

# WARRIOR

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## Whiteman supports 9/11 pre-game tribute at Arrowhead



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Cody H. Ramirez

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- A-10 Thunderbolts II from Whiteman Air Force Base's 442nd Fighter Wing, fly over Arrowhead Stadium during the Chiefs' season opener Sept. 11. The Chiefs hosted a special pre-game in honor of those who passed during the events of 9/11. See page 5 for more photos.

*Happy 64th  
Birthday  
U.S. Air Force  
Sept. 18*

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### WEATHER

Today	Sunday
Showers	Thunderstorms
Hi 68	Hi 75
Lo 52	Lo 63
Saturday	Monday
Showers	Thunderstorms
Hi 71	Hi 78
Lo 60	Lo 59

Courtesy of National Weather Service

## 2011 Gala recognizes Air Force heritage, set for Sept. 23

By Heidi Hunt  
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The 2011 Gala is scheduled Sept. 23 at the 5-Bay Hangar and this year's theme is "All In ... Globally Engaged." The Gala is an event to celebrate both the local community and the 64th birthday of the Air Force. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with dinner and dancing beginning at 7 p.m.

"The purpose of this gala is to give Whiteman personnel and the surrounding community a venue to celebrate another year of the Air Force," said Senior Master Sgt. Carl Greene, 509th Bomb Wing first sergeant, and Gala organizer.

Brig. Gen. Scott Vander Hamm, 509th Bomb Wing commander is slated to attend as the guest speaker.

Attendees can expect an elegant evening of entertainment. According to Greene, dancing is encouraged as the Kansas City rock group Retroactive plays an array of classics as well as modern songs. Additionally, people can connect with others across the Whiteman community setting.

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## Senior leaders: B-2 has a bright future ahead

By Capt. John Severns  
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Senior leaders from across the Air Force visited Whiteman AFB last week to discuss the future of the B-2 Spirit bomber.

The General Officer Steering Group for B-2 Sustainment met here Sept. 8 to discuss challenges and solutions for keeping the B-2 fleet healthy and operational for years to come.

Ms. Ann Mitchell, the Air Force Global Strike Command Director of Installations, Logistics and Mission Support, led the group and sat down with The Warrior to discuss B-2 sustainment, Global Strike Command and the role her directorate plays in keeping it running.

The GOSG has been held regularly since Global Strike Command stood up two years ago. It brings together, at the general officer level, almost every organization involved in the B-2 program, from Global Strike Command to Air Force Material Command, operators and war fighters, maintainers and logisticians. These senior members of the group, according to Mitchell, do not attempt to find technical solutions or get stuck in the weeds of the program – instead they provide guidance and priorities for the B-2 enterprise as a whole,

and vet major decisions affecting the weapons system.

As with other aircraft, Mitchell said, the B-2 program faces tough sustainment issues.

"The B-2 has a particular set of challenges because of the fleet size," she said. "With only 20 aircraft, every aircraft that's not working is 5 percent of the fleet."

When the Defense Department envisioned B-2 program in the 1980s, it was with a fleet of more than 100 aircraft. Program cuts following the collapse of the Soviet Union, and assorted cost overruns, led to the fleet size being reduced to only 21 planes. One of those, the Spirit of Kansas, was lost in an accident in 2008.

"The fleet size dynamic, as well as the fact that it's a 20-year-old plane presents unique challenges in supportability. Many parts are beginning to fail for the first time. We have to find sources for those new failures. Mitchell said she anticipates the B-2 will join other venerable platforms with multi-decade service lives.

"The B-2 is programmed to fly to 2058," she said. "So we have to figure out aggressive means to maintain the B-2's capabilities well into the

See B-2 Future, page 3



# The Walk

By Capt. John Severns

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Officer

What is the bravest thing you have ever seen?

I very briefly knew a man named Mohammad. We met in Afghanistan while I was with the Army on a Provincial Reconstruction Team.

At the time Mohammad was a teacher at a primary school in the Ahmad Abad district of Paktya, a mid-sized province in southeast Afghanistan along the border with Pakistan. Paktya is best known in America as the site of the Shahi Kot Valley, where Operation Anaconda took place in early 2002.

By the summer of 2007 Paktya was a safer place. New schools, built with Coalition funds, offered classes to boys and girls. Mohammad made a small salary as a teacher, barely enough to support his family.

One day while walking home from school a pair of men stopped next to Mohammad on a motorbike. One of them pulled an AK-47 out from under his cloak, and said, "Son of Bush, girls' education is forbidden. If you do not stop teaching we will kill you." The man fired a few rounds into the air, and the pair sped off.

Mohammad had to make a morally significant choice. He had been a teacher most of his adult life, even when the Taliban were



Photo by Capt. John Severns

in power. He had no gun, or kevlar, or up-armored HMMWV to drive in. If he kept teaching, every day he would walk to and from school, knowing that at any time the men might return and make good on their threat.

What must he have felt, the first day he made that walk? There are many motorbikes in Afghanistan. What did he feel, every time he saw one on the road?

But still he taught. Still he walked, every school day down that long road.

On June 20, 2007, the men on the motorbike returned. "Son of Bush, we warned you

to stop," one said, and shot him.

The bullet punched through his ribs and into his stomach. After some time a passing motorist saw him and stopped. Friends drove him 30 minutes to the capital, Gardez. He was conscious the whole time.

There is a civil hospital in Gardez, but they drove past it. As our interpreter once said, "People go there to die." Instead they kept driving until they reached our FOB, and begged us to help him.

We had to make a morally significant

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## THE WARRIOR

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## Commander's Corner

Team Whiteman,

Sunday marked the 10th anniversary of a day we will never forget. All of us remember where we were on Sept. 11, 2001. It is to us like the assassination of President Kennedy was to our parents...a moment forever etched in our memories. It is also an event that shaped us, and I want to emphasize that with a quick story about one of my Airmen.

Airman 1st Class Brittany Brown was born July 1993. A month ago she reported for duty at Whiteman AFB as a member of the 509th Security Forces Squadron. As of Sept. 8, she was the youngest uniformed member serving here.



Airman Brown was just over eight-years-old when the planes struck the World Trade Towers. She was in her third grade classroom in Chicago. As she recalled,

the teachers weren't anywhere around, and everything was 'crazy.'

She was too young to understand, at eight years of age, what happened or why. But that event has shaped virtually her entire life. She said later that her decision to join the Air Force was because she wanted to help keep America safe.

As of this summer, 38 percent of the Air Force is under the age of 26. These Airmen were learning how to drive cars when the terrorists attacked. The full story of how 9/11 changed America is not yet written. It will be many years before we as a nation can look back at that warm September day and its consequences, and fully understand how it shaped us.

But I have seen young Americans like Airman Brown, who were so young when 9/11 occurred that they barely understood what was happening. Their dedication and willingness to serve reminds me that America is a stronger nation today than it was a decade ago. We as an Air Force and a Nation must remain resilient and dedicated to protecting our Nation and our citizens.

Defensor Vindex.

-Brig. Gen. Scott Vander Hamm,  
Commander

## Remembering 9/11

By Col. Michael Francis

131st Bomb Wing Vice Commander

As we remember the events of 9/11, on the 10th anniversary of what is no doubt the Pearl Harbor of our generation, I'm struck by the memories and the emotions of that day and the 10 years that followed.

Everyone who can remember may have very personal recollections of the day and the events surrounding. I too can recall in vivid detail how the day went for me. Ten years later I am struck by the memories of the day after 9/11 which seemed to be just as powerful.

What sticks out in my mind is the way the events of 9/11 galvanized our country and the number of heroic acts that happened in the aftermath. People started to appreciate the men and women in uniform a little more. Many of the people serving in the Armed Forces today answered our nations call out of the sense that our country needed them. Selflessness became a nationwide epidemic.

I still remember an overpowering feeling that we were pulling together as a country, fighting for what we believe in and defending our way of life. I had a strong sense that we would rebuild and strengthen our resolve to not let the attacks deter us from living our lives in the manner that we chose.

I believe that this is a reflection of our country's freedoms and our determination to protect them.

Ten years after 9/11 as I read the morning paper and watch the evening news I don't get that feeling anymore. The debt crisis, Facebook, and NFL football have become priorities and replaced the Global War on Terrorism that had once brought us all together. It would seem that our nation's consciousness has forgotten how it felt on that sickening day 10 years ago. I have to ask myself if we have taken our eye off the ball and lost sight of what is important.

You can certainly start to believe things have gone back to business as usual. However, that feeling only lasts until I get to work here. I am reminded each morning as I drive through the gate that the U.S. military is on the job. The men and women of Team Whiteman have not forgotten 9/11 or the threats to our way of life.

You continue to take the fight wherever and whenever it's needed. You continue to carry the spirit that swept across America on 9/11/01.

And so on the 10 year anniversary of 9/11, I think things were pretty much as they should have been. You continue to stand as the "sentry at his post" guarding the way of life that we carry near and dear to our hearts.

It shouldn't bother you that the people that you protect sleep well at night. I am quite satisfied that the job you do lets the country worry about their fantasy football draft.

We will continue to remember 9/11 each year and know that because of your efforts, our families, our country and our freedoms are safe and secure.



## NEWS BRIEFS

**POW/MIA Remembrance Run**

The POW/MIA Remembrance Run began Thursday and continues until 4 p.m. today. Team Whiteman members are welcome to support participants at the Skelton Lake.

**Commissary Case Lot Sale**

The Whiteman Commissary's annual fall case lot sale is Sept. 17 from 9 a.m.-5p.m. and Sept. 18, 10 a.m.-4 pm. For information call 660-687-5655.

**Whiteman Bike and Car Show**

Whiteman's Bike and Car Show is Sept. 23 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Army National Guard parking lot. Vehicles are scheduled to roll-in at 10:30 a.m.-noon. There will be burgers, chops and drinks. For more information call Tech. Sgt. Leonel Gallardo at 660-687-7735 or Staff Sgt. Devin Giles at 660-687-8167.

**Knob Noster Homecoming**

The Knob Noster Homecoming Parade begins at 4 p.m. Sept. 23. Whiteman personnel are slated to represent Team Whiteman during the parade. Team Whiteman and the public are welcome to attend the parade and are invited to attend the assembly at KNHS at 1 p.m. Sept. 23.

**Influenza vaccination**

The 509th Medical Clinic is administering the flu vaccine, which is a mandatory requirement for active duty personnel, first responders and deployers. For questions regarding the flu vaccination line or the flu vaccine, call the Immunizations Clinic at 660-687-4304. Whiteman dependents, retirees and civilians will be announced at a later date. Air National Guard and Reservists will be notified by leadership when flu vaccines will be available.

**Official Whiteman AFB Facebook Launched**

Whiteman Air Force Base launched an official Facebook page and invites users to search Whiteman Air Force Base via Facebook and click "Like." Users can access Whiteman AFB news, features, sports, commentaries, photos, videos and more.

**Voters Assistance Office**

The Whiteman Voting Assistance Office is available to provide year-long voting assistance to all U.S. citizens who have access to the Installation Voter Assistance Office. The Whiteman Voter Assistance Office is located in the 509th Bomb Wing Building in room 117, MPF/MPS Customer Service section. The services include providing information and voter registration assistance. For assistance with absentee voting send an e-mail to [vote@whiteman.af.mil](mailto:vote@whiteman.af.mil) or call 660-687-2868. The assistance is appointment-based and available 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., except federal holidays and wing down days.

## Change of Command



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Cody H. Ramirez  
**Maj. James Ashlock takes command of Detachment 12, ACC Training Support Squadron, from Lt. Col. Charles Law, Headquarter ACC Training Support Squadron commander, during a change of command ceremony here Sept. 13. Lt. Col. Alex E. Jernigan, former Detachment 12, ACC Training Support Squadron commander, relinquished his command of the detachment.**

## 442nd Fighter Wing promotions

Congratulations are in order for the following 442nd Fighter Wing Airmen who promoted Sept. 1

**SENIOR AIRMAN**

**John Viti**, 442nd Maintenance Squadron

**STAFF SERGEANTS**

**Ashley M. Beard**, 442nd MXS

**Kevin E. Frye**, 442nd MXS

**Christopher E. Patton**, 610th Intelligence Operations Flight

**Aaron J. Peterson**, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

**TECHINCAL SERGEANTS**

**David E. Dane**, 442nd Security Forces Squadron

**Michael W. Hall**, 442nd SFS

**Jeremy Hankins**, 442nd AMXS

**Sonya Jackson**, 442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

**Aaron S. Kincheloe**, 442nd LRS

**MASTER SERGEANT**

**Loren R. Bradley**, 442nd MXS

**Van E. Swearingin**, 442nd SFS

**Mandy L. Trull**, 442nd Medical Squadron

**SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT**

**Patrick T. Rogers**, 442nd Maintenance Operations Flight

**Louis M. Vallejo**, 442nd SFS

## B-2 Future Continued from Page 1

future. Look at the B-52: it's 50 years old. All aircraft are now required to last a long time."

The Air Force has extensive and growing experience with older aircraft. In addition to the B-52, both the KC-135 Stratotanker and T-38 Talon trainer are entering their fifth decade of service.

As part of her visit to Whiteman, Mitchell also met with members of the 19th Munitions Squadron, which currently falls under Air Force Materiel Command. As part of an Air Force Chief of Staff directive, the 19th MUNS will soon become part of the 509th Bomb Wing.

The Chief of Staff directed Global Strike and Air Force Materiel Command to transition all the munitions squadrons and weapons storage areas to Global Strike on a very ambitious schedule," she

said." [Our Full Operational Capability date] is April 2012, but our plan is to transition by December this year, completing the nuclear transformation that we embarked on when Global Strike Command stood up a few years ago."

As a leader in Global Strike Command since its stand-up, Mitchell has had a front-row seat to the reinvigoration of the nuclear enterprise.

"I have seen a tremendous difference in the things we've been able to accomplish in the past two years," she said. "There's still a lot of progress that needs to be made. We are dealing with problems that didn't get here overnight; so we're not going to fix everything over night, but I believe we're making a huge difference. I'm very proud of the people in A4/7."

## Gala Continued from Page 1

Dress code for the event is mess-dress or semi-formal uniform or dark suit or tuxedo for men and evening gown for women.

"The event gives people the opportunity to dress up," said Greene. "It's a great chance for folks to take their significant others out and show them a good time."

"I love that the Gala gives us an opportunity to get dressed in our best and have a great time," said Senior Airman Nichole Stone,

509th Comptroller Squadron. "It will be a night to remember."

Tickets cost \$25 from E-5/G-5 and below, E-6/GS-6 and above \$30, cash or check only.

For more information or to purchase tickets contact a unit first sergeant by COB today.

Parents night out is available and those interested should contact the Child Development Center at 660-687-5592 or the Youth Center at 660-687-5586.





# Whiteman supports 9/11 pre-game tribute at Arrowhead

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- A-10 Thunderbolts II from Whiteman Air Force Base's 442nd Fighter Wing, fly over Arrowhead Stadium during the Chief's season opener Sept. 11. The Chiefs hosted a special pre-game in honor of those who passed during the events of 9/11.



KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- A fan shows his remembrance of the tragic events of 9/11 at Arrowhead Stadium during the Chief's season opener Sept. 11. American flags filled the stadium by fans honoring those lost during 9/11.



KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- Dwayne Bowe, Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver #82, warms up before their season opener Sept. 11. The final score was Buffalo Bills, 41-7.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- A member of the Kansas City Chiefs stretches at Arrowhead Stadium before their season opener Sept. 11. The Chiefs hosted a special pre-game on the 10th anniversary of 9/11 in honor of those who passed during the tragic event.



KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- More than 150 local first responders, with the help of the Chiefs and Buffalo Bills, hold up an American flag at Arrowhead Stadium during the Chief's season opener Sept. 11. The Chiefs hosted a special pre-game in honor of those who passed during the events of 9/11.

U.S. Air Force photos  
by Senior Airman  
Cody H. Ramirez







# From the Frontlines: Master Sgt. Mona Wendzillo



Courtesy photo

**SOUTHWEST ASIA -- (Right) Master Sgt. Mona Wendzillo, 509th Force Support Squadron NCO in charge of the Airman & Family Readiness Center, and Mr. Brian Bennett, 92nd Force Support Squadron, stand near the A&FRC sign during her deployment. Wendzillo aided in creating a self-sufficient and mission ready community through individual and family preparedness.**

**By Heidi Hunt**

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Far removed from this Air Force Global Strike Command base, Master Sgt. Mona Wendzillo, 509th Force Support Squadron NCO in charge of the Airman and Family Readiness Center, deployed to Southeast Asia for six months and returned here June 9.

While in Southeast Asia, she aided in creating a self-sufficient and mission ready community through individual and family preparedness.

During Wendzillo's deployment she performed a number of tasks and provided classes in reunion and reintegration, building healthy relationships and preparing for marriage and improving communication at home.

"I worked with the chapel, mental health, sexual assault response coordinator, inspector general, equal opportunity through base-wide briefs and other projects," said Wendzillo.

In addition to the classes she facilitated, Wendzillo activated the traumatic stress response team. She provided outreach to the different units on base, as well as to other branches of U.S. services, civilians and French, Australian and British military members.

"We distributed care packages to Southwest Asia personnel as well as packaging and mailing items to those forward deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan," she said. "We supported the in-theater patients that were recovering from injuries when forward deployed. We provided them with morale activities and support services. We also provided briefings for right start and right finish to everyone on the base.

"I also helped with Eskan Village Air Base's efforts to set up a "mini" A&FRC for their personnel by providing all of the same resources, books, pamphlets and class materials," she added.

Working with the civilian community readiness consultant, her team was able to provide a multitude of classes,

counseling services, financial and personal, as well as morale and media support.

"Oftentimes members came in very distraught," she said. "Some were not comfortable going to see a chaplain or mental health, but needed to talk to someone," Wendzillo said. "Sometimes we would encourage further assistance through these agencies and would reassure them and actually walk them to the agency to meet the point of contact."

Wendzillo said it was heart-breaking to have those not handling the deployment well and those in financial despair come into the office.

Wendzillo's duties at home are similar to those in her deployed area of responsibility, but the major difference was that they didn't see any family members.

"As a deployed readiness NCO you are dealing with the active duty, guard, reserve members and civilians only," she said. "We saw a lot of people that just needed to come in to vent or get in touch with resources we ourselves couldn't provide."

Wendzillo said she enjoyed the integration with people from other bases all across the Air Force and said the best thing about the deployment was undoubtedly the people.

"We're all in the same boat and could provide empathy and support to each other," she said. "It's so easy to get in that different environment and get either burned out or shut down and get negative about everything.

"I was blessed to be able to meet people that were helped by just having a new friend or someone to talk to," she said.

Like many deployed members, Wendzillo said she missed her children, Michael and Shelby.

"I was so happy I was able to Skype them," she said. "I missed my co-workers too. They are an amazing support system and I am blessed to have them."

Glenda Alexander, A&FRC chief said Wendzillo is a compassionate, and caring leader that is always looking out for the needs of others.

"She gives openly and freely from the heart," Alexander said. "I can honestly say that she truly loves the military and is quick to volunteer to serve when and where needed."

This was the sergeant's first deployment and said she enjoyed it.

"Anytime I can do even a portion of what my fellow active duty members do, I want to help," she said. "My heart and respect go out to those patriots and their families that are in a revolving door of deployments and put in harm's way on a daily basis.

"Being deployed, no matter where you go is different than being at your regular duty station," she said. "But, being gone for those six months really made me feel an important part of something."

## 509th CONS ensures mission readiness

**By Airman 1st Class Montse Ramirez**

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

"You got it, we bought it," is the 509th Bomb Wing Contracting Squadron's motto. They are responsible for purchases from dormitory furnishings to B-2 Spirit mission planning contractors.

This Air Force Global Strike Command Squadron supports the 509th BW and the tenant unit's mission by acquiring goods and services as well as commodities for the base.

"Anything that military or civilian personnel need to perform the mission has to be purchased through a contracting form," said Linda Walker, 509th CONS director of business operations contract. "Contracting purchases range from B-2 parts, weapons to uniforms."

There are three flights in the contracting

squadron: The infrastructure flight, which deals with all infrastructure departments and assists the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron in anything that requires contract support. The second is the operations flight, which deals with other good, commodities or services other than infrastructure. Finally, the plans and programs flight who handle Government Travel Cards and quality assurance training.

Contracting specialists do more than just push documents; they ensure the base is well prepared with everything it needs to perform the mission. According to Maj. Kelley Poree, 509th CONS commander, they typically spend between 45-47 million dollars-a-year on behalf of the base not counting the GTC, purchasing mission essential items and services.

Any mission that does not have organic assets, contracting fills the gap between the

organic assets and the requirements.

"If you have it, we won't buy it," said Kelley. "But if you need it we will buy it. Say your mission requires 20 personnel but your shop is only assigned 10, we can acquire the additional 10 people by contract to complete the mission."

The Simplified Acquisition Base Engineer Requirement contracts for Whiteman AFB that are below \$750,000 are performed by 509th CONS. Large scale projects that exceed that amount are handled by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, according to Poree.

"Typically a customer on base comes to us with a requiring document with funding and we turn that into a solicitation and send it out for contractors to bid," said Poree. "The contractors then send us quotes, we evaluate them based on the criteria we established on the solicitation and select a

contractor based on those criteria."

Poree also said they perform the same mission while on a deployed location. They purchase all the goods, services and commodities the fighting force didn't take with them.

"When coalition forces remove threats from an area to make it secure, contracting brings economic stimulus to the region," Poree said. "We try to employ as many of the locals who we are trying to keep safe. If we don't come in with contracts immediately, then that sets the conditions for our enemies to influence the locals by paying them to attack us."

Poree said the earlier personnel go to contracting with a defined requirement and funding, the faster and better they can plan and get that requirement.

For information call 660-687-2595.



# Whiteman security offers base entry guidelines

Submission courtesy of Chenega

The men and women working at Whiteman Air Force Base's visitor center and installation entry control points have an important job — ensuring only authorized personnel and vehicles are allowed access onto the installation. Between day-to-day access and special functions, traffic at installation entry control points can result in some delays. To gain authorized access to the installation in a timely manner, Officer Richard Coey, Chenega Security lead, offers guidelines, base programs and recommendations.

Installation entry controllers are required to physically handle every base credential prior to allowing entry to the installation, according to the Security Force Operating Instructions. A 100 percent identification credential check is conducted on all vehicle occupants who are 16 years of age and older. For individuals under the age of 16, an identification check will not be required when they are gaining access to the base in a vehicle with a properly credentialed adult military member or spouse.

“To assist in expediting entry onto the installation it would be appreciated if personnel approaching installation gates would have their base credentials readily available,” Coey said.

All visitors and guests 16 years of age or older are required to obtain a visitors pass prior to entering the installation. First they must be sponsored by a military affiliated ID card holder. One photo ID of the visitor/guest is required at a minimum. If no photo ID is available two validated state forms of identification is required such as a social security card and birth certificate. If positive identification cannot be made that person will be denied base access.

Foreign nationals visiting the base: All foreign nationals visiting the base are required to process through the visitor center. The military affiliated sponsor must meet their Non-US visitor at the Visitor Center. Non-US guests must present a valid VISA, Passport, I-94, Non Resident Alien Card, or Resident Alien card in order to obtain a visitor pass.

College students must present the same credentials as Foreign Nationals; however, if any are expired they must present the college I-20 form. Failure to present these credentials can result in being denied access to the installation.

“We have a fast pass program to make special events such as retirements, weddings, unit functions and base events more convenient,” Coey said.

Fast passes are issued for large groups of (five or more) individuals attending a specific event on the installation for one day only. The letter request needs to have the following information on it: name, date, time and location of the event. Individuals must also have a list of personnel attending; full names along with social security numbers, driver's license numbers and state of issue. This applies to all those 16 years of age and older. For those 15 years of age and younger, full names are only needed to be listed and identified as a “minor”.

All passengers must be listed on the approved letter which is checked upon entry to the base. A hard copy of the fast pass letter format is available at the visitor center or to

an e-mail account. All personal information identified on the fast pass request will and is treated as privacy act information. Between conducting checks and going through various offices for coordination it takes approximately two week to process the request.

“Taking the time prior to an event helps eliminate some of the inconvenience that guests might incur the day of the event,” Coey said. “No sponsor needed passes are also available for long-term situations for those with special needs such as therapist visits, medical, child or housing care.”

No Sponsor Needed letters are valid for up to a year not to exceed the sponsor's request. Request letters must be signed by the sponsor and sponsor's commander or first sergeant. If the visitor is staying in base housing, the letter must also be signed by housing office personnel.

The final approval for No Sponsor needed letters rests with 509th SFS/S3. The request must be specific as to dates, times, days of the week and reason. The No Sponsor pass is issued in 30 day increments and will not exceed the expiration date of the letter. If access is still required after the expiration date, a new letter must be completed. The original letter will be kept on file in the visitor center and a copy will be given to the visitor. No Sponsor needed pass visitors must enter the installation through Spirit Gate. The sponsor has the right to pull the No Sponsor Needed pass at any time. A special needs pass is also available for base access.

“A parent or legal guardian with no military affiliation can be sponsored onto the installation through their child (military dependant) to meet the needs of the dependant,” Coey said. “The child that is sponsoring the parent or legal guardian is required to be present at the time the pass is issued. The pass will be issued for the amount of time to complete the visit.”

Family Vouching Letters: Military personnel that have children 16 and 17 years of age can do a family vouching letter which allows their dependants authorization to sponsor guest on to the installation. The letter remains on file until the child reaches their 18th birthday. At any time the sponsor can have the letter pulled.

“Without a family vouching letter on file at the visitor center a dependant who is 16 to 17 years of age cannot sponsor guests on to the installation,” Coey said.

Operating a motor vehicle on the installation requires the vehicle to be in compliance with state law. A vehicle that has expired license plates is not allowed on to the installation.

“We no longer require personnel to present proof of insurance or vehicle registration at the visitor center,” Coey said. “However, if stopped on the installation, the vehicle operator is required to present same upon request of a security forces officer.”

These guidelines, base programs and recommendations are subject to change at any time based on Force Protection Conditions and at the discretion of installation leadership.

For questions on the programs or policies listed, contact the visitor center at 660-687-2833/6169 or the 509th SFS police services desk at 660-687-3700.

## Church service honors 9/11 victims



Photo submission by Tech. Sgt. James McConnell

Catholic parishioners bow their heads in remembrance of the 9/11 memorial reflections during a mass ceremony at the Skelton Pavilion. A large banner displayed a listing of every person that lost their life on 9/11. Members from the church celebrated the Holy Family Catholic Parish Annual Fall Picnic.

## This Week at the Movies

**Winnie the Pooh • Sept. 17, 4 p.m.**

*John Cleese, James Cummings* -- “It is business as usual in the Hundred Acre Wood. Pooh wakes up absolutely famished and he happens to have no honey. So that sets him out on his journey, which is ultimately derailed—first by a contest to find Eeyore a new tail.” Pooh later finds a note from Christopher Robin that reads: “Gone out. Busy. Back soon.” But then Owl misinterprets the note, proclaiming that the boy has been captured by a creature called a “Backson.” Soon, the whole gang is on a wild quest to save Christopher Robin from the imaginary culprit. It turns out to be a very busy day for a bear who simply hoped to find some honey. Rate G - 63 minutes.

**Captain America: The First Avenger • Sept. 17, 7 p.m.**

*Chris Evans, Hugo Weaving*-- Steve Rogers volunteers to participate in an experimental program that turns him into the Super Soldier known as Captain America. As Captain America, Rogers joins forces with Bucky Barnes and Peggy Carter to wage war on the evil HYDRA organization, led by the villainous Red Skull. PG-13 - intense sequences of sci-fi violence and action. 124 minutes.

**Cowboys & Aliens • Sept. 18, 3 p.m.**

*Daniel Craig, Harrison Ford* -- The Old West, where a lone cowboy leads an uprising against a terror from beyond our world. 1873. Arizona Territory, a stranger with no memory of his past stumbles into the hard desert town of Absolution. The only hint to his history is a mysterious shackle that encircles one wrist. What he discovers is that the people of Absolution don't welcome strangers, and nobody makes a move on its streets unless ordered to do so by the iron-fisted Colonel Dolarhyde. It's a town that lives in fear. But Absolution is about to experience fear it can scarcely comprehend as the desolate city is attacked by marauders from the sky. Screaming down with breathtaking velocity and blinding lights to abduct the helpless one by one, these monsters challenge everything the residents have ever known. Now, the stranger they rejected is their only hope for salvation. As this gunslinger slowly starts to remember who he is and where he's been... PG-13 - intense sequences of western and sci-fi action and violence, some partial nudity and a brief crude reference. 118 minutes.

Movie showings are featured at the Whiteman AFB Movie Theater. Call the movie line at (660) 687-5110 for more information. Cash or check only. \*Movies are \$4.50 for adults and \$2.25 (3-11 years). Doors open 30 minutes prior to show time. \*Movies and ticket prices are subject to change without notice.

## The Walk Continued from Page 2

choice. A medevac from Salerno could reach us in 25 minutes and fly him back to the combat support hospital there, where skilled Coalition surgeons could save his life. Or we could send him to the civil hospital, where his chances of survival would be significantly dimmer.

We had no charter to provide medical airlift to Afghan civilians. If we called for the medevac, it would be unable to respond if one of our own people needed it. Our job was to support the Afghan government, which included the Afghan health system's hospitals.

FOB Gardez was small at the time, with perhaps 10 officers. Brigade was reluctant to send a medevac, but willing if we demanded. The three or four officers on duty at the time,

including myself, offered our opinions to the commander. There were disagreements.

Mohammad made a brave, difficult decision that must have filled him with fear every time he walked down that road. We made the safe decision, and sent him to the local hospital. Several hours later he bled to death.

At some point all of us will be called upon to make a morally significant choice. Each option is a two-sided coin: courage paired with risk; safety with regret.

I do not regret that Mohammad died. I did not pull the trigger, and besides, too many good people have died in Afghanistan for one more to weigh upon me. But he was the only one we could have saved; my regret is that we did not.













## TEAM WHITEMAN COMMUNITY

**Airmen Against Drunk Driving** — AADD is a Whiteman Active Airmen Association program designed by Airmen to provide Whiteman personnel, who have a valid Department of Defense identification card, (Active Duty, Retirees, Guard, Reserves, Cadets, and Dependants) a free safe ride home 24/7 in the local area by dialing 660-563-1178 when they've had too much to drink and their coordinated plan has fallen through. The local area includes: Warrensburg, Knob Noster, Windsor, Sedalia and Whiteman AFB. Rank, name, and age are kept confidential. Rather than risk your life and career, take advantage of AADD.

**Retiree Activities Office** — The Retiree Activities Office provides an interface between the active-duty and the retiree population from all military branches. The RAO is

staffed by volunteers and open from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday. The RAO is looking for volunteers and training is provided. For information, call 660-687-6457 or 1 (800) 303-5608 or e-mail [rao@whiteman.af.mil](mailto:rao@whiteman.af.mil).

## FAMILY ADVOCACY OUTREACH

**You, Your Children, & Divorce**— You, Your Children, & Divorce is a 90-minute class offered twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesday from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., for individuals with children whose parents are in the process of a divorce. Class content focuses on helping parents help themselves and their children through a divorce successfully and minimize negative effects on the children. Reservations are required. This class is necessary for divorcing parents in Kansas, Mo. and Missouri and other states. Call 660-687-4341 for more information.





