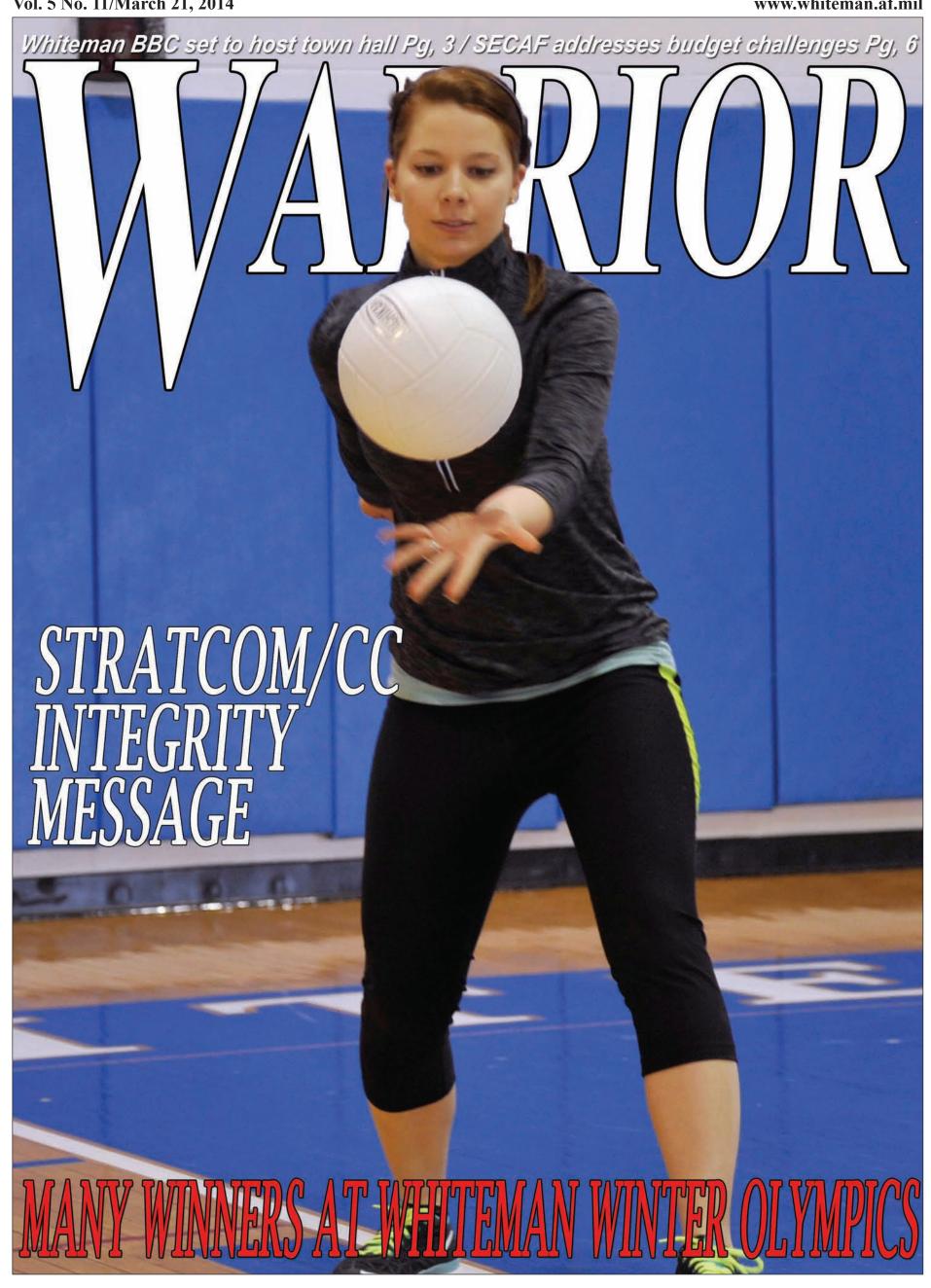
Vol. 5 No. 11/March 21, 2014



The Warrior
March 21, 2014

Commentary

Commander's Message on Integrity

As national security defense professionals, we have undertaken an enormous responsibility. We vow to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies. To accomplish this task, the Nation has entrusted us with capabilities and weapons of unprecedented sophistication and destructive power. To meet the complex and dynamic security challenges of the 21st century, we must maintain a firm and unrelenting commitment to the core values of our profession.

As military members and DoD civilian employees, we are part of a chosen profession with shared and distinctive values, ethics and standards. Our business requires an extraordinary degree of operational readiness and unparalleled professional skill. We will meet these challenges because our Nation demands it and because failure to do so is unacceptable.

Over the last six months, a small percentage of our team deviated from the integrity standards expected of strategic deterrence professionals. Individual lapses in core values reflect poorly on the entire team and can have a negative impact on our ability to execute our Unified Command Plan missions. Once trust is broken it is very dif-



Admiral C.D. Haney USSTRATCOM Commander

ficult to resurrect. Given the importance of our assigned responsibilities to deter and detect attacks against the United States and our Allies, we must have a foundation of mutual trust, confidence and integrity.

Our respective Service core values are not words on a bumper sticker; they require a concerted effort to ensure the moral health of our profession, and require continuous reinforcement. We must help others recognize when and how core values apply; this is your role as shipmates, wingmen, battle buddies and civilian equivalents. Talk to each other about integrity, loyalty, selfless service and excellence – talk about core values in the galley, on the flight line, in the missile fields and in your office space. Shared values require shared effort if we are to meet our obligation to do what is right all the time, even when no one else is looking.

I remain immensely proud of the USSTRATCOM team. Let us not allow these recent issues to detract from the outstanding work you are doing around the clock and around the world. I challenge you to live to the core values of our profession in all of your words and actions. Do the hard work. Act with honor. Work as a team to reinforce these core values. Never sacrifice integrity. This demands an "all-hands" effort. In particular, I expect my leaders – officer, enlisted and civilian – to operationalize these standards. For the sake of our Nation and our cherished values, we can do no less.

USSTRATCOM Commander, Admiral C.D. Haney

THE WARRIOR

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

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

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CHIEFchat: CMSAF addresses promotion changes, special duty selection

By Senior Airman Jette Carr

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody spoke of upcoming promotion changes, the developmental special duty selection process and misuse of social media during his third worldwide CHIEFchat at the Defense Media Activity here March 12.

CHIEFchat is a recurring initiative, designed to give Airmen around the world a direct connection to the chief master sergeant of the Air Force. The chief received questions via video message, social media outlets and from members of the studio audience.

During the open forum, an Airman connecting via video asked about potential changes to how master sergeants are selected in the future.

"We're looking at ... how we're going to make this transition from the current way that we promote (technical) sergeants to master sergeants to what we are evolving to, and that is through a board process," Cody said.

Cody said the board process would include a "hurdle system." The first hurdle for technical sergeants will be the current WAPS system with minor modifications. Airmen who clear this hurdle will be considered under a board process similar to the way senior master sergeants and chief master sergeants are selected.

"It's important that our Airmen understand we're evolving to a new process because the role of the senior NCO in our Air Force, over time, has evolved significantly," the chief said. "It's not because we think we're promoting the wrong people to (master sergeant)."

An Airman-submitted question on the nomination process for developmental special duties was also addressed during CHIEFchat. This process, implemented force-wide July 2013, is used to select NCOs to serve as recruiters, professional military education instructors, technical training instructors and other developmental special duty positions.

"It is not a process by which this is a new way to volunteer," Cody said. "Airmen can certainly volunteer by letting their leadership know they have interest in those developmental special duties, but that's not the prerequisite for selection or



U.S. Air Force graphic

for nomination. The real process here is we want the leadership to look at their Airmen against these developmental special duty positions and say who they feel from the staff sergeant, (technical) sergeant and master sergeant grades would be best suited to perform that duty and then nominate those Airmen."

Cody said the nomination process will continue to be refined

In the studio, an Airman asked about the misuse of social media by service members and how it can affect an Airman's career.

"We get that asked a lot, certainly because of recent events and this is not the first time that we've had events that showed up in social media that brought discredit upon our Air Force, and by and large a couple other events that brought discredit upon our entire military," Cody said.

Social media can be a way to disseminate information and Cody said it is even used in his office; however, he added, it is a tool that must be used properly.

"Think about it like this, when you put something on social media, you're saying it out loud and literally tens of thousands to millions of people can see (it)," he said. "So if what you're getting ready to post on social media is not something that you would actually like to say out loud, in front of tens of thousands of people, or millions of people you might want to think about not doing it."

To view CHIEFchat visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zY9L0DG_xUM&list=UUsht1FDJ-B_K09iZo6yJIcA

On the cover

Senior Airman Nicole White, 509th Civil

U.S. Air Force photo/ Senior Airman Bryan Crane

Engineer Squadron operations manager, serves a volleyball while participating in the volleyball accuracy challenge during the Whiteman Winter Olympics at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 14, 2014. The CES won gold in the final standing for large squadron with the 509th Security Forces Squadron winning silver and the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron taking bronze.

News The Warrior March 21, 2014

NEWS BRIEFS

Award Winner

Congratulations to Senior Master Sgt. (Select) Gabriel Flagg, 509th Maintenance Group, winner of the 8th Air Force Pursuit of Excellence Award for 2013!

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.

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.

Found Property

Keys, wallets, bicycles, jewelry and other items have been turned in as found property to Security Forces Investigation Section. To inquire about lost property, go to building 711, room 305, or call Detective Steven Scott at 660-687-5342.





WEATHER

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Senior leaders challenge Airmen to reaffirm commitment to core values



Courtesy photo

The Air Force core values are engraved in stone as part of the Air Force Memorial in Washington, D.C. Integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do define each Airman's standard of conduct.

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody issued the following message to the Airmen of the United States Air Force:

Being an Airman is more than a job. When we voluntarily raised our right hands and took an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, we became members of the profession of arms. Underpinning that profession is the sacred trust given to us by the American people. To meet their expectations, we must build our lives and shape our service on the foundation of our core values: Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence In All We Do.

Throughout our history as a service, Airmen with tremendous moral courage have taught us there is no replacement for virtue, character, dignity and respect. Today's Airmen -- active, Guard, Reserve and civilian -- must continue this tradition

When Airmen fail to live up to our core values, the reputation of all who serve is tarnished. We must have the strength of character to do and say the right things at the right times, always with diplomacy, tact and respect. Being a wingman does not mean protecting those who lack integrity or fail to uphold the core values; it means not tolerating them. You are accountable not only for your actions, but also for failing to take action if you see bad behavior.

Today we challenge each and every Airman to reaffirm their commitment to our core values by finding new ways to live these values each and every day. This reaffirmation will strengthen the trust between Airmen, and our commitment to one another. It also reassures the American public we are worthy of their trust.

Thank you for representing the Air Force so well and exhibiting pride and courage in our service. If you have questions about our core values, please seek out guidance and assistance from people who can help: commanders, first sergeants, chaplains and inspectors general are available to provide counsel and advice. Because of who we are, and what we do, Integrity, Service and Excellence carry special meaning for all of us.

Always remember that it is an honor to be called "Airman." We must earn that honor, every day.

(Information courtesy of Chief of Staff of the Air Force Public Affairs)

Whiteman BBC to host informational town hall

Balfour Beatty Communities will host an informational town hall for family housing residents at 5:30 p.m., April 1 at the base theater to discuss the upcoming meter installation on every home at Whiteman.

BBC will also provide information on the construction of the new Neighborhood Center, as well as the remainder of patio covers to be completed this spring. There will be a brief question and answer period and BBC representatives will be available for one-on-one questions.

BBC intends to install electric and gas meters on the homes beginning late April. To complete the meter installation, BBC will be accessing each home to install and check to ensure the stove and furnace are functioning properly. More information, including schedules, time of service and details of the visits will be sent to residents at their on-file email addresses and phone numbers, as well as mailed to their home.

In order to effectively notify all residents, BBC has upgraded the resident notification system with the service One Call Now. This system can contact residents by phone, email or SMS text message with routine and emergency updates. It is important to keep all phone numbers and emails up to date with the Community Office to ensure these messages reach residents. The Community Office can be reached at 660-687-0559

Residents are encouraged to update their information if any has changed. To opt-in for SMS texts, residents can text 22300 from their mobile phone on file, and follow the instructions to complete registration.

For more information, updates, current LifeWorks events or to submit a non-emergency service request, check BBC's website, www.whitemanafbfamilyhousing.com, and Facebook page at www.facebook.com/whitemanhomes.



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SUNDAY, MARCH 23 • 3 p.m. Her (PG-13) Adults - \$5.50, children - \$3.50

Changes coming to deployed Airman pay

By Air Force Public Affairs Agency, Operating Location - P

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Starting June 1, Airmen deployed to several locations will see significant changes to pay

The biggest change includes the discontinuation of imminent danger pay, or IDP, in multiple countries.

The DoD-wide announcement impacts Airmen deployed to 15 countries.

"The IDP recertification process is an assessment that includes input from combatant commands, the joint staff and the military services," said Lt. Col. Kevin Naman, Air Force Compensation and Travel Policy Division. "The resulting discontinuation of IDP at a certain location by no means diminishes the hard work and sacrifices our Airmen make at these locations daily."

Locations where IDP designation is discontinued include:

- The six land areas and the airspace above Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro
- The nine land areas of East Timor, Haiti, Liberia, Oman, Rwanda, Tajikistan, United Arab Emirates, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan
- The water and air space above the Persian Gulf

The IDP changes will not impact deployed members' combat zone tax exclusion status except for Airmen serving in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Personnel serving in these locations will no longer be eligible for the CZTE, which includes pay exclusion from gross income and extension of most tax action deadlines.

Reductions in IDP will be offset somewhat by increases in Hardship Duty Location Pay (HDP-L). HDP-L monthly rates will increase to \$150 in East Timor, Haiti, Liberia, Montenegro, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The HDP-L rate for Airmen serving in Bahrain will be established at

Members deployed to the impacted locations cannot be grandfathered into the previous pay entitlements.

"These adjustments are going to be effective on 1 June 14 so the best way to prepare is to know how your location will be impacted," Naman said.

Airmen deployed in the following locations will see no changes June 1, and will continue to receive IDP. Those include: Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Greece (Athens only), Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Yemen, Mediterranean Sea and Somalia

If Airmen have any questions about their pay, Naman encourages them to visit their local financial services office.

The virtual Finance page on the AF Portal is also a great resource for Airmen. You will find links to all of the Air Force's Military Pay & Travel websites, the latest news on all matters financial, a helpful database of Frequently Asked Questions (Financial Services Knowledge Base), and much, much more.



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News The Warrior March 21, 2014

Whiteman Spouses Dining-In success yet again



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Joel Pfiester

Spouses from the 13th Bomb Squadron, 393rd Bomb Squadron and 325th Weapons Squadron perform a dance routine during the Spouses Dining-In at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 15, 2014. The spouses' skit was based on the "Looney Toons" television show and earned them the best skit award.

By Airman 1st Class Joel Pfiester

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

More than 220 military spouses attended this year's Spouses Dining-In at Mission's End here March 15.

This year's dining-in was organized by four Whiteman spouses not affiliated with any specific organization: Mrs. Annette Cruz, spouse of Senior Master Sgt. Mark A. Cruz, Mrs. Susie Osborn, spouse of Master Sgt. Matthew Osborn, Mrs. Shannon Scott, spouse of Tech. Sgt. Daryl Scott, and Mrs. Julie Umfleet, spouse of Senior Master Sgt. Mark Umfleet.

Amid all the festivities the main objective of Spouses' Dining-In is to build camaraderie among the spouses within the active duty member's unit, according to the spouses in charge of the event.

The spouses met others from their units and spent five months planning their costumes, table decorations, and five groups even met weekly preparing for skits, according to those who planned the event.

The event's theme had a more "pop culture" feel; Spouses donned attire inspired by popular television shows such as "The Walking Dead," "Jersey Shore," "Looney Toons" and even "COPS."

Besides building camaraderie the dining-in also provided for some friendly competition between the spouses' respective units. Several awards were handed out including "Best Table Decorations Award," won by the 509th Maintenance Squadron; and "Best Limerick," won by the 509th Security Forces Squadron.

"It was an absolute success," said Ruth Bavin, a



Courtesy phot

The spouses in charge of Spouses Dining-in open the event by reading off some of the event rules at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 15, 2014. The second annual event had a "pop culture" theme with each squadron dressing up as characters from famous television shows.

Whiteman spouse who attended the event. "Working as a group and going up against other teams is, to me, one of the best ways to form bonds."

For more information on how to participate in the upcoming Spouses Dining-In events, visit www.facebook.com/whiteman.spouses?fref=ts.

6 The Warrior News

SecAF addresses budget challenges in Congress

By Claudette Roulo

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Newly-appointed Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James wanted to see the Air Force in action, so she spent her first 11 weeks on the job visiting 18 bases in 13 states, she told members of the House Armed Services Committee March 14.

Getting outside the Pentagon let her observe three things, James said: Air Force leaders at all levels are tackling tough issues, Airmen are demonstrating "superb" total-force teamwork, and they're enthusiastic about their service to the nation despite serving in challenging times.

The Air Force is doing its very best to tackle head-on the challenges posed by the security environment and declining budgets, the secretary said.

"In the (fiscal 2015) budget, we do have a strategy-driven budget, but let's face facts," James said. "We're severely, severely limited by the fiscal choices that are contained in the Budget Control Act and the Bipartisan Budget Act."

The Air Force kept its 2015 budget request at the target amount contained in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2014, she said, and is still in need of the additional funds allotted to the Air Force in President Barack Obama's Opportunity, Growth and Security Initiative.

"This is a \$26 billion initiative across DOD," James said. "For us in the Air Force, it's about \$7 billion. And we will, if we are granted these additional funds, spend them principally on readiness and other key investments to get us back closer to where we want and need to be."

More difficult decisions lie ahead in fiscal 2016, the secretary said, as the service seeks to balance current readiness with future relevance. "I'm pretty sure ... we're not going to make everybody happy. ... There were no elements of low-hanging fruit in this budget," she said.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel laid out the strategy imperatives for the services in his budget request, James said.

"We need to defend the homeland against all strategic threats," she said. "We need to build security globally by protecting U.S. influence and deterring aggression. And we need to remain prepared to win decisively against any adversary should deterrence fail."

Today's Air Force is critically important to all of those elements, the secretary said.

"But there's also tomorrow," she added. New technologies and new centers of power will lead to a more volatile and unpredictable world, one in which American dominance of the sky and of space can't be

taken for granted, James told the lawmakers.

The Air Force is grateful for the greater stability and the additional funding in fiscal 2014, James said, and the additional stability in the fiscal 2015 budget request. But,

2014, James said, and the additional stability in the fiscal 2015 budget request. But, she noted, the added funds don't solve all of the Air Force's problems.

"Even with those bump-ups, there were

"Even with those bump-ups, there were difficult tradeoffs that had to be made, because the 2015 top line and beyond is a whole lot less than we ever thought possible just a few short years ago," the secretary said.

Strategy and budget rarely match up, she said, and that's true of this year's budget request as well.

"In general, our decisions reduce capacity in order to gain capability," James said.

And, the growth of compensation will slow in order to free up funds for readiness, she said.

"We chose to delay or terminate some programs to protect higher-priority programs -- at least what we thought were higher priorities," she said. "And we sought cost savings in a number of ways: reducing headquarters (and) putting us on a glide path to greater reliance on the Guard and Reserve."

The Air Force's priorities -- taking care of people, balancing today's readiness with tomorrow's readiness, and ensuring that the nation has the very best Air Force that it possibly can at the best value for the tax-payer -- set the framework for its budget decisions, James said.

"Everything comes down to people, as far as I'm concerned," the secretary said. This means recruiting and retaining the best people and developing them once they're in the force, she said.

It also includes diversity of thought and background among decision-makers, dignity and respect for all, and making sure that everybody is on top of and leading and living the service's core values, James said. And, she added, "it means fair compensation going forward."

The Air Force is getting smaller, but it must be shaped to meet strategic priorities, she said.

"We have certain categories and specialty areas where we have too many people," she said. "And then we have other categories and specialty areas where we have too few people. So in addition to bringing numbers down somewhat, we need to rebalance and get into sync."

Balancing the readiness of today with the readiness of tomorrow will take some time, she said. Sequestration knocked the service off course, so funding flying hours and other readiness issues were a high priority in the Air Force budget request, the secretary said.

The three top ones, she added, are the joint strike fighter, the new aerial refueling tanker program and the long-range strike bomber.

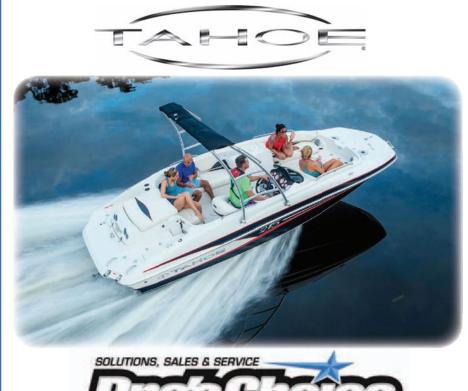
In addition, the Air Force remains committed to the nuclear triad, James said.

"But of course, in order to do the readiness of today and these key investments for tomorrow, that's where we came down to: What are going to reduce? Where can we take some what we think are the most prudent risks?"

The Air Force will retire the A-10 Thunderbolt II close air support aircraft, James said.

"That is, I know, an extremely controversial area. ... But I want you to know we are absolutely committed to the close air

See SecAF, page 10



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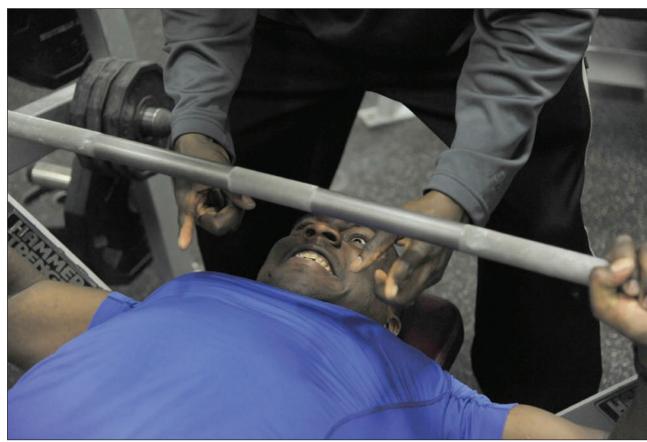
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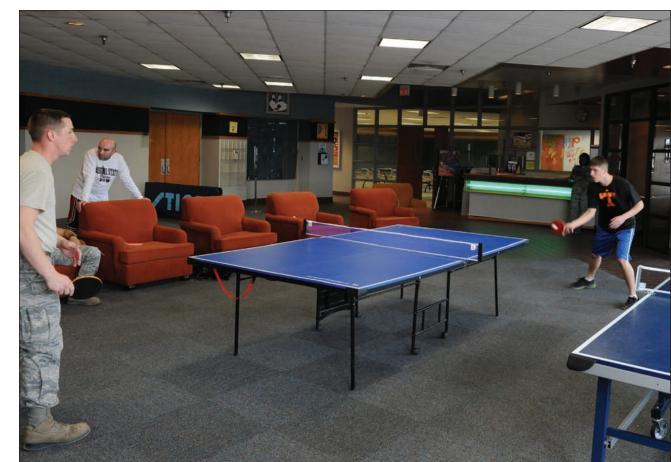
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WHITEMAN WINTER OLYMPICS



Airman 1st Class Vincell Shadricks, 509th Security Forces protection level 1 response team leader, bench presses 415 pounds during the Whiteman Winter Olympics at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 14, 2014. Shadricks finished in first place for the event, which is based off of the weight lifted compared to body weight.



Senior Airman Joseph Kroll, 509th Maintenance Squadron, competes against Tech. Sgt. Joe Schlick, 509th Civil Engineering Squadron, during the Whiteman Winter Olympics table tennis tournament at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 14, 2014. Kroll won the tournament in a best-of-three final match.



Tech. Sgt. Annemieke LeBorge, 509th Medical Operations Squadron NCO in-charge of occupational health, aims her serve while competing in a volleyball serve competition during the Whiteman Winter Olympics at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo, March 14, 2014. Competitors tried to get the highest score by attempting to land their serves in designated boxes



Senior Airman Ben Blevins, 509th Medical Group medical technician, bench-presses 455 pounds during the Whiteman Winter Olympics bench press competition at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 14, 2014. Blevins finished second in the competition after his body weight was subtracted from the lifted weight.



Airman 1st Class Salas Allen, 509th Maintenance Group maintenance scheduling, participates in a three-point contest during the Whiteman Winter Olympics at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo, March 14, 2014. The overall large squadron winner was the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron.

News

Air Force continues force management programs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air Force leaders announced a resumption of all force management programs March 15 following a recently discussed strategic

"After providing senior leadership a chance to evaluate the programs and assess our early progress, we are ready to resume immediate processing of voluntary applications in most categories and begin notifying Airmen of their status," said Lt. Gen. Sam Cox, the Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. "We expect to receive final approval authorities early next week for a select few categories, like rated and health professions, at which point we will be actively processing all voluntary applications."

Notifications to Airmen could start as early as next week, the general added.

Cox also confirmed previously-announced force management boards would proceed as currently scheduled. The eligible populations for those boards will remain the same with the exception of a small group of about 500 Airmen who will no longer be eligible for the current voluntary or involuntary programs. Those individuals will be personally notified of their eligibility status by the Air Force Personnel Center.

"Resuming the current programs on the previously announced schedules and under the same basic criteria means minimal changes for our Airmen," Cox said.

One item assessed during the pause was the pace of the programs and whether or not the Air Force could achieve required reductions on the original schedule. The analysis revealed the need to include a second round of programs in 2015.

"Airmen who were eligible for programs during the first round in 2014 will not be eligible for the retention boards in 2015, unless they have specific negative quality force indicators," Cox said.

Ensuring well-performing Airmen are not subject to multiple involuntary programs is key, according to the general.

Details on the nature and timing of the second round of programs will be announced in the coming weeks.

The general continues to encourage eligible officers and enlisted Airmen to apply for the Temporary Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Pay programs. The current TERA application window remains open to March 26 and the VSP application window is open to May 1.

For more information on force management, force shaping, reduction in force and other personnel programs, go to the myPers Web site at https://mypers.af.mil.

(Courtesy of Air Force Public Affairs Agency, Operating Location - P)

SecAF Continued from Page 6

support mission," she told the panel. "We will not let it drop."

The U-2 reconnaissance aircraft also will be retired, she said, but the Air Force will retain the Global Hawk Block 30 unmanned aerial system.

"Having both fleets together would be terrific, but it's not affordable," James said.

Combat air patrols with MQ-9 Reaper and MQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial systems will grow slightly, the secretary said. But, she noted, the MQ-1 Predator will be retired over time, to be replaced by the

"By making these tough choices today, again, we think we're going to preserve our combat capability and make each taxpayer dollar count better for the future," she said.

To ensure taxpayers are receiving the greatest value for their money, acquisition programs must stay on budget and on schedule, James said. And, she added, a round of base closures is needed, as requested by the defense secretary, to begin in 2017.

A return to sequestration in fiscal 2016, as is required under current legislation, would compromise national security, James said.

"This would mean the retirement of up to 80 more aircraft, including the KC-10 (Extender) tanker fleet," she said. "We would choose to defer upgrades to the Global Hawk that we would need to make otherwise, to make it more on parity with the U-2. ... We would have to retire the Global Hawk Block 40."

In addition, purchase of the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter would slow, the secretary said. "And we would have to probably re-evaluate the combat rescue helicopter and a whole host of other things, she added. Sequestration is not a good deal for the Air Force, and it's not a good deal for the country, James said.

The Air Force may shrink, the secretary said, but it's committed to being capable, innovative and ready.

'We're committed to being a good value for the taxpayer, making every dollar that we spend count, able to respond overseas as well as here at home when disaster strikes us," James said. "We'll be more reliant -not less, but more reliant -- on our National Guard and Reserve, and we will be fueled by the very best airmen on the planet."







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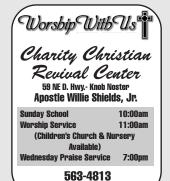
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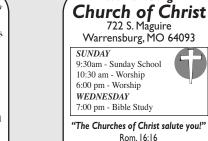






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Feature March 21, 2014

Minot AFB rescues two stranded Mont. motorists



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Stephanie Sauberan

Captain Matthew R. Sutliff, 1st Lt. Kyle B. Nelson, Tech. Sgt. Jason L. Fifield and Staff Sgt. Michael R. Wright are the 54th Helicopter Squadron crew members responsible for the successful search and rescue early this morning of two people in Savage, Mont. At around midnight the 54 HS received a phone call from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center requesting an aircraft with hoist capability. In Eastern Montana, an ice flow had caused the river to overrun its banks, trapping the two individuals in the bed of their truck. Rescue workers were on the scene, but unable to get to the stranded individuals due to large chunks of ice in the water. Both individuals were hoisted from the bed of their truck and carried to safety.

By Senior Airman Stephanie Sauberan

Minot Air Force Base Public Affairs

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. -- Members of the 54th Helicopter Squadron responded to a search and rescue request involving two men trapped in the bed of their truck in Savage, Mont., when an ice flow caused the river to overrun its banks, March 10.

At approximately midnight the crew received a phone call from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center requesting a hoist equipped aircraft to respond to the scene.

Rescue workers from the local area had responded to the scene but were unable to get to the stranded people due to the large chunks of ice in the water. Additionally, the situation was further compounded by an ice flow upstream on the verge of breaking free.

The Minot Air Force based aircrew who responded to the scene had just concluded a night vision goggle flight and was preparing to turn over their duties for the night and return to base when the call came in.

"Two Security Forces members walked into our squadron and told us that there had been a request for a search and rescue," said Capt. Matthew Sutliff, 91st Missile Wing chief of flight safety. "My co-pilot and two flight engineers jumped into their flight suits, and we responded to the scene.

As Sutliff confirmed the request, his flight engineer readied the aircraft double checking fuels supplies, conducting pre-flight checks and ensuring the safety of the hoist to be used in the rescue efforts.

"Kudos to our maintenance guys," said Tech. Sgt. Jason Fifield, 54th HS enlisted aircrew member. "I ran to the hangar in my pajamas and slippers after we got the call that said we were going to do this. They didn't even think twice about it. They dropped what they were doing and started prepping the aircraft, while I ran upstairs to put my gear on. By the time I got back to tell them to tow it outside they already had it on the pad and were fueling it."

As the aircraft was being prepared for flight 1st Lt. Kyle Nelson, 54th HS co-pilot, was running mission planning, drawing the lines on the map for the flight course and determining flight time and refueling locations.

"I have only been flying for six months out of the training environment," said Nelson. "This was my first search and rescue mission, but I didn't really think about that ... I just focused on what needed to get done.'

The planning process before takeoff took approximately one hour from the time that the call was received. Once the crew was in the air it took them just under an hour to reach the sight.

"It felt like laying out our plans took an eternity on the ground, but once we did step into our aircraft, it was reassuring to know that we were properly prepared to complete the mission and confront any complications that might arise," said Sutliff.

Upon arriving on scene, the crew was greeted by the sight of two individuals stranded in the center of the flood waters, standing in the bed of their truck as frigid water rushed by threatening to sweep away their vehicle and engulf them.

The most important part of missions like this is to plan for the unexpected," said Sutliff. "Snags will inevitably arise, but it is up to us as a team to find fast solutions and overcome them without compromising the mission."

Sutliff initiated the first hover, holding the aircraft in place and fighting against the winds and over the rushing water as Fifield leaned out of the aircraft, holding himself in place as he began to lower the hoist.

"My co-pilot and I had to be careful to fix our vision on a stable object in order to stay in position, at the same time Tech. Sgt. Fifield was giving me direction and also instructing the first survivor on how to use the hoist," said Sutliff.

The first hoist was conducted from approximately 65 feet above the rushing waters and took just under 25 minutes. At this point, both men had been stranded 510 yards from shore for approximately five hours.

"It sounds weird, but you just focus on your training - focus on what you have to do," said Staff Sgt. Michael Wright, 54th HS enlisted aircrew member. "You can't let anything else get in the way of completing the mission."

After the first survivor was secured in the aircraft, rescue of the second individual began. Sutliff relinquished control of the helicopter to his co-pilot as Wright took over for Fifield.

The enlisted aircrew members were constantly scanning the aircraft as well as the condition of the survivors, ensuring that they were a safe distance from the aircraft during the lift, and that they were able to safely board. With Wright's assistance, Nelson was able to lift the second man to safety.

The team transported both survivors to the nearby Sidney Richland Municipal Airport where emergency responders were standing by.

"It was amazing," said Fifield. "I couldn't sleep for a long time after landing knowing that we had been able to save the lives of those two men.

The rescue effort was a success due to a solid, unified team, said Sutliff. It was a testament to their near countless hours of training.

"When we were called into action my team was able to successfully come together to complete the mission and save lives," said Sutliff. "I couldn't be more proud of what they were able to do, and of the fact that we put our training to use and made a real difference in the lives of these two men."

News

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660-563-2400

smullins@national.edu

Weekly Fire Prevention Safety Tip

By Tech Sgt. Chris Gunn 509 CES/CEFP

Spring is here and you know what means: warmer temperatures, blooming flowers and yes, the outdoor grill gets dusted off so you can cook that 19 oz. T-bone steak just the way you

But, before you start, let's talk grill safety first. According to the National Fire Protection Association, gas grills constitute a higher risk, having been involved in an annual average of 7,100 home fires, while charcoal or other solid-fueled grills were involved in an annual average of 1,200 home fires.

So, before you fire up the grill, here are some safety tips:

- · Propane and charcoal barbecue grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets away from grill
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below
 - Never leave your grill unattended.

Charcoal grills

- · Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.



- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- When you are finished grilling, let coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

Propane grills

- Check gas tank and hose for leaks before using it.
- If attempting to light gas grill and it doesn't light, wait a few minutes to let the gas dissipate before trying to light again. This will prevent a possible gas explosion.
- If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill.
- If leak stops get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again.
- If leak does not stop or you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill, and call 911.

Whiteman's Fire Emergency Services would like you and your family to be safe this spring. If you have any questions about fire prevention or fire safety, contact the Fire Prevention/Public Fire Education Office at 687-6080/6083/6374.

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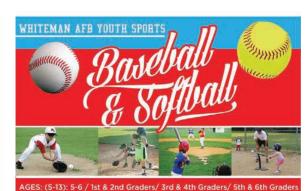
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News

Airmen must revalidate dependents

By Capt. Erika Yepsen

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- By Dec. 31, every Airman will be required to provide their servicing finance office with documentation for all dependents as part of Air Force audit readiness efforts.

This one-time, Air Force-wide recertification process will allow the Air Force to validate Airmen's basic allowance for housing entitlements, ensuring every dollar of the \$5.4 billion the Air Force spends annually on BAH is fully auditable.

"When we say the Air Force is not audit compliant, that doesn't mean that money is missing or being misspent," said Doug Bennett, the deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for financial operations. "Generally, it means that we lack the required documentation for our spending to be considered auditable. In the case of BAH, we need Airmen's marriage certificates, birth certificates for children and divorce decrees that require child support properly documented by our finance offices to ensure we can audit \$5.4 billion in Air Force spending."

Beginning this month and continuing through December, Air Force finance offices will contact Airmen across the total force by email to notify them of their responsibility to provide dependent documentation. Their finance office will tell them exactly which documents are required. Additionally, Airmen who recently provided documentation may not be required to do so again. Airmen should wait to be notified by their finance offices rather than bringing in documentation unsolicited, Bennett said. Waiting to receive notification will eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort for some Airmen.

Once notified, Airmen will have 30 days to provide the required documents

to their servicing finance office or have their housing allowance status reduced to single-rate. Deployed Airmen and those on extended leave or temporary duty will be given special consideration in meeting the 30-day deadline.

The push for revalidation of dependent documentation comes as the Air Force prepares to meet financial improvement and audit readiness requirements laid out in the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act. The Air Force currently retains dependent documentation for six years, which is insufficient to meet audit readiness requirements. This one-time revalidation will ensure Air Force compliance with audit requirements, Bennett said.

"America entrusts the Air Force not only to spend taxpayer dollars wisely and efficiently, but also to account and justify that expenditure," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III in a recent memo. "Preparation for this important and legislatively-mandated effort rests in the hands of every Airman, not just the financial community."

Although revalidation of Airmen's dependents will be a one-time recertification, Airmen will continue to play a vital role in the Air Force's audit readiness. Starting in 2015, independent auditors will visit work stations for Airmen to review processes, procedures and transactions that directly impact the Air Force's financial statements.

"Ensuring we have the proper documentation to account for every expenditure in a very large budget is a difficult but essential effort," said Dr. Jamie Morin, the assistant secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller. "Becoming audit ready will help us demonstrate to the American public that we are responsible stewards of taxpayer money at a time when we must make every dollar count."

Social Security launches expedited veteran disability process

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Social Security claims from veterans with a Veterans Affairs Department disability compensation rating of 100 percent permanent and total have a new process that will treat their applications as high priority and issue expedited decisions.

Carolyn W. Colvin, the acting Social Security commissioner, said the new process is similar to the way the agency currently handles disability claims from wounded warriors.

"We have reached another milestone for those who have sacrificed so much for our country and this process ensures they will get the benefits they need quickly," Colvin said. "While we can never fully repay them for their sacrifices, we can be sure we provide them with the quality of service that they deserve. This initiative is truly a lifeline for those who need it most."

To receive the expedited service, veterans must tell Social Security they have a VA disability compensation rating of 100 percent permanent and total and must show proof of their disability rating with their VA notification letter.

The VA rating only expedites Social Security disability claims processing and does not guarantee an approval for Social Security disability benefits, officials emphasized, noting that these veterans still must meet the strict eligibility requirements for a disability allowance.

(Courtesy of Social Security Administration)



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It's the MILLION-DOLLAR QUESTION:

What's Best For Business?



This is perhaps one of the toughest questions a b themselves daily. One question with a bundle of others wrapped up within it, such as:

"Are we getting the word out?" "Are we reaching out far enough?" "Are patrons being caught up on special events?"

Business owners who tackle this question diligently often find a good solution quickly and easily - they utilize the classified pages.

l'honsauds of readers are taking a peek at onr classifieds daily - they know that the classifieds are the place to find amazing deals and opportunities by every scope inaginable.

Advertising in the classifieds can open yon and yonr business up to a whole new world of marketing opportunities. Often, advertising in the classifieds an lead to an increase in word-of-month marketing vaa lead to an increase in word of month marketing renders are quick to tell friends and relatives about pportunities and sales they find in classified pages. An eye catching classified advertisement is often the best thing to draw in new customers. Who knows? That new customer who saw your ad may become a lifelong patron.

So, the answer to asking yourself "what's best for business" is right in front of your nose. Right on this very page...

"What's best for business" is advertising in the classifieds!



Call an Advisor today at 826-1001 to place an ad in the: Sedalia Democrat

South Plainsman - Pettis Plainsman Whiteman Warrior



Lease/Sale 3rd & Kentucky...Sedalia Office Building/Beauty Parlor. 4 separate offices plus reception area with skylight. Paved parking, Snow removal, \$675/month, Call Jack Robinson 660-620-2700. Coldwell Banker Monsees Realty, 660-826-5811, Dan Hurley 660-473-0215



RETAIL/OFFICE BUILDING - total 4,064 sq. ft. High Traffic location with 3 street access and off street parking. Building consist of two separate retail/office spaces. Ideal for business with potential of lease space to offset expenses. Many possibilities!!! 500 W. 16th St., Sedalia \$98,500. Call after 5:00 PM 660-826-4241

ous 4,380 Square Foot Custom Log Home on 31 Acres located just north of Sedalia on Bothwell Park Road. Home is complimented with 3 bedrooms, 3 full bathro luxurious living space. Property is complimented with a stocked 4 acre lake with a very private setting. Great balance of timber and pasture land. 40°x40° Pole Barn. \$449,000 Call Steve Mott, Whitetail Properties Real Estate 816-718-7201



3+3=465 includes color

photo of your vehicle

YEAR AND VEHICLE HERE

Copy about the vehicle goes in this spot. Copy about the vehicle goes in this spot. Copy about the vehicle goes in this spot. Copy about vehicle \$XX,XXX. Name, Address and Phone Number.

photo of your home

COPY DESCRIBING YOUR HOME...so many bedrooms, so many baths. List of extras ... garage (single or double), maintenance free exterior, family room, school district, fenced back yard, basement, extra lot, heating, air conditioning, parking availability, etc.

36 Words or less; 1st 4 words bold; one item only; price must be listed to qualify for FREE ad



Days In
Democrat
(Mon., Wed., & Fri)

Weeks
In A
Plainsman

Weeks
In The
Warrior

= 300 mincludes color

If your advertised items doesn't sell, you'll receive

Days In Democrat | Sin A Plainsman | Weeks In The Warrior | Final Englishment | Final

Contact Your Ad Rep For Details, or call 660-826-1000 Ext. 239

