

*SecAF to address 'systemic problems', pg. 4/ AFSA Charity Ball, pg. 3*

# WARRIOR

A man in a dark blue military uniform and cap is shown in profile, speaking into a microphone at a podium. The background is a blurred image of a large, white, classical-style building with columns and a dome, likely the U.S. Capitol. A blue banner with white text is partially visible behind him.

WHITEMAN WELCOMES  
NEW 509th BW COMMANDER  
BRIG. GEN. GLEN VANHERCK



# Flying away with grace, grandeur!



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson  
**Maintainers salute Spirit of America flown by Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, commander of the 509th Bomb Wing, on his final flight as wing commander. This is Bussiere's fourth time being stationed at Whiteman, he now moves on to the Pentagon in Washington D.C.**

# Did you notice the difference?

By Lt. Col. Lonnie Hammack  
21st Mission Support Group

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFNS)** -- As I contemplated this article and the fact that it would be published during February, which is African American History Month, I thought at first that perhaps I'm not the best candidate to write this. After all, I'm not African-American or any other ethnic minority. Upon further reflection, I decided that some of the experiences I had growing up may be applicable. So step back a few decades in time with me for just a few minutes. The area of the country I'm from was very late in ending racial segregation. Even though my home county in Georgia was nearly equally divided between Caucasians and African-Americans, the only black person I knew until I was 8 years old was a lady that worked for my grandfather.

The entire society around me was segregated. My elementary school was all white and the black elementary school was on the other side of town. Before I started third grade, my father tried to explain desegregation to my siblings and me. I didn't really understand what was happening. I wasn't happy though because most of my cousins and friends had enrolled in neighboring counties and I would no longer see them at school. The first day in Mrs. Mays' class was rough. Desegregation had arrived, I didn't know many people and this one black kid kept picking on me. He called me names

(racial slurs) I had never heard before. I didn't know what those names meant, but I could tell he wasn't being nice. After school was over, we went outside and lined up for the bus. The same boy got in line behind me and continued to pick on me. I'd had enough by that time. I turned around and shoved him as hard as I could. He fell down, then quickly got back up, ready to fight. Before we could get started, Mrs. Mays broke it up and administered some much needed discipline (the old fashioned kind). The boy's name was Wayne Whiting and we became best friends shortly after sharing that experience. We were inseparable for many years, although we drifted apart a bit in high school. He retired from the Army several years ago and I lost contact with him, but I think of him often. Why do I tell this story? Because none of us are born with prejudices, racial or otherwise. Wayne didn't know what to expect from me and I didn't know what to expect from him. Maybe he'd had some negative experiences from other white people. I don't know what he thought about me, but he figured out pretty quickly that the only real difference between us was the color of our skin and that didn't really matter to two 8-year-old boys full of energy and mischief. We had many great adventures together after that (and received a number of paddlings for those adventures). One of the things I've enjoyed most about my Air Force career is the zero tolerance we have for racial discrimination.

It's very different from the racially tense atmosphere I grew up in. Once, early in my career, I was visiting home and met with another black classmate who had also joined the Air Force. We talked about the Air Force and after a while and then I asked him, "Did you notice the difference?" He said, "Yes, definitely." I didn't have to explain to him the context of what I meant. The difference in racial tolerance between what we were experiencing in the Air Force versus what we had experienced growing up in southwest Georgia was evident. Does this mean the Air Force has no further work to do in the area of racial reconciliation? No, sadly it is an area in which we must always remain diligent. We bring in people from many different backgrounds and cultures. Some come in with social prejudices that are not compatible with our core values. We must continue to educate our Airmen on the meaning of racial equality and equal opportunity and we must never tolerate deviance from the standard we have set. Our Air Force is much more diverse than when I joined it 30 years ago. I enjoy talking with Airmen from many different cultures. We have so much we can learn from one another. I hope all of you will take the time this month to look around and celebrate our Air Force diversity. (Lt. Col. Lonnie Hammack is the deputy commander of the 21st Mission Support Group)

## THE WARRIOR

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

## On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo/  
Senior Airman Peter Thompson  
**U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Glen VanHerck speaks to a Veteran's Day parade crowd Nov. 9, 2013, in downtown Abilene, Texas. VanHerck thanked the Abilene community for their continued support for Dyess Air Force Base and spoke about the legacy of past Air Force heroes.**

## NEWS BRIEFS

**509th MUNS schedules stockpile inventory**

The 509 Munitions Squadron will be conducting a 100% stockpile inventory during the 3rd-7th of March 2014. If you need any munitions issued or have any that need to be turned in, please do so either the week prior or after the inventory. During this week we will only process emergency requests, submitted in writing, and approved by the group commander (or equivalent). If you have any questions or concerns please contact MSgt Smith at 687-8049 or TSgt Bowlin at 687-8051.

**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/whiteman-retireeactivitiesoffice/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.



## WEATHER

<b>Today</b> Sunny Hi 54 Lo 28	<b>Saturday</b> Partly Sunny Hi 44 Lo 29
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<b>Sunday</b> Partly Sunny Hi 39 Lo 26	<b>Monday</b> Partly Sunny Hi 35 Lo 22
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# The United States Air Force Charity Ball

## Charity Ball Lifeline to Airmen

On April 5th the Air Force family will join together to celebrate the Air Force Charity Ball and Silent Auction. This annual event has become an 11-year tradition of charitable giving in support of the Air Force Aid Society and the thousands of Airmen and families they assist.

The Air Force Aid Society, the Air Force's officially recognized charity, offer a lifeline for Airmen and their families. The AFAS helped Staff Sergeant Arrin Tune, from Minot AFB, pick up the pieces after her home was severely damaged by the flooding of the Souris River in 2011.

"When I got the call about Air Force Aid helping me, I cried....there was a huge relief lifted off my shoulders."

Sergeant Tune went on to say of those who helped rebuild her home, "I don't know how to show my appreciation so all I can do is say thank you to all who have helped me rebuild my home. There are not enough words to express how grateful I am."

The 2014 Air Force Charity Ball Chairman, Tanya Harencak, says of the Ball, "It is one of the largest fundraisers for the AFAS and has generated over 5.4 million dollars since its inception."

Monies raised on support the Air Force mission by improving the lives of Airmen and their families through a variety of programs. These programs offer emergency aid, educational assistance, and community enhancement. Additionally, programs have been designed specifically to support the families of deployed airmen as well such as, "Give Parents a Break" or "Car Care Because We Care".

Mrs. Harencak adds, "Your support will directly make a difference to all Air Force families in need. We can't do it without help" and directs individuals to the AFAS's website, <http://www.afas.org>, to see how they are impacting local communities.

To learn more about the Charity Ball visit [www.airforcecharityball.org](http://www.airforcecharityball.org).

## Airmen can 'chat' live via myPers for personnel support

By Janis El Shabazz

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas (AFNS)** -- Air Force Personnel Center officials have implemented a live chat capability on the myPers website to allow real-time communication between Airmen in the field and personnel specialists.

Launched in 2012, myPers represents a shift from primarily face-to-face personnel interaction to a process that enables Airmen to handle their personnel transactions - on demand, 24/7 - from a military or personal computer using a common access card or login identification and password.

The myPers web site provides Airmen a single access point for information and personnel services. In 2013, AFPC added the chat feature to ensure the tools available to Airmen keep pace with emerging commercial technologies.

myPers provides direct online access to reliable, integrated, secure information and answers, enhancing an Airman's ability to monitor and manage personnel information, said 2nd Lt. Zachary Newman, AFPC Transitions Branch support officer.

"The chat feature gives Airmen a fast and convenient way to get answers directly from subject matter experts on specific questions that may not be available on the website," he said.

The chat feature comes up automatically when members search for key

topics like retirement, separation or retraining. Force management is not a topic that generates a chat but Airmen can ask about FM during a retirements or separations chat. For example a military person applying for retirement or separation will be able to chat with a customer service representative about his or her application or ask a specific question on force management and get a real time response through chat or be directed to the proper reference by the customer service representative.

Following the session, the TFSC emails a chat transcript to the member for his or her records. Records of a member's previous chats are also available on the myPers website. Chat hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

myPers information is constantly refreshed to ensure Airmen have the most up to date information at their fingertips. Newman considers the chat feature a true example of a 'just in time' tool because of the current heightened force management activity, Newman said.

"We want to ensure Airmen always know where they can find the most current information. This is especially important in this climate of transformation," he said. "We do everything possible to ease the stress that is inherent whenever major policy changes occur. myPers offers answers to questions covering a vast array of Air Force Personnel issues, such as separations, base-of-preference, and the latest news on the upcoming force management

programs."

The site is customized - recognizing the users as officer, enlisted, civilian, Reserve or Guard - and provides access to personnel information and links to the most commonly used applications. Airmen can also find information on processing requests and timelines on the site.

"The myPers website should be the first stop for Airmen seeking access to personnel information services," said Newman. "However, if they find they need further assistance they can call the Total Force Service Center to speak to a customer service representative. The TFSC centralizes processes and access for most military and civilian personnel services and center phone staff can answer whatever questions an Airman might have on personnel topics."

To contact the TFSC, call 210-565-0102, DSN 665-0102 or toll free 800-525-0102. Airmen can also select the myPers "contact us" link to email questions to the TFSC.

"We are constantly seeking new ways to better serve our Airmen," said Newman. "The myPers website with its multitude of topics and information gives Airmen efficient and timely tools to access and manage their personnel information anytime and anywhere they might be."

For more information about general personnel issues or the latest force management news, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>.



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# SecAF outlines plan to address 'systemic problems'

By Army Sgt. 1st Class  
Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James shared her observations from her visit with airmen across the ICBM community following revelations of a proficiency-test cheating scandal at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont., last month.

Speaking to an audience at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, James discussed her visits to bases in Wyoming, North Dakota, Montana and Louisiana.

"I received command briefs, I took tours, [and] I learned about the mission, firsthand," she said. "And very importantly, I talked directly to Airmen."

Using town hall meetings and focus group environments, James said, she spoke to missileers, security forces, maintenance, support and facilities personnel -- all without their commanders or any note-takers present.

"I got a microcosm of all the different types of teammates," she said. "And what I learned in all of these settings was actually very enlightening."

Based on these discussions, James said, she was able to come up with seven areas that she said will be addressed as part of the action plan the Air Force owes to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel within 60 days.

"I believe that, in fact, we do have some systemic problems in the force," she said. "I picked up on morale issues as I went from place to place." James cited spotty morale, micromanagement and the "need for perfection" as part of this systemic problem at every base she visited.

"The need for perfection has created a climate of what I think is undue stress and fear among the missile community about their futures," she said. "And again, it wasn't just at Malmstrom, where the cheating incident occurred. I heard this at every place I visited."

A holistic approach is essential in fixing the problem, the Air Force secretary said. "To just go after the incident of cheating is not adequate," she added, "and so, I think wholistic is the way to go."

The secretary's second observation involved an unhealthy climate bred by the way test scores are used to motivate airmen. In addition to having to score 90 percent or better on three monthly proficiency tests, James explained, missileers also have to perform well on periodic simulations and other forms of outside inspections and evaluations.

"What I found is that the missileers felt driven to score 100 percent all the time," she said. This is because commanders were using test scores as

the sole factor in promotions, explained. "So to me, a huge irony in this whole situation is that these missileers who cheated probably didn't even cheat to meet the standard or to pass," she added.

It could very well be that they cheated in an effort to get a 100 percent score all the time, because that is the prevailing mentality, James said.

"The third [observation] is accountability," she said. "I'll be short and sweet on this one: there is going to be accountability in this matter. There certainly will be appropriate accountability for individuals who participated in the incident. We're also assessing leadership accountability in this."

The secretary said her fourth observation dealt with professionalism and leadership development, and "we have some work to do here as well."

James pointed to how airmen receive training and mentorship, not just in their jobs, but also in leadership. "We place a great premium on leadership in the Air Force," she said. "Are they getting the appropriate levels of leadership? Do they get the professional mentorship and supervision that I've seen go on elsewhere in the Air Force? As I mentioned, this is a young, so mentorship and leadership from higher levels is important."

The fifth observation, she said, is a need to reinvigorate the Air Force's core values: "Integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do."

"And of course, this was a major failure of integrity -- integrity first," James said. "So airmen need to be reminded, and we need to look for ways to build this in at all levels throughout their careers."

The Air Force secretary also noted Hagel's announcement last week that he will appoint a senior general officer to focus on "core values, ethics, character [and] leadership."

"We want to do this across the board in the military, and certainly, we in the Air Force will be an important part of this effort," James said.

For her sixth observation, James pointed to potential lessons to be learned from how the Navy oversees its nuclear force -- for example, a clear path for promotion.

"I call this 'incentives, accolades and recognition,'" she said. Should we consider some sort of incentive pay or educational benefits for certain types of work in this career field so that it becomes more attractive?" James asked.

"They do such things in the Navy," she continued. Air Force officials are learning more about what the Navy does, she said, to see what might apply.

See SecAF outlines, page 14

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# Arriving in one piece: TMO ensures proper care for owner's property



**Airman 1st Class Bing Liu, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron transportation management apprentice, inspects information on a box at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Feb. 5, 2014. This process is done to confirm the information is accurate and the property is delivered to its destination.**

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

From the mail carriers to the final destination, packages and parts are being processed and handled with caution, ensuring delivery to the customer in one piece.

Whiteman Air Force Base receives a steady flow of mail and supplies for both military and civilian personnel. Regulating and properly distributing these items is one of the responsibilities of the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron's transportation management office.

When mail and supplies arrive, TMO performs procedures to ensure the material is safe, and delivered to its rightful owner.

"We inspect the property and ensure there

is no shortage, overage, hazardous material or damage," said Airman 1st Class Garrett Rosio, 509th LRS traffic management journeyman. "We also make sure the documents match up with the information on the box, process and distribute it to indoor supply."

Whenever TMO receives customer's supplies, they record the information on the property, contact the owner and notify them to pick it up.

TMO handles both classified and general routine property to include parts supporting aircraft, such as the B-2 Spirit, and vehicles around the base. When parts arrive, they are processed and ship to their destination.

"If a customer orders something for their shop, the property arrives through various

carriers such as UPS or FedEx, to us," said Staff Sgt. Tarae Day, 509th LRS NCO in charge of inbound cargo. "We get the property, sign for it and process it to ensure the customer got exactly what they ordered. If someone ordered a quantity of three and a quantity of four arrived instead, this would be an example of an overage; meaning we received more than what was requested. We would still document and process the information into the system stating we received the property on the customer's behalf. After it has been processed, the customer can receive it."

TMO records every property's information onto a DD Form 1348-A1. This form helps TMO keep accountability of the property, and contains pertinent information such as national stock number, description, and whether its

classified or not. The information is then documented into two systems: enterprise solutions supply and cargo movement operations system.

"If the person has a tracking number and wants to see if the property has arrived, they would go to the CMOS," Day said. "Once the person has plugged their information into the system, it will show them the date, time and whoever signed for it."

If the property is damaged, TMO will initiate the process of sending it to the supply inspection section. Once supply receives the property, they will determine why it's broken and what needs to be done with it.

"We do what is called a supply discrepancy report which states that there is something wrong with the property," Day said. "Once the documentation has been made, we gather with supply to decide what to do with the property."

Along with damaged property, TMO may also receive property intended for another base; this is called a misdirected shipment. TMO will continue the routine process of documenting the property as if it was intended for Whiteman AFB. The system then informs TMO on where the property was intended to be shipped to.

TMO personnel are frequently faced with potential hazardous elements, and receive supplemental training on hazardous material preparation to learn how to handle hazardous material.

"Supplemental training is important because someone who doesn't have this training could possibly sign for property delivery and not be aware that the material could be hazardous," Day said. "Supplemental training is a two-week temporary duty assignment for apprentices at Fort Lee, Va.; bases can vary depending on the availability of instructors."

One of TMO's goals is to remain a top notch program, ready and willing to help all Team Whiteman. Having tight-knit bond with fellow co-workers and leadership helps TMO achieve this.

"I love the people I work with... we are just one big family," Rosio said. "If one person needs something, they don't even have to ask. Everyone, including our leadership, will help that person out whether it's personal needs or transportation. It's one of the tightest families I've known besides my own. It ain't success without LRS!"



**Airman 1st Class Tucker Andrews, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron transportation management apprentice, applies labels to boxes. Labels and accountability documents are placed onto the box to ensure the property is delivered to its final destination.**



**Airman 1st Class Bing Liu, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron transportation management apprentice, marks a DD Form 1348-A1. The form ensures the document matches the information on the box.**

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



# ANG immunization expert says flu shot still vital

By Airman Halley Burgess  
131st Bomb Wing Public Affairs

It's deep into flu season, and public health officials continue to work to spread the word about the importance of getting the flu shot, especially in light of a recent increase in a particularly severe flu strain affecting young adults.

A recent World Health Organization advisory indicated that flu activity remains high across North America, according to Lt. Col. Susan Walker, chief nurse executive for the Missouri Air National Guard's 131st Medical Group.

"The majority of what they are seeing out there is H1N1," said Walker of the flu strain that is famous for causing severe illness and in some cases, death - even amongst otherwise healthy young adults. "The vaccine we are using this season provides protection against the Influenza A- H1N1 flu strain," she added.

Walker, a traditional Guard member, is somewhat of an expert in and out of uniform; when not helping to manage health care operations here, she teaches and assesses military immunization programs in her civilian role as an immunization healthcare specialist.

Another expert is Senior Master Sgt. Jessica Settle, a Human Resources Advisor with the 131st Bomb Wing who works as a planner for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. She attributes the uptick in H1N1 amongst the 25-to-47-year-old demographic to their neglecting to get immunized.

According to Walker, the Department of Defense has exceeded its goal to have 90 percent of the force immunized by mid-December, and Settle urges all Airmen who haven't yet done so to be sure that they get

the vaccine. She also suggests that Airmen remind their friends and loved ones that it is not too late in the season to get vaccinated.

"The 'regular' flu season has not yet peaked and typically lasts until May," said Settle. Even after the flu season peaks, expeditionary Airmen remain vulnerable, according to Walker.

"Our people could deploy to areas where the flu season is still prevalent," she said, so "DOD will vaccinate for flu up to June 30, 2014 - the expiration date on the vaccine."

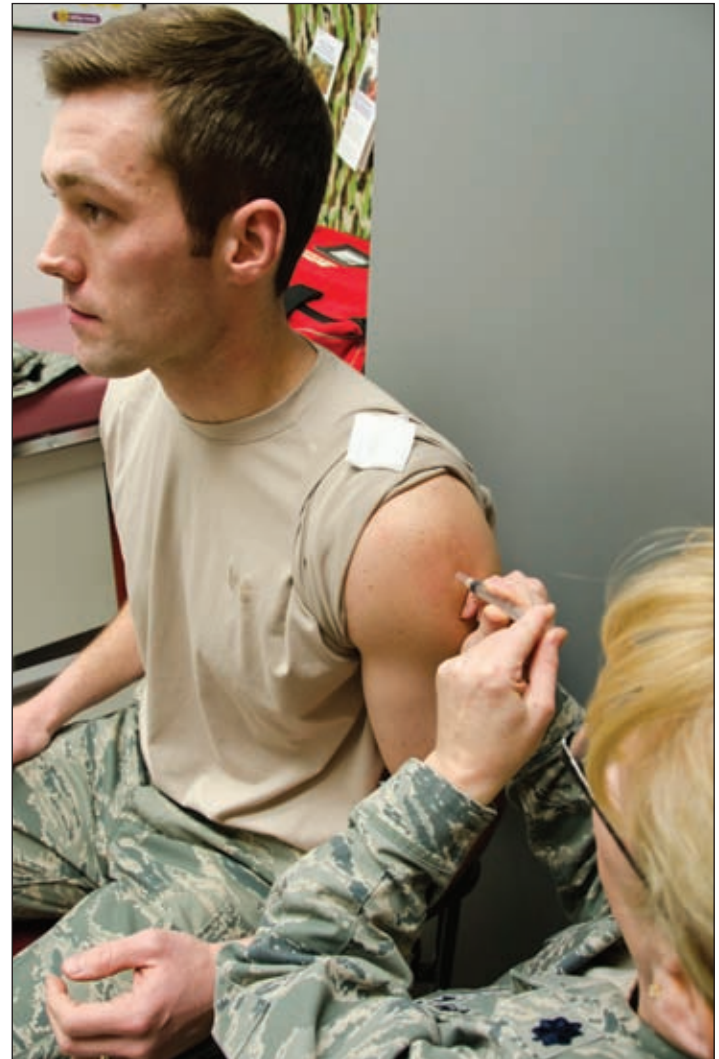
In addition to getting vaccinated, Settle reminds everyone to be mindful of their personal hygiene - and the hygiene of the people around them as well - in order to maximize protection against the flu.

"It is a culmination of neglecting to cough or sneeze in a tissue and going out while sick, along with not being vaccinated, that causes illness outbreaks," Settle said.

While it is important to protect yourself the flu vaccine, is not recommended to anyone who has a condition or medical reasons which advise against it. Pregnant women, young children, people with chronic health problems, and the elderly are strongly advised to get vaccinated.

*Capt. Jeffrey Bishop contributed to this article.*

**An Airman of the 131st Bomb Wing, Missouri Air National Guard, receives his annual flu shot from Lt. Col. Susan Walker, chief nurse executive for the 131st Medical Group. Flu season has not peaked yet and typically lasts until May, making it vitally important to get vaccinated.**



U.S. Air National Guard photo/Airman Halley Burgess

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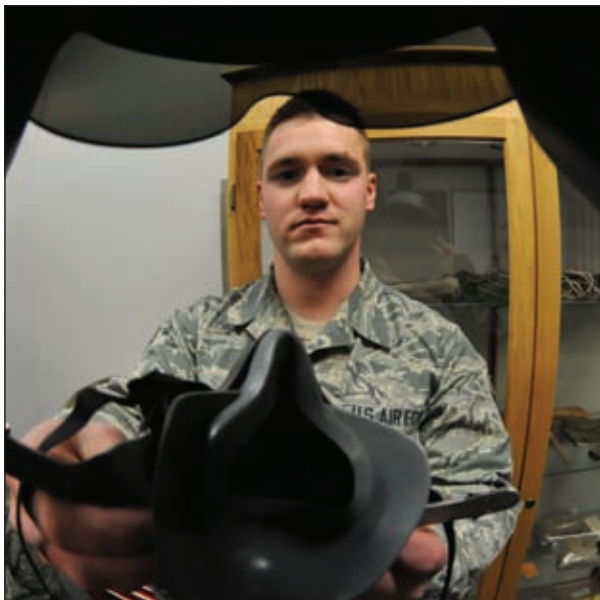
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# Safety, standards first



Airman 1st Class Anthony Patterson and Airman 1st Class Adam Clapp, 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technicians, demonstrate how to fit a pilot's helmet and MBU-20/P soft shell mask. The mask provides oxygen to the pilot while flying at high altitudes.



Airman 1st Class Anthony Patterson, 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment specialist, demonstrates how the MBU-20/P soft shell mask fits onto a pilot's face. AFE technicians inspect all the safety equipment on a daily basis.



Airman 1st Class Adam Clapp, 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technician, inspects the harnesses on a back automatic-22 parachute inside a B-2 ground egress simulator. The egress simulator is used to train pilots how to get out of the aircraft in an emergency situation on the runway.



Airman 1st Class Brandon Perry, 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technician, sanitizes an MBU-20/P soft shell mask. AFE technicians clean the insides of the masks to ensure there are no contaminants, debris or germs in the mask.

**By Airman 1st Class Joel Pfister**  
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Pilots as well as Airmen must be knowledgeable about safety equipment and survival procedures in the event that a mission goes awry and their aircraft goes down.

The Airmen from the 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment shop are experts when it comes to reacting to emergency situations, and the proper use of emergency safety equipment.

The Airmen do pre-flight and post-flight inspections on safety equipment including parachutes, helmets, floatation devices, and survival kits.

"Here we inspect the harnesses, helmets and oxygen masks for the pilots to ensure that they are fit properly," said Airman 1st Class Anthony Patterson, 509th OSS AFE technician. "We are basically a customer service shop for the pilots. Anything they need regarding their equipment, we are here to fix it."



Airman 1st Class Adam Clapp, 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technician, demonstrates hanging harness training at Whiteman Air Force Base Mo., Feb. 12, 2014. The training is used to simulate a situation when a pilot or aircrew member's parachute gets caught on telephone wires or trees.

Even after three months of technical training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, there is still much to learn within the AFE career field.

Follow-on training courses such as water survival, land survival, and crash investigation courses are available to AFE technicians.

"There's a lot to learn and there are still aspects that I need to perfect," Patterson said. "We are always getting better and we are always learning."

In the unfortunate event an aircrew member has to make use of emergency equipment, the efforts of these Airmen could mean the difference between life and death.

"If the pilot hits the water with that parachute on, and they don't release properly, the equipment that's meant to save their life could actually kill them," said Senior Airman Steven Honkala, 509th OSS AFE technician.

"They don't want to have to use our equipment but if they do, it's going to have to be 100 percent perfect," said Airman 1st Class Brandon Perry, 509th OSS AFE technician.

According to Perry, the AFE career field requires strict attention to detail.

"We put a lot of time in and we bust our butts," Perry said. "Our job is basically life support so they are always on top of every little detail and they are always making us better at doing our job."

The AFE shop has B-2 and T-38 ground egress simulators with simulated smoke and cabin pressure.

"We basically run them through the training aspects of how to get out of the aircraft in an emergency situation on the runway," said Staff Sgt Joshua Riffe, 509th OSS AFE NCO in charge. "We train with that once a week."

They also perform hanging harness training to simulate a situation when a pilot or aircrew member's parachute gets caught on telephone wires or trees.

The Air Force Specialty code 1P0X1 was created by combining the 1T0X1 Life Support, and 2A7X4 Survival Equipment.

Now that the career fields have merged it's a one-stop shop when it comes to emergency equipment, according to Riffe.

"If we noticed something with our inspections on the life support side of the house we would have to take it over to survival and let them know what was wrong with it," Riffe said. "Then we'd wait until they were done repairing it before we'd get it back and now we are a one-stop shop."

Working with the pilots and ensuring their safety brings a sense of camaraderie to the airmen working in the AFE shop.

"The communication with the aircrew members and hearing what they're doing and why we're here. To see the global mission," Riffe said. "That's the best part, hands down."

"You hear stories about a pilot they knew, or a pilot that happened to be their father or grandfather that had to eject from and aircraft and they realize the importance of our job," Honkala said. "And if we weren't doing our job then that person would be down a friend, father, sibling or something like that. They come in here and tell us 'Hey, you guys do a great job, and we know how important you are to this base.' It's fun to hear them say that."



# Air Force launches enhanced civilian development site

**MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFNS)** -- The Ira C. Eaker Center for Professional Development recently made available a new tool to assist civilians with their professional development.

The Civilian Development Resource Center is an online clearinghouse providing access to development roadmaps, learning programs and thousands of no-cost courses, books, videos, job aids, simulations, articles and more.

Formerly known as the Supervisor Resource Center, the site offers easier navigation and a broader array of resources that support professional development for non-supervisory and supervisory career tracks.

The Eaker Center's Future Learning and Civilian Education Division designed the CDRC site to help users quickly target customizable learning programs that focus on their individual development needs. Additionally, students can access courses required for some professional certifications. These assets can be accessed anytime and anywhere, thus providing flexibility and protecting members valuable time.

"The civilian workforce is one of the Air Force's greatest assets," said Russell Frasz, director, Force Development, deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services, Headquarters U.S. Air Force. "Continuously developing oneself is a personal responsibility for all Airmen. The

Civilian Development Resource Center plays a key role in maintaining Air Force's innovative and competitive edge by assisting personnel to develop their professional competencies in an efficient and cost-conscious manner."

The site incorporates flexible learning programs that can be tailored to each individual's development pathway and includes building blocks that are typical of a civilian's career, such as "new employee," "developing to journeyman employee," "experienced employee," "new supervisor" and "experienced supervisor."

To help users focus on the most beneficial areas for development, an assessment tool is available on the site that provides feedback and identifies the skills development needed to improve performance. In addition to the career tracks listed above, topical learning programs are also available and are aligned with the Air Force institutional competencies. A monthly newsletter highlights selected courses, books and learning tips spotlighting various learning programs focused on competency.

The CDRC is a self-paced development tool available on demand to meet the needs of current and future Air Force leaders. It is accessible via the Air Force Portal main page under the Career and Training tab.

*(Information courtesy of the Ira C. Eaker Center for Professional Development)*

# IMAGE Meritorious Service award seeks nominees for 2014

**By Sammie King**

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas (AFNS)** -- The Air Force is seeking nominations for the 2014 National Image, Incorporated Meritorious Service award, Air Force Personnel Center officials announced Jan. 24.

The IMAGE Meritorious Service award honors individual civilian employees and military members who supported the DOD mission or overseas contingency

operations, or whose activities best demonstrate the core values of their respective military service or agency.

Each major command, field operating agency and direct reporting unit may submit two nominations, which are due June 11, 2014. The period for performance is for this award is from July 1, 2013 through July 31, 2014.

For application package criteria and nomination package instructions, go to the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>.

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# 13th Bomb Squadron brings global strike capability to Red Flag



Jeff Scheid/Las Vegas Review-Journal

**B-2 Spirit bomber pilots Capt. Garrett "Shredder" Bartee, left, and Capt. Colten "Dexter" White in front of the "Spirit of Texas" at Nellis Air Force Base on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2014. The B-2S squadron, based at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., participated in Red Flag air combat exercises. More than 125 aircraft from partner nations and the U.S. Air Force, Navy, Marines and Army attended the event.**

**By Airman 1st Class Thomas Spangler**  
99th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

**NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev.** -- Gliding through the air like a phantom in the night, the B-2 Spirit evades enemy air defenses, finds its target, then unleashes its firepower only to slip away from the enemy as quietly as it came.

During the years, Red Flag exercises have progressed from dog fight air-to-air combat training into complete combat integration involving all aspects of air warfare. Air-to-ground attacks are a vital part of an air campaign, and the 13th Bomb Squadron brings the B-2, a vital asset, to that fight.

The B-2, and its unique characteristics, helps ensure the U.S. and its allies maintain control of the airspace.

"The B-2 can bring a global strike capability at any time," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Schreiner, 13th BS commander.

"The B-2 is a high altitude dominant force capable of taking out any high value target while evading enemy radar," said Master Sgt. David Rohde, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron production superintendent.

The B-2 is a low observable aircraft, meaning it can evade enemy air and ground defenses, release its munitions on target, and return home all with-it being detected.

"It is a dual-role bomber, meaning it can carry both conventional and nuclear munitions. During Red Flag exercises, we're using [conventional] ordinance," Schreiner said.

The 13th BS was established in 1917 and has fought in every major conflict the U.S. has been involved in since. The stealth abilities and level of firepower the B-2 has is just the latest in a long line of bomber aircraft and weaponry used by the squadron.

During Red Flag 14-1, the B-2 has participated in exercises alongside more than 125 other aircraft including the F-22 Raptor, F-16 Fighting Falcon, KC-135 Stratotanker,



Jeff Scheid/Las Vegas Review-Journal

**B-2 Spirit bomber pilots Capt. Garrett "Shredder" Bartee, left, and Capt. Colten "Dexter" White walk near the "Spirit of Texas" at Nellis Air Force Base on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2014. The B-2s squadron, based at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., participated in Red Flag air combat exercises. More than 125 aircraft from partner nations and the U.S. Air Force, Navy, Marines and Army attended the event.**

and aircraft from Great Britain and Australia. The B-2 was incorporated into mission packages to take out ground targets presenting a threat to other aircraft that don't have the same stealth characteristics. Once the high-value ground targets were neutralized, the other aircraft were able to conduct their missions.

Getting the B-2s to Nellis AFB was a large operation. The 13th BS brought more than 100 military members from Whiteman AFB, Mo, to include maintainers, operators and defenders from the 509th Security Forces Squadron. All of these people are essential for the B-2 to effectively participate in Red Flag.

The 13th BS brought its own security forces for several reasons. One reason is the B-2 requires around-the-clock armed guard because it is such a valuable asset, and the squadron did not want to lean too heavily on security forces from the 99th SFS. The second reason was Whiteman AFB security forces understand the unique circumstances of

guarding the aircraft.

In addition to bringing invaluable assets to Red Flag, the 13th BS also benefited from the exercise.

"Red Flag is a good stepping stone and training environment for real world operations" said Rohde, who has participated in six Red Flag exercises.

"Any time you're away from home it will put on added stress" Schreiner said.

The combined stress of being away from home and training in a fast paced environment ensures the squadron was that much more combat ready and efficient when the time comes for real world operations.

"We are known as 'The Devil's own grim reapers,'" Schreiner said.

The ability to strike any target, any time, at any location with extreme lethality justifies this saying. That lethal efficiency is only possible through the men and women who pilot, maintain, and defend the Spirit.



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

Chaplain (Col.) Gerald D. McManus, gives a speech during the National Prayer Breakfast at Mission's End at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Feb. 19, 2014. The National Prayer Breakfast, formerly known as the Presidential Prayer Breakfast, has roots in a rich tradition dating back to 1942 when leaders in the Senate and House of Representatives met weekly for prayer out of concern for the U.S.'s involvement in World War II. The breakfast is held annually today in the military by service members to continue America's tradition of celebrating individual diverse faith backgrounds.

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## DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT



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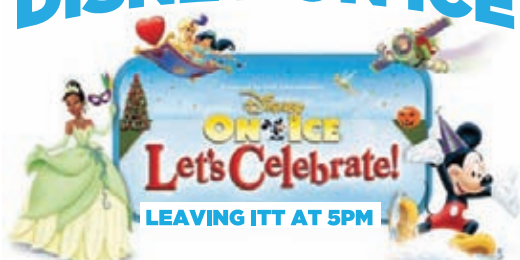
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### WHITEMAN AFB INFORMATION, TICKETS & TRAVEL DISNEY ON ICE



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**March 13:**  
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**509 FSS PAGE EDITOR: KYLE C. HAMRICK**  
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# DOD to mandate documentation for lost, stolen CAC cards

**By Army Sgt. 1st Class  
Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.**  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (AFNS)** — Later this year, the Defense Department will begin fully enforcing a previously optional policy regarding the reissuance of lost or stolen common access cards, a defense official said here today.

Sam Yousef, a program manager for identity and benefits policy at the Defense Human Resources Activity, discussed an update to the current CAC issuance policy during an interview with American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel.

“Beginning in late March (or) early April of this year, we are going to begin fully enforcing current common access card policy, which will require individuals to bring supporting documentation if they have had their ID cards lost or stolen,” he said. “If you have your card lost or stolen, you should work with your local security office or the individual sponsoring you for that ID card.”

People requesting a replacement card will need to produce a document on component or agency letterhead that explains that the card has been lost or stolen, he added. Yousef noted the document should be signed, and individuals must bring it with them to have a new card issued.

“If the card has been stolen they may also bring in the police report that accounts for that,” he added. “This will not only get the department

in full compliance with our policy, but it will also create better accountability for individuals who have had their cards lost or stolen.”

Though this has been a part of the current policy, Yousef noted, it was not mandated at CAC card-issuing locations.

“Previously, in the last couple of years, we have actually updated the system to capture this documentation on an optional basis,” he said. “So what will happen in late March (or) early April is it will be required as part of that reissuance to bring supporting documentation with you.”

The supporting documentation will be scanned and stored in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, he added.

This will affect all common access card-eligible individuals, both military and civilian, Yousef said.

In addition to being an additional security precaution, Yousef said this measure will help to prevent people from replacing their cards just as a matter of personal convenience.

“It creates better awareness with our local security offices (and) our individuals that are sponsoring our contractors for common access cards,” he said. “So this way, they have full oversight if someone is losing multiple ID cards.”

Following the update in requirements this spring, Yousef emphasized, it will be important for people to ensure they bring this documentation with them to have a card reissued, noting that most ID card-issuing sites already have been requiring it for quite some time.

## SecAF outlines Continued from Page 4

“What about medals and ribbons, and other forms of accolades?” James asked. “We need to look at all of that, and by the way, we need to know how to do this for our officer corps, but we also need to it for the enlisted force as well, because they are working extremely hard under what are arduous conditions as well.”

James called her final observation “other investments,” and asked, “Do we put enough of our money where our mouth is?”

By that, she explained, she means whether there should be consideration of additional funding for increased manning levels or higher priority for certain military construction or maintenance, or even toward addressing quality-of-life issues.

“I mentioned earlier these are sometimes remote locations,” she noted, “so quality of life

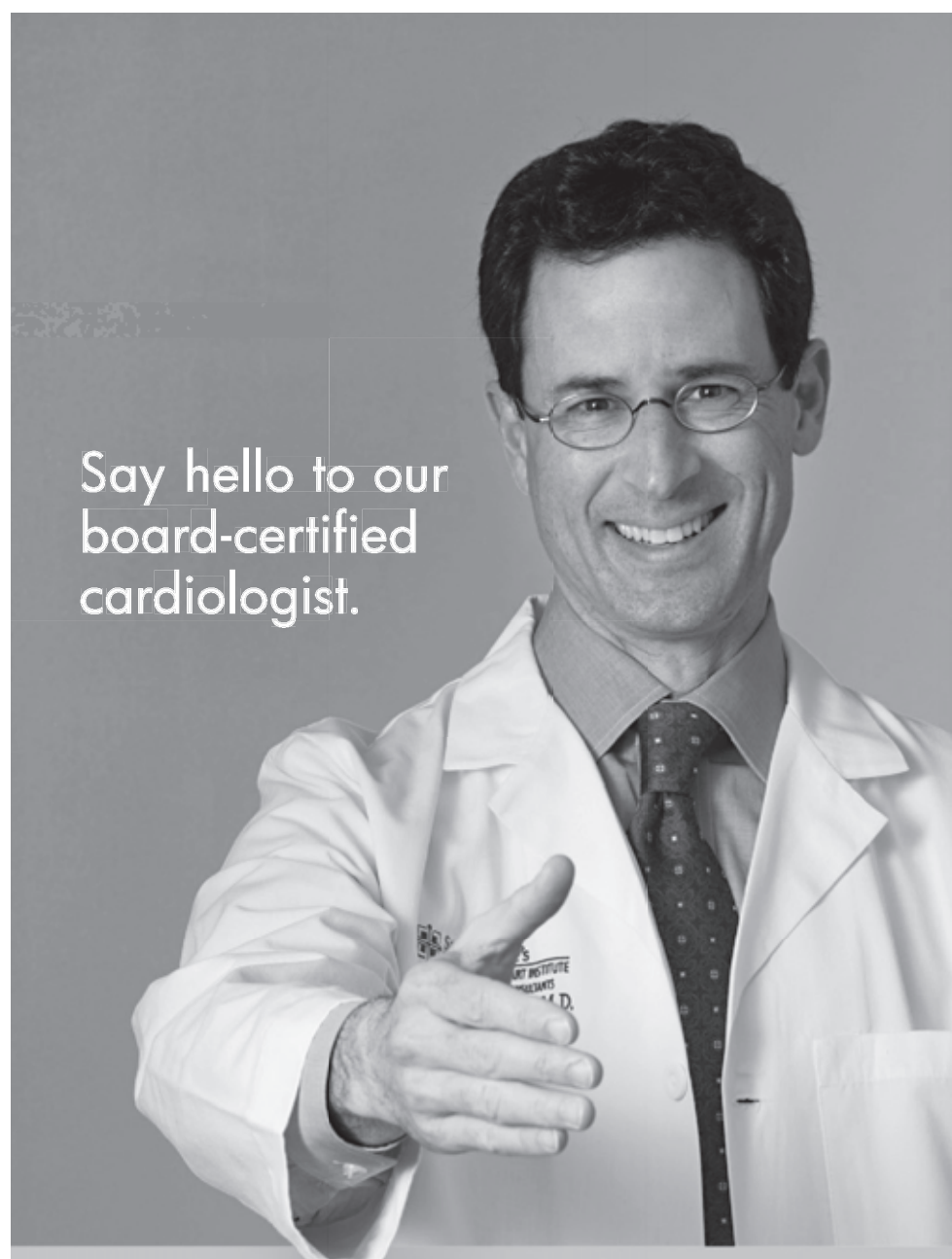
counts.”

James emphasized that while the specific cheating incident will be addressed, a holistic approach and a look at the totality of the nuclear enterprise will be part of the process.

“You may have noticed that each of my seven observations directly relate and focus on people,” she said. “I think people are the core of this, and so getting this done right for people in the future will be key to us moving forward.”

James noted while 92 airmen have been implicated in the cheating incident, “the vast majority of our airmen, particularly, the vast majority of the 36,000 that are involved with this mission ... are performing superbly.”

“They are working hard,” she said. “They are doing great work for you and for me, and with great pride every day.”



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