

WARRIOR



HONORING our FALLEN

PG.8

MEMBERS OF WHITEMAN HONOR GUARD TRAIN FOR PERFECTION

WOMEN'S HISTORY

PG.3

WHITEMAN WOMEN WORK TOWARD PERFECT UNION

Farewell Chief Drinkard



After nearly two years of sustained, outstanding service to Whiteman's Niners, Chief Master Sgt. Shawn Drinkard, the 509th Bomb Wing command chief, is moving on to new challenges.

Drinkard began his tenure at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, in June 2014 following an assignment to F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming. His superb leadership helped steer the 509th BW through a multitude of successful exercises and several deployments and helped continue a Global Strike Challenge dynasty during which Whiteman beat the competition three times in a row to bring home the coveted Fairchild trophy for best bomb wing.

Farewell, Chief Drinkard, and well done!



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

On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo/
Airman 1st Class Jovan Banks

Members of Whiteman Honor Guard practice the procedures of a military funeral March 15, 2016 at Knob Noster cemetery, Knob Noster, Mo. Whiteman Honor Guard serves more than 100 counties spanning Missouri and Kansas, covering more than 70,000 square miles across both states. Whiteman Honor Guard offers the respect each fallen service member deserves, and upholds traditions held dear to the armed forces.

NEWS BRIEFS



U.S. AIR FORCE
EagleEyes

WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.

U.S. Air Force Eagle Eyes provides service members and civilians a safe, discreet and anonymous option to report criminal information, counterintelligence indicators or force protection concerns.

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4. Create a passport, select New Tip and fill out the form with as much information as possible.

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

Stealth Lounge

If you are a young Airman, let the Stealth Lounge make your time at Whiteman more fun. Stop by after work to play some pool, darts, foosball, or the newest games on Xbox One or Playstation 4. The lounge opens at 4 p.m. during the week and noon on weekends. There is free dinner every Friday at 4:30 p.m. There are also free premium snacks and Wi-Fi. Come for the free stuff, stay for the fun and friends.

Please like the Stealth Lounge on Facebook to stay up to date on special events and tournaments.

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
Mostly Sunny	Chance of Rain
Hi 60	Hi 62
Lo 29	Lo 43

Sunday	Monday
Chance of Rain	Mostly Sunny
Hi 51	Hi 50
Lo 40	Lo 33

Whiteman women work for "a more perfect union"



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jazmin Smith
Maj. Kellie Courtland, left, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, Maj. Redahlia Person, center, 509th Maintenance Squadron commander, and Maj. Catherine Tredway, 509th Force Support Squadron commander, stand in front of 509th Bomb Wing B-2 Spirit and T-38 Talon aircraft July 24, 2015 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. March is Women's History Month (WHM), and the trio represent the 2016 WHM theme, "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government."

By Maj. Catherine Tredway

509th Force Support Squadron commander

This March, in keeping with the Women's History Month theme, "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government," I offer a small account of the people who do exactly that. They may not make history books, but they very much do serve for "a more perfect" state of gender equality, making history today.

I think of people like Whiteman's own Mission's End Club Manager, Karen O'Camb, a veteran who served as one of the Air Force's first female weapons loaders in the 1980s. Ask her sometime about her military experience, and you might hear a story about how she hid her pregnancy, lifting hundreds of pounds of munitions every day. Ms. O'Camb felt that her situation could negatively impact her career, but continued to proudly serve through this period of great adversity.

To Ms. O'Camb and to others like her, I have to say thank you. Thank you for being bold; for making it work the best way you could while having a family and serv-

ing in uniform; for not quitting; for sticking with it; and for challenging the status quo just a little bit at a time. I think you are owed much credit for "a more perfect" situation for active duty families like mine today. While you worried about the possibility of public scorn and harm to your career for starting a family, I write this today from home while on extended maternity leave, having the full support of my chain of command and Wingmen. I appreciate trailblazers like you. Cheers!

I also extend my appreciation for people like my grandmother, Meme Mudgett, a DoD civilian for 30 years who served as a childcare provider and eventually became assistant director at the Cannon Air Force Base Child Development Center. She cared for hundreds of military families in her lifetime, making the base mission as much hers as it was for those in uniform.

At her recent funeral, I was struck by stories of how the base commanders had her home phone number for decades and relied on her specifically to open the facility for early morning no-notice base exercises during the Cold War. Okay, so she

wasn't active duty and she didn't exactly "challenge" anything like Ms. O'Camb. But, her leadership in supporting military families was certainly working toward forming "a more perfect" state--work that I would argue impacts current and future generations. Her care and supervision for military kids, myself included, meant dads and moms could work their pieces of the mission in the 1960s-1980s, and she even inspired a few of us to join ourselves.

Today, I have the privilege to serve as the 509th Force Support Squadron commander. I see first-hand how Nana's work continues right here at Whiteman. Because of women like her, the rest of us can continue to serve both our families and our country, and that's a big deal to me. It should be a big deal to all of us. So to Nana, and to our amazing caregivers today: cheers to you.

I hope to inspire us all to think about the difference-makers in our lives today. Take the time to thank them. Plenty of us will never make the history books, but we all have an opportunity to be trailblazers forming "a more perfect" state, even if in small ways.

Reel Time Theaters

We're saving a seat for you.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25 • 7 p.m. **SATURDAY, MARCH 26 • 7 p.m.**

Race (PG-13)

Risen (PG-13)

Adults - \$6.25, children - \$4.00

Adults - \$6.25, children - \$4.00

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 • 3 p.m.

Zoolander 2 (PG-13)

Adults - \$6.25, children - \$4.00

**Wednesday,
March 30,
will be
MILITARY
APPRECIATION
NIGHT**

**at UCM Baseball,
and**

*You're
Invited!*

**Mules vs. Lindenwood Lions
Crane Stadium-Tompkins Field, UCM
Wednesday, March 30, 6 p.m.**

**Free Admission for all active
and retired Military members
and their families, plus a
food voucher for a
beverage and a hot dog!**

**WHITEMAN
AIR FORCE BASE**

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Team Whiteman, it is time again for the annual military appreciation baseball game! The Mules will host the Lindenwood Lions beginning at 6 p.m. at Crane Stadium, Tompkins Field, on the University of Central Missouri campus, Wednesday, March 30, 2016.

Tickets and food vouchers are free for all active duty, retired, Guard and Reserve members and their families and can be picked up at the box office window of the stadium on game day. All you need is your current DoD ID.

In addition to a great game, Brig. Gen. Tibbets will throw out the first pitch, and Whiteman Honor Guard will present the Colors. Come out for a great game and show your military pride!

Celebrating Women's History Month

Whiteman Weekly Warrior



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Shonda Simes, the 509th Force Support Squadron NCO in charge of food and beverage, selects tableware in preparation for the 2016 Women's History Month Celebration Breakfast at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 21, 2016. Simes said she believes confidence, fairness and courage are essential leadership qualities, regardless of gender.

Rank/name: Master Sgt. Shonta Simes
Duty Title: NCOIC, food services and beverage
Hometown: Jacksonville, Florida
Years in the Air Force: 16

Question: How do you, as a woman in today's military, find strength from the women who came before you?

Response: I find strength in those who served before me by "being excellent in all that I do" to uphold the historical success of influential women of the past.

Question: What woman or women inspire you and why?

Response: Today, I am inspired by three women. The first is my mother, who worked her entire life, raised five children and started a ministry to aid those struggling with alcohol and drug addiction. The second is my supervisor, Senior Master Sgt. Melissa Perez, who has always challenged me to exceed the standard in every aspect of my military career. Third, I am inspired by retired Maj. Gen.

Margaret Woodward, for whom I had the pleasure of working protocol during her leadership of 17th Air Force. I watched Maj. General Woodward command two units, Air Forces Africa and 17th Air Force, and she made it look good. She taught me everything I know about decorum and what to expect from others--now that's girl power!

Question: What do you think is the most significant barrier to female leadership?

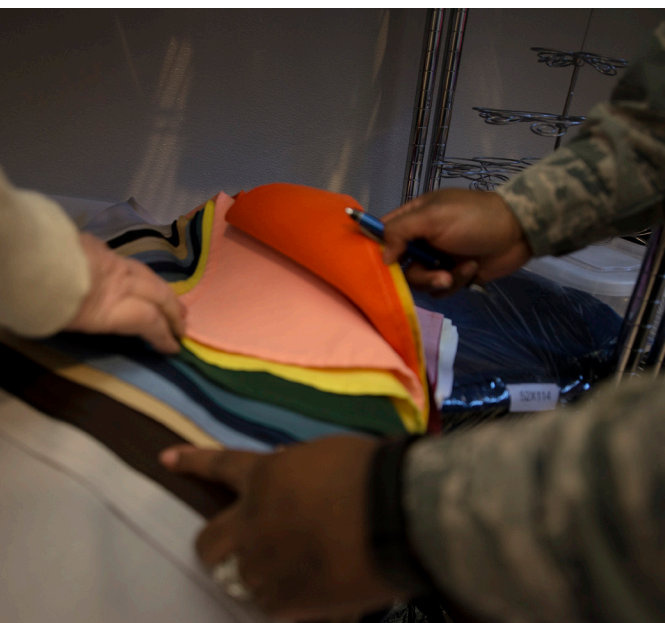
Response: The most significant barrier to female leadership is acceptance of it from others. Mostly because there is so much negative stigma surrounding women being leaders that their talents are often overlooked.

Question: What will be the biggest challenge for the next generation?

Response: It takes courage, fairness and confidence and the mindset that the word "female" has absolutely no bearing on being a leader!

Question: What do you do "like a girl?"

Response: I laugh like a girl and own 113 pairs of shoes!



LEFT: U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Shonda Simes, the 509th Force Support Squadron NCO in charge of food and beverage, helps select a color scheme for the upcoming 2016 Women's History Month Celebration Breakfast at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 21, 2016. It is Simes' job to coordinate planning, décor and entertainment for events at the Mission's End club.

RIGHT: U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Shonda Simes, the 509th Force Support Squadron NCO in charge of food and beverage, right, works with Karen O'Camb, the Mission's End club manager, to select the décor for the 2016 Women's History Month Celebration Breakfast at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., March 21, 2016. The theme for this year's celebration is "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government."

*U.S. Air Force photos/
Senior Airman Sandra Marrero*



Rain, hail and tornados...oh my!

By Tech. Sgt. Tyler Alexander
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Tornado alley runs from the middle of Texas all the way to the northern parts of South Dakota. Sitting squarely in this vast expanse of Middle-America is Johnson County, Missouri. On the eastern edge of Johnson County is the small town of Knob Noster. With a footprint of only 2.9 square miles, and a little less than 3,000 people, Knob Noster is also the next-door neighbor to Whiteman Air Force Base.

"We're located in the Midwest in such a way that ice storms, blizzards, flooding, high winds, severe hail and tornadoes all adversely impact lives and property at Whiteman," said Walt Otto, a civilian weather forecaster assigned to the 509th Operations Support Squadron (OSS). "However, tornadoes, by far, have the biggest potential to devastate large areas within a short period of time and with limited notice."

Knob Noster averages approximately two tornados per year, and since 1950, four of the 108 tornados



in Johnson County that affected Knob Noster were responsible for more than \$25 million in damages. This extreme weather places a tremendous amount of pressure on the 509th OSS weather flight.

"The specific actions taken by personnel vary from unit to unit," said U.S. Air Force Capt. William Graff, 509th OSS wing weather officer. "Bad weather generally drives personnel to aircraft hangars for shelter or to head

indoors within a given timeframe."

To help prepare Whiteman Airmen, the Kansas City National Weather Service Office conducted a storm spotter training session. Aimed at bolstering severe weather reporting, the training focused on instructing Airmen on how to use reports as actionable intelligence to make weather warning decisions for the base and mission.

"The training is all about equipping members of the base with basic knowledge that will allow them to quickly spot and correctly identify severe weather elements so they can pass this information along to the weather flight to help protect the installation and surrounding area," said Graff.

The base weather flight also forwards their reports to Knob Noster and the National Weather Service to aid in their forecasts and risk decision-making process. It's a partnership that not only helps the base, but could help save the property and lives of those who call western Missouri home.

When asked if this type of training helps save lives, Otto simply said, "Absolutely."

THINK SAFETY

April is Autism Awareness Month



As a kick off, Whiteman AFB Exceptional Family Member Program will be hosting the following event.

Join us at the Ford Theater April 14, 2016 from 2 to 4 p.m. for an opportunity to hear an inspirational message from Aaron Likens, a representative of the Easter Seals of Midwest, St. Louis, Missouri, and a nationally renowned public speaker/and published author, share his personal journey living with Asperger's Syndrome. Being diagnosed at the age of 20, he finally had the answers he always wanted. Likens' message is one of inspiration and can resonate with any individual or family who is living with a disability or simply needs reminded that each one of us can make a difference in the life of another. He provides hope to families and providers to continue in their journey to understanding the diagnosis and advancing knowledge of the importance of early diagnosis and seeking supportive services.



For our fallen: Training to perfection

Members of Whiteman Honor Guard practice the procedures of a military funeral March 15, 2016 at Knob Noster cemetery, Knob Noster, Mo. Whiteman Honor Guard serves more than 100 counties spanning Missouri and Kansas, covering more than 70,000 square miles across both states. Whiteman Honor Guard offers the respect each fallen service member deserves and upholds traditions held dear to the armed forces.



U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Jovan Banks

Upholding the Legacy of Excellence – your legacy!



Public Affairs is offering the opportunity for you, members of Team Whiteman (to include active duty, Guard, Reserve, civilian and retired military), to submit commentaries about your personal experiences with, or reflections on, the 509th Bomb Wing's Legacy of Excellence and what it means to you.

Submissions must be 250-1200 words in length and will be reviewed for content, grammar and style before publication by the Public Affairs staff. Once approved, one commentary will be posted in the Whiteman Warrior base newspaper weekly.

To make a submission, please email the 509th Bomb Wing PA office at 509.bw.pa@us.af.mil. Please include "UTL Commentary" as the subject line. Lastly, please ensure that you include information about yourself, such as your name and rank, job title, and any information that could help tie you to the Legacy. Photos are accepted! Please ensure that they are either official military photos or scans/digital copies of personal photos.

We look forward to publishing your story!

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Congratulations MPOY award winners

131st AMXS Mx Technician of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Athena Keller

131st MXG Mx Technician of the Year:

Master Sgt. Jason Baggett

131st MXS Mx Technician of the Year:

Master Sgt. Chris Seibel

509th MXG Armament Crew of the Year:

Staff Sgt. Danyel Alvarez

Senior Airman Katelyn Karr

Airman 1st Class Jonathan Petit

509th MXG Weapons Load

Crew of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Daniel Jensen

Tech. Sgt. Steve Capkovic

Tech. Sgt. Brock Shuld

Staff Sgt. Jeremie Key

509th MXG Aircraft Armament

Systems Technician of the Year:

Senior Airman Victoria Wilton

509th MXG Aircraft Armament Systems

Supervisor of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Jason Murphy

509th MXG Aircraft Armament Systems

Manager of the Year:

Senior Master Sgt. Mikel Peterson

509th MXG Munitions System

Technician of the Year:

Airman 1st Class Tyler McLelland

509th MXG Munitions System

Supervisor of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Eric D'Agostino

509th MXG Munitions

System Manager of the Year:

Master Sgt. Brian Clark

509th MXG Nuclear Weapon

Technician of the Year:

Senior Airman Alec Sears

509th MXG Nuclear Weapon

Supervisor of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Brian Rivard

509th MXG Nuclear Weapon

Manager of the Year:

Master Sgt. Adam Rodriguez

509th MXG Colonel Edward D. Payne

Missile Maintainer Technician of the Year:

Senior Airman Corey Armstrong

509th MXG Colonel Edward D. Payne

Missile Maintainer Supervisor of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Ryan Hollis

509th MXG Colonel Edward D. Payne

Missile Maintainer Manager of the Year:

Master Sgt. Douglas Donahue

509th MXG Outstanding Munitions and

Missile Maintenance CGO of the Year:

1st Lt. Stephanie Madrid

509th MXG Aircraft Avionics

Technician of the Year:

Airman 1st Class Matthew Whited

509th MXG Aircraft Avionics

Supervisor of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Jaime Conui

509th MXG Aircraft Avionics

Manager of the Year:

Senior Master Sgt. Vernon Huhmann

509th MXG Aircraft Mechanic

Technician of the Year:

Senior Airman Marcus Ross

509th MXG Aircraft Mechanic

Supervisor of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. David Stone

509th MXG Aircraft Mechanic

Manager of the Year:

Master Sgt. Rick Jari

509th MXG MTF

Training Manager of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Eric Tryan

MTF Instructor of the Year:

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Snyder

509th MXG Maintenance Management

System Professional of the Year (Technician):

Airman 1st Class Raymond Burgos, Jr.

509th MXG Maintenance Management

System Professional of the Year (Supervisor):

Tech. Sgt. Dock Phelps, IV

509th MXG Maintenance Management

System Professional of the Year (Manager):

Master Sgt. Deborah Inovejas

509th MXG Maintenance Support

Professional Airman of the Year:

Senior Airman Jessica Bernard

509th MXG Maintenance Support

Professional NCO of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Daniel Youmans

509th MXG Maintenance Support

Professional SNCO of the Year:

Senior Master Sgt. Andre Williams

509th MXG Maintenance Support

Professional CGO of the Year:

Capt. Kevin Huwel

509th MXG Maintenance Professional

Airman of the Year:

Senior Airman Michael McCuin

509th MXG Maintenance

Professional NCO of the Year:

Staff Sgt. Justin Poynter

509th MXG Maintenance

Professional SNCO of the Year:

Master Sgt. Andrew Chocha

509th MXG Maintenance Professional

CGO of the Year:

Capt. Anthony Polizzi

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez Munitions

and Missile Maintenance FGO:

Maj. Matthew Drossner

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez Munitions

and Missile Maintenance CGO:

Capt. Kevin Huwel

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez Munitions

and Missile Maintenance Manager:

Senior Master Sgt. Peter McGoldrick

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez Munitions

and Missile Maintenance Supervisor:

Staff Sgt. Lance Connell

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez Munitions

and Missile Maintenance Supervisor:

Airman 1st Class Philip Newby

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez

Aircraft Maintenance CGO:

Capt. Anthony Polizzi

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez

Aircraft Maintenance Manager:

Master Sgt. Landon Scheer

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez

Aircraft Maintenance Supervisor:

Tech. Sgt. Mark Decumen

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez

Aircraft Maintenance Technician:

Senior Airman Michael McCuin

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez

Civilian Aircraft Maintenance Technician:

Mr. Daniel Andrews

509th MXG 2015 Leo Marquez

Civilian Aircraft Maintenance Manager:

Mr. Dee Rhoton

509th MXG 2015 CMSAF

Thomas N. Barnes Crew Chief of the Year:

Staff Sgt. Giacomo Restivo

services page

8th Air Force OAY winners

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Chasidy Sells and Senior Airman Marco Cardenas for winning the respective First Sergeant and Honor Guardsman of the Year categories of the 8th Air Force Outstanding Airman of the Year!



SLEEP SUPPORTS READINESS

Getting enough quality sleep at the right times helps you function well throughout the day. People who are sleep deficient have a slower reaction time and make more mistakes.



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