Closed	0900-1900	0900-1900	0900-1900	1100-1800
Express Shoppette	0800-2100	Closed	0530-Midnight	0530-Midnight	0800-2300	0830-2300
Commissary	0800-1600	Closed	Closed	0900-1830	0900-1830	1000-1830

509th Force Support Squadron – New Year's Holiday Hours

	31 Dec 13 Tuesday	1 Jan 14 Wednesday	2 Jan 14 Thursday	3 Jan 14 Friday	4 Jan 14 Saturday	5 Jan 14 Sunday
Library	Closed	Closed	0830-1800	0830-1800	0830-1600	Closed
Outdoor Recreation	0830-1500	Closed	0830-1800	0830-1800	0800-1700	Closed
Bowling	0700-1500	Closed	0700-2100	0700-2300	0900-2300	1200-2100
Golf	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
ITT	Closed	Closed	1000-1500	1000-1500	Closed	Closed
Mission's End Club	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Auto Skills	Closed	Closed	0800-1700	0800-1800	0800-1700	Closed
A&FRC	Closed	Closed	0730-1630	0730-1630	Closed	Closed
Child Development Center	Closed	Closed	0600-1900	0600-1900	Closed	Closed
Youth Center	Closed	Closed	0800-1800	0800-1800	Closed	Closed
Family Child Care	Closed	Closed	0730-1630	0730-1630	Closed	Closed
Fitness Center	0800-1800	0800-1800	0500-0100	0500-2100	0800-2000	0800-2000
Ozark Inn Dining Facility	Brunch 0700-1230 Supper 1800-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Brunch 0700-1230 Supper 1800-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Breakfast 0800-0930 Lunch 1100-1300 Dinner 1700-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Breakfast 0800-0930 Lunch 1100-1300 Dinner 1700-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Brunch 0700-1230 Supper 1800-2000 Midnight 2300-0030	Brunch 0700-1230 Supper 1800-2000 Midnight 2300-0030
Touch and Go Flight Line Dining Facility	Closed	Closed	Breakfast 0800-0930 Lunch 1100-1300	Breakfast 0800-0930 Lunch 1100-1300	Closed	Closed
Military Personnel Customer Service	0730-1630	Closed	0730-1630	0730-1630	Closed	Closed
AAFES Exchange Main Store	0900-1700	Closed	0900-1900	0900-1900	0900-1900	1100-1800
Express Shoppette	0800-2300	0800-2000	0530-Midnight	0530-Midnight	0800-2300	0830-2300
Commissary	0800-1630	Closed	0900-1830	0900-1830	0900-1830	1000-1830

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509 FSS PAGE EDITOR: KYLE C. HAMRICK
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Citizen Airmen call on robust support to defeat holiday stressors, challenges

By Capt. Jeffrey M. Bishop
131st Bomb Wing Public Affairs

'Tis the season – for celebrations of faith, holiday get-togethers, rich foods and unwinding with family and friends. For some Air National Guard members, it can also be the season for added stress, depression, financial woes and hurried schedules.

Despite the mixed blessings, these Citizen Airmen have access to a significant support network that can help with holiday difficulties, helplessness and dread, according to counselors with the 131st Bomb Wing.

“Every family has issues. The holidays can charge what difficulties are already there. And many people struggle with deaths or with lost relationships during the holidays,” said 1st Lt. Charles Dey, a chaplain with the 131st Bomb Wing.

Stress is also more pronounced during the holidays, and while it is a normal reaction to difficulties and challenges, it can become a concern if it goes on for too long or is out of proportion to the situation, said Misty Dixon, 131st Bomb Wing director of psychological health.

“Recognize what stress looks like for you. It’s going to look differently to different people,” said Dixon.

Many holiday stressors are self-imposed, and Dixon advises Airmen to make good decisions that reflect Air Force and Air National Guard core values, and to exercise restraint when tempted to spend more for gifts than budgets allow.

“Know your limits, don’t overbook yourself and realize that there are resources available to help,” she said.

While it can be difficult and contrary to popu-

lar culture, Dey added that the holidays are an ideal time to change our traditional focus from gifts to relationships.

Dixon offered tips for coping with stress in the moment – finding quiet time, doing relaxation techniques and adjusting one’s perspective to get a better grasp on the big picture of a situation. She also advised getting adequate sleep, eating appropriately and limiting alcohol consumption.

Dixon said her leading strength as a licensed clinical social worker is her ability to connect Airmen with resources that can provide the exact help needed in a given situation, and she has established relationships with providers and agencies across the state. In addition to psychological health and chapel staff, Dixon and Dey recommend that Airmen who are struggling should take advantage of the following resources:

- Supervisors
- First sergeants or commanders
- Military OneSource: 800-342-9647 or www.militaryonesource.mil
- Military Crisis Line: 800-273-TALK (8255) or www.veteranscrisisline.net/ActiveDuty.aspx

While there are numerous resources to help Airmen cope with life’s stressors before, during and after the holidays, the first person to notice that help is needed might be a fellow Airman.

“We have a growing culture, as a wing, of being a family,” said Dey. “We can take for granted that it’s always there, but it requires each of us to create that culture, to be good wingmen to each other.”

“It’s OK to go to your brother or sister in uniform to ask for help, or to recognize that they might need help,” added Dixon. “We are 1,000 strong. There’s no reason anyone in the 131st



U.S. Air National Guard Photo/Airman Halley Burgess
Airman 1st Class Justin McClain, 131st Bomb Wing, shops for holiday gifts at the Whiteman Base Exchange.

should feel alone and helpless during the holidays.”

Defeating holiday “bah-humbugs” helps Airmen and also ensures a mission-ready wing – a point that Col. Michael Francis, 131st Bomb Wing commander, emphasized during his all-call town hall meeting Dec. 8.

“I am confident the wing will continue the successful legacy they’ve created this past year,” said Francis. “We are coming back in January to an exciting, dynamic 2014, leading off with a major inspection. It’s important that we use the holidays to relax and to recharge with friends and families.”

The irony of stress, loneliness and anxiety amidst heralds of “peace on Earth,” and “good will toward men,” does not escape Dey or Dixon, who remind Airmen that the reason for the

season – regardless of an individual’s faith background – can provide the ultimate hope to those who are hurting.

“Our faith has room for hopelessness, loss, grief and pain,” said Dey. “But our faith invites hope back in and helps us address these challenges and care for them in turn.”

**2013 Christmas Schedule
Whiteman AFB Spirit Chapel**

Catholic

- 5 p.m. Children’s Mass (24th)
- 12 a.m. Midnight Mass (24th)
- 11 a.m. Christmas Day Mass (25th)

Protestant

- 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service (24th)

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Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
212 N. Main St.
Warrensburg

Sunday School Starts 11:45 AM
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM
Thurs., Midweek Service 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

“The Church that love is building”
Rev. Terrence Moody - Pastor
660-747-5685
www.smbctoday.org

...be filled with the Spirit.
Ephesians 5:18

AG First Assembly of God

Dr. Alvin Langston
Dr. Esther Kay Langston

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Midweek Renewal 7:00 p.m. Wed's.

240 NW Highway 13 - Warrensburg
660-747-6762
www.AG-WBG.org

Bethel Baptist Church
Join Us!

Sunday School 10am
Morning Worship 11am
Wednesday: Prayer & Bible Study 7pm
• Nursery & Kids programs for ALL ages

“Independent, Bible Centered”
416 NW Highway 13
Warrensburg, MO 660-747-2173
(4 miles N. of Warrensburg)

bbc-burg.org

Heartland Church

Psalm 127:1

“A Church With A Heart Of Love”
Sunday Worship 10:00am
Sunday School 9:00am
Pastor Greg Morris
777 NE Highway 23
563-3810

CROSSROADS

Seventh Day Adventist Church
WARRENSBURG

Everyone Needs A Place To Come Home To
Join us every Saturday
5 miles W. of Warrensburg at the intersection of Hwys 50 & 58.

Worship Service **11:00 a.m.**
Sabbath School **9:45 a.m.**

**Pastor Al Oetman
660-287-5849**

Worship With Us

Charity Christian Revival Center
59 NE D. Hwy. - Knob Noster
Apostle Willie Shields, Jr.

Sunday School 10:00am
Worship Service 11:00am
(Children's Church & Nursery Available)
Wednesday Praise Service 7:00pm

563-4813
charitychristiancenter.org

Independent Fundamental

Grace Baptist Church
3304 S. Ingram - Sedalia

Sunday School 9:45am
Worship Sunday 10:45am & 6pm

826-2918

Wednesday Bible Study 7pm
Pastor Alvin Sipe

First Baptist Church

110 E. McPherson
Knob Noster
Pastor: Jim Richards
Sunday School **9:30am**
Worship **10:45am**
Nursery Provided
563-3071

Warrensburg Church of Christ
722 S. Maguire
Warrensburg, MO 64093

SUNDAY
9:30am - Sunday School
10:30 am - Worship
6:00 pm - Worship
WEDNESDAY
7:00 pm - Bible Study

“The Churches of Christ salute you!”
Rom. 16:16
Email: contactus@cofcwsbg.org
Web address: <http://www.cofcwsbg.org>
660-747-5519

Knob Noster United Methodist Church

106 E. Wimer,
Knob Noster, MO 65336
660.563.2724
knobumc@numc.com

Sunday Worship: 10:45
Sunday School: 9:30

First Baptist Church

“Applying God’s Word in Today’s World”

Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:00 & 10:30 am

Childcare Available
1302 S. Maguire
Warrensburg
747-9186

Web Site: www.fbcwburg.org
Email: fbcwburg@fbcwburg.org

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD
507 S. WASHINGTON KNOB NOSTER

660-563-5973
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
Sunday School 10:45 AM
Adult & Children

Jr. High and High School Youth Groups Meet Monthly

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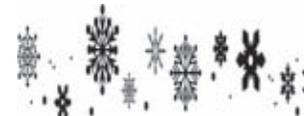
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Cute, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath Ranch style home with Central Air, a partial basement and recently remodeled. Call Mike at 660-238-2526. United Country, Mike Myers Real Estate \$50,000 www.unitedcountry.com/warrensburgmo



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Nice Ranch 3 Bedroom, 1 bath 1364 M/L sq. ft. home with Central Air, Totally remodeled with a new roof and fenced back yard! Call Mike 660-238-2526.
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Older home, 2 possible 3 bedroom, 1 bath, new paint inside and outside, new carpet, bath remodeled, corner lot, fenced back yard, 2 car garage in a great neighborhood. Century 21 Curry Realty. Agent Owned. Call 660-826-6139 or John Pope 660-441-3312.



Price Reduced! Beautiful 5 bedroom 3 bath ranch home on large corner lot. Open floor plan, stunning hardwood floors and finished walkout basement make this a must see. Blue Bird Real Estate, KAYE GANN, Realtor 660-233-3627 MLS# 43724 - \$225,000



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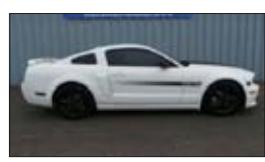
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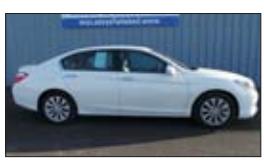
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