

WARRIOR

Serving the Whiteman Community - Vol. 4 No. 4

YEAR OF THE B-2

*Whiteman AFB
2012 year
in review*

*Entomology
shop stomps
out pests*

*442nd keeps
A-10s flying*

T-38s

Working hard to sustain operations

A ground-breaking year for a storied unit



Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere

Team Whiteman,

As we begin the new year, I wanted to take a few moments to highlight some of your accomplishments during 2012. I'm sure it felt like a busy year for most of you, but it wasn't until I looked at a list of our major milestones that I realized just how much you did for this great nation.

The mission of the 509th Bomb Wing, "Train Warrior Airmen to conduct nuclear deterrence and global strike operations in support of AFGSC's mission to develop and provide combat-ready forces for nuclear deterrence and global strike operations to support the President of the United States and combatant commanders," was put to the test, and "Team Whiteman" proved once again that we are an elite team of Warrior Airmen with special trust and responsibility employing the most feared and respected weapons system on the planet. It is no surprise that the 509th took home the 2012 Fairchild Trophy as the best bomb wing in the Air Force!

The wing executed 100 percent of its \$116M total budget for Fiscal Year 2012. Our operators, maintainers and support teams executed a robust 5,652 hour B-2 flying program producing 1,020 sorties, releasing 624 tons of munitions with an exceptional 99.8 percent release rate. Additionally, the wing executed a 3,939 hour T-38 program producing 3,335 sorties. The Airmen of the 509th accomplished this with zero class A or B flight mishaps, a 71.2 percent (B-2) flying scheduling effectiveness rate, the highest in seven years, overcoming a stubborn 14.5 percent total non-mission capable supply rate to secure a seven-year record low 5.2 percent mission abort rate and 3,500 hour low-observable maintenance backlog. All flight and ground safety metrics showed a downward trend, including boom strikes (down 90 percent), bird strikes (down 55 percent) and B-2 In-Flight Emergencies (down 60 percent). The wing led the charge of AFGSC's Electronic Flight Bag program serving as the concept developer and tester. This program is estimated to save the Air Force \$33M in paperwork costs over the next five years.

The wing started off 2012 by successfully completing a Nuclear Surety Inspection, demonstrating its ability to effectively secure, maintain and handle nuclear weapons. The wing continued to hone its nuclear mission skills throughout the year participating in CONSTANT VIGILANCE 12-3 in June, a Nuclear Surety Exercise in July and Nuclear Operational Readiness Exercises in

August and September. The wing developed procedures to safely and effectively generate nuclear and conventional armed B-2s simultaneously giving the President a flexible deterrent and combat capability. In an impressive demonstration of nuclear deterrence, the wing verified its ability to perform its wartime commitment during a USSTRATCOM exercise that occurred in conjunction with our October Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection. The phenomenal record breaking results of the NORI proved to our senior leaders that the 509th is more than ready to execute its nuclear combat mission, the CSAF's #1 priority.

On the conventional side, the wing participated in major large force/HHQ exercises such as RED FLAG, where we demonstrated the ability to operate with other platforms in a high threat environment while operating simultaneously from a deployed location (Nellis AFB) and home station. We participated in tests to demonstrate weapons effects on hardened and deeply buried targets. RED FLAG Alaska demonstrated our ability to support COCOM requirements in the PACOM theater. We validated our readiness to execute a key Operations Plan in HHQ-directed exercise NEPTUNE FALCON. We continued to refine our capability to employ innovative, high-powered conventional munitions able to destroy previously unreachable targets. The B-2's P6 Operational Flight Program was certified and modification of the aircraft has commenced, giving the B-2 a fiber optic backbone, increased capacity storage and processing for mission management and paves the way for multiple hardware upgrades in the future. The resourceful professionals in our LRS devised the first-ever procedures for loading an MHU-204 trailer on to C-5s and C-17s. This enables us to deploy the trailers and load weapons at forward operating locations, dramatically improving our responsiveness to combatant commanders. Our maintainers were recognized as the Air Force's best bomber maintenance group by winning the Ellis Giant Sword trophy.

The wing went to great lengths improve the security of the base assets, infrastructure, professional development and the quality of life of our Airmen and their families. We requested and obtained approval for the acquisition of 1,077 acres of land north and south of the runway, preventing encroachment from development as well as threats to our aircraft. By the end of the year, we completed the acquisition of 457 of the 1,077 acres and are

close to closing on the remaining. In March, ownership of all family housing units and ancillary improvements at Whiteman AFB was transferred to Balfour Beatty Communities Air Force Construction LLC. Under this agreement, the Air Force leased 440 acres of land within the base perimeter to BBC for a 50-year period. In return, BBC agreed to develop, demolish, design, construct repair, renovate and manage a rental housing development consisting of a minimum of 890 units. Our communications squadron maintained an incredible 99.9 percent network uptime rate, eclipsing the Defense Information Systems Agency by over 3 percent, resulting in the squadron being awarded AFGSC's General Harold W. Grant Award as the best small CS in the command for the second year in a row. Airman Leadership School trained 229 airmen from 20 different units. The Base Training and Education Section helped 174 airmen earn their CCAF degree. The base professional development program was recognized by AFGSC as the Professional Development Team of the Year for the second straight year. Additionally, the Whiteman AFB library was named AFGSC Library Program of the Year. The 509th Medical Group was ranked #1 in the Air Force for immunization rates boasting an impressive 100 percent compliance rate for 17 immunization programs. The 509th was #1 in AFGSC for influenza immunization completion. The medical group won a total of 19 AFGSC Surgeon General Awards including: Medium Dental Clinic of the Year, AFMS Patient Safety Program Award, Surgeon General's Medical Information Services Team and a host of individual awards.

The wing proved to be superb stewards of the taxpayer's money. Notable contracts include: \$51M "speed of heat" acquisition of services, construction and supplies, \$29M for maintenance, alteration and repair of base property. A \$1.3M contract for re-radiation of MILSTAR in the B-2 docks was awarded, resolving a critical nuclear command, control and communications deficiency. For its excellent work, members of the contracting squadron were awarded AFGSC's Outstanding Contracting Civilian of the Year and Outstanding Contracting Enlisted of the Year. Our comptroller was recognized as the AFGSC Comptroller of the Year in addition to Financial Management Superintendent and NCO of the Year awards.

See Rollup, page 12



THE WARRIOR

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

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

NEWS BRIEFS

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Warrensburg High School needs volunteer mentors for its FIRST Robotics Team. Our team is looking for mentors who have experience in engineering, business, and graphics and would be willing to work with high school students. For more information, contact Brian Holmgren at 660-441-5080 or via email at bdholmgren@em-barqmail.com

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The Public Affairs Office accepts story ideas for news and feature articles on people and organizations to help provide recognition of excellence in performance and set forth norms for mission accomplishment.

To submit an idea, call 660-687-6123, or email whiteman.warrior@us.af.mil

Air Force Accepting Prior
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Have you previously served as an enlisted member in the Air Force or other branch of the U.S. military? If so, and you were honorably discharged and have been out of the service less than six years, you may be eligible to serve in the U.S. Air Force. The Air Force is currently seeking individuals to serve in their previous job or to possibly retrain. To learn more, contact your local Air Force recruiter, call 1-800-423-USAF or visit airforce.com and speak live with an Air Force adviser.

For more news briefs, visit <http://www.whiteman.af.mil/news/announcements/index.asp>

WEATHER

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Hi 31	Hi 44
Lo 7	Lo 25
Sunday	Monday
Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Hi 46	Hi 51
Lo 26	Lo 33

Courtesy of National Weather Service

FREE UCM sporting events

By Airman 1st Class Bryan Crane
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Throughout the years, Whiteman Air Force Base has maintained strong ties with the surrounding community partners. One of the strongest is with the University of Central Missouri.

The foundation that other commanders laid has eventually led to the Command Pass program, which went into effect last autumn.

The Command Pass grants active duty Service members, Guard, Reservists and their dependents free entry to all UCM sporting events. Upon presentation of military ID cards, those eligible are provided free general admission for themselves and immediate family members.

This year will be the first full year of the Command Pass and leaders from Whiteman and UCM hope members take advantage of the pass.

If you are interested in attending any UCM sporting events, show up with your ID and receive free admission.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Bryan Crane

Dr. Charles Ambrose, University of Central Missouri president, and Jerry Hughes, UCM athletic director, present Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander, with a crystal award at the UCM Multipurpose Building, Jan. 26. UCM honored Whiteman AFB and the Missouri National Guard during their military appreciation basketball game.

Air Force to open remaining
combat positions to women

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin Dempsey, announced today the rescission the 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule for women and that the Department of Defense plans to remove gender-based barriers to service.

"Women have shown great courage and sacrifice on and off the battlefield, contributed in unprecedented ways to the military's mission and proven their ability to serve in an expanding number of roles," Panetta said. "The Department's goal in rescinding the rule is to ensure that the mission is met with the best-qualified and most capable people, regardless of gender."

While 99 percent of Air Force positions are currently open to women, Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III said the service will now pursue opening the final 1 percent.

"2013 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Department of Defense allowing women to serve as combat pilots," Welsh said. "By rescinding the 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule, we can pursue integrating women into the seven remaining Air Force career fields still closed, all associated with special operations. We're focused on ensuring America's Air Force remains capable and ready with the best-qualified people serving where we need them."

The Air Force will partner with U.S. Special Operations Command and the other services to review opening these positions in a deliberate, measured, and responsible way, officials said. Those positions are:

Officer / Enlisted Air Force Specialty Codes closed to women:

- 13DXA (Combat Control Officer - special operations forces / direct ground combat)
- 13DXB (Combat Rescue/Special Tactics Officer - special operations forces / direct ground combat)
- 15WXC (Special Operations Weather Officer - special operations forces / direct ground combat)
- 1C2XX (Enlisted Combat Controller - special operations forces / direct ground combat)
- 1C4XX (Enlisted Tactical Air Command and Control - some special operations forces / direct ground combat)
- 1T2XX (Enlisted Pararescue - special operations forces / direct ground combat)
- 1W0X2 (Enlisted Special Operations Weather - special op-

erations forces / direct ground combat)

These career fields comprise approximately 3,235 positions.

Today, women make up approximately 15 percent, or nearly 202,400, of the U.S. military's 1.4 million active personnel. Over the course of the past decade, more than 280,000 women have deployed in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Today's announcement follows an extensive review by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who unanimously concluded that now is the time to move forward with the full intent to integrate women into occupational fields to the maximum extent possible.

It builds on a February 2012 decision to open more than 14,000 additional positions to women by rescinding the co-location restriction and allowing women to be assigned to select positions in ground combat units at the battalion level.

"The Joint Chiefs share common cause on the need to start doing this now and to doing this right. We are committed to a purposeful and principled approach," said Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey.

The DoD is determined to successfully integrate women into the remaining restricted occupational fields within our military, while adhering to the following guiding principles developed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

- Ensuring the success of our nation's war fighting forces by preserving unit readiness, cohesion, and morale.
- Ensuring all service men and women are given the opportunity to succeed and are set up for success with viable career paths.
- Retaining the trust and confidence of the American people to defend this nation by promoting policies that maintain the best quality and most qualified people.
- Validating occupational performance standards, both physical and mental, for all military occupational specialties (MOS), specifically those that remain closed to women. Eligibility for training and development within designated occupational fields should consist of qualitative and quantifiable standards reflecting the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for each occupation. For occupational specialties open to women, the occupational performance standards must be gender-neutral as required by Public Law 103-160, Section 542 (1993).
- Ensuring that a sufficient cadre of midgrade/senior women

See Combat, page 12

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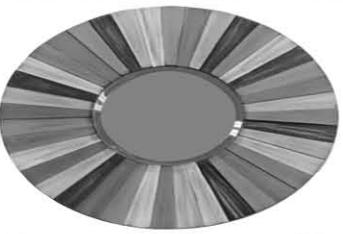
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A-10 Thunderbolt IIs await a phase inspection in their dock at Whiteman Air Force Base, Jan. 24.

Below- Tech. Sgt. Brandon Elliot, 442nd Maintenance Squadron engine mechanic, exchanges old parts from an A-10 with Steve Neal, 442nd MXS engine mechanic, Jan. 24.



442nd keeps A-10s flying

Story and photos by
Airman 1st Class Bryan Crane
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The A-10 Thunderbolt II is an attack fighter jet that was specifically designed for close-air support.

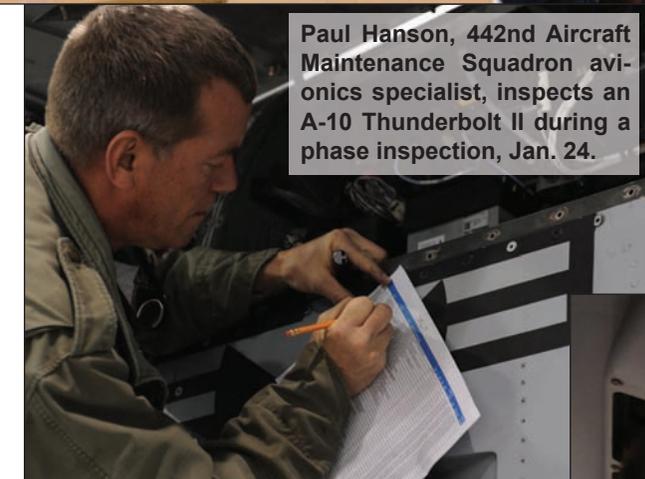
At Whiteman, the 442nd Maintenance Squadron's mission is to maintain the aircraft, which first came to the Air Force in 1975. After more than 35 years of service, the A-10 is still an important asset in the Air Force's aerial arsenal.

Commonly known as the "Warthog," the jet must undergo a phase inspection after every 500 hours of flight time. Given the age and importance of the aircraft, these inspections are very thorough to ensure all necessary repairs and fixes are made. The Airmen and civilians who work on the airframe must follow detailed step-by-step procedures to maintain operational readiness and 100% accountability for the entirety of the jet.

The aircraft has participated in numerous conflicts, including operations Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Provide Comfort, Desert Fox, Noble Anvil, Deny Flight, Deliberate Guard, Allied Force, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.



Paul Hanson, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron avionics specialist, inspects an A-10 Thunderbolt II during a phase inspection, Jan. 24.



Staff Sgt. Chris Eichhorn, 442nd Maintenance Squadron phase dock crew chief, tightens a bolt during a phase inspection on an A-10 Thunderbolt II, Jan. 24.



Tech. Sgt. Brandon Thompson, 442nd Maintenance Squadron phase dock crew chief, and Senior Airman Frank Jenkins, 442nd MXS phase dock crew chief, work together to replace a deceleron on an A-10 Thunderbolt II, Jan. 24.

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From the Frontlines: SrA Gaetano Acevedo



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

SOUTHWEST ASIA – Senior Airman Gaetano Acevedo (center), 509th Contracting Squadron, folds an American flag as part of the base honor guard at his deployed location in Southwest Asia. Acevedo is currently deployed on a six-month rotation with the 386th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron force protection security escort flight, where he is primarily responsible for ensuring all contractors have a valid reason to be on base.

By Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

to worry about processing contractors on base.”

They call themselves “the ghosts for the base.” Their work almost goes unnoticed, but the service they provide is critical to base security. They are the force protection escorts of the 386th Force Protection Security Escort Flight.

Although Acevedo spends the majority of his time covering a critical part of the war-winning strategy, he also spends time serving others on base.

Force protection escorts are charged with monitoring and safeguarding local and third-country nationals working on base – a task that, without FPs, would be performed by security forces Airmen.

“I participate with the Rising IV, which is the deployed Airmen’s Council,” he said. “I was elected vice-president of the organization. We organize, plan and execute a number of events for Airmen, such as professional development, volunteering activities, fundraising and morale-building events.”

Senior Airman Gaetano Acevedo (Ace), member of the 509th Contracting Squadron, is currently deployed as an escort flight member on a six-month rotation with the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing, located in Southwest Asia.

Acevedo’s positive and encouraging attitude towards challenges make him stand out from his peers, says Tech. Sgt. Tica Baum, 509th CONS supervisor.

The unit’s duties range from escorting TCNs to landscaping, performing a myriad of construction projects, sewage removal, grounds cleaning, trash removal and maintenance.

“He enjoys sitting down with the new Airmen and sharing his views on how to succeed, and gives them advice,” Baum said. “I am sure he does the same at his deployed location. Ace is always looking for a challenge and wants to make a difference. From his first day here, he repeated his desire to deploy. His ‘I can handle anything’ positive attitude prepares him for any tough task.”

Acevedo serves as the Pass and ID liaison. He ensures all contractors have a reason to be on the base and processes all the paperwork needed to gain base access.

Acevedo also devotes his time as a member of the base honor guard. He can officially teach other Airmen the ropes for drill and ceremonies.

“We play a critical role in base security, as we are the last set of eyes on the contractors after they come through all base security,” Acevedo said.

“I joined when I first arrived here, and it has been awesome,” he said. “I earned my black rope, and eventually earned my honor guard brassard.”

After the paperwork is processed and the contractors are allowed on base, Acevedo releases them to the escorts.

Acevedo says he enjoys his first deployment so far but he misses his family, friends and co-workers back home.

The Pass and ID liaison position involves direct contact with host nation allies.

“Although I miss home, I am having a blast over here,” Acevedo said. “The best part of this deployment so far has been the experience as a whole. I have learned a different side of the Air Force, and I have learned to overcome even the most stressful days.”

“My position ensures more than \$23 million in projects are accomplished successfully and in a timely manner,” Acevedo said. “Contractors play a critical role in the mission, and we do not have the manpower to do all the work ourselves. This program allows the 386th AEW Airmen to focus on their primary missions without having



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Contractors maintain T-38s to sustain operations

By Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Millions of dollars, just for every flight hour. That is how much it would cost the Air Force for B-2 Spirit pilots to fly training sorties with B-2s. Fortunately, B-2 pilots are able to complete training missions flying another vital Air Force asset – the T-38 Talon.

“The T-38 is a cost-effective way to ensure pilots are current on flying hours so they can keep flying the B-2,” said Dale Gerdens, M-1 Support Services aircraft mechanic. “It’s less expensive because you can fly all week in T-38s, performing 18 sorties a day for two weeks for what it costs to fly the B-2.”

To sustain T-38 flight operations, a team of 18 experienced mechanics are contracted to work around the clock to ensure 100% operational readiness. Because the T-38 has been used by the Air Force since the early 1960s, it takes a lot of attention to detail to keep the aircraft from falling apart, said Gerdens.

“Being as old as they are, if you don’t maintain them and check them out every-day, you can experience problems,” Gerdens said.

The contractors are assisted by the maintenance back-shops, including structures and egress, in handling issues beyond their realm of expertise. Most of the maintainers are prior-service Air Force mechanics who have decades of experience working with T-38s.

“We have 10 T-38 technicians, and we also have mechanics who are responsible for flight instruments, communications and navigation, among other aircraft components,” said Tommy Royer, M-1 Support Services aircraft mechanic.

To work on the T-38s, mechanics must have experience in numerous mechanical areas, including changing tires, repairing hydraulic lines and leaks, changing different instruments in the cockpit, and replacing different components on the aircraft. Many of the contractors are older than the T-38s, and therefore possess the necessary knowledge and experience to work on the half-century-old airframes.

“The problem with the T-38s is that there aren’t a lot of them out there,” Gerdens said. “There are very few people who have ever worked on a T-38 because [it’s]

such an old aircraft.”

As mechanics perform the daily maintenance on the T-38s, safety is the main objective. They ensure B-2 pilots have a safe aircraft to train with so they are ready to respond to a global threat at a moment’s notice.

“We have to keep a certain number of T-38s fully mission-capable everyday so B-2 pilots can meet daily requirements,” Royer said.

Keeping the T-38s mission-ready requires the team of maintainers to work two shifts totaling up to 16 hours a day. The team keeps at least nine people on duty throughout each shift, in order to handle the numerous inspections and maintenance tasks that must be performed.

“We make sure six aircraft can fly three times a day,” Royer said. “We also have a lot of preparing for pre-flight and post-flight maintenance, so we need everyone we have.”

The maintenance process could take anywhere from a few hours to several days, depending on the type of maintenance needed and parts that are available, said Royer.

“We have work cards and technical orders that give us instructions for each task we must perform,” he said.

The work cards the contractors have can range anywhere from 75 to 200 tasks.

Compared to the millions of dollars it costs to maintain the B-2 for every flight hour, upkeep for the T-38 costs \$700 to \$800 for each hour the jet is in the air.

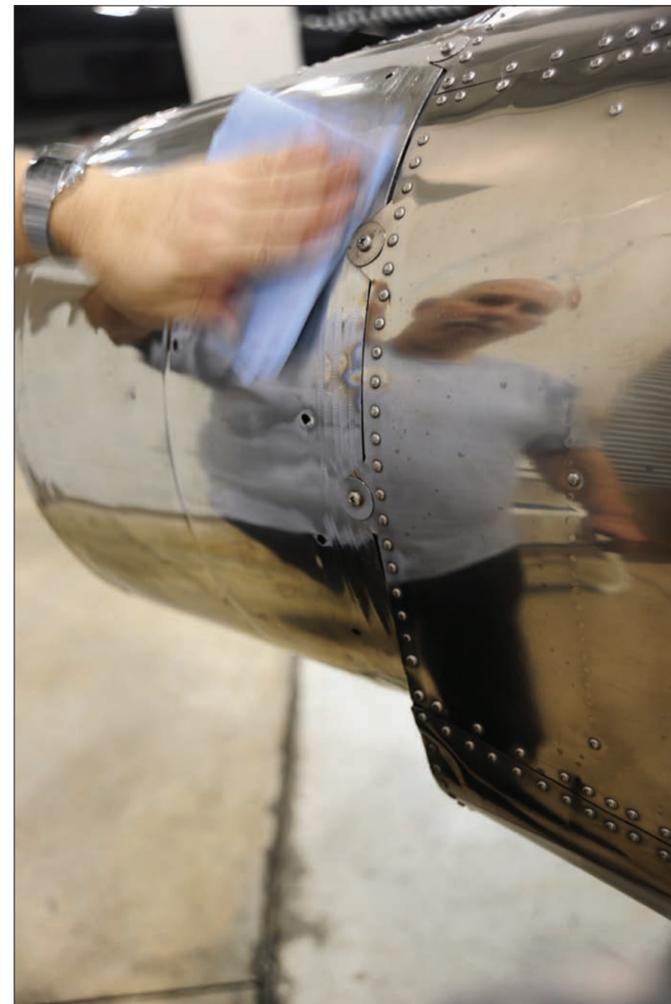
“Since the T-38 is cheaper to maintain, it’s been used by the Air Force for many years as a training aircraft,” Gerdens said. “It’s reliable because it does everything pilots need to stay proficient in their training. It’s also a fairly easy jet to maintain.”

Overall, it takes an experienced and dedicated group of maintenance professionals to keep the T-38s maintained. Without the T-38s, it would be difficult for B-2 pilots to stay current with flight hours and complete the training they need in order to be ready to respond to war-time emergencies, said Royer.

“Knowing we can keep these planes flying for the government is very rewarding,” Gerdens said. “Safety of the aircrew and the individuals around the aircraft is instrumental to what we do here.”



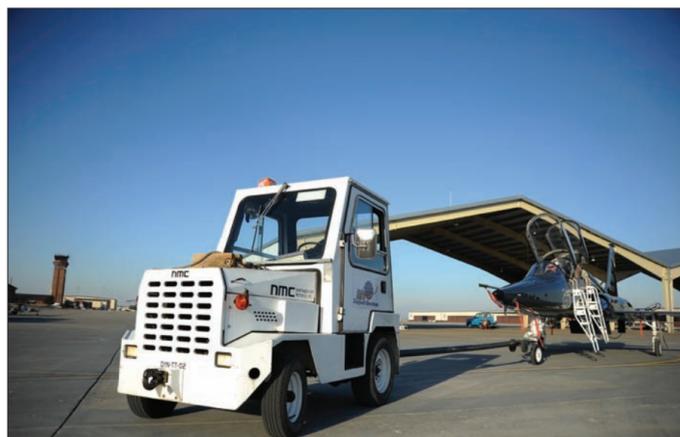
Russ Cass, M1 Support Services aircraft mechanic, processes aircraft forms on a T-38 Talon, Jan. 24. Aircraft forms are used to document maintenance being performed, malfunctioning components and aircraft status.



Russ Cass, M1 Support Services aircraft mechanic, cleans the exhaust pipes of a T-38 Talon, Jan. 25. When the aircraft is cleaned, it makes it easier for mechanics to spot defects on the airframe.



Russ Cass, M1 Support Services aircraft mechanic, checks the tightness of a screw on an ejection seat in a T-38 Talon, Jan. 24. The ejection seat is rocket-powered to allow pilots to escape the aircraft in case of an emergency.



A Warehouse tug is used to tow a T-38 Talon after flight, Jan. 23. Warehouse tugs are used to tow aircraft that weigh 15,000 pounds or less.



Russ Cass, M1 Support Services aircraft mechanic, uses a pitot tube cover to screen an aircraft before “putting the aircraft to bed,” Jan 23. In maintenance terms, this phrase means the aircraft is being secured for the evening after the flying day.



Russ Cass, M1 Support Services aircraft mechanic, secures an access panel for a hydraulic reservoir on a T-38 Talon, Jan. 24. These panels enable mechanics to more easily access the aircraft and perform repairs on various components.

Pest Control Management prevents wildlife interference



U.S. Photo by Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry

David Neuman, 509th Civil Engineer Pest Management Technician, and Airman 1st Class Zachary Kegley, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Pest Management Apprentice, inspect the Ozark Inn, Jan. 23. Inspections are done once month to see if pests have returned to a hotspot; A hotspot is a general area pests are more likely to be found at.

By Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

For thousands of years, pests have been wreaking havoc on society. Ultimately, stopping them is not just about spraying chemicals and laying down traps; people need to be educated on pests and how to deal with them. At the end of the day, education about preventing, treating for and controlling these nuisances can go a long way.

Fortunately, the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Pest Management shop is available to help Whiteman residents in that process. Entomology—the study of insects, rodents and fungi—is the bread and butter of this group.

“Entomology is the branch of zoology that studies insects. As Pest Management professionals we are in the business of studying and controlling insect, vertebrate and weed pests,” said Staff Sgt. Robert Lopez, NCOIC of the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Pest Management shop.

What many people may not realize about pest control is that in order to deal with a particular creature, one must recognize what it is.

“First, we have to identify the pest before we formulate a plan to control it,” said David Neuman, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Pest Management technician. “For example, if we have flies in an office, what type are they? Where do they breed? What do they feed on? What’s attracting them to the area? We have to identify the pest and the favorable conditions that are contributing to the overall problem.”

Education about how to deal with certain species can ensure public health and safety. A raccoon searching for food in a trash can represents a significant public health risk, but one that can be mitigated by simply securing the can lid with a bungee cord. Knowing how to prevent these furry raiders from scavenging from trash cans helps prevent the spread of disease, and is just one example of how individuals can contribute positively to a cleaner community.

“People are concerned with pests biting. What they don’t realize is these species carry parasites, such as fleas and ticks, which also

carry hosts, such as tapeworms.” said Neuman. “So it’s not just one issue with one species.”

Most people often resort to one of two solutions – traps or chemicals. However, after several traps and chemicals have been used, pests are still bound to return. People must know the reason the pests are there, where are they likely to stay, and how and why they keep returning.

“Integrated pest management (IPM) involves pest surveillance and identification. This will determine our courses of action – biological, physical, cultural and even chemical, if needed,” said Marc Watson, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron pest management technician. “For example, if we have a mouse problem in a facility, we want to take care of the immediate problem, [so we] set some traps to capture them. This is just a Band-aid, though. We want to also inspect the facility to find what may be attracting them, where they may be entering, and then correct the problems to prevent further entry.”

The main goal of pest control is to decrease chemical usage and educate individuals, said Lopez.

Making simple adjustments is a great way to solving a pest problem. Finding entry points and removing food from an area are some basic steps individuals can take. Other solutions may be caulking or sealing holes, cleaning and sanitation, eliminating favorable conditions or attractants. When it comes to chemical use, baits are best. They may take a little longer to take full effect, but are very safe and pest specific. Always follow product label instructions.

“If you place a bowl of candy on your desk during the summer time, you are going to attract ants,” said Neuman. “We can treat for the ants, but unless you remove the food source, they will keep returning.”

Sanitation and cleanliness are the keys to maintaining a healthy and balanced environment. Chemicals and products are temporary, education lasts a lifetime.

For more information, or to make an appointment for more personalized help, contact the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Pest Management Office at 660-687-6367.

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AFE AIRMEN: UNSUNG HEROES

By Heidi Hunt

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Quick reactions and calm decision-making – both of these necessary piloting skills saved the lives of two Whiteman pilots when they ejected out of the Spirit of Kansas before a mechanical error caused it crashed into the runway at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, in 2008. However, these pilots partially owe their lives to the work of the professionals at the 509th Operations Support Squadron Aircrew Flight Equipment shop.

The Airmen who packed the parachutes and maintained the harnesses and helmets used in the ejection were considered Team Whiteman heroes.

Senior Airman Justin Dunford, 509th Operations Support Squadron AFE technician was at Whiteman the day the B-2 Spirit was lost.

“Being part of a team whose work and attention to detail helped save lives that day really put the importance of my job into perspective, and helped me understand how critical and mission-essential we are to Team Whiteman,” said Dunford.

Whether it is packing a parachute or inspecting a flight helmet, lives are literally in the hands of the 509th OSS AFE Airmen. The key to survival and recovery is ensuring 100 percent aircrew safety at all times, at home and abroad.

“Our team consists of dedicated professionals who get the job done,” said Staff Sgt. Matthew Cost, 509th OSS AFE section lead. “We bring the utmost customer satisfaction to our pilots. We interact with them on a day-to-day basis, so we have a clear understanding of their needs and ensure they are fulfilled.”

The team of more than 28 personnel works year-round, reflecting the Core Values by striving diligently to ensure their daily performance exceeds the standard. When it comes to protecting Airmen, exceeding the standard should not be the exception, but the rule.

The team is responsible for ensuring flight equipment is in perfect operational condition. They work on everything from helmets to harnesses to masks. They also maintain anti-G garments, anti-exposure suits, para-

chutes, flotation devices, back-style parachutes, nuclear flash blindness goggles, advanced-concept ejection seat survival kits and chutes.

The Airmen operate out of two shops; one supports B-2 Spirit and T-38 Talon operations, while the main shop is responsible for flight training. The main shop also handles packing parachutes, survival kits and life-preserve units, said Tech. Sgt. Damian Bunch, 509th OSS NCOIC.

“We man our section 24 hours, five days a week, and maintain a weekend stand-by schedule,” Bunch said.

AFE Airmen must be ready to provide safe and fully functional equipment at any time, however, as Whiteman’s pilots can be called upon at a moment’s notice.

While the AFEs mission directly supports the overall Air Force mission, the team is unique in that it is a hybrid flight.

“We have to be proficient in 12 other Air Force specialty codes, or job type, to fulfill requirements as AFE members,” Bunch said. “Areas of proficiency include medical logistics; supply; hazardous communication; transportation; ground safety; munitions; combat arms training and maintenance (weapons issuing); survival, evasion, resistance and escape; quality assurance; training; precision measurement equipment laboratory; and egress.”

The team’s vision is to continue maintaining a high standard of performance when it comes to preparing life-sustaining equipment for daily training and real-world demands, said Bunch.

“Being that 2013 is the Year of the B-2, it provides our flight with even more significance and is a key milestone in Whiteman’s history,” he said.

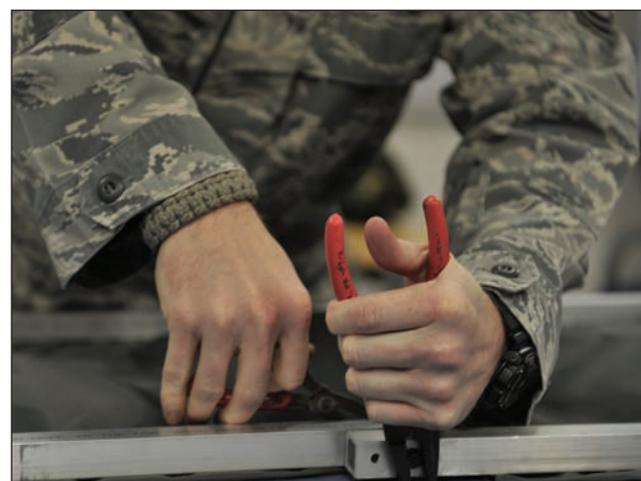
The dedication and professionalism of the men and women who maintain the B-2 are two key reasons why the Spirit is expected to remain in the active inventory well into the future. Today, as new threats emerge around the world, the B-2 remains the nation’s first choice for targeting hardened, deeply buried targets. And as the pilots are locking bombs on target, the crew of the AFE shop at Whiteman can take pride knowing they have helped keep America safe.



Airman 1st Class Devin Orme, 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment journeyman, selects a tool to perform maintenance on survival and recovery equipment, Jan. 18. AFE personnel are in charge of ensuring all flight equipment is in perfect working order, from parachutes to helmets.



Airman 1st Class Chris Lineberry, 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment journeyman, checks the pull-test on the restrictor lanyard, Jan. 18. Airmen conduct pull-tests to ensure correct opening sequence on a parachute in case it were to deploy.



Master Sgt. Jacob Mann, 110th Bomb Squadron, Air National Guard, uses a pair of pliers to assemble an integrated prototype cot, Jan. 18. Mann is assigned to the 131st Operations Group and works closely with members of the 509th Operations Support Squadron to support Whiteman’s mission.



Airman 1st Class Devin Orme and Airman 1st Class Eric Mitchell, 509th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment journeymen, clean oxygen masks, Jan. 18. Aircrew flight equipment specialists inspect, maintain and adjust life support and survival gear for flight-crew members assigned to Whiteman AFB.

U.S. Air Force photos/Heidi Hunt

This Week in 509th Bomb Wing History

(Supplied by the AFGSC Office of the Historian)

February 1, 1997

Two 509th BW B-2 pilots emerged from perhaps the longest simulator flight in Air Force history at Whiteman AFB, Mo. The flight, called Vigilant Spirit II, was completed by Maj. Steve Moulton and Capt. Jeff Long on February 1 after

44.4 hours. The test attempted to determine how fatigue impacted pilot abilities to perform a long mission safely. The test employed sleep, dietary strategies and seat exercises to help reduce fatigue.

February 5, 1982

Northrop Chief Test Pilot Dick Thomas flew the technology demonstrator, TACIT BLUE, for the first time from a classified location in Nevada. The testing of the airplane aided in the development of the B-2 advanced technology bomber, the AGM-137 Tri-Service Standoff Attack Missile, and the PAVE

MOVER program that eventually led to the E-8 Joint Stars aircraft. TACIT BLUE was the first airplane to demonstrate low-RCS using curved surfaces. Northrop and Air Force test pilots flew the airplane a total of 135 times, with the final flight coming on February 14, 1985.

Rollup Continued from Page 2

The wing executed a very robust year of distinguished visitor and base/community events. We hosted 37 distinguished visitors in 2012, including Congresswomen Vicky Hartzler (Mo.), Senator Claire McCaskill (Mo.), 22 general officers, the CMSAF, and many senior civic and government officials. Of note, we hosted Lt. Gen. Paul Fouillard, the commander of France's strategic forces, who received a B-2 orientation flight. We continued growing the Air Force's largest Base Community Council hosting 12 luncheons, tours and a multitude of events. We welcomed our new BCC president, the Honorable Elaine Horn, Mayor of Sedalia, Mo. We gave orientation flights to two members of the CSAF's/AFGSC's Civic Leader Program, Mr. Joe Scallorns (B-2) and Mayor Elaine Horn (T-38). We showcased the mighty B-2 to millions of Americans at many sporting events/cultural event, including the 2012 Baseball All Star Game, the 2012 Rose Bowl Parade and game, and University of Missouri and Kansas City Chiefs football games. The 509th connected with its heritage hosting the 509th Composite Group reunion tour which included several surviving members who took part in the Hiroshima and Nagasaki missions. We were honored to have the American 300 Tour members visit on several

occasions as we heard incredible stories of resiliency, increasing suicide awareness and drug & alcohol prevention for our Airmen. Our efforts to build and maintain an outstanding relationship with our local community resulted in many perks for our Airmen including free tickets to sporting events and discounts at local businesses.

The 509th ensured that our Air Force's core values and good order and discipline were maintained on the installation. We conducted a total of 11 court-martials, 100 percent of which were processed within Air Force goals. We administered 67 non-judicial punishment actions, 39 non-board eligible administrative discharge actions and 12 board-eligible administrative discharge actions. The 509th Bomb Wing Judge Advocate was honored as AFGSC's Legal Office of the Year. On the civilian side, the JA shop prosecuted 54 minor offenses committed on the installation. Additionally the shop won the AFGSC's Judge Advocate Association's Career Service Award and the Steve Swigonski Award (best paralegal NCO).

All told, 2012 was a banner year for the 509th Bomb Wing. We eagerly await the challenges that 2013 will bring as we continue to provide Global Strike For America...the President's 911 force!



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The Official Whiteman AFB Facebook Page



The Official Whiteman Website

Combat Continued from Page 3

enlisted and officers are assigned to commands at the point of introduction to ensure success in the long run. This may require an adjustment to recruiting efforts, assignment processes, and personnel policies. Assimilation of women into heretofore "closed units" will be informed by continual in-stride assessments and pilot efforts.

Using these guiding principles, positions will be opened to women following service reviews and the congressional notification procedures established by law. Panetta directed the military departments to submit detailed plans by May

15, 2013, for the implementation of this change, and to move ahead expeditiously to integrate women into previously closed positions. The secretary's direction is for this process to be complete by Jan. 1, 2016.

The Joint Secretary of Defense and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Women in Service Review Memorandum can be viewed at: <http://www.defense.gov/news/WISRJointMemo.pdf>

The Chairman's Women in Service Review Memorandum can be viewed at: <http://www.defense.gov/news/WISRImplementationPlanMemo.pdf>



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SESSION 2 MARCH 27TH - APRIL 16TH

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WEDNESDAY 2/6

Boss & Buddy-Starts at 4:30pm- Mission's End
 Join us for cheap wings, great food, fun & friends. Share some wings with your fellow co-workers and enjoy watching sports, or even a few of our beverage specials. Call 687-4422.

THURSDAY 2/7

\$6.75 Bowling Special! Also on Tuesdays!
 If you purchase \$6.75 or more at the snack bar from 3pm until close and bring your receipt to the bowling counter, you will receive 3 free games of bowling and a shoe rental! Call 687-5114.

FRIDAY 2/8

Mardi Gras Party! - 9:00pm - 1:00am-Mission's End
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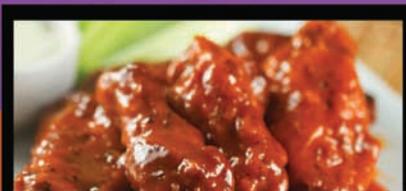
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Arriving or departing from Whiteman? The Air Force Aid Society pays for 20 hours of care per child for all ranks to help with your transition. Child care is authorized in Air Force licensed or affiliated FCC homes. The Airman & Family Readiness Center issues certificates which are good for child care within 60 days of PCSing. Call us at 687-5590.

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AT THE MOVIES



The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey

Saturday, 7 p.m.

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Rated PG-13, 170 minutes

This is 40

Sunday, 3 p.m.

A spin-off sequel to the *Knocked Up*, the film follows the lives of middle-aged married couple Pete and Debbie as they both deal with turning 40, with each of their jobs and their children Sadie and Charlotte adding stress to their relationship.

Rated R, 134 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 \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children (ages 3-11).

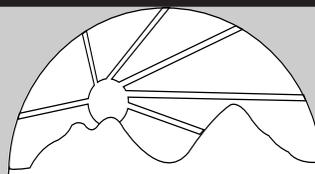
Doors open 30 minutes prior to show time.

Movies and ticket prices are subject to change without notice.



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Lion's Club—2nd & 4th Mon. 7 p.m. - Jubilation Center

Chamber of Commerce—2nd Thurs. of each month.

Call Pam Thompson @ 563-3398 for more info.

Masons—2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:00 p.m. - Knob Noster Masonic Lodge AF & AM

Garden Club—1st Thurs. of each month 6:30 p.m. - Trails Regional Library - Knob Noster Branch

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)—Every Fri. 8 p.m. - Basement of Methodist Church

Knob Noster Board of Aldermen—1st & 3rd Tues. each month - Basement of City Hall

Whiteman Area Piecemakers Quilt Guild—3rd Thurs. each month 7 p.m. - Methodist Church

AMVETS—Membership Dinner 1st Tues. each month 6 p.m. - AMVETS Building

VFW—1st Fri. each month 7 p.m. - VFW Building

VFW Auxiliary—1st Fri. each month 7 p.m. - VFW Building

Boy Scouts - Troop 509 Methodist Church

Cub Scouts - Pack 405 Bill Sander 687-1154

Cub Scouts - Pack 509 Methodist Church

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- Advertising is free to all active-duty, guard and reserve military members and civil servants who work on base or at the MoARNG in Warrensburg only. Military or civil service rank must be included in the space for "rank." We do offer free advertising to retired military members.
- Ads of a commercial nature such as baby-sitting, lawn maintenance, house cleaning, product sales, apartments or houses for rent, work-at-home opportunities or any other service in which the person makes a profit must be prepaid. Paid ads must be placed directly through the Sedalia Democrat at 1-800-892-7856, dropped off at 700 S. Massachusetts Ave., Sedalia, Mo., 65301 or e-mailed to theclassifieds@sedaliademocrat.com. They accept VISA, MasterCard, cash, personal check or money order.
- Free ads are for one-time sale of personal items only. Free ads can't be placed for churches, groups, clubs, organizations or friends not affiliated with the military. Each item must be sold for \$150 or less.
- Only one free ad*, maximum 30 words, will be allowed to run at any given time by the same household, for a maximum of eight weeks. Ads over the 30-word maximum will be edited at the publisher's discretion.
- *People who are PCSing may place more than one ad and sell the items at any price.
- Include your home phone in the ad so people can contact you. USE OF DUTY PHONES IN ADS IS AGAINST AIR FORCE REGULATIONS.
- Print legibly, and place punctuation and spaces where necessary. Use only one word per line.
- Free ads aren't taken over the phone. They must be dropped off at or mailed to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, 1081 Arnold Ave Blvd, Bldg 59, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305. Ads may also be faxed to 660-687-7948.
- Many offices on base are using old forms**. If you would like a copy of the new ad form to keep in your office, call 687-6123 and we'll fax a new form for your use. Or, you can download it at <http://www.whiteman.af.mil> and click on "Whiteman Warrior Classified Ad Form."
- Homes for sale that are listed with a realtor must be paid for. Only people who are PCSing and selling homes FSBO (for sale by owner) qualify as a free ad.
- Free yard sale ads are for active-duty, guard, reserve and retired military members living on or off base. People who live on base must have their yard sale approved by the housing office first.
- The deadline for placing new ads, canceling or making changes to ads is 10 a.m. Friday, one week before desired publication.
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Sat 8AM-12PM, Sun Closed

