

2nd Fighter Wine Vide

October news briefs

Wing hosts Family Day

A-50s By over 9/11 KC Chiefs pre-game ROA scholarship deadline extended

442nd reservists teach students about

freedom through 9/11 remembrance

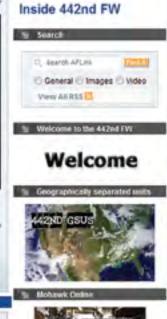
442nd Reservists win ORI

476th FG works though TFI, succeeds

Same players, same game

Check out the 442nd Fighter Wing at www.442fw.afrc.af.mil





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Fall is in the air, and snowflakes are not far behind for those of us at Whiteman AFB where we've already had our first freezing temperatures. With the change of seasons, the 442nd Fighter Wing is also going through a slight change in priorities

to increase emphasis on our upcoming process inspections now that our operational readiness inspection is successfully behind us.

Our top priority will always be to support combat deployments, and the 476th Fighter Group at Moody AFB, Ga. has once again proven its combat capability with the return of their latest group of AEF volunteers - welcome home! AEF preparations are also well under way for

Whiteman and Barksdale with dozens of people and several jets already downrange. For those who are going to combat, that's exactly what you should be concentrating on.

For those of us who aren't lucky enough to deploy this time, we need to help those deploying, and then look out on the horizon toward next year's compliance inspections, or CIs. These CIs are scheduled for October 2012, and include a unit compliance inspection, health services inspection (HSI), and logistics compliance assessment program (LCAP) inspection.

I know most of you would rather get your teeth drilled than go through another inspection, but we will all benefit from these inspections because they will validate and help us improve on our priority to Care for Airmen and Families.

We'll prepare for these inspections in much the same way as we prepared for the ORI.

Maj. Cathy Roberts, 442nd Operations Group executive officer, will be the wing CI team chief. She recently went to Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. to observe an inspection, and she will lead a steering group comprised of members across the wing to build and oversee our plan to win this inspection. We'll continue to send observers to CIs at other wings so we can benchmark their good ideas, and we will host staff assistance visits from higher headquarters to check our progress along the

Although the CI steering group will play a crucial role in this inspection, our success will depend on each individual person having his or her affairs in order.

In the next few months you'll see more detailed lists of the items that we are all responsible for complying with, but here are a few for starters:

Commander's Commentary

- 1. Current, passing fitness tests
- 2. Skills training completed on time and properly documented
- Current physical health assess ments, dental exams and medical readiness requirements
- 4. Current enlisted and officer per

formance

reports and decorations

- Properly conducted and documented feed back sessions
- Current and accurate self inspections
- Properly reconciled government travel cards, orders and travel vouchers
- Current and accurate continuity books
- Properly documented timecards (for air reserve technicians and civilians)
- Family care plans should be current and accurate
- Good general housekeeping- clean up, orga nize and get rid of stuff if we don't need it

I know that cleaning up this kind of stuff is not as exciting as dodging rockets in theater, but a good "spring cleaning" of our processes and programs will pay big dividends in improving of our people's records, careers and workspaces.

The good news is that this is not a difficult inspection IF we start now and work together. On the other hand, waiting until the last minute to try to build and document programs is a sure recipe for disaster, so thanks for your help in attacking this inspection now.

Have a great Thanksgiving!



**EDITOR** 

PA STAFF

nembers of the U.S. military services.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 442nd Fighter Wing public affairs office, 931 Arnold Avenue, Whiteman Air Force

MOHAWK

Wingman Day is scheduled to take place

throughout the wing who have had to learn

scheduled to be shown during mandatory

Nov. 6. A video will feature members

about the Will to Survive. The video is

wing commander's calls.



WARRENSBURG, Mo. – The 442nd Maintenance Group celebrated its annual Hogfest awards banquet, Oct. 15 in Elliott Ballroom at the University of Central Missouri, here.

The event, this year named Hogtoberfest, featured German food and music and honored more than 55 maintainers who won quarterly maintenance awards. Thirteen awards were presented by squadron commanders, including junior and senior enlisted members of the year, crew chiefs of the year, specialist flight technician, load crew team, back shop technician and munitions junior and senior enlisted members of the year.

Distinguished guests, to include a few familiar faces, filled the crowd of more than 300 attendees. Former 442nd Fighter Wing Vice Commander Col. James Mackey and former 303rd Fighter Squadron Commander Col. Brian Borgen attended the event to recognize the enlisted force – most of whom contributed to combat sorties flown by both commanders.

While the event focuses on enlisted personnel, it afforded some officers the opportunity to show their appreciation as well. This was most notably seen when **Lt. Col. Stephen Chappel**, 442nd Operations Support Flight commander and A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot, cheered as the emcee read off the nomination for **Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Hankins**, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief.

"When those pilots are there and they cheer and say that's awesome that you were nominated, that shows a lot of respect to

those maintainers," said **Senior Master Sgt. Michael Bannon**, Hogtoberfest co-chairman.

The Hogfest Awards were established by the 442nd Maintenance group nearly 20 years ago to recognize the outstanding performance and dedication of enlisted personnel. Members are nominated by their supervisors, flight chiefs or superintendents. Nominations are then entered into a judging process, which is time-consuming and requires careful consideration of the attributes of each individual. The quarterly winners are those whose deeds or performance were deemed to be the absolute top quality of all nominations for that cycle.

Quarterly winners are then entered into the judging process for the annual award. During the judging process, all quarterly winners are given consideration based on the impact their deeds and performance had on the mission of the 442nd Fighter Wing on the personnel in the 442nd MXG.

Group Commander Col. Michael Wood presented the maintenance group junior and senior enlisted members of the year.

Staff Sgt. Kim Stone, 442nd MXG training, was awarded Junior Enlisted Member of the Year 2011 for her contributions to the wing's success with the operational readiness inspection. Because of her contributions, the 442nd FW was the first in the Air Force Reserve Command to reach 100 percent user capability in the training business arena. She also contributed to the management of the medical and war training readiness of the

maintenance organization. Stone was noted as having a hardcharging attitude that brought her to the forefront when she was recognized as a top performer during the 2011 Red Flag Deployment and later noted for her participation as a charter member of the Airman's Council.

Master Sgt. Stephen Luke, 442nd Engine Shop, was awarded Senior Enlisted Member of the Year 2011. He was noted for his management of 98 deployable assets valued at more than \$70 million and his performance of an entire engine fleet with a mission-capable rate of 95 percent or more. His expertise and training enabled him to be one of only two enlisted aviation safety investigators in the group and an integral part in prevention of future mishaps. He is enrolled in a Master of Aviation Safety program, has a bachelor's degree in professional aeronautics, an airframe and powerplant license, and is a commercial pilot on single and multi-engine aircraft.

While recognizing enlisted members is the purpose of the event, Bannon said it's also a great time for Airmen to get together and interact on a social level.

"There are a lot of people who stand out and do some great things in this organization, and we need to continue to have an event like this that recognizes those great people," Bannon said.

Other award winners were the following:

Maintenance Squadron Junior Enlisted Member of the Year – Senior Airman Nicole Thompson

Maintenance Squadron Senior Enlisted Member of the Year – **Master Sgt. Stephen Luke** 

Munitions/Armament Flight Junior Enlisted Member of the Year – Senior Airman Benjamin Valenti

Munitions/Armament Flight Senior Enlisted Member of the

Year - Tech. Sgt. Toby McCord

Maintenance Squadron Back Shop Member of the Year – **Tech. Sgt. Michael Schuler** 

Junior Enlisted Member of the Maintenance Group/Maintenance Operations Flight – **Staff Sgt. Kim Stone** 

Senior Enlisted Member of the Maintenance Group/Maintenance Operations Flight – Tech. Sgt. Michael Jewell

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Junior Enlisted Member of the Year – Staff Sgt. Kyle Brown

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Senior Enlisted Member of the Year – Tech. Sgt. John Straka

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Assistant Crew Chief of the

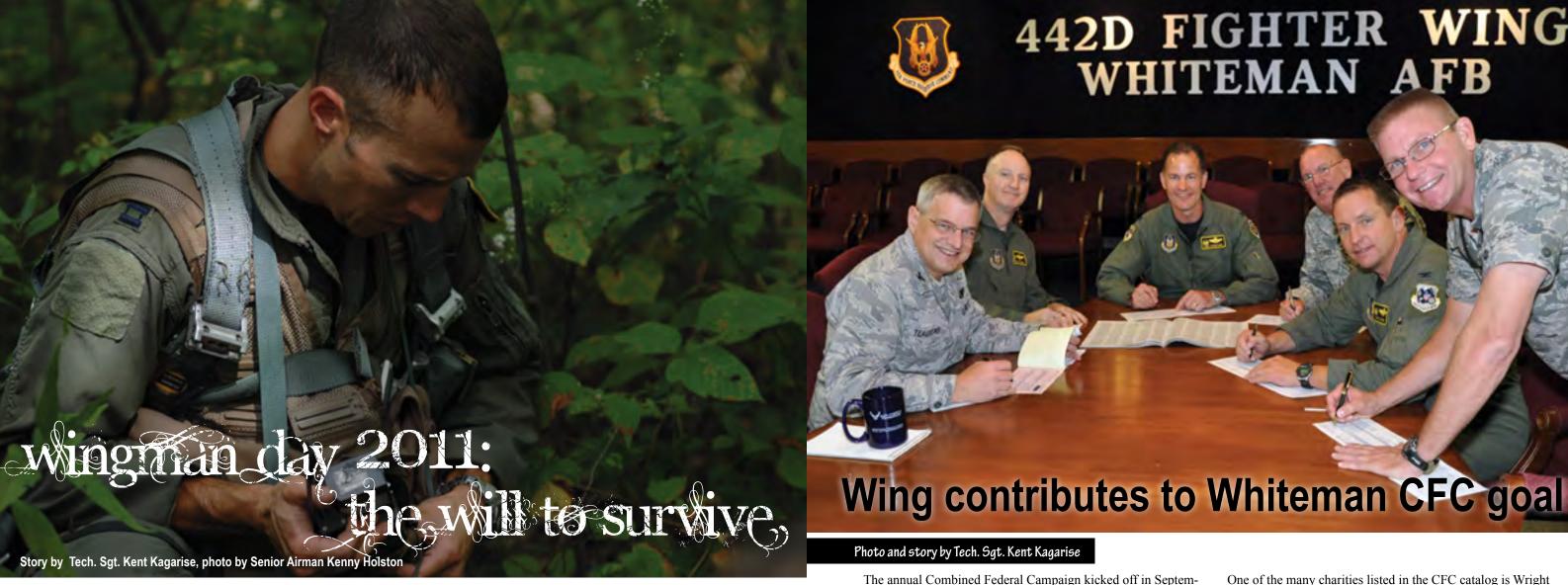
Year – Senior Airman Tariq Lewis
Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Crew Chief of the Year – Mas-

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Crew Chief of the Year – Master Sgt. Elgin Cline

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Load Crew of the Year – Master Sgt. Robert Holtshouser, Senior Airman Clinton Bowers, Airman 1st Class Kyle Whitlock

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Specialist Flight Member of the Year – **Tech. Sgt. Richard Hoff** 

4 MOHAWK MOHAWK



The 442nd Fighter Wing is scheduled to conduct Wingman Day, Nov. 6 in an effort to create an atmosphere of awareness.

A video with testimonies of Citizen Airmen who have displayed resilience through difficult times will be shown followed by a discussion focused on seeking help when needed.

"We've done this before on Wingman Days and it's been a successful program," said Lt. Col. Patrick Murphy, 442nd FW safety chief. "We would like to have 100 percent participation. The theme this time will be 'The Will to Survive'."

Murphy said from his first days as a fighter pilot he remembers much of the training being from an aspect of survival. As an A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot, who routinely trains for combat search and rescue missions, survival training is essential.

"If you get shot down, your people are going to come looking for you, but you need to have the will to survive until they get there," Murphy said. "It's the same in day-to-day life. There are people here to help an Airman through difficult times, but you have to allow those people to rescue

Murphy said last year's Wingman Day provided an opportunity for Airmen to step forward and get help on issues with which they may be struggling.

"Statistically speaking, we are seeing more and more suicides in the active duty as well as the Reserve." Murphy said.

Maj. Jen Burgett, 442nd Equal Opportunity, said Wingman Day is not just a day, but an attitude that every Airman should have. Burgett is a featured speaker in this year's wingman video.

"I think we have developed silos, and we're not aware of other people because we are so focused on what we have to do throughout our own personal duty day," Burgett said. "To be a better wingman we must break out of our silos."

Burgett said that if Airmen are not taking advantage of this opportunity for education they are choosing to ignore resources that are available to every shop that could potentially save a life.

"Our leadership is asking us to take this

time to set our usual activities to the side so we can participate with the information in a very proactive way," she said.

Master Sgt. Karen Hahn, 442nd Medical Squadron, said Wingman Day is a reassurance that we are all in the same boat, and that we can rely on one another. In the video, Hahn talks about finding her own will to survive during her battle with

"It's important because people are sometimes too afraid to ask for help," she said. "This allows them to know it's OK to come forward and it serves to strengthen the bonds of people who work together."

Hahn said in the past she has witnessed Airmen coming forward to seek help who would not have had the courage before watching the video and discussing it.

"I've seen people go from being sad and not talking, to happy and moving their Air Force career in a positive direction," Hahn

Wingman Day will be an opportunity for Airmen to express themselves as well as reach out to those who may be struggling.



The annual Combined Federal Campaign kicked off in September and continues through Nov. 10. The CFC is a program that allows Airmen to donate money to various non-profit organizations.

Each of the 442nd Fighter Wing's groups has a CFC representative who can guide Airmen through the CFC catalog, which contains a list of over 2,000 charitable organizations.

Capt. Keith Yersak, 442nd FW executive officer, said he has been giving through CFC throughout his Air Force career and views it as a community investment.

"Breast cancer has affected my family three times and this provides me a way to donate annually to this cause," Yersak said.

Civilians and air reserve technicians can donate by cash, check or payroll deductions and CFC representatives can show them how to begin the process.

"It's an easy was for people to give to charities," said **Tech. Sgt. Shannon Kennedy**, 442nd FW mobilization. "This way the money comes straight out of your check, so you never miss it."

One of the many charities listed in the CFC catalog is Wright Flight, which Kennedy said she holds near to her heart.

442D FIGHTER WING

WHITEMAN AFB

"It's a way for the wing to be involved with the community and help kids set goals and guide them in a direction where those goals can be accomplished," Kennedy said. "I don't think CFC gets enough attention and people don't know how easy it is to give."

Master Sgt. Ann Brault, 442ndFW career advisor said she has given to breast cancer charities in the past, but she is currently donating to Wright Flight as well, because it is local and she enjoys seeing her donation in action, she said.

"Some people might think it's just a recruiting tool," Brault said, "These instructors from the 442nd FW are working with kids and giving them hope and a chance to see their opportunities are limitless."

Airmen who are interested in donating to a CFC charity can contact their Heartland CFC representative to begin the process.

WING CFC MANAGER: CAPT. KEITH YERSAK (660) 687-3841 OPERATIONS GROUP: MAJ. AUDREY OREK (660) 687-3275 MISSION SUPPORT GROUP: JEFF CRANEY (660) 687-3891 Maintenance Group: Senior Master Sgt. Pat Rogers (660) 687-3727 Medical Squadron: Staff Sgt. Tim Reeves (660) 687-3952

For more information on charities you may donate to or to make a pledge online, visit www.heartlandescorg or look for Heartland CFC on Facebook and Twitter!

facebook

MOHAWK



I was out and about recently talking to the people who are serving our nation here at Whiteman. It was one of those days when I get to talk to people who were fixing jets, fixing our lunches, fixing our vehicles, fixing our Airmen and just fixing things. People were scrambling around, multitasking getting more done with less and getting ready to do more with much less.

For the most part, everyone had positive mental attitudes and were happy to be part of the mission. There was one person I spoke with who had great ideas and at one point said, "I'm only one person, what can I do?"

I was in Washington D.C. recently and love to ride the metro – the underground train. It's a great way to get around that historic city and gives me an opportunity to watch people and see how they interact with others.

Anyone that's ever been to that city knows that on any given day, many of the escalators going up and down to the train platform don't work causing people to walk the escalators as they would using stairs. There is one major rule of etiquette for riding the escalators. If you're going to simply stand on the escalator and ride it, you stand on the right. However, if you're in a hurry, you can walk down the left side.

Washington D.C. is a big city and sometimes people get impersonal and ignore those around them. But just as often as I see that, I see those people that go out of their way to help—to make a difference.

I was walking down the broken escalator to the metro platform, and there was this guy on crutches walking down the escalator. He was not moving as fast as those behind wanted him to move so they were walking around him, sometimes bumping him and causing him to almost fall, until one person decided to make a difference. When that person got behind the guy on crutches, he did the unforgivable. The stranger stepped to the left side of the escalator preventing anyone from walking around him. When they finally got to the bottom of the escalator, the guy on crutches turned to the stranger and said thanks. The stranger helping the person on

crutches was only one person, but he made a difference.

That same trip I was in the crowd of people who were all heading toward the escalators. This crowd was a mass of people that all merge onto the escalators all at the same time — organized chaos. Again, there was an elderly person trying to get on the escalator who couldn't get one hand free to hold the rail. A person next to her offered to hold something so she could steady herself on the ride down – again, one person making a difference.

Every day of our lives, each of us has an opportunity to make a difference in our families, our military, our communities and our nation by reaching out to help. Sometimes it can be uncomfortable, even awkward but we can make a difference.

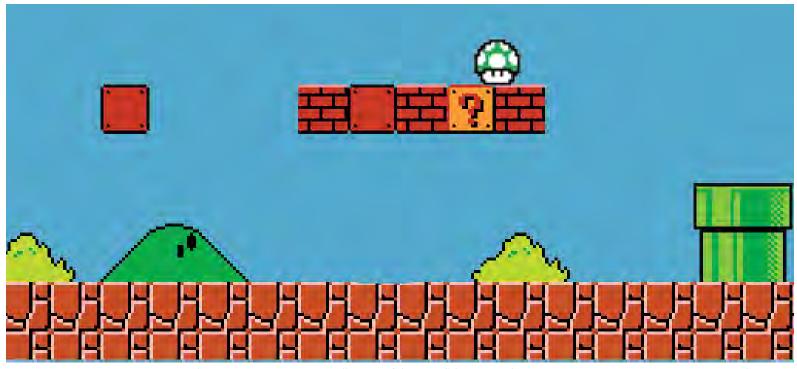
While I was in Washington D.C., I went to Arlington National Cemetery to pay my respects to those warriors who had made the ultimate sacrifice and to also witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown. There were tourists everywhere walking to or from the Tomb of the

Unknown some just visiting a tourist attraction and others with intentions such as mine. As people were walking past me, "Taps" began to play — I stopped walking, came to attention, and placed my hand over my heart. All I was doing was paying the proper respect but something unexpected happened also; everyone around me stopped. I don't know if they would have stopped or not, but I don't think they would have – just one person making a difference.

There was an organization that recently had a suicide averted. Two Airmen were out on the job and while working, were carrying on a casual conversation. Throughout the day they worked and shared stories about work and families. While they were finishing up the job at the end of the day, one of the Airmen asked the other "Have you ever thought about hurting yourself?" The Airmen said, "Yes." His wingman stayed by his side while he went and saw the first sergeant who took the appropriate actions to get this Airman the help he needed - just one person making a

SEE COMMENTARY ON PAGE 10





## 1-UP: RESERVE FORCE GETS EXTRA LIVES

By Senior Airman Wesley Wright

Airmen who are looking to share everything that the Air Force Reserve has to offer with their community now have a new tool in their efforts: the Get One Now program. Get One Now is an incentive program that reservists can use to inform their friends and families of the benefits of joining the AF Reserve.

By going to http://get1now.us or calling (877) 786-2372, Citizen Airmen can begin the process of referring qualified applicants to the AF Reserve. In return, reservists can become eligible to earn such rewards as DVD players, video game consoles, and television sets. In addition to such perks, reservists get the benefit of knowing the new reservists are getting world-class career training are helping to bolster reserve num-

Master Sgt. Rodney Harrell is one of the Whiteman recruiters reaching out and helping people find the AF Reserve. Harrell, a former services technician, has been setting people on the path from citizen to Citizen Airmen for the past four years.

Harrell said reservists using the Get One Now program help extend the reach of reserve recruiters.

"It's efficient for us to have reservists out in the community talking to people about the Air Force Reserve," he said.

Harrell also said Citizen Airmen can be great representatives for their career fields. "Even though we are out there recruiting, some of us are not from the local area, these people are and know who is good and they refer them to us. They help us get the awareness out there," Harrell said. "They can sell their jobs better than we can because we (recruiters) are all from different career fields."

**Tech. Sgt. Cole Chamberlain**, who has been a recruiter for the 442nd FW for the past two years, says the program is a win-win for both Citizen Airmen and civilians.

"We get good people the reservists know are quality coming into the unit," he said, "also, the more referrals a reservist submits, the better the rewards the reservist gets: Laptop computers, GPS and all kinds of stuff."

Harrell said not all the benefits are material

"They get the benefit of a friend," he said, "knowing that they helped someone to change their life and that person helped to change theirs."

Those who are referred to the Air Force Reserve may not get prizes, but they are rewarded nonetheless.

"They get a new way of life, can supplement their income, can take advantage of the benefits, and start another career, part-time job, being recognized in their community and serving their country," Harrell said.



### **COMMENTARY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8**

Throughout our days we have opportunities to make a difference. Not all opportunities to make a difference are going to be big, or even noticeable, when you do them but they're all good. The small differences can be a smile, or kind word to someone who's having a bad day.

It can be offering to help a person finish a task early so he can spend time with a loved one and it can also make a difference to tell someone you know that he matters or it can be that little kid that needs a few extra minutes with you or a hug. The difference can be made by stopping and listening when a person needs to talk about something that's bothering him before he does something

By ourselves we are just one person, but we CAN make a difference. Be that person!

## Reservists serve alongside WWII WASPs By Staff Sqt. Danielle Wolf In October, two members of the 442nd Instead, many returned to a society that

Fighter Wing and 27 other Citizen Airmen from 10th Air Force, attended the Midland Airshow in Odessa, Texas. Unique to this airshow however, was the opportunity for the servicemembers to escort Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) from World War II.

Generations unite:

With less than 300 WASPs remaining today, their heritage is quickly fading – something **Senior Master** Sgt. Regina Brewer, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron support technician, said she doesn't want to see happen.

"These are amazing women," she said. "They've accomplished so much in their lives, and most people have never even heard about them. But they're the reason I'm in the Air Force today."

During World War II, the need for pilots was great – and while there were volunteers – many of them were disqualified based on their gender. These females knew they wanted to serve their country and knew they had the bravery and skills to do so as pilots.

"We paid our own way over there to the war," said Merriem Roby Anderson, WASP of class 44-4. "We flew the planes and fought in the war, and then one day they just told us to go home."

The women were given no military honors, medical privileges or G.I. benefits. didn't accept their service to the country.

The WASPs had become the first women



1,000 women earned their wings during World War II.

Finally, in 1977 after 30 years, the WASPs were given veteran status.

In 2010, five members of the 442nd Fighter Wing traveled to the nation's capitol to pay respect to the women as they were awarded the Congressional Gold

Brewer began studying about the WASP after she attended a Women in Aviation

Conference a few years ago. She said she has always loved learning about history, and until the WIA conference, had never heard about the WASPs.

Senior Master Sgt. Regina Brewer (left) escorted Flora Bell Reese, WWII WASP, and Staff Sgt. Danielle Wolf (below) escorted Merriem Roby Anderson, WWII WASP, at the Midland Airshow, Oct. 7-9 as representatives of the 442nd FW

Human Resources Development Council. (Courtesy photos)

"I was never taught about these women – but it's because of them that I'm in the military today," she said. "Spending time with them is a humbling experience – one that everyone - men and women - could all learn so much from."

As a member of the 442nd Human Resources Development Council. Brewer has volunteered to become an instructor for Wright Flight – a program where servicemembers teach high school students about aviation.

"I would love to have a WASP come talk to the students about her experiences," Brewer said. "I don't know why this stuff isn't in history books, because the WASPs are a huge part of our history."

Brewer said the WASP she escorted to the Midland Airshow. Flora Belle Smith **Reese** of class 44-4, will be part of her family for the rest of her life.

"Everyone who attends these events and meets these women gets to know them so well and will probably have a connection with them for the rest of their lives."

Col. Gregory Eckfeld, 442nd Fighter Wing vice commander and president of 442nd HRDC, said there will be more opportunities like this for reservists in the future. For more information about HRDC. you may contact him at (660) 687-4008.

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2011 PRIORITIES:

1. SUPPORT AEF DEPLOYMENTS

2. INCORPORATE GSUS

3. WIN THE ORI

4. PREPARE FOR UCI & HSI

5. DEVELOP AND CARE FOR AIRMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 442ND FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS 931 ARNOLD AVE.

WHITEMAN AFB, MO 65305-5070

To:



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