Renovated dorm reopened on Whiteman AFB

Airman Parker J. McCauley
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The 509th Civil Engineer Squadron re-opened the Atlantis Hall dormitory in March 2019 after a year and a half of renovations at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri.

The renovations completely overhauled the building and will be the standard for the future renovations of the other five dorm buildings, starting with Endeavor Hall.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Muth, the Atlantis Hall airman dorm leader (ADL) with the 509th CES discussed the reopening of Atlantis Hall, listing some of the major renovations:

- All new furniture for common areas and bedrooms
- Renovated bathrooms with walk-in showers
- Moisture-controlled and blast-proof sealed windows
- New fire alarm, security and mass notification systems

Muth said Airmen often ask about the new security system in the dormitory.

He explained that the new entry control system uses the resident's CAC (Common Access Card) for facility and room entry.

"All doors are self-locking, meaning that Airmen must keep their CAC with them at all times," said Muth. "If an Airman does lock their CAC in their room, there is a kiosk in the common area that allows them to program a card for temporary access into their individual rooms."

The next facility being renovated is Endeavour Hall, Building 1559, with construction expecting to start in May of this year.

"Future facility renovations are scheduled over the next several years with the next one currently projected in fiscal year 2023," said Muth.

The Airmen who were living in Endeavor Hall were moved to Atlantis Hall to allow these renovations to move forward.

Airman 1st Class Keoua Foust, a client systems technician with the 509th Communications Squadron, is one of the new residents of Atlantis Hall.

Foust described the new facilities as nicer than the old ones with new furniture that makes it feel more like home. He also talked about the carpets being cleaner and odor-free compared to those at Endeavor Hall.

Muth said the CES ADL team hopes the Airmen living in Atlantis enjoy their time there and are available to help the Airmen with living concerns, mentorship and guidance.

"The renovations of Whiteman's dorm facilities show that the living conditions and standards of our Airman is a high priority for Whiteman leadership," said Muth. "Providing a home that they are comfortable in, safe in and proud of will have a positive effect on morale, productivity and career satisfaction of our youngest Airmen."

The newly renovated party room at the Atlantis Hall dormitory at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, on March 27, 2019, includes a TV, seating and a new secondary kitchen.

The newly renovated dayroom includes updated furnishings, a new dartboard and a new pool table. Other new items, such as vending machines, are forthcoming.

Above: The newly renovated kitchen includes updated appliances and countertops.

Right: A newly renovated dorm room at the Atlantis Hall dormitory features completely updated amenities, furniture and ventilation along with updated white and energy-efficient lighting.

(U.S. Air Force photos by Airman Parker J. McCauley)

Weapons interns tour Whiteman AFB

Members of the Sandia National Laboratories Weapons Intern Program visited Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, to learn about the base mission and the capabilities of the B-2 Stealth Bomber on April 8, 2019. The visit allowed the members of the Weapons Intern Program to get more hands on experience in preparing to be future experts and assuming critical positions in the weapons community. The 509th Bomb Wing was able to explain the lethality of the B-2 and its munitions capabilities. Sandia Weapons Interns visit Whiteman twice a year as part of an outreach program that allows a behind the scenes look into this unique mission. (U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Michael Hardy)

Chief master sergeants recognized during ceremony

Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Gray, the 509th Mission Support Group superintendent, lights the final candle during the practice for Whiteman's Chief Master Sergeant Recognition Ceremony on April 5, 2019, at Mission's End at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. The candle-lighting portion of the ceremony involved an explanation of each rank in the Air Force over the course of its history, as an Airman in each grade lit their respective candle. The pinnacle of the stand represented the grade of E-9, chief master sergeant, the top 1 percent of enlisted Airmen. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Parker J. McCauley)