

WARRIOR



MOSS AIRMAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO TORNADO VICTIMS

GOING THE

DISTANCE PG. 5

MARE MENDINGS PG. 8

WHITEMAN FIRST RESPONDERS PARTAKE IN RESPONSE EXERCISE

Honest answers to sexual assault myths

By Maj. Gen. Gina Grosso
Air Force Sexual Assault
Prevention and Response director

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- As Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month comes to a close, I want to take the opportunity to address three persistent myths regarding the Air Force's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program. These myths include a commander's ability to start, stop or otherwise hinder a sexual assault investigation; what agencies can take a sexual assault report; and the number of sexual assaults where the victim and the perpetrator are in the same unit.

The first myth in the general public and within the Air Force is that commanders decide whether or not allegations of sexual assault made by their subordinates will be investigated. This is simply not true! Air Force commanders are required by Air Force policy to immediately refer all sexual assault allegations to the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), who is required to investigate all sexual assault allegations.

Commanders have no say over whether AFOSI investigates a sexual assault allegation or any other criminal matter within AFOSI's investigative jurisdiction. AFOSI agents operate independently of the Air Force's traditional chain of command, reporting instead through AFOSI's own command structure.

Air Force policy also dictates that the AFOSI commander notify the secretary of the Air Force in writing of any instance in which a commander, or any other Air Force member, attempts to impede an investigation or limit the use of investigative techniques

through the use of their authority. The secretary of the Air Force and the Department of Defense inspector general are the only individuals outside AFOSI who may direct an agent to conduct or not conduct specific investigative activities or to close an investigation.

The second myth that persists is that sexual assault victims wishing to make a report must go through their commander, supervisor, or law enforcement channels first.

Again, this is simply not true! A victim can go directly to Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC), SAPR Victim Advocates (VA), or healthcare providers. These professionals regularly receive both restricted and unrestricted reports and are available to help victims navigate through either reporting option.

In addition, Special Victims Counsel (SVC) is available to all sexual assault victims. SVCs are military attorneys whose sole job is to advocate on behalf of sexual assault victims. These specialized lawyers can help victims gain a better understanding of the investigative and legal system processes. If a sexual assault victim chooses to participate in the military justice process, the SVCs can also represent the victim in court.

The restricted reporting option is for sexual assault victims who wish to confidentially disclose the crime and receive medical treatment and services without triggering the official investigative process or pressing charges against a perpetrator.

Service members who are sexually assaulted and wish to file a restricted report must report the assault to a SARC, a SAPR VA, or healthcare personnel.

The unrestricted reporting option is for

sexual assault victims who want law enforcement officials to investigate the assault in order to hold the perpetrator accountable. Once an unrestricted report is made, AFOSI agents investigate each and every reported sexual assault allegation over which the Air Force has jurisdiction. Anyone wishing to file an unrestricted report may report the crime to law enforcement, the chain of command, SARC, SAPR VA, or healthcare personnel.

The third myth is that in every sexual assault case the victim and the accused share the same commander and that this leads to retaliation within the unit such as a reduction in rank, a decrease in pay, or being forced out of the military.

Roughly one in six sexual assault cases involve offenders and victims assigned to the same unit. This can result in unique issues for commanders as they support the victim and the accused. Regardless of the accused or victim unit affiliation, retaliation is not acceptable. Furthermore, retaliation is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The Air Force is working hard to ensure that victims of retaliation feel safe reporting such incidents as well as know where they can go for assistance.

These three persistent myths notwithstanding, the Air Force will continue to offer the best care possible to our sexual assault victims to help them become empowered survivors. Let us all make a concerted effort not only in April, but every day throughout the year to end sexual assault. Every Airman can and must make a difference when it comes to bringing awareness and preventing this crime in the Air Force and in our communities.

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.

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Flight commander and flight superintendent conduct professional development course



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Joel Pfiester

Chief master sergeants answer questions as part of a panel during a Flight Commander and Flight Superintendent Professional Development Course May 19, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The Flight Commander and Flight Superintendent Professional Development Course is a three-day course is designed to develop and equip flight-level leadership to effectively lead and follow in accomplishing the nuclear deterrent mission with the utmost integrity, while fostering a culture of continuous, dynamic leadership development. The overall vision is to develop leaders of integrity who are ready to lead the nuclear deterrence mission with excellence, while selflessly serving as stewards of America's public trust. Various topics include senior leader perspectives, dynamic leader/follower issuing challenges, enlisted force structure, flight commander/superintendent tool kits, foundational leadership, and panels held by the Chiefs Group, helping agencies and commanders. The course was created by Lt. Col. Chip Hollinger, 509th Force Support Squadron commander, and Master Sgt. John De La Rosa, career assistance advisor.

On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo/
Senior Airman Joel Pfiester

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brendan Brustad, 509th Medical Support Squadron NCO in charge of medical contracting, catches his breath during a 161-mile run May 19, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Brustad ran approximately 26 miles a day for six days to honor the victims of the 2011 Joplin Mo. tornado.

NEWS BRIEFS

Disposition of Personal Effects

1st Lt. Chris Melendez is authorized to make disposition of the personal effects of Senior Airman John J. Bottom, deceased, 509 Security Forces Squadron, as stated in AFI 34-511. Any person having claims for or against the deceased please contact 1st Lt. Melendez at (660) 687-3596 or 407-921-1054.



U.S. Air Force Eagle Eyes provides service members and civilians a safe, discreet and anonymous option to report criminal information, counterintelligence indicators or force protection concerns.

To submit a web tip go to <http://www.tipsubmit.com/WebTips.aspx?AgencyID=1111> or the AFOSI web page at <http://www.osi.af.mil>

How to report an anonymous tip using a smart phone:

1. Use the smart phone app
2. Manually select an agency
3. Choose USA then Federal Agency then select AFOSI
4. Create a passport, select New Tip and fill out the form with as much information as possible.

How to report an anonymous tip VIA text message:

Text "AFOSI" plus your tip information to 274637 (CRIMES)

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24 hour Fitness Center access

By Senior Airman Joel Pfister
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Members of Team Whiteman will soon be able to access the Fitness Center at any time of the day.

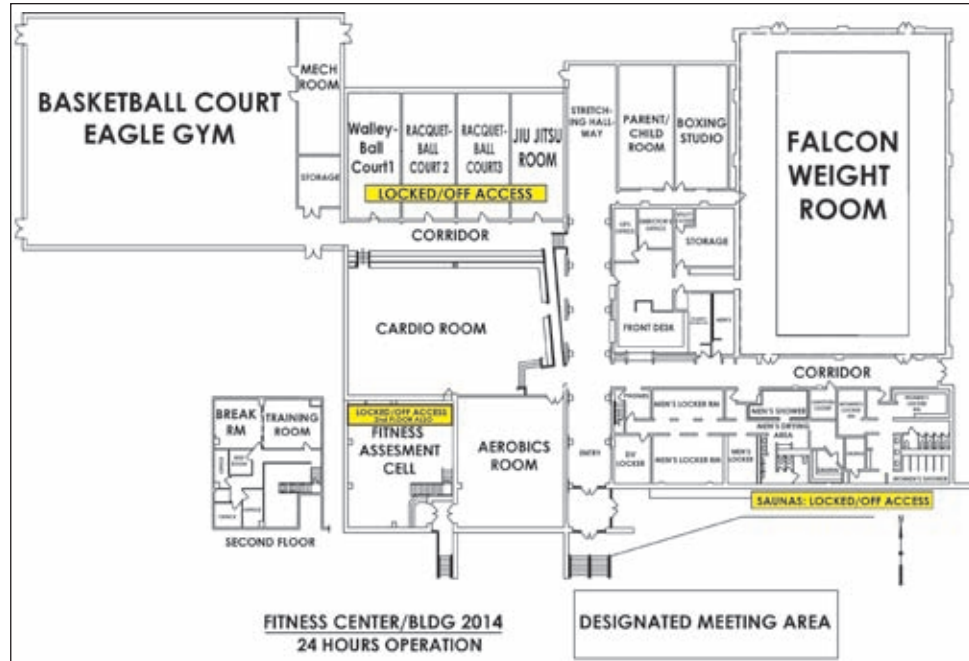
Scheduled to begin June 1, the Fitness Center will have 24 hour access to eligible members.

The Office of Secretary of Defense and Headquarters Air Force approved an initiative under Services Transformation to utilize unsupervised facility usage after normal staff hours of operation in Air Force fitness and sports centers.

Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve, dependents of authorized users (18 and older), Department of Defense and Non-appropriated fund civilians, and retirees will be granted access without the need of being accompanied by another authorized user.

Dependents of authorized users that are between the ages of 16 and 17, will be granted access if accompanied by an authorized user.

Members interested in utilizing the Fitness Center after hours will have to sign a Statement of Understanding (SOU) and have their Common Access Card (CAC) activated at the Fitness Center front desk.



Dependents between the ages of 16 and 17 will sign a separate SOU. Anyone that does not have a CAC will be issued a proximity card.

Members will have access to every part of the gym, except for the racquetball courts and sauna rooms.

This program is designed to enhance fitness opportunities on Whiteman AFB by maximizing facility utilization without

adding cost. It is highly encouraged that patrons utilize the wingman concept during unmanned hours especially when free weights are used. It is incumbent on all Whiteman AFB community members to promote the safe and responsible execution of this policy.

If you have any questions or want more information, contact Fitness Center director, Angela Anderson at (660) 687-5493.

Warthog snarls for the camera



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Emily F. Alley
Aircraft 79-123 is the first A-10 Thunderbolt II flying out of the 442nd Fighter Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., to receive teeth on 13 May. The design was initiated by Senior Airman Spencer Stringer, an aircraft structural maintenance technician. The design was created by Stringer, and his supervisor Master Sgt. Geary Rose.

By Tech. Sgt. Emily F. Alley
442nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 442nd Fighter Wing's A-10 Thunderbolt IIs received their first set of teeth on May 13.

The aircraft, commonly called the "warthog" have been flying for more than 40 years. In fact, a few days earlier marked the anniversary of the first A-10 flight on 10 May 1972. While the wing is scheduled to begin a transition to F-16 aircraft in 2018, Senior Airman Spencer Stringer, an aircraft structural maintenance technician, decided it was time for the aircraft to get their teeth.

"I don't care if the plane goes to the bone yard next week," said Stringer. "If it sits there for the next 30 years it'll have teeth."

Teeth are part of the A-10 Thunderbolt II's

heritage, many wings wear variations of the nose art, but the 442nd Fighter Wing had not received permission to paint it when Stringer arrived at Whiteman Air Force Base in 2013.

"I asked, 'Why don't ours have teeth?'" he recalled.

Stringer's supervisor, Master Sgt. Geary Rose, agreed to help him with the application and his team researched A-10 teeth that had been used in the past. As a shop, they picked out features they liked. For example, Stringer felt it was important for his Warthogs to have tusks.

"It's something I've always wanted to do," said Rose. "If you Google A-10s all you see are ones with teeth. An A-10 has to have teeth."

The shop created an original design that is unique to the 442nd Fighter Wing.

"We didn't want Barksdale's teeth or Moody's teeth. We wanted our own teeth," Rose added. "Then we had to sell the idea."

The shop not only needed permission from the wing commander, but also had to petition to adapt other mandatory aircraft markings. Rose got approval for to remove aircraft numbers from the nose and move them further back on the plane where they won't cover the teeth. Another challenge was creating a two-dimensional design for the three-dimensional object.

Rose's application was approved immediately prior to his shop's deployment to Afghanistan in 2014. They were excited, but did not have time to paint the aircraft before they deployed.

"It's not as simple as a can of spray paint," said Stringer. "It's a lot of work to tape it off. And you have to be fully suited up with no skin showing. You wear a breathing apparatus."

Now that the shop has returned to Whiteman, they have begun painting teeth as part of the aircraft's routine painting schedule. The teeth add one additional day to each aircraft's time in the painting shop. Stringer and Rose expect all the wing's A-10s will be scowling within the next year.

"We'll be able to recognize them in the bone yard," said Master Sgt. Christopher Barton, the lead crew chief dedicated to aircraft 123- the first to receive teeth. He affectionately rubbed the plane's nose.

"When they come in for paint they'll leave with the face," Stringer explained.

Rose recalls very little resistance to the idea. Although, he added, there was some skepticism since the aircraft had flown for so long without wearing the nose art. Other units have worn iconic heritage nose art for years.

But, he concluded, "Heritage has to start somewhere."

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Willard awarded Teacher of the Year



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Keenan Berry

Sarah Willard, Whiteman Elementary School teacher, receives the Chapter Teacher of the Year award at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 19, 2015. This award recognizes exceptional performance in education at the local level. The AFA acknowledges classroom teachers at the chapter level for their accomplishments and achievements in helping Kindergarten through 12th-grade students get excited about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and preparing students to use and contribute to tomorrow's technologies.



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Running for a reason

By Senior Airman Joel Pfiester
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

One-hundred-sixty-one ... That's the total number of lives lost during an EF5 tornado which took place May 22, 2011, in Joplin, Missouri.

One-hundred-sixty-one ... That's the total number of miles U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brendan Brustad, from the 509th Medical Support Squadron ran from May 16-21 as a tribute to those victims.

The Joplin Memorial Run is an annual event where participants can register to run a half-marathon or a 5K. Brustad, who is no stranger to long-distance running, registered for the run, but rather than running the traditional distance, he ran 161 miles over the course of six days, all on

Whiteman Air Force Base.

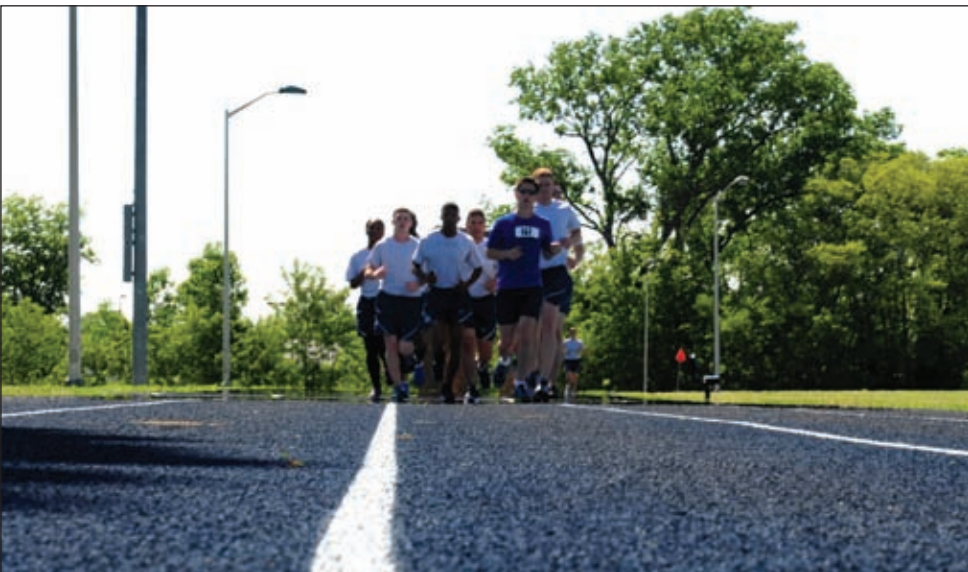
"It goes back to one of my first marathons," said Brustad. "It was during that race when something just clicked, and I realized that I needed to do something more for society and the greater good. I wanted to inspire others and make a difference."

Brustad does various long-distance runs, many of them contributing to a greater cause.

"I've been long distance running since 2006," said Brustad. "I had to take a hiatus from running for a while, but it feels great to be back. I have had the honor to help lead fundraising campaigns in the areas where I have been stationed. It's a great feeling to give back to a race that

See Running, page 11

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brendan Brustad, 509th Medical Support Squadron NCO in charge of medical contracting, catches his breath during a 161 - mile run May 19, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Brustad ran approximately 26 miles a day for six days to honor the victims of the 2011 Joplin Mo. tornado.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brendan Brustad along with his co-workers from the 509th Medical Support Squadron run the final stretch of Brustad's 161-mile run at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 21, 2015. Brustad ran approximately 26 miles a day for six days to honor the victims of the 2011 Joplin Mo. tornado.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brendan Brustad, 509th Medical Support Squadron NCO in charge of medical contracting, prepares to run 161 miles May 19, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Brustad wore a shirt displaying the number "161" which honors the 161 lives that were lost in Joplin, Mo., after an EF5 tornado struck the town on May 22, 2011.



**U.S. Air Force photos/
Senior Airman Joel Pfiester**

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brendan Brustad and 1st Lt. James Laughridge, both from the 509th Medical Support Squadron, run during the early hours of the day at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 19, 2015. The Joplin Memorial Run is an annual event where participants can register to run a half-marathon or a 5K. Brustad registered for the run but rather than running the distance, he ran 161 miles over the course of six days, all on Whiteman Air Force Base.



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Composition 1 Mon. - Wed.
Speech Mon. - Wed.

SESSION 2 JUNE 29- JULY 17th (5- 9:20 pm)
American History M-W
Speech M-W
Principles of Management M-W

SESSION 3A JULY 20th- AUG 7th (5-9:20pm)
Humanities T-Th

SESSION 3B JULY 20th- AUG 21st (5-9:20pm)
Collage Algebra M-W

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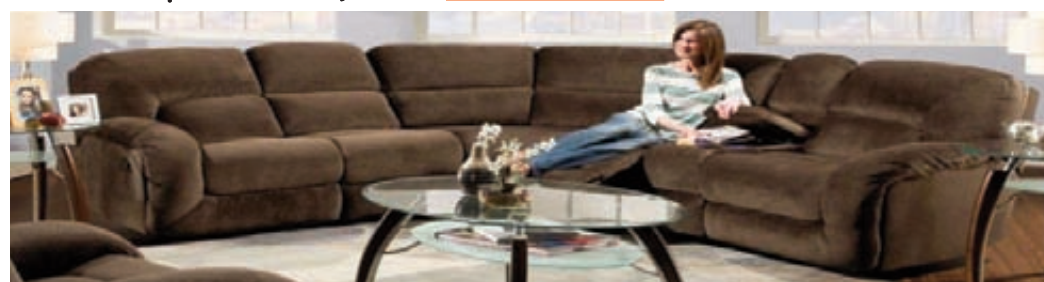


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Medics train for worst-case scenario



A member of the 509th Bomb Wing plays the role of a stunned trauma patient during a major accident response exercise May 20, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Having moulage applied to simulated patients allows the medics to have a more realistic response to exercises such as these.



Members of the 509th Medical Group strap a simulated aircraft accident victim to a stretcher during a major accident response exercise May 20, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. During exercises like these, medics who might not normally treat patients together are tested on their ability to quickly and efficiently work as a team.



Simulated aircraft accident victims await treatment during a major accident response exercise May 20, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The injuries, which ranged from broken bones to head traumas, allowed first responders from the 509th Medical Group to practice their triage procedures.



Tags used for identifying patient injuries are sorted by the members of the 509th Medical Group during a major accident response exercise May 20, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. When responding to emergencies, properly identifying patient injuries is vital to positive identification and patient treatment.



Firefighters from the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron respond to a simulated aircraft crash during a major accident response exercise May 20, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Constant training ensures that all first responders are ready to react to incidents at a moment's notice.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Andrea Huffstetler, 509th Medical Operations Squadron aerospace medicine technician, treats a simulated aircraft accident victim during a major accident response exercise May 20, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. For injuries such as amputations, the first step is to control the bleeding.



Patients from a simulated aircraft accident look for help from 509th Medical Group first responders during a major accident response exercise May 20, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. In the event an incident occurs, the medics are split up into immediate, delayed and minimal response treatment teams.



U.S. Air Force Capt. Marc Dunham, 509th Medical Operations Squadron nurse, applies pressure to the neck wound of a simulated patient during a major accident response exercise May 20, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Although he typically works in the Personnel Reliability Program clinic, Dunham was part of the response team because major accidents require all medics to work together to treat patients.

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

Unfortunately for men afflicted with prostate cancer, treatment options like surgery and standard radiation can come with debilitating side effects like incontinence and impotence, both of which can impact your lifestyle dramatically. There is a better way—it's called proton therapy from ProCure, and men who receive this treatment report little to no side effects.

Prostate cancer shouldn't be the end of intimacy.

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Running Continued from Page 5

gives back to a great cause.”

Like many of his resiliency runs, Brustad’s recent accomplishment pays homage to the resilience that the town of Joplin and the community members who lost someone or something possessed after the disaster.

“Get knocked down seven times, get up eight,” said Brustad. “Resiliency, to me, means taking a beating, whether it be emotional, physical or spiritual, and still being able to keep moving forward no matter what gets thrown at you.”

Brustad ran at least 24 miles a day for six days straight. He ran 28 on day one, 27 on day two, 26 on days three and four, 30

on day five, and finally 24 on day six. So many miles could take a toll on even the most seasoned runner. However, his stride was never broken.

“Quitting is not an option for me,” said Brustad. “Running for a reason motivates me. It’s amazing what you can do if you run for something that’s bigger than yourself.”

Whenever the thought of quitting may have crossed his mind, he kept running strong with the thoughts of the victims of the Joplin tornado.

“The thought of quitting comes through my mind from time to time, but I just shake it off and keep moving for-

ward,” said Brustad. “For this particular run, I printed out a very heartfelt message I received from a mother who had lost her son in the tornado. It kept me going strong throughout the week.”

Brustad’s training regimen is simple ... run.

“I’ve run every day since Jan. 1. Rain, sleet, shine or snow,” said Brustad. “I even put screws on the bottom of my shoes when it was really icy out this past winter. Most running books will tell you running every day is not recommended, however, the most important thing to know is your body and its own limits. Arthur C. Clarke once said, ‘The only way to define your

limits is to go beyond them.’”

Brustad pushed himself to his limits and stayed true to his commitment. During his last day running, his wingmen came out to support and join him for the final stretch of his run. Once the final steps of the long journey were taken, Brustad gave an emotional speech about why it’s important to do these runs and honor the victims of such tragedies by raising awareness.

Brustad plans on sending his Joplin Memorial Run medal to the town of Joplin and dedicating it to them.

“Running is my way of changing the world,” said Brustad. “One mile at a time.”

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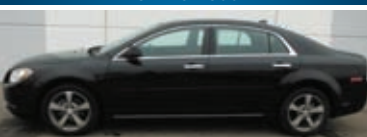


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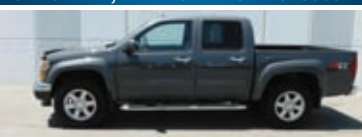
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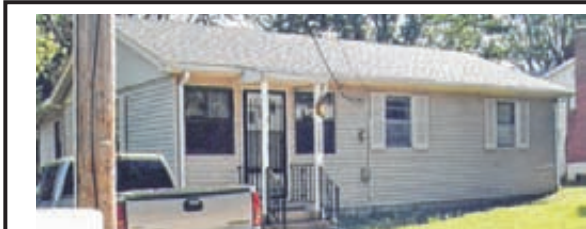
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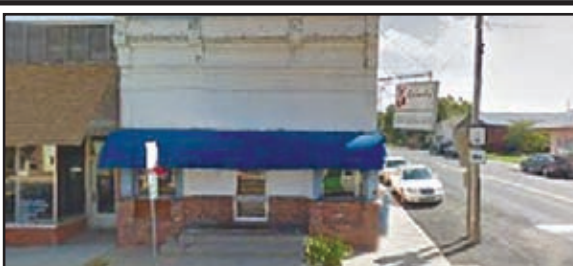
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