

# Heartland WARRIOR

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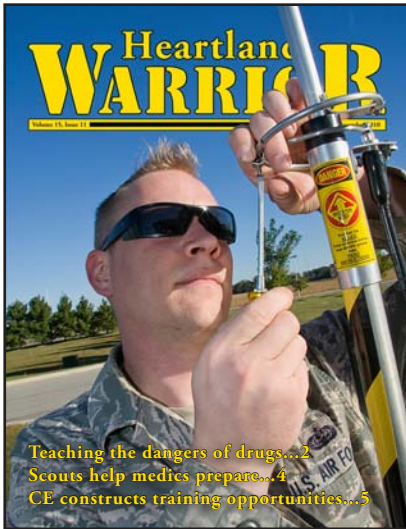
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### On the cover...

Tech. Sgt. Jeff Lassa, 434th Communications Squadron ground radio communications specialist, adjusts an antenna on an emergency management response trailer here Oct. 1. The antenna, part of a land mobile radio amplification system, allows emergency managers to use LMRs to reach almost 25 miles. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark R. W. Orders-Woempner)



Gary Flook, a drug demand reduction specialist with Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind., tells first graders at Pipe Creek Elementary about why he wears a red ribbon during the last week of October during a special presentation at the school Oct. 28. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

## Teaching the dangers of drugs

**Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner**

*Public Affairs staff*

Going beyond the gate, members of the Grissom team took an important message to local elementary students during Red Ribbon Week.

Gary Flook, Grissom's drug demand reduction specialist, spent the last week at Pipe Creek Elementary teaching kids about the dangers of drug, alcohol and tobacco use during the week, which is the nation's oldest and largest drug

prevention program in the nation reaching millions of Americans during the last week of October every year.

"One of the charters of our program is to do outreach in the community," said Mr. Flook. "I contacted both Peru and Maconaquah school districts to see what they needed."

And, what was needed was someone to devote their time and energy explaining to the kids the dangers of drugs.

"We had originally planned on

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## ***Search and recovery***

Members of a search and recovery team from the 434th Services Flight comb an area looking for personal effects and remains during an exercise held on the October unit training assembly here. SAR teams are responsible for recovering personal effects or remains after a fatal event. Services Airmen performing this duty could be called upon in either war or peace time. After the personal items of the deceased have been located, identified, recovered and processed, they are often returned to a family member. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark R. W. Orders-Woempner)

## **Ribbon, *from page 2***

holding one large class, but we realized that single classes are better because the kids get more out of them,” Mr. Flook explained. “If we can provide the foundation for these kids and stop drugs at this level, we won’t have a problem as they get older.”

That point was seconded by Thecla Brown, a guidance counselor at Pipe Creek who’s been working with the children over the last month to build their social skills and give them the tools to deal with drugs and alcohol.

“It’s so very important that we start at an early age, teaching the kids about social skills, refusal skills and peer pressure,” said Mrs. Brown. “(Mr. Flook) is reinforcing what I’ve been teaching all month long, and this is something they  
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haven’t been tempted with, but they will be.”

The students aren’t the only ones learning this week. Both Mr. Flook and one of his assistants, Robin Mullen, said they both were amazed at the children’s knowledge of alcohol and drugs.

“It’s absolutely amazing how much some of these kids do know,” said Ms. Mullen, who is a budget analyst for the 434th Maintenance Operations Flight. “Parents really need to watch what they do and say because these kids are learning quick.”

But, the kids just don’t know about dangerous substances, they know how to say ‘no’ as evidenced in the classroom exercises.

“For them to only be in first grade and know so much about

peer pressure and how dangerous drugs are, that really shocked me,” admitted Mr. Flook. “A lot of credit goes to Mrs. Brown, who has been building these foundations.”

As further testament to the program’s effectiveness, Mr. Flook told a story about a girl in one of the classes whose grandmother died from tobacco use.

“She told us all how her grandmother died from smoking,” he explained. “You could tell that really got to them as they all got quiet.”

Mrs. Brown gave a lot of credit to Mr. Flook and the Grissom volunteers for the program’s success.

“We have a lot of children with parents who work at Grissom,” she sated. “Kids really relate to him because of his relation with the base and they can feel close to that.”

# Scouts offer realistic training to medics

**Capt. Kelly Howard**  
*Public Affairs staff*

Be prepared. That's the Boy Scout motto.

Twenty scouts from Winamac, Ind. came to Grissom to help medics do just that Oct. 3.

The 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron completed its annual mass casualty training exercise here with the help of the moulaged Boy Scout Troop 229.

"We do this every year, but I wanted to sort of 'spring this on the folks' this year so we kept the planning as quiet as we (safely) could," said Lt. Col. Connie Gault, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron clinical nurse.

The goal of the training was to provide the medical members an opportunity to practice their initial assessment skills, radio communication skills, self-aid buddy care and teamwork.

Two teams were pre-determined so that they would be overwhelmed and be forced to use these skills and prioritize she said.

The scenario involved a terrorist group storming the gate, causing a vehicle accident, and engaging security forces in small arms fire near the base exchange.

"Injuries" to the 20 Boy Scouts ranged from mild concussions to death. As they lay moaning and crying out for help, the medical teams triaged, treated and transported as appropriate among the chaotic scene.

"Mass casualties present a unique challenge to any medical unit as the needs overwhelm the resources we have to take care of any single individual like we would want to," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) William Bray, 72nd Air Refueling Squadron flight surgeon and "A" team lead medical staff on scene during the exercise. "In our case we focused on triage and movement of casualties to a collection point to be transported to area hospitals."

"I learned that communication was really important," said Staff



Airmen from the 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron load a patient onto a litter as part of a mass casualty training exercise in October. With the help of Boy Scout Troop 229 from Winamac, Ind., the exercise provided medical members an opportunity to practice self-aid buddy care and teamwork. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Carl Berry)

Sgt. Joanna Boyd, 434th AMDS medical technician. "I never even thought about the C-spine issue."

The C-spine "issue," stabilizing the neck during movement, was addressed in the hotwash by Lt. Col. Rodney Logan, 434th AMDS nurse and acting exercise evaluator.

"We really need to focus on C-spine and litter carry," he said. "Litter carry should be our area of expertise. When people think of litter carry you naturally think of medical. However, you did a good job identifying injuries and categorizing injuries quickly."

"Overall it went very well and helped us identify areas to further train and hone our skills," Colonel Bray said. "The scouts were very

good actors and cooperated fully."

The scouts spent a chilly night camped at Grissom Air Museum Saturday in preparation for their early morning show time.

They volunteered for the exercise as part of their community service requirements.

"I feel like I got a sneak preview," said Scout Michael Kistler, 17, "because I am planning to enlist in the Army this summer and graduate (from high school) mid-semester next year and go to basic."

"I enjoy being able to help out our Air Force," said Scout Jordan Bitterling, 15, a second-year exercise participant. "It was cold camping out but it was worth it."

# Civil engineers get hands-on training

**Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner**  
*Public Affairs staff*

Building upon their skills, Airmen of the 434th Civil Engineer Squadron were able to receive some hands-on training thanks to a new wall inside the CES Complex during the October unit training assembly.

“This was a project I’ve been trying to get for our young troops and the troops that weren’t mobilized to get training within their specialty,” said Chief Master Sgt. David Sajdyk,

434th CES fire chief. “We’ve been working so hard

over the last year toward an (operational readiness inspection) by making sure that all our computer based training was getting done, we didn’t have enough time to actually train for job performance.”

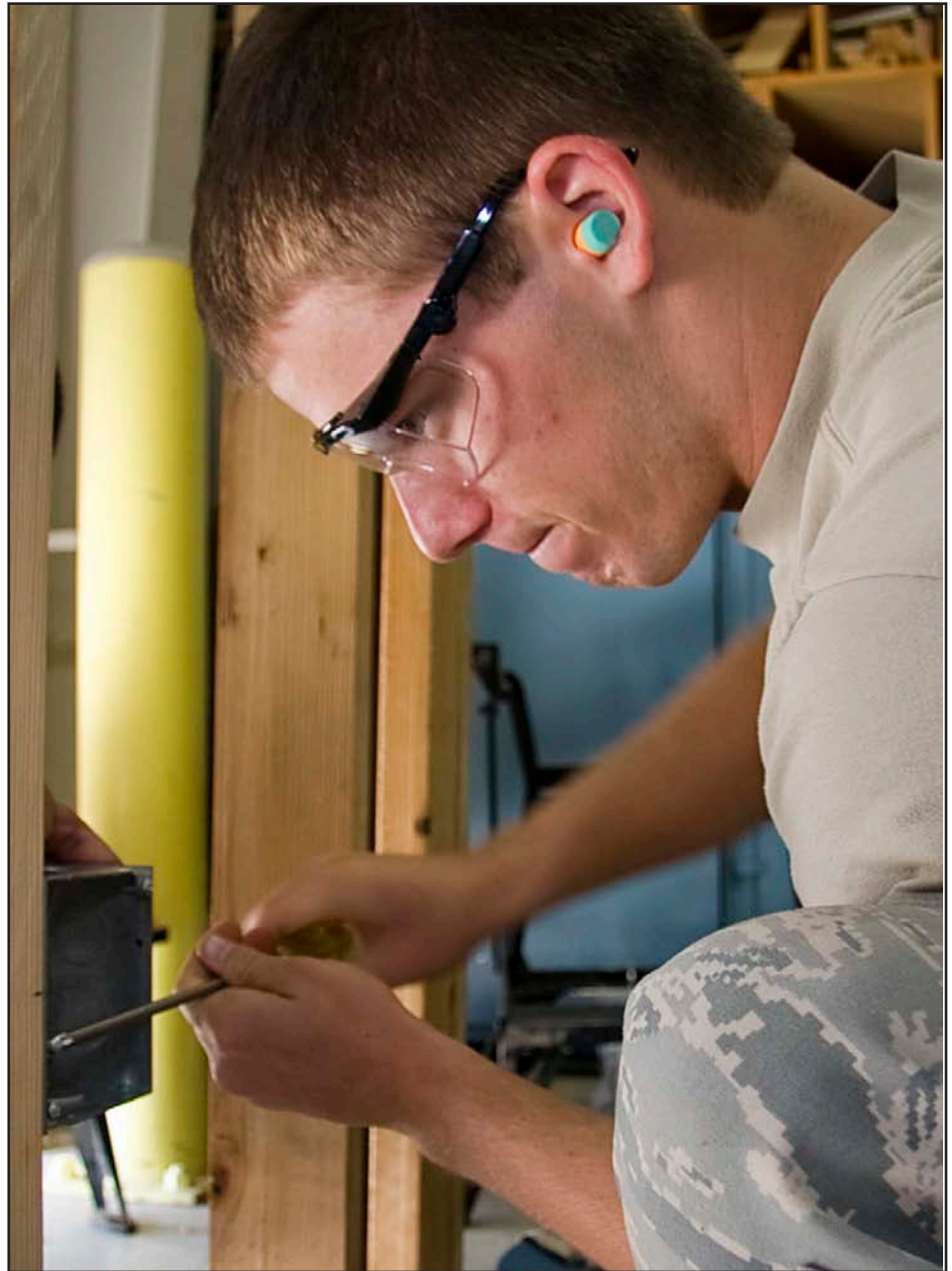
The wall, which was built by structural specialists as part of their training, enabled electrical systems specialists to run wire and install conduits and outlets. Utility specialists were also able to get their hands dirty as they worked to install a bathroom sink and vanity.

Heating, ventilation and air conditioning specialists were also able to learn new skills and refine old ones during the day as they worked with pipe fittings, metal bending and soldering techniques.

The training also provided supervisors and trainers with a good experience as well.

“It gave these individuals a chance to plan, coordinate and execute the training exercise,” said Chief Sajdyk, who added that training was “extremely valuable.”

But, not all of the benefits gained applied just to individual job knowledge and performance.



Senior Airman Nicholas Reed mounts an electrical outlet box to a temporary wall set up in the Civil Engineer Complex here recently. Airman Reed, an electrical systems specialist, and other 434th Civil Engineer Squadron Airmen were able to use the mock wall to train on electrical and plumbing systems. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

“This was a great morale booster for the engineers,” explained the chief. “It gave them a chance to work with the younger Airmen, and it also brought the shops together and gave them a chance to get to know each other.”

According to Chief Sajdyk, the civil engineers intend to expand this training in the future and get more of their shops involved.

“Now they have some type of training aide to help them learn and perform their jobs to the highest standards and professionalism,” he said.

The 434th Civil Engineer Squadron is one of the squadrons assigned to the 434th Air Refueling Wing, and Air Force Reserve Command unit equipped with KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft.



## Smooooooth

A contractor smooths the concrete in a sidewalk section on base. Grissom's sidewalks have been getting a major facelift with new walkways being constructed to help foot traffic move safely throughout the base. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

## Patriot Award

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve now permits spouses of reservists to nominate their supportive supervisors/employers for the Patriot Award.

Honored supervisors will receive a Department of Defense Certificate of Appreciation and a Patriot lapel pin.

The certificate can be provided to the spouse for presentation to the spouse's supervisor.

Nominations forms are available at [www.ESGR.org/PA](http://www.ESGR.org/PA).

## Force support squadrons

In the coming months, reservists serving in mission support and

services career fields will realign under force support squadrons.

A mix of 29 mission support and services units changed their unit designation to a force support squadron Oct. 15.

At the same time, another 21 mission support and services organizations were inactivated.

Another nine organizations will change their designation to force support squadron Dec. 1.

All 38 organizations are slated to be fully operational by Dec. 1, 2011.

## ESGR Freedom Awards

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is accepting nominations for the 2010 Secretary of

## In the limelight

### Promotions

**To master sergeant** – Daniel Lewis, 434th Maintenance Squadron; and Marguerite Gallegos, 434th Mission Support Flight.

**To technical sergeant** – John Barker, 434th Operations Support Squadron; Joseph Boelke, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Nicholas Delaurentis, 434th Services Flight; and Joshua Hardin, 434th AMXS.

**To staff sergeant** – Travis Bender, 434th Civil Engineer Squadron; John Carroll, 434th Security Forces Squadron; Chassity Howieson, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Krystle Lucas, 434th CES; and Philip Mayes, 434th AMXS.

**To senior airman** – Haley Hill, 434th CES; Cameren Hinton, 434th MXS; Justin McIntosh, 49th Aerial Port Flight; and Dusten Shoaf, 434th MXS.

**To airman first class** – Alex Barone 434th CES; Aaron Carr, 434th SFS; Sarah Sanford, 49th APF; and Gabriel Struss, 434th CES.

**To airman** – Lance Blackwell, 434th MXS; Dustin Pervine, 434th LRS; and Michael Santiago, 434th LRS.



Defense Freedom Award from Nov. 1, 2010, to Jan. 17, 2011.

The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. government to employers for their exceptional support of their Guard and Reserve employees.

For online nominations, visit <http://www.freedomaward.mil>.

The 2010 recipients included CEOs from seven large American corporations, a governor, a mayor, a state police director, the chancellor of a university, and four small business owners.



A fire team methodically moves through a doorway during an active-shooter training scenario held on base recently. Trainers from NAS Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, and Grissom, taught security members tactics using a non-lethal weapons adaptation, that provides realistic training scenarios. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays)

## SFS members get realistic for training

By Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays  
Public Affairs staff

Fourteen members of the 434th Security Forces Squadron got painfully realistic training for dealing with active-shooter situations recently.

A team from Carswell AFB, Texas, visited the base recently to provide one day of classroom and tactics training followed by a second day of live-fire situational scenarios at the old fire department building.

The team was augmented by two instructors from Grissom Staff Sgts. Nate Salvagni, and Tim Holmgren, both 434th SFS fire team members.

The realistic training uses a non-lethal modification done to the existing weapons carried by the security members. The cartridge tips have a dye that marks the location the low-velocity round hits.

Tech. Sgt. Anthony Ayers, 434th SFS fire team member took the training. He was shot by the modi-



Master Sgt. Bruce Harris, right, an active-shooter, mobile-training team member, discusses observations from a scenario with Master Sgt. Garold Peacock, a fire team member with the 434th Security Forces Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays)

fied weapons.

“Yes, they hurt,” he clarified right off the bat.

“The training was beneficial, Sergeant Ayers said. “It’s not like shooting targets. Targets don’t shoot back. Targets don’t make you want to take cover.”

The training also gave responders an idea of what to expect from

themselves and other responders.

“This gives us a generalized way to respond to an active-shooter situation,” Sergeant Holmgren said. “We all will be on the same page.”

The training should become more routine as some of the specialized equipment has been ordered to allow the unit to conduct the training solely in house.