

Drive to
arrive alive

Community Events

Change of command

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

Wing Commander's Call

The 27th Fighter Wing Commander's Call is Wednesday at the base theater and June 23 at the Landing for the following times and personnel:

- 7 a.m. and 1 p.m. Wednesday – Airmen
- 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Wednesday – NCOs
- 10 a.m. Wednesday – Civilians
- 11:30 a.m. Wednesday – SNCO (includes Master Sgt. selects)
- 4 p.m. June 23 – Officers

Chapel closed

The base chapel will close at 11 a.m. today for staff training.

Airman's Attic Hours

The Airman's Attic is open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Staff sergeants and their dependents are eligible to shop for free.

Job list online

View the FSC's weekly job list at the Clovis Community College's Web site, under a PDF entitled "other local job listings" at <http://www.clovis.edu/Business-Community/Jobs/index.asp>.

To register for the weekly e-mail distribution list, call the FSC at 784-4228.

Homefront Quilts

Operation Homefront Quilts, a group of local quilters making quilts for families who have lost loved ones in the war, meets 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at The Patchwork House in Clovis. It is looking for new members.

No experience is necessary and all materials are provided.

Tricare for retirees

Tricare for Retirees is 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Family Support Center. The class provides information on Tricare retirement benefits.

For more information or to register,

More Community Events on page 10

MACH METER

Vol. 51, No. 23

Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.

June 16, 2006



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. SCOTT MCKAY

Final checks

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Johnson, 523rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit, straps in 1st Lt. Kathryn Gaetke, 523rd Fighter Squadron, June 10, during the MAPLE FLAG exercise.

101 Cannon Airmen make the grade

Air Force releases list of master sergeant, technical sergeant selectees

Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service

The Air Force has selected 4,613 of 23,230 eligible technical sergeants for promotion to master sergeant, a 19.85 percent selection rate; and 6,904 of 41,186 eligible staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant, a 16.76 percent selection rate.

A total of 101 Cannon Airmen were selected for promotion.

The master sergeant selection rate dropped 6.19 percent from last year, while this year's technical sergeant rate dropped 4.25 percent from last year.

The Air Force programs the top five enlisted grades to 56 percent of enlisted end strength. The programmed fiscal 2007 reduction in total enlisted end strength from 282,822 to 264,424 resulted in lower enlisted promotion quotas.

The Air Force released both pro-

For a list of Cannon Airmen selected for promotion, see page 3

motion lists Wednesday. The complete list of selectees will be posted online on the Air Force Personnel Center's Enlisted Promotions page by 5 p.m., CST on June 15.

Score notices will be available on virtual Military Personnel Flight, or vMPF, June 16.

The average master sergeant selectee score for the 06E7 master sergeant test cycle was 343.02 points, based on the following:

- 134.38 Enlisted Performance Reports
- 73.65 Promotion Fitness Exam
- 63.39 Specialty Knowledge Test
- 30.22 Time in Grade
- 35.42 Time in Service

- 12.11 Decorations

The average master sergeant selectee has 3.96 years time in grade and 16.95 years in service. Those selected will be promoted to master sergeant from August to July 2007.

The average selectee score for the 06E6 technical sergeant test cycle was 314.01 points, based on the following:

- 133.24 Enlisted Performance Reports
- 67.73 Promotion Fitness Exam
- 53.37 Specialty Knowledge Test
- 35.66 Time in Grade
- 23.94 Time in Service
- 5.43 Decorations

The average technical sergeant selectee has 4.87 years time in grade and 10.84 years in service. Those selected will be promoted to technical sergeant from August to July 2007.

■ See PROMOTIONS, Page 3



NEWS FEATURE

WWII infantryman inducted into Wall of Heroes

By Janet Taylor Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Perhaps one of the hallmarks of an infantryman who has seen battle, is his easy willingness to admit the fear he experienced.

"I was scared to death," James Brazell readily admits. "If anybody ever tells you they were not scared, [that is not true]"

And despite being wounded and afraid, he did what he was trained to do as a Soldier – continue the mission.

Mr. Brazell was inducted into the Airmen Leadership School's Wall of Heroes May 25, joining a select group of Americans who served their country through the turbulence of war and conflict.

Born in 1925, James Brazell was drafted into the United States Army at age 19 and was assigned to Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division in 1944.

In 1944, World War II was in its final stages but Soldiers were in constant danger from desperate German troops unwilling to surrender. Roads and villages once thought to be secure became deadly ambush sites for unsuspecting American Soldiers.

Armored infantry battalions moved quickly through Europe and Company A was set for the final offensive across Germany to crush the last resistance of the war.

Mr. Brazell's company moved through the Siegfried Line, also called the "dragon's teeth" or the west wall by the Germans, between France and Germany.

Spanning 392 miles from the Netherlands, along the western border of Germany, to the Swiss border, it consisted of bunkers, pill boxes (machine gun bunkers) and tank traps. Adolph Hitler built this wall constructed with forced laborers, intent on keeping Allied forces out of Germany. After crossing the Siegfried line, Company A proceeded toward Dorsten, Germany.

While securing the town, his outfit met enemy fire. Although he escaped capture, he did not escape being wounded.

"I got shot through the right thigh [by a tracer round]. A German military woman shot me. We were coming into the town and she shot me. She didn't make it, [the other Soldiers] shot her," he said recounting the events of more than 60 years ago.

After being treated, he was sent to Austria and then to Belgium to recuperate and later returned to duty as a military policeman in charge of watching the prisoners of war.

One of Mr. Brazell's most vivid memories was when he did the opposite of his military training, but it turned out to be the right thing by saving lives of other Soldiers.

He recalled when a half-

track – a personnel carrier with wheels in the front and track in the back – began backing into the line of fire.

"I hollered at him to move it, because they were going to start dropping shells on us. Two of the guys in the half-track got wounded real bad. One of the guys got his jaw cut real bad, the other one lost his ear," said Mr. Brazell.

Mr. Brazell took the men to the medics and returned to the vehicle. Looking in the driver's side, he spied an 88-millimeter shell in the seat that hadn't exploded.

"I was always told in basic training never to pick up a shell that had not exploded. I picked it up and stuck it in what looked like a rabbit hole and I took off. About midnight we heard the most awful explosion. You could have set the [halftrack] into [the hole left from the round exploding]."

Mr. Brazell's view of today's military has much to do with how he perceives the media coverage that is allowed.

"It's a whole lot different now because in World War II, they didn't allow the radio networks and news [to report] a lot of news. I think that's a bad mistake with TV; to let everyone know where these guys are at and everything about it."

Mr. Brazell may not be in favor of today's plentiful media coverage, but when asked if he was proud to have served in



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. APRIL WICKES

James Brazell receives a shadow box of his decorations earned during combat in World War II during his induction into the Wall of Heroes May 25 at the Airman Leadership School. Presenting him with the shadow box, which will be displayed with other Wall of Hero members are Senior Airmen David Liddell (left), 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and Justin Petrosky, 27th Component Maintenance Squadron.

the military, his reply was an enthusiastic, "oh yes," adding, "If you've ever been to a foreign country, you'll understand why. There isn't another country in the world like this one. It's the freedom we've got that other countries don't have. You can say what you please and nobody's going to shoot you."

Mr. Brazell's few words indicate his humbleness of how he views his military time.

"I don't consider myself a hero," he said, but his military awards that include a Bronze star, a Purple Heart, the Combat Infantryman's Badge

and World War II campaign ribbons prove otherwise.

Honorably discharged April of 1946, Mr. Brazell returned to Clovis, married his wife Betty in 1946 and had three sons.

The Wall of Heroes program was begun in June 2004 to honor the previous extraordinary services of local heroes. There are eight ALS classes each year, and each class chooses a hero to add to the Wall of Heroes, many of whom were POWs during World War II.

(The Airman Leadership School provided information for 1 article.)

NSPS conversion continues

Courtesy Civilian Personnel

Though a judge put on hold the implementation of the labor relations and adverse action/appeals elements of the National Security Personnel System, the Department of Defense will proceed with implementing the human resources elements of NSPS.

This includes classification, conversion, compensation, performance management, hiring and employment and workforce

shaping. The first phase of employees, called Spiral 1.1, consisting of approximately 11,000 DoD employees – including about 3,000 Air Force employees – converted to NSPS on April 30. Cannon employees are scheduled to convert in October. Employees included in this conversion are still to be determined. Wage grade employees are tentatively scheduled to convert in January 2007.

Implementation of NSPS will require extensive training for both supervisors and employees.

Employees have been tasked to complete the required SkillSoft computer-based training courses available on the Air Force Portal. The web-based training course NSPS 101 is also available on the Civilian Personnel web page. NSPS specific training courses will provide specific information on

the various aspects of NSPS, such as conversion, performance management and compensation. Courses will be held locally and employees converting to NSPS will be required to attend.

The Air Force NSPS Web site contains the latest information on NSPS and is located at www.af.mil/library/nsps-af/index.asp

For more information locally, contact Kathy Hubbell at 784-4848.



NEWS

PROMOTIONS

Continued from Page 1

There are approximately 5,200 non-commissioned officers who haven't tested yet because they are currently deployed or have just returned from a deployment said Chief Master Sgt. Rusty Nicholson, Air Force Personnel Center's enlisted promotions branch chief. "They will be allowed to test once they return, and will automatically be considered for promotion. Supplemental promotions are announced on a monthly basis until everyone has been considered."

Cannon Master Sergeant selects

- Carl Alvarez,
27th Fighter Wing
- Victor Andrade,
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
- Mark Arehart,
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Morris Barnes,
27th Security Forces Squadron
- Schuyler Beers,
27th Component Maintenance Squadron
- Christopher Benton,
27 CMS
- Marvin Bias,
27th Maintenance Group
- Byron Bradford,
27 CMS
- Lara Burback,
27th Mission Support Group
- Mainard Cardillo,
27 AMXS
- Vaughn Chesters,
27th Maintenance Operations Squadron
- Roody Chevy,
27th Services Squadron
- Buck Clark,
27 EMS
- Samuel Coger,
27th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Daniel Eilenstine,
Area Defense Council
- Jannessa Force,
27th Medical Operations Squadron
- Clifford Gonzalez,
27th Fighter Wing
- Daniel Gurule,
27 EMS



- Glen Hall,
27 AMXS
- Carl Hendricks,
27 EMS
- Brian Hollandsworth,
27 MXG
- Robert Jernigan,
27 MXG
- Anthony Jones,
27 SFS
- Dawn Jones,
27 EMS
- Brian Levin,
372nd Training Group
- Nicolas Manriquez,
27th Logistics Readiness Squadron
- Cynthia Mateka,
27 FW
- August Miller,
27 AMXS
- Lonnie Mitchell,
27 MOS
- Rodney Neiss,
27 EMS
- Bryan Presley,
27 MXG
- David Pugh,
27 EMS
- Jorge Rivas,
27 MDOS
- Carlos Rivera,
27 AMXS
- Brian Sapp,
27 MSS
- Steven Sheard,
27 CMS
- Robert Soule,
27 LRS
- David Steele,
27 FW
- Jerry Stevens,
27 AMXS

- Michael Stone,
27 LRS
- Jeffery Thomas,
27 AMXS
- Joseph Valdez,
27 AMXS
- Didi Villas,
27 MSS
- Ronald Wilder,
27 MXG
- Brian Wunderlin,
27th Communications Squadron
- Tech. Sgt Selects**
- Elizabeth Amos,
27 MSS
- Melissa Black,
27th Operations Support Squadron
- Eric Burney,
27 MDOS
- Jonathan Charles,
27 CES
- Brandon Christian,
372 Tng Gp
- Steven Clark,
27 SVS
- Brian Clement,
27 EMS
- Christopher Cochran,
27 EMS
- Christopher Craig,
27 EMS
- Alonzo Cromwell,
27th Aeromedical Dental Squadron
- Jonathan Crownover,
27 CS
- Angela Custer,
27 MDOS
- Christopher Feuquay,
372 Tng Gp
- Lucky Funderburg,

- 27 MXG
- Pablo Galan,
27 CS
- Michael Gillis,
27 EMS
- John Gooding,
27 CMS
- Johnnie Grove,
27 SFS

- Douglas Palmisano,
27 CES
- Helga Parker,
27 OSS
- James Parker,
27 MXG
- Judy Payne,
27 FW
- Todd Piper,



- Vickie Hailey,
27 MDOS
- Michael Hall,
27 LRS
- Michelle Harris,
27 MDOS
- Jonathan Hayden,
27 AMXS
- Bernard Henry,
27 CES
- Jeremy Holcomb,
27 EMS
- Jason Hoyt,
27 MXG
- Jeremy Jackson,
27th Medical Support Squadron
- Cesar Kaye,
27 SVS
- Tana Kellner,
27 MOS
- Macon Kitchens,
27 LRS
- Michael Klose,
27 MXG
- Lourdes LeFlore,
27 AMXS
- Travis Martin,
27th Contracting Squadron
- Harold Miles,
27 MXG
- Timothy O'born,
27 SVS

- 27 AMXS
- Richard Roberts,
27 AMXS
- Charles Roop,
27 LRS
- Steven Schillinger,
27 CMS
- Walter Shekman,
27 AMXS
- Keith Smith,
27 CMS
- Daniel Spencer,
27 EMS
- Jessica Stokes,
27 MSS
- Lance Stokes,
27 EMS
- Todd Striplin,
27 SFS
- Larry Sulc,
27 AMXS
- Joshua Swiggett,
27 CES
- Melissa Tamayo,
27 CONS
- Brian Thompson,
27 CES
- Brian Toberer,
27 AMXS
- Letitia Tucker,
27 LRS
- Dayton Wenzel,
27 EMS
- Robert Zellhart,



COMMENTARY

Military service a noble call few answer

By Lt. Col. Brad Kearney
523rd Fighter Squadron commander

One often-asked question most of us hear from civilians is "Why are you in the military?"

They do not usually ask it directly, but rather, it's a look they have as we share experiences following a deployment or temporary duty. Their jaw drops ever so slightly and the eyes begin to glaze over.

If you could crawl inside their heads, you would hear "the question" as they come to the conclusion that they cannot imagine themselves doing the things you are describing.

They think, "Why are you

in the military...it sounds crazy!"

Conversely, as we tell of our accomplishments of supporting combat operations in the war global on terror and see "the look" many of us think, "I can't imagine doing anything else."

So, "why?"

In his book of short stories titled **A Gift of Wings**, Richard Bach shares an experience when he sat next to a stranger who had served in the Navy during World War II. He spent the entire two-hour flight reliving his three years in the Navy, and then concluded the conversation in 10 seconds by stating he had been selling

insurance for the past 45 years. Something was obviously so different when he served. So ... why?

This "job" is a noble calling few answer. Deep in our hearts we understand that all the sacrifices of time, sweat and tears are worth the call of our profession. What we do as part of the Air Force team is much bigger than what we do as individuals. And we do it to ensure there will continue to be a United States of America. Without us there would not be the freedoms that are unheard of elsewhere in the world.

When I fly a combat mission, I do it for my family

and friends. When you maintain, protect or support that F-16, or when you support keeping Airmen and their families healthy, you do it for your family and you friends. We vowed to protect the Constitution of the United States of America, and hence work hard to protect our families and friends' freedoms and their way of life.

More duty, some of it difficult, is on the horizon for us all. But I don't worry, because I know we will all continue to excel.

We must maintain that focus on the mission and accept nothing less than excellence.

We've all seen things

while in the Air Force we never imagined and have accomplished more than we ever dared to dream. We are good at what we do because we don't just win wars, we win them decisively.

It is crazy; we can't fully explain why we love what we do, but our pride of defending our great nation shines through our eyes as we try.

We cannot imagine doing anything else. And no — those who have not, won't or can't serve will ever understand because they haven't experienced it. We give our best every day and the Air Force excels because of that, and America continues to remain a beacon of freedom.

To be successful leaders we must evolve

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) James Dougherty
81st Medical Group commander

Leadership is often thought of as a skill that's developed gradually, but I disagree.

In my journey through the ranks, I've often wondered how our systematic approach to officer development translates to actual leadership growth. The Air Force promotes gradual increases in responsibility and mentoring from senior officers. But has anyone completed a case study of officers who have undergone leadership development to determine our actual return on the investment?

If you think about it, do any of the service schools you've attended really prepare you to command?

In a past assignment, a new commander came into my unit. The orderly room staff was doing their usual "beating the bushes" to find any "intel"

on the new boss. By talking with friends and connections at the commander's old unit, they knew exactly who was coming.

Then I overheard one of the sergeants say she remembered him as a second lieutenant. I asked, now that almost 15 years had passed and he's a colonel, how he's changed. Her response is ingrained in my memory, "He's still the same." I don't think she was saying he still acted like a second lieutenant, but that he led like one. To me, the implication was that what you learn during your initial experience as an officer or enlisted Airman sets the tone for the rest of your career.

I can't count the times I've heard that if you want to be a general or chief you need to prepare when you are a lieutenant or Airman. This is true, but you also need to be aware that more than likely your disposition 10 to 20 years from now has been predetermined. How we handle people and situations early on becomes a permanent part of our

personality.

This isn't to say there isn't anything you can do about it, but I believe if you continue your career with blinders on, then yes, you'll still be a "second lieutenant" or "Airman" when you retire.

If you are thinking, "I'm not planning on making the Air Force a career," the point isn't applicable to military service alone. Your style follows you wherever you end up. We will all work for someone.

So how do we escape our predetermined approach to leadership? I believe the answer lies in constant evolution and a state of awareness -- keeping your ears to the ground, accepting criticism from all sources and doing what's right. Where do you start? Promote constant evolution in others through this rule: Never try to take down your competition; try to make yourself better first and then help your competition to be better than you.

MACH METER

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News articles, local notes and other items for the **MACH METER** should be brought to the 27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, 110 E Sextant Ave. Suite 1099, or e-mailed to the Mach Meter at

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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This week's
Viper Wingman is



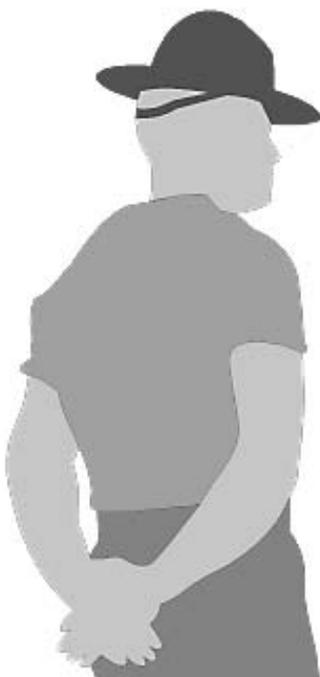
PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BRIAN ELLIS

Tech. Sgt.
Ricky Ramirez

Col. Scott West, 27th Fighter Wing commander, congratulates Tech. Sgt. Ricky Ramirez, 27th Logistics Readiness Squadron, who exemplifies the "whole-person concept," said his first sergeant, Master Sgt. Gary McCarty.

The Viper Wingman showcases outstanding work ethic and accomplishments of exemplary Airmen with the highest standards of personal performance. To nominate a Viper Wingman, notify your first sergeant.

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



In accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-2903, table 1.4, line 5 - women's hair must not exceed three inches in bulk and will not extend in length on all sides below an invisible line drawn parallel to the ground at the bottom edge of the shirt collar at the back of the neck.

This week's
Viper Volunteer is



Tom Company

Col. Scott West, 27th Fighter Wing commander, congratulates Mr. Tom Company, a community readiness technician with the 27th Mission Support Group has raised funds and assisted rescue efforts with One-4-All Animal Rescue. said Ellen Saccoia-Smith, Family Support Center.

The Viper Volunteer highlights the spirit of volunteerism and extraordinary contributions to the Cannon community. To nominate a Viper Volunteer, call Ellen Saccoia-Smith at 784-4228.



FEATURE

The battle for your buck

Programs guide Airmen to financial daylight

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

By Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

“We have an investment in the Airman. We owe it to them and to the American taxpayer to take care of that investment,” said Linda Sapp, Cannon’s Personal Financial Management program manager and an accredited financial counselor. “[Airmen] can do awesome things with their money.”

Part of caring for military members across the branches is teaching good financial practices that will carry them through their military career and beyond. But too many wait until they are in serious trouble before seeking help. Cannon’s Family Support Center has a goal to reach Airmen before they find themselves in dire financial straits.

“Unfortunately, there seems to be an idea that if you want to talk to someone about your finances, you’re in trouble. That’s not necessarily so,” said Ms. Sapp. “My favorite [way to help Airmen] is to get someone in here that says, ‘I just don’t know a whole lot about my money. What can I do?’”

Learning what to do with their money is empowering for Airmen and their families.

“Our goal is not to make their financial decisions for them, but to give them the opportunity to make valid decisions,” said Ms. Sapp.

The first step in learning to make valid decisions is to manage all bank and savings accounts. Ms. Sapp said she is amazed at those who do

Creditor*: [REDACTED] DEFERRED	
Store Street Address: [REDACTED] N. Prince St	
Store City and State: Clovis, Nm 88101	
Store Telephone: 505 [REDACTED]	
Consumer: Name: [REDACTED]	
Street Address: [REDACTED]	
City and State: [REDACTED]	
Telephone: [REDACTED]	
Customer Number: [REDACTED]	
FEDERAL TRUTH-IN-LENDING	
ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE The cost of your credit as a yearly rate.	FINANCE CHARGE The dollar amount the credit will cost you.
617.69 %	\$88.00
Your payment schedule will be:	
Number of payments	Amount of Payment
1	\$488.00
Security: Your Check is security for this Transaction.	

(505) [REDACTED]	
Borrower: [REDACTED]	
Address: [REDACTED]	
Disclosures Made in Compliance with Federal Truth-in-Lending Act	
ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE The cost of your credit as a yearly rate.	FINANCE CHARGE The dollar amount the credit will cost you.
505.38 %	\$ 87.40
Security: You are giving a security interest in the above Check.	
Prepayment: If you pay off early, you will not have to pay a penalty.	
See your contract documents for any additional information about nonpayment, default, any required repayment in full before the scheduled date, and prepayment refunds and penalties.	

Copies of actual contracts

Cannon’s Family Support Center has a goal to reach Airmen before they find themselves in financial straits. Teaching Airmen good financial practices help them avoid the exorbitant rates of some loan companies.

not know how much money they have, telling of one Airman she knows who has been overdrawn by about \$500 for more than a year.

Another step includes reevaluating money issues on a regular basis.

“As people go through life, financial needs and priorities change,” said Ms. Sapp. These changes may involve housing arrangements, changes in marital status, beginning a family, retirement or moving up or down in wages.

Ms. Sapp said this is important for Airmen, since military pay rates do not always grow at a rate consistent with lifestyle changes.

Airmen must know the value of their money to reevaluate and make good decisions. “You work so hard for your money ... at least 160 hours a month. Who deserves it more than you?” asked Ms. Sapp.

Charles Brown, a former Airman at Cannon learned that working to make changes in his financial outlook is a long

process of working through past financial mistakes, but he and his wife now use a budget to stay on top of their finances.

“If it’s not something you have to have, then don’t do it, because you’re going to need what you have to take care of what’s coming up,” said Mr. Brown earlier this year while still on active duty.

He praises his wife’s quality of being a chronic list maker in an effort to help them with their finances. “She keeps a good budget of what’s coming due and how much is owed,” he said. “If it hadn’t been for that, things would have gotten a lot worse, a lot sooner.”

Instead of taking the steps to be proactive with their money, too many Airmen choose to remain complacent.

“I think a lot of our financial decisions are based on inertia; a body at rest tends to stay at rest,” said Ms. Sapp.

One way to ward off complacency is to always look ahead at the next step in life. “Once you master something, start looking

at the step ahead,” she stresses. “Save for retirement, no matter what age you are.”

Ms. Sapp reminds others to look ahead to short term obligations, “Christmas is not a surprise. School starts in August. Plan for it, and it’s not an issue.”

The basics of bank account management, living by a budget and planning ahead are tools the military stresses and expects of its members.

“Financial responsibility is something we expect of all our people,” said Chief Master Sgt. Gary Ashmore, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron.

While the military stresses good financial management for servicemembers, it knows there are times when the member may need to seek outside help.

The need to ask for help may cause embarrassment for some Airmen or their families. When asked if Airmen should be embarrassed when needing emergency help, Chief Ashmore answered, “For a valid need? Never. Why would they? Every-

body has situations come up that are sometimes beyond their control.”

Pride must be put aside and Airmen must use their chain of command and seek military assistance to get help before financial problems spin out of control, Mr. Brown said.

Choosing to use military options over payday loan lenders is something Chief Ashmore does not seem to be able to stress enough.

“You never, ever, ever need money bad enough to go see these people [the payday loan industry]. If you need money bad enough to see these people, you need to see your flight chief, your supervisor or your first sergeant. Always use your chain of command,” stressed Chief Ashmore.

Despite these warnings, Ms. Sapp and Chief Ashmore know there will be Airmen who choose the payday loan and quick cash stores, and get into trouble they are not able to get out of. In these cases, Chief Ashmore has very specific advice.

“Go ugly early. If you have a problem, you need to identify it sooner rather than later. It’s going to prevent you from getting so far in over your head that you may never get out.”

Ms. Sapp seconds Chief Ashmore’s advice by saying that financial problems do not heal themselves, but need definitive action. Sometimes that help can come in the form of a legitimate loan with a decent interest rate.

“If they [Airmen] haven’t already jeopardized their credit to the point where they’re not credit worthy, I can sometimes get a reputable lending institution to advance them money to pay off the debts and then they will have a loan,” said Chief Ashmore.

One loan with a reputable lender can bring a sense of relief and control that cannot be achieved with many loans through less ethical lenders. There is nothing like financial freedom, said Ms. Sapp who adds that money does not give power, “but it can give peace of mind and options.”



COMMUNITY EVENTS



PHOTO BY GREG ALLEN

Pet of the week

Caleb is an energetic 5-year old neutered male Husky who loves to run and play. For information on adopting him or other dogs or cats, call the Family Support Center at 784-4228.

■ Continued from page 1

call 784-4228.

John Fondrick, Veteran's Affairs representative, will offer three seminars Tuesday, at the FSC. The first seminar, 1 to 1:30 p.m. addresses differences between the Medical Evaluation Board and a VA claim.

The second seminar, 1:30 to 3 p.m., reviews service medical records and how to start a claim with the VA.

The third seminar, 3 to 4 p.m., is a question and answer period.

For more information or to register, call the Family Support Center at 784-4228.

Low back pain clinic

Exercise physiologist Margaret Anderson and physical therapist Tech. Sgt. Keith Eberhardt, 27th Medical Group, will teach proper lifting, strengthening and stretching of back muscles at 8 a.m. June 23 at the fitness center.

To sign up, call the Health and Wellness Center at 784-1004.

Heart Link

Heart Link is 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. June 23 at the Family Support Center. This program is for Air Force spouses wanting to learn more about the Air Force mission, customs, traditions, protocols, and available resources and services. Lunch and child care is free.

For more information or to register, call 784-4228.

Bundles for Babies

Bundles for Babies is 8:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday at the Family Support Center. This class is open to women who are at least 20 weeks pregnant or who have a newborn under three months old. Active-duty Air Force members or spouses of active-duty members will receive a gift bundle worth approximately \$75 upon attending the class.

For more information or to register, call 784-4228.

WorkKeys Skills assessment

People can get the competitive edge in today's workforce by taking the free WorkKeys Skills assessment from 9 a.m. to noon June 23. The WorkKeys assessment certificate gives employers a quantitative look at employees' skill levels.

For more information or to register, call the Family Support Center at 784-4228.



SERVICES

Summer the time homeschoolers gear up for next school session

By Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

One summer-time pleasure for many families with school-aged children is not having to think about school. But several Cannon homeschool families see summer as a time to not only take a break, but to begin gearing up for the next school year.

One of the ways they are looking ahead is by participating in Cannon's Homeschool Group, directed by Melissa Haraughty, 27th Fighter Wing librarian.

The newly formed homeschool group is a support to those who choose to educate their children outside of the norm of traditional classrooms.

Lynn Etters, wife of Tech. Sgt. Robert Etters, 27th Component Maintenance Squadron, likes the idea of being in a group with other like-minded families.

"You can help support each other and the kids can interact

with other kids who have things in common," Mrs. Etters said.

The Etters family began homeschooling their oldest child, Jonathan, 12, when he was in the fourth grade. They had planned to wait until junior high, but Jonathan kept telling his parents, "I'm bored," so their plans changed. Jonathan is in his third year of being educated in the family's home-style classroom and since that time, no one in the family has looked back.

Homeschoolers have many reasons for choosing home education, but frequent moves are one reason that many military homeschool families choose this route.

While frequent moves to unfamiliar places can be a great educational experience for children, they can also be one of the most difficult aspects of being in a military family.

"With homeschooling, you can create a stable educational base for your child, instead of having to start fresh at a new

school every time you move," said Rebecca Kochenderfer, Senior Editor and co-founder of www.Homeschool.com. Homeschooling helps prevent any gaps that might occur because of frequent moves by military families.

The Etters family experienced this first hand with a recent military move. "We moved here in December and we just had the laptop with us and he could just continue school," Mrs. Etters said.

The Etters family said they go by the educational laws of the state where they are stationed. However, some states are more difficult to homeschool in than others, depending on the laws of state, Mrs. Etters said.

Mrs. Etters strongly encourages families to research the laws of the state where they are moving and to know their legal rights. "You don't want a truant officer showing up at your door," she said.

For the Etters, some

reasons for homeschooling involves certain subjects taught at school and safety concerns, but one of her favorite reasons is the freedom it allows their family such as when Jonathan was able to go on a family trip to Washington, D.C. and then to New York for a WestPoint graduation.

"If he had been in public school, he would not have been able to do that since he would have been in school," said Mrs. Etters, emphasizing that, "He was learning things even when he was on 'vacation.'"

Homeschooling allows the Etters family freedom during fun times, but also during family crisis. This happened a year ago when his sister Michaela, 1, was born prematurely in Lubbock, Texas. "It was a real blessing he was homeschooled. We could stay at the Ronald McDonald House and be there as a family, and not have to be separated."

How do others react to homeschool families?

Mrs. Etters said there are certainly the expected responses of disbelief, but she also said there is plenty of support. "It's very accepted by some people who surprised me, such as teachers. I think a lot of it is just not knowing; the not understanding of what goes into it."

While Mrs. Etters and Joanthan are hard pressed to think of pitfalls in homeschooling, Mrs. Etters said there are several things of which families should be aware, such as the cost and time involved in educating your children.

"Curriculum can range from a few hundreds dollars to over a thousand dollars. And it does take time," she said.

"Even with him doing a computer-based curriculum, there is still time that I have to be there, time to be available to him. Some people are just not made for that."

For more information on Cannon's homeschooling group, contact Melissa Haraughty at 784-7033.



What's happening?



Today

Bingo Bash – 10 to 11 a.m. at the Portales CC*
Movies and Popcorn – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Clovis CC
Steak Special – 5 to 9 p.m. at The Landing
Texas Hold 'em – 6 p.m. at The Landing

Saturday

Clovis Block Party – 11 a.m. at the Clovis CC
Swimming – noon with the youth center at Liberty Pool

Sunday

Father's Day Golf Tournament – 8 a.m. at WWGC
Father's Day Brunch – 10 a.m. at The Landing

Monday

Kids Craft – 11 a.m. at the Clovis CC
Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a

Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$3 Members First
All American Buffet – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Landing
Monday Night Scramble – 5 p.m. at WWGC
Community Theater – 6:30 p.m. at the Central CC

Tuesday

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a
Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$3 Members First
Pool Tournament – 4 to 6 p.m. at the Portales CC

Wednesday

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a
Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$3 Members First
Italian Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing
Foosball Tournament – 5 to 6 p.m. at the Portales CC
Chicken or Steak Fajitas – 5 p.m. at The Landing

Thursday

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a
Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$3 Members First
Table Tennis Tournament – 3 to 5 p.m. at the Clovis CC



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



Healthier lifestyles can be just a phone call away

Courtesy Cannon Health and Wellness Center

Women often juggle careers, families, and in some cases higher education, all while putting their health concerns on hold. Though they have made tremendous strides when it comes to taking care of their health, they still face many challenges.

In 1900 the average life expectancy for a female was 41 years old and the number one killers were pneumonia and the flu: heart disease ranked a distant fourth, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. Today, women live to an average age of 77, but the number one killer of women is now heart disease with cancers of the lung, breast or colon falling to second. Ranking in the top 10 are also stroke and pulmonary disease which can be caused by smoking.

The American Heart Associa-

tion reports that women now account for 50 percent of the 5 million Americans affected by heart failure. The key to overcoming this is proper health care.

Though there are some risk factors that cannot be changed such as gender, age or heredity lifestyle changes can modify the risk for your risk for heart disease, lung cancer, stroke or pulmonary disease.

Regular exercise, an active lifestyle, eating a healthy diet, not smoking and obtaining routine check-ups can help prevent the top diseases affecting women.

The 27th Medical Group and the Health and Wellness Center (HAWC) have programs and opportunities to help move to a healthier lifestyle. Talk to your Primary Care Manager, or for more information on how to improve health, prevent heart disease, and to decrease some cancer risks, call the HAWC at 784-1004.

Time to chill out the heat

Water, rest, keys to reducing weather stress

By Candace Weaver
Cannon Health education program manager

When the body cannot cool itself by sweating, several heat-induced illnesses such as heat exhaustion and more seriously heat stroke can result

High temperatures, humidity, direct sun or heat, limited air movement, physical exertion, poor physical condition and some medications are factors influencing heat exhaustion.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) lists the following symptoms of heat exhaustion: headaches, dizziness, lightheadedness or fainting, weakness and moist skin, mood changes such as irritability or confusion and upset stomach or vomiting. One may be experiencing heat stroke if

these symptoms progress to include dry, hot skin with no sweating, mental confusion or losing consciousness, seizures or fits.

How to prevent heat exhaustion or heat stroke

- Water replacement by thirst alone is inadequate. Take a minimum 10-minute water break following every 20 minutes of heavy exercise in the heat and rest in a shaded area.

- Block out direct sun or other heat sources.

- Use cooling fan or air-conditioning and rest regularly.

- Wear lightweight, light colored and loose-fitting clothes.

- Avoid alcohol, caffeinated drinks or heavy meals.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE SERVICES PRESENTS

LOVE

what's love?

TOP IN BLUE

world tour 2006

NEW LOCATION AND TIME

CC community center Air Force Services

27th CANNON AFB SERVICES Combat Support & Community Service

Friday, June 23
Marshall Jr High
Show starts
at 7 pm

General admission and seating



Unit Spotlights

Senior Airman Below-the-Zone selectees

Airman 1st Class Jessica Lum
522nd Fighter Squadron

Airman 1st Class Timothy Gensler
27th Component Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class Bryce Perdomo
27th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

Airman 1st Class Travis Harper
27th Component Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class Jose Cenicerros-Vargas
27th Civil Engineer Squadron

Airman 1st Class Dustin Reid
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class Hollie Murray
27th Maintenance Group

Airman 1st Class Matthew Buchanan
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class David Henson
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class Michael Harris
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class Jesse Zechman
27th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Airman 1st Class Travis Turner
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadro

Airman 1st Class Jason Stump
27th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Re-enlistment bonuses change for 14 specialties

Courtesy Air Force Print News

Air Force officials have announced changes to the selective re-enlistment bonus program.

Changes were made to the following selective re-enlistment bonuses:

Added, effective June 1, 2006:

1C6X1, Zone A, 2.0 (space systems operations)

1N2X1, Zone A, 2.0 (communications signals intelligence production)

3E9X1, Zone A,1.5; Zone B, 1.0; Zone C, 1.0 (readiness)

3P0X1A/B, Zone A, 2.0 (security forces)

4J0X2, Zone A, 1.0 (physical medicine)

Reduced, effective July 1, 2006:

1A2X1, Zone A, 2.5 (loadmaster)

1A3X1, Zone A, 3.5 (airborne communications and electronic systems)

1A4X1, Zone A, 2.0; Zone B, 2.0 (airborne battle management)

1C5X1D, Zone A, 3.0 (aerospace control and warning systems)

1N3X2A, Zone A, 4.5; Zone B, 4.0 (romance cryptologic linguist)

1N3X3A/D, Zone A, 4.5; Zone B, 4.0 (Slavic cryptologic linguist)

1W0X1, Zone B,1.0 (weather)

9L0X0, Zone B, 5.0 (interpreter/translator)

Removed, effective July 1, 2006:

2E2X1, All (communication, network, switching and crypto systems)

For more information, contact the re-enlistment office at 784-7239.

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.

United 93

Today at 7 p.m and Sunday at 4 p.m.

Description: A drama that tells the story of the passengers and crew, their families on the ground, and the flight controllers who watch as United Airlines Flight 93 becomes the fourth hijacked plane on the day of the worst terrorist attacks on American soil.

R – language and some intense sequences of terror and violence

Running time: 111 min.

Hoot

Saturday at 4 p.m.

Description: When a Montana boy moves to Florida and unearths a disturbing threat to a local population of endangered owls, he and his friends fight to prevent the adults from making a big mistake.

PG – mild bullying and brief language

Running time: 90 min.

Stick it

Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

Description: A 17 year-old, ex-gymnastics star with big family problems finds herself on the wrong side of the law after too many arrests. She rediscovers her love of the sport and gets the chance to make peace with her dysfunctional life.

PG – some language

Running time: 112 min.



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 Saturday 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., Sunday. 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.

Book over to Bowling – Check out a book, read it and get a bookmark punched at the Cannon library. Get four punches and turn the bookmark in to the Cannon Lanes for a free game of bowling.

Whispering Winds
Golf Course

Ladd and Lassie tourney – 1 p.m. June 25. Players can choose their own partners in this alternating shot, 9-hole tourney. Register by June 23.

Monday Night Scrambles – Two-person teams and players may select their partners. Sign up by 3p.m.

Summer activities

Through Aug 15

Mondays – 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 – Children's 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 next course is Aug. 11 and costs \$20 per person.

For more information, call 784-2773.

Garden of the Gods – A mountain biking trip will be July 14-17 at Colorado Springs, Colo.

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.

Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Youth Center.

The cost is \$30 per child per month.