



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Housing construction ongoing

Major housing demolition in the Midland area began Tuesday to make way for a new education center on the southwest corner of Spirit Boulevard and Ellsworth Lane. This excavator levels some vacated houses to make way for the upcoming construction. The project is estimated to be finished sometime in the winter of 2006. The full family housing plan will be featured in an upcoming issue.

Supervisory skills prime new lieutenants

By 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen
Public Affairs

Nearly 30 Whiteman lieutenants went to school on leadership Aug. 24-27 as part of an Air Combat Command 90-day test program aimed at improving Airmen's quality of life, while also developing young officers.

ACC selected Whiteman and two other bases to test its concept for putting lieutenants in supervisory positions to increase the contact Airmen have with their chains of command, and to begin the building of the officer-enlisted leadership team.

During the four-day leadership class, the lieutenants learned about writing enlisted and officer performance reports, the legal system and first sergeants' perspectives on various issues. About 20 lieutenants, who attended the course, will move into new areas of responsibility for the remainder of the test period.

Brig. Gen. Kim McKenzie, 8th Air Force vice commander, spoke to lieutenants and NCOs here about the program Aug. 25. She said NCOs are vital in mentoring the lieutenants as they hone their leadership skills.

"This (program) is 'How to build a leadership team 101' at the basic level," she said. "If we can build a tighter relationship between officers and enlisted early on, that's a win for the entire force."

General McKenzie said the ACC initiative is a chance for lieutenants to learn the mechanics of the enlisted corps early. She emphasized the program is not to interfere with NCO supervision, but to support it.

"This allows for one more set of eyes, one more set of ears and one more set of arms to build a tight leadership

team," she said.

Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, told lieutenants the program will develop officership.

"This program is designed to remind, support, encourage and instruct you on what it's like to be an officer and leader in the Air Force," he said. "This is a welcome change in the way senior leaders look at the employment of the Air Force's future leaders."

2nd Lt. Nicholas Brant, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, said this is an opportunity to interact with Airmen.

"I believe the lieutenants need more visibility when it comes to Airmen. We need to show we care and we are here to help them."

Senior enlisted leaders also are encouraged by the program's potential. Chief Master Sgt. Vicki Orcutt, 509th BW command chief, said this program is beneficial to lieutenants and enlisted Airmen.

"Bringing in our lieutenants to help with day-to-day supervisory responsibilities allows all of our supervisors-junior NCOs, senior NCOs and officers — more time to put eyes on our Airmen to ensure they are being taken care of," Chief Orcutt said. "It benefits our young Airmen as well because it gives supervision the opportunity to spend more time mentoring and training our future leaders."

Additionally, Chief Orcutt said senior NCOs shouldn't worry that lieutenants may be their performance report raters.

"Promotion is based on many factors and the most sig-

NORI Countdown 48 days

Red Carpet Rollout

Nuclear C2 Support Staff

News in Brief

Optimize your Thrift Savings Plan

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Retiree Appreciation Day scheduled

The annual Retiree Appreciation Day takes place 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Sept. 18 with activities at Mission's End and ending with a base tour.

For security reasons, attendees must have a valid military ID card or be accompanied by someone who has one. For questions, call the retiree activities office at 800-303-5608.

Telephone survey records feedback

The 509th Medical Group was selected to participate in a telephone survey to get timely feedback from patients about their outpatient visit. An authorized person will contact patients who visited the MedGp and ask questions about the appointment. The caller will ask six to eight questions and contact patients between 5 and 8 p.m. weekdays, except holidays, beginning in August.

The feedback will help 509th MedGp leaders assess the level of service and care provided. The caller doesn't have access to personal medical information nor will patients be requested to provide the information. For more details, call Tech. Sgt. Kelli Remmert at 687-4312.

Volunteers needed for MS 150

The Multiple Sclerosis 150, a 150-mile, two-day charity bicycling event scheduled for Sept. 11, needs volunteers. The event begins in Lee's Summit, Mo., and volunteers are needed to transport riders to the starting line. There are also a few spots open for riders. For more details, call Senior Airman Christopher Clohessy at 687-4949.

Case lot sale around the corner

The commissary host its semi-annual case lot sale 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 18 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 19. For more details, call the commissary at 687-5655.

CMSU offering free admission

Central Missouri State University is offering free admission to any military and family members. The event is CMSU's Fighting Mules football team vs. Northwest Missouri State University's Bearcats beginning at 7 p.m. Sept. 11 at CMSU. For more details, call Bob Jackson at 660-543-8194

Commander's Corner

By Col. Chris Miller
509th Bomb Wing Commander

Labor Day — Today is ACC Family Day, which kicks off the Labor Day weekend.

The nation asks much of our Airmen and their families; for most of you, this weekend is a chance to spend time with your friends and family. Be safe.

The roads, lakes and recreational areas are full of people trying to squeeze the last bit of fun into the final weekend of summer. Use common sense, some extra caution, and return to us on Tuesday morning safe and sound.

Voter Registration — Today also starts Armed Forces Voter Week, which runs through Sept. 11.

The decision to register and vote is an individual choice, but our senior leaders want to ensure that

each and every service member has the opportunity, and is aware of the right, to vote!

In the 509th, more than 70 percent of our Airmen have been contacted so far. Your vote is the basis of a true democracy — generations of men and women have sacrificed to give us that right — I urge you to use it!

NORE — Only 48 more days until the NORI! Next weekend, we begin our third and final NORE in preparation for the inspection. During the past exercises, we have identified areas for improvement.

This NORE is our last chance to fix those deficiencies and polish the things we know how to do. As basketball coach Bobby Knight said, "Everyone has the will to win, but few have the will to prepare to win." I know the 509th has the will to practice — and it pays off!

Kudos — My hat is off to the men and women of Team Whiteman for the "Whiteman Spirit" they have demonstrated to our distinguished guests in the past few weeks.

In August, we hosted a member of Congress, four Presidential appointees above the level of Assistant Secretary of Defense, numerous general officers and many other guests, military and civilian, including friends and family of 509ers.

I recognize that it can be a hassle to juggle your work schedule around these distinguished visitors, but as always, you have impressed them with your professionalism, pride and "can do" attitude. Those great impressions help support our mission, our base, and our Air Force — thanks for all you do.

You do it better than anyone — that's why the 509th's motto remains "Follow Us!"



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tia Shroeder

Senior Airman Kelly Ruffo, bioenvironmental specialist, performs a gas mask fit test on Airman 1st Class Chris Lauricella using a Portacount device. This machine ensures gas masks provide a proper seal to the face; a requirement for the NORE.

101 Critical Days of Summer nearing end

By Gen. Hal Hornburg
Commander, Air Combat Command

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (ACCNS) — The arrival of Labor Day marks the end of the traditional "101 Critical Days of Summer." As we remember the many contributions and sacrifices that American workers have made in building our great Nation, we also face the challenge of a proven high-risk extended weekend for Air Force personnel.

Many Airmen can and should take to the highways and get in one last vacation as summer comes to an end, but the fact is, our Nation's highways are dangerous and they kill. We have lost 23 irreplaceable Airmen this year.

Take care of yourself and your families this Labor Day weekend;

- ✓ maintain the posted speed limit,
- ✓ wear your seat belt,
- ✓ don't drink and drive,
- ✓ or drive while fatigued,
- ✓ and practice personal risk management in everything you do.

Your continued health and well-being are vital to the mission of Air Combat Command. Preparation and self-discipline are the keys to a safe and enjoyable Labor Day.

Please enjoy your well-deserved break and be safe.

Planning: Making the future better

By Maj. Kelly Kirts
509th Communications Squadron

Approximately two months ago, I had the privilege of joining the Whiteman team. Previously, I was stationed at the Pentagon, working as a staff officer in the Directorate of Communication Operations.

During my two years of staff officer duty, I worked on several long term programs. My time on the air staff provided great opportunities to observe first hand how planning could make my job easier. I learned that, by investing some extra time and effort planning early in any project, I could improve my chances of success. Likewise, I also learned about the bumpy road associated with inadequate planning. In addition, as I learned that my efforts as program manager directly influence the effectiveness of my programs, the relevance of my planning hit home since I could potentially affect my entire functional community.

Now you may wonder what long range planning has in common with base level operations. I would suggest it impacts all aspects of our jobs.

Our predecessors laid the ground work for the buildings, systems, and equipment we have today. This point became quite clear in July during the grand opening ceremony for the newly remodeled network control center.

If not for the efforts of many people from various base and headquarters organizations, Whiteman would not be blessed with a great facility to monitor, control and defend our base communications network. In short, we are experiencing the results of many years of work from people representing several functional arenas working together as a team.

The dedication ceremony caused me to reflect on our own current long range planning efforts. Specifically, what

other projects are we working today to improve our base and our Air Force? As I started to dwell on this issue, it became painfully apparent that long range planning is challenging. In addition, I will be the first to admit, it's sometimes hard for us to be concerned about events which are six months, 12 months, or even years down the road. It's easy to get caught up in our daily challenges and lose track of the long term goals.

However, a strong strategic planning process can help us select long term objectives and the strategies needed to attain those objectives. In addition, organizational objectives should serve as a starting point to focus individual efforts towards common goals. Every member in each unit has a role in that organization fulfilling its objectives. Likewise, each member also has a responsibility and obligation to look for opportunities to improve future operations by properly identifying and elevating planning shortfalls.

Granted, planning would be a simple process if we lived in a perfect world. However, we live in a world of limited personnel, declining budgets and competing operational requirements. The best weapon against these challenges is a solid but flexible strategic plan. By being proactive, we can reduce disruption to our daily projects while still maintaining focus on our long range goals. In this way, we can turn our daily challenges into long term opportunities.

Just as we have benefited from the efforts of those that have come before us, we have an obligation to care for the future. It's important for all of us to routinely set aside some time for long-term planning. Time consuming and as challenging as this effort might seem, it's an investment in our future. We might not see the benefits of our efforts, but we owe it to ourselves and those Air Force members down the road.

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 Staff writer Melissa Klinkner



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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:

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509er helps aerovac military working dog

By 1st Lt. Kelley Jeter

380th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFP) — Staff Sgt. Tim Cox has been paired up with his military working dog, Ronny, for more than two years, so when the canine cop fell ill on the job recently, Sergeant Cox instantly recognized a problem.

“He just had a complete change of attitude,” Sergeant Cox said. “He got very lethargic and wasn’t himself at all.”

Deployed with the 380th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron here, Sergeant Cox and Ronny work at the vehicle search area where they check incoming vehicles for explosives. Their work is extremely valuable to force protection and the health of the dogs is a handler’s top priority.

Ronny’s change in behavior was a red flag that he needed immediate medical attention and he was taken to a veterinary facility in a nearby city.

When they discovered the problem, he was immediately operated on and put into intensive care for observation.

“He was put into the equivalent of doggie ICU for three days,” said Maj. David Blocker, 380th Expeditionary Medical Group chief of aerospace medicine, who is deployed from Whiteman Air Force Base.

Ronny had pericardial effusion, a relatively common malady for large-breed dogs. Essentially, it’s an unnatural collection of fluid around the heart that began interfering with its functioning.

Ronny’s heartbeat was irregular for two days after the emergency procedure, which drained the excess fluid off his heart. He was hooked up to a heart monitor, put on oxygen and closely observed until he was out of the danger zone.

Capt. Todd Bell, an Army veterinarian assigned to Navy Central Command headquarters in Bahrain, was summoned to assess Ronny’s condition and assist in a medical evacuation to where he could get more help for his condition.

“This condition will often resurface six to eight weeks after the initial episode,” Captain Bell said. The possibility of Ronny getting sick again cemented the decision to send

him to Germany, where he could get a specialty evaluation and possibly a special surgery to permanently fix the condition.

Major Blocker has arranged plenty of aeromedical evacuations — or aerovacs — for people, but said this is his first experience with transporting a sick dog. The aerovac system requires frequent stops and medical re-evaluation to guarantee people have the medical care they need available in flight and at every step along the way.

“People may often go home for medical reasons, but not all of them need medical care en route,” Major Blocker said. Many can be sent home commercially or on a military rotator and will usually make it home anywhere from five to seven days sooner than if they’re locked into the aerovac system.

Medical professionals have few options with regard to transporting sick dogs, unlike people. Ronny needed the constant presence of health-care professionals and a trained eye to watch his condition, should it change. That made aerovac the ideal choice. Military working dogs like Ronny are considered to be active-duty service members eligible for aerovac.

So to get him safely to Germany for further triage, Ronny was escorted by Captain Bell and Sergeant Cox on a special aerovac flight Aug. 15.

Sergeant Cox and Ronny are deployed from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas.

Military working dogs are valuable team members whose training can run anywhere from \$20,000 to \$60,000 before they’re ready to work. Training them to sniff out drugs or explosives and teaching them to attack on command is a valuable tool for keeping military members and



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lee Tucker



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cox carries his military working dog, Ronny, to a C-130 Hercules on Aug. 22 for an aeromedical evacuation to Germany. Ronny was diagnosed with pericardial effusion, an unnatural collection of fluid around his heart that began interfering with the heart’s functioning. Sergeant Cox and Ronny are assigned to the 380th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron at a forward-deployed location. Inset: Maj. David Blocker, 509th Medical Group.

assets safe from outside threats.

After Ronny’s evaluation and possible surgery, he’ll have approximately 30 days to recover, and he will be back home and working hard at the job he’s been trained to do.

Monthly promotion numbers near century mark

The 509th Bomb Wing recognized 95 members during the monthly promotion ceremony Wednesday at Mission’s End. They are:

Airmen Matthew Gibbs, 509th Services Squadron, **Michael Ouellette**, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, **Maureen Perez**, 509th SVS, **Ashley Smead**, 509th Maintenance Squadron, **Ruth Vaovasa**, 509th LRS, **Erik Wertman**, 509th Security Forces Squadron, and **Scott Williams**, 509th SFS.

Airmen 1st Class Matthew Anliker, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, **Jonathan Berry**, 509th SFS, **Zachary Bolden**, 509th Contracting Squadron, **Amy Bowden**, 509th Bomb Wing, **Christopher Chafin**, 509th Munitions Squadron, **Kristopher Chatara**, 509th LRS, **Christopher Clark**, 509th CES, **Patrick Collard**, 509th MUNS, **Joseph Cook**, 509th CES, **Jenna Day**, 509th Communications Squadron,

Melissa Ferry, 509th SFS, **Denera Henderson**, 509th SFS, **Bianca Hernandez**, 509th LRS, **Justin Jackson**, 509th CES, **Christopher Lowe**, 509th CES, **Bryan Mack**, 509th CES, **Jessica Mattes**, 509th CES, **Sarah Phillips**, 509th LRS, **David Salley**, 509th Medical Support Squadron, **Robert Sealer**, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, **Kati Shumaker**, 509th SFS, **Jenna Speight**, 509th SFS, **William Tolin**, 509th AMXS, and **Scott White**, 394th Combat Training Squadron.

Senior Airmen Ryan Bailey, 509th MXS, **Jerry Carter**, 509th AMXS, **Brian Collier**, 509th CES, **Stephen Davis**, 509th SVS, **Carly Evans**, 509th Mission Support Squadron, **Michael Forte**, 509th MUNS, **Zachariah Giguere**, 509th CES, **Leif Giselsberg**, 509th SFS, **Nathan Graczyk**, 509th AMXS, **Jeremy Harris**, 509th AMXS, **Christopher Holt**, 509th MUNS, **Adam Janquart**, 509th MXS, **Brian Jones**,

509th AMXS, **Louis Kane**, 509th MUNS, **Nicholas Kline**, 509th AMXS, **William Knight**, 509th CES, **Nathalie Kolecki**, 509th MDSS, **Jon Langdon**, 509th CS, **Christopher Leach**, 509th LRS, **Samuel Martinez**, 509th SFS, **Keleisha Myers**, 509th CES, **Mickey Parker**, 509th AMXS, **Aaron Pate**, 509th SFS, **Christopher Pope**, 509th CS, **Ricky Renfroe**, 509th SFS, **Ryan Roberson**, 509th Operations Support Squadron, **Derrick Rose**, 509th AMXS, **Timothy Schultz**, 509th SFS, **Derek Scranton**, 509th MXS, **Sean Secich**, 509th BW, **Jenna Tatum**, 509th MUNS, **Charity Thompson**, 509th CS, **Paul Wilewski**, 509th CONS, **Bryant Williams**, 509th BW, **Christopher Wilson**, 509th AMXS, and **Seth Wilson**, 509th CS.

Staff Sgts. Joe Angeles, 509th SVS, **Jamey Ballew**, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron, **Margaret Blodget**, 509th Medical Operations Squadron, **Christy Erler**,

509th LRS, **Daniel Harvoth**, 509th SFS, **Mandy Johnson**, 509th OSS, **Christopher Kirkland**, 509th MXS, **Maria Lino**, 509th SFS, **Kathryn Liter**, 509th MOS, **Patrick Nicks**, 509th OSS, **Larry Norsworthy**, 509th CES, **Charles Simmons**, 509th CPTS, **Kevin Steinke**, 509th CES, **James Veit**, 509th CES, **Randy Wicher**, 509th AMXS, and **David Winchell**, 509th SVS.

Tech. Sgts. Randy Burk, 509th OSS, **Philip Freeman**, 509th MUNS, **James Pinto**, 509th CS, **David Sheets**, 509th MDSS, **Brian Strong**, 509th CES, and **John White**, 509th LRS.

Master Sgts. Bradley Hall, 509th MUNS, **Rocky Hauge**, 509th BW, **Kurt Hauschka**, 509th AMXS, and **Michael Wright**, 509th AMXS.

Senior Master Sgt. Steven Ramage, 509th AMXS.

Chief Master Sgt. Andres Alvarez, 509th MXS.

Monthly				Fiscal year			
	B-2	A-10	T-38		B-2	A-10	T-38
Goal	276.2	333.0	392.7	Goal	6,497.8	4,270.0	4,200.0
Flown	20.4	16.8	21.4	Flown	6,226.0	3,953.8	3,941.4

Information current as of Wednesday

Information for the Sortie Board is provided by the 509th Operations Support Squadron and 303rd Fighter Squadron scheduling and documentation offices.

The Importance of Voting — The Power of Your Vote

Gen. John Jumper

Air Force Chief of Staff

Around the world, the Airmen of our United States Air Force make a difference. From the collapse of the Soviet Union and Desert Storm more than a decade ago to our global planning and execution of air and space power today, Airmen have done more than their part for our nation. In the coming months, we need to make a difference in another way. We all need to exercise the privilege only enjoyed by free nations — the privilege of voting.

There have been many books written in recent years about our founding fathers — the men who wrote the powerful words that forged a new nation. In our Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson penned a phrase that is the cornerstone of our democratic institutions and makes us unique among nations. He wrote, ...“Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just power from the consent of the governed.” It is this idea of the “Consent of the Governed” that empowers each of us in the form of our vote.

Voting is now easier than it has ever been before. If you'd like to register to vote or get information on voting procedures then access <http://www.fvap.gov>. This webpage provides simple instructions on what to do. In most cases, all you need to do is fill out a post card and mail it in. Guidance is available for all states and for those Airmen living overseas. Furthermore, contact your voting assistance officers — these people are available to address your voting questions or concerns.

Whiteman's voting assistance officers are:

Name	Unit	Phone
2nd Lt. Jennifer Pickett;	509th BW:	687-3445
1st Lt. Ed Gulick;	509th BW:	687-6122
Master Sgt. Christine Fausnight;	509th CPTS:	687-1154
Gwen Clarence;	509th CPTS:	687-7910
Capt. Bryan Wickers;	509th OSS:	687-3549
Capt. Corey Hummel;	509th OSS:	687-6120
Staff Sgt. Kristy Crespo;	509th OSS:	687-6134
Staff Sgt. Heather Tegard;	509th OSS:	687-3101
Senior Airman Jessica King;	509th OSS:	687-1704
Senior Airman Rosemarie Morelli;	509th OSS:	687-1677
Airman 1st Class Steve Poettker;	509th OSS:	687-1677
Master Sgt. James Sales;	393rd BS :	687-1761
2nd Lt. James McCue;	325th BS :	687-3251
Airman 1st Class Christopher Mills;	394th CTS:	687-6450
1st Lt. Ryan Baker;	509th MXS :	687-7113
1st Lt. Eric Jaggars;	509th AMXS:	687-3288
Master Sgt. Mike Jones;	509th MOS:	687-2369
Master Sgt. Troy Sharp;	509th MUNS:	687-3081
Master Sgt. Keith Keen;	509th MUNS:	687-3087
Tech. Sgt. David Gillingham;	509th MUNS:	687-4465
Tech. Sgt. Eric Goewey;	509th MUNS:	687-1217
Staff Sgt. Alfredo Arvizu;	509th MUNS:	687-2318
Tech. Sgt. Eric Lang;	509th MUNS:	687-3109
Capt. Tyron Wright;	509th CS:	687-6180
1st Lt. Nathan Hogan;	509th CS:	687-7085
1st Lt. Andrew Heo;	509th CS:	687-1841
1st Lt. Brian Wolken;	509th CES:	687-6036
Senior Master Sgt. Morgan Spruill;	509th CES:	687-1996
Master Sgt. Jeffrey Crannick;	509th CES:	687-4259
Master Sgt. Marcus Gray;	509th MSS:	687-6468
Master Sgt. Michael Fusaro;	509th CES:	687-6142
Master Sgt. Charles Hoskins;	509th CES:	687-4735
Tech. Sgt. William St. Peter;	509th CES:	687-4548
Master Sgt. Arthur Roy;	509th CES:	687-1057
Tech. Sgt. Robert Waldorf;	509th CES:	687-3014
Tech. Sgt. Glen Simons;	509th CES:	687-1161
Staff Sgt. Michael Becker;	509th CES:	687-4223
Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Thomas;	509th SVS:	687-5470
Staff Sgt. Adrienne Mimms;	509th SVS:	687-6532
Staff Sgt. James Aselstine;	509th SFS:	687-6665
Airman 1st Class Daniel Barrios;	509th SFS:	687-3888
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Turner;	509th SFS:	687-6659
Senior Airman Robert Turner;	509th SFS:	687-6665
Tech. Sgt. Gordon Severs;	509th MSS:	687-6422
Senior Airman Shelton Watson;	509th CONS:	687-1841
Senior Airman Travis Register;	509th LRS:	687-5695
2nd Lt. John Garvey;	509th LRS:	687-5980
1st Lt. Russ Rumley;	509th LRS:	687-4194
2nd Lt. Latasha Stricklin;	509th LRS:	687-4143
1st Lt. Bradford Sturdivant;	509th LRS:	687-6053
2nd Lt. Rob Wengerter;	509th LRS:	687-5295
Master Sgt. Steven Chabotte;	509th MDSS:	687-2123
Tech. Sgt. Rick Miller;	509th MDSS:	687-5544
Staff Sgt. Monika Perry;	509th MDSS:	687-1349
Staff Sgt. Erin Winder;	509th MDSS:	687-4324
Tech. Sgt. Kelli Remmert;	509th MDOS:	687-3937
Staff Sgt. Jesse Stroot;	509th MDOS:	687-2128
Staff Sgt. Ed Caffrey;	509th MDOS:	687-2212
Staff Sgt. Ashley Motley;	509th MDOS:	687-1191
Lt. Col. Roxanne Williams;	442nd FW:	687-3846
Senior Master Sgt. James Horne;	Det. 6, 372nd TRS:	687-1080
2nd Lt. David Hunter;	Det. 12, TRSS:	687-2087

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Whiteman Spirit Award



Photo graphically enhanced

Airman 1st Class Zachariah Curry 509th Communications Squadron

Airman 1st Class Zachariah Curry, 509th Communications Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Monday.

Master Sgt. Pedro Villanueva, 509th Maintenance Group, nominated Airman Curry for the award.

As a member of the 509th CS Automated Data Processing Equipment Office, Airman Curry provided the 509th Maintenance Squadron with outstanding service, said Sergeant Villanueva.

"Airman Curry single-handedly made it easier to turn in computer items to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office," he said.

One difficult-to-manage room filled with computer items from five different accounts was combined into one account by Airman Curry, ensuring excess items are turned in expediently and without delay.

"His hard work and diligence has come into play on several different occasions and he strongly believes in team effort when it comes to accomplishing difficult tasks," said Sergeant Villanueva.

Personally Speaking

Duty title: Alternate base equipment custodian officer

Time on station: 10 months

Time in Service: One year, four months

Hometown: Clinton, Mo.

Hobbies: Freeride and downhill mountain bike racing, hanging out with friends at local bike and skate shop, building mountain bike trails in the local community and video games.

Goals: To make the most out of the opportunity the Air Force has given me, get my bachelors degree during my enlistment, fulfill my potential in freeride and downhill racing, and find a decent girl and have a cool family someday.

Best thing about Whiteman: It's near my family and long-time friends.

Pet peeves: People taking my food, who drive too slow, when they mess with my bikes and lastly, when people lean against my truck.

What motivates your winning spirit?

Two words—my parents.

If you could change one thing at Whiteman, what would it be? Nap time. That's right, just like kindergarten, nap time after lunch. Those were the days.

Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed by the individual making Whiteman a better place to live and work by going far beyond his or her assigned duties to "make it happen."

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.

Submitting

CIVILIAN
EMPLOYEE
OF THE
WEEK

To nominate a civilian employee, send an e-mail to whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil. Be sure to include why this person is being nominated.

This space is reserved for advertisements

1st Sergeant's View

Train for success

(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. Arthur Roy

509th Civil Engineer Squadron Additional Duty First Sergeant

Airmen, the choices you make will define your career. What I mean by that is hundreds of times a day you make a choice to be a good troop or a bad one.

My definition of a good troop is someone who is willing to dedicate themselves to a purpose yielding a positive result. I realize dedication to a purpose is a pretty broad statement so I'll narrow it down to professional growth.

As an Airman, the fastest way to prove your worth to your supervisor and work center is to focus on your upgrade training. Both your career development courses and on-the-job-training are equally important.

Completing your CDCs requires using some of your leisure time to hit the books. For OJT, you must listen to that crusty old civilian or NCO who takes an interest in your training. They'll guide you through the ins and outs of your career field. By dedicating yourself to the timely completion of your upgrade training, your leadership will know you want to be someone they can go to when there's no room for error.

When you think about it, earning your 5-level is nothing more than a big college class with a 40-hour-a-week lab. That's why, only after you've become proficient in your job, should you think about taking classes.

You should definitely take advantage of the educational opportunities you are afforded through the tuition assistance program. If you have no interest in going to traditional college classes, that's OK. Tuition assistance will also pay for accredited trade schools. I know this because I went to one when I was at my last base.

Next, you should get involved with your community — after all, it's the only one you have.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving, Whiteman Airman's Council, dorm council, squadron booster clubs, scouting programs, activities though outdoor recreation and the chapel are just a few of the things you should consider getting involved with. Your involvement in these programs will not only make Whiteman a better place to live, but you will also have fun, make friendships with people around the base you would normally never see, and even learn a thing or two about how to lead and be part of a team. This will give you a head start for when you're called upon to attend airman leadership school.

ALS is designed to give you a general overview of what is required of an NCO. You learn about writing EPRs, teamwork, public speaking, enlisted heritage and the list goes on. ALS is the last formal professional development you will receive as an Airman.

You may have noticed that of the four areas I focused on, (upgrade training, college, volunteering and ALS), only two seem to have a direct link to professional growth. While this may seem to be the case, I submit to you that without taking classes and getting involved in your community, you're not going to have the tools you need to progress through the NCO grades without a struggle. The choice is yours to make. I would recommend being a good troop.

Quote Worthy

“The right to vote is a true sign of democracy in action ... we have both the responsibility and the obligation to exercise our fundamental right.

— Gen. Richard Myers, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Sounds of freedom ring in community member's heart

Aug. 8, 2004

Dear Colonel Miller,

I've been wanting to write this note for a long time and today, I thought it was past time for me to do it.

I live on a farm one mile south of Lowry City, Mo. which is 18 miles south of Clinton. My farm is only one mile west of Highway 13. It seems we are in a fly-over zone as we get a lot of Air Force traffic overhead. Just now, two fighter jets went zooming by so low I felt I could almost see the pilots. The noise certainly makes one's heart beat faster!

Don't get me wrong — I love having the jets fly over and I rush outside to watch them speed by. The most exciting time is when I am outside, which is a lot of time, and I can hear a "whooshing" sound, then I know it is the "bat" plane, the B-2. Sometimes, he barely clears my tree tops, or so it seems.

The reason I am writing you is to let you know how wonderful it is that we can watch the planes fly over and know they are keeping us safe. I don't have to rush my grandchildren into the cellar to hide

when we see a plane. We don't have to worry that bombs are going to drop or someone is going to begin shooting us. I can explain to the little ones how these men and women are keeping us and our county safe by giving of their time and perhaps their life. It makes me so proud of my country every time I watch the planes fly by. We know that those at Whiteman Air Force Base will never let the "bad guys" get this far, so we are safe.

My family has been, and still is, a military family. My father was too old for draft in World War II so he volunteered and was sent to China-Burma-India. My husband was in the Army during the Korean Conflict, we had eight family members involved in Desert Storm, two daughters and one son were in the military at once and now my 18-year-old grandson just enlisted in the Marines. During the next few years, we must re-roof our barn and when we do the backside of it, it will be an American flag, so your men will know how we support them.

Thank you for being there.

Sincerely,

Bow Veach

LIEUTENANTS, *continued from Page 1*

nificant one with regards to the EPR is receiving senior-rater endorsement. As the command chief, I have the responsibility of reviewing all senior NCO EPRs before going to the wing commander, and to ensure a quality product is provided to the commander for consideration," she said.

"This review — along with first sergeants, squadron commanders and group chiefs — will ensure the best evaluation possible for our senior NCOs."

Lt. Col. Lindsey Borg, 509th Mission Support Squadron commander, said the program connects directly to a goal ACC and the 509th BW share: to develop and nurture Airmen. He said the program provides an opportunity for lieutenants to complement NCOs in this development process.

"It's important to remember the intent is not to replace NCO supervision — we're capitalizing on their experience and supervisory skills," Colonel Borg said. "NCOs are key and this program would not be possible without the strong NCO corps we have here."

Lieutenants will meet to discuss issues or concerns throughout the program. When



Photo by 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen

Nearly 30 lieutenants participated in the Air Combat Command 90-day test program to learn supervisory skills.

the program is complete, ACC will use feedback from lieutenants, NCOs and commanders to determine the future of the program and its possible use throughout the command.

"This is not something that will manifest overnight but has the potential of having great benefits several years down the road in both the officer and enlisted ranks," said 1st Lt. James Delph, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and program participant.

ACC also selected Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., and Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, to participate in the test program.

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Exercise your freedom:





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MREs to contain Xylitol gum

By Marcella Birk

U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

WASHINGTON — Meals, Ready-to-Eat, also called MREs, will soon contain gum that helps reduce tooth decay. The new gum, made with the alternative sweetener xylitol, works by blocking the bacteria that cause cavities. The gum currently provided in MREs contains sugar and can cause tooth decay.

This change in the MREs, approved by the 2004 Joint Services Operational Rations Forum, is partially due to a recent study showing a significant increase in tooth decay for deployed soldiers. The 3rd Infantry Division, which deployed to Iraq for six months, returned home with more than two-and-a-half times the number of cavities they had before deployment, according to a study conducted in January 2004.

"The amount of tooth decay that occurred in just six months was overwhelming," said Army Maj. Georgia dela Cruz, public health dental staff officer at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine and lead for the 2004 study.

Army Col. Christine Inouye, Reserve Component force health protection integrator, and Major dela Cruz were the driving force behind the change in the gum supplied in MREs.

"We are convinced that this initiative will be one major solution to the dental readiness problem for the warfighters," said Inouye.

"Ultimately, the warfighters are at high risk for dental disease," Colonel Inouye said. "More importantly, the xylitol gum will potentially impact 2.68 million active component and Ready Reserve soldiers, marines, sailors and airmen while they are deployed in a field environment."

"Deployed (service members) are at greater risk for cavities because of starchy foods, sugary drinks and infrequent tooth brushing," said Major dela Cruz. MREs contain carbohydrate-rich foods that are essential for energy in a field environment.

Unfortunately, oral bacteria use the starches and sugars in these foods to produce acids that cause tooth decay. Xylitol blocks these bacteria, interfering with their ability to "stick" to the teeth to produce damaging acids. Xylitol also increases saliva flow, which helps neutralize any acids and provides calcium to repair any weakened areas of the teeth.

Col. Robert Lutka, Fort Benning Dental Activity commander, and Navy Capt. N. Blaine Cook, specialty leader for operative dentistry to U.S. Navy Surgeon General and the chair of operative dentistry, Naval Post-graduate Dental School, are long-time advocates of xylitol.

"Xylitol has been used by diabetics for years as an alternative sweetener," said Colonel Lutka. "It's a safe and effective way to keep (service members) healthy while deployed." Due to the number of MREs already in stock, xylitol gum will not reach service members' MREs immediately, but will be included within 18 to 24 months.

"Don't wait to start using xylitol gum," said Major dela Cruz. "The gum can be purchased on the local economy and at commissaries, although the choice of flavors may be limited at smaller commissaries. Read the ingredients on the label and make sure that xylitol is the first ingredient. Chewing the gum at least five minutes is extremely important for maximum effectiveness."

Team Whiteman spends day in sun at Enlisted Luau



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Airman 1st Class Justin Heupel, 509th Maintenance Squadron, performs a diving somersault during the mock bowling contest. Airman Heupel won the contest and was awarded a new bowling ball. "Fantastic. I feel good. I love to bowl. I needed a new bowling ball," he said.



Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Master Sgts. Steve Poole, 509th Munitions Squadron (left), and Ray Guest, 509th MUNS, hand out prizes to contest winners. There were several different contests including best tattoo, hairiest back for males and best bowling form. Gift certificates, shirts, hats and other donated items were given away as door prizes to contest winners. Sgt. Poole is the Top 3 president, and Sgt. Guest is the Top 3 vice president.



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Family, friends and pets were all welcomed at the 11th Annual Enlisted Luau Aug. 27 at Skelton Park. Several hundred people attended the event, organized by the Whiteman Top 3. The yearly luau is intended to boost morale.

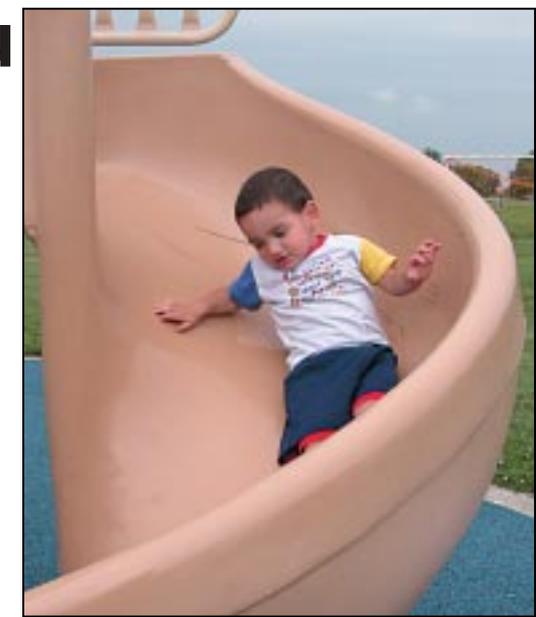


Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Daniel Mendez plays on the slide during the Enlisted Luau. Daniel is the son of Senior Airman David Mendez, 509th Medical Support Squadron.



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Senior Airman Patrick McTaggart, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron, relaxes with his dog, Belle, a Louisiana catahoula. This was the fifth luau Airman McTaggart attended; it was Belle's first. The luaus are "an excellent opportunity to meet new friends, and get reacquainted with those who you haven't seen for a while," he said.



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Airman 1st Class Chad Bradshaw, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, serves an ace at the enlisted luau. This was the Hamlin, W.Va., native's first luau. Attendees played volleyball, horseshoes and football.



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Spectators watch Senior Airman Albert Smith, 509th Operations Support Squadron, as he beats the competition during the limbo contest. The Sacramento, Calif., native attended the two previous luaus. However, this is the first year he won the limbo event. For his superior spinal flexibility, Airman Smith was awarded a tool set. This was just one of several contests held during the luau.

Riding into history

The road to Baghdad

(Editor's Note: Senior Master Sgt. Mark Clark and 2nd Lt. Adam Sterling, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in April. This is the second in a two-part series about their ride into history as part of the U.S. Army's 2nd Platoon, 1836th Transportation Company from Kuwait to Camp Victory North in Baghdad, Iraq. The first part of the series was titled "The journey begins" and ran Aug. 27.)

By Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole
Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA — The heavy equipment transportation system can only travel a maximum of 45 mph, so the going was slow. The convoy averaged speeds of about 35 mph.

"Every member was alert and ready with weapons loaded and pointing out the windows as the convoy moved through potentially hostile areas. It was an impressive site, with the heavy weapons manned on the armored vehicles and every window on the HETS bristling with M-16 barrels.

"No doubt an imposing site to the enemies of freedom who observed the convoy along the way," said Senior Master Sgt. Mark Clark said.

It was on this day Sergeant Clark became the first Air Force first sergeant — and perhaps the first Air Force member in history — to operate a fully loaded HETS in Iraq. His HETS transported an M-109 Palidan.

"Driving the HETS is nothing like driving a tractor-trailer because the wheels on the trailer also turn when you're rounding corners," Sergeant Clark said. "Driving through the serpentine at checkpoints is tricky and the sheer weight of the HETS with its load is a handful."

The HETS weighs in at 30 tons, and with the M-109 tips the scales at 33 tons.

"The first sergeant did great and performed better than many Soldiers with more experience," said Sergeant 1st Class Carlos Bonet, the 1836th Soldier who taught Sergeant Clark to drive the HETS.

Harsh roads take their toll

At 8 a.m. June 18, the convoy rolled out of its overnight camp with Lieutenant Sterling and Chief Taylor at the helm of a HETS, each hauling an M1A1 Abrams.

"The M1A1 tips the scales at 70 tons with its full battle load, so they had their hands full. As you might imagine, anything with a 70-ton load on it won't accelerate quickly, so they were both in for a long day," Sergeant Clark said.

The 509er said this was another first because no other Air Force chief or second lieutenant could lay claim to having driven a fully loaded HETS in Iraq.

"What a day it turned out to be, with the harsh roads taking their toll on the tires and equipment along the way," Lieutenant Sterling said. "This portion of the journey was



Courtesy photo

Senior Master Sgt. Mark Clark pulls truck commander duties. The job required him to stay at the ready with his M-16 out the window all day. "We were on the road for about 15 hours that day and I was exhausted," he said.

the most dangerous as the convoy inched closer to Baghdad and an area prone to insurgent attacks."

Along the way, the Airmen-Soldiers encountered children waving and smiling, Iraqi families herding camels and sheep, and witnessed firsthand the poverty and

daily struggle of the Iraqi people.

"Saddam Hussein spent billions on himself and his two sons building palaces and statues to honor themselves while the average Iraqi citizen struggled to survive,"

See DEPLOYED, Page 17

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DEPLOYED, *continued from Page 14*

Sergeant Clark said. "It was sad to see the children in those conditions, but offered further proof of the promise we bring to the Iraqi people."

Chief Taylor and Lieutenant Sterling overcame the challenges of the road without incident, which included driving across narrow bridges built by Soldiers to bypass bridges blown up by insurgents.

Difficult and demanding

"The 18th (of June) proved to be one of the most difficult and physically demanding days of my 25-year career," Sergeant Clark said. "All along the convoy route, everyone had to remain vigilant and on guard. When the convoy was stopped to fix a blown tire, each Soldier and Airman had to dismount the vehicles and provide security to the convoy."

"The weight of the protective gear, weapons and ammunition proved formidable in the incredible desert heat of Iraq," he said.

The convoy was stopped for nearly two hours to fix the tire while faced with the constant threat of mortar or rocket attack, and small arms or rocket-propelled grenade fire.

Upon arrival at Camp Victory North in Baghdad, the 1st Cav members unloaded the equipment and the convoy team mem-



Stopping to fix a blown tire on a heavy equipment transportation system proved to be the most difficult day of the journey, said Senior Master Sgt. Mark Clark, who is deployed with the 438th Expeditionary Mission Support Group and is a member of the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron.

bers took another baby wipe bath before settling onto their cots for the night.

"Nothing kept us awake. The constant thump of helicopters, counter battery fire, rocket and mortar explosions, and even the sound of a distant car bomb did little to disturb the weary warriors that night," Sergeant Clark said. "Mission accomplished."



Courtesy photos

Senior Master Sgt. Mark Clark poses with Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Bonet, the 1836th Solder who taught Sergeant Clark to drive the heavy equipment transportation system. "The first sergeant did great and performed better than many Soldiers with much more experience," Sergeant Bonet said.

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Community

Football sign ups ongoing

Football season is here! If you're interested in charging through the squadrons and bringing the 509th BW/MSS to the top of the heap, call Master Sgt. Mark Carter or Airman 1st Class Hazel Towns at 687-5760, 687-7506 respectively.

Junior Community Chorus offered

Warrensburg Parks and Recreation is offering Junior Community Chorus 3:45-5: p.m. Thursdays for boys and girls third grade and up beginning this Thursday through Dec. 2 at the Warrensburg Community Center. The cost is \$27. Participants will learn proper vocal technique, singing in unison and two part music. Register now at the Warrensburg Community

Center located at 445 East Gay St. For more information, call 660-747-7178.

Toastmasters host event

There will be a Toastmasters open house, 6:30 p.m. Sept. 7 at the Warrensburg Community Center. This will be the last chance to establish a club within the Warrensburg area. People interested in improving their public speaking, or team building skills are encouraged to attend. Call Staff Sgt. Kenneethia Kennard, 509th Bomb Wing, at 687-5737.

Awana holds open house

The Awana open house runs from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 12 in the chapel annex. Snacks and door prizes will be given. Come join the fun.

Family Support

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

TAP helps when separating

A three-day transition 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. Tuesday and 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.

Workshop to write resumes

A hands-on workshop helping people through the resume writing process begins at 8:15 a.m. Wednesday. Reservations are required.

Pre-deployment briefing set

A mandatory pre-deployment briefing for people who are deploying or going on a

temporary duty assignment for more than 30 days begins at 1 p.m. Wednesday. Spouses are encouraged to attend. This briefing covers information about preparing for deployment and programs available to family members who are left behind.

Class helps with move

A mandatory smooth move seminar for people planning to move overseas in the near future begins at 1 p.m. Thursday. Facilitators will discuss the financial benefits associated with moving and provide a variety of useful resources. Permanent-change-of-station orders are not necessary. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Reservations are required.

Special needs meeting set

A forum for parents, teachers and others who care for special needs children begins at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the Whiteman Elementary School library. Learn about the support and community services available and meet others who understand the challenges facing special needs families. Free child care will be provided. To R.S.V.P. for child care, call Jeanette Bachmann at 563-3303.

Menus

Knob Noster Elementary School

Monday: No School
Tuesday: Pot pie, salad, jello and grapes
Wednesday: BBQ chicken, green beans, potatoes, banana and roll
Thursday: Beef stroganoff, salad, pudding and trail mix
Sept. 10: Mr. Rib, corn, pineapple slice and apple

Whiteman Elementary School

Monday: No School
Tuesday: Corn dog nugget, french fries, salad and cookie
Wednesday: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, fruit and roll
Thursday: BBQ meatballs, baked potatoes, green beans and fruit
Sept 10: Pizza, salad, corn and fruit cobbler

The *Whiteman Spirit* wants to feature you.

Do you, or does someone you know, have a story idea you'd like to see in the paper? Let our staff know about it. For more information, call 687-6133 or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

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Photo by Jamie Jennings

We're No. 1

Dodgeball Champions — after competing in the championship game Aug. 27, the 30 Odd 6 team from the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron reigns supreme. Team members pictured are from left to right: Dave Kehoe, Steve Grozik, Andy Ball, James Faria, Brian Wolken and Joe Cook. The Aces, a team of officers from various squadrons, took second place.

Stay fit, stay alive

More than 300 hundred 509th Bomb Wing members participated in the monthly Warrior Run held 7:30-9 a.m. Aug. 27 on the runway. Runners can complete one of three distances —1.5 miles, two miles, or five kilometers. Water, Gatorade and bananas were provided by the 509th Services Squadron. The next Warrior Run is scheduled to take place Sept. 30.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen

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SERVICES



Services page editor.....Stacey Schindler
509th Services Squadron.....687-4386
*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Sports & Recreation

Enduring Freedom run, walk & roll

On Sept. 25 at Skelton Park, the community center and fitness center are providing a 5K walk/run at 9 a.m. "in remembrance of all the people who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001." At 10:30 a.m. the bed race event will take place. Trophies will be awarded to first-, second- and third-place bed race winners. Refreshments will be provided. Call the community center or fitness center for more details and to sign up by Sept. 22 for this free event.

Fitness Center 687-5496

SPINNING* across America

Participate in the spinning quarterly incentive program until Sept. 30. Spinning classes are available at 9 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Call the fitness center for more details and to sign up. Sponsored in part by Life Fitness.*

Stars & Strikes 687-5114

Fall leagues

Many leagues are available for sign up; men's night, women's night, squadron night, youth day and more. Sign up now; league begins Tuesday. Call Stars & Strikes for more details.

Retirees day

Retirees are welcome to bowl 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 18. The special includes 50-cent games and 50-cent shoe rental, plus 30 percent off prices at the snack bar. Call Stars & Strikes for more details.

Outdoor Recreation 687-5565

Boater safety class

A mandatory boater safety class involves classroom and lake activities for the intended use of rental boats with a 15-horsepower motor or more. Two sessions must be completed to qualify to rent a boat from outdoor recreation. A combined session class is available 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thursday. Learn Missouri state laws, rules about safety and using equipment. Spaces are limited; sign up early.

Katy Trail adventure

Bring your family outdoors for a 30-mile bike ride along the Katy Trail 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 11. Riders in the Air Force base-level cycling program will bike from Hartsburg to Mokane, Mo. The \$7 fee includes transportation and bike if needed. Call outdoor recreation for more details and to sign up by Thursday.

Global Volksmarch

Participate in a 10K walk/run at 9 a.m. Sept 18 at Knob Noster State Park. Bring your lunch and socialize until 1 p.m. with other participants. Call outdoor recreation for more details and to sign up by Sept. 16.

Travel & Leisure

Tickets & Travel 687-5643

Renaissance Festival

Tickets & Travel offers an additional \$1 off the ticket price to customers who make their Renaissance costume at the skills development center. The Renaissance Festival takes place Saturday through Oct. 17 in Bonner Springs, Kan. Contact Tickets & Travel for more information and to buy a ticket.

Community Activities

Youth Center 687-5586

Let's have a parade

Kindergarteners through fourth graders can participate in a parade around the youth center 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sept. 10. Bring your bikes, skates or scooters and decorate them with streamers and ribbons. There is a \$5 fee for members and \$6.50 fee for nonmembers. Call the youth center for more details. Sign up begins Tuesday.

Hangout night

Youth can meet at the youth center for a night of games 6-9 p.m. Sept. 11. There is a \$2 fee for members and \$3 fee for nonmembers. Call the youth center for more details, sign up begins Tuesday.

Open Recreation

Fourth through seventh graders can enjoy games and get help on their homework 3:15-5 p.m. weekdays, except federal holidays, beginning Tuesday at the teen center. This after-school program is free for members and \$1 for nonmembers. Call the youth center for more details.

Picnic in the park

Kindergarteners through seventh graders can meet at the Shelter House park, across the street from security forces, for activities and a picnic 6-9 p.m. Sept. 18. There is a \$6 fee for members and \$7.50 fee for nonmembers. Call the youth center for more details; sign up begins Sept. 13.

Family Child Care 687-5590/1180

FCC orientation class

Receive free training to become a family child care provider 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 13-17. Providers with chronic health problems are accepted. Pick up a registration package at the family child care office and sign up by today.

Base residents

Quality child care for military families is an important concern. Guidelines in Air Force Instruction 34-276, Family Child Care Programs, requires anyone providing in-home child care for 10 hours or more a week on a regular basis to be licensed. If you are currently unlicensed, you must cease care and apply for a family child care license. Call for more details.

Veterinary Clinic 687-2667

Does your pet have bad breath?

The veterinary clinic now carries a large selection of dental products for your pets. Toothpaste, water additives, and greenies chews are available to help with a pet's oral hygiene. Call or visit the clinic to check out the new line of dental care.

Skills Development Center 687-5691

Machine embroidery

Take a machine embroidery class 6-9 p.m. Sept. 16 at the skills development center. The \$15 fee includes instruction and supplies; bring your own sewing machine. Call the skills development center for more details and to sign up by Sept. 15.

Framing class

Take a beginners framing class 9 a.m.-noon Sept. 18 at the skills development center. The \$40 fee includes supplies. Call the skills development center for more details or stop by to sign up.

Child Development Center 687-5588

Openings for full-time care

The child development center has care available for children 3 to 5 years old in need of full-time care. The CDC is accredited through the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs.

Drop-in care

The child development center has drop-in care 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. on a space-available basis. Call for more details.

Community Center 687-5617

Back-to-school swap shop

Take a moment to clean out your closet and swap treasures with your friends 1-4 p.m. Saturday. Some ideas include: clothes, CDs, videos, toys, collectibles, cards, etc. Light refreshments will be provided. Call the community center for more details.

Hop n' shop

Airmen who don't have vehicles can take advantage of this event. Airmen can sign up for short hops to Sedalia or Warrensburg to shop the mini-malls and Wal-Mart* 12:30-3:30 p.m. Sept. 18, Oct. 2 and Oct. 16. There is a \$3 fee and it's limited to 10 passengers. Call the community center for more details and to sign up.

Teen Center 687-5819

Power hour

Teens can do homework, research and use the computer lab 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays at the teen center beginning Tuesday. Call the teen center for more details.

Kansas City Royals bus trip

Enjoy the Kansas City Royals vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays baseball game 5-10 p.m. Sept. 10. The \$10 fee includes admission and transportation. Call the teen center for more details and to sign up by Wednesday.

Movie night

Teens can enjoy a movie with their friends 8-10 p.m. Sept. 17 at the teen center. Popcorn is provided at this free event. Call the teen center for more details.

Library 687-5614

Cyber safety

Learn about the dangers of the Internet and how to keep your family safe when surfing online 10-11 a.m. Sept. 30 at the base library. Call the base library for more details and to sign up by Sept. 29.

Food & Fun

Mission's End 687-4422

Almost Nuts Band

The Almost Nuts Band performs 6-10 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 7-11 p.m. Sept. 10 and 6-10 p.m. Sept. 11 at Mission's End. This event is free for members and \$2 for nonmembers. Call Mission's End for more details.

NFL Sunday Ticket

Members only, the NFL Sunday Ticket begins at 11 a.m. Sept. 12 at Mission's End. Come watch your favorite team and enjoy the food and beverages on our menu.

ACC \$1 Italian buffet

Members only, bring your families out for an Italian dinner 4-6 p.m. Sept. 10 at Mission's End. For only \$1, enjoy Italian salad, pasta and sauces, bread and dessert.

Whiteman Base Theater

Friday

The Bourne Supremacy 7 p.m. PG-13
Starring - Matt Damon & Franka Potente

Saturday

The Bourne Supremacy 7 p.m. PG-13
Starring - Matt Damon & Franka Potente

Sunday

Thunderbirds 5:30 p.m. PG
Starring - Bill Paxton & Ben Kingsley

Adults \$3 Youth \$1.50
Movie recording line 687-5110.

Movies are subject to change due to availability.
For current and future movie listings log on to
<http://www.aafes.com/ems/conus/whiteman.htm>.