

SSgt testing rescheduled, Pg. 3/ CSAF offers insight, Pg. 12

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Defying odds, defining a nation: Presidents' Day

By Senior Airman Lacie Carmody
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

With the fast-paced lifestyle we in the military are accustomed to, it's sometimes easy to forget about the history of this nation, and the strategic moves of the men who made such a place possible.

On the third Monday in February we celebrate Presidents' Day in honor of the birthday of both George Washington and later on, Abraham Lincoln. Though we are all familiar with the stories of these two men, what is easy to forget is how gifted each man was when it came to strategy, on and off the battlefield.

Both men led our nation during dark times, rearing us out of infantilism, and molding us into the world power we are today. They have little in common aside from the position in which they served, and the way the odds were stacked against them in their endeavors, both showed that great leaders are often born from the harshest of challenges.

George Washington was the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War, and led the charge against the British for our independence. His tactics were not without error during his time in uniform. This did not deter him however, and he and his troops persevered, crossed the Delaware, and eventually secured victory at Yorktown. His vision for our nation helped shape our Constitution and the freedoms those of us in uniform have sworn to protect.

Abraham Lincoln, our sixteenth president, led our nation through not only the bloodiest conflict in our history, but a time where both our morals and Constitution fell into a crisis of uncertainty. Though his time in the military came well before the Civil War, his battlefield prowess followed him into office and ultimately influenced his political maneuvering. He rallied



Emanuel Leutze

Washington Crossing the Delaware -- currently housed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.

members of the Union during the Gettysburg Address to fight on, and later, encouraged members of Congress to pass the Thirteenth Amendment.

Presidents' Day is set aside for us to remember two former leaders whose impact on our nation helped shape our values today. They proved that strategy, resilience and determination can be found in the darkest of places if you maintain the correct mindset.

We who wear the uniform and swear to protect this nation continue to carry the legacy and ideals of those who came before us. Each day that our hearts are full, and our faith unwavering, we channel the spirit and vision of these men, proving America and her military will not be deterred, no matter the challenges that lay before us.

Overcoming barriers: African-American women in the military

Commentary by Candy Knight
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The reasons behind America's Civil War and why people fought are numerous. For one woman, freedom was the only reason needed.

While working for the Union Army as cook and nurse, she was also an armed scout and spy. In fact, she would become the first woman to lead an armed expedition in the war when she guided the Combahee River Raid, which liberated more than 700 slaves in South Carolina.

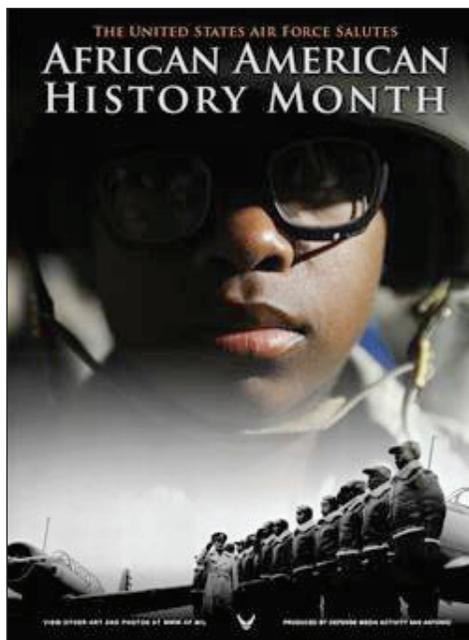
This woman was none other than Araminta Harriet Ross, better known as Harriet Tubman, the "Moses" of her people, the Underground Railroad conductor who "never lost a passenger."

Harriet Tubman may have been the first woman to lead an armed expedition in the Civil War, but she was not the only black woman to serve. During the Civil War, as the number of enlisted black soldiers rose, many of their female family members also found work with the Army as nurses or in support occupations such as medical services, laundry and cooking.

One such hero was Susie King Taylor, a Civil War nurse, cook and laundress, who was raised a slave in Georgia.

King wrote in her diary, "I was very happy to know my efforts were successful in camp, and also felt grateful for the appreciation of my service ... I was glad, to be allowed to go with the regiment, to care for the sick and afflicted comrades."

It is important to remember that in this day when we struggle with budget cuts and sequestration, King served for four years and three



U.S. Air Force graphic

months, never receiving any payment or recognition for her service.

During World War II many of the bans and racial quotas in the military were eliminated and black women began serving in different occupations, such as the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, the Women's Army Corps, and the Navy Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service. The first two black WAVES officers, Harriet Ida Pikens and Frances Wills, were sworn in Dec. 22, 1944. On March 9, 1945, Phyllis Daley became the first black commissioned Navy nurse.

Since the Korean and Vietnam wars, and continuing today, black women have reached

some of the highest ranks in the military -- women such as Margaret E. Bailey, who became the first black nurse promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Army Nurse Corps on July 15, 1964. She would later become the first black female colonel.

On Sept. 1, 1979, Hazel W. Johnson achieved another first for black women when she became the first black woman promoted to the general officer ranks. And let's not forget that in 1997, Army Sergeant Danyell Wilson became the first black woman to earn what is considered the most prestigious job in the military -- guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Nor should we forget how in March of 2003, Captain Vernice Armour, United States Marine Corps, became the first black female combat pilot when she flew with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 during the invasion of Iraq.

Unlike the days of the Civil War or World War II, in today's military, there are no barriers preventing women from serving in various positions or occupations, particularly since the ban on women serving in combat roles was officially lifted in 2013. Former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta once stated that women have become an "integral part" of the military, and have demonstrated their willingness to fight.

Although my commentary focused on the accomplishments of African-American women in the military, women of all races must never forget the struggles of our predecessors and the doors they opened for us in our military.

THE WARRIOR

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The Sedalia Democrat

Layout and Design

Published by the Sedalia Democrat, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Whiteman Air Force Base.

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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
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Ed Borgstadt, 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion operations NCO in charge, smiles as he meets his three-week-old grandson for the first time following the unit's welcome-home ceremony. Borgstadt returned home after a year-long deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

NEWS BRIEFS

509th MUNS schedules stockpile inventory

The 509 Munitions Squadron will be conducting a 100% stockpile inventory during the 3th-7th of March 2014. If you need any munitions issued or have any that need to be turned in, please do so either the week prior or after the inventory. During this week we will only process emergency requests, submitted in writing, and approved by the group commander (or equivalent). If you have any questions or concerns please contact MSgt Smith at 687-8049 or TSgt Bowlin at 687-8051.

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/whiteman-retireeactivitiesoffice/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.

2014 National Prayer Breakfast next week!

By Airman 1st Class Joel Pfiester
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Whiteman Air Force Base will host the annual National Prayer Breakfast Feb. 19 at 8 a.m. at Mission's End.

The theme of this year's event is, "Unless the Lord Build the House," and will feature Air Force Ch. Col. Gerald McManus, Air Force Global Strike Command's command

chaplain, as the guest speaker. As the command chaplain, he advises and represents the AFGSC commander on all aspects of the chaplain corps mission.

The prayer breakfast celebration began during World War II when a small group of congressmen and their staffs began meeting for prayer and Bible study. Today the National Prayer Breakfast is held in Washington D.C., and is sponsored by the

U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives prayer groups. The purpose of the occasion is to bring together the leadership of the United States in recognition of the moral and spiritual values upon which our nation was founded.

Tickets cost \$5 and include a full breakfast. For more information or to sign up, contact the base chapel at (660) 687-3562.

Roaring overhead at Red Flag



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Thomas Spangler
A B-2 Spirit takes off during Red Flag 14-1, Jan. 28, 2014, at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. The B-2 is a multi-role bomber capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions. Red Flag gives Airmen an opportunity to experience realistic, stressful combat situations in a controlled environment to increase their combat readiness and effectiveness. The B-2 is assigned to the 13th Bomb Squadron at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

SSgt promotion test rescheduled for April 1-May 16

By Debbie Gildea
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas (AFNS) -- To ensure senior airmen selected for promotion to staff sergeant do not meet the enlisted retention board, the Air Force will move the testing window up from May 1-June 15 to April 1-May 16, Air Force Personnel Center officials said today.

"We have assured Airmen selected for promotion that they will not meet the ERB," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael McGuirt, of AFPC enlisted promotions. "Moving the testing window up will allow individuals to test and allow us time to process scores, run selects before the ERB board begins and remove selects from the ERB eligible list."

Changing the testing window for the promotion cycle could prevent as many as 10,000 records from being unnecessarily reviewed by the ERB, McGuirt said.

"We've coordinated with all the affected organizations to ensure study references are available and test booklets will be printed and delivered to testing locations in time for the April 1 start date," he said.

The enlisted retention program is one of several fiscal 2014 expanded force management programs that have been or will be implemented this year, said Lt. Col. Rick Garcia, the AFPC retirements and separations branch chief. The board will review records of senior airmen in overmanned career fields who have a Jan. 1, 2013, or earlier date of rank.

Senior airmen must have three years time in service and six months time in grade to be eligible to test for promotion to staff sergeant, so some of the Airmen eligible to meet the ERB will also be eligible to test for staff sergeant. Approximately 36,000 senior airmen are eligible to test for staff sergeant in the spring test cycle.

For more information about promotions, force management programs and other personnel issues, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>



WEATHER

Today Partly Sunny Hi 37 Lo 27	Saturday Partly Sunny Hi 48 Lo 18
Sunday Mostly Sunny Hi 45 Lo 25	Monday Chance of Rain Hi 53 Lo 37

Diamond Sharp!



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry Staff Sgt. Landon Sifferlin, 509th Maintenance Squadron avionics back shop team leader, is the recipient of the Diamond Sharp Award for January, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Sifferlin single-handedly revamped the flight training program, which included managing TBA, revising the flight training policy, and scheduling of all ancillary training. He assisted with the Maintenance Professional of the Year breakfast burrito sale and is an active member of the MXS booster club.

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Weekly Fire Prevention Safety Tip

By Tech. Sgt. Chris Gunn
509th Civil Engineer Squadron

Winter is sticking around a little while longer and that means that risk of carbon monoxide poisoning has increased. Did you know a person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a long period of time, or by a large amount of CO over a short amount of time?

Here are some safety tips from the National Fire Protection Association to help prevent CO poisoning:

- Always test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instruction.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors, or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call

for help (# 911) from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive.

- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motors indoors, even if garage doors are open.
- Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO — only use outside.

Whiteman AFB Fire Emergency Services would like you and your family to be safe this winter season. If you have any questions about fire prevention or fire safety, contact our Fire Prevention/Public Fire Education Office at 687-6080/6083/6374.

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Session 3b April 21 - May 22
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Adults - \$5.50, children - \$3.50

Team Whiteman goes for the gold in Hennessy competition

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



Airmen 1st Class Amy Klaviter and Elizabeth Morgan, food services specialists from the 509th Force Support Squadron, share a bow after providing a mission brief to Hennessy Team evaluators at Mission's End at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Feb. 5, 2014. The Hennessy team visits different dining facilities throughout the Air Force and inspects a variety of items to determine the best food service in the Air Force. The 509th FSS was named the 2013 John L. Hennessy Trophy winner, which is awarded to the Air Force's best food service unit.



Airman 1st Class Emily Klaviter, 509th Force Support Squadron food service specialist, was recognized as a top performer by the Hennessy Evaluation team at the Ozark Inn dining facility. She also received the Hennessy Traveler's Association Award of Excellence and was given an opportunity to participate in a course at the Culinary Arts Institute of America in Greystone, Calif.



Brig. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing commander, briefs Hennessy Team evaluators on the in-flight meal experience during their visit to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. After the brief, Bussiere gave evaluators a tour of a B-2 Spirit.



Airman 1st Class Emily Klaviter, 509th Force Support Squadron food service specialist, washes her hands while being inspected by Hennessy Team evaluators Joe DeRossa and Jara Allen at the Ozark Inn dining facility. The inspectors evaluated the Whiteman food services team on cleanliness, food quality, employee and customer relations, resource conservation and safety awareness, among many other criteria.



Airman 1st Class Emily Klaviter, 509th Force Support Squadron food service specialist, is presented with the Hennessy Traveler's Association Award of Excellence by Hennessy Team evaluators, Jara Allen and Joe DeRossa, at the Royal Oaks Golf Course in Knob Noster, Mo., Feb. 6, 2014. Each year the Hennessy Team chooses one enlisted member from a dining facility they visit to participate in a class at the Culinary Arts Institute of America in Greystone, Calif. Klaviter received the award because she was recognized as a superior performer during the inspection.



Maj. Chip Hollinger, 509th Force Support Squadron commander, serves a birthday meal to an Airman during a Hennessy Team inspection at the Ozark Inn dining facility. The Hennessy Team also visited the Touch-and-Go flight kitchen and received a tour of a B-2 Spirit as part of their two-day visit to Whiteman.

January 2014 Courts-Martial, Article 15s and Discharges

In January 2014, 14 members were punished under Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), one member was sentenced by court-martial and one member was administratively discharged from the Air Force.

COURT-MARTIAL RESULT: US V. AMN ANTONIO LOVE

During a recent Special Court-Martial at Whiteman AFB, Amn Antonio Love (509 AMXS) was charged with use of cocaine and marijuana, and possession of spice. At his trial on Jan. 15, 2014, Love chose to be tried before military judge alone. He pled guilty to all charges and was sentenced to a bad conduct-discharge, reduction to the grade of Airman Basic, and two months confinement.

Evidence against Love existed in the form of seized paraphernalia, witness testimony, and positive drug test results. This case demonstrates that evidence of illegal drug use can be obtained from a number of sources - not just the urinalysis program. The Air Force has so many options to uncover, investigate, and prosecute illegal drug use; it is surprising we see any drug cases at all. However, some seem to think the fleeting sensation of a drug's effect are a fair trade for honorable service to their country, and for the benefits afforded to honorably discharged veterans. Prosecuting those few who choose to abuse drugs helps preserve the honor and distinction of the service of those who do the right thing, which is the great majority of Airmen.

ARTICLE 15s (14)

- An Airman First Class from the 509th

Logistics Readiness Squadron received an Article 15 for larceny. For this offense, he received a forfeiture of \$400.00 pay per month for 2 months and a reprimand.

- An Airman First Class from the 509th Munitions Squadron received an Article 15 for drunk driving. For this offense, he received a reduction to the grade of Airman, forfeiture of \$849.00 pay per month for 2 months (suspended) and a reprimand.

- An Airman First Class from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received a Supplementary Action for a failure to go. For this offense, he received a reduction to the grade of Airman (suspended), 20 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- An Airman First Class from the 509th Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for drunk driving. For this offense, he received a reduction to the grade of Airman, forfeiture of \$849.00 pay per month for 2 months (suspended), 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- An Airman First Class from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for the wrongful use of cocaine and Xanax. For these offenses, she received a reduction to the grade of Airman Basic, forfeiture of \$758.00 pay per month for 2 months (suspended), 20 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- An Airman First Class from the 509th Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for the wrongful use of hydrocodone and hydromorphone. For these offenses, he received a reduction to Airman, forfeiture of \$849.00 pay per month for 2 months (suspended), restriction to base for 30 days and

a reprimand.

- An Airman First Class from the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for making a false official statement and larceny. For these offenses, he received a reduction to Airman, reduction to Airman Basic (suspended), forfeiture of \$758.00 pay per month for 2 months (\$379.00 pay per month for 2 months will be suspended), 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- An Airman First Class from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for sleeping on post. For this offense, he received a reduction to Airman, reduction to Airman Basic (suspended), 45 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- An Airman First Class from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for false official statement and drunk driving. For these offenses, he received a reduction to Airman, forfeiture of \$849.00 pay per month for 2 months (suspended), 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- A Senior Airman from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for sleeping on post. For this offense, he received a reduction Airman First Class, reduction to Airman (suspended), 20 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- A Senior Airman from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for sleeping on post. For this offense, he received a reduction to the grade of Airman First Class, 45 days extra duty (suspended) and a reprimand.

- A Staff Sergeant from the 509th Communications Squadron received an Article 15 for willful dereliction of duty and

negligent dereliction of duty. For these offenses, he received forfeiture of \$1,264.00 pay, 20 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- A Staff Sergeant from the 509th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for dereliction of duty. For this offense, he received a reduction to the grade of Senior Airman (suspended), forfeiture of \$300.00 pay per month for 2 months (suspended), 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

- A Technical Sergeant from the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron received an Article 15 for drunk driving and drunk on duty. For these offenses, he received a reduction to Staff Sergeant and a reprimand.

DISCHARGES

An Airman First Class from the 509th Medical Operation Squadron received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions.

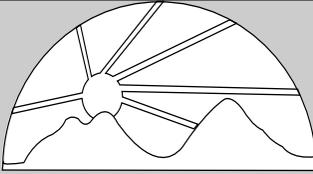
COMMENT

For the month of January, there was a drastic increase in nonjudicial punishments. Last month, we only had one Article 15, one court-martial, and one discharge. By the looks of all the violations, people have been making numerous bad decisions. We must remember that whether good or bad, there are consequences for every decision we make. No matter what situation we are facing, we must take a moment and think about our options. We must also be responsible for our actions. If you're ever in doubt about a situation or impaired to accomplish a mission, you should always call one of your fellow wingmen for support.

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Missouri National Guard's 'First Attack' returns from Afghanistan deployment



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

U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer II Patrick Stueve, 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion pilot, signals to his family during a ceremony in honor of their return from a deployment at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Mo., Feb. 9, 2014. More than 300 soldiers deployed to Afghanistan on a year-long deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

By Capt. John Quin
131st Bomb Wing Public Affairs

WARRENSBURG, Mo. – Despite the cold and snow, more than 6,000 friends, family and community supporters gathered at the University of Central Missouri to welcome home more than 320 Missouri National Guard Soldiers from the Army's 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion on Sunday.

Since July 2013, the Soldiers had served as a 24-hour quick reaction force working alongside NATO allies in northern Afghanistan, including Germany, Sweden and Armenia, conducting missions including convoy security, air assault and reconnaissance, said 1-135th Commander Lt. Col. James P. Schreffler.

"One thing I wanted to make sure of is that every Soldier understood our role in Afghan history," Schreffler said. "We played a key role in the stability of Afghanistan for its citizens. This is a critical year as they move

into elections in April. The Taliban obviously wants to disrupt that process, and our coalition forces ought to be proud of their role in providing security to that nation."

Once in theater, the unit joined National Guard, active duty and allied forces as part of a task force made up of 37 aircraft with a wide range of missions. Commanded by Schreffler and Command Sgt. Maj. David C. Gail, "Task Force Reaper" completed more than 8,600 flight hours supporting security operations in Afghanistan.

The battalion's Soldiers were awarded more than 300 individual awards, including one Purple Heart, 48 Air Medals for Achievement, and 20 Combat Action Badges.

The mobilization process started for the 1-135th in February 2013 when unit members conducted a complex 30-day validation in Idaho. In March, the unit moved to Fort Hood, Texas, to conduct pre-deployment training.

Despite driving snow and icy conditions, family and friends filled the seats of the University's multipurpose building.

"I didn't expect anything less, based on the tremendous support we've received from the community the entire time," said Schreffler, who is an assistant professor of military science (ROTC) at the College of the Ozarks in Branson, Mo.

The conditions were similar when the unit deployed in 2013, said University of Central Missouri President Chuck Ambrose. Ambrose thanked the unit for flying the university's flag while in Afghanistan.

"When we gathered here last March it was snowing, too – the weather hasn't changed since you left," Ambrose said. "Another thing that hasn't changed is that you never left our thoughts and prayers."

For more information about the Missouri National Guard, please visit www.moguard.com and our social media sites: www.facebook.com/Missouri.National.Guard; www.twitter.com/Missouri_NG; www.youtube.com/MoNationalGuard; www.myspace.com/missouri_ng; www.flickr.com/photos/missourianguard; www.moguard.com/blog; www.pinterest.com/monationalguard/



U.S. Air National Guard photo/Airman Halley Burgess

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Danny Noe, 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, presents the American flag to Brig. Gen. Randy Alewel, Missouri National Guard joint force land component commander, during a welcome-home ceremony. More than 320 Missouri National Guard Soldiers from the 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion were welcomed home after a one-year deployment.



U.S. Air National Guard photo/Airman Halley Burgess

U.S. Army Pfc. Zachary Meyer, 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, presents the Missouri state flag to Dr. Stephen Ambrose. The Soldiers served as a 24-hour quick reaction force on missions including convoy, air assault and reconnaissance in northern Afghanistan.



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

Friends, family members and military supporters from Warrensburg's local community celebrate during a welcome-home ceremony for Soldiers from the U.S. Army 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion. More than 300 soldiers deployed to Afghanistan on a year-long deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



U.S. Air National Guard photo/Airman Halley Burgess

A member of the 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion embraces his family after being reunited following the unit's welcome-home ceremony. More than 320 Missouri National Guard Soldiers from the 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion were welcomed home after a one-year deployment.



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

U.S. Army Soldiers from the 1-135th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion bow their heads during a ceremony in honor of their return from a deployment. The unit, which flies the AH-64D Apache helicopter, deployed more than 300 soldiers to Afghanistan to aid in Operation Enduring Freedom.

Family care plans ease stress, boost readiness

By Janis El Shabazz

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas (AFNS) -- An up-to-date family care plan can help to ease stress and boost family resilience and readiness during a service member's absence.

Family care plans are instructions developed by service members to identify caregivers who have agreed to take care of family members during the sponsor's absence.

"One of the most important considerations of family readiness is to ensure families are taken care of when military obligations require Airmen to be away from home for training, mobilization or deployment," said Staff Sgt. Jodie Vahle, a personnel specialist with the Air Force Personnel Center's special programs branch.

Although all Airmen with family members are encouraged to develop a family care plan, only single military parents, dual military couples with family members and military members with civilian spouses who have unique family situations are required to develop written plans.

"These plans are maintained by the commander or first sergeant," Vahle said. "Civilian Airmen and contractors in emergency essential positions are also strongly encouraged to establish family care plans."

Airmen required to maintain written plans must update and verify them annually. Failure to comply with the mandatory requirements to develop and maintain a current plan may result in disciplinary or administrative action.

"You should prepare a family care plan whether you expect to deploy or not," Vahle said. "Taking care of these considerations now will help you and your family members be prepared for any period of separation."

Vahle offered the following guidance for Airmen who need to develop their plan:

- Assign a guardian for your family in a special Power of Attorney and make sure the guardian understands his or her responsibilities.
- Obtain identification and commissary cards, register in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, and check to make sure all ID cards have not expired.
- Sign up for Service members Group Life Insurance or a similar group life insurance, and update all beneficiary information.
- Arrange for housing, food, transportation and emergency needs.
- Inform your spouse or any caretakers about your financial matters.
- Arrange for your guardian to have access to necessary funds.
- Arrange for child care, education and medical care.

- Arrange for necessary travel and an escort to transfer family members to their guardian.

- Discuss your plans with your older children.

Family care plans have three basic requirements: short-term care providers, long-term care providers and care provision details.

Short-Term Care Provider - Single-parents and military couples with children must designate a non-military person who will agree, in writing, to accept care of the member's children at any time, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in the event the military member is called to duty or deployed with no-notice. While this person cannot be another military member, the person can be a military spouse. The short-term care provider must live in the local area where the military member is stationed. The short-term care provider must sign the family care plan, indicating that they understand the responsibilities that are being entrusted to them.

Long-Term Care Provider - In addition to the short-term care provider, the military member must also designate a non-military person, who will agree, in writing, to provide long-term care for their children in the event the military member is deployed for a significant period, or in the event they are selected for an unaccompanied overseas tour. The long-term care provider does not have to live in the local area, but the family care plan must contain provisions to transfer children from the short-term care provider to the long-term care provider (finances, airline tickets, etc.), in the event a no-notice deployment turns into a long-term deployment. The long-term care provider must sign the family care plan, indicating that they understand the responsibilities that are being entrusted to them.

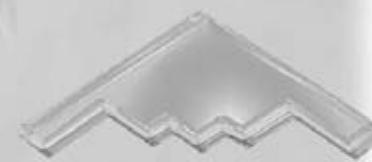
Airmen and caregivers can see their first sergeant or contact the local Airman and Family Readiness Center if they need help developing their plan. The Airman and Family Readiness Center provides readiness and pre-deployment briefings to ensure Airmen and caregivers are aware of services and have a comprehensive list of resources. They also provide sustainment programs, resources and various other services.

Military and Family Life Counselors, normally housed in the Airman and Family Readiness Center, also provide face-to-face consultation for deployment support issues. MFLCs specializing in the needs of children and youth are also available through the base child and youth facilities.

"By creating and communicating a strong family care plan, military parents can strengthen family bonds, set caregivers up for success with the right tools and resources and ease the stress of separation as they prepare for a short or long-term absence," Vahle said.



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AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF READING LIST 2014

EVERY AIRMAN AN INNOVATOR 

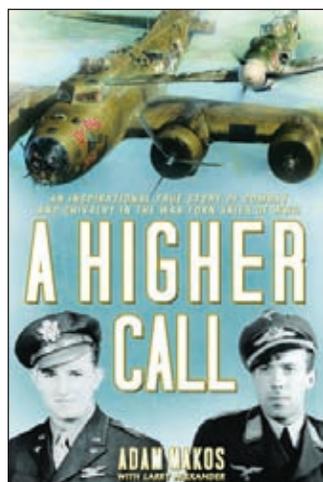
Fellow Airmen,

This year's CSAF Reading List was designed to build understanding. There are stories of Airmen, fellow Service members, and leaders from many different backgrounds. I bet there's a book, a movie, a piece of artwork, or a TED Talk in there that you can relate to.

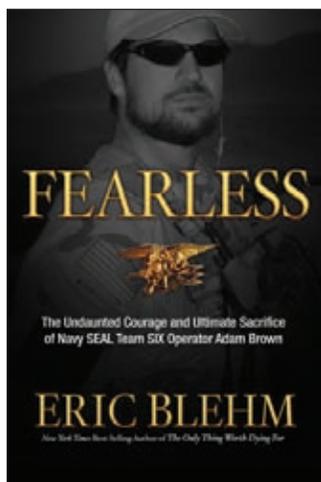
I encourage you to try and find your own story in one of the selections.

I'm no Bill Shakespeare...but I know good books when I see 'em! I hope they inspire you to tell your Air Force story.

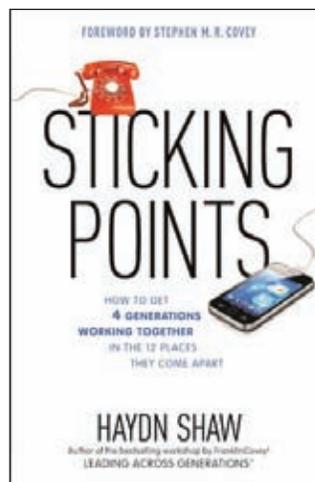
Mark A. Welsh III
General, USAF
Chief of Staff



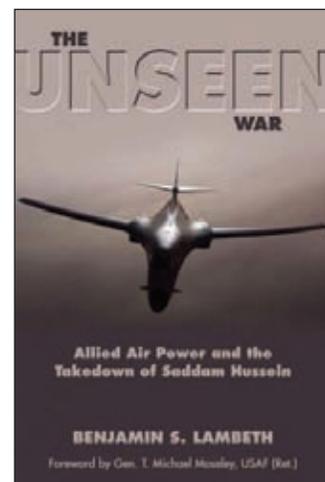
A HIGHER CALL
Adam Makos and Larry Alexander



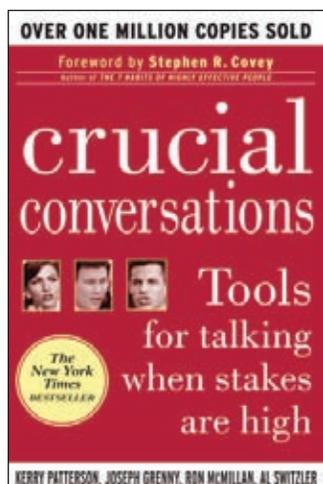
FEARLESS
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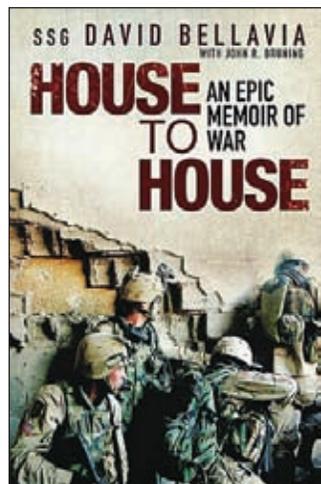
STICKING POINTS
Haydn Shaw



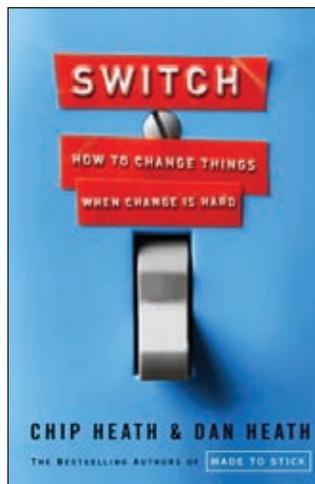
THE UNSEEN WAR
Benjamin S. Lambeth



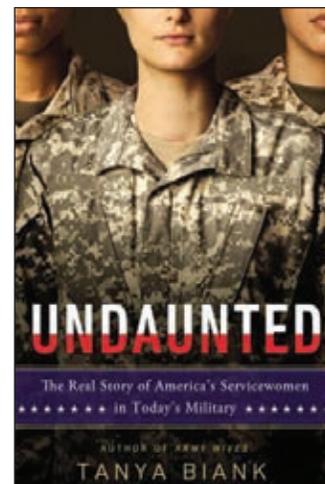
CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS
Joseph Grenny, Ron McMillan, Kerry Patterson and Al Switzler



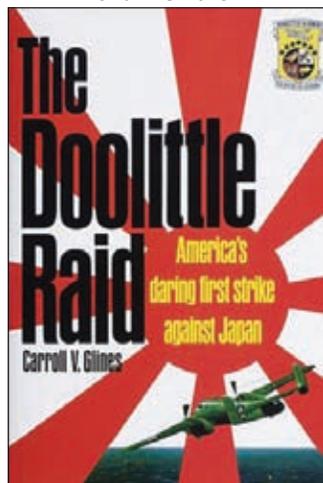
HOUSE TO HOUSE
David Bellavia and John R. Bruning



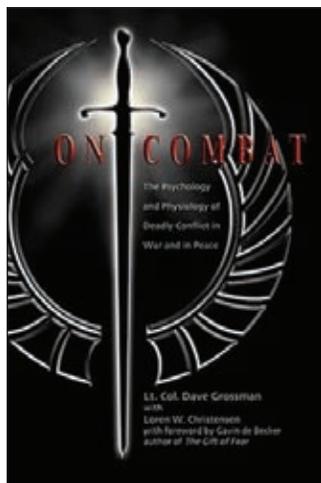
SWITCH: HOW TO CHANGE THINGS WHEN CHANGE IS HARD
Chip Heath and Dan Heath



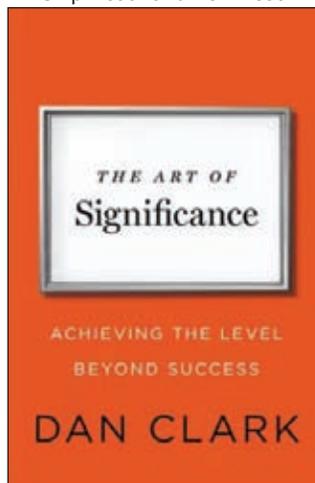
UNDAUNTED
Tanya Biank



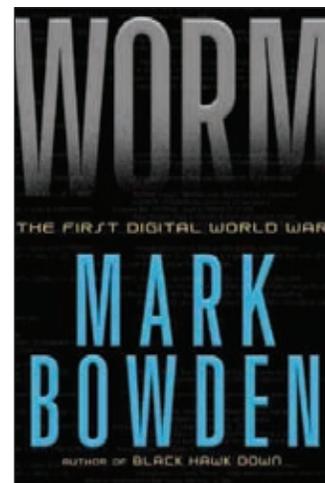
THE DOOLITTLE RAID
Carroll V. Glines



ON COMBAT
Dave Grossman and Loren W. Christensen



THE ART OF SIGNIFICANCE
Dan Clark



WORM: THE FIRST DIGITAL WORLD WAR
Mark Bowden

People + pride = performance: Insight from the CSAF

By Master Sgt. Todd Wivell
62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. (AFNS) -- "I really believe if you are an Air Force and you recruit the best people in the country, which we do, and you train them better than anyone else and you put them with people who make them proud of what they do, how well they do it and what they represent, then you get a performance you can never get any other way," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. "The formula is simple, people plus pride equals performance."

The general and his wife, Betty, visited Joint Base Lewis-McChord Jan. 31 to Feb. 4 to thank Airmen and their families for their service and address current Air Force challenges.

"It is really helpful for us to get out and see what you are all doing and how you are doing it -- to talk to the Airmen and to get an idea of what concerns you have," Welsh said.

During their visit, they learned about Joint Base Lewis-McChord's joint basing structure and the collaboration with Army service members, the total force partnerships, the prime nuclear airlift force, and the base's continuing effort to ensure a culture of dignity and respect.

Also, more than 1,800 Airmen, civilians and spouses came together in Hangar 3 to listen to Welsh share his thoughts and answer questions.

Welsh started his all call off by thanking not only his wife for all her support throughout his career, but all family members who support the Air Force. He also acknowledged members of McChord and the capability they provide in defense of the nation.

"We have talked to everybody that our Airmen serve around the world, every combatant commander, people in other countries, our allies and our coalition partners and let me tell you what they say about you," Welsh said. "They say that you guys rock; they love what you do and they love how well you do it, they want more of our mission and they want more of you. So I want to say 'thanks' for how well you represent our Air Force, our country, your own unit and each other because you really should be proud of how you do that job."

He went on to apologize to civilians for a rough 2013 -- for furloughs, for government shutdown - and thanked them for their dedication and hard work. He reminded those in attendance of the importance of civilian Airmen and recognized Danny Pope, a 62nd Airlift Wing maintenance squadron member, who's been at McChord for more than 40 years.

"Danny is a behind the scenes civilian who makes things work and for the last four decades he has been taking care of you and the base," Welsh said. "He is the fabric of our Air Force, he is the kind of guy you want to go to work with and someone I would consider the world's best teammate."

The general then went on to remind the audience the importance of every single Airman.

"I don't care how long you have been in, how many stripes you have or how many jobs you get; when you are a supervisor you



Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III addresses Airmen and families during an all-call Feb. 3, 2014, at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. During the all-call, Welsh discussed various topics including force management and modernization.

need to tell other Airmen how important they are while at the same time remembering that you are the most important person in the Air Force and you deserve to be treated that way," he said. "Everybody in this room has a role to play in our Air Force, it is a critically important role and the sooner we remind ourselves that each of us is critically important, we will treat each other and better take care of each other."

Welsh went on to state what he considers the keys to success going forward - common sense, communication and caring.

"We have to realize that if our AFI's, policy letters and rules we are following do not align with common sense, then they are wrong. We have to change that and you can start right here," Welsh said.

The second key he discussed was "being better communicators."

When he asked if anyone in the crowd of more than 1,800 knew the reason why tuition assistance was cut-off last year, only one person raised their hand.

"We have to fix this as an Air Force and we have to get better at this," Welsh said. "Our people deserve answers and we are trying to share them, but they are just not getting to you. If you can let me know what works, then I will let you know we will try it."

His final key to success for the Air Force future is, "we have to care more."

"I have already told you I am working with the best people on Earth and you have the best families supporting you, but even with that support we will never care about each other enough," Welsh said.

He went on to mention the many challenges facing the Air Force right now, from force management to sexual harassment.

"I believe the only solution to those things is not another Air Force program -- it is caring more about each other," Welsh said. "It's understanding who the person next to you really is, what they think, how they feel, what affects them and how you can impact their

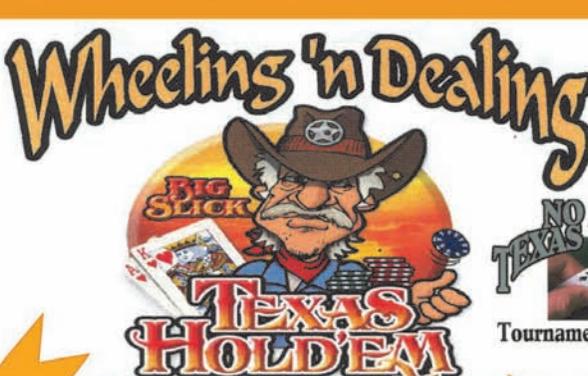
life in a positive way.

"If you don't know the story of your Airmen, you can't lead them," he said. "It is really simple; learn their stories as the more we know about each other, the better we can

take care of each other. The better we take care of each other, the less of all this other stuff we deal with and the more we focus on our job. That's who we are and that's the Air Force we want to be."

U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Sean Tobin

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- Test Preparation & Practice Tests
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- K-12/Homeschooling Resources



These Resources can be found on the AF Portal by going to Functional Areas under Air Force Indexes A-2 and then selecting AF Information Center for Mission & Education.

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

February: National Teen Dating Violence and Prevention Month (And What You Can Do to Protect Your Teen)

Courtesy of Family Advocacy

The statistics are startling:

- 33 percent of female teens in dating relationships have feared for their safety;
- 25 percent of female teens report having been pressured to go further sexually than they wanted;
- 20 percent of female teens in a relationship say they have been hit or beaten by a boyfriend;
- 40 percent of teen girls say they know someone their own age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend.
- And most alarming of all is that 66 percent of teens tell NO ONE!

Dating violence comes in many forms. It can be constant name calling and put downs, pressure to use alcohol or drugs, or demands to be constantly available. Pressure to have sexual contact and even rape are not unusual. A favorite tactic is isolating the teen from friends, family and activities that don't include the abuser.

Digital abuse includes constant texting and instant messaging, use of social media to intimidate, and stalking through cell phones. Scratches, bruises and other marks are signs of physical abuse.

Indicators a teen may be involved in an abusive relationship include unexplained physical injuries and changes in dress to cover injuries, making excuses for partner, and emotional outbursts. Falling grades, use of drugs or alcohol, changes in activities or friends can also be a cause for concern.

Parents should also be looking for changes in mood or personality, the onset of depression/sadness or constant worrying about what the partner will think. Physical indicators may be changing the way they dress, wear their hair, or talk to make the partner happy.

What can parents do?

First - educate yourself about dating violence. Don't be afraid to talk with your teen or preteen. Let them know you are aware of how prevalent dating violence is and how serious it is. Make sure your teen knows they can call you for a ride home without judgment if they find themselves in an uncomfortable position, even if alcohol or drugs are involved.

Make sure you know where your teen is going and who will be with them. Also you should have the cell phone numbers of their friends.

Most of all listen. If your teen is telling you something is going wrong in their life, make the time to carefully listen. Resist the urge to offer advice or put down the boyfriend/girlfriend. That can make the teen defend him/her. Also, don't be afraid to seek help from professionals.

The three primary concerns of all parents of pre-teens and teens are drugs, sexuality, and violence. Good online resources include www.loveisrespect.org and www.loveisnotabuse.com.

For more information, contact the Family Advocacy Program at 660-687-5509.

AF selects 62 for intelligence leadership positions

By Debbie Gildea

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas (AFNS) -- Sixty-two majors have been matched to specific leadership positions within the intelligence community, Air Force Personnel Center officials announced.

Candidates were considered by the fall intelligence career field development team for director of operations, operations group/squadron intelligence and detachment commander positions, said Maj. Jeff Fries, the AFPC intelligence assignments officer.

Officers are vectored at various times throughout their careers to help them

develop and prepare for positions of greater responsibility, Fries said. Development teams consider every aspect of an officer's career, including demonstrated leadership, professional and career development, leadership potential, and whole person factors.

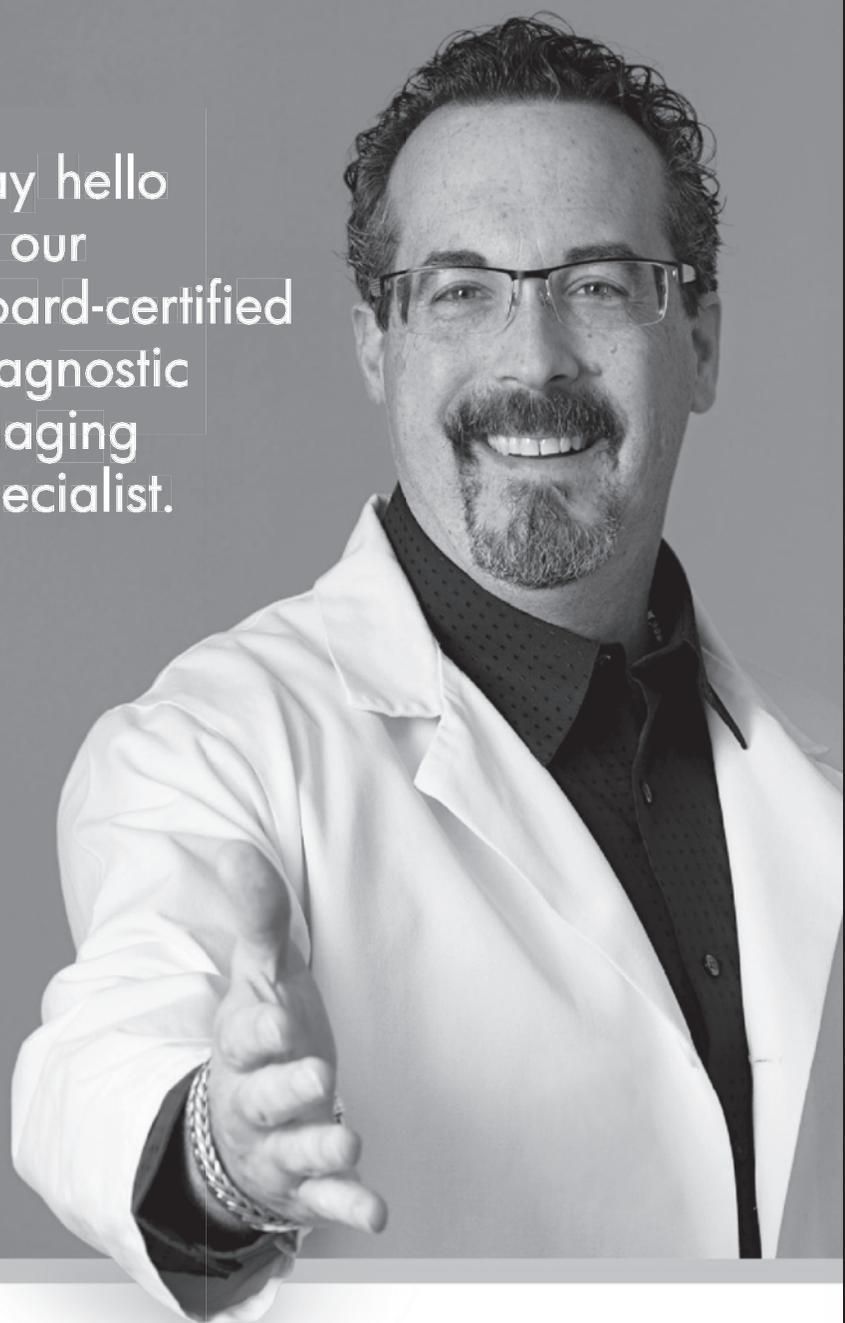
"The intelligence field is critical to national defense, and officers selected for these leadership roles must be committed, focused and ready for the opportunity and responsibility inherent in the position," Fries said. "Selection for one of these positions is a significant step in an intelligence officer's career."

For more information about leadership and developmental opportunities and other personnel issues, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>.



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