

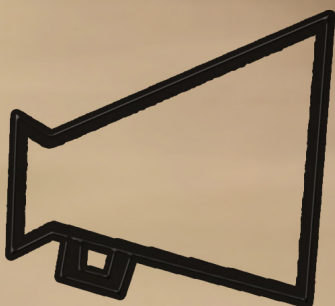
WARRIOR



CHEER FOR INNOVATION

Team Whiteman rallies with Knob Noster School District to strengthen its partnership and boost technology.

Pg. 8



INSIDE:

- ▶ AIR FORCE SHOWCASES INNOVATORS
- ▶ 131ST MDG USHERS IN NEW COMMANDER
- ▶ SHEPPARD AFB HERO SAVES TWO

LRS snow removal team shines



A plow moves snow during the 2017 winter season on Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Michaela Slanchik)

Team Whiteman,

Greetings! With 2018 coming to a close and this year's winter weather in full swing, I wanted to take a minute to highlight a very instrumental part of Team Whiteman's snow removal team ... the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron's Vehicle Management (VM) Flight. This flight consists of 62 mechanics that repair and maintain the wing's 678 piece vehicle fleet. A large portion of the flight's responsibilities begin on April 1, 2018, when they recall and prepare 34 pieces of snow equipment for the upcoming season.

The "Summer Rebuild Program" starts with pre-season operational checks and practice runs with our 509th Civil Engineer Squadron to replicate real winter operations. After all discrepancies are reported, VM will rack-and-stack all snow assets in accordance with their priority code and level of repair needed to correct discrepancies in a timely manner. The final, and most time consuming piece, is repairing and installing multiple parts on the various brooms, plows and salt spreaders that keep Team Whiteman's roads clear.

Just to put it in perspective, this year alone, the snow team has been activated 4 times and during these activations, the LRS provides 8-12 mechanics to provide world class, around the clock service to ensure the 509th Bomb Wing can execute Strategic Deterrence, Global Strike and Combat Support...Anytime, Anywhere!

Wishing you a very Happy Holiday Season,
Lt Col Norman Wright
Commander, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron



Lt. Col. Norman Wright, 509th Logistical Readiness Squadron commander

THE WARRIOR

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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 do not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-5727, email 509th.bw.pa@us.af.mil, fax 660-687-7948, or write to us at Whiteman Warrior, 509th Bomb Wing, 509thth Spirit Blvd. Suite 116, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305.

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

On the cover

Knob Noster High School cheerleaders cheer at the beginning of a Department of Defense Education Activity grant presentation ceremony on Dec. 11, 2018, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. KNHS students and administrators joined members of the base to recognize the recent innovations from the school's robotics team. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kayla White)

Winter Holiday SAFETY TIP

Blow out candles and turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home and going to bed.

- Candles cause 1/3 of home decoration fires
- 2/5 of decoration fires are caused by decorations being placed too close to a heat source





THE WHITEMAN WEEKLY WIRE

NEWS | UPDATES

The Whiteman Weekly Wire is published weekly in the Warrior and on www.facebook.com/WhitemanAirForceBase.

Items to be published should be submitted no later than noon on Wednesdays to: whiteman.warrior@us.af.mil with the subject "Weekly Wire Request." Your submission must be five lines or less, including contact information. Attachments cannot be included.

The status of the installation during inclement weather or other circumstances is updated on Facebook, www.whiteman.af.mil, and the Straight Talk line, which is 660-687-6397.

Closures / Downtime

- **The Qualified Recycling Program** is open for drop-off 24/7 with reduced customer service staff. Cardboard, paper, newspaper, printer cartridges, lead acid batteries, scrap metal, and aluminum cans are accepted.
- **The Fitness Center Track and Field** is closed for renovations until January 2019. PT tests will be conducted at Knob Noster High School. All tests are run through the Fitness Assessment Cell (FAC); the FAC will transport testers to the high school to complete the walk/run portion of the test. The Knob Noster track is not available for squadron PT, but if you'd like to run and get a feel for the track, it is only available after school hours.



General information

- **Army & Air Force Exchange** Service shoppers with in-store privileges—active-duty service members, their families and retirees—can now buy items at Shop-MyExchange.com and pick them up at their local Exchange—for free. Visit <https://www.shopmyexchange.com/#> to start shopping!
- **Every Wednesday from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.**, Lt. Col Shipman leads Combat Communications in his office at the base chapel. Combat Communications is for service men and women and spouses to talk about combat experiences and support options. Contact Lt. Col Shipman if interested but, unable to attend on Wednesday. Contact at DSN 975-3652 or COMM: 660-687-3652.
- **Calling all NFL fans:** Support your favorite team by recording a video shout-out to be aired in stadium during the 2018-19 season. Contact Public Affairs at 660-687-5727.
- **Exceptional Family Member Program** and Special needs Support Group meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at Whiteman AFB Youth Center. The group provides free information, speakers, children's activities and other events. Call 660-687-7132 for more information.
- Keys, wallets, bicycles, jewelry and other items have

been turned in as found property to Security Forces. To inquire, visit Building 711, Room 305, or call Detective Steven B. Scott at 660-687-5342.

- **Materials left outside the Whiteman recycling center** are base property; taking them is theft. Contact the recycling center with questions at 660-687-6253.

- **Are you interested** in joining a vanpool or starting your own? The Department of the Transportation (DOT) manages the vanpool program for the DoD. As part of joining, the DOT will establish and acquire funding for each DoD member (no out of pocket costs for you). This program is open to active duty, guard, reserve and civilians. Contact Maj. Keith Bratton at keith.bratton@us.af.mil.

- **Have you checked out the Whiteman Air Force Base smartphone app?** The app is frequently updated with new content and resources, including events, a base directory, medical information and information for inbound and outbound personnel. A link to the download the app is available on the Whiteman website.

- **For the latest news, photos, and videos** please refer to the official Whiteman Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WhitemanAirForceBase.



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Volunteer Opportunities

- To volunteer for Team Whiteman's Airman Against Drunk Driving (AADD) program, contact Senior Airman Tyler Anderson at tyler.anderson.14@us.af.mil.
- Help those in need in Sedalia this holiday season with Meals on Wheels. Ten volunteers are needed to prepare, box and delivering meals on Dec. 21. Volunteers will work at the facility, 2311 W. Main St., Sedalia, from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact Airman Anderson at the Family Health Clinic at 660-687-7190 or 660-687-3769.
- Operation Warm Heart is organizing a holiday bell ringing drive on base to provide emergency monetary assistance to members of Team Whiteman as well fund two holiday programs for those in need. To volunteer, contact Master Sgt. Kenneth Daugherty at 660-687-6503 or 660-525-2486, or your unit's first sergeant.
- The Whiteman Spouses' Club is hosting a cookie drive for Airmen in the base dorms. Donate solid-texture (no sticky frosting) homemade cookies from 7:30-9:30 a.m., December 18-19 at the base's Mission's End. Volunteers are also needed to organize and assemble cookie packages from 8-10:30 a.m. on December 20.



Upcoming Events

- **Child Safe of Central Missouri** is hosting a Holiday Donation Drive until December 15. Donations are being collected in the Financial Office in the Bomb Wing building between 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Items of interest include snacks, comfort items, children's activities (games, coloring books) and personal hygiene products.

- **Los Angeles-based artist** Gisela Colon's exhibit "Pods Exhibition" is at the Daum Museum at the State Fair Community College in Sedalia through Dec. 16. Admission is free.

- **Whiteman MWR Fund** is have a fundraiser at Chipotle in Warrensburg on December 17 from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. A percentage of sales go directly to the all future events and projects. Online orders will not be included.

- **Zaxby's is scheduled to host a fundraiser** for the Air Force Sergeants Association on December 18, 2018 from 5-8 p.m. 10% of the proceeds of all food bought during this time will go to AFSA Chapter 881 and advocating for improved quality of life and supporting air force enlisted members and their families.

- **Drive through Christmas in the Park** from 5:30-9 p.m. through December 28 in Farrington Park in Windsor, Missouri. Weather permitting, train rides are available Dec. 8, 15, 22, and 28. Admission is free; donations are collected to benefit local groups.

- **The Whiteman Spouses' Club** is accepting applications for scholarships from high school seniors, continuing undergraduates and military spouses. Applications must be postmarked by January 31, 2019. For an application and more information, email wsc.scholarship1@gmail.com or visit www.whitemanwsc.com/scholarships.html

- **Love and Logic** will host the Becoming a Love and Logic Parent Curriculum that aims to create Happy Families and Responsible Children. From December 3 to January 14 from 1-3 at the Professional Development Center in Room 223. Class will not be held on December 24. Contact Cory at 660-687-7332 or cory.d.watson.civ@mail.mil to reserve a spot.

- **The 12 Days of Development** is a series of briefings and panels offered November 28-De-

cember 19 at the base's Professional Development Center's Ford Auditorium. No registration is required; all members of Team Whiteman are welcome.

- **Conflict Management** is led by Senior Master Sgt. Michael Champion from 9-10 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. on December 7.

- **The Legal for Leaders course** is led by Lt. Col. Gregory Thompson from 1-2 p.m., December 10.

- **The John C. Maxwell Leadership Seminar** is led by Senior Master Sgt. (Ret.) John De La Rosa from 9-10 a.m., December 11.

- **The Leading without Losing Yourself** is led by Senior Master Sgt. Randy Barkalow at 9-10 a.m., December 14.

- **Buying into the Air Force** is led by Master Sgt. Jacques Ridore at 1-2 p.m., December 17.

- **The First Sergeant Panel** is led by Senior Master Sgt. James Gray at 9-10 a.m., December 18.

- **The Chiefs Panel** is led by Chief Master Sgt. Tracie Timmerman at 9-10 a.m., December 19.

Sheppard AFB Airman awarded Airman's Medal for saving father, daughter from fiery crash

Senior Airman Robert McIlrath
82nd Training Wing Public Affairs

SHEPPARD AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — In January 2018, on the side of a highway in Texas, Maj. Justin Warner placed his well-being on the line to save two strangers whose vehicle had just flipped and caught on fire.

Warner was heading toward Dallas when he saw an SUV go off the road and flip, coming to a stop on its side.

"I was the first one to see it," Warner said. "I stopped and started running toward their car, calling 911 as I made my way to them, but then the vehicle's engine bay caught on fire so my mindset shifted."

Forgetting about the emergency call and his own safety, Warner immediately took action.

"I saw that there were two people in the vehicle that would need some help getting out since the car was on its side," he said. "I climbed up on top of the vehicle and basically pulled them through the driver's side window."

Warner mentioned that he was worried the fire would spread and cause the vehicle to explode.

"I had the same mindset from the second I saw the fire," he said. "I knew I had to get them away from the fire."

Warner carried the driver's daughter, who had suffered an ankle injury during the crash, while the father was able to walk to safety. Soon after, the vehicle was engulfed in flames.

By this point, other motorists had stopped and called emergency services.

"When the emergency vehicles got there, they pretty much took them away quickly and I didn't get to talk to them afterward," Warner said. "All I knew was their first names and I tried looking them up later on to see if they were ok, but I couldn't find them."

What Warner didn't know was that the driver of the vehicle was retired Air



Maj. Justin Warner, 97th Flying Training Squadron instructor, stands next to retired Air Force Lt. Col. Stephen Wolfe and his daughter after being awarded the Airman's Medal Nov. 27, 2018, at Sheppard Air Force Base, Tx. Warner pulled Wolfe and his daughter out of their vehicle in January 2018 after had flipped and caught fire. The Airman's Medal is the Air Force's highest noncombat award and is given for acts of heroism. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Robert L. McIlrath)

Force Lt. Col. Stephen Wolfe.

Wolfe reached out to Sheppard Air Force Base to let them know of Warner's heroic actions.

On Nov. 27, Warner received the Air Force's highest non-combat award: the Airman's Medal. Maj. Gen. Craig La Fave, 22nd Air Force commander,

presented the medal to Warner in front of his family, friends and coworkers. He also spoke about Warner's many achievements.

"He is a distinguished graduate from several programs, so it wasn't really a surprise in my mind when I saw it was him who saved those lives," La Fave

said. "He didn't see it happen and say, 'Hey, there is an Airman's Medal in it for me if I do this.' He did it because that's the type of person he is."

Warner is a 97th Flying Training Squadron introduction to fighter fundamentals instructor and has more than 400 combat flying hours in the F-15 Eagle.

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Stephen Wolfe
Retired Lt. Col.

The Airman's Medal was established on July 6, 1960 and is awarded to those who distinguish themselves by a heroic act, usually at the voluntary risk of their life but not involving combat.

Retired Senior Master Sgt. John De La Rosa, an executive director with the John Maxwell Team speaks in front of a group of Airmen about leadership during the John C. Maxwell Leadership Seminar on Dec. 11, 2018 at the Professional Development Center on Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. De La Rosa used examples from his 21 years in the Air Force throughout the seminar while explaining some concepts of leadership. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Parker J. McCauley)



Retired Senior Master Sgt. John De La Rosa, an executive director with the John Maxwell Team talks with Airman 1st Class John Cone, assigned to the 509th Communications Squadron with the contracting office during the John C. Maxwell Leadership Seminar Dec. 11, 2018 at the Professional Development Center on Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Cone said that he will be able to use what he learned about leadership and momentum back at his unit. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Parker J. McCauley)

Whiteman AFB Professional Development Center hosts leadership seminar

By Airman Parker J. McCauley
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE, Mo. -- The Whiteman Air Force Base Professional Development Center hosted the John C. Maxwell Leadership Seminar as part of the 12 Days of Development series of briefings, panels and seminars on Dec. 11, 2018 at the PDC auditorium.

Retired Senior Master Sgt. John De La Rosa, an executive director with the John Maxwell Team, ran the seminar.

John C. Maxwell is the founder and namesake of the John Maxwell Team, which has a focus on leadership and growth which De La Rosa spoke about.

De La Rosa, who was previously stationed at Whiteman AFB before his retirement, described what he thought the key takeaways of the seminar should be.

"I want people to understand that personal growth, constant reading, constant development with themselves is a daily task," said De La Rosa.

He said people can learn what changes they need to make through the failures they experience.

He began the seminar by interacting with the audience as they entered the auditorium. He spoke about his 21-year career in the Air Force where he worked in the fields of aircrew flight equipment and maintenance, and as a Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) instructor. Following his

retirement, he wanted to help others and became an instructor with the John Maxwell Team.

"Everything rises and falls on leadership," said De La Rosa, quoting John C. Maxwell.

He explained that self-discipline and anticipating things with a positive attitude helps to build the positive momentum. It also requires people taking ownership of what they bring to the table. Without this momentum several things will suffer including morale and performance.

He described managers as those who put out fires and solve problems while leaders build momentum.

De La Rosa said there are 6 truths of momentum, which are:

- Momentum is a great exaggerator
- It helps followers perform better than they are
- It is easier to steer than to start
- It is a powerful agent for change
- Responsibility of the leader requires vision and assembling a good team
- It begins inside of you, requires not only vision but passion

He talked further about capacity and how each person has their own capacity of what they are capable of. It is important to consider the variances in that along with the fact people are often afraid to step out of their comfort zones.

An example of that within the Air Force

are Developmental Special Duties, where NCOs at the top of their career fields are taken out of their element to grow in an area outside of their normal work. De La Rosa said is the right direction for the Air Force.

"In order to increase that momentum, you have to be able to increase your capacity," said De La Rosa. "In other words, allow the demands of life to expose you to the potentials that you have so that you can start operating in those abilities that were already placed in you."

In terms of reaching potential he said that:

- It must matter
- Leaders initiate, chasers react
- Systems that help you think less
- Conserve energy
- Move on faster
- Define hard work
- Compete up

"Positive momentum is an indicator that

you personally are going in the right direction, so if you're winning in life then you know you're doing all the right things," said De La Rosa.

In addition to the main topics, De La Rosa put an emphasis on networking outside the office at events on base like awards ceremonies.

He also explained mentoring as doing all the talking while coaching is also asking questions.

Throughout the seminar he brought up some questions for the audience to ask themselves:

- What are you doing to impact momentum in your organization?
- Are you taking advantage of networking?
- Are you getting coaching?

After the seminar, De La Rosa stayed afterwards allowing airmen from the audience to ask additional questions and get more advice with their personal situations in relation to leadership.

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Knob Noster schools receive \$2.25 million DoDEA grant, benefitting military children

By Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs



ABOVE: Brig. Gen. John J. Nichols, commander of the 509th Bomb Wing, poses for a photo with local civic leaders and Knob Noster school district administrators on Dec. 10, 2018, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The leaders gathered in front of a portion of the KN high school student body to recognize the school's robotics team and accept a Department of Defense Education Activity grant. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kayla White)

“When we put opportunities like this in front of our students, they step up and rise to the occasion.”

Jerrold Wheeler

Superintendent of the
Knob Noster School District

AT RIGHT: Knob Noster High School Air Force JROTC Cadet Maj. Chloe McDonnell leads a color guard formation at the beginning of a ceremony on Dec. 11, 2018, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. KNHS students and administrators joined members of the base to attend a Department of Defense Education Activity grant presentation. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kayla White)



WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE, Mo. – The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) is awarding a \$2.25 million grant to enhance the STEM2 and robotics programs, and introduce a virtual academy in the Knob Noster School District, where two-thirds of the 1,600 students are connected to Whiteman Air Force Base.

On Dec. 10, 2018, Whiteman AFB, located in Knob Noster, Missouri, hosted a presentation ceremony to officially announce the grant and recognize the efforts of the students, faculty, volunteers, and parents, who gathered in an airplane hangar on base to hear the news together.

“This morning is about you,” said Brig. Gen. John Nichols, the 509th Bomb Wing commander, at the ceremony. “Education is a readiness challenge and when you have strong schools next to military installations, they work hand in hand to ensure the success of the mission.”

The DoDEA grant will go toward four key areas:

- Enhance the Leader in Me program, which empowers students with the leadership and life-skills they need to thrive in the 21st century.
- Extend the science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs with computer science and cyber security courses.
- Expand the high school FIRST LEGO League Robotics and elementary and middle school FIRST LEGO League Junior Robotics programs.
- Develop a new Knob Noster Virtual Academy to offer a diverse selection of online courses for grades 7-12 and leadership development programs for grades K-12.

“When we put opportunities like this in front of our students, they step up and rise to the occasion,” said Jerrod Wheeler, the superintendent of the Knob Noster School District.

For example, last fall the Stealth Panther Robotics 6424 Team partnered with Whiteman AFB to design and produce an Air Force-approved piece of equipment for the cockpit of the B-2 Spirit.

“Seventy-two hours after the initial design concept, the robotics team 3-D printed a cover for four important switches in the \$2.2 billion aircraft,” Nichols said. “We are flying with it today at Whiteman Air Force Base and I couldn’t be more proud to be associated with this group” of students.

Whiteman AFB is just one of many military installations that rely on surrounding public schools to educate military children. The DoDEA grant program’s purpose is to support research-based strategies that enhance student achievement and help ease the challenges that come with being a military child.

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AFMC unleashes \$4.6 million in FY18 Squadron Innovation Funds

Marisa Alia-Novobilski
Air Force Materiel Command

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – When Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein asked leaders to “unleash the brilliance in our Airmen,” Air Force Materiel Command answered the call, executing more than \$4.6 million in Squadron Innovation Funds in fiscal year 2018.

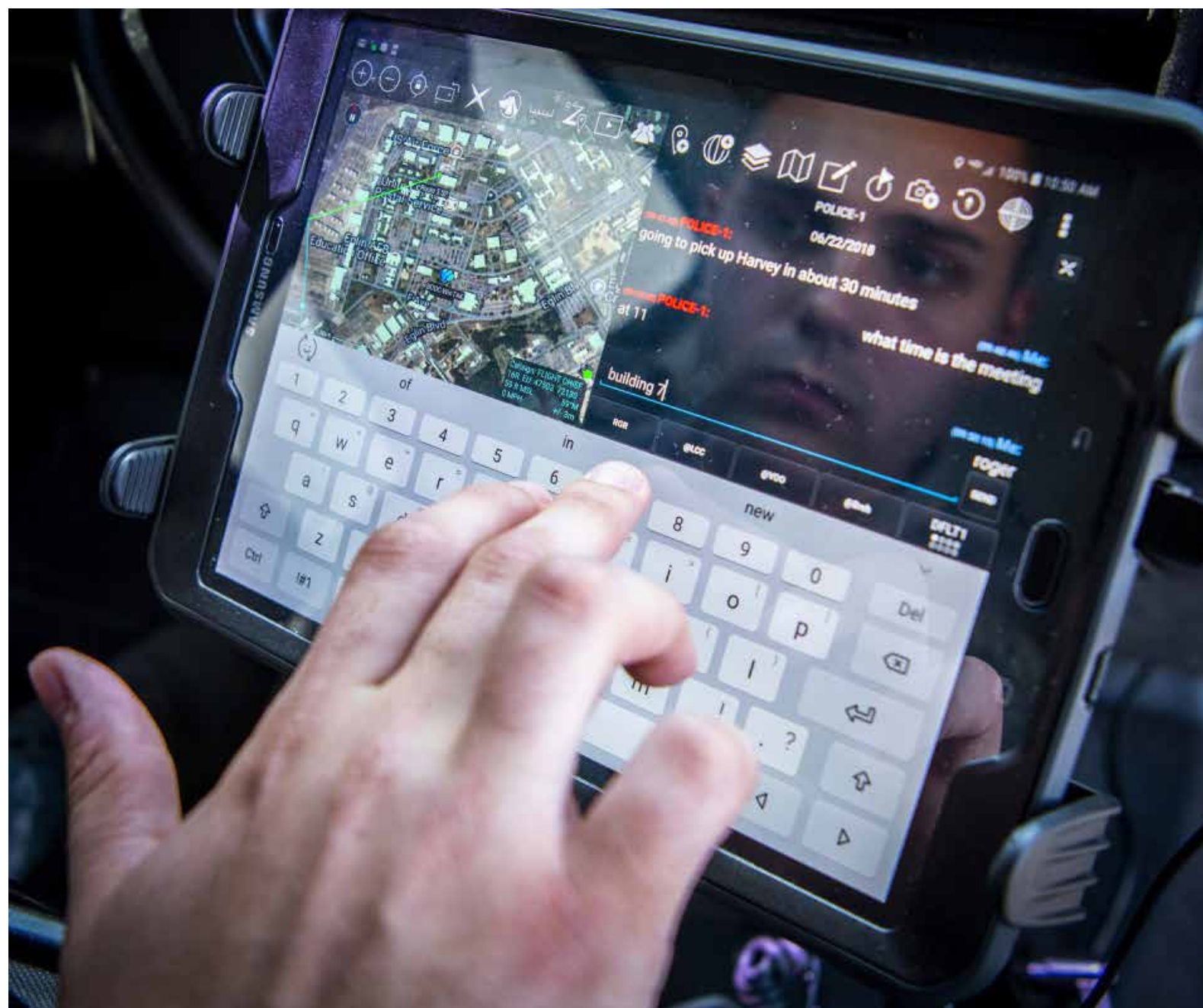
“The ideas came from all levels of our organization. Airmen were motivated to ‘think outside of the box’ knowing there was funding available for them to test their innovative ideas in the work environment,” said Brig. Gen. James Peccia, director, AFMC Financial Management. “While some projects continue to be developed and refined, a number of innovations have already been adopted and implemented in the field. We’re finding great success in the initiative.”

More than \$64 million in funding for innovation was authorized across the Air Force in FY18 to be used by squadron and wing commanders to ‘jump start’ the best, most innovative ideas proposed across their mission sets. AFMC is one of only a few major commands across the Air Force to fully execute the innovation funding authorized to the command, reflecting the drive towards more agile, innovative processes aligned with delivering war-winning capabilities across the spectrum.

“Driving agility and speed into our processes has been a key focus for AFMC this year. This funding played a huge role in our efforts,” said Peccia.

The AFMC innovation efforts span the full spectrum of the command mission, ranging from infrastructure maintenance to real-time tactical awareness, data analytics and multi-domain and cyber operations support. Individual innovation efforts ranged in cost from just under \$1,000 to \$326,000, depending on the project scope.

One of the largest innovation efforts, executed by the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, has initiated the development of a new Multi-Domain Operations Center to connect operations information that currently resides in a number of cyber networks into a single,



A 96th Security Forces Squadron uses the android tactical assault kit to send a message from his patrol vehicle July 5 at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The ATAK is a new communication system implemented at Eglin that so far has provided significant improvements in the base's defense mission. The tablet-based system provides written communication, pictures, mapping, GPS and data access to defenders more quickly than previous methods which relied heavily on radio transmissions. (U.S. Air Force photo/Samuel King Jr.)

fused, comprehensive cyber picture. The \$326,000 investment has purchased servers, training and infrastructure requirements to build the Cyber Ops Center and is already reducing reaction time to cyber events through increased integration and communication of cyber entities across the center footprint.

A \$20,000 project by the 96th Test Wing, Air Force Test Center, placed Android Tactical Awareness Kit tablets in the hands of security forces operators who have gained increased situational awareness while on patrol through real-time access to background checks, GPS and communication networks. The increased, instantaneous communication allows for more immediate, rapid response in dangerous situations, augmenting the lethality and mission success

of defenders in the field.

Other FY2018 innovation efforts include:

- Human Centered Data Analytics, 711th Human Performance Wing, Air Force Research Laboratory (\$250,000): software infrastructure and collaborative data management environment that integrates real-time modeling, analytics and machine learning
- Flying Fox, AFLCMC (\$55,000): cellular cyber defense capability to better protect information from unauthorized access or adversarial compromise
- Property Custodian Account Consolidation, 66th Air Base Group, AFLCMC (\$43,000): Streamlines management of IT accounts for centralized execution, alleviating the additional duty from squadrons

- Hymore Refuel Truck, 74th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Air Force Sustainment Center (\$9,400): Streamlines hot pit operations for F-35 training sorties while expanding refueling capabilities by 25 percent

- Dorm Guardian Keytrak, AFSC (\$98,500): Enables dorm residents to digitally sign out dorm key using biometrics when primary key is misplaced, eliminating need for residence service calls

- Reveal FirePro, AFSC (\$17,000): Provides thermal imagery tools to firefighters, enhancing situational awareness and speed during emergency operations

- Deep Trekker Portable Submersible Robot for Water Tank Inspections, 412th Test Wing, AFTC (\$88,000): Will enable the inspection of the inside

of water distribution tanks using robotic technology, eliminating the need for expensive, dangerous human inspection of tanks

- 3D Runway Surface Scanning and Surface Re-Creation, Landing Gear Test Facility, AFTC (\$23,000): Development of a 3D runway scanning methodology to yield data to feed into additive manufacturing processes for creation of fabricated runway test surfaces

The FY19 Squadron Innovation Fund program is still being defined at the Air Force level. However, AFMC leaders plan to ‘act early’ to execute any innovation funding provided to the command to ensure the most innovative and cost-effective war-winning capabilities are fielded across the mission environment.

Kohl takes command of the 131st Medical Group

Capt. Phil Fountain
131st Bomb Wing
Public Affairs

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE, Mo. — Lt. Col. Russell Kohl, M.D. took command of the Missouri Air National Guard's 131st Medical Group from Col. Patti Fries, O.D., here Dec. 1.

After nearly three years as commander, Dr. Fries, a trained optometrist and academic researcher, will continue her military service as the commander of the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th Medical Group, a subordinate unit of the 155th Air Refueling Wing, at Lincoln Air National Guard Base.

Dr. Kohl, the new medical group commander, was handed the medical group's flag from Col. Ken Eaves, the commander of the 131st

Bomb Wing. Kohl's previous assignments have included overseas service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Colonel Kohl is combat-tested at home and deployed. He is calm, cool, and collected," said Eaves.

"You have earned the honor and privilege of leading an amazing group of Airmen who happen to be an amazing group of medical professionals. Lead them boldly," Eaves stated to Kohl.

In his civilian capacity, Kohl is also a trained family physician and serves as the chief medical officer for a non-profit focused on bringing quality improvements and innovation in healthcare delivery.

He wasted no time working to inspire the medical group Airmen, recounting the history of the unit and tracing its lineage back to 1861,

where the unit was part of a military hospital on historic Jefferson Barracks, in St. Louis. This makes the group the oldest military medical unit west of the Mississippi River. They continue to service Jefferson Barracks, where the bomb wing also has major units assigned.

Kohl's charge to the group is to, "Leave things better than you found them."

The new commander broke down this charge and shared the importance of its key components — leave, better and found them.

Kohl reminded everyone how all positions are temporary, that we will all leave at some point. Better is subjective and objective, but "you must agree on what it is, decide and measure." On found them, he said, "things don't happen to show up — you have to look."

He encouraged the group members to always be on the lookout for solutions.

"When you walk past something that's wrong, you accept that's the way things are," Kohl said. If you see a problem, "roll up your sleeves, get to work, and fix it."

The medical group is made up of a diverse group of Airmen, who work in various career fields, from flight medicine through the gamut of allied health professions.

"This is the only group command without subordinate units—you lead at the



Lt. Col Russell Kohl receives the Medical Group guidon from Col. Ken Eaves, 131st Bomb Wing commander, during the change of command ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Dec. 2, 2018. Kohl assumes command from Col. Patti Fries, who continues her military service as the commander of the Nebraska Air National Guard's 155th MDG, a subordinate unit of the 155th Air Refueling Wing, at Lincoln Air National Guard Base. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Joseph Geldermann)

strategic and tactical level," Eaves said.

When Fries took command in 2016, she said, "You deserve nothing less than my best, and I'll give it to you, that is my promise."

Prior to her relinquishment of command, Eaves' comments suggest she kept

her promise, particularly in building up the 131st partnerships.

These partnerships were highlighted during the ceremony, as Maj. Gen. Jerry Fenwick, the dual-hatted joint surgeon of the National Guard Bureau and Air National Guard assistant to the Air

Force surgeon general, and Brig. Gen. John Nichols, the 509th Bomb Wing commander were in attendance, as well as numerous other senior military leaders.

"You made TFI (Total Force Integration) exceptional — job exceptionally well done," Eaves told Fries.

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Western Missouri Medical Center (WMMC), welcomes Jackie Yates, DO! Dr. Yates provides pediatric care at Western Missouri Family Healthcare — Knob Noster, and is specialized in pediatric sleep medicine.

Dr. Yates is accepting appointments now.

Dr. Yates left the WMMC team in 2012 as the Chief of Pediatrics, and she has returned after completing a Fellowship in sleep medicine. As a board certified pediatrician and board eligible sleep medicine doctor, she will be providing **pediatric sleep medicine** to the greater area of Johnson County!

Western Missouri MEDICAL CENTER

Jackie Yates, DO

To make an appointment with Dr. Yates, please call **Western Missouri Family Healthcare - Knob Noster** at (660) 563-5555.

Missed TRICARE Open Season? There's still time to act!

TRICARE Communications

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — If you missed TRICARE Open Season, you still have time to enroll. For this year only, you can enroll in or change your TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select plan through Dec. 31, 2018 for coverage starting on Jan. 1, 2019. You may also change your type of enrollment, like switching from individual to family coverage.

If you're considering a change, don't delay. Starting on Jan. 1, 2019, you'll only be able to enroll or make changes to your TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select plan during open season or after a Qualifying Life Event (QLE). The next TRICARE Open Season will take place in fall of 2019.

A Qualifying Life Event is certain change in your life, such as marriage, birth of a child, or loss of a family member, which may mean different TRICARE options are available to you. A QLE opens a 90-day period for you to make eligible enrollment changes. A QLE for one family member means all family members may make enrollment changes. For more on QLEs,

visit Life Events on the TRICARE website.

You have three options to enroll in a TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select plan:

- Online: Go to the Beneficiary Web Enrollment website. (Stateside only)
- By phone: Call your TRICARE regional contractor.
- By mail: Send your enrollment form to your regional contractor.

The Federal Benefits Open Season also ended on Dec. 10, 2018. If you were eligible, this open season allowed you to enroll in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). If you wanted to enroll in FEDVIP, but missed the open season for reasons beyond your control, you may have a chance to apply for belated enrollment. To find out what options are available to you, visit the FEDVIP enrollment website at www.benefeds.com. You can also call 1-877-888-3337 for assistance.

To be sure you don't miss changes related to your TRICARE benefit, sign up to receive emails from TRICARE. You can also visit TRICARE Changes to keep updated on all changes to TRICARE.

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New Special Access Program Facility

**Senior Airman
Thomas Barley**
509th Bomb Wing
Public Affairs

Christmas came early this year for the 509th Maintenance Group in the form of a 58-foot-long by 14-foot-wide, 1.5 million-dollar building called a special access program

facility (SAPF).

This facility took nearly two years to go from conception to finished product, then had to travel nearly 900 miles from Pennsylvania, where it was built, to Whiteman Air Force Base, where it was delivered on Dec. 6, 2018.

The SAPF is part of a software system update

that gives signature diagnostics system greater data processing capabilities and much quicker processing times.

"We take up to 40-50 images a week and it takes about seven minutes to process each image," said Tech Sgt. Andrew Klein, the NCO in charge of RCS management assigned to

the 509th MXG. "With the update and facility we will be able to process images in under 10 seconds each."

The other advantage of this facility is that it will allow Airmen from the Low Observable flight to image the B-2 Spirit Stealth Bomber for any defects, making it easier to track repair and restoration metrics.

"We take radar images of the aircraft to see what its radar cross section (RCS) characteristics are, what the enemy sees, so we can tell the low observable structures guys which defects and which areas of the aircraft they need to work on," Klein said.

It's not just the inside of the facility that makes it special.

The facility will be placed on the flight line to improve efficiency by centralizing equipment, information and airmen.

"Our office is located off the flight line and most of the work we do is on the flight line, so that's where this facility comes into play," Klein said. "We're centralizing all of our information and equipment in one location."

Consolidating all of these components into the new SAPF facility will save the 509th MXG roughly 30 man-hours a week and will assure that B-2 repairs are made swiftly and more accurately than ever before.



Contractors prepare the special access program facility (SAPF) to be moved onto the flight line Dec. 6, 2018, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The addition of the SAPF looks to save the 509th Maintenance Group roughly 30 man hours a week with its quicker processing capabilities and more centralized location on the flight line. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Thomas Barley)



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Contractors successfully deliver the new special access program facility (SAPF) Dec. 6, 2018, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. The SAPF allows the 509th Maintenance Group to detect defects in its radar cross section characteristics. Fixing these defects is essential to the B-2 Spirit Bomber's stealth abilities. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Thomas Barley)



Activities & Events

Whiteman AFB Marketing
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This program provides up to 16 hours of free child for each child 12 years old and younger. The military member must be deploying within 30 days and provide a copy of their orders. Come to the FCC office for an application prior to participation. Reservations need to be made at least a week prior to the care date. Call for more details.

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This program provides up to 16 hours of free child for each child 12 years old and younger. The military member must be deployed for 30 days or more. A copy of the military members orders needs to be provided. Come to the FCC office for an application prior to participation. Reservations need to be made at least a week prior to the care date. Call for more details.



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509th FSS

Whiteman Air Force Base Upcoming Events

Friday, December 14th

Parents Night Out

6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Ages 6 weeks - 5 years will be at the CDC. Kindergarten+ will be at the Youth Center. Call (660) 687-5588 or (660) 687-5586.

Monday, December 17th

MWR Chipotle Fundraiser

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Want to help support future Morale, Welfare, and Recreation events at Whiteman AFB? Then join us for our Chipotle Fundraiser!

Wednesday, December 19th

Youth Recognition Ceremony

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Join us at the Youth Center.

Thursday, January 3rd

Roll Into a New Year

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Youth Event. Age 9-15 years old. Free for members | \$3 for non-members.

January 2019

Youth Membership

Ages 9-18 years old

@ Youth Center

Membership valid Jan - Dec 2019. \$84 per person. For more information call the Youth Center @ (660) 687-5586.

Wednesday, January 16th

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Graduates at Airman Leadership School

509th Bomb Wing Staff Reports

More than 40 airmen from across Whiteman Air Force Base graduated Airman Leadership School on Dec. 6, 2018.

The first level of the Enlisted Professional Military Education continuum prepares senior airmen to be professional, war-fighting airmen who can supervise and lead Air Force work teams to support the employment of airpower.

During the 24-day course, students develop leadership abilities, and learn about the profession of arms and how to build effective communication.

20th Attack Squadron

Senior Airman Joshua Benson
Senior Airman Jeffrey Colmyer
Senior Airman Scott Luhn

509th Medical Support Squadron

Senior Airman William Bernardino

509th Medical Operations Squadron

Senior Airman Tiffani-Amber Petit
Senior Airman Jennifer Dehn

509th Munitions Squadron

Senior Airman Joseph Buelt
Senior Airman Rachelle Lacey
Senior Airman Taylor Day
Senior Airman Matthew Archambault

509th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Senior Airman Eric Cassity
Senior Airman Robert Pelletier
Senior Airman Antonio Steward

509th Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Duane Faller

Senior Airman Corey Larsen

509th Force Support Squadron

Senior Airman Kristapher Hudson
Senior Airman Montel Robinson
Senior Airman Korie Fisher
Senior Airman Patrick Boots
Senior Airman Lorenzo Chua
509th Security Forces Squadron
Senior Airman George Lynch
Senior Airman Dylan Young
Senior Airman Ashley Dudley
Senior Airman Desmond Ford
Senior Airman Felix Menchaca-Rivas
Senior Airman Austin Clark
Senior Airman Brian Connolly

509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Hannah Maddox
Senior Airman Dustin Mathena
Senior Airman Julianna Taylor
Senior Airman Alec Kinney
Senior Airman Rosio Panyik
Senior Airman Joshua Parker
Senior Airman Jack Robbins
Senior Airman Aaron Hernandez
Senior Airman Elizabeth Meyer
Senior Airman Aaron Stane

509th Operations Support Squadron

Senior Airman Stephen Poe
Senior Airman Ian Massey
509th Civil Engineer Squadron
Senior Airman Cody Reynard
Senior Airman Tyler Stewart

509th Communications Squadron

Senior Airman Brodie Conrad

358th Fighter Squadron

Senior Airman Jacob Tighe



Rows of Airman Leadership School ribbons lay on a table during an ALS graduation ceremony on Dec. 6, 2018 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. More than 40 senior airmen from across the base completed the 24-day course. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Parker McCauley)

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LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Professional Women's Organization—1st Mon. of each month - Basement of City Hall

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

Knob Noster Area Business Council—4th Thurs. of each month. 660-563-1633 for more info.

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

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

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

Knob Noster Board of Aldermen—1st & 3rd Tues. each month - City Hall, 201 N. State Street

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 Knob Noster United Methodist Church, Arnold Sauther, 660-441-5219

Cub Scouts - Pack 405 Ben Pancoast, 660-238-5936

Cub Scouts - Pack 509 Knob Noster United Methodist Church

Girl Scouts - Jo Ellen Elwell 563-3514

Freedom of Road Riders, Local 33 - 3rd Sun. 1 p.m. - AMVETS Building

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