

Leaders send Independence Day messages to Air Force

By Gen. Hal Hornburg
Commander, Air Combat Command

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (ACCNS) — This Fourth of July we celebrate 227 years of our Nation's independence. Throughout these years, our nation has been free from tyranny and foreign oppression because of the sacrifice and dedication of our armed forces.

The Declaration of Independence sets us on a course toward freedom and a form of government that holds liberty as one of its highest ideals. We must not take liberty, ours or others, for granted.

Americans have valiantly defended our liberties as well as the liberties of people of other nations. Most recently, Air Combat Command airmen, as part of an integrated Joint team, freed the people of Iraq and proudly waved the flag of freedom. I predict today's airmen and the airmen soon to follow will be our nation's next "greatest generation."

So as you gather with your family and friends this weekend, reflect on your role as defenders of liberty and justice, not just for America, but for people around the world. I also want you to reflect on the fact that each of you is vital to the mission of this command. Just as you use judgment and discipline to prepare yourselves for a mission, apply the same to the safety of yourself and your family this holiday weekend.

Cynthia and I send our heartfelt thanks for all you do to keep this nation strong and free. I am proud to serve with you.



Lt. Gen. Bruce Carlson, 8th Air Force commander, shakes hands with Master Sgt. Scott James, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, during Carlson's visit here in May.

By Lt. Gen. Bruce Carlson
8th Air Force Commander

Like other Americans, members of the "Mighty Eighth" worldwide family will observe Independence Day with friends, families and colleagues. This year, as in the past, many will watch and listen with awe as exploding fireworks light up the night sky. This year in particular, these fireworks will evoke memories of the many battles our sailors, soldiers, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen fought in the name of safety and security for our nation, and freedom for the oppressed of other lands.

As with many national holidays, it's easy for us to forget the reason for celebration. As Mark Twain said, "...we've got the typical evening hours celebrating down pat, with our fireworks and noise-making." But it's important for us to focus during the daylight hours on the true meaning of this important day.

Two hundred twenty-seven years ago, members of the Continental Congress met on a sweltering July day in Philadelphia and made a courageous decision that changed the course of history - they adopted the Declaration of Independence.

Never before had the birth of a nation been heralded by a declaration written by individuals banding together for freedom and democracy. Never before had a republic sprung from the collective voices of its citizenry with an unwavering endorsement from its elected leadership. And never before had freedom been declared an undeniable right guaranteed to all.

Founded on these principles, America has lived in freedom for more than two centuries and now stands as the flagship of democracy for the entire world. Other nations look to us as a beacon of hope and welcome the chance to taste the same freedom and liberty that we cherish.

I know that you, as members of the "Mighty Eighth," have played a prominent role in the current fight for freedom, and have endured great personal sacrifice during the past 22 months. Your nation owes you its gratitude and unwavering support. Freedom does come with a price, and it's evident by your actions that you have paid that price in defending our nation's liberty and independence.

Do not forget the sacrifices of those who came before us and those who are still deployed in freedom's name during your celebrations. Remember the duties and responsibilities of citizenship that we carry everyday ... for it's now our generation's turn to carry the torch of freedom. It's now up to those who wear the uniform of service to step up and be counted, so that America remains the home of the free and the land of the brave.

By Col. Doug Raaberg
509th Bomb Wing commander

Team Whiteman, this is a special Fourth of July holiday weekend for us! First, many families are anxiously awaiting the return of our AEF 8 deployees and we know that after seven months they'll return in the coming weeks. That is something to celebrate. Second, we have other family members who are preparing to deploy in response to the upcoming AEF Blue rotation. They're ready to go. Third, we have just completed the most historic, if not epic, deployment and engagement of the B-2 in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The team effort was extraordinary — the results undeniably successful. Finally, we count our blessings that those that have gone to combat, deployed to support combat operations or will deploy have one thing in common — they're Guardians of Freedom! For that, we are grateful.

Independence Day is a sobering reminder that we in uniform at Whiteman Air Force Base stand at the forefront of everything our nation was built on. We uphold the ideals of our nation we richly covet in the Constitution. From Air Force, Army and Navy; to Active, Guard and Reserve ... our uniform stands for freedom ... it also is our commitment to the ultimate sacrifice if necessary. Once again, we have demonstrated our strength in our direct and current actions in Iraqi Freedom.

So celebrate the joys of family and freedom this weekend. Our mission success depends on each individual ... every individual and their families. Please safely enjoy the Spirit of Freedom this weekend. Make the extra effort to think smartly on how you will celebrate — we need you! Congratulations Team Whiteman ... this is your Fourth of July as you stand proudly for Freedom in America!



File photos

Gen. Hal Hornburg, commander of Air Combat Command, tacks staff sergeant stripes on then Senior Airman Shoney Jackson, 509th Munitions Squadron, during the general's visit to the airman leadership school and base in July 2002.



Col. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, greets an airman who returned from a deployment in late April.

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The deadline for article submissions to the Whiteman Spirit 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. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil or write to us at:

509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111
Whiteman AFB, Mo. 65305

Wing recognizes newest promotees during ceremony

The 509th Bomb Wing recognized 101 people at the monthly promotion ceremony Tuesday at Mission's End. They are:

Airmen Michael Czepyha, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, **Kyle Davis**, 509th AMXS, and **Mirijam Laury**, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Airmen 1st Class Azmina Azoca, 509th Maintenance Squadron, **Brian Bennett**, 509th AMXS, **Benjamin Bogedain**, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, **Erin Boyd**, 509th Munitions Squadron, **Andrew Duncan**, 509th LRS, **Bakari Edwards**, 509th CES, **Raquel Eleccion**, 325th Bomb Squadron, **Mae Ferrer**, 509th Comptroller Squadron, **Jennifer Himes**, 509th Operations Support Squadron, **Theresa Luna**, 509th LRS, **Joshua May**, 509th CES, **William Morrison**, 509th AMXS, **Michael Randolph**, 509th Security Forces Squadron, **Joy Rogers**, 509th Medical Operations Squadron, **Neal Rooney**, 509th AMXS, and **Cora Taylor**, 509th LRS.

Senior Airmen Jamesca Batiste, 509th Services Squadron, **Matthew Bogenrief**, 509th SFS, **Joyce Brammeier**, 509th MDOS, **Chelsea Brooks**, 509th SVS, **Faith Brown**, 509th MXS, **Matthew Bult**, 509th MXS, **Rachel Craig**, 509th MUNS, **Ronald Delabastide**, 509th CES, **Teressa Delk**, 509th LRS, **Bryan Donner**, 509th AMXS, **Jeffrey Doucette**, 509th MXS, **Amber Euman**, 509th Communications Squadron, **Jose Flores**, 509th MXS, **Jose Garcia**, 509th LRS, **Cedrick Godwin**, 509th MXS, **Matthew Hamilton**, 509th MXS, **Jimmy Hardwick**, 509th AMXS, **Kashon Mattocks**, 509th AMXS, **Jeffrey**



Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Nabor

Senior Airman Chelsea Brooks, 509th Services Squadron, poses for a photo with **Col. Doug Raaberg**, 509th Bomb Wing commander, and **Chief Master Sgt. Robert Niswonger**, 509th BW acting command chief master sergeant, during the wing promotion ceremony Tuesday.

Miller, 509th OSS, **Darlene Mott**, 509th LRS, **Katherine Peters**, 509th MUNS, **Nathaniel Petersen**, 509th SFS, **Shane Piringer**, 325th BS, **Noel Ragan**, 509th MXS, **James Reafleng**, 509th MXS, **Ray Richmond**, 509th SFS, **Thomas Rother**, 509th AMXS, **Karrie Ruehl**, 509th SFS, **Joseph Shields**, 509th SFS, **Kyle Smith**, 509th SFS, **Katrina Tabako**, 509th

AMXS, **Justin Taylor**, 509th MUNS, **Kristen Turner**, 509th MUNS, **Cynthia Vinyard**, 509th LRS, **Priscilla Vinyard**, 509th MXS, **Maurice Walker**, 509th LRS, **Tashema Ward**, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron, and **Matthew Zakrajsek**, 509th MXS.

Staff Sgts. Wade Byler, 509th SFS, **Jared Calvin**, 509th LRS, **Catherine**

Coats, 509th Comptroller Squadron, **Nicholas Ferebee**, 509th AMXS, **Andrew Finan**, 509th LRS, **Lucas Goldsby**, 509th MXS, **Anthony Grindle**, 509th MXS, **Howell Heron**, 509th SVS, **Andrew Holt**, 509th LRS, **Yolanda Hunter**, 509th MDOS, **Adam Kilgore**, 509th OSS, **Joshua Lewis**, 509th AMXS, **Rusty Lison**, 509th LRS, **Kendrick Nelson**, 509th AMXS, **Torrey Ollermann**, 509th MXS, **Donald Popham**, 509th Communications Squadron, **Brian Simmons**, 509th AMXS, **Joel Sneddy**, 509th MXS, **Charles Speer**, 509th AMXS, **John Stubbs**, 509th AMXS, **Blain Tollefson**, 509th AMXS, **Jeffrey Turner**, 509th SFS, **Justin Valdez**, 509th AMXS, and **Michael Ward**, 509th AMXS.

Tech. Sgts. Ronald Bustillo, 509th MXS, **Jeremy Chrisman**, 509th AMXS, **Daryl Maniscalco**, 509th LRS, **Corie McClure**, 509th Medical Support Squadron, **Jason Meyer**, 509th AMXS, **Kari Miller**, 509th AMXS, **Timothy Miller**, 509th SFS, **Kelli Remmert**, 509th MDOS, **David Ross**, 509th LRS, **Heather Sells**, 509th MUNS, **Jeremy Shay**, 509th MXS, and **Jerry Waller**, 509th Maintenance Group.

Master Sgts. Willard Allen, 509th MXS, **Daryle Christensen**, 509th CS, **Timothy O'Malley**, 509th MXS, **Bruce Turner**, 509th OSS, **Randy Walton**, 509th MXS, and **Melanie Weems**, 509th SVS.

Senior Master Sgts. Charles Blake-man, 509th SFS, and **John Olmeda**, 509th MUNS.

News in Brief

Outprocessing brief rescheduled

The finance outprocessing brief, which was scheduled for today, now begins at 9 a.m. Monday at the family support center. For more details, call 687-4692 or 687-5371.

Speed limits on DD Hwy

Warrensburg police remind drivers the speed limit on DD Highway reduces to 45 m.p.h. as you enter the city limits. This part of the highway has schools, homes, businesses and churches. Speeding due to unit recall is not considered a valid excuse. For more details, call the legal office at 687-6809.

Claims notice announced

Col. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, regretfully announces the death of Staff Sgt. Kent Backes, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. Anyone having claims against or indebtedness to The Backes estate should call, 2nd Lt. Ed Jusino, 509th Munitions Squadron summary courts official, at 687-7704.

Hours change at LeMay gate

The new hours for traffic at the LeMay gate are:
 ✓ 6 a.m.-6 p.m. for commercial contractors.
 ✓ 6 a.m.-8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.-6 p.m. for base registered vehicles and Department of Defense ID card holders.



Photo by Senior Airman Tia Schroeder

Banking on the best

The Honorable Michael Montelongo, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, poses for a photo with members of the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the 325th Bomb Squadron. During a site visit here Monday and Tuesday, Montelongo met with members of the 509th Comptroller Squadron, received a wing mission briefing, toured the B-2 and flew the B-2 simulator. He is the principal adviser to the Secretary of the Air Force, Chief of Staff and other senior Air Force officials for budgetary and fiscal matters. With a budget of more than \$80 billion, he serves as the Air Force's chief financial officer responsible for providing the financial management and analytical services necessary for the effective and efficient use of Air Force resources.

Centennial of flight

Charles Lindbergh
 Crossed the
 Atlantic Ocean
 May 21, 1927.



Sortie board

	Monthly			Fiscal year		
	B-2	A-10	T-38	B-2	A-10	T-38
Goal	560.0	845.0	404.6	Goal	6,350.0	5,445.0
Flown	40.4	22.1	14.1	Flown	5,831.1	4,037.8

Information current as of Wednesday

This space is reserved for advertisements

Fireworks: safety keeps people from getting burned

By 2nd Lt. Dustin Hart
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFP) — While they may not be powerful enough to take out enemy aircraft, fireworks must be treated with the same amount of respect as military weapons, said Air Mobility Command safety officials here.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product and Safety Commission, fireworks were involved in four deaths and an estimated 9,500 injuries in 2001.

Air Force officials want to make sure their people don't become part of those statistics.

The Air Force prohibits airmen and their families from using fireworks on base, with the exception of sparklers. Base fireworks shows are contracted out to professional pyrotechnic teams.

Air Force officials have also emphasized educating people on fireworks safety.

"Safety education teaches people to use fireworks correctly," said Tech. Sgt. John Foreman, superintendent of AMC weapon safety. "When people start doing fancy things with fireworks, that's when they get hurt."

While all fireworks can cause injuries or damage when handled improperly, bottle rockets, Roman candles and firecrackers remain some of the most dangerous, Foreman said.

"These fireworks have the potential to spread fire and a lot of damage to a wide area," said Harold Lasell, chief of weapon safety for AMC. According to the U.S. Eye Injury Registry, bottle rockets caused almost 70 percent of all fireworks-related eye injuries.

Roman candles and firecrackers are comparable to military aircraft flares and small-arms ammunition, Lasell said.

Knowing the surrounding area and having adult supervision are the two most important things to keep in mind when using these or any fireworks, Foreman said.

He warned to never let children use fireworks, including sparklers, without direct adult supervision.

Children younger than 15 accounted for approximately half of all fireworks-related injuries last year, according to the commission.

Also, Foreman said checking for combustible materials around the area

At Whiteman: Fireworks use on the base is not allowed without the approval of the fire chief, 509th Mission Support Group commander and 509th Bomb Wing Safety Office, said Lt. Col. Thomas Bussiere, 509th BW chief of safety. People should check local city and county ordinances before use off base.

In Knob Noster, Sedalia or Warrensburg: Fireworks can't be sold, bought or used, to include sparklers, within the city limits.

Within Johnson County, Missouri: Fireworks can be sold, bought and used.

where the fireworks will be used prevents the possibility of secondary fires.

He said people should never use fireworks while consuming alcohol.

"When you mix fireworks with alcohol consumption, you're going to have problems, and somebody is going to get injured," said Foreman.

Wearing appropriate clothing is also important when using fireworks.

"When you use fireworks, you are going to have sparks and fire," Foreman said. "Wearing long-sleeved clothing and protective eyewear can protect you from being burned. But avoid wearing 100-percent nylon or rayon because they are 100-percent combustible. A spark will cause (nylon or rayon) to catch on fire, and it will melt to your skin, causing worse burns."

It's a federal law for fireworks to have safety requirements on the label, Lasell said. He advised fireworks users to read each label carefully. If there is no label, he said the fireworks are most likely illegal and should not be purchased or used.

"Before setting off fireworks, do a risk assessment," Foreman said. "Operational risk management is not just for while you are at work. It applies 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

PRP attention PRP attention PRP

PRP

Members on the Personnel Reliability Program must report to the PRP office before proceeding to any scheduled appointment at the clinic. For more details, call 687-4299.

PRP attention PRP attention PRP

Whiteman Spirit Award



Patty Goad

509th Communications Squadron

Patty Goad, 509th Communications Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Monday.

Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Hanes, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron first sergeant, nominated Goad for the award.

On the evening of May 10, Hanes called Goad to let her know a squadron member, who was deployed, would be contacting her. The deployed member needed a DSN call forwarded to Columbia Hospital in Columbia, Mo., to talk to his child, who was hospitalized there.

Goad told Hanes the regulations prevented her from transferring the call because it was out of the permitted calling area. However, the operator offered a solution.

"Without hesitation, Patty informed me she had a personal phone card with minutes on it that she would let the deployed member use and not only for this, but to keep and use if needed again," Hanes said. "This selfless act truly is indicative of what the Spirit Award is all about.

"Patty's main concern was that the father would be able to contact his family," Hanes said. "She did herself and her squadron proud."

Personally speaking

Duty Title: Whiteman operator No. 6

Time on station: 6 years

Time in squadron: 1 year and 6 months

Hometown: Oxon Hill, Md.

Spouse: Senior Master Sgt. Johnny Goad, 509th Security Forces Squadron

Hobbies: Going to the gym and spending time with my family.

Goals: Buying our own home and going back to school.

Best thing about Whiteman: It has a great community spirit.

Pet Peeves: Rude people.

What motivates your winning spirit? My husband and the people I work with.

If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be? I wouldn't change a thing. It's a great base.

Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed with the superior customer service provided by the nominee. If you know someone who has the Whiteman Spirit, send the nomination to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 509, Suite 111, or e-mail whiteman.spirit@Whiteman.af.mil.

Spirit spotlights

... on new Whiteman Top 3 Association board members **Senior Master Sgt. Stephen Page**, president; and **Master Sgts. Steve Poole**, vice president; **Todd Knowles**, secretary; and **Kelvin Palmer**, treasurer.

... on **Airmen First Class Dennis Freeman**, **Brian Jones**, **Donald Thomason**, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and **Katie Weems**, 509th Operations Support Squadron; **Senior Airmen Ryan Iwanowski**, 509th AMXS, and **Mandy Johnson**, 509th OSS; and **Tech. Sgt. Miles Reed**, 509th AMXS, for helping make the June 26 Junior ROTC and little league team tour happen.

... on **Airman First Class Brian Leverton**, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Warrant Officer Mike Williams**, 1-135th Attack Battalion; **Master Sgt. Thomas Yetzer**, 509th Bomb Wing; and the **Visitor's Center staff** for helping make the June 27 youth tour a success.

This space is reserved for advertisements

Retraining scheduled for airmen

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) — More than 900 airmen may be involuntarily moved to shortage career skills starting Monday Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

Although 450 airmen volunteered to change career fields during the initial phase of this year's NCO retraining program, it was not enough.

Officials will notify airmen selected as most vulnerable to retrain. They will ask the airmen to submit their choices of shortage career fields they would most like to retrain into as part of the program's Phase II, which ends Aug. 15.

"This phase of the retraining program is necessary to help meet the needs of the Air Force by putting airmen where they are needed most," said Chief Master Sgt. Alvin Diaz, chief of the skills management branch here.

Under Phase II, people are not guaranteed their first choice. Major commands continue to accept volunteer applications. Personnel officials encourage eligible NCOs to consider special-duty assignments such as recruiting, military training instructors, first sergeant duty or professional military education instructor.

"There's still time for those who have been identified for possible retraining to volunteer," said Diaz.

The retraining program helps balance the enlisted force by moving NCOs in specialties with surpluses to those with shortages. In April, the Air Force said it needed about 1,400 airmen to change careers.

Factors such as retention rates and new promotions have an effect on how many airmen will finally be retrained and where they will be needed, said Diaz.

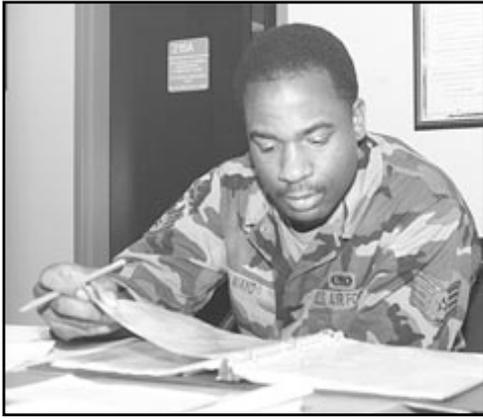


Photo By Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Staff Sgt. LeVander Mayo, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, looks through the career field retraining book in the military personnel flight. The six-year Air Force veteran said he would like to retrain into the air traffic control or aerospace control and warning systems career field.

"We will work with those who have been selected for retraining, as we would any retraining case, in order to make the transition as smooth as possible for the airman and his or her family while still meeting the needs of the Air Force," said Tech. Sgt. Derek Hughes, NCO in charge of Air Force retraining here.

Vulnerability listings by grade and Air Force specialty code are updated online weekly on the AFPC's Web site at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enl-skills/Retraining/retraining.htm>.

For more details, call the military personnel flight at 687-6426.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Ozark Inn announces new hours

Airman 1st Class Amanda Fontenot stirs rice as Airman 1st Class Maria Maciel shapes Salisbury steaks for the lunch meal. Beginning Monday, Ozark Inn's new hours are: weekdays 6-8 a.m. — breakfast, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. — lunch, 4:30-8 p.m. — dinner and midnight meal 11 p.m.-12:30 a.m. The facility's Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and Spirit Days hours are: 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — brunch, 6-8 p.m. — dinner and midnight meal 11 p.m.-12:30 a.m. For more details, call 687-1383.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Dan Cora, base exchange safety and security assistant, monitors activity within the store.

Shoplifting costs military members millions

By Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Public Affairs

The five-finger discount to some can be a great thing, but can cause financial distress to others.

Since March 2002, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service has enforced its civil recovery program. Whiteman's base exchange continues taking steps to enforce this policy, especially during the summer months.

"When kids are left alone all day, they tend to come to the BX," said Hannah Simmons, BX loss prevention representative. "I don't think most of them realize what can happen to their sponsor, guardian or other person having custody of them when they steal from us."

The civil recovery program allows BX officials to pursue repayment from shoplifters for the loss of the merchandise plus a \$200 administration cost.

Simmons gave an example of what could happen if a person shoplifts.

If the merchandise can't be resold or isn't returned to the store, the amount of that item is charged to the sponsor, she said. If there are two or more people involved in the incident and both played a part in the theft, each person will be charged the \$200 administration fee.

Shoplifting in the BX costs service members millions of dollars annually. The civil recovery program helps pay for AAFES' theft detection and prevention, said Kim Lafferty, BX store manager.

"We are campaigning to increase awareness of the consequences of shoplifting at the BX," Lafferty said. "We've already had number of unfortunate incidents caused by our young ones and it got them (the child and sponsor) in financial burdens, not to mention the blemish on their records."

"The stakes are too high," Lafferty said. "I urge the military sponsor to sit down with their loved ones, talk with them about shoplifting and (have them) think a moment before they act."

Simmons agrees.

"If every sponsor takes five minutes to explain the ramifications of stealing even a pack of gum, we feel that most kids would think twice before shoplifting," Simmons said.

If you have any information concerning a crime and wish to remain anonymous, call Crime Stop at 687-4636.

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Astronaut speaks at base community council dinner

By Becky Lawson
Public Affairs

Col. Pamela Melroy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration astronaut, was the keynote speaker at the base community council dinner June 26.

Warrenburg was the featured community and more than 135 people from 18 communities attended. Lt. Col. Gavin Ketchen, 393rd Bomb Squadron commander, is the liaison for Warrenburg.

Sandy Russell, immediate past-president of the BCC and Melroy's long-time friend, introduced Melroy to the audience and briefly explained her biography.

The first plane Melroy flew was the KC-10 for six years at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., as a copilot, aircraft commander and instructor pilot. She is a veteran of Operations Just Cause, Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In 1991, she attended the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards AFB, Calif. NASA selected her as an astronaut candidate in 1994.

After 20 years in the Air Force, Melroy has logged more than 5,000 hours in more than 45 aircraft and more than 562 hours in space.

During her visit, at Whiteman, she flew the B-2 simulator and toured a B-2. "The B-2 simulator is impressive. You should

be proud to have this unique resource here," Melroy said.

Melroy's most recent voyage into space was in October 2002 in the Space Shuttle Atlantis. It took one year for her to prepare and train for a mission to work on the International Space Station.

ISS is the largest and most complex international scientific project in history. The completed station will have a mass of about 1,040,000 pounds. It will measure 356 feet across and 290 feet long, with almost an acre of solar panels to provide electrical power to six laboratories.

The six-person crew in the Atlantis delivered the switching box, added more laboratories, added more solar rays to get more energy and delivered the S-One Truss, which helps regulate temperature in the station.

"The truss is a really essential element

in preparing for a crew to live aboard full time," Melroy said.

"The area we had to live and work inside the shuttle is comparable to the area of a minivan," the astronaut explained.

It took three seven-hour space walks to outfit and activate the new components.

Melroy dressed and prepared the crew for the space walk in their 700-pound space suit. She ensured tools and instruments were strapped down when sending people out on space walks. She was also inside the space station giving them instructions.

"When they first stepped out to conduct the space walk, it was a very nervous moment for me because I was scared their helmet would pop off or a glove would float away," Melroy said.

In space, the sun either rises or sets every 45 minutes. Therefore, the temperature can fluctuate from 250 degrees to

negative 250 degrees.

The astronaut compared a space walk to the average person changing the oil in a car with one hand, with ski gloves on and while floating.

The October mission was the first shuttle mission to use a camera on the external tank, providing a live view of the launch to flight controllers and NASA TV viewers. The mission was accomplished in 170 orbits, traveling 4.5 million miles in 10 days, 19 hours and 58 minutes.

The next scheduled space shuttle launch is December. However, Melroy's next trip into space is in December 2004.

"My generation was responsible for completing the ISS, the next generation is responsible for landing on Mars because we need to research Mars more thoroughly," she said.

Russell presented Melroy with a Missouri-shaped plaque on behalf of the BCC. Ketchen also gave the astronaut a B-2 enclosed in a glass pyramid on behalf of the Orders of Daedalians.

The next BCC luncheon begins at noon Aug. 7 at Mission's End. Concordia will be the featured community and will be hosted by Maj. Chase McCown, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander. For a reservation, call public affairs by noon Aug. 4 at 687-6151.



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Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Nabor

Good on ya!

Col. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, meets with Airman 1st Class Nick Martin. The 509th BW airman shadowed Raaberg Tuesday. The Command Shadow Program gives airmen the opportunity to spend a day with the commander and see the wing's mission from another viewpoint. Airmen nominated for this program must present a sharp appearance and be a strong performer. For more details about this program, call Senior Master Sgt. Bobby Rush, 509th BW career assistance adviser, at 687-STAY (7829).



Did you know you can fill out a Department of Defense Form 2266, Hometown News Release, for a variety of accomplishments? For more details, call Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole at 687-6125.

1st Sergeant's View

(Editor's note: The 1st Sergeant's View gives Whiteman first sergeants a chance to remind people of correct uniform wear, customs and courtesies, and proper military decorum. Each week, a different first sergeant will share their view.)

By Master Sgt. Paul Chaplin

509th Communications Squadron Additional Duty First Sergeant

The Personal Financial Management Program helps Air Force military and civilian members with personal finances.

This free program offers:

- ✓ Information, such as articles and other reference materials, to assist in personal financial management.
- ✓ Workshops on basic financial management, investments, buying or selling a home, checkbook maintenance, credit management, life insurance, individual retirement accounts and other investments, and consumer protection.
- ✓ Individual counseling, voluntary or by referral, to analyze and assess individual financial concerns, and help in developing a personal financial plan.

The PFMP program is run by base family support centers. Some bases also provide a self-help Web site for those who choose not to speak in person with a financial adviser or who just want information.

PFMP managers work with the Air Force Aid Society to help restore financial integrity to Air Force people who are working toward their goals and responsibilities. Early intervention in financial problems is



Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Master Sgt. Paul Chaplin, 509th Communications Squadron, discusses financial responsibilities co-worker with Senior Airman Dan Ray.

important. It doesn't take long for some financial problems to grow beyond the scope of Air Force assistance. If you have specific questions, call the FSC at 687-7132.



Civilian Employee of the Week

Kitty Wiggins, Mission's End bartender, was nominated for this award by a customer who wishes to remain anonymous. The customer said Wiggins always smiles and strives to ensure patrons enjoy their stay in the lounge by making people feel at home. The customer said, "I'm new here, but it's always a pleasure to see folks working hard to make the rest of us feel good about our day."

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What's happening

Community

AADD meetings scheduled

Airmen Against Drunk Driving members meets at 1 p.m. Thursday at the First Term Airmen Center. For more details, call Senior Airman Kelly Johnson at 687-4324.

Commissary closed today

The commissary is closed today in observance of Independence Day. It reopens at 9 a.m. Saturday. For more details, call 687-5655.

Special Olympics volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed for the Special Olympics 2003 softball tournament, which begins at 5 p.m. July 11 and at 8 a.m. July 12 at the fitness center. Volunteers are needed to assist teams, officiate and carry water. To volunteer or for more details, call the fitness center at 687-5496.

Cookie stacking contest scheduled

The commissary hosts a cookie-stacking contest at 11 a.m. July 26. Prizes will be awarded in three age categories. For more details, call 687-5655.

MOAA, AFA meeting set

The Spirit of Missouri chapter of Military Officers

Association of America and the Earl D. Clark chapter of the Air Force Association meet at 6 p.m. July 17 at Mission's End. Retired Brig. Gen. Dick Dean is the speaker. Members and their spouses can attend the dinner. To R.S.V.P. by July 15 or for more details, call Janet Allen 660-747-3634.

Colorado rafting trip set

Raft through the Royal Gorge on the Arkansas River July 18-20. The \$125 cost includes family camp site fees, camping equipment, tent, stove, sleeping bag, camp light, cooler and other camping necessities. Some meals are included. Participants must be 18 years and older and must have a military ID. Sign up by tomorrow. For more information, call outdoor recreation at 687-5565.

Self-help store sets hours

The self-help store is open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays. For more details, call Judy Sarrazin at 687-7692.

Playgroup expands fun

The Mom's, Pop's and Tot's Play group meets 10 a.m.-noon Thursdays at the Missouri Army National Guard Armory. July events include:

- ✓ Free play Thursday,
 - ✓ Crafts July 17, and
 - ✓ Field trip to the Warrensburg Community Center July 24.
- For more details, call Chelley Plowman at 687-4342.

Family Support

Call 687-7132 for details on these events or other family support center activities. Events take place at the FSC.

Pre-separation briefing set

A pre-separation briefing for people separating from the military begins at 9 a.m. Monday. Representatives from the military personnel flight, family support center, Reserve and finance will provide information. The MPF separations and retirements office schedules members for this briefing.

TAP program available

A three-day tuition assistance program for people separating or retiring from the military begins at 8 a.m. Tuesday. Attendees will learn basic resume writing skills, interviewing skills, salary negotiation, and receive information on education and Veterans administration benefits. Reservations are required.

WIC representative visits base

A WIC representative is available beginning at 8:30 a.m. Thursday. WIC includes nutrition education, health promotion and a supplemental food program to help women, infants and children who have nutritional needs. For more details, call the WIC office in Warrensburg at 660-747-2012.

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Nick Martin

Livin' on the EDGE

The Entirely Devoted to God's Exaltation Band — Beth Goodman, Shannon Groesz, Capt. Ryan Huckabay, Capt. Scott Goodman and Pat Nevin — perform at the EDGE brat burn June 26 at Skelton Park. The new EDGE service is geared toward airmen unable to attend other services and for those who enjoy a lively, upbeat form of worship. EDGE services, which begin at 7 p.m. Thursdays, are offered through the base chapel. For more details, call the chapel at 687-3652.

Chapel Corner

Catholic

Communion Service — 11:30 a.m. Fridays

Confessions — 4:30 p.m. Saturdays and upon request

Mass — 11:30 a.m. Mondays-Thursdays; 5 p.m. Saturdays and 10:45 a.m. Sundays

Protestant

General worship — 9 a.m. Sundays

Gospel — 12:45 p.m. Sundays

Liturgical — 8 a.m. Sundays

Pentecostal — 6 p.m. Sundays



Additional worship opportunities are offered through various lay councils, organizations and activities. For more information, call 687-3652.

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Photo by Joshua Bartholomew

Hair today

DD Smith cut 13 inches of hair off 10-year-old Tara Bartholomew's mane recently. Tara, daughter of Maj. Bruce and Christine Bartholomew, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, donated her hair to Locks of Love. Locks of Love is an organization that makes wigs out of at least 10 inches of donated hair for children who have lost their hair due to cancer treatments. Smith, who owns Co-Ed Creations in Knob Noster, cuts and fills out the required paperwork for anyone who wants to donate their hair to the charity.

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Colleen Wronek

Offutt United midfielder Stan Parker dribbles past Whiteman Bomber defender Kayode Salami.

Bombers outscore United in doubleheader

By Airman 1st Class Colleen Wronek
55th Wing Public Affairs

OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Neb. — Two Air Force bases battled it out in a friendly fire event last weekend.

The Offutt United men's varsity soccer team took on the Whiteman Bombers June 27 and Saturday. This was the Offutt team's first match up against Whiteman.

"We're not playing a tournament this time, we're playing for fun so the teams can get to know each other," said Kirk Theophanous, Offutt United coach and center left field.

Whiteman's coach and defender, Rich Thorpe, agrees. "This friendly game is a great time to test our mix with the newer and older players."

United lost Friday's game 3-2.

United scored first in the match, but the Bombers came back and tied it in the first half. The Bombers went up 2-1 in the third quarter. United tied the game at the end of the third. The fourth quarter brought the Bombers another goal bringing the score to 3-2. United struggled to tie the score before the game was over, but failed.

"Center midfielder Freddy Raffaelli, got us on the board first with his first goal, and then striker Nick Velati, followed to tie the game back up," Thorpe said. "Freddy finished with the game-deciding goal."

The Bombers also downed the United Saturday with a final score of 6-2.

The first half ended with a tie of 1-1. During the second half, United lacked substitution players. The Bombers, took advantage of this opportunity, showed their soccer spirit and scored three more goals. United fought back and scored the final goal of the game, but it wasn't enough for a win.

"We were so excited to come here and have wanted to play against Offutt's team for many years," Thorpe said. "Despite the final result, the game was competitive. Offutt's team has a great nucleus of players, and we look forward to seeing them in the championship game of the Scott AFB Soccer Invitational July 25-27, at Scott AFB, Ill."

Although Offutt's team lost, they learned a lot from this experience.

"Our team just started playing other Air Force teams," Theophanous said. "United usually plays in the Nebraska Men's Soccer League."

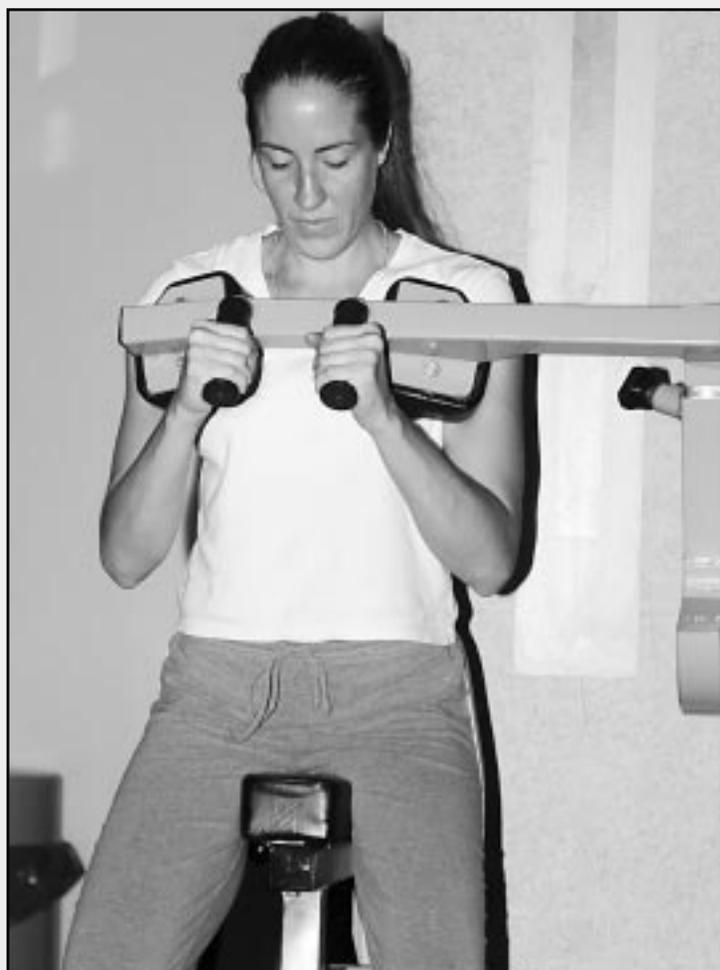
Thorpe believes as Offutt's varsity soccer program grows the team will end up being a great rivalry.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joe Laddan

509th CES cements 509th MXS 8-3

Left: Jared Orientale, 509th Maintenance Squadron, swings at a pitch. Above: Members of the 509th Civil Engineer intramural softball team celebrate their 8-3 win over the 509th MXS team June 26.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joe Laddan

Summer slimmin'

Left: Lorie Miller, wife of Jeff Miller, 509th Operations Support Squadron, uses a weight machine at the fitness center. Above: Matthew Adler, 509th Munitions Squadron, and Sherman Tinder use step machines at the fitness center. The fitness center hours are 4:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 4:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Fridays, and 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and Spirit days.



Services Page editor.....Andrea Bradley
509th Services Squadron.....687-3594

*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Outdoor Recreation 687-5565

Boater safety course

Receive certification to rent a boat from outdoor recreation 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday. The free class is required to operate boats from outdoor recreation.

NAF resale

Purchase items for your home or office such as lamps, chairs, computer printers, bed frames, dishes and more 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday at the NAF Resale store behind outdoor recreation. Shoppers must be a government ID card holders. Check or cash only.

Pomme De Terre Lake pontoon

Bring a swimsuit, pack a lunch and enjoy a day out on the lake 8 a.m.-6 p.m. July 12. Learn how to trail and dock a boat. Cost is \$10 for transportation. Bring money for dinner. Sign up by Thursday.

July rental specials

- ✓ Rent a pontoon or ski boat for \$185. Pick up between 1-3 p.m. Friday and return by 10 a.m. Monday. Save \$25.
- ✓ Rent a lawn mower at regular price and rent a weed eater half price. Save \$5.
- ✓ Rent a camcorder for the weekend for \$40. Save \$20.

Ozark Inn 687-5476

Family night

Families of deployed members can dine 4-8 p.m. Tuesdays. A surcharge will be applied to families of staff sergeants and above. Prices vary. Special children's meals are available. A movie on the big-screen TV will be played. Bring a copy of your deployed spouse's orders on the first visit.

Mission's End 687-4422

Karaoke

Enjoy an evening of karaoke 8 p.m.-midnight tonight in the Lavene Lounge. This is for members only.

Boss and buddy night

Enjoy 15 cent wings and drink specials 4-7 p.m. Wednesday. This is for members only.

Youth Center 687-5586

Wet, wild and wacky Wednesday

Kindergartners through fourth graders can dress in swimming gear and play water games 10 a.m.-noon Wednesday. Sign up now through Tuesday. Cost is \$1 for members and \$2 for nonmembers.

Hawaiian luau

Kindergartners through fourth graders can enjoy a Hawaiian luau 6:30-9:30 p.m. July 11 at the youth center. Cost is \$4 for members and \$5.50 for nonmembers.

Pre-teen scene hangout

Fifth through seventh graders can play games and hang out with friends 6-9 p.m. July 12. Cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers. Sign up beginning Monday.

Teen Center 687-5819

Tech computer graphics class

Learn how to create flyers, banners and signs 3-5 p.m. Wednesday. This is a free event.

TEENSupreme Keystone club

Join us 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday for a free lunch before heading out to the pool. This work session entails discussing regional and national Keystone opportunities for Whiteman teens.

ACC lock-in

Enjoy a lock-in with your friends and take part in challenges via phone with other Air Combat Command teens from across the United States 10:30 p.m. July 11 to 7 a.m. July 12. Everyone will receive a free t-shirt and other items. Entry fee of \$5 covers all costs. Fee is due at sign up. The teen center is closed July 12 for this event.

Stars & Strikes 687-5114

Summer youth lessons

Youth ages 18 years and younger can enjoy summer bowling lessons 9-10 a.m. July 15-Aug. 19. Cost of \$60 includes lessons plus a bowling ball. Sign up by Tuesday.

Community Center 687-5617

Pool Tournament

Airmen can participate in a pool tournament beginning at 7 p.m. today. The cost is \$5 a player. Call for more details.

Salsa dancing

Learn to salsa dance 7-8 p.m. today. The event is free. No partner is needed. Call for more details.

Salsa dance block party

Bring a Latino dish and dance the night away 7 p.m.-midnight July 11 at the community center. Soft drinks will be provided. Must be 18 years or older. Call for more details.

Skills Development Center 687-5691

Scrapbooking class

Students can learn the art of scrapbooking to preserve photos noon-2 p.m. Tuesday. The cost is \$10 plus supplies. Bring four to six pictures. Call for more details.

Stained glass panel class

Pick a pattern, cut and grind glass and use the foiling technique to create a stained glass panel 6-9 p.m. Thursday. Cost is \$45 plus supplies. This is a six-week course. Call for more information.

Rock painting

Paint a cuddly, furry critter on a rock 10 a.m.-noon July 12 and 26. Stop by to see a sample at skills development center. Cost of \$15 includes supplies. Call for more information.

Fitness Center 687-5496

Special Olympics softball tournament

The fitness center will be hosting the Missouri Special Olympics district softball tournament July 11 and 12 at the fitness center. Opening ceremony is scheduled for 7:45 a.m. July 12. Call for more details or to represent a squadron.

Family Child Care 687-5590

Orientation class

Receive free certification to become a family child care provider 8 a.m.-4 p.m. July 14-18. Sign up by Thursday. Stop by the Family Child Care office and pick up a registration package.

Congratulations!

Taseuana Watkins daughter of Staff Sgt. Kwazi Payne, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, won Big Surf Water Park tickets from the water balloon war for Mom n' me. Pictured are Taseuana, Lakindia and Angelica Watkins Sponsored in-part by Big Surf.*



Tickets & Travel 687-5643

Red, White and Zoo

Military members and their families will receive free admission to the Kansas City Zoo in Kansas City, Mo., today through Sunday. Call for more information.

New ticket arrivals

Stop by Tickets & Travel for new ticket arrivals for the Kansas City Zoo, IMAX Theatre at the Kansas City Zoo and Big Surf water park. Tickets and travel is open 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays.

Royal Oaks 687-5572

Course Championship Aug. 9 & 10

Win a two night luxurious stay at Thousand Hills Golf Resort in Branson, Mo. This event is open to valid government ID card holders. The winner will continue on to the Air Combat Command Championship Aug. 26-29 at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. Sponsored in-part by Fowler's Family Autos and Thousand Hills Golf Resort.*



Library 687-5614

Laugh it up at your library

Youths ages 6-18 can read books now through July 25 to win prizes. Sponsored in-part by Scholastic, Pizza Hut and the Whiteman Enlisted Community Organization.*

Whiteman Base Theater

Friday

The In-Laws PG-13 7 p.m.

Starring — Albert Brooks & Michael Douglas In this riotous remake of the 1979 comedy the "In-Laws," prospective fathers-in-laws meet for the first time to celebrate their children's upcoming marriage. After the cake hits the fan, they discover they can truly be an effective team.

Saturday

Bruce Almighty PG-13 7 p.m.

Starring — Jim Carrey & Jennifer Aniston Bruce Nolan, a human interest television reporter in Buffalo, N.Y., is discontented with almost everything in life, despite his popularity and the love of his girlfriend. At the end of the worst day in his life, Bruce angrily ridicules and rages against God. God responds by endowing Bruce with all of his divine powers to take on the job and see if he can do better.

Sunday

Bruce Almighty PG-13 5:30 p.m.

Adults \$3 Youth \$1.50
Movie recording line 687-5110.
Movies are subject to change due to availability.