

Tax office set to open, Pg. 3/ AF Hero laid to rest, Pg. 10

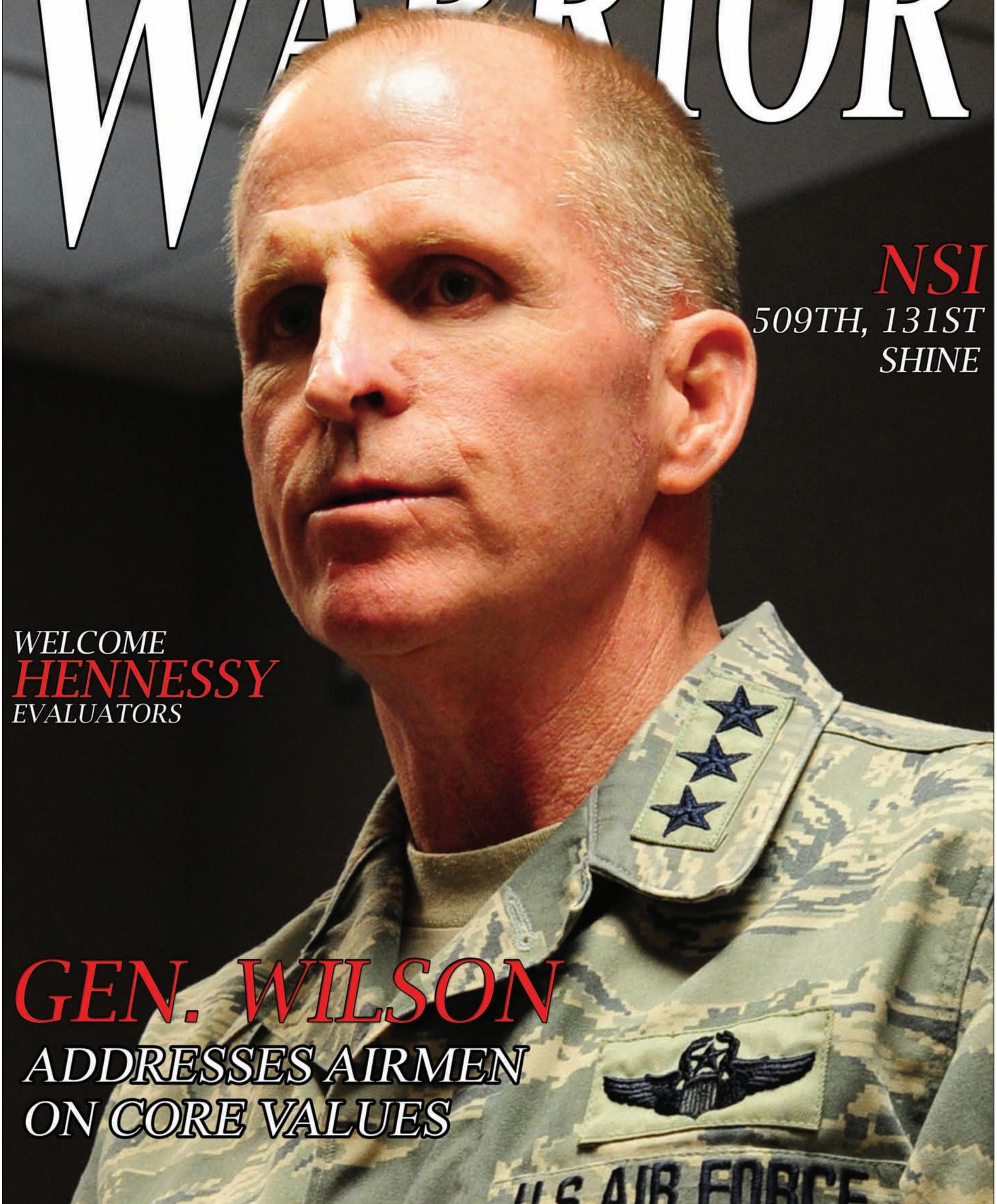
WARRIOR

NSI

509TH, 131ST
SHINE

WELCOME
HENNESSY
EVALUATORS

GEN. WILSON
ADDRESSES AIRMEN
ON CORE VALUES



Living our Air Force Core Values

Strikers,

Upon taking the oath to serve our country, each of you made a commitment to embody our Air Force's core values of Integrity, Service and Excellence. Our profession requires us to not just say those words but to live our Air Force core values.

As you are now aware, OSI found evidence that a missile launch officer at a AFGSC base shared answers to a monthly Missile Launch Officer proficiency test with 16 other officers. We subsequently approached the entire missile crew force at the base, and 17 other officers admitted to at least being aware that the test material had been shared. We don't yet know how, or if, each of those officers used that material. But we do know that none of them reported the incident to their leadership. Regardless of an Airman's level of participation, cheating, or tolerating others who cheat, runs counter to everything we believe in as a service.

It's important to note this incident is not a compromise of the safety, security or effectiveness of nuclear weapons...it's about a compromise of the integrity of our Airmen ... it's about a violation of our #1 core value - "Integrity First."

Your commanders are committed to ensuring you have the weapons, training, tools and knowledge to accomplish the mission. As Airmen, the way you conduct your duties must be a reflection of our Air Force values. Most of our Airmen believe in, abide by, and live our core values -- when we know of those who don't, it takes courage to step up, lead and set the example. Everyone must understand your individual actions directly impact the entire team. Our nuclear mission demands a special trust and responsibility from every single one of our Airmen.

To emphasize our expectations, Secretary James, General Welsh and I will visit every AFGSC wing over the next couple of weeks. Our Nation demands and deserves the highest standards and accountability from the force entrusted with its most powerful weapons.



The greatest Air Force in the world will only remain dominant through your professionalism, dedication and commitment to service -- and living our Air Force core values.

We accomplish an extraordinary mission for our nation every single day. What you do matters, and I am proud to stand with those who serve with integrity and honor.

Lt. Gen. Wilson

It is not just about you anymore

By Senior Master Sgt. Shae Alamo
U.S. Air Forces Central Command
Public Affairs

AL UDEID AIR BASE, Qatar (AFNS) -- I could break out any Air Force Instruction, The Enlisted Force Structure, Air Force Doctrine Document 1-1, or even "The Little Blue Book" of the Air Force Core Values, all of which will tell you how to be the Airman you are supposed to be. All NCO's should know these to make themselves better Airmen and to ensure all Airmen whose paths they cross are moving in the right direction.

I have had people ask me before, "Have you filled all the boxes to become a master sergeant, senior master sergeant and chief master sergeant?" Many have asked me what boxes they need to check to make it to these ranks. The boxes I am referring to are such things as completing your Community College of the Air Force degree, course 14, fitness standards and participation in professional organizations. While these must be met as you prepare to make the next rank, this is not all that needs to be done.

As an Airman, I was working on what I needed to do to be successful. I was not worried about anyone but myself. Once I transitioned into an NCO, I gained Airmen under my watch. I was no longer responsible for just myself, but for others who were following down the same path. This was a learning experience for me, because I was transitioning from an "all-about me mentality" to an "all-about me and the Airmen in my work center" mentality.

I was only worried about my Airmen staying out of trouble, fulfilling their requirements and looking better than everyone else in the accolades department. All the while unbeknownst to me, I was slowly transitioning and evolving as an Airman myself through many mentors, leaders, peers and Airmen that crossed my path. That is when the epiphany hit -- it is not just about you anymore.

As I began transforming into a SNCO, I began reflecting on the good and bad leaders along my career path and what they did that really made an impression on me. I literally created a journal of all these notes, writing down the characteristics that I wanted to have to make me a better Airman. But I also wrote down those characteristics I did not want to inherit. Airmen will quickly tell you of their not-so-good leaders and why they were not so good to them. It too was easy for me to bring these negative traits to light far more quickly than those of the good leaders.

My way of thinking began to change from negativity breeds negativity to positivity breeds positivity. I wanted to be that positive role model that Airmen were going to emulate as well as being their mentor; teaching them how to be great Airmen and leaders who others will follow.

It does not matter whether you are in a one-deep shop over a flight, over an entire squadron or higher; you should always take the time to learn what the agenda and expectations of your leader's leader are. This will guide you in understanding, not only what it takes to ensure the success of your

organization and your leader, but also the ability to explain to your Airmen their role they play in the bigger scheme of things.

Each Airman is vital in ensuring the Air Force mission does not fail. They are dependent upon those leading them to be capable of explaining the importance of their role in the Air Force. No matter what level of responsibility you are at, you affect every single Airman that you come into contact with -- not just those you supervise.

Everyone has heard the phrase, "first impressions are lasting impressions." This is so true as an NCO. Airmen will know if you are in it for yourself and if you are just "filling the blocks" towards promotion. Once again, it is not just about you anymore! Your simplest acts that you do will be noticed. Such things as picking up trash that is in your path, starting a care package program for those deployed, taking the time to ask about families, saying happy birthday or saying hello to everyone you walk by shows you care enough to put forth the effort to make everyone realize their importance.

Be the leader that does not just sit behind a desk, hides behind emails or only checks the blocks for the next rank. There is no way of checking a box when it comes to taking care of Airmen! Be active, be involved and be the individual that leads by example for all Airmen to follow, mentoring them down the right path as they will eventually replace you as the next generation of leaders of our Air Force!

When you take care of the Airmen, you are taking care of the Air Force. It is not just about you anymore.

THE WARRIOR

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The Sedalia Democrat

Layout and Design

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The deadline for article submissions to the **Warrior** is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submissions does not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the **Warrior** office at 660-687-6123, email: Whiteman.Warrior@us.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.

On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson
Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command talks with a noncommissioned officer professional enhancement class about being open to new leadership opportunities during a visit to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014. Air Force Global Strike leadership visited Team Whiteman to congratulate them on a job well done during a recent Nuclear Surety Inspection.

NEWS BRIEFS

Telephone news line set up for retirees

A toll-free telephone news line has been set up for retirees and surviving spouses who do not have computer access.

By calling 1-800-558-1404, retirees and spouses can stay informed using this new easy-to-use menu-driven service. Callers can select from several different topics that are compiled from various electronic news sources.

Topics include pay and annuity matters, medical and health care, and other benefits and entitlements.

New location for Retiree Activities Office

The Retiree Activities Office has officially moved to its new location. Their new address is:

750 Arnold Ave., Ste. 114
Whiteman AFB, MO 65305

They can still be reached at 660-687-6457 or toll-free at 1-800-303-5608. Office hours are still Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.. For updated information, visit <http://www.whiteman.af.mil/units/509thbombwing/whitemanretireeactivitiesoffice/index.asp>.

CCAF GEM Program

Military members avoiding taking classes because of work shifts, deployments or other time constraints have a new program to assist them. Community College of the Air Force degree requirements can be met through distance learning using the CCAF General Education Mobile (GEM), a partnership between CCAF and other schools. For more information call (660) 687-2420.

Air Force Housing Web Site

Visit www.Housing.af.mil to find your new home with the Air Force. This web site serves as a one-stop shop for Airmen and their families to obtain information about the housing options and support services available to them at Air Force bases worldwide.

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.



WEATHER

Today	Saturday
Chance of Snow	Chance of Snow
Hi 31	Hi 29
Lo 24	Lo 20

Sunday	Monday
Mostly Sunny	Partly Sunny
Hi 27	Hi 34
Lo 14	Lo 17

509th, 131st Bomb Wing excel during NSI

By Candy Knight

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The 509th and 131st Bomb Wings recently completed a seven-day Nuclear Surety Inspection at Whiteman Air Force Base.

The NSI is a rigorous and detailed process designed to evaluate the wing's ability to perform its nuclear mission, and the wings earned a "Satisfactory" rating, the highest rating a unit can receive on an NSI.

"What's one word you can think of after hearing that report?" Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander, asked the wing after the inspector general team concluded their briefing. "Wow. Just wow."

During the inspection, inspectors evalu-

ated multiple areas, including operations, maintenance, security and support activities needed to ensure the wing's ability continue as stewards of America's nuclear power.

"On behalf of General Wilson and the entire IG team, congratulations. I have to say, as a recipient of many inspections, I have never seen such a consistent level of superior work across an entire organization," said Col. Douglas Cox, Air Force Global Strike Command inspector general. "The performance of the men and women of the 509th and 131st Bomb Wings during this inspection truly epitomizes the Air Force core value of 'Excellence in All We Do.' The entire nuclear enterprise should be proud to look at these two organiza-

tions."

NSIs are tough to pass, as a typical inspection requires that hundreds of items meet high Air Force standards in order to receive a "Satisfactory" rating. Any items, if they are located in a critical area and do not meet standards, could result in an "Unsatisfactory" rating.

"I have never seen the level of professionalism and excellence you demonstrated without hesitation," Bussiere said. "The persistent, engaged leadership displayed at every level of both our wings was incredible to behold. You need to be very proud of these results. Senior leaders across the nuclear enterprise are going to be studying this inspection for years, looking for ways to duplicate your outstanding results."

TRICARE Walk-in Service Ending April 1, 2014

Keeping up with the rapidly increasing number of TRICARE beneficiaries who most often turn to a laptop or cell phone when they have questions, TRICARE Service Centers (TSCs) will no longer provide walk-in services at 189 TSCs in the Continental United States as of April first.

In Whiteman AFB's ongoing efforts to provide 509th Medical Group beneficiaries the best customer service, beneficiaries will still have a wide variety of secure, electronic customer service options available through www.tricare.mil. The new "I want to..." feature puts everything beneficiaries want to do online right on the front page of www.tricare.mil.

When walk-in service ends April 1, beneficiaries who want personal assistance can call United Healthcare Military & Veterans for enrollment and benefit help at (877) 988-9378. All health

care, pharmacy, dental and claims contact information is located at www.tricare.mil/contactus. Beneficiaries can get 24/7 TRICARE benefit information at www.tricare.mil and make enrollment and primary care manager changes, and more online at www.tricare.mil/enrollment.

Rather than driving to an installation TSC, TRICARE beneficiaries can even combine high-tech with low-tech by downloading health care forms online and sending them in the old fashion way, through the U.S. mail – at a cost of less than 50 cents.

Walk-in customer service is also the most expensive possible customer service option. By eliminating walk-in customer service at TSCs, the Department of Defense estimates savings of approximately \$250 million over five years. The change does not affect TRICARE benefits or health care delivery.

Whiteman Tax Office Opens

By Staff Sgt. Brett S. Berry
509th Bomb Wing Legal Office

It's that time of the year again – time to file income taxes. To help members of Team Whiteman efficiently and effectively get their taxes filed, the base tax office will officially open on Feb. 3, 2014. The first week will be dedicated to processing 1040 EZ returns only. Walk-ins for 1040 EZ filers will be available (no appointment necessary) Feb. 3-7 from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., and every Friday starting at 1:00 p.m. After Feb. 7, the tax office will begin processing tax returns for individuals who meet the criteria listed below by appointment only.

Criteria:
Under \$150K Gross Income



Itemizing (active duty only, bring in last year's return)

Rental properties (E-4 and below, only one rental property, bring in last year's return)

Stocks (No more than 10 transactions)
No home business

Where: Community Center (Behind BX and across from the Ozark Inn)

Phone number: 660-687-6014

Hours: M-F 8 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.

What is needed for tax returns:

Copy of all tax paperwork (W-2)
Social Security cards for all individuals on tax return

Account number and routing number for tax return

Copy of last year tax return (OK not to have them, but will help out with the process)

If you have any questions and to schedule an appointment, please feel free to contact the tax office at 660-687-6014.

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7 p.m.	7 p.m.	3 p.m.
47 Ronin (PG-13)	Grudge Match (PG-13)	Walking With Dinosaurs (PG-13)
Adults - \$5.50, children - \$3.50	Adults - \$5.50, children - \$3.50	Adults - \$5.50, children - \$3.50

Where there's a Will, there's a way

By the 509th Bomb Wing Legal Office

Imagine you have a particular gift you want to give a friend of yours. It might be a special memento, such as an exotic knife or a vacation souvenir – something that has a lot of meaning. You tell your friend you want him to have it, but when the time comes, the government steps in and gives it to someone else. Think of how frustrated you would be! This scenario could play out in reality if you do not have a will.

A will is a document that allows you to determine who gets your property in the event of your death. You can specify exactly who gets what, down to the last cent. It allows you to designate a particular person to handle your affairs after you die. It allows you to provide for your children in the way you see fit, instead of letting a court-appointed person do so.

If you do not have a will, your property will be distributed according to state law. In many cases, state law works just fine. However, you might want more control over how your property is distributed. You might want to give specific items to parents, siblings or friends. You might want some of your property put into a trust to take care of your children. Or you might want to have some of your money go to a favorite church or charity. The options of how to handle your property with a will are almost limitless. Ultimately, with a will, you can direct where your property goes after your death.

The 509th Bomb Wing Legal Office is here to handle the basic will needs of all active-duty,



reserve, guard, and retired Service members and their dependents. The process begins by accessing the Air Force legal assistance website at: <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil/lass/lass.html>. Once there, you fill out a will worksheet and receive a ticket number. Call the Legal Office at 660-687-6809 with your ticket number, and the Legal Office will draft your will and contact you to set up an appointment. During your appointment, you will review your will to ensure it accurately reflects how you want your property to be distributed. Once you are satisfied with your will, the Legal Office will notarize it and you will leave with a peace of mind knowing that you have provided for the care of your family and the disposition of your property.

Questions can be directed to the Legal Office at 660-687-6809. The Legal Office is located at 509 Spirit Blvd., Suite 203, and is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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We remember: WWII POW receives honors



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

Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander, presents a shadow box to retired Chief Master Sgt. Charles Sibert, 8th Air Force World War II veteran, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014. Sibert was held in a prisoner of war camp during WWII for more than 500 days.

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

Air Force Global Strike Command and 509th Bomb Wing leadership surprised retired U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Charles Sibert with a shadow box presentation at Whiteman Air Force Base, Jan. 24, 2014.

A World War II veteran, Sibert was held as a prisoner of war in Germany and was missing in action for 548 days before being rescued by U.S. forces.

“Brig. Gen. Bussiere and I met Sibert during the 2013 POW/MIA 24-Hour Run this past September,” said Chief Master Sgt. Lee Barr, 509th Bomb Wing command chief. “While speaking with Sibert, he talked about his experience as a POW. It was then he showed the general and me his DD Form 214 and said he never got any of his medals when he retired from the Air Force.”

Upon finding out Sibert never received any medals from the Air Force, Barr and Bussiere assured the WWII veteran they would take care of it for him, Barr said.

“I got with MSgt. Dawn Couey from the Force Support Squadron and she validated all the chief’s medals and ordered them for us,” Barr said. “Giving Chief Sibert individual medals didn’t seem to be enough, so the general and I decided a shadow box would be the right thing to do. [Tech. Sgt.] Cathy Lauseng, my command chief assistant, was vital to making that happen.”

Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, Air Force Global Strike Command commander, and Maj. Gen. Scott Vander Hamm, 8th Air Force commander, were also in attendance for the presentation, which was quite timely, as Sibert was assigned to the 96th Bomb Group under 8th Air Force.

“It was fitting to have Air Force Global Strike Command

Commander Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson (also the former 8th Air Force commander), Maj. Gen. Scott Vander Hamm (current 8th Air Force commander), and Brig. Gen. Bussiere do the presentation,” Barr said.



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

Maj. Gen. Scott Vander Hamm, 8th Air Force commander; Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command; Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander; Chief Master Sgt. Terry West, 8th AF command chief; and Chief Master Sgt. Lee Barr, 509th BW command chief, present retired Chief Master Sgt. Charles Sibert with a shadowbox commemorating his service and accomplishments, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014. The ceremony provided leadership the chance to officially recognize Sibert’s outstanding service to the nation during his time as an Airman.

In addition to attending the ceremony recognizing Sibert, Wilson and Vander Hamm visited to congratulate Team Whiteman on a job well done during a recent Nuclear Surety Inspection. A group of civic leaders also toured Whiteman the same day to learn about the installation, military culture and the 509th BW’s unique mission.

“The other incredible opportunity was having all the AFGSC civic leaders there to witness the presentation,” Barr said. “They were honored to be there for Chief Sibert.”

It was truly important for Bussiere to tie the heritage of the past -- 8th Air Force Warrior-Airmen -- with that of the present, Barr said.

“Without the heroics of Chief Sibert and his generation, there would not be an 8th Air Force with such a distinguished, heralded past,” Barr said.

For Barr, it was important to make the shadow box a reality after meeting Sibert at the POW/MIA run.

“I also wanted all the chief master sergeants on base to see an American hero up close and personal,” Barr said. “It was an awesome experience having all the chiefs and chief-selects there with Chief Sibert and his family.”

Whether supporting Airmen serving today, or honoring veterans of the world wars, it is important to pay respect to veterans of all ages.

“First, they have paid a price to secure all our freedoms,” Barr said. “Second, without their selfless sacrifice, America would not be what she is today! Veterans from all our wars have made that possible; our children and generations to come owe them a huge debt that we will never be able to repay.”

Sibert’s family also attended the ceremony.

“Everything my grandpa said to me was significant,” said Tech. Sgt. Kimberly Stone, 442nd Maintenance Group training manager and Sibert’s granddaughter. “He laughed, he cried, and he was proud. He doesn’t think of himself as a hero. Gen. Bussiere and Chief Barr made him feel like one and I truly believe he deserves that. The whole ceremony was truly a blessing for our family.”

One unique aspect of Sibert’s story was the fact that he was still a teenager when serving on the frontlines for his country, Barr said.

“He was just 19 years old when he went on his first mission, and was shot down and captured as a POW on his second mission,” Barr said. “He had a girlfriend back home, who later became his wife. Suddenly, you realize it was a bona fide love story.”

As a walking, breathing representation of Air Force history, Sibert leaves a footprint on the hearts and minds of those who hear his story.

“When he tells the story of bailing out of his B-17 and an enemy aircraft tips his wing and salutes him instead of shooting him down, then you get it,” Barr said. “You get just how special it is that Chief Sibert is still among us—a true hero!”

Gen. Myers addresses UCM



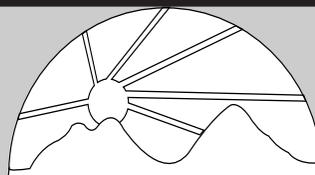
U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry

Retired Gen. Richard Myers, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, gives a lecture at the University of Central Missouri as part of the Servant Leadership Lecture series, Warrensburg, Mo., Jan. 22, 2014. The Servant Leadership Lecture series is an on-going series sponsored by Whiteman Air Force Base and UCM, and features speakers who reflect both organizations' shared values of service and leadership. Watch our Facebook page and UCM's website for details on the next lecture!

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- Chamber of Commerce**—2nd Thurs. of each month. Call Husineh Curts @ 660-238-6201 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 • Every Mon. Noon - Bldg. 3007, Behind Chapel "The Old Housing Office" at WAFB
- 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, Peter Blaszczyk, 660-563-6333
- Cub Scouts** - Pack 405 Bill Sander 687-1154
- Cub Scouts** - Pack 509 Methodist Church
- Girl Scouts** - Jo Ellen Elwell 563-3514
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James sworn-in by Hagel

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Deborah Lee James, the 23rd secretary of the Air Force, was ceremoniously sworn in by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel at the Pentagon Jan 24.

Hagel called James well suited to lead the Air Force as the nation faces an increasingly uncertain security environment.

"The rise of emerging powers, dangerous rogue states, affiliated terrorist organizations, and the proliferation of technology will mean more contested and complicated domains, from space to cyber to sea lanes," he said.

Hagel noted that James has spent the last 30 years serving on the staff of the House Armed Services Committee, at the Pentagon, where she served three secretaries of defense, as well as in the private sector. Her approach, he said, "has been to understand the problems and opportunities, listen carefully, and then act decisively." This, he added, will make her a success leading the Air Force.

At today's ceremony, Hagel said he, James and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III are deeply concerned "about the overall health and professionalism and discipline of our strategic forces," and called the problems facing the new Air Force secretary daunting. But he credited James with a "swift, decisive and thoughtful response," to the matter after she visited missile bases around the country in recent days. Even so, he said, "restoring confidence in the nuclear mission will be a top priority."

James, who was officially sworn in as

secretary last month, thanked her family, friends and mentors for their support along the way.

"I owe a deep debt of gratitude to everyone who has been a source of support to me," said James. "As our former Secretary of State, Senator, and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton famously wrote, 'It takes a village.' Well, look around you, for you are the village of my life. I am humbled and grateful that you are with me."

From the start, James' focus has been on people.

"Our Airmen form the foundation of all we do," said James. "Over the last few weeks, I have been able to look into the eyes of young Airmen who stand sentinel for our country. I have heard the pride in our Airmen's voices, the pride they have in their profession and as members of the United States Air Force."

James pledged to leave the Air Force some years from now on a path toward greater capability and better affordability, but cautioned the service will continue to face difficult challenges and trade-offs brought on by shrinking budgets. She recognized that this is no easy feat, but is optimistic none the less.

"I have such respect and appreciation for the Air Force's great leadership team and for the remarkable dedication and boundless energy our Airmen bring to the task every day," said James. "Clearly, we have a lot of work ahead of us. But there's no time to lose, and I'm eager to get started. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the 23rd Secretary of the Air Force."

Defending Whiteman's Hennessey title



U.S. Air Force photo/509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs
Whiteman Airmen line up for lunch at the award-winning Ozark Inn, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. This year, Whiteman's Force Support Squadron will be defending their 2013 Hennessey title.

By the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office

It's 2014 and the 509th Force Support Squadron's food service professionals are ready to compete in the annual Hennessey Trophy contest. The Hennessey is the pinnacle of Air Force food services, quite literally the shining proof that a base's dining facilities have beaten out all the competition.

Last year, Whiteman's food service team won the award not only for best food service in Air Force Global Strike Command, but also for best in the Air Force, and this year they are looking to defend their title.

"We were extremely honored to find out we were the AFGSC nominee to compete again this year for this prestigious award," said Maj. Chip Hollinger, 509th Force Support Squadron commander. "We were humbled by last year's Air Force level win

and look forward to competing against the other MAJCOM winners during this year's evaluation. It is both an honor and a privilege to lead and serve with this talented group of young men and women."

The Hennessey inspector team arrives Feb. 4, and the food services flight is ready and waiting to impress.

"The entire food services team is super excited about the opportunity to showcase our food service program again this year," said 2nd Lt. Elisabeth Mellado, 509th FSS food service officer.

"Our Airman love what they do and it shows day in and day out by the level of professionalism each bring to fight every day. There is nothing more rewarding than to share some of the numerous comment cards provided by our guests that validate our dedication to providing first class service and quality and nutritious meals," she said.

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Gen. Wilson visits Whiteman

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

Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, and Maj. Gen. Scott Vander Hamm, 8th Air Force commander, visited Airmen at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014, to congratulate them on a job well done during a recent Nuclear Surety Inspection and address current issues affecting the Air Force.

Wilson's tour began with a visit to the Professional Development Center, where he met with staff sergeants in the NCO Professional Enhancement Course and senior airmen attending Airman Leadership School. During both visits, Wilson spoke about the importance of core values, the significance of the nuclear mission, force management and enlisted performance reports.

Wilson also visited the 509th Medical Group, where he was briefed by Airmen from clinics that played a major role in the recent Nuclear Surety Inspection. The 509th Security Forces Squadron's combat arms section

provided Wilson a tour and familiarization with the M4, M9 and M240B, while the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron's snow removal and heavy equipment section demonstrated their scope of operations.

Wilson concluded his visit with a base-wide all-call, where he congratulated Airmen on a job well done during the NSI, provided Team Whiteman with his four priorities for the command and encouraged Airmen to grow as leaders.

During the all-call, Wilson also discussed having a safe, secure and effective nuclear force, how Airmen play a key role in winning the fight and how supervisors can build and empower the team.

"When we say 'safe, secure and effective,' the American public really demands that," Wilson said.

Wilson called upon Airmen at all levels, especially supervisors, to "build the bench," that is, focus on training those under their command to be proficient not only as technical experts in their field, but also as leaders.

"Congratulations on a world-class inspection," Wilson said.



Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, speaks to Airmen from the 509th Bomb Wing during an all-call at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014. Air Force Global Strike leadership visited Team Whiteman to congratulate them on a job well done during a recent Nuclear Surety Inspection.



Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, shares a laugh with Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander, during a combat arms tour at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014. Air Force Global Strike leadership visited Team Whiteman to congratulate them on a job well done during a recent Nuclear Surety Inspection.



Staff Sgt. Michael Boutte, 509th Security Forces assistant NCO in charge of combat arms, briefs M9 firing instructions to Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, during a visit to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014. Air Force Global Strike leadership visited Team Whiteman to congratulate them on a job well done during a recent Nuclear Surety Inspection.



Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, speaks to Airmen from the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron snow removal and heavy equipment shop during a visit to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014. Air Force Global Strike leadership visited Team Whiteman to congratulate them on a job well done during a recent Nuclear Surety Inspection.



Master Sgt. Matthew Morris, 131st Medical Group medical treatment facility personnel reliability program monitor is coined by Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, during a visit to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2014. Air Force Global Strike leadership visited Team Whiteman to congratulate them on a job well done during a recent Nuclear Surety Inspection.

U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson

AF lays to rest an 'American hero'



U.S. Air Force photo/Jim Varhegy

Pall bearers from the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard fold the flag which draped the casket of Brig. Gen. Robinson "Robbie" Risner during his interment ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., Jan. 23, 2014. Risner was the Air Force's 20th Ace and survived seven and a half years of captivity as a prisoner of war (POW) in Hoa Lo Prison, more commonly known as the Hanoi Hilton, during the Vietnam War.

By Staff Sgt. David Salantri
Air Force Public Affair Agency

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Friends, family members, political leaders, former prisoners of war and Service members paid their respects as an Air Force Ace was interred at Arlington National Cemetery Jan. 23.

Brig. Gen. Robinson "Robbie" Risner, a Korean War fighter ace and Vietnam prisoner of war, died Oct. 22, 2013 at Bridgewater Retirement Community in Bridgewater, Va., at the age of 88.

"America has lost one of its greatest heroes," said Ross Perot, a close friend of Risner, during the service at the Memorial Chapel on Fort Myer, Va.

Though Risner's life on earth has ended, his flying legacy lives on, Perot said, speaking about how Risner passed on his aviation wings for both Perot's son and grandson to wear.

"Robbie approved that my son Ross could pin Robbie's wings on my grandson," said Perot. "Can you imagine what that meant?"

Perot went on to share anecdotes from throughout Risner's celebrated career, describing him as an "Oklahoma cowboy" who was hero and a friend, whose "love of God and love of country what was got him through seven and a half years as a prisoner of war."

But for many other POWs, they credited their survival to Risner's leadership.

"When the POWs came home from Vietnam, time and time again, I'd hear them say 'if it hadn't been for Robbie Risner, I wouldn't have made it,'" Perot said, sharing a particular moment that defined Risner's character.

While imprisoned in Vietnam, Risner gathered fellow POWs for a church service -- something that was strictly prohibited. While the troops were singing the song "Onward Christian Soldiers," guards rushed in, taking Risner and two other leaders to what Perot referred to as "the box," a place of solitary confinement.

When this occurred, "more than 40 POWs stood proudly, some of whom are here today,

and sang a strictly forbidden song, the Star Spangled Banner," Perot recalls. "How's that for guts?"

Upon Risner's return from the POW camp, Perot asked him, "'Robbie, what was going on in your mind as they dragged you back to the box?' He looked me in the eye. His eyes were twinkling. He said 'Perot, with those guys singing the Star Spangled Banner, I was nine feet tall. I could have gone bear hunting with a stick!'"

That moment and his words are reflected by a statue, exactly 9 feet high, that now stands at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Perot, a Navy veteran, closed with the note that "when you arrive at the pearly gates in Heaven, you will be warmly greeted by the United States Marines, guarding the gates."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III added to the humor of Perot's remarks.

"I hope the Marines in Heaven know where the officer's club is," Welsh said. "Because that's where all the fighter pilots are going to be waiting for him."

Welsh spoke to the audience about Risner, as someone Airmen should look up to.

"He's one of the greatest American Airmen ever," Welsh said. "It's really just that simple."

Welsh spoke about how Risner's life and legend means something different to everyone in the audience.

"He's an icon, he's a founding father ... a member of that special generation who did fight in three wars, built an Air Force, and showed us exactly what courage looks like. An American hero."

Members of the 336th Fighter Squadron, from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., his unit during the Korean War were also in attendance.

"He's everything they want to be ... a legendary fighter pilot," Welsh said.

Addressing Risner's fellow POWs in attendance, Welsh said, "I can't imagine what he meant to you ... I just can't even imagine.

"What some of you have told me is that he was a leader and a role model at a time in your life when you needed one terribly ... a man that somehow maintained his human dignity, his character and his moral strength," Welsh said. "They say they saw his conviction that they could survive, would survive ... and they believed, because he believed. Gentlemen, I'm so sorry that your brother is gone."

Welsh addressed other groups of people, Airmen past and present, individuals who were privileged to have known Risner over the years.

"To the people of this Nation, he was a noble idea ... a comforting thought ... the reassuring knowledge that there will always be those willing to answer the bugle's call ... to sacrifice more than they have any right to ask, to dare

greatly ... to risk everything, to fight and die on their behalf," Welsh said, "He's who all of them hope they would be."

But most importantly, to his wife, Dorothy, he was "just the man I loved. That's the real celebration today," Welsh said, addressing the many family members in attendance. "Your husband, your dad, your grandfather, your brother ... was a remarkable man."

Risner is survived by Dorothy, six children and their spouses: Timothy Risner, Daniel and Page Risner, Dana and Gregory Duyka, Deborah and Michael Darrell, David and Pamela Risner, DeAnna and Timothy Parker, and 14 grandchildren. He leaves behind one sister and her spouse, Peggy and Norman Goldstein, and one sister-in-law Jean Risner.

FSS scores intramural championship over AMXS



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Ben Halaszynski, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Dragons' team member, and Anthony Vick, 509th Force Support Squadron team member, battle for possession at the tip-off of the Whiteman intramural basketball championship game at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo, Jan. 22, 2014. The two teams played head-to-head to determine the best in the intramural league.



Mike Smith, 509th Force Support Squadron team member, shoots a lay-up during the Whiteman intramural basketball championship game against the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Dragons. Smith's game-play assisted in keeping the team in the lead and seizing the championship.



The 509th Force Support Squadron intramural basketball team holds up Jenaih Cooks, 2-year-old daughter of Senior Airman Laketha Cooks, 509th FSS, as they celebrate winning the Whiteman intramural basketball championship game. The 509th FSS defeated the 509th AMXS, 65-53.

U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Dana Morgan

NCO earns Top III MVP Award



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

Staff Sgt. Jennifer Tucek, 495th Fighter Group (AA), Detachment 303 commander support staff, is presented with the Top III MVP Award at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Jan. 24, 2013. Some accomplishments that contributed to her award include being the Spirit of America Toastmasters president, manually processing vouchers for the Army Jaded Thunder temporary duty and leading the charge for an annual total force integration party as the Det. 303 Booster Club president.

Experienced Airmen wanted: Continue your career in the Reserve

By Master Sgt. Shawn J. Jones
Air Force Reserve Command
Recruiting Service

Force management programs will push thousands of active-duty Airmen out of their jobs this coming year, but opportunities exist in the Air Force Reserve for Airmen who do not want to hang up their uniforms for good.

“Force management will cost many Airmen their jobs, but not necessarily their careers,” said Col. Steve Fulaytar, the Air Force Reserve’s director of recruiting. “They can continue their service as Citizen-Airmen.”

Reserve service provides a benefits package highlighted by programs familiar to most Airmen, such as tuition assistance, the Post 9-11 G.I. Bill and the opportunity to work toward a military retirement plan. Additionally, low-cost healthcare insurance is available to most reservists at significantly lower rates than comparable plans, and enlistment bonuses are available for some career fields at specific duty locations.

Airmen transitioning into the Reserve stand to receive many benefits, but they also provide plenty of benefits themselves. New Citizen Airmen who have active-duty experience are valuable to Reserve units because they are mission-ready.

“When an active-duty Airman decides to continue his or her career in the Reserve, everyone wins,” Col. Fulaytar said. “The Airman retains the benefits of continued service, the Reserve gains an Airman who can

contribute immediately and the regular Air Force has one less Airman that must be involuntarily separated.”

One key difference between active and Reserve service is that Citizen Airmen will not have to relocate to suit the needs of the Air Force. Many reservists spend the majority of their career with one unit and only agree to a permanent change of station when the timing is right for them.

Airmen who are ready to separate do not have to wait until their original enlistment or commission obligation is complete. The Palace Chase program enables Airmen to separate from their active enlistment or commission as long as they continue their service with the Reserve component.

Airmen should be aware the recruiting process is somewhat different from when they joined the active-duty Air Force. Once Airmen are deemed eligible for Reserve service, they must work with an in-service recruiter to locate a duty location and position that meet their needs.

“Our Reserve units love fully qualified Airmen who can hit the ground running,” Fulaytar said. “But finding duty positions for new recruits takes time, so they can help themselves by contacting their in-service recruiter as soon as possible.”

The in-service recruiter at Whiteman Air Force Base is MSgt. Stephen A. Thomas. More information is available at www.afreserve.com and www.facebook.com/airforcereserve.

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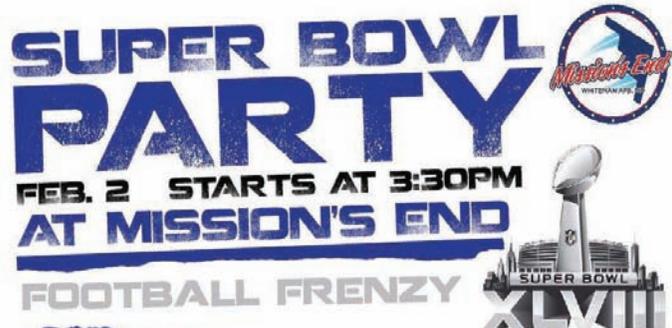
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PHOTO OF THE MONTH CONTEST!

Compete in our photo of the month contest, every month simply submit a funny, heart warming, impactful, etc. photo at an FSS event during the month. After the submission to our email: whitemanmarketing@gmail.com, we will post it into our facebook album "Photo Of The Month", and whoever receives the most likes that month, will walk away with a \$25 FSS Gift Card!

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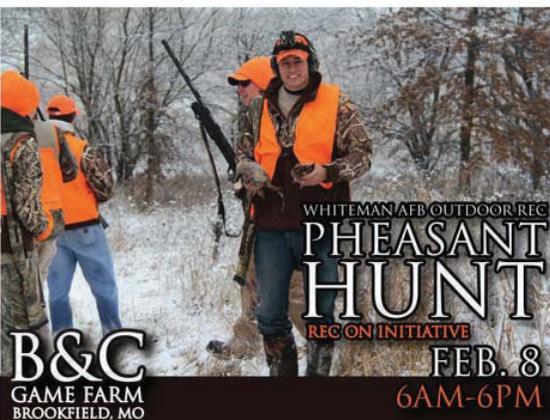


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WATCH THE BIG GAME AT MISSION'S END!

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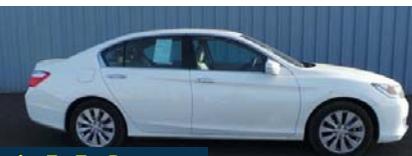
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