

# WARRIOR



VISUALLY HIGHLIGHTING THE AIRMEN OF WHITEMAN'S AMXS

# DRAGONS

PG. 8

## TREAD LIGHTLY

WHITEMAN AIRMEN PARTICIPATE IN WATER SURVIVAL COURSE PG. 5



# Dragons: 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



By Maj. Bryan Florio

509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander

Dragons ... death from above!! Is the overpowering cry you hear when a member of the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron's name is announced at any wing function. Why are we so loud and proud? I'm glad you asked.

Our unit patch has rich heritage and lineage. Our maintainers have been supporting the "air breathing" strategic mission in some form or fashion since 1945. The left facing arrow, harkens back to the 509th Composite Group's tail flash and motto, which was "Follow Us, Follow Us as we usher in the Nuclear Age."

The blue background represents the sky the B-2 Spirit seemingly glides through after we pour hours and hours of blood, sweat and tears, culminating with a thumbs up and salute to those flying it. The yellow and red shield equally divided, shows how the squadron's flights are aligned to support the combat coded squadrons.

Originally, those squadrons were the 393d Bomb Squadron (gold) and the 325th Bomb Squadron (red). Around 2005, the 325th moved over as the Weapons School Squadron, and the "Devil's Own" 13th replaced it. The crossed bombs and wrenches, is an over-simplification



of our actual mission; generate world-wide combat capability by planning and executing all aspects of on-aircraft maintenance, weapons loading, launch and recovery for the Air Force's premier bomber.

Lastly, the words "keepers of the spirit" make up the bottom portion of the patch. The official definition of a keeper is a person who manages or looks after something or someone.

Our definition is a bit different. We look after the aircraft, tending to its "care and feeding" at all hours of the day or night, no matter the weather. Ensuring every bomb loaded is ready to make its mark on whatever our target is. Veri-

fying every system is working as it should, and seamlessly integrated with every other system to, at the command of the aircrew, barrel down the runway and fly off to conduct its mission. Those pilots are our responsibility as well, and according to the old flying adage, takeoffs are optional, landings are not, we are ultimately responsible for all maintenance actions on every aircraft that flies.

After we have one last look over the aircraft we sign our names in the aircraft forms saying the maintenance performed on this aircraft is in accordance with technical data, and it is a safe, reliable aircraft, ready for flight. Even then our job is not done. We wait for the aircraft to return, we look over it again, get it ready for another mission, should it be called to, and after that, we finally take a rest. That is our definition of keepers of the spirit.

So why Dragons? I have looked and I can't find the why, but this is what I like to think. According to folklore, Dragons fly and breathe fire. If they fly at night no one knows they are there until they torch you with fire. How do we employ the B-2? Usually at night, and you won't know we're there until after the night sky lights up with our fire, and the men and women of the 509th AMXS stand ready to make that happen, day or night, rain or shine to rain death from above!



U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla and Senior Airman Jovan Banks



*Related photos  
may be found on  
pages 8 and 9*

## 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 do not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-5727, email 509.bw.pa@us.af.mil, fax 660-687-7948, or write to us at Whiteman Warrior, 509th Bomb Wing, 509th 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 by Senior Airman Jovan Banks  
U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Randell White II, a mobility support technician assigned to the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, repairs a piece of equipment at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 9, 2018. The 509th AMXS Airmen deliver maximum combat readiness while maintaining a deployable combat force capable of projecting B-2 Spirit global firepower at a moments notice, anytime and anywhere.



## NEWS BRIEFS



**U.S. AIR FORCE**  
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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 the AFOSI web page at <http://www.osi.af.mil>.

How to report an anonymous tip using a smart phone:

1. Open 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)

### 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.

### Air Force Housing website

Visit [www.housing.af.mil](http://www.housing.af.mil) to find your new home with the Air Force. This website serves as a one-stop shop for Airmen and their families to obtain information about the housing options and support services available to them at Air Force bases worldwide.

### WEATHER

Today	Saturday
Chance of Storms	Breezy
Hi 76	Hi 50
Lo 64	Lo 43
Sunday	Monday
Mostly Cloudy	Sunny
Hi 44	Hi 53
Lo 32	Lo 28

# Fire Prevention Safety Message

By Andrew Wells

509 Civil Engineer Squadron fire prevention inspector

Electricity is something that we have all come to take for granted considering it is second nature for us to simply flip a light switch, charge our phones, or even use an appliance like a microwave; however, no matter how accustomed we are to using electricity as part of our daily routine there are some simple safety measures that should be followed to prevent unnecessary and unfortunate accidents.

According to the National Fire Protection Association during 2010 through 2014, there was an annual average of 45,210 reported house fires involving an electrical failure or malfunction; these responses accounted for 57 percent of all house fires and resulted in 420 civilian deaths, 1,370 injuries, and roughly \$1.4 billion in damages. Furthermore, during this period some type of electrical failure or malfunction contributed to the ignition of 16,070 structural fires in commercial or industrial facilities, resulting in an estimated annual average of 12 civilian deaths, 210 injuries, and \$614 million in property damages.

More importantly, here at Whiteman there have been 41 electrical safety issues that fire inspectors have identified since the beginning of 2017 to present day.

With that in mind, here are some general guidelines that we can all follow and implement to ensure our safety when using electricity:

-Ensure high wattage appliances such as microwaves, washers, dryers, stoves, coffee pots, space heaters, and refrigerators are plugged directly into wall outlets; under no circumstances should these devices ever be

plugged into surge protectors or extension cords. This was the primary electrical safety violation that fire inspectors discovered during facility inspections that occurred between 2017 and present day.

-Do not plug a surge protector or power strip into an existing surge protector or power strip; this is called "daisy chaining" or "piggybacking" and can lead to serious safety problems; this was the second most common issue fire inspectors found, and is often the result of occupants not realizing how dangerous the situation really is.

-Never use an extension cord as a substitute for permanent wiring and always ensure the extension cord is rated for the products you are plugging in to it; this was the third most common issue noted by fire inspectors.

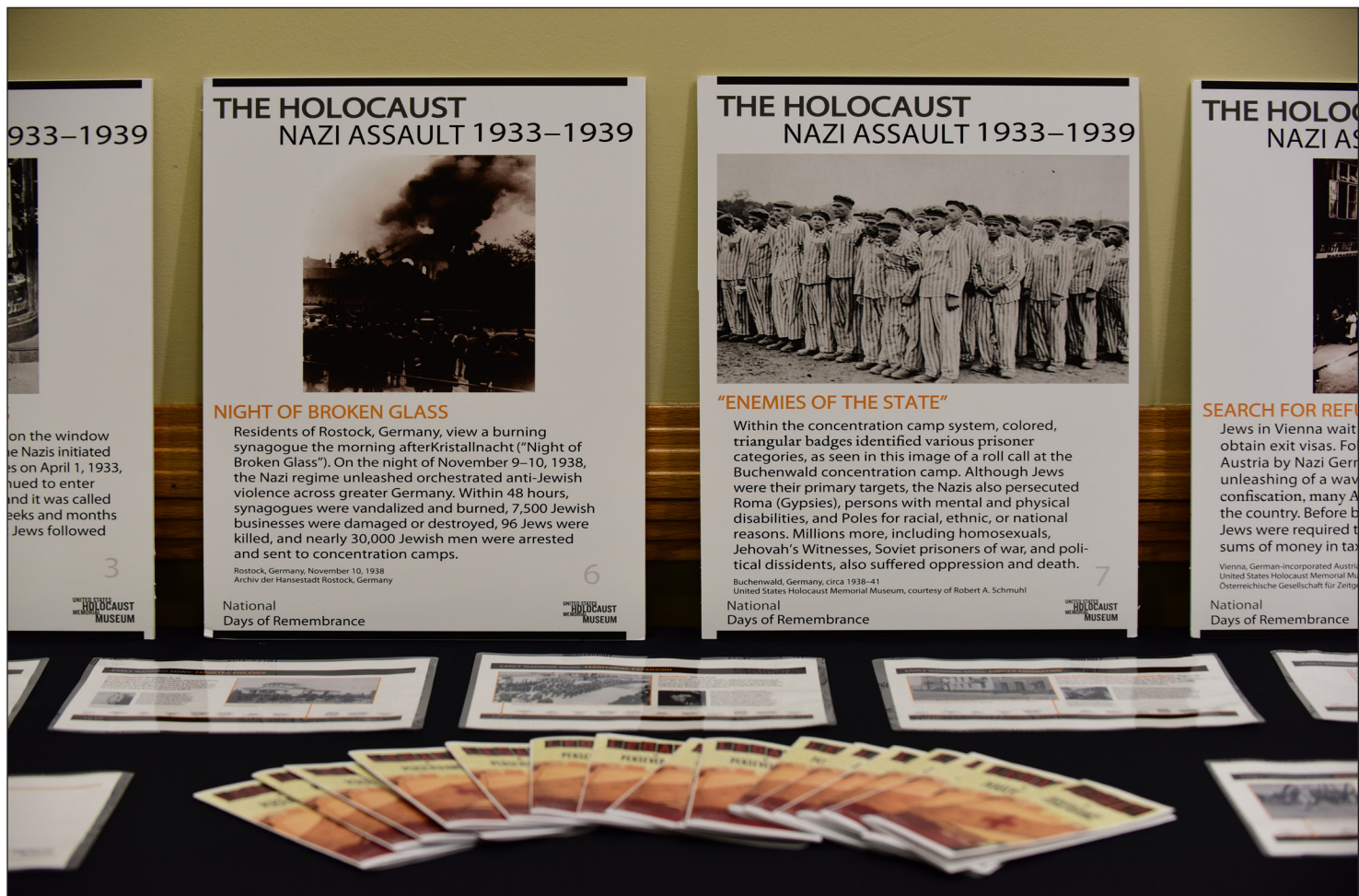
-Only use surge protectors that have an internal circuit breaker and are either UL (Underwriters Laboratory) or ETL (Electrical Testing Laboratories) approved.

-Do not place a surge protector in a location where it will be covered by carpet, furniture or any other item that would limit or prevent air circulation.

-If the surge protector is warm to the touch, remove and replace the unit; additionally the electrical load for the unit should be checked to ensure it is not overloaded.

For additional guidance regarding electrical safety you can refer to AFM 91-203 and WAFBI 32-2001. Whiteman Fire Emergency Services wants to ensure that everyone remains safe both at home and at work. If you have any questions about fire prevention, fire safety, or training please contact our Fire Prevention Office for information at 660-687-6080 or 660-687-6083.

## Legacy of Perseverance



Steven Cole, a second generation Holocaust survivor shared the story of his family and what they experienced during the Nazi uprising in 1933 as part of the Days of Remembrance: Learning from the Holocaust exhibit at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 12, 2018. The Days of Remembrance is an annual eight-day period the U.S. Congress designated to help citizens remember and draw lessons from the Holocaust. Cole is part of the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education, which is an organization that relates the events of the past to contemporary issues of intolerance. They teach what can happen into a democratic society when hatred and bigotry goes unchallenged. Fortunately, Cole's mother and father, Ilsa and Walter Cole, escaped to the United States where they made a home in Kansas City.

*U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla*



## Reel Time Theaters

*We're saving a seat for you.*

**FRIDAY, APRIL 13 • 7 p.m.**

Love Simon  
(PG-13)

Adults - \$7.00, children - \$4.75

**SUNDAY, APRIL 15 • 3 p.m.**

Tomb Raider  
(PG-13)

Adults - \$7.00, children - \$4.75

**SATURDAY, APRIL 14 • 7 p.m.**

Studio Appreciation  
Advance Screening

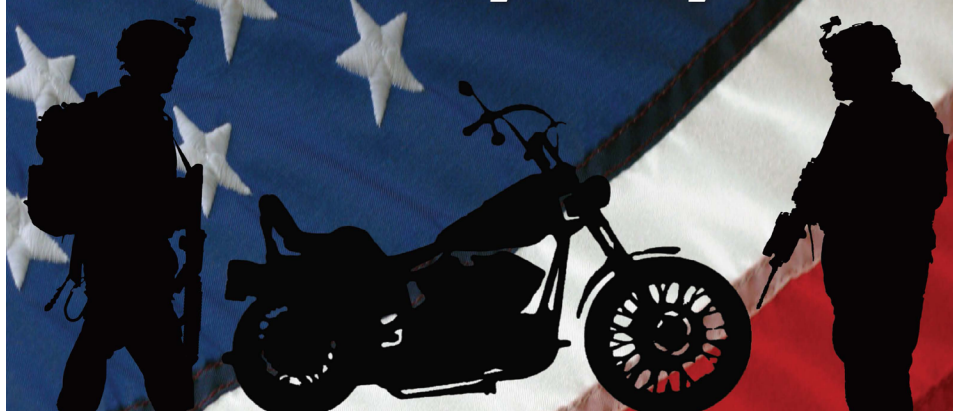
**Free Admission – Rated \*.**

Tickets available at your local  
Exchange Food Court.

Seating open to non-ticket holders 30  
minutes prior to showtime.



## Whiteman AFB Motorcycle Safety Day



**21 May 2018  
0800-1300**

**Commissary Parking Lot**

**Motorcycle Inspections, practice course,  
local vendors and food provided by USO**

**Alternate Duty Location for Motorcycle Riders!**



**For more info please contact  
President Dave Sheets @ 687-5915**

**or**

**Wing Safety SSgt Dillon Neth @ 687-6930**

**Hosted by 509th Bomb Wing Safety & Green Knights MMC**



Are you a new  
**DAD?**  
...or going to be?

### Dads the Basics

**Thursday, April 26, 2018**

**8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Professional Development Center**

**Room 213**

**Dads the Basics is an informational course designed to help understand some ins and outs of being a new dad, brought to you by other Airmen and dads who have been there!**

**Some topics will include:**

- Diapering, bathing baby, and packing a diaper bag
- Common reactions and stresses to being a new parent
- Attachment, communication with spouse, labor and delivery, and coming home from the hospital
- Stress and deployment

**Being a new father does not have to be scary!  
RSVP today!**

**Contact Cory Watson to RSVP at (660) 687-7332  
or [cory.d.watson.civ@mail.mil](mailto:cory.d.watson.civ@mail.mil)**





# Water survival training



Pilots assigned to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., conduct a harness pull for one of the trainees during a water survival training at the University of Central Missouri's pool April 5, 2018. The under-water harness pull is one of the several exercises pilots go through to ensure they're prepared in the event they eject into water.



U.S. Air Force Capt. Dan Milton, a pilot assigned to the 393d Bomb Squadron, goes through harness pull training at the University of Central Missouri's pool April 5, 2018. During a water survival class, pilots must be trained on a harness pull to simulate being pulled under water by their parachute. Pilots must quickly pull the latches on the harness and detach from the parachute to avoid injury.



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Sergio Avalos, a survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialist assigned to the 509th Operations Support Squadron, conducts a water survival class for Whiteman Air Force Base pilots at the University of Central Missouri's pool April 5, 2018. Pilots must go through a water survival class every few years to ensure they are prepared in the event they land in a body of water after ejecting from an aircraft.



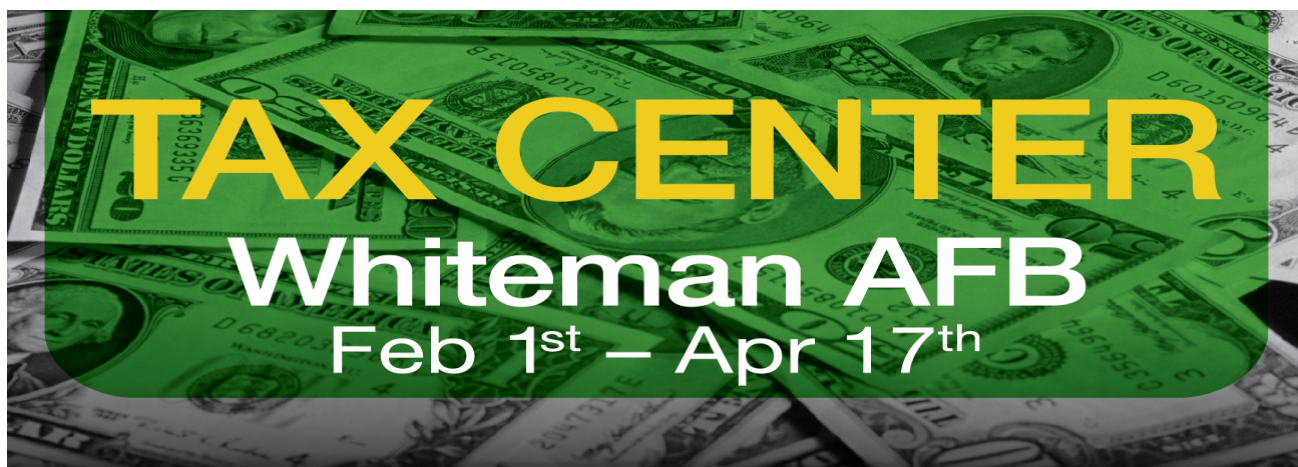
U.S. Air Force Maj. Matthew Roberson, operations flight commander assigned to the 509th Operations Support Squadron, signals to be lifted out of the water at the University of Central Missouri's pool April 5, 2018. Correctly securing themselves and showing the correct hand signals is an essential part in being safely helicopter lifted out of water.



U.S. Air Force Capt. Dan Milton, a pilot assigned to the 393d Bomb Squadron, goes through harness pull training at the University of Central Missouri's pool April 5, 2018. During a water survival class, pilots must be trained on a harness pull to simulate being pulled under water by their parachute. Pilots must quickly pull the latches on the harness and detach from the parachute to avoid injury.

*U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Taylor Phifer*





**T**he Whiteman Air Force Base Tax Center is scheduled to open Thursday, 1 Feb 2018 for free advice, assistance, preparation and electronic filing of federal and state income tax returns through the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Active duty military members, retirees, military dependents, and Department of Defense civilians may receive assistance.

**TO RECEIVE TAX PREPARATION/E-FILING ASSISTANCE, YOU MUST BRING:**

- Photo IDs – Proof of identification (taxpayer/spouse)
- Social security cards (or ITIN card, if applicable) (taxpayer/spouse/dependents)
- Birth dates (taxpayer/spouse/dependents)
- Prior year tax return (they no longer have copies of prior returns for previous clients)
- Wage/income statements (i.e. W-2s, W-2G, 1099-B, 1099-R, 1099-G, 1099-Misc.)
- Interest and dividend statements (1099-INT, 1099-DIV)
- Affordable Care Act healthcare documents (IRS Form 1095-A, 1095-B or 1095-C)
- Dependent care information (daycare provider name, address, tax ID # and amount paid)
- Education credit information (1098-T and receipts or out-of-pocket expenses)
- Proof of bank routing and account number (for direct debits or direct withdrawals)
- Any other forms applicable to your return (i.e. "1098-E Student Loan Interest Paid", 5498 IRA contributions, 1098 Mortgage Interest Paid, real estate taxes)

**LOCATION:**

Professional Development Center  
Bldg. 515, Rm. 209

**HOURS:**

**APPOINTMENT ONLY:**

Day: Monday – Thursday  
Time: 0800 – 1500

**WALK-IN'S:**

Time: 1000 – 1500

**CONTACT:**

**SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT  
OR QUESTIONS:**

A1C Tayler Griffin  
509th BW Legal Office  
687-3672





# Old Drum

## ★ Festival ★ Dogs' Day Out

**Saturday, April 14, 2018 ★ 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

*On the grounds of the historic Johnson County Courthouse,  
300 Block of N. Main St., Warrensburg.*

## Schedule of Events

### ★ Old Drum Trial Re-enactment at the Old Court House

**Don't miss it! —10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.**

- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Vendor Booths and Children's section
- 9:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. Performances by Music Studio
- 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Family Fun Games & Warrensburg Wheels Car Show
- 10:00 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. Performances by Twister Sports
- 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Performances by Center Stage
- 11:40 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Presentation of Old Drum Proclamation & Presentation of 2018 Old Drum Ambassador
- 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Best Friends Dog Show (Celebrity Lookalikes, Most Like Owner, Most Like Drum & Dog Parade)
- 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. Live Performance by Nashville Recording Artists Don Joy & Melanie Lynn
- 2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. K-9 Demonstration
- 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Live Performance by Cowboy Bart & Red
- 4:00 p.m. Festival Ends!

**2019 is coming! See you next year!**



★ Due to limited parking in the historic Old Town, please take advantage of the FREE SHUTTLE service. It picks up at downtown Johnson County Courthouse, 300 N. Holden Street and train station, 100 S. Holden St. on the hour and half-hour.

For additional information contact:  
olddrumfestival@gmail.com or 660-441-7699.

### Event Sponsors & Partners:

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Elite Automotive  
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Arwood's Furniture  
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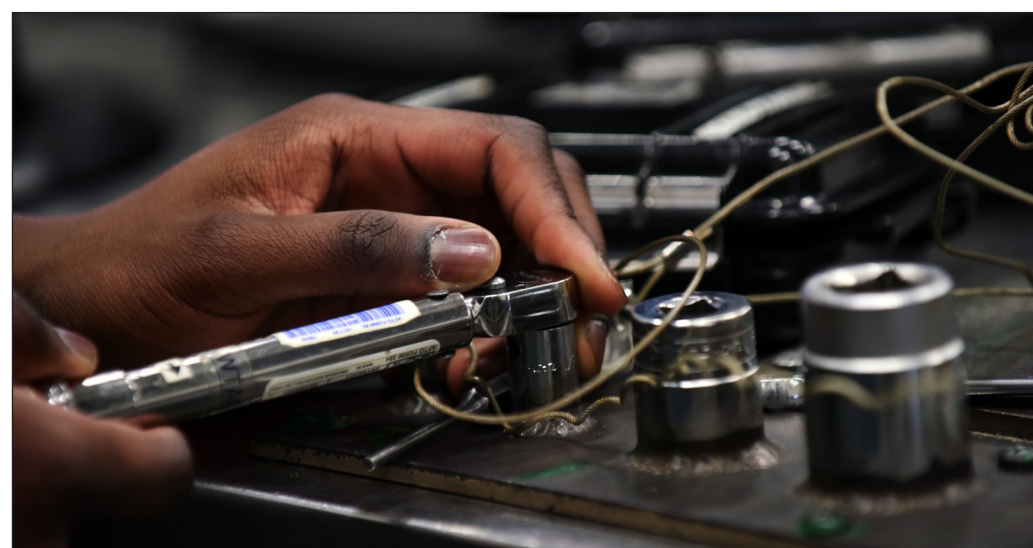
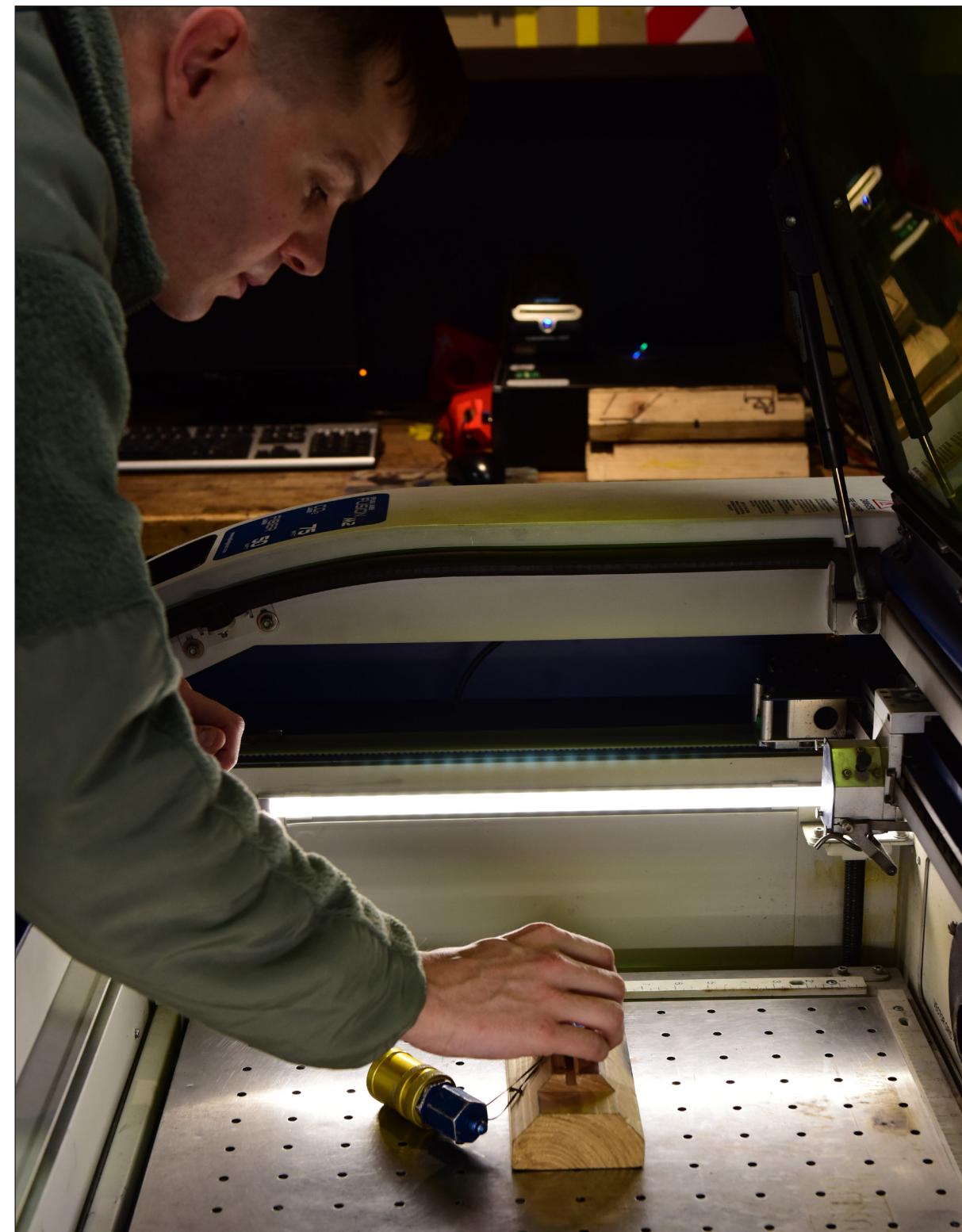
**ACTIVE DUTY - DEPENDENTS - RETIREES  
OPEN TO ALL BRANCHES**

The Freedom Smoking Quitline is a National Institutes of Health-Funded research study, co-sponsored by the 59th Medical Wing and University of Tennessee Health Science Center. The Study is enrolling TRICARE beneficiaries that are motivated to quit smoking.

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# Dragons: Keeper of the Spirit



The 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron consists of approximately 570 personnel tasked with maintaining \$15 million worth of equipment. Their daily excellence ensures the mission capability of the B-2 Spirits at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The squadron runs a 24/7 operation with Airmen qualified to perform an array of duties, such as crew chief and sortie support. Crew chiefs are in charge of day-to-day maintenance, which include each stage of the flight process and tasks like changing a windshield. Airmen also gear up in green suits to protect themselves from the strong cleaning chemicals while washing the B-2. In the supply building, sortie support technicians control more than 7,000 tools. They use the Epilog Laser Fusion M2 machine to create permanent labels on equipment. Although the squadron is split into gold and blue sections, together they are the dragons, keepers of the spirit.

*U.S. Air Force photos by  
Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla  
and Senior Airman Jovan Banks*



# CMSAF addresses joint duty assignment senior enlisted leaders



DoD Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. James K. McCann

**Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright speaks to personnel attending an Air Force Element Senior Enlisted Leader Conference at the Pentagon, April 4, 2018.**

**By Tech. Sgt. Amber R. Kelly-Herard**

Office of the Chairman of the  
Joint Chiefs of Staff Public Affairs

**WASHINGTON (AFNS) --** “Why are you guys here?” Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright asked the first-ever Air Force Element Senior Enlisted Leader Conference at the Pentagon.

More than 50 senior leaders from across U.S. combatant commands and the Joint Staff responded with answers ranging from networking to developing leaders—and they were correct.

During the three-day conference, attendees engaged with several Air Force senior leaders to focus on building joint leaders, using a whole government approach to enhance the mission and understand the senior leader perspective.

Of the five Air Force priorities—restore readiness; cost-effectively modernize; drive innovation; develop exceptional leaders; and strengthen alliances—the purpose of the conference was to develop leaders.

More specifically, “the purposeful development of those put into joint positions and bringing out the best of what they have learned when they return to the Air Force,” said the 18th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

Wright further explained some Airmen will have back-to-back joint assignments and others will return to the Air Force after a joint assignment.

“You have to stay plugged into the Air Force,” Wright said, “because your stripes and your badge represent that you’re an Airman and they expect you to understand airpower.”

“You represent all of us in a joint environment,” he added.

According to the Air Force’s Personnel Center, a standard joint duty assignment is in a multi-service, joint or multinational command or activity involved in the integrated employment or support of land, sea and air forces.

Wright’s second question to conference attendees was: “What is most important to enlisted Airmen?”

The room responded with answers along the lines of talent management, leadership, education and development, innovation and readiness—but this was more of a trick question.

The chief explained he doesn’t know the right answer; but he’s working with Air Force senior enlisted leaders to solidify one.

“We have real work to determine what the future holds for the Air Force and how we should be preparing,” Wright said. “We need to develop Airmen for the future and we need to develop leaders for the future.”

Something else the chief is working on is better management of joint assignments.

“We need to develop joint leaders and teams, but we don’t really have a system that captures every Airman who has served in a joint position or has attended joint service professional military education,” Wright said. “We need a system that puts the right people in (the right) joint jobs at the right time.”

Wright’s final question was: “What is the most important leadership skill?”

His answer was “learning.”

“You should be constantly learning and assessing the environment,” Wright continued. “In a joint environment, the processes may be unfamiliar and the culture may be unfamiliar, but if you’re not learning, you’re moving backward.”





# Whiteman Education Fair

The Whiteman Education Center will host an Education Fair on Wednesday, April 25 at the Mission's End Club from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Universities from the local area, as well as many online schools, will be available to discuss their programs with you in person.

This is a great opportunity for enlisted, officers, civilians, dependents, retirees, and contractors to begin or resume their academic journey!

Contact the Education Center for more information at (660) 687-5750.