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The Warrior
April 17, 2015

### **Commentary**

# Grapenuts and milk anyone?

By Col. David Benson

509th Operations Group commander

On the tail end of Women's History Month and all the talk about resiliency, I felt it appropriate to tell a story about a lady named Marcia Muncaster...do you know her?

The story starts with Marcia marrying right out of high school in the late 1960's. She and her husband would have two kids and struggle in the suburbs of St. Louis. Wanting a better life for her family, she began to work to put her husband through college. After four years, he graduated and they began their new journey together, but things just weren't the same. His job took them to Mississippi, and after a couple years of trying, Marcia and her husband divorced. With no job and no money, she had no choice but to give custody of her two children to her husband and start looking for a job. The children would later recall visiting their mother on the weekends during this time. She lived in a rundown studio apartment with one bedroom and no TV (internet was not invented yet ... ) and lots of bugs. They would all sleep in a double bed together. Often they would only have Grapenuts and milk to eat for all three meals of the day. Marcia couldn't afford anything else. However, through it all, the children never remembered their mom being sad around them. She was always happy to see them and bare situations only emphasized the need to spend time as a family playing games or going for walks. Life was good.

The search for a job would land Marcia at an Air Force recruiting office. While she didn't have many labor skills, she was an accomplished singer in school and church. The Air Force recruiter hired her on the spot and few months later, she was an Airman in the Air Force Band of the Gulf Coast. With the help and support of her fellow Airmen, Marcia would find a home in the Air Force and build a career with the Air Force Band. After a few years, she would earn enough money to buy a home. Soon her children, who she reluctantly let go of years before, would decide to leave their father and move in with the lady that loved them so much, she once gave them up so they could have a better life. Marcia would go on to spend almost a decade in the Air Force and leave as a Staff Sgt. And while she didn't retire, she has always been grateful for the opportunities it and the "family" the Air Force provided when she had nothing else.

Driven by her example, Marcia's two children grew up to be a PhD working for the Under Secretary for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the 509th Operations Group Commander.

Marcia continues to sing with a band to this day...the band members are a little older and the songs are probably no longer "in style," but this story is not about her career. It is about her perseverance when she had almost nothing...no job, no kids (except for the occasional weekend),... just Grapenuts and milk. It is about her drive to make a better life for herself and her kids. It is about getting up when you are at rock bottom. It is about OUR Air Force, the outstanding opportunities it brings and how the Air Force family is there when you need it the most.

So if you ever find yourself at "the bottom," please remember your Air Force family is there to help. We "will never leave an Airman behind." Keep pushing forward knowing every Airman is important to our mission... EVERY Airman. Even if you only have Grapenuts and milk, you are family. And, while it may take some hard work and sacrifice, the opportunity for a better life is always there.

# Ten seconds later and that picture still exists

By Liz Jacobson

USAFE-AFAFRICA Public Affairs

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany** (AFNS) -- There is a conversation many teenagers have had with their parents or friends, me included.

"Hey, don't worry! It'll be fine; all of the pictures I send disappear after ten seconds. That's how Snapchat works."

While many teenagers only share their silly, cross-eyed, quadruple-chinned faces with friends, there are a growing number of teenagers sending inappropriate content that "will disappear."

High school students all feel a certain level of anonymity or safeness that does not exist while using the Internet and apps like Tinder, Omegle, Chat Roulette, Instagram, and Snapchat. Unfortunately, it is incredibly simple for the receiver to take advantage of the sent content, and through the picture may disappear after 10 seconds, it can actually last a lot longer than that. While these apps can easily be used inappropriately, the apps themselves are not bad, but should just be used responsibly.

It is easy to protect yourself from online predators, but it is rarely done. The most effective way to keep information secure is to lock any social media accounts and turn all privacy settings on. Many people spend their time clicking on pictures and profiles but it is impossible to know who is viewing your profile. It could be a friend from school or it could very easily be an online predator. Before friending or accepting anyone's follow request, it is necessary to actually know who they are. Social media is a great tool for keeping in touch with friends, new or old, and family members, but it is important to



Courtesy photo/Liz Jacobson

Teenagers may feel a false sense of anonymity and security when using Internet apps, which can lead to an increasing number of teenagers sending inappropriate content. Irresponsible sharing of pictures or other content could lead to damaged reputations and self-esteems, the attention of online predators, or jail time for the possession of child pornography.

use caution and be responsible.

I have many friends that pride themselves on the fact they have over one, two, or ten thousand followers. This is a dangerous because it is impossible to be safe with so many unknown people seeing so much of their lives.

That behavior and feeling of invincibility starts early. I remember during middle school that Omegle was the next best thing on the Internet. At sleepovers or on a Saturday afternoons, young girls and boys

would sit around a laptop and pretend to be whomever they thought of, giving off silly answers and laughing at the accents they pretended their user to have. However, we all knew that unless you wanted to see the "gross stuff" you had to turn the camera off. Many of us have since moved on from this fear and feel that sending pornographic content over apps is okay.

This attitude towards sharing everything on the Internet has also lead to unfortunate, yet completely avoidable situations. Why do so many teenagers participate in an activity that can have so many bad repercussions?

Teenage girls reported to Dosomething. org and the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy that there are three major reasons for their sending of nude photos: as a joke, to feel sexy, or because of peer pressures.

Sending inappropriate photos is not a joke nor will it boost a person's confidence. While it may be a thrill at first, the psychological damage could deteriorate a girl's or boy's self-esteem. Peer pressure is a horrible, but a real-life thing. Everyone experiences peer pressure at some point or another in his or her lifetime, but your body, whether you are male or female, is yours.

For teenagers, Snapchat is the most common app where pictures are shared. Snapchat is available for anyone, regardless of age and it is based on the idea of pictures disappearing forever after 10 seconds. Despite this, it is easy to either screenshot the picture or use a third-party app that will save the picture automatically for you. These pictures can be used against the sender at the receiver's convenience.

Even two people that have a trusting See Ten seconds, page 10

### 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 660-687-6126, email Whiteman.Warrior@us.af.mil, fax 660-687-7948, or write to us at Whiteman Warrior, 509th Bomb Wing, 509 Spirit Blvd. Suite 116, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305.

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

# On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo/ Senior Airman Keenan Berry Joanna Kuecker, Vet Clinic veterinarian, holds a patient at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 1, 2015. The vet clinic's mission is to care for and ensure the patients achieve

their desired health.

News The Warrior April 17, 2015

### **NEWS BRIEFS**

## Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

May has been officially proclaimed as the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. As we celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States, let's also recognize their hard work and dedication to the United States Armed Forces. This year's theme is "Many Cultures, One Voice: Promote Equality and Inclusion."

#### **May Events:**

Proclamation Signing (509 Bomb Wing commander) – May 1, 2015

Youth Center Fun Run at Ike Skelton Park – 8 May 2015 (4:30 - 5:30 p.m.)

Reading at the Library – 20 May 2015 (11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)

Annual observance event at the Whiteman Air National Guard Armory – 21 May 2015 (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

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It sounds so good I want to go to the Spirit Café too! So, don't waste time. Tell a friend and take a friend to the Spirit Café today, located at the Whiteman Community Activity Center!

### **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.

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Hi 73	Hi 70
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# Great futures start here: Exceptional Whiteman AFB teen wins Youth of the Year honor

By Kimberly O'Brien

Whiteman AFB Youth Programs teen coordinator

Darin Hattig is scheduled to compete in Jefferson City, Mo., in April for Missouri Military Youth of the Year.

Youth of the Year is a scholarship competition through the Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA). Darin is our local winner from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Darin will receive a \$300 college scholarship from Whiteman AFB Youth Programs. At 14 years old, Darin is a true example of an extraordinary young man recognized by Whiteman Youth Programs and BGCA for his sound character, leadership skills and willingness to give back to the community.

Being named Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Whiteman AFB Teen Programs member can receive. As BGCA's premier youth recognition program, Youth of the Year recognizes outstanding contributions to a member's family, school, community and teen center, as well as success overcoming personal challenges and obstacles. Youth of the Year encourages teens to reach their full potential by achieving academic



Darin Hattig Whiteman Youth of the Year

success, leading healthy lifestyles and contributing to their communities.

"We are very proud of Darin. He has one of the highest volunteer hours in Keystone Club and is dedicated to academics and community service," said Kimberly O'Brien, Whiteman AFB Teen Coordinator. "I am looking forward to meeting other teens that have the same values and goals as me. I also am looking forward to traveling to Jefferson City and San Antonio to represent Whiteman AFB," said Darin.

Darin is in advanced math and in the math club that competes state-wide. Darin is also a member of the Whiteman Keystone Club. The Keystone Club is a teen group dedicated to leadership, community service, fundraising, academic success, career preparation and teen outreach.

If Darin wins the state title, he will then compete for the title of Midwest Region Military Youth of the Year and an additional \$10,000 scholarship from Disney, Toyota, and other sponsors. Six regional winners will then advance to Washington, D.C to compete for the title of BGCA's National Military Youth of the Year. The National Youth of the Year will receive an additional scholarship of up to \$50,000 from The Rick and Susan Goings Foundation and will have the opportunity to meet with the President of the United States in the White House.

If you would like more information on Teen Programs, please call 660-687-5586 and find us on Facebook at Whiteman AFB Teen Programs.

# Base scale closure

**Public Affairs Staff Report** 

The base scale that was used by service members to weigh household goods is no longer in service. Although the scale was not a mission requirement, the base has tried to keep it serviceable for the convenience of those serving here. Unfortunately, every year this scale has required significant maintenance and the costs have continued to rise. In the past four years, the total costs to keep the scale operational have exceeded \$54,000.

Ultimately, the base scale will be removed. These annual repairs only provided a temporary solution and, in light of the current fiscal environment, do not make sense. Closing the base weigh scale will save funds and open opportunities to support Airmen in other ways. There are viable local options nearby that can provide household good weights. Below is a list of local scales approved for "Do-It-Yourself"/"Personally Procured" moves. If you have further questions, please contact the Traffic Management Office at (660) 687-4118.

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# The solid foundation of Airmen and education

**By Airman 1st Class Jovan Banks** 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

More often than not when people are asked why they joined the military education, is one of the reasons.

Knowing exactly what is available to you is one part of the equation. Knowing your spouse and children can also take advantage of certain benefits can potentially save you from paying out of pocket. A message Mark L. Carter, an education specialist of the 509th Force Support Squadron, tries to get to all Airmen.

"The Air Force offers \$4,500 for tuition annually without any further service commitment," said Carter. "Military members can transfer unused portions of the Post 9-11 G.I. Bill to their spouse and or children after serving six years and committing to four more years of active duty service. I have not found a civilian



employer that can match the education benefits that the Air Force offers."

Education can also play a vital part in your military career. Not only does education play a role in annual enlisted performance reports, but it is necessary for commissioning to become an officer.

"Formal education is the foundation of a

premier fighting force," said Carter. "The Air Force commands the skies and when called upon we answer with surety and bravery of which is only delivered by a well-educated armed service like our Airmen."

Carter has been working with Airmen and their educational benefits for two years and has helped countless amounts of people during his time.

"From what I have witnessed, people seem to have fervor to get an education when they are fully informed about their opportunities and their benefits," said Carter. "NCOs literally bring their Airman over to the education center to receive counseling; and that action has increased."

Education is a step forward in a military career and with benefits to support that step it is as easy as speaking with the education office to get started on it.

### News



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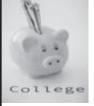
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See a problem: Own It!

Feature
The Warrior April 17, 2015

# Surviving, learning to live: April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



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

A stuffed animal of Grover from Sesame Street sits in front of blue and silver pinwheels at Whiteman air Force Base, Mo., April 14, 2015. Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Longfellow, 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs photojournalist, received Grover from a police officer on the night she was taken out of an abusive home. April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and the pinwheel is a symbol for healthy starts for all children.

### By Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Longfellow

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Red and blue lights surround my house. My biological mother is in tears and her boyfriend is yelling at the men with shiny badges and guns on their hips. My siblings and I are sitting on the couch, quietly.

My life was about to change dramatically.

My mother was at a young age when she found out she was pregnant with me - just 18 years old.

We lived in a Section 8 housing unit. It was a twobedroom, one bath house that had very little furnishings. It smelled like booze and cigarette smoke.

My room was barely a bedroom. There were a few blankets and a pillow against the wall of the room to resemble my bed, and there were always dirty clothes in the corner. Although I had no toys to play with, I did have a clear box full of Crayola crayons and two coloring books, Clifford the Big Red Dog and a Disney princess coloring book.

When I was finally old enough to start school, teachers quickly began noticing the signs of various abuses I had been suffering through for years. It was only a few short months before the authorities were contacted about what was happening in my house.

The night I saw those blue and red lights pour into

the living room, a police officer came up to me and handed me two things, a coloring book with crayons, and a stuffed animal of Grover from Sesame Street. I grabbed Grover and held on to him during the long ride in the police car to my next destination.

For the next four years, I was moved from one foster home to another, every six months until I was placed with my adopted parents. They decided to keep me and care for me. With them, I finally had a bed to myself and awesome clothes to choose from in my own closet.

That said, I still faced problems in the beginning of this new chapter of my life. I acted out a lot. Looking back, I realize I was just waiting for the day the State of West Virginia would take me back and put me with another family.

I was depressed and had very little hope things would ever get better, even at such a young age.

I put a good face on at school. School was my sanctuary. There, I was able to smile, laugh and forget how I was going to feel when I stepped through the doors at the end of the day to go home.

My senior year of high school, my dad came storming in the house from a doctor's appointment with my mom. He came straight to me and blamed me for my mom getting brain cancer. I was basically shut in my room for the remainder of my senior year.

Three weeks after I graduated from high school, I left for Air Force Basic Military Training.

Since then, my adopted mother and father have both passed away. I am a single mother of two and have been divorced twice. I'm the first to admit that my past has carried over into my personal life but I also believe in new beginnings. I have decided to not allow my past to continue to affect who I am today.

I could have become a statistic -- but I chose not to.

Having the goal of enlisting in the Air Force when I was in eighth grade kept everything in perspective. I had an objective -- something to work towards and to help me remember the end game. I wanted to show everyone I could get through BMT and become who I wanted to be.

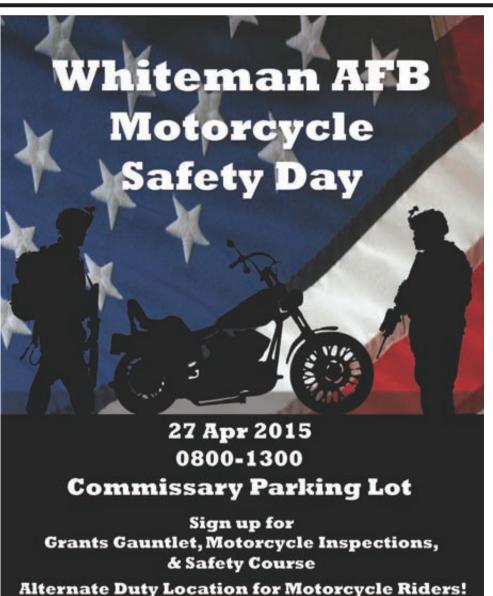
And I did

My whole life I had been surviving, but now I am ving.

I know there are others out there with similar stories. With April being Child Abuse Prevention Month, it is important that we all be mindful of what too many young kids have to go through each day. It is also important for those kids to know that life gets better – that if you are resilient you can make what you want of your own life.

Trust me, I did.

### **News**



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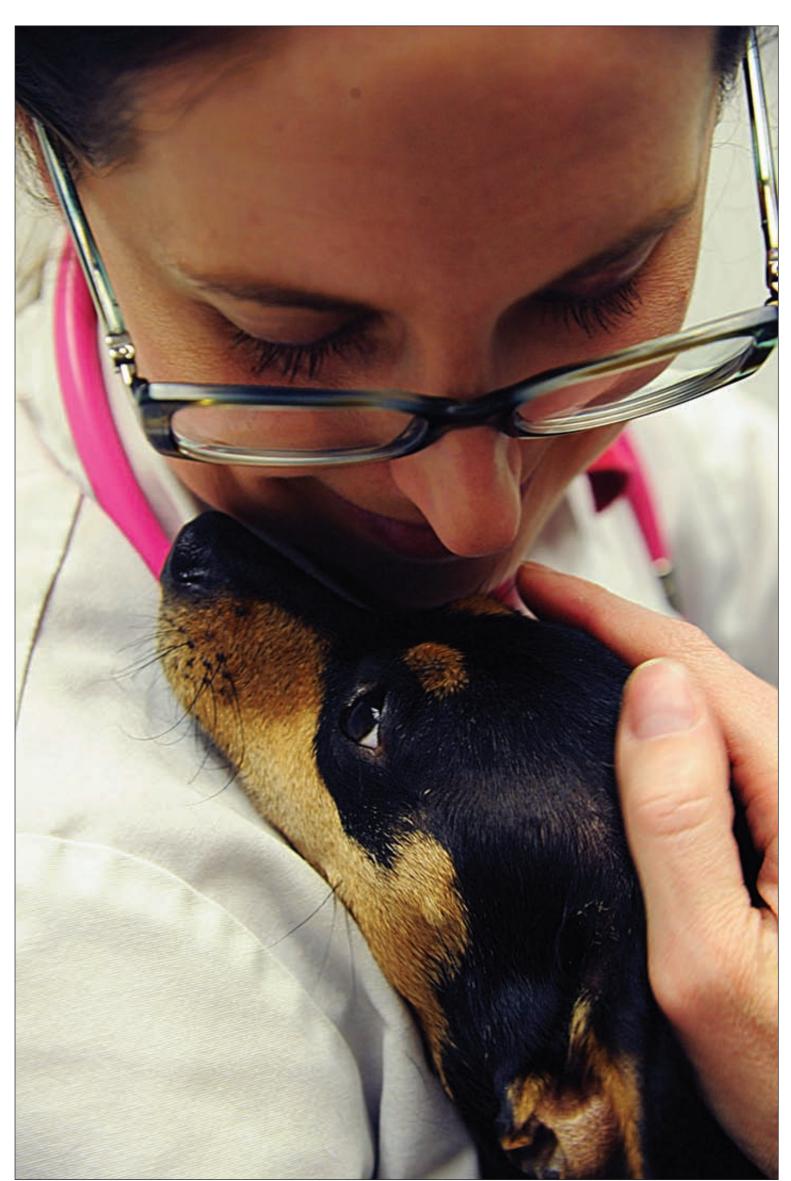


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The Warrior April 17, 2015 The Warrior **Feature** April 17, 2015

# Medics for a man's best friend





U.S. Army Sergeant Travis Webster, Vet Clinic veterinary technician, prepares to stain a microscope slide at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 1, 2015. The slides are stained to allow the vets to view bacteria through the microscope



U.S. Army Sergeant Travis Webster, Vet Clinic veterinary technician, examines a microscope slide at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 1, 2015. Once the veterinary assistant has identified the problem, they notify the veterinarian who will present solutions.

Right: Joanna Kuecker, Vet Clinic veterinarian, checks a patient's teeth at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 1, 2015. This procedure is also done to ensure the patient's mucus membrane color is normal red, verifying





By Senior Airman Keenan Berry 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

When your pet feels ill or under the weather, the Vet Clinic is here to solve the matter. Much like humans, animals suffer from ailments and diseases disrupting health. From an injured paw to heart worm disease, vets are dedicated to ensuring Whiteman pets are healthy and happy.

The Vet Clinic provides care 24/7 to military working dogs (MWD) and preventive health care three days a week to privately owned animals. Preventive health care consists of vaccines, minor sick calls, heart worm and, flea and tick prevention. Minor sick calls include skin issues and gastro intestinal

The veterinary technician is the first person the pet sees before the veterinarian.

"I take the temperature, pulse rate and respiration rate of all the animals and then I provide them with vaccines," said Danielle Garrow, Vet Clinic veterinary assistant. "After the initial exam is completed, the technician will notify the veterinarian of any concerns we have."

The veterinarian addresses the concerns with the owner, runs any tests if necessary and notifies them of any vaccinations or solutions they can consider to ensure their pets health improves.

The clinic examines an average of 10-30 patients per day, varying upon the season. They would normally see numbers close to 30 during the summer due to annual vaccinations.

Pets typically need rabies vaccination. In the first year of life, the vaccine is good for one year. After that, they receive a vaccine that can last for three years. It's important to booster the vaccine every year to prevent the spread of rabies from animals to humans. There is a combination vaccine for distemper (which is an upper respiratory and neurological virus), adeno virus (pertaining to liver), parainfluenza and parvo virus (which are intestinal viruses). There is a vaccine for leptospirosis which is our goal is to ensure they are taking care of for the mental wela water-borne bacteria capable of causing kidney failure. Like

rabies, this virus is capable of spreading from pets to humans. Bordetella is a disease capable of spreading from close contact with other pets such as boarding or grooming.

The Vet Clinic is limited to certain ailments they can handle

"We only provide care to chronic progressive diseases which are long term such as skin disease, said Joanna Kuecker, Vet Clinic veterinarian. "We are not authorized to perform surgical procedures, handle broken bones, neuter or provide dental care. However, we are authorized to perform dental on the MWDs.'

Installations vet clinics provides a convenience for owners who are in-processing from other installations.

"We have a new computer based system which is an international database allowing other installations to view records," Kuecker said. "The owner of the pet tells the clinic their previous duty location and the information is obtained. It's better for

The Vet Clinic is able to print copies of the records for the owner to provide to any off-base veterinarians. The owner is the only individual who can obtain copy of veterinary records. This is for security under the Health Information Protection Assurance Act regulations to ensure PII is accounted for.

If someone wants to know information on an animal, they would have to receive consent and verification from the owner to proceed with their request. The Vet Clinic prefers to know if the owner decides to give the pet to someone else, that way they can transfer the records into their name.

The vet clinic takes pride in ensuring MWDs and privately owned animals receive convenient and efficient health care that will keep them mission capable.

"MWDs are a huge part of the installation's security as far as detection of explosive devices and contraband," said Kuecker. "With this in mind, our goal is to ensure they are in their best health to fulfill their required duties. With privately owned pets,



Joanna Kuecker, Vet Clinic veterinarian, checks heart rate at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 1, 2015. This procedure is done to check for irregular heartbeats or any abnormal heart conditions.

Joanna Kuecker, Vet Clinic veterinarian, holds a patient at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 1, 2015. The Vet Clinic's mission is to care for and ensure the patients achieve their desired health.

### **News**

# Chief's Choice **Award**



Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Longfellow

Airman 1st Class Emili Koonce, 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs broadcaster, received the Whiteman Chief's Group Chief's Choice Award at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 13, 2015. Koonce exemplified outstanding service by filling an NCO position in the community relations department conducting seven base tours which allowed 305 people see a glimpse of Whiteman operations.

### Ten seconds

### Continued from Page 2

relationship should not partake in this kind of activity for two reasons: First, it could be considered illegal. Second, it can easily be shared or shown to others that were not the intended audience.

According to Dosomething.org, 17 percent of "sexters" share the messages they receive with others, and 55 percent of those share them with more than one person. Everyone wants to believe that their friends would never betray them, but we have all seen the stories of a girl's pictures being spread around school as a prank or because she made someone mad. These situations are so damaging to a person's confidence and reputation. It is common to think that someone in a close circle is not going to end up like those girls or boys, but it can easily happen to anyone with just the click of a button.

The number of people sharing inappropriate pictures is increasing. Sources say that 1 in 5 teenagers are sharing provocative photos, but it may be even scarier that the senders are getting younger. It is hard to imagine that 7th and 8th grade students are sending such mature content, but it

I have a younger sister and I believe that it is my job to warn her and educate on her on the dangers of sexting and online predators. Everyone in high school should be doing this as well. Do not encourage it by talking about how much fun and how safe it is in the locker room. Do not make it seem okay to these young, impressionable girls and boys. Do not be afraid to stand up against pressures of sending inappropriate photos across the Internet.



# View the Whiteman Warrior online by logging onto www.whiteman.af.mil





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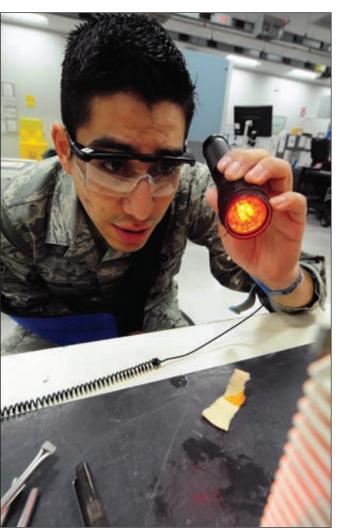


News The Warrior April 17, 2015 11

# Avionics Flight keeps B-2s in the fight



Airman 1st Class Joseph Good and Senior Airman Christopher Prescott, both 509th Maintenance Squadron avionics test station and components journeymen, use test software for a landing program at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 18, 2015. The 509th MXS avionics flight repairs more than 300 essential B-2 components a year, saving the Air Force more than \$5.8 million annually.





Airman 1st Class Richard Arciga, 509th Maintenance Squadron avionics test station and components journeyman, removes dust from an actuator electrical connection at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 18, 2015. Frequent removal of dust and debris helps prevent decay and rust build-up on the component.

LEFT: Airman 1st Class Richard Arciga, 509th Maintenance Squadron avionics test station and components journeyman, inspects the electrical connection on an actuator at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 18, 2015. Arciga is inspecting for debris that could be obstructing an electrical connection.

RIGHT: Airman 1st Class Trevor Davis, 509th Maintenance Squadron avionics test station and components journeyman, cleans cooling fins on an actuator at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 18, 2015. The fins aid cooling of internal parts of the actuator.

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



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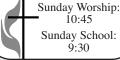
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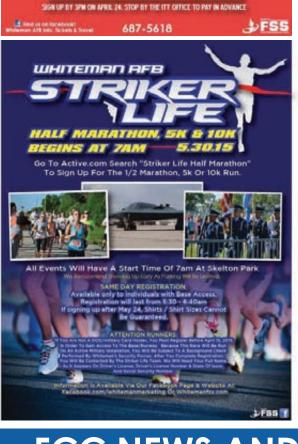
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## UPCOMING EVENTS









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> Celebrate X Service



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FSS

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**Contact The FCC Office for more information at 687-5590** 

The Warrior April 17, 2015

### News

# Top III MVPs recognized



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Joel Pfiester Senior Airman Tucker Andrews, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Tech. Sgt. Lora D. Martinez, 131st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and Tech. Sgt. James Erwin, 509th LRS, pose with members of the Whiteman Top III Association at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 2, 2015. Andrews was recognized for exceeding in his career field and shining above his peers. Martinez was recognized for stepping up for a wingman in need. Erwin was recognized for helping multiple subordinates through personal issues and being lauded by his peers and leadership.



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