

WARRIOR

Year of the B-2

Serving the Whiteman Community - Vol. 4 No. 10
March 15, 2013



*Unlocking
the mission, Pg. 8*

*Naval reservists train
in America's heartland
Pg. 11*

*What the A&FRC
has to offer
Pg. 5*

AFGSC commander visits Whiteman

Lt. Gen. Kowalski interacts with Airmen, Pg. 5

Command communication: dynamic, evolving

By 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Air Force Global Strike Command's active social media program aims to reach Airmen where they live and work, according to command officials, who noted this is the primary communication method for many people today.

The command has made strides to create a social media presence and has empowered the wings to do the same, tailoring each platform to their own unique communities and mission.

"To effectively engage with Airmen, we must at least understand the way they communicate," said Chief Master Sgt. Brian Hornback, AFGSC command chief. "Social media not only serves as a way to communicate internally with our Airmen, but also as a means to tell the story of our Airmen to external audiences who are actively engaged in social networks themselves."

Maintaining a meaningful social media presence is very important for the leadership of Whiteman Air Force Base. The official base Facebook page, "Whiteman Air Force Base," currently has approximately 2,600 followers, and is growing daily. The page is an excellent source for photo content and base event information, and to date has a potential reach of nearly 1 million individuals on Facebook alone. Check out, and be sure to follow, Whiteman's page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Whiteman-Air-Force-Base/255694560017>.

Whiteman also has a Twitter presence, @WhitemanSpirit. Currently, @WhitemanSpirit has 153 followers, including Chief Hornback; AFGSC Commander, Lt. Gen. Kowalski; Rep. Emmanuel Cleaver; Rep. Vicki Hartzler; Dr. Charles Ambrose, president of the University of Central Missouri; and the City of Warrensburg.

In his book *Socialnomics*, Erik Qualman, keynote speaker and professor, points out that 96 percent of millennials – typically categorized as individuals born from 1981 to 2000 – have joined a social network. This is important to Air Force communicators because 38 percent of the service is below the age of 26, as stated in a 2011 demographics report published by Air Force Personnel Center.

Key points from official Air Force Guidance sent out from the Air Force Public Affairs Agency, "Navigating the Social Network," mention

that in addition to staying connected with family and friends, social media is a great tool for sharing the Air Force story and the stories of Airmen with the general public.

Although not the only tool in a communicator's toolbox, social media can help bridge the gap for people who aren't in close proximity to an installation or know very little about the military.

Many are calling social media a fundamental shift in the way we communicate.

"We don't have a choice on whether we do social media," Qualman said. "The question is how well we do it."

AF Global Strike Command social media success stories

Lt. Gen. James Kowalski, AFGSC Commander (@AFGSC_CC), and Chief Master Sgt. Brian Hornback, AFGSC Command Chief (@StrykeChief), have been active on Twitter since 2011. Both use their accounts as representatives of the command and the Air Force, posting mission and Airmen-related content, while balancing personal interests in their Twitter content. @AFGSC_CC and @StrykeChief have enjoyed increased followership and engagement on their Twitter accounts.

@AFGSC_CC has more than 720 followers, including the CSAF, members of the media, industry leaders and other Air Force and government leaders. Kowalski has been able to respond directly to opinion leaders on subjects such as the nuclear enterprise and current fiscal conditions. Hornback tweets multiple times per day, focusing on Airmen, command heritage and leadership; he currently has more than 380 followers, including current and former chief master sergeants of the Air Force, industry partners and other joint force enlisted and officers.

Key Tips for Social Media Success:

- * Although personal and professional social media profiles are positively viewed by the Air Force, military members are 24/7 representatives of their service and should always remember they're always on the record and must represent core values; social media interactions are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

- * Consider how a post can be interpreted by the public.

- * Practice OPSEC when engaging on personal or professional social networks.

- * For leaders, listen to your followers when they have questions, grievances or suggestions and engage accordingly, and also acknowledge their support.

- * Social media is considered an informal, conversational medium, so remember your audience and don't get wrapped around technical jargon; this is an opportunity to connect with others on a personal level and conversation should not be stifled, unless inappropriate or derogatory; replace error with fact, not argument.

- * Once posted, the content is out on the internet forever, even if you decide to delete it.

Airmen assigned to AFGSC wings and organizations with social media accounts are encouraged to follow AFGSC senior leaders for top-level views and insight into leadership and command news. For up-to-date command, wing and tenant unit information, visit the following social media platforms.

Air Force Global Strike Command Social Media Platforms

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Air-ForceGlobalStrikeCommand>

Twitter: @AFGlobalStrike

YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/afglobalstrike>

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/afglobalstrike/>

Lt. Gen. Jim Kowalski, AFGSC commander
Twitter: @AFGSC_CC

Chief Master Sgt. Brian Hornback, AFGSC command chief

Twitter: @StrykeChief

Maj. Gen. Stephen Wilson, 8th Air Force command

Twitter: @Mighty08_CC

Chief Master Sgt. Terry B. West, 8th Air Force command chief

Twitter: @Mighty_8AF_CCC

Whiteman AFB Social Media Platforms

Facebook: Whiteman Air Force Base; <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Whiteman-Air-Force-Base/255694560017>

Twitter: @WhitemanSpirit

509th BW/CC Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/509thBombWingCommander>

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.

Firefighter brings positive attitude

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

Houses catch on fire, vehicles collide, carbon dioxide detectors begin to warble.

No matter what the emergency, Tech. Sgt. Cory McGee, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Emergency Services station crew chief, and the rest of the Whiteman Fire Department are always prepared to take it on.

Being a firefighter can be a daring job, but it is something that McGee has always wanted to do.

"I always wanted to be a firefighter growing up," McGee said, "and I also wanted to serve my country."

McGee was excited when he found out he would get the chance to do both by becoming a firefighter in the U.S. Air Force.

"Getting the opportunity to serve my country and do the job I wanted was an ultimate achievement," McGee said. "I couldn't have been put in a better situation."

Whether in war or peace, at home or over-



Tech. Sgt. Corey McGee, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Emergency Services station crew chief, suits up in his full fire suit, March 9. McGee's original goal was to be firefighter, a dream he gets to realize every day at Whiteman Air Force Base.

seas, Air Force firefighters are always on the job.

"Our mission is to prevent fires, minimize injuries and loss of lives, protect property and the environment during periods of peace, war, mili-

tary operations other than war and humanitarian support operations for those charged in our care,"

See Firefighter, page 10

On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo/
Staff Sgt. Nicholas Wilson

Lt. Gen. James M. Kowalski, Air Force Global Strike Command commander, delivers remarks on key issues currently impacting the Air Force to Airmen of Whiteman Air Force Base here March 11. The general emphasized the importance of their roles in the future of global strike capability.

NEWS BRIEFS

FIRST Robotics

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@embarq-mail.com

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.

AF Housing

Visit 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 world-wide.

Whiteman Warrior Story Ideas

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 Service Applicants

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

Today	Saturday
Mostly Sunny	Partly Sunny
Hi 79	Hi 50
Lo 38	Lo 42

Sunday	Monday
Chance of Rain	Chance of Rain
Hi 46	Hi 49
Lo 35	Lo 36

Courtesy of National Weather Service

Diamond Sharp award winner



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry

Airman 1st Class Melissa Weir, 509th Munitions Squadron armament systems team member, receives the Diamond Sharp Award from Whiteman first sergeants, March 7. Accomplishments that contributed to her receiving the award include her organization of three flight physical training sessions and her leadership in a unit chili cook-off, which boosted flight morale.

This Week in 509th Bomb Wing History: B-2 anniversaries

David Easley

509 Bomb Wing Historian

March 9, 1995: Secretary of the Air Force Dr. Sheila Widnall visited Whiteman. During her stay, Dr. Widnall flew The Spirit of Washington, becoming the first woman to pilot the B-2.

March 10, 1996: The Spirit of Washington made a flyover appearance at the FIDAE 96 Air Show in Santiago, Chile. The 25-hour flight produced the longest B-2 Spirit global power mission to date, and is believed to be the longest flight on record for a 2-man crew.

March 10, 2004: Col. Richard Bachman, 509 MDG/CC, became the first Air Force flight surgeon to take to the skies in a B-2. His flight lasted 4.2 hours.

March 14, 2003: B-2 bombers deployed to a forward base of operations in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

March 15, 1995: The first Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) was loaded into the B-2; the first captive-carry JDAM/B-2 mission was flown later in the month.

March 16, 1994: Lt. Col. Richard Y. Newton III, 393 BS/CC, became the first Whiteman-trained B-2 pilot.

March 21, 1996: President Clinton announced that the \$493 million in additional B-2 funding provided by Congress would be used to upgrade AV-1 to a fully operational aircraft. This raised the number of planned B-2 bombers to 21 aircraft – 15 production aircraft, plus 6 reworked flight-test aircraft.

March 21, 2003: B-2 crews began combat sorties in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Crews destroyed 92 targets in the opening hours of the campaign and nearly 600 targets in all.

Air Force suspends Tuition Assistance program

By 1st Lt. John Cooper

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force this week decided to suspend the popular Tuition Assistance program for all Airmen. This change will affect active-duty, Guard and Reserve members of the force.

As of March 11, Airmen will no longer be allowed to submit new requests for tuition assistance; however, Airmen who are currently receiving TA for classes they are already taking, or who had requests approved for future courses before March 11, may complete those courses and receive funding as scheduled.

Air Force leadership made the decision to suspend the program due to the significant budget cuts mandated by the sequestration agreement agreed upon by

the White House and Congress in 2011. Sequestration has already forced numerous, painful cuts across the Air Force, including the planned furlough of the civilian Airmen for 16 hours every pay period, a significant reduction in flying hours at many bases, and cuts to TDYs, training opportunities and routine facility maintenance.

Until the sequestration issue is resolved, the long-term outlook for Tuition Assistance is unclear; no decisions have been made yet for Fiscal Year 2014. The Department of Defense has not cut any other education assistance programs at this time, but all programs are under review.

Despite the loss of these funds, Airmen are encouraged to continue pursuing educational opportunities, and to make use of other sources of funding, such as the G.I. Bill, Pell grants and other forms of federal

aid. Individual institutions may offer significant financial aid to military students as well. Airmen are encouraged to contact their college or university's financial aid department if they have questions or want to find out about more scholarship and assistance opportunities.

According to Air Force statistics, in FY 2012, 104,422 Airmen received Tuition Assistance, which provided \$194 million in payments to Airmen across the service. This assistance helped pay for 277,255 courses, enabling Airmen to earn more than 26,611 associate degrees, 2,405 baccalaureate degrees, and 3,356 graduate degrees.

Be sure to pick up a copy of the Whiteman Warrior next week for more information about tuition and assistance opportunities for Whiteman Airmen.

From the Frontlines: Staff Sgt. Kathryn Gritzmaker



U.S. Air Force courtesy photo

SOUTHWEST ASIA – Staff. Sgt. Kathryn Gritzmaker, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing judge advocate NCO in charge of military justice, reviews legal paperwork March 1. Her duties while deployed include drafting Article 15 paperwork, providing clients with powers of attorney and notary services, as well as assisting in reviewing other non-punitive disciplinary measures.

The Air Force offers Airmen many opportunities to journey across the world. For Staff Sgt. Kathryn Gritzmaker, a 379th Air Expeditionary Wing judge advocate, the journey took her to an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia.

Gritzmaker left Whiteman AFB in Janu-

ary and will return in July. As a military justice advocate, she provides justice support downrange to a wing of more than 11,000 Air Force, joint and coalition forces.

“My job is to draft Article 15 paperwork,

See Frontlines, page 12

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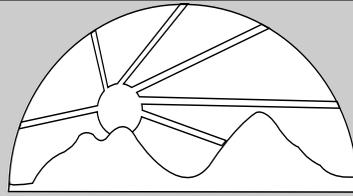
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Lion's Club—2nd & 4th Mon. 7 p.m. - Jubilation Center

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

Call Tammy Templeton @ 563-4090 for more info.

Masons—2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:30 p.m. - Knob Noster Masonic Lodge AF & AM

Optimist Club—Sat. 7:45 a.m. - Panther Steak House for Breakfast. The last week of the month meetings Wed. 6:30 p.m. - Panther Steak House for Supper (family invited)

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 Night Supper 3rd Sat. each month 7-8 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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AFGSC commander visits Whiteman Airmen



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte
Staff Sgt. Casey Price, 509th Medical Group dental laboratory technician, discusses the capabilities of the dental laboratory with Lt. Gen. James M. Kowalski, Air Force Global Strike Command commander, during a visit to the Whiteman Clinic at Whiteman Air Force Base, March 12. The general visited with Airmen from several different sections of the 509th Medical Group.

By Capt. John Severns
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Lt. Gen. James M. Kowalski, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, visited Whiteman Air Force Base this week to meet the Airmen charged with operating the nation's only B-2 force.

During his visit, Kowalski met face-to-face with Airmen at all levels, from the First Term Airman's Center to chiefs and commanders.

The general's first stop was a breakfast with 15 "unsung heroes," Airmen from across the 509th Bomb Wing who play a vital role in keeping the B-2 running, but due to their particular duties often miss out on the spotlight. The Airmen who ate with the general shared some stories, and afterward said that his visit was an opportunity to meet one of the Air Force's most senior leaders.

Tech. Sgt. Brandon Benton, a mission planner in the 509th Operations Support Squadron, was one of those Airmen.

"It was a chance for us to ask questions about a lot of issue that

have been on everyone's mind lately," he said. "Tuition assistance was a big one, and he also talked about the nuclear force structure, the future of the command, and how the sequester is going to impact the Air Force."

Later in his visit, during an all-hands call, Kowalski spoke on a variety of topics, from the consequences of the budget sequestration to the continuing need for a robust strategic deterrent in the face of new global developments.

On the impact of the sequester, Kowalski was unambiguous about the impact of the \$50 billion cut being levied across the Armed Services this year.

"There will absolutely be an impact on our readiness," he said.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte
Master Sgt. Kenneth Hampton, 509th Medical Group education and training NCOIC, explains the process of in-place patient decontamination to Lt. Gen. James M. Kowalski, Air Force Global Strike Command commander, during his visit to the medical group here March 12.

"The furloughs, in particular, will impact our mission, our communities, and just as importantly, the families of our civilian Airmen."

As a result of the budget sequester, Department of Defense civilians are expecting to see 22 discontinuous furlough days between April and the end of the fiscal year. This will result in approximately a 20 percent reduction in their salaries during that time period.

During the question and answer session, the general touched on a widely held concern – the fate of the Air Force's popular Tuition Assistance program. While the program is vital to helping Airmen achieve their educational goals, in an environment where civilian Airmen are forced to take a 20 percent pay cut, TA may simply be unsustainable.

Indeed, the general's words were prescient. The next day, the Air Force announced that Tuition Assistance was being suspended for the remainder of the fiscal year.

For much of his all-call, the general spoke about the continued necessity for nuclear deterrence.

"We seek a world with zero nuclear weapons, but as President Obama said [in his speech in Prague], as long as these weapons exist, we need to keep them safe, secure and effective."

The general also met with Airmen going through the First Term Airmen's Center as part of their acclimation to the Air Force. He spoke with them about some of the challenges they would face entering the Air Force in the midst of steep budget cutbacks, as well as the opportunities they would have as the next generation of America's Airmen.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte
Lt. Gen. James M. Kowalski, Air Force Global Strike Command commander, visits with Airmen from the 509th Medical Group lab, pharmacy and radiology departments during his base tour here March 13. Kowalski also visited the dental, public health, immunizations, in-place patient decontamination, ambulance services, flight medicine and aerospace physiology sections.

All the Airman & Family Readiness Center has to offer

By Airman 1st Class Shelby R. Orozco
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Whether arriving at their first base or transitioning to civilian life, Airmen can face stressful experiences.

To help with these important life changes, the Whiteman AFB Airman & Family Readiness Center offers a multitude of programs that provide assistance for Airmen and their families.

The services provided by the A&FRC are offered to active-duty Service members in all branches, as well as to Department of Defense civilians, said Glenda Alexander, 509th Force Support Squadron A&FRC chief.

"We focus on the welfare of our Airmen and their families," Alexander said. "They are why we're here. Everything else is irrelevant."

The most important program the A&FRC offers is the week-long, congressionally-mandated Transition Assistance Program, she said.

"The TAP is the hottest program in the Air Force right now," Alexander said. "The reason for that is because it helps people transition out of the military. The DOD has an obligation, which they take very seriously, to help military members make that transition into the civilian sector."

The second most-popular program Airman and Family Readiness offers is the Air Force Aid

Society.

"The AFAS focuses on emergency assistance for Airmen," Alexander said. "They do community programs as well, but they focus on emergency assistance through a no-interest fee loan or a grant."

Although the focus is on emergency care, the community programs they offer are also very helpful, said Alexander.

"Programs like 'Give Parents a Break' and 'Car Care Because We Care' are called community enhancement programs," Alexander said. "They are all under AFAS, which uses excess money to fund these self-enhancement programs to help Airmen cope. For example, if a husband is deployed and the wife needs someone to watch their children, the AFAS can provide that through Give Parents a Break."

The A&FRC also offers Military & Family Life consultants, a position which originated with the Army.

"The Army found that a lot of personnel being deployed were struggling with issues they were not able to go to mental health with," Alexander said. "So the Army brought in licensed counselors and psychologists from the civilian sector that provided the Soldiers with the services they needed."

Military and Family Life counselors can be divided into two categories. One is assigned to

help Airmen with adult, family and individual issues; the other is assigned to help children, which it does by working with the family.

Although the A&FRC is responsible for providing the offices for MFCLCs, that does not mean Airmen and counselors have to meet within the A&FRC.

"Airmen and the counselors can meet in a neutral location, as long as it's not in the client's home," Alexander said. "They have a place they can talk to a neutral person. They talk directly with individuals to help them work through their problems and often show them how capable they are of overcoming these issues themselves. They just need a bit of a sounding board to help them out."

Another initiative the A&FRC is proud of is the monthly Hearts Apart program, said Alexander.

"During deployments and long TDYs, our families enjoy benefits like morale calls," Alexander said. "Those are phone calls provided through operators to a family's deployed Service member. We have pillow cases we can put pictures of family members and deployed Service members on, and they can go downrange with the Airman and stay at home with the children so they can sleep on them to remember their loved ones each night."

Airman and Family Readiness also plans

events to build morale, such as Operation Spirit, an event held every April as part of the "Month of the Military Child" focus, said Senior Master Sgt. Mona Wendzillo, A&FRC NCOIC.

"The 8th annual Operation Spirit is scheduled to be April 20 from 8 a.m. to noon, and it is a popular base-wide event geared toward children of deployed personnel, but we welcome all dependents," Wendzillo said. "The children are given T-shirts as their 'uniform of the day,' dog tags, orders and more. They are then 'processed' through the line and bussed to the flightline to view aircraft and equipment static displays. The kids are recognized at the end of the event with a certificate and medal for their support of both the 'mission' and also of their families, as children of the military."

Other scheduled events include a Family Fun Fair at Skelton Park, April 20 from noon to 4 p.m., following Operation Spirit, and a Community Fair April 26, said Alexander.

At the end of the day, the A&FRC offers many programs to help Airmen through any situation in their lives, but the emphasis is on getting them in the door to get the help they need, said Alexander.

"We are the place to come when you don't know what you don't know," Alexander said. "It's our job to either have the answers or get you the answers."

The art behind the aircraft

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

In today's fast-paced Air Force, one might think an artistic point of view and sense of creativity are not necessary to accomplishing the mission. Tech. Sgt. Jim Gargano would disagree.

Gargano, a metals technology assistant section chief in the 509th Maintenance Squadron, has worked on a metallic canvas for 19 years in the Air Force, and the 509th Bomb Wing has been home to him, his wife, Ady, and their son, Frankie, for five of those years.

In joining the Air Force, Gargano followed in the footsteps of his uncle, who enlisted as a meteorologist before being drafted as an infantryman.

"With all the stories from my uncle's travels and many experiences the military took him on, he inspired me to join the Air Force," Gargano said.

Gargano knew he wanted to enlist, and he had his eyes set on a career field that would allow him to leverage his artistic passion and ability.

"I am a very creative individual," he said. "I wanted to do something with my skill set. I love art, sculpting, welding and painting."

Though he wanted to come in as a graphic designer, he found himself working in metals instead—a blessing in disguise, as this career field allowed him to develop his talent through a medium that requires innovation and creativity, though perhaps not at first glance.

"I love my job," Gargano said. "I can use my artistic abilities and create a part for the aircraft. As long as the end result is the same, I can recreate how the process of the work is done. This is what I love the most—putting my own spins on things."

Gargano describes his job as a spin-off of the Orange County Choppers television show, which showcases custom and production motorcycle manufacturing.

"Our job is a combination of aircraft and support fabrication," Gargano said. "The fabrication work is a mixture of machining and welding."

Technical orders contain the blueprints which metals personnel must follow in completing projects, but these dedicated professionals achieve greater efficiency by finding a different way to produce the same result.

"He doesn't like doing things the black-and-white way," said Master Sgt. Jason Wade, 509th MXS metals technology shop NCOIC. "If the project allows him to challenge his talent as an artist, he will go the long way around things to finish



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jim Gargano, 509th Maintenance Squadron metals technology assistant section chief, uses a water jet machine to cut pieces of metal for aircraft parts, March 6. Water jets do not leave heat-affected zones, generate noxious fumes or create mechanical stresses on the surfaces of the cut piece.

the task at hand."

Working on everything from aircraft to ground support equipment, the aircraft metals technology shop accomplishes a variety of metal work for the base.

Aircraft part production primarily incorporates jobs that will accompany fabrication work, such as precision measurements, as well as jobs such as bushing, installation and more minor aircraft maintenance, Gargano explains.

Some of the equipment used by the technicians includes welders, grinders, mills and lathes.

"Our equipment allows us to measure down to less than a third of the width of a piece of paper," Gargano said. "We can measure pretty accurately."

Gargano describes himself as "somewhat of a perfectionist," and most of his co-workers agree.

"I have a few tricks up my sleeve," he said. "Loving art helps me find different ways to do things and make my product amazing. I want my product to leave the shop in perfect condition."

This aspiration is essential, not only to ensure full operational capability and security, but also because it helps metals personnel build a solid reputation, as every project is viewed by a supervisor before leaving the floor and being provided to the customer.

"I am pretty stoked that he is working in our shop," Wade said. "I have always been impressed with his work."



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jim Gargano, 509th Maintenance Squadron metals technology assistant section chief, welds a connector of a B-2 Spirit bomber tail pipe liner, March 6. Technicians make use of a wide variety of equipment, including welders, grinders, mills and lathes.

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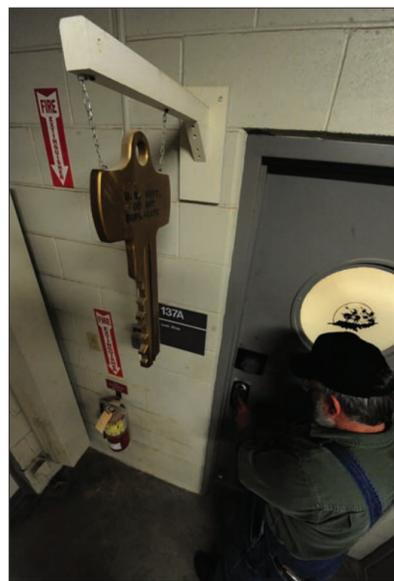
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Jack Crain, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron locksmith, inspects a stack of job orders, March 6. Team Whiteman's locksmiths are accountable for more than 1,200 job orders each year.



Jack Crain, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron locksmith, inspects the holes of a lock before pressing caps into the lock core, March 6. Without the caps, the lock will never be secure.



Jack Crain, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron locksmith, enters the locksmith chamber to start his day, March 6. The day's events could range from something as small as getting a customer into a locked office, to larger jobs like getting into a vault or safe.



Jack Crain, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron locksmith, hammers pinning codes into a key, March 6. Different series of numbers help prevent the duplication of keys and maintain the continuity of locks.

Saving the world, one lock at a time



Jack Crain, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron locksmith, presses caps into the core of a lock, March 6. The caps seal the chamber of the lock, keeping critical components hidden so the lock cannot be picked.

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

(Editor's note: This is part two of a three-part series about the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Heavy Repair section.)

The world's first lock and key was made of wood and used by the Egyptians more than 4,000 years ago. As societies discovered new ways to make locks more sophisticated, criminals unveiled just-as-innovative techniques for picking them.

Luckily Team Whiteman has a lineup of specialists who keep locks, and the assets housed behind them, secure. If an issue with a lock or key arises, locksmiths from the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron structures flight can be called to save the day.

"The locks we create and fix provide security for many facilities that contain classified materials and information," said Jack Crain, 509th CES base locksmith. "Without us, there could be security breaches all over the base. With the impact of Whiteman's mission on the free world, one small infraction could possibly damage our national security."

Crain has been working with the 509th CES as a locksmith for more than 10 years, allowing him to provide a wealth of experience when it comes to maintaining security on the installation.

With unparalleled ability to get into any building anywhere on base at any time, Crain and his team of locksmiths

somewhat resemble base superheroes, because they have great power and responsibility, said Senior Airman David Bandy, 509th CES structures journeyman.

Bandy and Crain are two of five experts in a flight of 33 Airmen and civilians with the requisite training and certifications to perform locksmith duties.

"We attended a month-long school in Kentucky called the Lockmaster School Institute before being entrusted with the duty of keeping facilities on base secure," Bandy said. "If the doors aren't opening, we get them open and make sure they're secure."

The first thing students like Bandy learn when attending the locksmith school is attention to detail, the most critical aspect of lock-smithing, according to Crain.

"You might overlook something if you aren't paying any attention to detail," Crain said. "The last thing you want is to work on a job and get that feeling where all of a sudden you're working against yourself thinking, 'Oh, where'd this go?'"

Paying attention to detail is especially important when accounting for tens of thousands of locks and keys all over the base, said Crain.

"A day in the life of a locksmith could range from something as small as spending a few minutes cutting a key for a customer, to something as big as having to spend hours drilling and cutting into a large vault that won't open," Bandy said.

In addition to the challenge of cutting into vault doors, locksmiths also handle random emergencies that trump

their other duties.

"We get quite a few people on a monthly basis who are locked out of areas that contain secret information," Bandy said. "If their safes are malfunctioning, then they can't perform their missions."

Putting current projects on hold changes the rhythm of daily duties, as the locksmiths have to find a happy medium between quickly alleviating major issues and ensuring routine assignments are still handled in a timely manner, said Bandy.

Ensuring that jobs get done quickly and efficiently requires locksmiths to make their own repairs by collecting older key and lock fragments from older fixtures and reusing them, rather than ordering parts from a civilian company, Bandy said.

"It saves the Air Force a lot of money," Bandy said. "And it also gives us a lot more resources for parts we can use for future repairs."

Bandy said one of the most challenging aspects of making repairs is pinning locks.

"If you have a certain key that you want to fit a lock, you can actually pin the lock to fit to the key, instead of having to create a new locking fixture," Bandy said. "There is a mathematical formula we use to configure keys to match up with doors customers request master keys for."

The locksmiths use basic algebra to design assemblies of keys for facilities that have hundreds of rooms, he said. "It's a useful system that allows master keys and

control keys to blend in sync with one another," Bandy said.

The challenges the lock-smithing unit now face are not just duty-related, however. The Department of Defense's sequestration cuts could erode the base's lock-smithing capabilities if they lose Crain and other civilians who have important positions like his, according to Bandy.

"Jack has years of experience that help younger Airmen out," Bandy said. "He amazes me with how much he knows, because he has a lot of different repair techniques that we haven't learned."

Bandy said having someone as knowledgeable as Crain helps everyone out and it might cost the Air Force more money to get rid of civilians like him than to keep him.

"A lot of items we may not be able to repair, he can because he has worked with a wider variety of different makes and models of locks," said Bandy. "We might have to order new pieces of equipment without him, but his ability to repair and modify certain locks we don't have the experience on is helpful."

From Missouri's freezing winters to the Midwest's scorching summers, the 509th CES locksmiths are always on the go, repairing locks and drilling through vaults to keep Whiteman's mission of nuclear deterrence and global strike operations safe, secure and effective, said Bandy.

"With anything that needs to be secure on this base, you'll need a locksmith," Bandy said. "We have the ability to go anywhere to fix anything."



Senior Airman David Bandy, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron structures journeyman, re-keys a broken lock on a dorm room door, March 6. Bandy and other locksmiths on base are responsible for ensuring all base facilities are both secure and accessible.



Jack Crain, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron locksmith, inspects a key for precision after cutting it, March 6. The depth and spacing of the grooves of keys locksmiths cut must be correct down to a thousandth of an inch or the key will not work.

Firefighter Continued from Page 2

McGee said. The emotional and mental challenges of a profession that requires men and women to run into burning buildings, potentially risking their lives for others, can certainly be difficult, but staying resilient is key.

McGee has worked to develop a mindset that helps him confront the challenges of this career field.

"It's mixed emotions," McGee said. "You're excited to do your job, but you realize someone is losing their property and valuables and sometimes their lives. The best way to describe it is [that] we train for a job the public hopes we never have to do."

A typical day for McGee involves primarily training, as well as completing any tasks that come up throughout the day. Individual shifts are 24 hours on duty followed by 24 hours off, but all personnel are constantly prepared to respond to a call.

"We have a morning meeting to start off the day," McGee said. "We go through and inspect all our equipment, and then we have annual training on a variety of subjects. We stay on our toes at all times, ready for the call to go out to do our job."

McGee is originally from Waterloo, Iowa, and said he enjoys sports and any outdoor activities, including one of the nation's premier firefighting events.

"I enjoy participating in the Firefighter Combat Challenge," McGee said. "It's a national stage to show you are among the fittest firefighters in the world. I also coach youth basketball and football in Warrensburg and I love ATVs, kayaking, camping and really anything to do with the outdoors."

McGee and his wife have two children, and he is working on finishing his degree in fire science sometime this year. He is also waiting to see if he made master sergeant.

McGee hopes to finish his career here at Whiteman, and desires to continue as a firefighter as a civilian.



Tech. Sgt. Corey McGee, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Emergency Services station crew chief, suits up in his full fire suit, March 9. McGee's original goal was to be firefighter, a dream he gets to realize every day.

"I would like to end my career here, but I have no set plan for after retirement," he said. "I'm just going to see what doors open for me at the end."

McGee is known around the fire department as a positive member of the team who helps lead and motivate the rest of the crew.

"McGee is a great influence on the younger Airmen," said Master Sgt. Nathan McNeil, 509th CES Fire Services. "He always has a positive attitude and a 'get it done' mentality."

McGee said he believes it is good to have balance in all aspects of life, and that has helped him succeed throughout his career and life.



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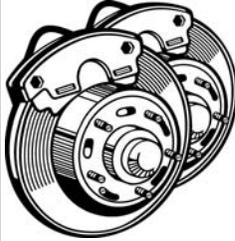
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Whiteman celebrates newest chief master sergeants



Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Herzog, 393rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit superintendent, poses with his wife during the Chief Induction Ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 8, 2013. Herzog joined the Air Force in 1988 as an aircraft guidance systems specialist.



Senior Master Sgt. Ronald Reeves II, 509th Munitions Squadron superintendent, poses with his family during the Chief Induction Ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 8, 2013. Reeves joined the Air Force in 1991 as a munitions systems apprentice.



Senior Master Sgt. Jermey L. Unterseher, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance flight superintendent, poses with his wife during the Chief Induction Ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 8, 2013. Unterseher joined the Air Force in 1995 and has served in the EOD career field since then throughout six assignments.



Senior Master Sgt. Richi Buford, 509th Maintenance Squadron lead production superintendent, poses with his wife during the Chief Induction Ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 8, 2013. Buford joined the Air Force in 1988 as an air ground equipment apprentice.



Chief master sergeants and this year's chief-selects pose for a group shot after the Chief Induction Ceremony held at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 8, 2013. Only 1 percent of all enlisted Airmen ever reach this top rank.



Senior Master Sgt. Richi Buford, 509th Maintenance Squadron lead production superintendent, lights candles during the Chief Induction Ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 8, 2013. The candles represent a chief-select's progression through the ranks.

U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Alexandra Boutte

Whiteman Navy team: Demanding dedication

By Heidi Hunt
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs



U.S. Air Force photo/Heidi Hunt
Petty Officer 2nd Class Jason Bartlett, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Tonja Toumasis, Coastal Riverine Squadron 11, Detachment Alpha 2 electric technician, study U.S. Navy history for an upcoming exam during their drill weekend, Feb. 9. Each reservist must maintain a security clearance, have a passport, be medically fit to fight, have a family care plan ready and be swim-qualified.

Far from any shoreline, settled in the Midwest, the U.S. Navy's Coastal Riverine Squadron 11 is anchored in America's heartland.

More than 70 Sailors, consisting primarily of security specialists and various others career fields, gather at Whiteman monthly to accomplish unit readiness and mission preparedness tasks.

"Coastal Riverine Squadron 11 performs core security missions in regional and coastal waters, bridging the gap between traditional Navy operations and land-based forces," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Allen Brantley, CRS hospital corpsman. "We do this by providing port and harbor security for vital waterways, and protection of high-value assets and maritime infrastructure."

Brantley said their mission also includes anti-terrorism and force protection services.

Not only do the Whiteman Sailors make every effort to put forth their best to maintain readiness, train and be combat-ready; they are also dedicated to being a part of the total force integration team.

"We are a separate identity from the Air Force on base,



U.S. Navy photo/Petty Officer 3rd Class Linda Pauley
Petty Officer 2nd Class Dave Edwards, Coastal Riverine Squadron 11 boatswain's mate, gears up for entry control point training conducted at the Whiteman AFB paintball range in 2012. The team schedules scenarios for exercises designed to keep personnel current on training.

See Navy, page 14

Frontlines Continued from Page 4

and assist in reviewing other non-punitive disciplinary measures, such as letters of reprimand, counseling or admonishment," Gritzmaker said.

Her mission is to assist the staff judge advocates, along with first sergeants and commanders, in the military justice process and in the maintenance of good order and discipline within their units, according to Gritzmaker. In addition to providing military justice support, she volunteers her time as an exercise evaluation team member.

From drafting Article 15 paperwork and reviewing other disciplinary measures, to providing justice support to a composite wing, her deployed mission is very similar to her home station mission at Whiteman. However, her office is a lot smaller, consisting of only five people.

"The best parts about my deployed job are the overall experience and the opportunity travel off base and experience the local culture," Gritzmaker said.

Even though Gritzmaker is enjoying her deployment, there are still things she misses back home.

"I miss my husband and daughter the most," Gritzmaker said. "I was happy I missed all the snow!"

Her leadership also had positive things to say about her contributions while deployed.

"Gritzmaker is the NCO in charge of military justice and handles everything from completing powers of attorney to writing Article 15s," said Master Sgt. Stacy Pierce, Gritzmaker's supervisor. "She personally reviews each disciplinary package that comes into the office and makes sure there is evidence to support the alleged violation.

"She is very professional and an all-around great NCO! She doesn't have to be supervised because she knows what needs to be done and just does it. You know you can count on her."



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NIGHT HOOPS
MARCH 29
7-10PM

Ages 13-18
AF 88 Must be on file

Free basketball for teens
at the Youth Center Gym!
Build Teamwork,
leadership and
discipline in a drug
free environment!

Free Throw Shoot Out & Giveaways!
Free snacks & drink provided!
Sign up by March 27

Find us on facebook!
Whiteman AFB Teen Programs
687-5586

FSS

JOIN US ON FRIDAY 3/22 FOR OUT CASINO NIGHT PARTY AT MISSION'S END!

WELCOME TO Fabulous CASINO NIGHT MISSION'S END
MARCH 22 + 7-10PM

Entrance Price is good for your first \$2000 worth of chips
-After that you can purchase extra for \$5/\$2000 chips

Guests will compete in:
Craps, Roulette, Blackjack, Texas Hold 'Em, Poker, & The Color Wheel.

Whiteman's First Ever Mouse Races:
Come bet and cheer on the Bussiere Bullet, Spalding Speedster, Rodriguez Rocket, Darling Dasher, Can't be Caught Kmon, or the Mach 5 Martignetti

Each \$500 in chips is good for 1 chance to win a prize!

MEMBERS \$5 NON-MEMBERS \$10
Food available for purchase, and drink service will be available directly to your table.

687-4422

FSS

WHITEMAN AFB TEEN CENTER PAINTBALL! IN KANSAS CITY

MARCH 15
AGES 13-18
4-10PM

COST:
\$30 MEMBERS
\$35 NON-MEMBERS

SIGN UP BY MAR. 13

Please wear old layered clothes

BRING EXTRA MONEY FOR DINNER & SNACKS!
SPACES LIMITED & WAIVERS REQUIRED

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK @ WHITEMAN AFB TEEN PROGRAMS

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WAFB WARRIOR BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE Warrensburg/Knob Noster

Register now! Stop in today @ the Youth Center from 9:30am-6:30pm

1st-8th grades will compete in the Glenn Shippy League

T-Ball (ages 5yrs-Kindergarten) and Start Smart (ages 3-4) will held on Whiteman AFB

1st-8th grades \$45 mbrs/\$50 nonmbrs
T-Ball (coed) \$45 mbrs/\$50 nonmbrs
Start Smart (coed) \$25

Families with 3 or more players, ask about our reduced fee scholarship program

Children must have a current physical on file to participate.
Sign Up Now! There are spaces still available!

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Email: YPsports@whiteman.af.mil

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FSS

The FCC hours of operation have changed to: 0900-1300hrs : Please Call 687-5590 for more.

FCC NEWS

FCC Orientation Class:
Receive training to become a licensed Family Child Care provider on Whiteman AFB. The class is approximately one week long and runs from 8am-4pm. The classes are scheduled once 4 applications are received and there is a need for new providers. Providers with chronic health problems are accepted. The program needs providers who are willing to care for infants and children during swing and evening shifts and children with special needs. Stop by the FCC Office for an application or call us for more at 687-5590.

Base Residents:
Doing child care to help support the AF mission? Licensing is not required if your are:
Providing occasional care for a friend or neighbor,
Baby-sitting on an occasional basis for other families,
A teenager doing evening or weekend baby-sitting for families,
Providing child care in the parents' own home.
Parent cooperative where one of the parents provides supervision for other parents' children on an exchange basis and no fees are involved. Providing less than 10 hours of child care a week on an irregular basis. If you are providing child care beyond these opportunities, come to the FCC office to apply prior to participation or call us at 687-5590.

Story Time & Craft

@Whiteman Library
Ages 3-5 - Siblings Welcome

Held on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month, in the Library Meeting Room at 11:30am

509 FSS PAGE EDITOR: KYLE C. HAMRICK
CONTACT US! 687-7929

Navy Continued from Page 11

but we do work with their Security Forces Air- men on occasion," said Petty Officer 1st Class Robert Patterson, CRS 11, Company A, 2nd Platoon operation specialist. "We help out with some base events, such as 'Wings over White- man.'"

The unit executes a demanding mission, re- quiring constant effort from the dedicated mem- bers of their team.

Reserve Sailors are required to be mobiliza- tion-ready at all times, on and off the clock.

"Each reservist must maintain and at all times have a security clearance, government passport, be medically ready, have a family care plan and be second class swim qualified," Brantley said.

"Additionally, most of the requirements are done on their own time and many often dedicate their off-time to be compliant," he said. "All in- formation must be kept up-to-date. And, most importantly, the mindset of the Sailor[s] and their families must be 'ready separation' at all times."

Many of the team members are gunner's mates, masters-at-arms, logistics support per- sonnel, administration support and medical sup- port, said Brantley.

"The demands of being in a unit that is worldwide-deployable, anytime day or



U.S. Navy photo/Petty Officer 3rd Class Linda Pauley Petty Officer 3rd Class Brandon Reznak, Coastal Riverine Squadron 11 gunner's mate, conducts a drill exercise on Petty Of- ficer 3rd Class Tonja Toumasis, CRS 11, De- tachment Alpha 2 electric technician, during a 2012 drill weekend. Sailors received classroom training, experience in manag- ing entry control points and unannounced real-world training scenarios.

night,[are] very high," Patterson said.

In addition to meeting their mobilization- ready demands, reservists must also be weap- ons-qualified. They are required to maintain qualifications on the Beretta M9, M500 shotgun, M4 carbine, M240B machine gun and .50-cal- iber crew-served weapons, to name a few.

The 2nd Platoon just returned from a very successful, year-long deployment providing se-

curity around the world, said Brantley.

Patterson echoed this praise and said it was a successful completion of a deployment to pro- vide anti-terrorism and force protection. Navy support is often provided when host nation sup- port is nonexistent or inadequate.

"I have no doubts that I am surrounded by the best, most able-bodied Sailors in the U.S. Navy," Patterson said.

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www.AG-WBG.org

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www.knobnosterfcc.com

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Warrensburg, MO 64093

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Knob Noster, MO 65336
660.563.2724
knobumc@knumc.com

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WARRIOR

Serving the Whiteman Community

FREE Classified Advertising in the Whiteman Warrior READ ALL RULES BEFORE PLACING AN AD

- 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.
- Ads that don't meet these guidelines will not run. Free advertising is a privilege extended to you by the publisher, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Submissions do not guarantee publication. Publication is on a space available basis.

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