

## DUI – One is too many



### New Intranet

Cannon Airmen and base personnel can access the new Intranet Web site at <https://www2/cannon.af.mil>

## Community Events

### Change of command

Maj. Matthew Powell will relinquish command of the 27th Component Maintenance Squadron to Maj. Ryan Rowe today at 8 a.m. in Hangar 208.

Col. Delores Forrest will relinquish command of the 27th Medical Group to Col. Kenneth Hall at 8 a.m. June 16 at the Flight Medicine entrance at the 27th Medical Group.

### Community Assessment

Active-duty Air Force spouses can participate in the 2006 Community Assessment until June 23. The assessment can be found at <http://spouseAFCAsurvey.com>. The Spouse Site Access Code is: SpouseAF-CA.

The survey evaluates the current state of the Air Force and base communities, such as community satisfaction, personnel preparedness, family adaptation, health and well-being, spiritual well-being, economic well-being, and safety.

Gathered information will be used to improve quality of life, readiness and retention of Air Force personnel.

### Heritage Days

The Portales Chamber of Commerce will host Heritage Days June 16 to June 17.

All events are in the city park unless otherwise noted.

For more information on events, call the Chamber of Commerce at 356-8541.

### Road Closure

A portion of Octagon will be closed from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday.

*More Community Events on page 9*

# MACH METER

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PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS HEATHER SALAZAR

## Cutting the ceremonial ribbon

From left to right: Buren Johnston, Lee Roach, Louis Herring and Irvin Butler, four Bataan Death March survivors who attended Tuesday's memorial dedication, cut the ribbon for the memorial along with Col. Scott West, 27th Fighter Wing commander. For more photos on the ceremony, see pages 12 and 13.

# Leaders hold key to AFSO-21 success

by Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle  
*Air Force Print News*

A cornerstone of the secretary of the Air Force's tenure is Air Force Smart Operations 21. He recently said that Air Force leaders hold the key to success for the initiative.

"I have told our leaders that we cannot allow AFSO 21 to escape the wing leadership, whether that is the wing commander, group or squadron commanders or command chief," said Secretary of the Air Force, Michael Wynne. "(Ownership of AFSO 21) has to stay in that cradle. This is the leverage that we need to make innovative Airmen to feel comfortable bringing forward ideas that make their job easier."

Secretary Wynne believes where a leader spends his time is where a leader is really committed.

"Our command sections have to think about how much time they are spending on Smart Operations," he

said. "If those leaders spend a fair amount of time on it, learning it themselves and learning it on behalf of their people, it will become an institutionalized event."

For AFSO 21 to work, it is important that a good idea does not get stuck at the lower echelons. Every Airman should feel comfortable bringing an improvement idea to the command section as long as there is a rationale on whether it is a good thing to change, keep or get rid of, Secretary Wynne said.

"Sometimes people feel bound and constrained by their immediate work environment," Secretary Wynne said. "It will take command leadership to expand [those people's thought process] to see that their environment impinges upon their suppliers and customers."

"This is all about making sure we get ideas from the people who are actually involved in a process to make the Air Force more efficient and effective,"

he said.

AFSO 21 is not something that comes and goes. It will be with the Air Force for a long time, he said.

"Some of our segments have been using AFSO 21 principles for a long time," Secretary Wynne said. "We are identifying different ways to do business by looking for continual process improvement. Cutting waste time is significant to improving processes."

Finding process improvements takes time and not all things can be changed. Some processes have been put in place for good reasons like safety and continuity. But, the Air Force needs to reexamine some of its constraints to make sure they are still valid, he said.

"This means we also need to have a process to change [or rescind] Air Force instructions," Secretary Wynne said. "I know Air Force instructions are valid and I don't want to see them go away unless they are an impediment to good performance or are irrelevant today."



## NEWS FEATURE

# Bomb-making 101

## Munitions troops teach how things go 'boom'

By Janet Taylor-Birkey  
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Too many times, people on a military base, even military personnel, don't know what goes on in the squadron across the road, or even down the hall, or in the case of the Munitions Flight, many do not know what happens "behind the fence."

While many times this cannot be helped, the 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight is working to change perceptions and expand others' knowledge by offering

an Ammunition Fundamentals Course (AFC).

The goal for the class is to promote a better understanding of what munitions troops, also referred to as "AMMO," do on a day-to-day basis, said 2nd Lt. Andrew Looser, 27th Lieutenant Looser, who heads up the AFC, along with Staff Sgt. David Crowley, 27th EMS, said it is also important for those at Cannon to understand how the Munitions Flight operates during war time.

Cannon's new AFC will provide key leaders and supervisors a better understanding of the munitions opera-

tions and processes especially as they impact their particular function, said Maj. Kurt Conklin, 27th EMS commander. He further explained that the goals of the course are familiarity with explosives safety, understanding the complexity of munitions operations and management, and for others to gain an appreciation for the work involved in bringing munitions from the container to the aircraft ready to use.

Many people think that bombs come preassembled, according to those who work in the Munitions Flight at Cannon. "Many people tend to think the bomb dump is a kind of one stop shop like [a large department store], when it is exactly the opposite," Lieutenant Looser said.

To help change that perception, five Cannon officers and one reporter spent the morning hours on June 1 being briefed on munitions safety, along with learning the cost and effect of missiles and bombs and a tour of the Bomb Dump. The afternoon consisted of loading ammo belts and a friendly competition waged in building and tearing down inert 82-Slick bombs.

Anyone on base, especially those who manage or have business with munitions accounts, can benefit from taking the AFC, according to Major Konklin. "[This course] provides great insight into a little known and misunderstood function within the 27th Maintenance Group, and more specifically 27th EMS, that has major impact on our ability to train combat aircrews as well as provide lethal airpower when called upon to do so."

In just four times of presenting the course, the AFC has already been instrumental in impacting working relationships at Cannon.

"This class has made me a little more aware of how the bomb dump operates and how important it is to let the people there know what you need in advance: it takes some time and effort to build a bomb and load a UALS [Universal Ammunition Loading System]," said 2nd Lt. Christopher M. Bennett Aerospace Ground Equipment Flight commander. "There are a lot of misconceptions about what happens behind the fence and classes like this can make others appreciate what

missile and munitions maintenance workers have to deal with on a day-to-day basis."

Six to 10 people has been found to be the most effective class-size, which is presently available by invitation only, said Lieutenant Looser. While it does take an invitation to join the class, Lieutenant Looser said that anyone interested in taking the class, should send an e-mail to him at [andrew.looser@cannon.af.mil](mailto:andrew.looser@cannon.af.mil) and he will see if that would be a possibility.

The AFC takes place the first Thursday of every month, said Major Konklin, but additional courses are available upon special request. Special classes can be requested by calling Lieutenant Looser or Master Sgt. Timothy McCloskey at 784-7222.

"Right now we are inviting people in related maintenance and logistics fields, but will be opening it up to all of the other career fields on base. Those who we work the most with, pilots, flight-line maintainers and the 27th Logistics Readiness Squadron are the first ones to come, then we will branch out to the rest of the base," Lieutenant Looser said. "It has the most benefit for them right now, especially since it is us and them that will be required to work hand in hand on our upcoming Air and Space Expeditionary Force cycle."

While Air Combat Command has mandated bases to hold the AFC, Lieutenant Looser said Cannon has put its own spin on the class by tailoring to fit the F-16 flying mission. While in the process of figuring out what works, Munitions has not only taught the class, but has learned several things in the process, such as how to streamline it from a full-day class down to a half-day.

"At first it was a huge effort, but as we go along it is becoming easier and easier," Lieutenant Looser said. "With anything there is a continual learning curve, and right now we are in the process of streamlining the preparation time and effort needed to pull WAFCO [Wing Ammo Fundamental Course] off each month."



PHOTO BY 2ND LT. ANDREW LOOSER

Col. Peggy Poore, 27th Mission Support Group commander, practices properly seating an FMU-139 bomb fuse into the rear fuze well of a MK-82 bomb during an ammunitions fundamentals course June 1.



## NEWS

# Forget lions or bears or tigers, watch for bugs, oh my

Knowing what's out there, what to do, ensures summer of safe family fun

By Janet Taylor-Birkey  
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



Summer fun is finally here, but along with swimming, camping and playing outdoor sports, safety must be the first line of concern in any fun activity.

Those at Cannon and surrounding areas need to be particularly aware of black widows, spiders, scorpions, centipedes and fleas, said Master Sgt. Michael Elliot, a Survival, Evasion, Resistance, Escape (SERE) Specialist for the 27th Fighter Wing. Sergeant Elliot also said that while killer bees are not a big topic of conversation, it is important to be aware of them.

"You need to know what's out there that can hurt somebody, regardless of the environment," said Sergeant Elliot. While his job deals with training pilots, being prepared is good for everyone. Prevention may not be 100

percent effective, but Sergeant Elliot calls it the big key. "Look before you reach into any dark areas, brush or if you have leaves built up on the back porch or stuff in the garage that's been there for years," he said.

Sergeant Elliot added that barns and sheds require extra caution because they are prime places for the brown recluse — also known as the fiddle back spider — to hide. "The brown recluse is reclusive by nature, so they stay in areas that are not often disturbed."

When getting dressed, especially if camping, watch out for insects that may have climbed into shoes. Sergeant Elliot said insects can cling to the inside even when shaken.

Those with children need to be especially cautious about summer insect safety. "Kids are the biggest [concern] because they are out in the environment where they can get bitten more easily," said Sergeant Elliot. "For a child, [poisonous bites] are more life threatening."

It's important to be aware of what children are doing because they have a smaller body mass, said Senior Airman Ben Stern, who is also a SERE Specialist for the 27th Fighter Wing. He said bites that make adults sick can be fatal to a child.

The only poisonous spider fairly common in New Mexico is the black widow spider, which is indeed black with a red mark on its abdomen, according to the New Mexico Poisonous Control Center. They advise medical care should be obtained rapidly (i.e., car to a doctor or emergency room, but ambulance not necessary) if you believe that a child has been bitten by a black widow.

## How to keep those pesky critters at bay

The following tips are adapted from the New Mexico Poison Control Center.

For more information, see their Web site at <http://hsc.unm.edu>

- Avoid attracting insects by keeping trash cans covered and putting leftover food away.

- Avoid wearing brightly colored clothing, heavy perfumes. If a flying insect approaches, move away from the insect without waving your hands and arms.

- Wear a Medic-Alert bracelet if you have a history of a life-threatening

allergic reaction and ask your physician about prescribing an emergency bee sting kit to have in an emergency.

- Be careful reaching near corners. Shake all shoes, clothing, towels and bedding that have been sitting around. Dust and vacuum around windows, corners of rooms and under furniture regularly.

- Always be aware of surroundings. Do not reach into cracks in rocks, animal burrows or under bushes. Do not tease, kill or handle a rattlesnake.

## 'Good to meet you, Mr. Dog'

Andrew Arick-Atwood, 4, takes a gift bag from McGruff the Crime Dog. He and his sister Brienne, 7, came to Cannon Lanes during the kick-off of the bowling center's drug prevention program May 31. The bowling center used this Air Combat Command program 10 years ago, but began it again this year, said Chris Frazier, Cannon Lanes manager. This program gives kids something to do during the summer and raises awareness about drug prevention. From June 1 to August 16, children will receive one free game of bowling per day, said Ms. Frazier. The snack bar will be open to sell concessions.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN THOMAS TROWER



## COMMENTARY

# Making history – one day at a time

By Chief Master Sgt. Ricky Balolong  
27th Medical Group Superintendent

The poet, Robert Penn Warren, wrote, “History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future.”

The ironic thing about history is that rarely do those who are making it realize the importance of their accomplishments during that specific moment in time. Oftentimes, it takes the passage of many years to put an act or actions into any meaningful historical perspective. Only when viewed through the prism of time can one fully understand and appreciate the historical significance of a particular endeavor.

We are currently in one of those times. You, your fellow Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Coastguardsmen are making history. Your efforts and actions during this particular period in time will determine how you will be remembered by future generations.

There is a war going on, a war that is different from any other conflict America has engaged. There are no clear battle lines, the enemy has no defined uniforms, there are no fronts, and it is being fought on virtually all continents. To be sure, it is an unusual war, but a war, nonetheless. But what’s at stake is no different than what this country has fought for in the past. What’s at stake is our way of life. We are fighting for nothing less than to defend the basic tenets upon which this great country was founded: individual freedom and free will.

Because there is so much to gain and so much to lose there can be no other outcome, but victory. And victory depends on us.

Make no mistake about it; the outcome of this war will determine our future, the future of our children, their children’s children and so on. And you are the ones upon which all of America calls. As such, you must persevere despite the growing challenges of prosecuting this Global War on Terror.

No decent human being prefers war. War, by its very nature, is an affront to humanity. It tears at the very fibers of human morality. It must, however, sometimes be undertaken to preserve that which is even more precious than life itself. As John Stuart Mill so aptly put it, “War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things. The decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks that nothing is worth war is much worse. The person who has nothing for which he is willing to fight, nothing which is more important than his own personal safety, is a miserable creature and has no chance of being free unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself.”

It takes a special kind of person to understand this. Moreover, it takes a special kind of person to willingly vow to go into harms’ way in defense of this ideology. American history is replete with these special people. This country, as we know it, was established only through the determination, tears and blood of those chosen few who would risk life and limb for the greater good of an

entire nation.

Take a moment to think about your military brethren who came before you. Those who fought for and defended America in much the same way as you do now. Upon looking back at their sacrifices, it would be appropriate to call them heroes. But these “better men” about which John Stuart Mill spoke, would not have considered themselves such. Most certainly, they would have seen themselves as ordinary citizens doing their jobs. But the passage of time has placed them in their rightful place in American history, just as the passage of time will do for you and others fighting for our cause today.

Indeed, it is the irony of history that one cannot fully grasp the importance of the present time until it has passed. Consider this excerpt from a letter written by a Soldier of years past, “...it makes me feel a little silly to have you praise me for my Patriotism for I don’t see how a man can be otherwise and be a good citizen and genuine lover of his country and its Liberties. It is simply my duty and I deserve no praise for it. If a man changes his mind in regard to the war because he suffers hardship as a soldier, he is not fit to have a country or family unless he has got the [courage] to defend them and their Liberties.”

The letter was written in the Civil War by someone who, back then, would have been considered a common Soldier — a man who saw himself a typical citizen only doing what was required by his country — no more, no less. He could not have known back then what we know now

about the significance of that war in which he so honorably fought and the part he played in securing a growing nation. Suffice to say in retrospect, he is now held in higher esteem for his extraordinary sacrifices. History would not label him a common Soldier. Surely, this man was a true American patriot. Yet, he was no different than you. In essence, he was then what you are now. But time has weathered away the layers of ambiguity about his contribution to the country. History has revealed the truth and has honored him and those like him appropriately. And history will do the same for you as well.

You have earned and will have a place in history; it is an imminent and foregone conclusion. As Michael Cowley wrote, “A man rising in the world is not concerned with history; he is too busy making it. But a citizen with a fixed place in the community wants to acquire a glorious past ... by that past he is reassured of his present importance; in it he finds strength to face the dangers that lie in front of him.” So, be proud of what you do this day.

Be proud that you have chosen to take a stand. Be proud of the sacrifices you have made and will make for this great country we call America and for this great cause we call freedom. Though you might consider yourself as nothing more than an ordinary citizen, history will most certainly portray you in a different light.

Time will solidify and anchor your place in American history. Your story has not yet been written. You are the heroes of tomorrow.

## MACH METER

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27fvmachmeter@cannon.af.mil.

All submissions will be considered for publication based on news value and timeliness.

Every article and photograph will be edited for accuracy, clarity and brevity, conformance with the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual and with Air Force Instruction 35-101. Coverage of upcoming events should be arranged in advance by calling the Public Affairs office at 784-4131.

If you have a suggestion you would like to make, or a kudo you’d like to give, call the **ACTION LINE at 784-2722** — If you have a problem you need resolved, call the responsible agency first so they can provide better service to everyone promptly.

**Deadline for submitting articles is noon Friday the week prior to publication. Deadline for free classified advertisements is noon, the Tuesday prior to publication.**

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## NEWS

# Proficiency pay rates change; some upped, some eliminated

## *Program encourages linguistic abilities*

Courtesy Air Force News Service

The Office of the Secretary of Defense recently approved new Foreign Language Proficiency Pay (FLPP) rates that increase entitlements for eligible and qualified military members began Saturday, while eliminating FLPP for others.

The highest maximum pay rate for a single-language proficiency increases from \$200 to \$500 per month; likewise, the maximum pay rate for multiple-language proficiency increases from \$300 to \$1,000 per month.

The Department of Defense also has identified several languages as "abundant or surplus" for which sufficient strategic capability already exists. These languages are Spanish, Tagalog, Portuguese, German, Italian, Russian, Korean and French.

The Air Force will no longer pay FLPP to members in these languages unless they are performing language duties in an authorized AFSC or language-designated position. Airmen currently receiving FLPP pay for abundant or surplus languages will continue to receive their current pay until July 1, when their entitlements will end.

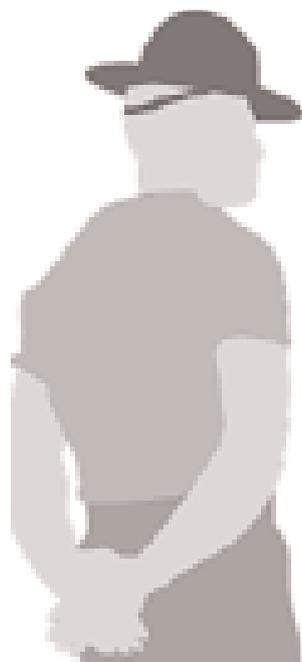
"The objective of FLPP is to encourage the acquisition, maintenance and enhancement of certain

foreign language skills vital to national defense," said Senior Master Sgt. Brian Chasse, manager of Air Force personnel testing at the Air Force Personnel Center here. "Our ability to interact in the international arena and respond to global contingencies mandates the need for qualified personnel to communicate with our allies and adversaries."

The incentive payments will no longer be limited to two languages. An individual claiming proficiency for more than two DoD-approved languages may receive FLPP for all languages up to the \$1,000 monthly cap. Additionally, a secret security clearance will no longer be required for eligibility to receive pay.

Previously, FLPP guidance limited higher pay rates to those performing language duties. A new emphasis on strategic value and skill level of language proficiency makes all military personnel eligible, regardless of their billet or Air Force Specialty Code, for FLPP in any DoD-approved language in which they can show proficiency at the minimum approved level. Language testing must still be completed annually to continue receiving pay.

For more information, contact the base military personnel flight.



### Sgt. Afi's 36-2903 Tip of the Week

**Airmen may wear a maximum of four earned badges on all blue service uniforms. A maximum of two badges are worn on the left side of the uniform above the ribbons or pocket if ribbons are not worn. Only aeronautical, occupational and miscellaneous badges are worn in this area.**



## FEATURE

# The battle for your buck

## Vulnerabilities often result from financial storms

(Editor's note: This is the second of a three-part series about Airmen and their money.)

By Janet Taylor-Birkey  
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

While the phrase, "It's only money" is commonly used, Airmen and other military members may face a special vulnerability when it comes to dealing with their finances.

Benefits such as medical and dental care, leave and tuition assistance are helpful to military personnel and their families, but based on current pay grades, it can take several years of career development to build a comfortable cash flow.

Many military members live month-to-month and struggle to pay their bills, according to *Predatory Lending and the Military: The Law and Geography of Payday Loans in Military Towns*, a study done by educators Stephen Graves, California State University, Northridge and Christopher Peterson, University of Florida.

"Military surveys reveal that nearly one-third of enlisted service members self-report moderate to severe difficulty in paying their bills," according to their study. "Sudden unexpected expenses such as car trouble or legal problems, as well as poor personal financial choices, can all pitch low-wage workers into financial hardship caused by debt."

The government accountability office Web site at <http://www.gao.gov> lists pay grades E1 to E4 – as the group most likely to encounter financial problems. These pay grades make up 42 percent of Cannon's base populace.

Life emergencies or difficulty in budgeting, coupled with easy credit from payday loan stores and title cash companies,

can lead to trouble for military personnel who often operate with a low cash flow.

"When Airmen seek to resolve their financial problems with quick fix solutions, it tends to worsen the damage and provide a false sense of relief. Quick fixes often delay the inevitable or actually complicate the situation," said Linda Sapp, a personal financial program manager at Cannon and an accredited financial counselor.

But Chief Master Sgt. Gary Ashmore, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron former first sergeant, believes the reasons for borrowing money run the gamut from true emergencies to the desire to get a date.

Very seldom are they emergencies, said Chief Ashmore.

"I've heard of one young man who used to do this [payday loans] so he could afford to buy drinks for the ladies at the bar. It's clearly not a good reason," said Chief Ashmore.

"Wanting it all" is something that can amplify an Airman's financial difficulties, according to Master Sgt. Robert Sobush, 27th Mission Support Squadron first sergeant.

"I have noticed a trend toward younger Airmen trying to have everything they had at home right away here. Some fail to understand their parents' standard of living was higher due to the many more years of working," said Sergeant Sobush.

Whether facing genuine emergencies or wanting more than what their standard of living allows, the cost of financial problems can be high for Airmen in terms of their physical, mental and emotional health.

The cost can also be high to an Airman's career.



ILLUSTRATION BY JANET TAYLOR-BIRKEY

Military surveys reveal that nearly one-third of enlisted servicemembers report moderate to severe difficulty in paying their bills according to a study by two college educators.

"Airmen who have financial difficulties will be less successful in focusing all of their attention on the mission. Most members who engage one of the downtown financial lenders with the 500 percent interest will be distracted from their job," said Sergeant Sobush.

"The reasons for needing the money in the first place can also distract members from the job, if the member is trying to get furniture for the house or for the soon-to-be new baby. The lack of money could result in the member reducing the amount of food he or she eats which would also have an impact."

Mental distraction can also occur due to missing a payment, said Sergeant Sobush. Airmen are no longer alone in their plight when they miss a payment.

"The downtown loan agencies have the first sergeant's number and do not hesitate to call. I have even had some places call before the day is over and the payment is due," he said.

Despite whatever feelings Airmen experience when dealing with convoluted financial situations, it is not something they should take lightly, according to Chief Ashmore, adding that conse-

quences can range from a letter of counseling to administrative separation from the Air Force.

"No one has the legal authority to demand an Airman to pay a debt, only a judge can do that. But there are administrative actions that go along with financial responsibility," said Chief Ashmore. "While I can't force you to pay your bills, I can hold you to the Air Force standard that you will pay your debts in a just and timely fashion or face administrative action for failure to do so."

Next week: Air Force options available to keep Airmen out of financial hot water.





## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Continued from Page 1

### Media queries

If contacted by the media, military members and government civilians at Cannon need to refer reporters to the 27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office at 784-4131.

### Volunteer for Tops in Blue

Volunteers are needed to help with Tops In Blue on June 23 at Marshall Junior High School.

Call 784-6381 to sign up.

### Airman's Attic

The Airman's Attic, located in the same building as the Central Community Center, is open 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 17, noon to 3:30 June 20, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. June 27.

Staff sergeants and below and their families are eligible to shop in the store. All items are free.

### Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is looking for volunteers. The organization meets every Saturday at 8 a.m. For directions or more information, contact Master Sgt. Daniel Gould at 784-0275.

## Civilian self-service system launched

*Courtesy Air Force Personnel Center*

The Air Force has launched two self-service modules that allows civilians to access their personnel information beginning June 1.

My Biz will provide civilian employees access and the ability to update information about themselves; and My Workplace will provide military and civilian managers access to information about their staff.

"These modules provide enhanced access to personnel information by enabling civilians to access information they need immediately using the power of the Internet," said Col. James Sturch, Air Force Personnel Center director of civilian force integration. "These modules are a key part of our effort to transform the way we deliver personnel services and our goal to put information in the hands of those who own it."

My Biz allows employees secure, real-time, online access to view information such as benefits, awards and bonuses, and positions

from their official personnel records. In addition, employees may update their telephone number and e-mail address, disability codes, race and national origin (ethnicity and race identification), and foreign language proficiency online with My Biz.

My Workplace brings key information to civilian and military managers and supervisors about their employees together in one place, streamlining decision-making process and helping to balance managerial tasks with day-to-day demands more easily.

My Workplace keeps managers and supervisors informed about their employees' personnel actions. With online access to employees' personnel information, managers are able to make budget decisions, staffing plans and work distributions more efficiently.

For more information about My Biz and My Workplace contact your local civilian personnel flight or visit <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>



# 'Transformers' movie heading to New Mexico desert

By Arlan Ponder  
49th Wing Public Affairs

What do the Air Force's first stealth fighter, a toy that has been around since the 1980s, and a director who loves big-budget, special effects-driven movies all have in common? The answer is the DreamWorks project, "Transformers," being filmed at Holloman Air Force Base.

On May 19, Col. David Moore, 49th Fighter Wing commander, along with representatives from the Department of Defense, Air Force public affairs and Otero County, officially announced pre-production work was being completed with filming to begin within a few days.

Cannon Air Force Base was one of the contenders for the movie site. A still photographer visited the base in early January to shoot possible location shots for the movie.

"We have been working in collaboration with DreamWorks studios over the last two months preparing to support them in filming a major Hollywood motion picture at Holloman," Colonel Moore said. "We have been anxious to talk about what we're doing. We're happy to finally have the opportunity to discuss the movie publicly."

Had it not been for several factors, such as the look of the base and surrounding terrain, the tax-credit New Mexico offers movie-makers and the base's proximity to the White Sands Missile Range, the announcement never would have taken place.

"The production sent location scouts to seven Air Force bases and several Army installations," said 1st Lt. Christian Hodge, chief of industry relations for the Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs entertainment liaison. "There have been several challenges, but Team Holloman has come through in a big way."

The professionalism of Airmen at Holloman also came into play, Lieutenant Hodge said, not to mention one special item: the only opera-



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. LARRY SIMMONS

**Movie director Michael Bay instructs Airmen filling the roles of extras on the set of the movie "Transformers" at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., on May 30. The movie is scheduled for release in June 2007.**

tional F-117 wing. The proximity of the CV-22 Osprey at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque was also a plus because the film will feature both aircraft.

"The F-117s will be pictured prominently in the movie, both as static background and taxiing aircraft," said Lieutenant Hodge, who has been a fan of Transformers since he was a child. "The CV-22 Osprey is scheduled to make its feature film debut in this movie, along with the F-22 Raptor."

Also featured in the film will be the A-10 Thunderbolt II, AC-130 and C-130 Hercules, C-17 Globemaster III, MH-53 Pave Low, HH-60 Pave Hawk, MQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial vehicle and Air Force One. The filming of the F-22, C-17, Predator and Air Force One will be done at another location.

Although the rumor mill was working overtime since a casting call seeking extras was issued in March, mum has been the official word. Representatives close to the film have been in the area for several months coordinating the efforts to get more than 300 crew members here and

several sets built. Until May 19 the specifics of the project had only been rumor.

"We have had the pleasure of working with DreamWorks Productions beginning mid-January as we met (for) discussions concerning the logistical details for the project," said Kathleen Curtis, Otero County Economic Development Council.

The movie, which is using the working title "Transformers," has been a long time coming even before Holloman became involved. Originally a Hasbro toy, Transformers products made a place in retail history by selling more than \$3 billion in items since the metamorphosing toys hit the market in 1984.

The original film was an animated version released in 1986, but fans worldwide have called for a live-action version. According to Lieutenant Hodge, the Air Force, Army and Department of Defense provided notes and suggestions on draft scripts before the final version was approved.

Numerous actors names have been thrown around in association with this feature film, but it appears Josh

Duhamel, Michael Clarke Duncan, Tyrese Gibson, Bernie Mac, John Turturro and Jon Voight will make appearances.

This project is the first movie since "Black Hawk Down" to receive DoD approval. Each year the Pentagon receives numerous requests to film the armed forces in action, however, selection is based on how accurately the forces will be portrayed. Military image is important, according to Army Lt. Col. Paul Sinor, lead public affairs representative for DoD.

Despite the fact this film will have a "science fiction" flair, the project is a realistic portrayal of actual Air Force and Army servicemembers, Colonel Sinor said. The relationship between the director and DoD also was considered during the approval process.

"We've worked with Michael Bay before," Colonel Sinor said. "We like the way he operates. He understands how the military operates. We have a very good relationship."

Mr. Bay is noted for directing several big-budget, special effects-driven movies like "Armageddon," "The Rock," "Bad Boys" and DoD-approved,

"Pearl Harbor." Lieutenant Hodge said Mr. Bay has been on base since May 19.

"Mr. Bay is fully engaged in making this movie. He doesn't sleep much and is very, very busy," he said. "He is much like a general in a deployed environment in that he has a lot of people under his command and is under extreme pressure to successfully accomplish his mission."

Colonel Moore said there are similarities between a major motion picture set and an Air Force facility such as Holloman. He said to establish a movie set requires housing, dining, storage, office space and logistics, all of which servicemembers require when they deploy.

"There were many commonalities that we were unaware of," the colonel said.

"We have discovered that they, like us, go to great lengths to organize and prepare to set up their shots to film, considering the camera angles, considering the light, considering when everything is ready and making sure it's prepared," Colonel Moore said. "There are enormous similarities between that and a military operation."



SERVICES



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN THOMAS TROWER



**Library hosts tales and tails**

Top: The Rich Gypsy enlightens children with stories about her family history at the base library June 2 as part of the "Places and Faces" theme offered by the library during the summer. Right: The Family Support Center sent Scooby Doo over to visit the children following the presentation. The summer reading program offers children opportunities to explore new places and faces at the library throughout the vacation period. For information on the summer reading program, call 784-2786.



What's happening?



**Today**

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$3 Members First  
Bingo Bash – 10 to 11 a.m. at the Portales CC\*  
Seafood Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing  
Movies and Popcorn – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Clovis CC  
Steak Special – 5 to 9 p.m. at The Landing  
Love and Laughter Comedy Show – 7:30 p.m. to 3 a.m. at The Landing

**Saturda**

Yard Sale – 8 a.m. to noon at the Clovis CC\*  
June Tournament – 8 a.m. tee time at WWGC\*  
Build-A-Boat – 11 a.m. at Liberty Pool  
Summer Fling – 6 p.m. to midnight at Cannon Lanes

**Sunday**

Free Billiards – 3:30 p.m. at The End Zone

Dart League – 6:30 p.m. at The End Zone

**Monday**

American Buffet – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Landing  
Red Barn Quilters – 6:30 p.m. at the Portales CC

**Tuesday**

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$3 Members First  
Fun with Chalk – 10 to 11 a.m. at the Portales CC

**Wednesday**

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Italian Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing  
Foosball Tournament – 5 to 6 p.m. at the Portales CC

**Thursday**

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a

Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$3 Members First  
Mexican Buffet – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Landing  
Ping Pong Tournament – 3 to 5 p.m. at the Clovis CC  
X-Box Challenge – 5 to 7 p.m. at the Portales CC  
Mongolian Buffet – 5 to 8 p.m. at The Landing



\* CC — Community Center WWGC — Whispering Winds Golf Course CDC — Child Development Center



## SPORTS SHORTS

**Darts League**

**League forming** – The Cannon Dart league is looking for new players and teams. The '06 fall league begins Sept. 28.

For more information contact Master Sgt. Wendell Pugh at 784-2332.

**Cannon Lanes**

**Moonlight & Music** – 6 p.m. to midnight June 17 at a cost of \$2 per game. Lights over the lanes will be off and there will be music to bowl by.

**Fathers Day Special** – Noon to 5 p.m., June 18. Dads bowl up to three games free, with free shoe rental when accompanied by children or spouse.

The entire family can bowl at regular open bowling rates.

**Cosmic Bowling** – 6 p.m. to midnight, June 24. The cost is \$2 per game.

**Family Bowl-a-Rama** – 6 to 9 p.m. June 30 for \$12 per lane. Price includes shoes and one pitcher of soda. Lanes must be assigned between 6 to 7 p.m.

**Summer activities****Through Aug 15**

**Monday** - Coca Cola Bowling 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$1.50 per game. Win a two liter of Coke with a strike on a red head pin. Limit one win per game.

**Thursdays and Fridays – Childrens Hour** – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The first child, 12 or under, bowls free when the parent bowls at regular price. The second child bowls for \$1 per game and each additional child bowls for 50 cents per game.

**Outdoor Recreation**

**Boater Safety Course** will be offered

at Fort Sumner Lake. This course is mandatory before renting powered watercraft from Outdoor Recreation.

The courses are offered June 16 and Aug 11 and cost \$20 per person.

For more information, call 784-2773.

**Family Boating Play Day** – June 17 at Ute Lake State Park near Logan, N.M.

The cost is \$15 per person.

Transportation, barbecue picnic lunch, games, boats, drinks and snacks, water toys to include pull tubes, wake boards and water skis are included in the price.

Sign up deadline is June 12.

For more information, call 784-2773.

**Garden of the Gods** – A Mountain Biking Trip at Colorado Springs, Colo. is July 14-17.

There will be outdoor camping and biking through a premier trail system. The trip limited to 11 participants.

Included in \$80-\$100 price is transportation, camping fees and gear, a guide, four meals and snacks.

The sign up deadline is July 7.

For more information, call 784-2773.

**Beginner white water kayaking** – July 22-23 at Kirtland Air Force Base. The cost is \$75-\$90 per person.

Learn to kayak down New Mexico's Rio Grande River. Initial lessons will be at Kirtland's indoor swimming pool.

For more information, call 784-2773.

**Youth Sports Instructional Programs** – Sign up for cheerleading, dance, yoga and preschool tumble. The classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Youth Center.

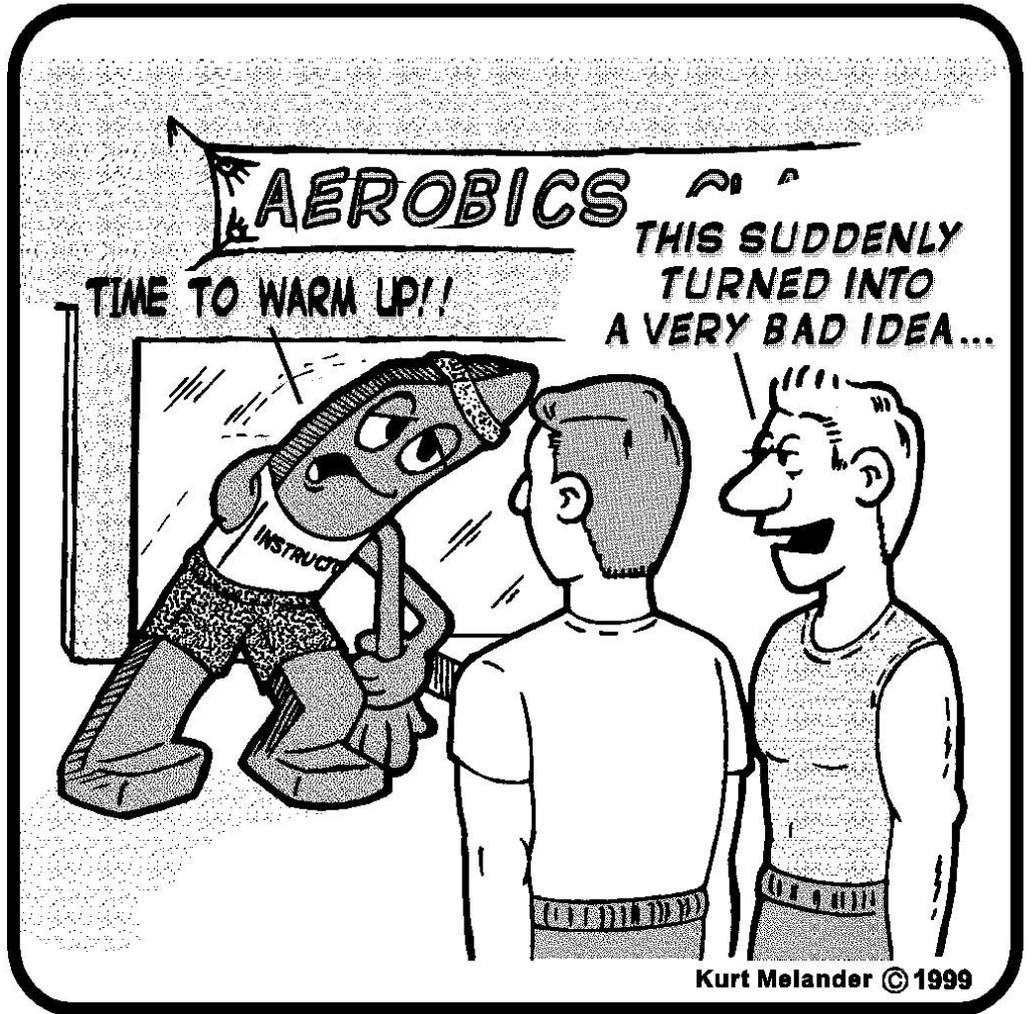
The cost is \$30 per child per month.



THE LIGHTER SIDE

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Answers to June 21 puzzle





# Unit Spotlights



## Congratulations Airman Leadership School Class 06-4 graduates

### John Levitow Award

Senior Airman Lucas Newman,  
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Aaron Brewer,**  
27th Logistics Readiness Squadron

**Senior Airman Kelly Brodie,**  
27th Logistics Readiness Squadron

**Senior Airman Ryan Camp,**  
27th Security Forces Squadron

**Senior Airman Jackie Courtney,**  
27th Civil Engineer Squadron

**Senior Airman Richard Dehart,**  
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Michael Fulmer,**  
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

### Leadership Award

Senior Airman John Ulyak,  
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Brandon Green,**  
27th Maintenance Group

**Senior Airman Joshua Howell,**  
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Michael Lacy,**  
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman David Liddell,**  
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Bradley Lyon,**  
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Cory Merrill,**  
27th Maintenance Group

**Senior Airman Christopher Welch,**  
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

### Distinguished Graduate Award

Senior Airman Alexander Villeda,  
27th Component Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Matthew Nichols,**  
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Justin Petrosky,**  
27th Component Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Thomas Roubal,**  
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Zachary Skrede,**  
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

**Senior Airman Kathleen Turizo,**  
27th Logistics Readiness Squadron

**Senior Airman Jonathon Wassell,**  
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

### Academic Achievement Award

Senior Airman Caesar Rivera,  
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

## Chapel Schedule

### CATHOLIC

*The Sacrament of Reconciliation is at 8:30 a.m. Sundays and 4 to 4:30 p.m. the third Sunday of the month.*

Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.  
Weekday Mass 12:05 p.m. M,W,F  
Religious Education (grades K-6) 10:45 a.m. Sunday  
LifeTeen youth ministry (grades 7-12) 6 p.m. Sunday

### PROTESTANT

*Little Blessings children's class (under four years old) is available during all services and Wednesday ministries.*

#### Sunday Services:

Traditional Service 8 a.m.  
Contemporary Service 11 a.m.  
Fellowship Noon  
Inspirational 12:30 p.m.

#### Wednesday Services

Prepared meal (small donation requested) 5:30 p.m.  
AWANA (Three years old to 6th grade) 6:15 p.m.  
CrossFaith (grades 7-12) 6:15 p.m.  
Alpha Course (Cyber Café) 6:15 p.m.  
Old Fashioned Bible Study 6:15 p.m.

## At the Movies

The Cannon Movie Theater is located on the corner of Torch and D.L. Ingram.  
Movie prices are \$3.50 for adults, \$1.75 for children and \$1 for all viewers on Thursdays.

### Silent Hill

Today and Saturday at 7 p.m.

**Description:** When the doctor of a troubled girl recommends permanent psychiatric institutionalization and the girl's concerned mother refuses to accept the grim diagnosis, the mother and daughter flee to a strange, abandoned, fog enshrouded town called Silent Hill to seek answers.

**R** – Strong horror, violence and gore, disturbing images

**Running time:** 125 min.

### Akeelah and the Bee

Saturday and Sunday at 4 p.m.

**Description:** A young girl learns to believe in herself and value her intelligence in this family-friendly drama. Akeelah Anderson is an 11-year-old being raised by her mother who was left on her own after the death of her husband. While Akeelah is bright, she's hardly a star student and seems afraid of acting like a bookworm.

**PG** – Some language

**Running time:** 112 min.

### American Dreamz

Sunday at 7 p.m.

**Description:** On the morning of his re-election, the president decides to read the newspaper for the first time in four years. This starts him down a slippery slope.

**PG-13** – Strong language and some sexual references

**Running time:** 107 min.