

# WARRIOR



## THE BEAD NECESSITIES

FALL HEALTH CHECKLIST



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- ▶ WELLNESS TIPS

PG. 8



## 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, 509th 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

Air Force Photo by Staff Sgt. Kayla White  
**The bear necessities of flu season include immunizations and prevention tactics.**



Staff Sgt. Aaron D. Miller, assigned to the 509th Security Forces Squadron, shows an anti-drone computer program to Maj. Gen. James C. Dawkins Jr., Eighth Air Force commander, on Oct. 22, 2018 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. Miller and other members of the 509th SFS demonstrated the security capabilities of the base to the general during his three-day visit to the area. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kayla White)

# 'Whiteman will shine'

Maj. Gen. James C. Dawkins, Jr., Eighth Air Force and Joint-Global Strike Operations Center commander, visited Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, Oct. 22-23, 2018.

Dawkins, a command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours, has been stationed across the country and internationally. He has filled a variety of command and strategic roles, including 13th Bomb Squadron director of operations, 509th Operations Group commander and 509th Bomb Wing vice commander.

"I never thought I would come back as the Eighth Air Force commander, that's for sure," said Dawkins, laughing warmly, during an interview at Missions End. "To come back and have the bomber units on my team is incredible. It's both an honor and privilege to command 'The Mighty Eighth'. I couldn't be happier."

Dawkins and his wife, Daina, visited the base with Chief Master Sgt. Shelley R. Cohen, the Eighth Air Force IMA command chief.

"I wanted to see how the Airmen were preparing for the high-end fight," said Dawkins, during an interview. "I wanted to see what advances have been made, what updates to policies and procedures have been put in place since I was stationed here seven years ago."

During the visit, the general received mission briefings and toured a B-2 Stealth Bomber and its training simulator. He also spent time with each group on base to learn about how they contribute to the overall mission.

Dawkins spent a couple of hours with members of the 509th Security Forces Squadron. He toured the shooting ranges on base, firing both a shotgun and a grenade launcher.

He also learned about and practiced room-clearing procedures, dressing in protective gear with Brig. Gen. John J. Nichols, the 509th BW commander, by his side.

Members of the SFS then performed a live demonstration with the base's counter-drone technology.

"It has been great to come back and see what progress has been made on this base, preparing for any adversary we might face," Dawkins said.

He highlighted the wing's accomplishments to include approximately 6,500 flying hours, reduced planning time for successful



Maj. Gen. James C. Dawkins Jr., Eighth Air Force commander, speaks to members of Team Whiteman during an all-call formation on Oct. 23, 2018 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. Dawkins took the opportunity to recognize the contributions of the 509th Bomb Wing and to answer questions during a Q-and-A forum. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kayla White)

missions, new modifications to the B-2 and overall completion of backlogged required maintenance.

"It speaks volumes of the base's ability to come together," he said.

Hundreds of Airmen from Whiteman deployed to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, in support of U.S. Strategic Command. The total-force integration deployment challenged active-duty and Guard units to collaborate in air operations tactics and hot-pit refueling of the B-2, during which the aircraft is refueled while engines are still running.

"What's great about that initiative was the opportunity to get into that expeditionary mindset," said Dawkins. "It allowed for us to learn how to operate in a new location while keeping the enemy on its toes."

Dawkins led an all-call assembly with members of the base to recognize them for their contributions and to discuss the future of their mission.

"I think they'll rise to any challenge that presents itself," he said. "Whether it is high-intensity or prolonged conflict, or an unexpected maintenance issue, Whiteman will shine."





# THE WHITEMAN WEEKLY WIRE

NEWS | UPDATES

The Whiteman Weekly Wire is published weekly in the Warrior and on [www.facebook.com/WhitemanAirForceBase](http://www.facebook.com/WhitemanAirForceBase).

Items to be published should be submitted no later

than noon on Wednesdays to: [whiteman.warrior@us.af.mil](mailto: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](http://www.whiteman.af.mil), and the Straight Talk line, which is 660-687-NEWS (6397).

## X 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

- Calling all NFL fans:** Support your favorite team by recording a video shout-out to be aired in stadium on the jumbo screen during the 2018-19 season. Contact Public Affairs at 660-687-5727.
- Whiteman Air Force Base gate times for Unit Training Assembly (UTA)** weekends on Saturdays and Sundays is 24 hours at the Spirit (main) Gate, with additional staffing from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., and 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. for inbound traffic only and 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for outbound traffic only at the Arnold (Knob Noster) Gate.
- Lost & Found:** 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](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/WhitemanAirForceBase).



## WEATHER

### FRIDAY

Chance Showers  
Hi 55 – Lo 38

### SATURDAY

Partly Sunny then  
Chance Showers  
Hi 56 – Lo 45

### SUNDAY

Mostly Cloudy  
Hi 56 – Lo 38

### MONDAY

Showers  
Hi 57 – Lo 44



## 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](mailto:tyler.anderson.14@us.af.mil).
- The Airman and Family Readiness Center needs front-desk volunteers to schedule appointments, answer phones, refer clients and more. Hours are flexible and childcare may be paid. Contact Ms. Holley Hudson at (660) 687-7132.
- Looking to get more invested in aviation? Join the Aviation Club at the base bowling alley at 4 p.m. Nov. 10. They will discuss the purpose of the club, future plans and timelines. For more information, search "Whiteman Aviation Club" on Facebook.
- 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.



## Upcoming Events

- 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. 660-687-7132.
- Los Angeles-based artist Gisela Colon** is at the State Fair Community College in Sedalia. Admission is free. The exhibit remains through Dec. 16.
- Veteran's Day Scramble** is 10 a.m., November 3 at the Royal Oaks Golf Course. The cost is \$40 for members and \$60 for non-members, which includes a golf cart, entry fee, lunch and green fees. Call the golf course at 660-

687-5572 to sign-up.

- Registration for the 2018 Christmas Greeting Card Contest** must be completed by November 16 and submissions are due by noon on November 27. Squadrons can win up to \$500 in gift cards. The winner will be announced at the holiday lighting event on December 4. Contact the marketing office at 660-687-7929 or [marketing3@us.af.mil](mailto:marketing3@us.af.mil) for more information.
- The USAF Palace Chase program**, which allows active duty Airmen and officers to transfer to the Air Force Reserve before their dates of separation, is hosting a briefing at 2 p.m. on November 14 at the Whiteman AFB Professional Development Center

auditorium. Learn about the qualifications for the program, application process and the Air Force Reserve.

- The Whiteman Youth Center** is hosting its annual Turkey Shoot 2018 on November 5 at the Youth Center Gym. The event is 5:30 p.m. for ages 5-8, at 6 p.m. for ages 9-12 and at 6:30 p.m. for ages 13-18. Turkeys will be given to the boy and girl winners from each category. For more information, call 660-687-3199.
- The 2018 Air Force Art Contest** is accepting entries through November 30. There are five categories: ages 6-8, ages 9-12, ages 13-17, and two categories for novice and accomplished adults. The top three participants in each category receive gift cards up to \$400. For more information, go to [www.myaairforcelife.com/arts](http://www.myaairforcelife.com/arts).



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\*\*Does not include filing fee which varies by county (\$102.00 Approx.) or the fee for service by publication if needed or the class required for divorces with minor children.  
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The Nutcracker and the Four Realms (PG) • Adults - \$7.00, children - \$4.75

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### A Word from Cathy and Larry Lust - Major General, USA (retired)

Larry Lust, MG, USA (retired) spent 35 years as an active duty member of the United States Army. A few years ago, he and his wife Cathy chose a more permanent place to live, Lakeview Village, a continuing care retirement community in Lenexa, Kansas.



*"It's one of the three best decisions we've made," Larry said. "We would get married again, we would have a career in the Army again, and we would move to Lakeview Village again."*

With a state-of-the-art fitness and aquatics center, medical clinic, bank, convenience store and social activities all within walking distance, the Lusts are thriving in Lakeview Village's friendly atmosphere where residents look after each other, just like their years in the military.

*"It's the people that make it," Cathy said. "In addition to the residents, the staff is just unbelievable."*

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by logging onto  
[www.whiteman.af.mil](http://www.whiteman.af.mil)**



## Total Force November 2018 Safety Gram



### Hunting



### Hunting Safety Tips

- Always treat every firearm as if it's loaded. Never climb a ladder or tree with a loaded rifle.
- Always be certain to clearly identify your target and what's behind it.
- After dark, or before daylight, use a flashlight when walking past another hunter's area to let them know your whereabouts.
- Double and triple check your rifle to make certain it's unloaded.
- Let someone know where you are going to be. We have all heard stories of accidents happening. It's a hunter's nature to be secretive about his or her exact location, but somebody needs to know.
- When hunting from an elevated stand, always wear a harness for the ascent, while hunting, and climbing down. No exceptions.
- Always wear hunter orange. You never know who else is out there.
- When deer hunting, never wear any white clothing that could be exposed like an undershirt. It could be mistaken for a deer.

**You Can Never B-2 Safe**

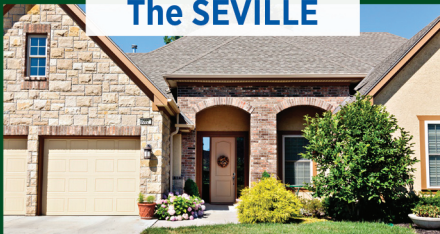
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### The SEVILLE



**2 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 2,220 Sq Ft**

This spacious home includes an expanded breakfast nook and a two-car garage. With several custom touches, it is simply stunning. Cozy up with your morning coffee in the sun room, or enjoy a book in the sitting area of the Master Suite. Download a floor plan at [lakeviewvillage.org/Seville](http://lakeviewvillage.org/Seville)



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# Whiteman Elementary celebrates fall with Harvest Day fun



US Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ashley Adkins

Students, teachers and staff at Whiteman Elementary enjoy a tractor hayride, games, bounce houses, a petting zoo and more on Friday, Oct. 26, 2018, during the school's annual Harvest Day. Whiteman Elementary is the only school on Whiteman Air Force Base and has about 360 students, grades kindergarten through fourth grade.



## Thanksgiving at the Ozark Inn

**Staff Sgt. Kayla White**

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The Ozark Inn dining facility is scheduled to host two Thanksgiving events in November, kicking off the holiday season by bringing Team Whiteman together.

The first will be a free event for spouses of deployed members and their children from 6:30-8 p.m. on November 15, 2018. Please contact Tech. Sgt. Kira Otero, the 509th Force Support Squadron readiness NCO, at 660-687-7132 to register. The last day to do so will be November 8, 2018.

"We try to host these type of events for the families of deployed members about once a month," said Otero. "It's a great way for people to network and build the relation-

ships with people in similar situations, which will sustain them throughout the deployment. It truly caters to that concept of comprehensive airman fitness."

The second event on November 22, 2018 will be open to all DOD customers, which includes both active and retired military members and their immediate families. Please contact Tech. Sgt. Jessica Ancheta at the dining facility at 660-687-6991 with any questions.

Both events will offer an array of traditional Thanksgiving foods such as turkey, mashed potatoes and rolls, another entrée option, and desserts such as ice cream floats and apple pie.

A kid's menu meal option of chicken nuggets and french fries will also be available.



# Whiteman AFB library enriches lives through education, entertainment

Dennis Wilson, the Whiteman Air Force Base Library director, poses for a portrait on October 29, 2018 at the Library at Whiteman AFB, Missouri. Wilson has worked at the library here since January 2006 where he said he has been able to expand his understanding of the military and serve a wide array of patrons. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Airman Parker J. McCauley)



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

Free Wi-Fi, children's story times and craft events, and over 28,000 DVDs, board games, books, and more are available at the Whiteman Air Force Base library.

There to connect people to these resources, the library staff works to inform, empower and enrich the lives of the Whiteman AFB community.

Dennis Wilson, the Whiteman AFB Library director, said the rewards of visiting the base library are immeasurable, highlighting new additions at the library including the Chief of Staff of the Air Force reading list, 50 new board games and countless new-release books.

The Chief of Staff 2018 Professional Reading List includes six categories such as Leadership and Decision Making, Heritage, and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force picks.

Wilson said the library acquired the new board games as part of an Office of the Secretary of Defense initiative bringing board games to libraries across the Department of Defense. The library also acquired several of the board games with local funds to enhance their collection.

"I think the sense of a physical board game and the connectedness of family or friends playing games is beneficial not only to individuals, but the family unit," Wilson said.

In addition to the CSAF reading list, the library offers a variety of other resources for education and entertainment.

Test prep is offered for the SAT, ACT, the Air Force Officer Qualification Test and the College Level Examination Program, among others. Prep materials include study guides and full-length practice tests.

Other educational resources include professional military reading, CAC-enabled computers and a nonfiction section.

"Our mission is a tri-fold mission," Wilson said. "One is support of the Air Force mission, in which we try to acquire mission essential resources, be it journals or publications, for individual offices. Second, education. It could be professional military education or voluntary, so we have a wide array of nonfiction as well as thousands of full-text journals, as well as lots of homework help, grade school through high school. Third, is quality of life for our Airmen and their families."

On the first and third Wednesday of the month from September through May story time is at 11:30 a.m., and during the summer months the library offers a summer reading program.

The library has regular hours six days a week, though individuals who have signed up have access to the library's online resources, which are available 24/7.

"Take Advantage of this tremendous resource," Wilson said, "not only for your professional development, but also just your personal recreation, your resiliency."

For more information go to <https://www.whitemanfss.com/library> <https://www.whitemanfss.com/library> or call 660-687-5614

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## WAFB Library

Who: about 3,000 patrons visit monthly  
What: about 3,000 - 4,000 items are checked out monthly

## Hours of Operation

**Monday-Friday**  
9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Saturday**  
10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Sunday/Holidays**  
Closed

Online resources are available 24/7.





## COVER PHOTO CONTEST

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Post a photo to Facebook & Instagram from one of our parks and you could be showcased on our Winter/Spring Activity Guide cover!

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#WPRCoverContest

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- Command and law enforcement not involved.
- Maintain privacy; access medical treatment, victim advocacy, counseling and support.
- You MUST report ONLY to:
  - Military health care provider
  - Family Advocacy Program Manager
  - Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate
  - Clinical Treatment Provider

REPORTING TO OTHERS MAY TRIGGER COMMAND OR LAW ENFORCEMENT INVOLVEMENT.

**UNRESTRICTED REPORTING COMMAND & LAW ENFORCEMENT INVOLVED**

- Launches an official investigation.
- Access command support, medical treatment, victim advocacy, counseling and support.
- Incidents will be reported to:
  - Command
  - Law enforcement
  - Family Advocacy Program
- For domestic violence emergencies, call 911. ALL REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE ARE UNRESTRICTED AND WILL BE INVESTIGATED.

**BE SAFE, GET THE HELP YOU NEED.**

Contact your Installation's Family Advocacy Program or Military OneSource 800-342-9647 | [www.MilitaryOneSource.mil](http://www.MilitaryOneSource.mil)  
The National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-7233 | [www.TheHotline.org](http://www.TheHotline.org)

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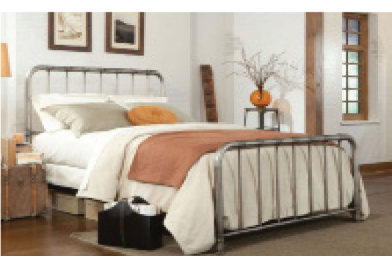
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Four-year-old Leon Sidari passed away from bacterial pneumonia following the flu two days after the onset of symptoms on Dec. 25, 2017. (Courtesy photo)



Doctors Anthony and Laura Sidari and sons Cameron and Tristan receive flu shots at the Wright-Patterson Medical Center's immunization clinic on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. (Courtesy photo)

# Wright-Patterson AFB mother, physician tells story of heartbreaking loss

**Amy Rollins**  
Skywrighter Staff

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) — Dr. Laura Sidari is speaking out because her family suffered a horrendous loss last Christmas Day.

The Air Force psychiatrist at the Wright-Patterson Medical Center on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and her husband, Dr. Anthony Sidari, a rheumatologist, lost their 4-year-old son, Leon, to complications of influenza. He passed away at a medical facility elsewhere from bacterial pneumonia following the flu, two days following onset of symptoms on Dec. 23.

Although the Sidari family had vaccinated for the flu in prior seasons, Leon died prior to receiving his flu shot that season, Sidari said. He had been scheduled to be vaccinated Jan. 3.

"Last year, if I had seen a story like my own, I would have prioritized the flu shot differently," she said. "As a physician, even I was unaware of the significant risk that the flu posed to my healthy child. Through reaching out to others, including other physician parents, I have discovered that I am not alone in that misconception."

"Leon's story places a name and a face — a beautiful and loved and special human being — behind the numbers that are often buried in databases and scattered across headlines," Sidari said. "As difficult as it is for me as a mother, I share Leon's story so that someday other families may not have to. As I have devastatingly learned through Leon, flu-related complications are often aggressive and difficult to treat."

Healthy children may be more at risk for suffering a flu-related death. Research of flu-related deaths provides evidence for the flu shot providing a 65 percent reduction in risk for flu-related mortality in healthy children, and a 41 percent reduction in mortality

## TRICARE open enrollment for next year begins soon

### From 509th Bomb Wing staff reports

TRICARE's open season for enrollment is November 12-December 10, 2018.

Open season is an annual period during which beneficiaries can enroll in a health plan for the next year. This includes switching from an individual enrollment to a family enrollment, or to enroll in a new TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select plan entirely.

"This is the first time TRICARE has implemented an open season for enrollment," said 2nd Lt. Sarah E. Trachte, TRICARE operations and patient administration flight commander, assigned to the 509th Medical Support Squadron. "If members do not change plans during this timeframe, they will have to remain in

their current policy for one full calendar year."

This restriction does not apply after certain lifetime qualifying events such as childbirth or marriage.

Running concurrently with the TRICARE open season, the FEDVIP open season is the only time active-duty family members and retirees can enroll and obtain additional insurance, such as enhanced optometry benefits, said Trachte.

Contact the Whiteman Air Force Base Beneficiary Counselor and Debt Collection representatives with any further questions about benefits eligibility at 660-687-2188, Option 3, Option 1.

All beneficiaries to register for updates regarding new FEDVIP vision for family members at [www.benefeds.com](http://www.benefeds.com).

lished by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Many of these children died before reaching the hospital.

Sidari is quick to point out that she is speaking only from her perspective as a mother — not a pediatric specialist — who made sure her children received every vaccination recommended.

"I really wanted to understand the likelihood that we were going to lose our other children," she said. "That's how I found this information."

The mother, with the full support of her husband, now wants to dispel the common misconception that good health affords protection against the flu, and the entire Sidari family received flu shots at the Wright-Patterson Medical Center immunization clinic the first week of October.

The American Academy of Pediatrics and the CDC recommend the flu shot for everyone older than the age of 6 months with few medical exceptions.

The Sidari family faces this holiday season without their first-born, who loved Christmas. His mother remembers him as good big brother who was kind and sensitive, loved cats and gave compliments. Small things are what mattered to him.

"Nothing prepares you as a parent for coming home and having to unwrap Christmas presents for a child who never can," she said.

"As parents, there are many demands on our time and energy, particularly around the holidays," Sidari said. "The flu shot can too easily and understandably slip through the cracks due to busy schedules."

"In my experience, it is worth prioritizing this time of the year. This is a necessary appointment. Bringing awareness to the flu shot will not bring Leon back. I do, however, believe in the healing power of connecting with others," she said.

## Flu Shot Update

**Starting immediately the Medical Group Immunizations Clinic has begun offering the Influenza (flu) vaccine to dependents and retirees on a walk-in basis, Monday through Friday during normal duty hours, 7:30 A.M. to Noon and 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.**

risk for children with pre-existing medical issues. Approximately 80 percent of children who pass away each season from flu-related complications did not have their flu shot that

season.

As of Oct. 6, there have been more than 180 children lost to the 2017-2018 influenza season, according to online information pub-

# INFLUENZA

also known as the flu, is a viral infection associated with the upper respiratory system.

Symptoms can include: runny nose, congestion, coughing, sore throat, cold sweats, high fever, headaches, muscle aches, fatigue, vomiting, and diarrhea.

1 person can carry the flu for up to 7 days before falling ill, and remain contagious for 2 days.

5 to 20% of the U.S. population will get the flu every year -- roughly 64,000,000 people.

Getting your flu vaccine reduce the odds of contracting the virus by about 60%.

Every day precautions include washing your hands with soap and warm water, coughing into your sleeve and sanitizing workspaces.

The Centers for Disease Control and prevention recommend children over the age of 6 receive a flu shot annually.





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## AF week in photos



Staff Sgt. Channing Henry, 31st Expeditionary Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operation Repair Squadron Engineer pavement and equipment journeyman, operates an asphalt paver on a test strip at Nigerien Air Base 201, Niger, Oct. 19, 2018. Airmen evaluate the equipment and materials several times before laying down the actual runway. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Rachelle Coleman)



Lt. Col. Madison Woo, an F-16 Fighting Falcon jet pilot assigned to the 157th Fighter Squadron, greets his family on the flightline at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, S.C., October 20, 2018, after a successful Air Expeditionary Force deployment to an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. The South Carolina Air National Guard's 169th Fighter Wing deployed F-16 fighter jets and Airmen consisting of pilots, maintenance specialists and support staff to the 407th Air Expeditionary Group in July in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Caycee Watson)



An F-22 Raptor flies behind a KC-135 Stratotanker during aerial refueling training off the coast of Finland, Oct 19, 2018. The F-22 deployed from the 27th Fighter Squadron, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Luke Milano)



# Ike Skelton Park to receive new playground equipment

The Whiteman Air Force Base community should be advised that the playground equipment at the Ike Skelton Park off of Windsor Drive is scheduled to close on November 1, 2018 for up to six weeks. The equipment will be replaced with an updated design for families to enjoy.

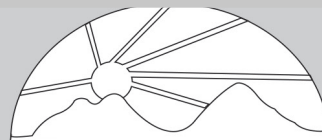


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**Lion's Club**—2nd & 4th Mon. 7 p.m. - Jubilation Center

**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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# Commander provides update brief to Air Force leadership

By Tech. Sgt. Rachelle Blake  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFNS) – Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein and Chief Mas-

ter Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright visited Tyndall Air Force Base Oct. 27, for the second time since Hurricane Michael caused catastrophic damage.

Since Vice President Mike Pence announced plans to rebuild Tyndall AFB

earlier this week, the base has been actively strategizing a way forward.

After taking time to recognize Airmen from around the base for their efforts to support the post-storm recovery, Goldfein and Wright received an update brief from Col. Brain Laidlaw, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

Laidlaw led with information on Task Force Harp, which is focused on the base's most important asset, its people.

"We are now leaning forward and squadron commanders are looking down their rosters, person by person, trying to figure out what works best for each situation," he said.

The status of Task Force Phoenix came next, which is responsible for infrastructure.

Laidlaw said their job is to save what they can and, from there, build the base that is needed.

To support that mission, 1,200 people have been brought in so far.

"Every single one of these people were sent here for a reason and they have been doing amazing work," said Laidlaw. "We are taking people in as fast as we can feed them and as fast as we can find a place for them to live and every single one of them is doing exactly what we asked them to do."

In addition, he announced the base

now has power and they are carefully and systematically turning on various circuits. The sewer is fully operational to include the waste water and treatment plant.

Of the 704 buildings, not including housing, more than 300 have been inspected and at least 37 percent are fixable.

"If you would have asked me two weeks ago how many of our buildings we thought would be operational, I would not have told you 37 percent," Laidlaw said. "That is a good news story."

His said he is in awe of what his team has been accomplishing.

"This has been a proud two weeks to be in the Air Force," said Laidlaw. "As traumatic as this has been for our community, the 1,200 people we have on this base are getting the opportunity to do exactly what we have trained them to do. We have the right people, right here."

Goldfein said he was impressed with the actions taken before the storm to ensure the safety of the Airmen and families there.

"You all saved lives," he said. "In 48 hours you evacuated 11,000 people off the base and 100 miles away and not a single injury. That is a record. I don't think that has happened in the history of this kind of storm."



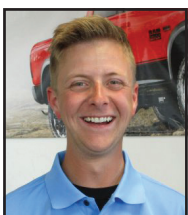
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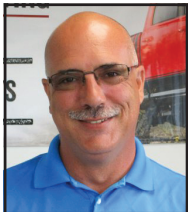
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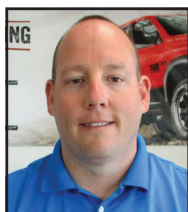
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Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright visit troops Oct. 27, 2018, at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. Since Hurricane Michael swept the area, multiple major commands have mobilized assets to aid recovery operations at Tyndall AFB to address catastrophic damage sustained by the base. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Sean Carnes)





# Activities & Events

Whiteman AFB Marketing  
660-687-7929

Whiteman Youth Center Annual

## Turkey SHOOT 2018

**Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**

- 5:30 p.m. Youth ages 5-8
- 6:00 p.m. Youth ages 9-12
- 6:30 p.m. Youth ages 13-18

**Youth Center Gym**

**FREE EVENT!**



(660) 687-5586

**Family Child Care Office**

**(660) 687-5590**

### Wounded Warrior Care (WWC)

Short-term care for children of wounded warriors. All reservations must be made through the FCC office. Once Air Force has received verification of the needed care, they will decide on the amount of time to be allotted. Call for more details.

### Child Care for Fallen Warriors

Short-term care for children of fallen military members. All reservations must be made through the FCC office. Once Air Force has received verification of the needed care, they will decide on the amount of time to be allotted. Call for more details.

STARS & STRIKES BOWLING CENTER

## All You Can Eat

**Wednesday, 7 November**  
**10:30 a.m. - Gone**

**Spaghetti & Meat Balls**  
**w/Drink \$8.00**

(660) 687-5114

## Whiteman Air Force Base Upcoming Events

**Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Veterans Day Scramble**

**10 a.m. Shotgun Start**

Grab some friends and enjoy the cooler weather at the Royal Oaks Golf Course!

\$60 per person | \$40 for members

Call (660) 687-5572 to sign up.

**Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Turkey Shoot @ Youth Center**

**5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Score big and win a turkey just in time for Thanksgiving!

**FREE!**

Youth ages 5 - 18 years.

Call (660) 687-5586 for more information.

**Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Braids to Buns @ Youth Center**

**5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Enjoy a Hair Styling Workshop for parents.

Food, drinks, and entertainment provided.

Registration due by November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Call (660) 687-7132 to register.

**Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**

**All You Can Eat Spaghetti & Meatballs**

**10:30 a.m. - Gone**

Come to the Stars & Strikes Bowling Center for all you can eat spaghetti & meatballs with drink for only \$8!

Call (660) 687-5114 for more information.

**Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**

**First Friday @ Mission's End**

**2 p.m. - 10 p.m.**

Join us for games and activities for everyone, always remember to arrive with a plan!

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Call (660) 687-4422 for more information.

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# Air Force awards Cyber Command's \$54.6M cyber weapons system

Lauren C. Williams

FWC Media

U.S. Cyber Command is one step closer to building its massive cyber weapons system, Unified Platform.

The Air Force, which is facilitating the acquisition, awarded Northrop Grumman a \$54.6 million contract to develop, integrate, deploy and maintain the system, which will be responsible for fulfilling offensive and defensive cyber operations, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

The award represents Cyber Command's biggest program acquisition at a time when the organization has little authority, with a \$75 million cap and a small, but growing, acquisition office.

"We are really hamstrung at the moment in relying on the current [contracting] vehicles out there from others," Stephen Schanberger, command acquisition executive for Cyber Command said during a panel at the last month's Billington Cybersecurity Summit. "And in some cases we've had to adjust our scope to match up to the contract versus waiting for them to put another whole contract vehicle or task order onto a contract."

The setup also restricts Cyber Com-



mand's ability to allocate dollars for services being performed, which can cause a lag in reporting and tracking progress, he said.

As for Unified Platform, which will connect the military services' cyber platforms and capabilities, Schanberger said the command expects to completely transition the program to the Air Force, which has been facilitating the acquisition, in fiscal 2019 but would retain one-

third of the governing chairs overseeing the prototype program.

Cyber Command will also have influence over the requirements and what the "first deliverables will be and how that all gets implemented," he said, noting that how things will be carried out was to be determined.

The Unified Platform award was made via the General Services Administration's Alliant Governmentwide Ac-

"We are really hamstrung at the moment in relying on the current [contracting] vehicles out there from others."

**Stephen Schanberger**  
Command Acquisition

*Executive for Cyber Command*

quisition Contract. Two million dollars in fiscal 2019 funds for operations and maintenance -- including research, development, test and evaluation -- have been obligated since the award on Oct. 26, according to a Pentagon contract notice. Work is expected to finish in three years.



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# Airman leaves Dominican Republic to pursue the American dream

**Tech. Sgt. Liliana Moreno**

621st Contingency Response Wing Public Affairs

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFNS) – Growing up in Consuelo, a small town in the Dominican Republic, an Airman from the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron was torn between staying behind to help support his seven siblings or leaving to pursue the American dream.

“I came from a modest family,” said Tech. Sgt. Rafael Escoto Roa, 571st MSAS air transportation specialist air advisor. “My father made just enough money to support the family.”

When Escoto was only 16, his life drastically changed when their house burned down due to an electrical fire and his dad was laid-off from his job around the same time.

“That was a rough time,” he said. “After my dad lost his job, he decided to migrate to the United States in search of better job opportunities.”

During his father’s absence, Escoto became the only male figure in the house with seven sisters and his stepmother.

After graduating high school, his dream was to go to college to pursue an education in Computer Science, but he knew that also meant he’d have to leave his family behind.

“My mom knew how much this meant to me, so she gave me her blessing and sent me to the U.S. to pursue my dream,” Escoto said.

## Moving to the United States

He packed his bags and started his journey into an unknown territory. Escoto first moved to Miami, but quickly realized he could not afford the schools there. He then moved to New York with hopes of getting some help to pay for schools through grants or scholarships. Yet again, he could not find schools or help.

After some research, Escoto became fascinated with the Air Force mission and decided to join in 1999. Two years later, the entire country was shaken after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

“At that time, I was stationed at Hurlburt Field, Florida, and I was told I couldn’t deploy because I needed to be a citizen,” he said. “We had a lot of missions going out and I always had to stay behind because of my immigration status.”

## Citizenship, service, education

Escoto felt it was his duty to deploy with his fellow Airmen and he desperately wanted to serve the country that had helped his family for so many years.

“I was trying to find out a way that I could become a citizen, I wanted to deploy,” he said. “I found out about the expedited citizenship program, so once I met the necessary pre-requisites I submitted my citizenship application.”

Escoto said he waited with anticipation for the moment he could deploy with his team.

“After becoming a U.S. citizen, I felt like I was finally part of the team,” he said. “I was no longer the Airman that had to be left behind. I was right there with my team, going out the door and taking care of the mission.”

While serving in the military, he also completed his master’s degree in Cyber Security and several Information Technology certifications.

After almost 20 years of service, Escoto said he feels humbled and lucky to be retiring in one of the greatest units in the Air Force.

“To say that the 571st MSAS has been a highlight in my career is an understatement,” he said. “Being able to have an impact on the Latin community has been a dream of mine for some time.”

The 571st MSAS mission is to strengthen partner nation’s capabilities through providing assessments, training, advising and assisting partner nations in developing their own airpower capabilities. The unit includes Spanish speaking Airmen and is aligned with the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility.

## Back in the Dominican Republic

One of Escoto’s most memorable trips with the MSAS was during a mobile training mission to advise the Dominican Republic Air Force.

“My job as an air advisor is to help the U.S. Air Force to continue to build and foster relationships with the Latin community,” he said. “It was very rewarding to see first-hand how with each follow-on engagement we’re helping them improve their airpower capabilities.”

Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Minnifield, 571st MSAS Superintendent, spoke highly of Escoto and said he has always been a valued member of the squadron.

“As a team sergeant, Escoto led all of our air advisors during the Dominican Republic training mission,” Minnifield said. “He worked hand in hand with the partner nations leadership, to include their Chiefs of Staffs, coordinating all the logistics, personnel and training courses.”

Aside from working with the Dominican Republic Air Force, Escoto was able to arrange an opportunity for him and his teammates to volunteer at one of the youth baseball leagues that he used to be a part of while growing up in Consuelo.

“I always wanted to go back to my town and do something for the community,” he said. “When I saw those kids, I immediately saw a mirror image of myself at that age. Back then, I’d have never guess in a million years that I’d be where I am today.”

“It was important for me that they could see me wearing this uniform,” Escoto added. “That day, those kids saw someone that was in the same place they are now. I wanted to show them that in life we can all be part of something bigger than ourselves.”



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### 3. Bring completed coupon to the Sedalia Democrat 8am-5pm, Mon.-Fri.

### 4. OR, mail this coupon with stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

**Sedalia Democrat**  
**700 S. Massachusetts**  
**Sedalia, MO 65301**