

Thanks

Team Cannon – Thanks for the hard work you put into making last weekend's visit by the New Mexico Congressional delegation and senior Air Force leaders a success. Saturday's main events were to showcase Special Operations and Air Combat Command capabilities and participate in our community's celebration of Cannon's October 2007 mission. But what stood out to me, and to our guests, was the professionalism of the men and women of the 27th Fighter Wing, and the pride our community has in its military. We're still valued, still an important part of our nation's arsenal, and it showed last weekend. Thanks for representing the Air Force in a first-class fashion

Col. Scott West
27th Fighter Wing commander
Cannon One

Community Events

Change of command

Maj. Stacy Clements will take command of the 27th Communications Squadron at 8 a.m. Thursday at Bldg. 600.

Thrift Shop summer hours

The Cannon Thrift Shop summer hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays. For more information, call 784-7878.

MDG closure

The 27th Medical Group Clinic is closed the first Thursday of every month from 1 to 4:30 p.m. for training.

FSC Closed

The Family Support Center will close noon to 4:30 p.m. on Monday for an official function.

In case of an emergency, call 784-2253.

DRMO closure

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office will be closed Wednesday through July 24.

For more information, call 784-2437.

Marriage workshop

The base chapel is sponsoring a free marriage enrichment workshop from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. July 14 at the La Quinta Inn. Learn to identify danger signs in a relationship, improve communication skills, resolve problems

More Community Events on Page 9

MACH METER

Vol. 51, No. 26

Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.

July 7, 2006



PHOTO BY AIRMAN FIRST CLASS HEATHER SALAZAR

New mission celebration

Area residents gathered at the Clovis Civic Center to celebrate Cannon's October 2007 mission as the home of the 16th Special Operations Wing Saturday. Air Force officials thanked a standing-room only audience for their support and outlined the future for the base. For more on the visit, see page 2.

Lt. Gen. Seip new 12th AF commander

27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs staff report

Lt. Gen. Norman Seip assumed command of the 12th Air Force and Air Force Southern today at Davis-Monathan Air Force Base, Arizona.

He replaces outgoing commander Lt. General Mark Schmidt who will officially retire Sept. 1.

General Seip will command seven active-duty wings that include the 27th Fighter Wing at Cannon. The fighter and bomber wings possess 400 aircraft and more than 33,000 active duty military and civilian personnel.

Before his current assignment, General Seip

was the assistant deputy chief of staff for Air Space and information Operations, Plans and Requirements. Among his responsibilities included formulating policy supporting air, space, intelligence and homeland security.



OFFICIAL AIR FORCE PHOTO
Lt. Gen. Norman Seip
New 12th AF commander

Col. Bagnani new Vice Wing commander

27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs staff report

Colonel Valentino Bagnani III assumed duties as vice wing commander of the 27th Fighter Wing June 30.

He replaces retiring Col. Jeffrey Harrell who retired June 30.

Colonel Bagnani arrives from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., where he served as the deputy commander of the 56th Operations Group. He provided leadership and direction for more than 500 personnel and maintained instructor pilot currency in all phases of combat training for F-16 pilots.

Additionally, he directed all F-16 operations for 260 active and reserve instructor instructor pilots and 208 active and reserve F-16s to

ensure combat readiness.

Col. Bagnani earned his commission following graduation from California State university in 1984 and is a veteran of Operations DESERT SHIELD, STORM and NOBLE EAGLE and has more than 3,400 flying hours.



OFFICIAL AIR FORCE PHOTO
Col. Valentino Bagnani III
New Vice Wing Commander

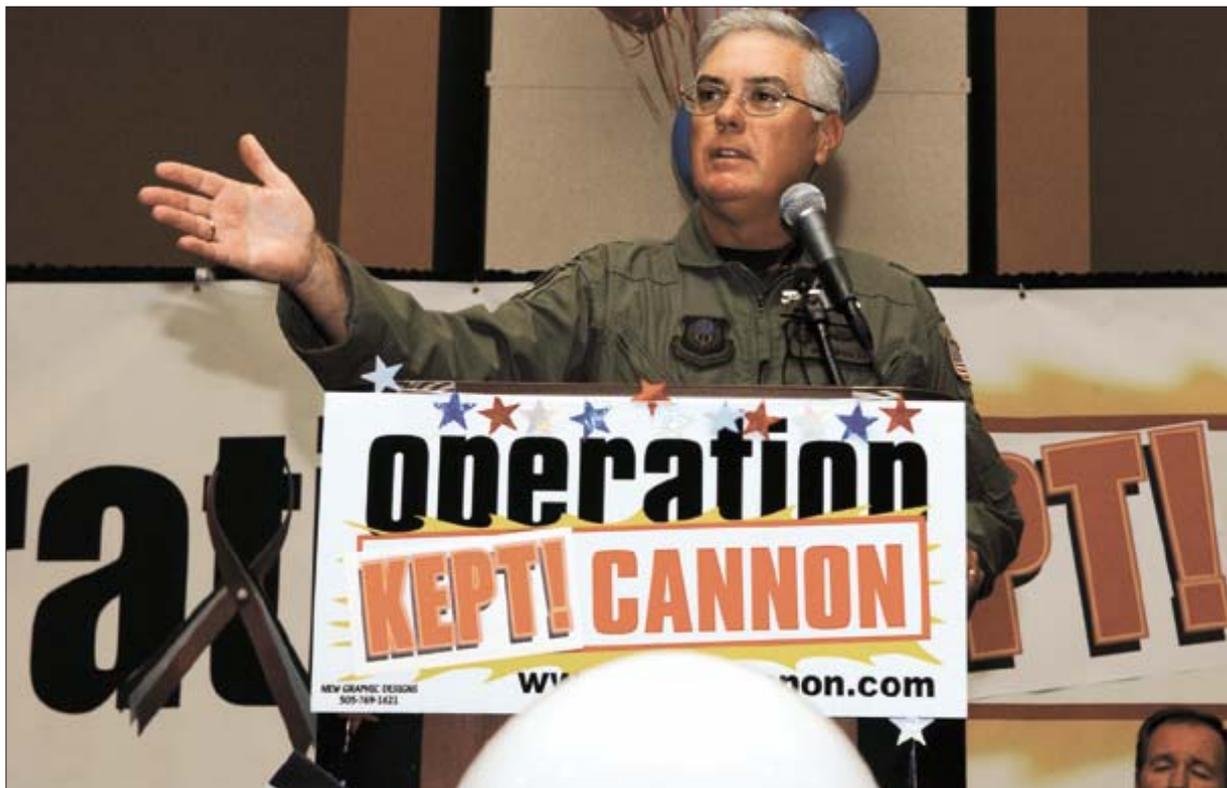


NEWS



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN FIRST CLASS HEATHER SALAZAR

Staff Sgt. Nick Pelham, 71st Operations Squadron, Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico, explains the CV-22 Osprey during a media open house Saturday at Cannon. The Osprey will call Cannon home when the 16th Special Operations Wing unfurls its colors in October 2007.



Lt. Gen. Michael Wooley, Air Force Special Operations Command commander, thanks the audience Saturday at the Clovis Civic Center for its support of the Air Force. General Wooley was one of a group of Air Force leaders who visited the area Saturday to brief the media and the public on the new mission for Cannon.

Air Force officials brief media, public on Cannon's new mission

By Staff Sgt. Craig Seals
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

William Anderson, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics, Lt. Gen. Michael Wooley, Air Force Special Operations Command commander and Major Gen. Kenneth DeCuir, Air Combat Command vice commander visited Cannon Saturday in order to showcase and highlight the new special operations mission scheduled to come here in the fall of 2007.

Later in the day they visited the Clovis Civic Center where residents gathered to celebrate Cannon's new mission.

Also in attendance were Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., New Mexico Lt. Governor Diane Denish and the New Mexico congressional delegation.

In Hangar 133, personnel from AFSOC had aircraft, vehicles and equipment on display, as well as subject matter experts on hand to give detailed description of how each is deployed and used by the command.

An MC-130H Combat Talon

II, a CV-22 Osprey and an AC-130U Gunship were available for the media and delegates to tour and speak with the crews who fly them.

"We have all the best toys," said Lt. Col. Bob Monroe, 4th Special Operations Squadron commander, Hurlbert Field, Fla.

Gen. Wooley said that his command is looking forward to their arrival here due to the "perfect conditions" the area offers with regard to weather and terrain.

Tech. Sgt. Jason Kemp, an instructor with the 720th Operation Support Squadron, Hurlbert Field, Fla., gave briefings on battlefield airmen, their weapons, equipment and vehicles, and their uses in different types of missions.

Equipment ranged from weapons, goggles and field gear to all-terrain vehicles all used in special operations missions.

After the AFSOC briefing in Hangar 133, the distinguished visitors continued on to the Clovis Civic Center to address the local community.

AFSOC is scheduled to assume command of Cannon in October 2007.



The honorable William Anderson, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, and Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., listen during a community gathering at the Clovis Civic Center.



NEWS

Job was challenging, but 27th FW Airmen made the journey smooth

Outgoing 12th AF commander pays final compliments to Cannon troops

(Editor's note: Lt. Gen. Schmidt officially retires Sept. 1.)

Lt. Gen. Mark Schmidt
12th Air Force commander

It is a great honor to address you for the last time as the 12th Air Force commander – the 34 years of my active-duty military career have gone by in a flash. When I became the 12th Air Force commander three years ago, I knew the job would come with many challenges, but you made this journey a smooth ride. Your dedication

to the mission, your professionalism and your sacrifices in this time of conflict have made 12th Air Force what it is today – a top notch organization prepared for any mission, anywhere in the world.

The 27th Fighter Wing is one of the world's most lethal warfighting teams. Your unheralded support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, in which your 524th Fighter Squadron flew F-16s flawlessly, earned you the 2004 Schilling Award. Your continued dedication and support to Operations Noble Eagle, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, as well as efforts in East Asia, prove you truly are America's go-to wing!

The men and women of

the 27th FW are accustomed to excellence, hence it is no surprise you have the best maintenance program in our Air Force and therefore the



Lt. Gen. Mark Schmidt
12th Air Force commander

Air Force Deaalian Award, a noteworthy award, especially in this time of war.

Receiving the Air Combat Command Installation Excellence Award, for the second year in a row was no easy task either, but testament that the 27th FW knows how to take care of our most valued asset...our Airmen.

Your award-winning programs, which are too many to mention, ensure that Airmen enjoy top notch quality of life at Cannon.

In closing, you have achieved a lot and there is still more to be accomplished. I am extremely confident that you will excel under the command of Lt. Gen. Norman Seip. It was an honor to serve as your commander – Lisa

Lt. Gen. Mark Schmidt

“Your award-winning programs, which are too many to mention, ensure that Airmen enjoy top notch quality of life at Cannon.”

— 12th Air Force Commander

and I will miss you all. God Speed as you continue to serve in the finest Air Force in the world!

Air Force brings Army out of the fog with weather reports

By Master Sgt. John Lasky
Air Force Print News

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany – Many people do not realize the U.S. Army receives its weather support from the Air Force as part of an inter-service agreement when the two became separate services.

Airmen from the 7th Weather Squadron, with headquarters at Heidelberg, Germany, have been providing that support since 1942.

Supporting operations for the Army's 1st Armored Division at Wiesbaden Army Airfield are members of the squadron's Detachment 6. Nine Air Force special weather observers are assigned there. They make up one of 26 weather detachments throughout Europe forecasting at home base or wearing battle and rattle next to a tent.

“It's a bit rougher here, but I love it,” said Tech. Sgt. Gina Faulds, a Chino, Calif., native who is the NCO in charge of the detachment. “There's great

camaraderie, and I really wouldn't miss going back to an assignment supporting the Air Force.”

The squadron's battlefield weather teams predict the impact weather will have on Army and joint operations. This, in turn, gives leadership at all levels the ability to adjust both operational and tactical strategies, helping to further mission success.

Success has been duly noted as the unit was awarded the Air Force's 2005 General Thomas Moorman award for the outstanding weather unit providing specialized weather support. The unit was also named the U.S. Air Forces in Europe's outstanding combat weather team for 2005.

Formed in the Pacific theater during World War II, the 7th WS moved to Europe in 1959 after being inactivated in 1945 and has been supporting the U.S. Army in Europe ever since. Weather observers from the 7th WS have been involved in combat operations extending from Africa to the Balkans and Southwest Asia.



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. JOHN LASKY
Staff Sgt. Craig Gaillardet attaches the lightning detector to the weather station at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, Germany, June 21. Sergeant Gaillardet, a Pecos, Texas, native, is a combat weather forecaster with the 7th Weather Squadron headquartered in Heidelberg, Germany.



COMMENTARY

Retiring Vice Wing commander reflects on past, looks to the future

By Airman 1st Class Thomas Trower
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

After being affiliated with the Air Force for more than 29 years, Col. Jeffrey P. Harrell, former 27th Fighter Wing vice commander, bid farewell to his final assignment at Cannon.

Colonel Harrell's official retirement ceremony was held at 1 p.m. June 30 at The Landing.

Colonel Harrell received his Bachelor of Science degree in history from the Air Force Academy in 1981, which marked the beginning of a highly-decorated career in the U.S. military. Through the years, Colonel Harrell has held many different positions in many different parts of the world. From Arizona to the Republic of Korea, he enjoyed his various assignments, but his most memorable experience was "leading a fighter squadron in combat," he said. In 1999 the colonel commanded his squadron to no fatalities in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH.

Although the colonel said every base has something special about it, "the best part of this assignment has been the people, both on the base and off the base. These are the most dedicated Airmen I have ever worked with in my life. I have never been

around people who were as supportive of the base as here."

Colonel Harrell said, he knew now was just the best time for him to separate from the Air Force. "I was once told, 'One day you'll wake up and know it's time,' and this is it," he said.

When trying to decide on where to go from here, the colonel said he was very surprised to hear where his wife, Suzie, wanted to go.

"She followed me around to my assignments for 16 years, so it was my turn to follow her," said Colonel Harrell.

Much to his enjoyment, Mrs. Harrell suggested going to Albuquerque, N.M. The paperwork is well on its way for Colonel Harrell to become the new Director of the National Training Center at the Department of Energy at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

When asked what advice he would like to pass on to the Air Force's future leaders, he broke it down into two things: take advantage of all of the opportunities the Air Force provides, and build on everything learned throughout their careers.

"It never made sense to me why people don't

take advantage of the educational opportunities," the colonel said, adding that the Family Support Center and Professional Enhancement Center also provide other courses that do not pertain to education.

The various programs provided by the services squadron are another way to entertain Airmen and make sure they "don't stay in their dorm rooms all of the time."

"Airmen should keep the lessons they have learned," said Colonel Harrell. Everything taught from the beginning of basic training through senior leadership schools will pertain to their entire career, he said.

The colonel had to learn one tough lesson through trial and error in his career.

"Try not to make rash decisions," the colonel said highlighting that all Airmen should "[gather] all of the information before acting."

All in all, Colonel Harrell believed that he had a very successful career in the Air Force.

"This has been such an enjoyable experience for both Suzie and I," said the colonel, wrapping up a career of feelings into a simple expression of grati-

We should do what is right, even if no one is looking

Master Sgt. Terry Mateka

27th Maintenance Operations Squadron first sergeant

Being an Airman in today's military requires more than being just a technical expert in a profession: it involves living to and by a higher standard. It's a standard that's in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. Whether an Airman Basic, a captain, a senior non-commissioned officer, or a civilian supporting Airmen, we all have one direct thing in common, and that is an obligation to do what is right, even when no one is looking.

You might say, "no one does that." But think about what a better place we would all live, work and play in if everyone did what was right, even when no one was looking. We wouldn't worry about

locking our vehicles or leaving money on our desk. We wouldn't have to worry about the safety of our children. We wouldn't have to worry about who cuts corners at the office, or doesn't wear their hat to their vehicle or talks on their cell phone while driving.

While these are only examples of a much larger picture, I hope you see what I see; beyond any professional obligation we have, we also have a moral obligation to live our lives with integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do.

By doing this, it will be easy to do what is right, even when no one is looking and to hold ourselves to a higher standard. For those of us sworn to defend our country, we have an entire nation that counts on us to do what is right. So, every time we think about

cutting a corner or saying that, "it won't hurt just this one time," we should think about the example we set and/or the possible consequences.

One of the harshest consequences I can think of is from those who choose to drink and drive. They may go years without an incident, but it takes just one instant for someone to die.

What is it that helps us do what is right, even when no one is looking? For some, it may be the oath they took which swore them to incorporate the Air Force's Core Values into daily living. For others, it may be a religion or simply what their parents taught them as a child.

Whatever it is that drives us ... we should all make the choice to do what is right, even when no one is looking.

MACH METER

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs office of the 27th Fighter Wing.

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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 Thursday the week prior to publication. Deadline for free classified advertisements is noon the Tuesday prior to publication.

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**NEWS**

Blog study may net credible information

By William Sharp

Air Force Office of Scientific Research
Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, VA – The Air Force Office of Scientific Research has begun funding a new research area that includes a study of blogs.

Blog research may provide information analysts and warfighters with invaluable help in fighting the war on terrorism.

Drs. Brian Ulicny, senior scientist, and Mieczyslaw Kokar, president, Versatile Information Systems Inc., Framingham, Mass., will receive approximately \$450,000 in funding for the three-year project titled, "Automated Ontologically-Based Link Analysis of International Web Logs for the Timely Discovery of Relevant and Credible Information."

"It can be challenging [for information analysts] to tell what's important in blogs unless you analyze patterns," Dr. Ulicny said.

Patterns include the content of the blogs as well as what hyperlinks are contained within the blog. Within blogs, hyperlinks act like reference citations in research papers, allowing someone to discover the most important events bloggers are writing about. This is the same way a person can find the most important papers in a field by finding which ones are cited most often in research papers. This type of analysis can help information analysts'

searches be as productive as possible.

The blog study is part of AFOSR's new Information Forensics and Process Integration research program at Syracuse University in New York. The new portfolio of projects consists of three areas of research emphasis: incomplete information and metrics; search, interactive design and active querying; and cognitive processing.

One of the problems analysts may have with blog monitoring, Dr. Ulicny said, is there is too much actionable information for the analyst to properly analyze.

"We are developing an automated tool to tell analysts what bloggers are most interested in at a point in time," Dr. Ulicny said.

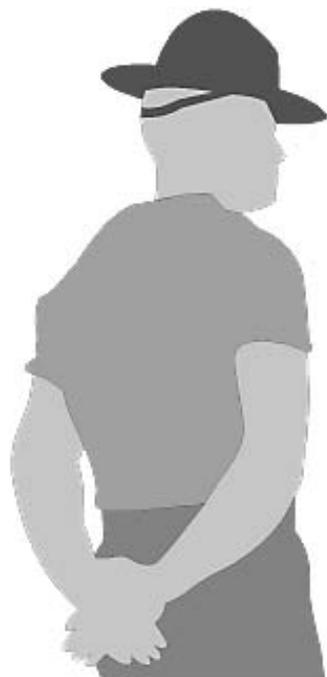
This analysis, Dr. Kokar said, is based on what his company calls the RSTC approach to blog analysis: relevance, specificity, timeliness and credibility. RSTC helps information analysts filter the most important information to study.

"Relevance involves developing a point of focus and information related to a particular focus," Dr. Kokar said.

Timeliness has to do with immediacy – how important a topic is now.

"Credibility," he said, "is the amount of trust you have in an information source."

Finally, specificity can provide value to information analysts depending on how general or specific they need the information to be.



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

Excessive tattoos or brands will not be exposed or visible while in uniform. Excessive is defined as any tattoo or brand that exceed one quarter of the exposed body part and those above the collarbone and readily visible when wearing an open collar uniform.



FEATURE

Sometimes it's a dog's life for base operators

From pawing pooches to Hearts Apart, operators reach out and touch them all

Story and photo by Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

“He’s breaking in! He’s breaking in!” The female caller continued screaming into the phone as Patty McEldowney received the call at Cannon’s Base Switchboard. Mrs. McEldowney acted quickly to contact emergency personnel to assist the caller.

Describing the caller only as “hysterical,” the women at the switchboard were concerned that the caller was about to be harmed.

“We thought [the one breaking in] was a person. Come to find out, it was a dog! She was hysterical because the dog was coming in her fence,” said Ginger Bishop, 27th Fighter Wing switchboard project manager, laughing as she recalled the incident.

Calls that have a humorous twist certainly keep things lively, but whatever the need, base operators work to make sure callers get the requested assistance.

It’s often difficult to “reach out and touch someone” through a telephone line, especially if they are deployed to the other side of the world, but base operators facilitate linking Airmen and their families through phone calls. These are special moments for both switchboard workers and callers.

As tears threatened to spill, Mrs. Bishop said her favorite part of the job is the morale calls placed on behalf of stateside spouses.

“My heart goes out to them, because my husband was in Korea twice. I’ve been there [left alone stateside], and I know what it’s like,” said Mrs. Bishop whose husband was active duty for 21 years.

Cannon spouses are allowed to make two 15 minute calls a week. While that’s not a long time for an in-depth conversation, Mrs. Bishop thinks it’s great that families have this benefit. “During Vietnam and other war times, they weren’t allowed to make phone calls and they couldn’t talk to their loved ones.”

A base switchboard operator’s job consists mostly of giving phone number assistance, but there are always the more unusual calls, such as in one situation where expectant parents were separated from each other by continents.

“[The father] was overseas and she was in labor,” said Mrs. Bishop. “[Working with the family support center], we were able to do the Web cam and help him see the baby being born.”

What is the most difficult part of their job? “Telling people, ‘No.’” She said many times people will want a call placed, but must be told no if it is not government business. “That’s part of our job — to ask, ‘Is the call government official?’”



Olga Rodriguez, a 27th Fighter Wing base operator, writes a ticket to place a phone call. Tickets list items such as where the call is placed from, who it is placed to and the reason for the call. Base operators answer more than 1,500 calls daily.

Mrs. Bishop said some callers will hang up and call right back, with an answer of “yes, this is government official.” When people choose not to tell the truth to this question, Mrs. Bishop said it constitutes fraud.

Since Cannon switchboard operators spend most of their time behind locked doors, base personnel may not know much about the hidden faces providing the necessary service of helping them reach their party.

“75 percent of your base operators are disabled,” Mrs. Bishop said. “I teach and train them. When they come to me, most of them haven’t worked in a while, or they have worked in a position where the disabled feel uncomfortable.”

Working 24 hours a day, 365 days a year requires nine full-time operators who act as Air Force military locators, place Hearts Apart calls, help with government official calls and conference calls, answering more than 1,500 calls daily.



ILLUSTRATION BY JANET TAYLOR-BIRKEY

When calling 9-1-1

When calling 9-1-1 while on base, use a land line whenever possible. Using a cell phone routes the 9-1-1 call to Clovis emergency services. This uses valuable minutes needed to save a life.



FEATURE

Wedding bells ring for couples at base chapel

By Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

It's still the season for brides and bells, and in addition to the afternoon rendition of the Star Spangled Banner wafting across the grounds at Cannon, one may occasionally hear strains of Mendelssohn's Wedding March.

Having a wedding at Cannon can be a meaningful experience for those affiliated with the military, but prospective brides and grooms should not expect a quick process.

"The chapel is not like a Justice of the Peace where you can expect to get married right away," said Chap. (Lt. Col.) Robert Gallagher, 27 Fighter Wing Chapel.

Any military ID card holder can request use of the building for a wedding, but those wanting a base chaplain to officiate at the ceremony must abide by the requirements of that chaplain's

denomination, he said.

Although non-base clergy may perform the wedding ceremony in the base chapel, they must present credentials from a recognized religious body.

The base chaplaincy can still have a tie to a marriage, even if they do not perform the ceremony, or if it takes place elsewhere.

"We actually prepare quite a few people for marriage who do not plan to have the ceremony at Cannon, [because] often military people prefer to have the ceremony at a location closer to home or family," said Chaplain Gallagher.

Other requirements for an on-site wedding typically include a two to six-month notice and pre-marital counseling, with a psychological inventory to determine the couple's state of readiness to get married.

Emily Campbell and Ivan Godwin were married in the base chapel on May 27 in a cer-

emony officiated by her father, Chap. (Maj.) Mark Campbell, former 27th Fighter Wing chaplain and assisted by the groom's father, Chief Master Sgt. Ivan Godwin, Sr., Cannon's fire chief.

Mrs. Godwin (Emily) said they chose to say their "I-do's" amid eight attendants, two flower girls and a string musical section at Cannon for several reasons.

Their local church has a policy that does not allow weddings to take place on a holiday weekend (Memorial Day). In addition, they liked the traditional look the chapel offered, complete with a center aisle.

The third reason may be the most meaningful to the newlyweds. "I thought it would be nice to have a wedding in a place where [my father] had done pastoral work," Mrs. Godwin said.

While the chapel does have rules to follow, she said the



PHOTO COURTESY DONITA PRIVETT

Emily Campbell and Ivan Godwin Jr. exchange wedding vows officiated by her father, Major Mark Campbell, former 27th Fighter Wing chaplain, and the groom's father, Chief Master Sgt. Ivan Godwin, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron, during ceremonies May 27. The chapel offers many choices of services and is available for anyone who has a military ID card.

staff was flexible in helping with the rehearsal and wedding.

There were "definitely not" any drawbacks to having their

wedding at the base chapel, Mrs. Godwin said, and she would "totally recommend" others to consider having their wedding there as well.

Despite stormy start 'Katrina baby' continues to thrive

By Susan Griggs
81st Training Wing Public Affairs

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. – No, her name is not Katrina.

Sage Madison Post's dramatic birth at Keesler Medical Center during a cesarean section by flashlight as Hurricane Katrina stormed ashore was an inspirational story in the tumultuous days after the storm.

However, without the family's consent, federal privacy regulations kept many details of the birth from being released.

A handwritten note and photos slipped under the door of the 81st Training Wing's public affairs office almost 10 months later filled in the blanks of the family's story.

"I started carrying around a copy of Sage's birth certificate because people acted like they didn't believe me when I told them about her delivery during

Katrina," said Stephenie Post, the wife of Senior Airman Aaron Post.

The Posts and their then-2-year-old daughter, Austin, joined other expectant parents who were sheltered at the Keesler Medical Center. Mrs. Post was scheduled for a cesarean section Aug. 30, the day after the hurricane pounded Keesler.

"We watched the trees in the wind through little windows as the storm blew in," she said.

When the storm surge flooded the medical center's basement, the generators quit working and left the facility without power.

Mrs. Post carried Austin upstairs while her husband carried a portable crib. Mrs. Post tripped and her water broke, triggering labor.

When Mrs. Post opted for the C-section, a team of about 50 medics and support people prepared the makeshift delivery

room in the intensive care unit, performed the surgery and ensured the health and safety of the mother and child.

The ICU had windows where the afternoon sun provided some illumination.

"I wasn't really scared about the delivery. I was confident that these people knew what they were doing," Mrs. Post said, "but I was in a lot of pain, and I was ready for it to be over with."

"Considering what we were going through, the medical team was great," Mrs. Post said. "One lady was talking to me, putting me at ease and telling me everything that was going on."

The 8-pound, 9-ounce baby girl arrived at 3:30 p.m. Aug. 29. Not long after the storm had passed, the Posts and other medical patients were transported via a C-130 Hercules to Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, for follow-up care.



PHOTO BY KEMBERLY GROUE

Life is getting back to normal for Senior Airman Aaron and Stephenie Post, here with 3-year-old Austin and 10-month-old Sage Madison, who was born the day after Hurricane Katrina roared through Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.



COMMUNITY EVENTS



PHOTO BY GREG ALLEN

Pet of the week

This Weimaraner is classic grey in color, plays well with children, is housebroken and walks on a leash. But he doesn't like cats. For information on adopting him, call the Family Support Center at 784-4228.

■ Continued from page 1

and differences and discover the heart of commitment. The workshop includes lunch and space available child care will be provided by the Child Development Center.

Contact unit first sergeants to register and then call the chapel at 784-2507.

Right Start

The next Right Start is 7:30 a.m. to noon Wednesday at The Landing . All Airmen who just arrived to Cannon, except those at the First Term Airman's Center, need to attend.

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

Airman's Attic

The Airman's Attic is open 11 a.m to 3:30 p.m. July 14 and 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. July 18. It's located in the same building as the post office and the community center. Staff sergeants and below and their family members can take up to 20 items per week for personal use.

Hearts Apart

Spouses and family members of deployed or remote personnel are invited to the Hearts Apart Pizza and Pool Party from noon to 2 p.m. July 15 at the Cannon swimming pool .

Call 784-4228 to register or for more information.

Key Spouse training

The next Key Spouse training is 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., July 17 at the Family Support Center Annex.

People who are interested in becoming a Key Spouse can contact their squadron first sergeants.

For more information about the program, call 784-4228.

WorkKeys assessment

A free WorkKeys skills assessment is 9 a.m. to noon at the Family Support Annex July 21. The assessment certificate is recognized by 18 states and gives employers a quantitative look at an employees' skill level.

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



FEATURE

Air Force aids Army with medevac missions

By Master Sgt. Orville F. Desjarlais Jr.
455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Last year, the Army asked the Air Force for help with its medevac operation. Called an in-lieu-of mission, the Air Force agreed to assist and tasked Master Sgt. Scott Curran to form the first team of Air Force enlisted aerospace evacuation technicians, or flight medics, as they like to call themselves.

Sergeant Curran, a senior flight medic at the Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks City Base, Texas, knew the type of Airmen he needed on his team: ones with good flying skills, medics who specialized in treating trauma and people who could work in unique environments. Sergeant Curran found those traits in Tech. Sgts. Mark De Corte and Shawn Bendixson, deployed from Minot Air Force Base, N.D., and Kirtland AFB, N.M.

“I knew I could trust them to do something that has never been done before by the Air Force,” Sergeant Curran said. “I didn’t need someone who always needs to be told what to do.”

The major difference between a medical evacuation, or medevac, and an aeromedical evacuation, or aerovac, is that medevac refers to moving patients from the point of injury, usually from the battlefield, to a nearby medical facility. The Army uses the UH-60Q, a specialized helicopter built on the Black Hawk’s heritage. An aerovac refers to transporting patients via a fixed-wing aircraft, usually a C-130 Hercules or C-17 Globemaster III, from a medical facility to a higher level of care.

The flight medics’ first order of business was to get qualified to fly in a helicopter, which meant attending helicopter survival school in January. When they finished in February, they deployed here.

A medevac crew consists of two pilots, two gunners and a flight medic. Two of the flight medics are based here, while one is always deployed to a forward-operating location like Qalat or Tarin Kowt to stay close to the action. They say when lives are in the balance, time is of the essence.

Because the Air Force normally doesn’t carry out the medevac mission, it doesn’t have a helicopter designed for that purpose. This meant the flight medics had to make do with what they had, the HH-60 Pave Hawk, a helicopter



PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN BRIAN FERGUSON

Tech. Sgt. Mark De Corte is an aerospace evacuation technician with the 33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The tan feet painted on the side of this HH-60 Pavehawk helicopter represent each of the saves the squadron has flown. The 33rd ERQS is the first squadron to have a combat-search-and-rescue mission and a medical evacuation mission.

the Air Force uses for combat search and rescue missions. It, too, is a distant relative of the Army’s Black Hawk.

“Our experience is with fixed-wing assets, like C-130s. Integrating to a rotary asset has been challenging,” Sergeant Curran said. “[Treating patients in a helicopter is] like working in a broom closet as opposed to an auditorium. We’ve had to change the way we do business.”

The flight medics have had to get accustomed to noisy, vibrating helicopters. They adapted their Air Force aeromedical evacuation medical equipment for use in the Pave Hawks. They found ways to secure their equipment, and they ran a cargo tie-down strap along the ceiling so they could grab hold of it to steady themselves when they have to lean over patients while wearing heavy body armor and other clunky equipment.

“The changes may sound rudimentary, but they really helped,”

Sergeant Curran said.

The 33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron, deployed from Kadena Air Base, Japan, was the first squadron to have a combat-search-and-rescue mission and a medevac mission. They placed one HH-60 on alert to handle either task. More often than not, they used the alert aircraft for medevacs.

“This is my sixth deployment to the Middle East and fourth to Kandahar,” said Maj. John Mangan, the 33rd ERQS commander. “We’ve done five times as much work than in all the others combined. If we got 10 rescues in the other deployments, that was good. On this deployment, we’re out every day, every night – sometimes four sorties a day. We escort the Army everywhere. When we fly with an Apache on our wing, let me tell you, that’s pretty nice.”

Every time they successfully pick up a patient, the medevac crew paints a little foot on the side of their aircraft.

Master Sgt. Scott Curran

“[Treating patients in a helicopter is] like working in a broom closet as opposed to an auditorium. We’ve had to change the way we do business.”

— Senior flight medic

During four months, medevac aircrews have painted 135 feet on their aircraft. That equates to 30 percent of all medevac missions in Afghanistan. Not bad, considering the Air Force only has three aircrews on call.

“I have been blessed to be able to come out here and do something that has never been done with a team I was allowed to select,” Sergeant Curran said.



FEATURE

Falcon Air Meet 2006



Cannon's F-16s sit ready to launch next to F-16s from the Turkish air force during the Falcon Air Meet 2006, hosted by Jordan in May.



Master Sgt. Kenneth Eveland, 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, double-checks the installation and security of a munition before the scramble competition at Falcon Air Meet 2006.

Fireballs test abilities in multinational event

Story and photos
By Staff Sgt. Craig Seals
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

More than 150 Cannon Airmen and aircraft from the 522nd Fighter Squadron "Fireballs" traveled to Jordan for three weeks in May to participate in the first-ever Falcon Air Meet 2006, an F-16 competition inspired by Prince Feisal Bin Al Hussein, special assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The prince's vision became a reality when the Fireballs, the Turkish air force, and the Royal Jordanian Air Force competed in Falcon Air Meet 2006. Among the competitors were several observing countries including Bahrain, Italy, Oman, Pakistan, United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, all of which plan to participate in the next Falcon Air Meet.

The event was the first of

its kind in the Middle East with the goal of fostering strong relationships between the air forces of the United States and Middle Eastern countries, ultimately promoting stability in the region. The concept was to have these countries participate in a competition centered on the only multirole fighter jet in the world – Lockheed Martin's F-16 Fighting Falcon.

"The idea was to get all the F-16 users in the region to exercise and hopefully learn from each other and exchange information. The nice thing about making it a competition is that you get the best of the teams together. With the smartest and brightest people working together, they tend to learn from one another. The idea eventually will be to make this more of a coalition exercise," said Prince Feisal.

Lt. Col. Tod "Popeye" Fingal, 522nd Fighter

Squadron commander, served as commander for Cannon Airmen at the air meet. "We had a top notch group of folks on this trip and they kept us on top throughout the competition. It was my privilege to command such an outstanding team," said Colonel Fingal.

Capt. Christopher "Ogre" Hansen, 522nd Fighter Squadron, served as the project officer for the exercise and led a small advance team from Cannon to set up the compound where they would live.

"From our arrival on the compound, we went from a bare-base compound, without electricity, to being able to conduct full exercise/combat operations within two days time due to the Herculean effort of the [advance team] personnel," said Captain Hansen.

Airman 1st Class Bradley Luu, 27th Communications

■ See FALCON AIR MEET, Page 13



SERVICES

Services keeps summer hot with activities

By Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Cannon's Community Centers do not allow anyone in the family to be bored over the summer.

Families can gather at the centers which are located on base, 801 housing in Clovis and the Red Barn in Portales, to enhance family time, said Kristy Taylor, 27th Services Squadron activities center assistant.

A big emphasis is put on summer programs which allow children wanting to participate in activities during the summer to find something to fit almost any interest.

From the Kids in the Kitchen — a class to teach children how to prepare simple snacks when they're home alone — to video and outdoor games, the centers offer a variety of entertaining and educational activities.

This year the activity centers are cooperating with the youth center to target "tweens," said Mrs. Taylor, because that is an age that takes more skill to interact with. Activities such as scrapbooking and Playstation and X-box tournaments reach the age group who may require more of a challenge to keep them occupied in their free time.

The activity centers have much to offer children, but do not cater to children only. They also have gym equipment for adults so they don't have to drive to the base for a workout.

Children who enjoy singing and acting may want to audition for a part in Little Red Riding Hood, Mrs. Taylor said auditions begin at 10 a.m. July 17 at the youth center at Cannon.

Families are encouraged to read the monthly "On the Horizon" magazine, published by the 27th Services Squadron marketing office to be aware of all activities at the Community Centers.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS THOMAS TROWER

Summer library programs keep Cannon's children entertained. For information on programs available at the base Community Center, 801 housing in Clovis and the Red Barn in Portales, call 754-6381, 784-7464 or 356-2648.



What's happening?



Today

Summer Reading Program at Cannon Library
Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Patty Melt \$3 Members First
Yu-Gi-Oh Challenge Plus – 4 p.m. at the Clovis CC*

Duck Crepes – 5 to 9 p.m. at The Landing
X-Box Challenge – 6 p.m. at The Landing

Saturday

Castel-land noon with the youth center
Hillbilly Massacre – 5:30 p.m. at The Landing

Sunday

Ladd and Lassie Tournament 1 p.m. at WWGC*
Dart League – 6:30 p.m. at The End Zone

Monday

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Patty Melt \$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 Patty Melt \$3 Members First
Senior Golf League – 9 a.m. at WWGC

Wednesday

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Patty Melt \$3 Members First
Chicken or Steak Fajitas – 5 p.m. at The Landing

Thursday

Mongolian Buffet – 5 to 8 p.m. at The Landing
XBox Challenge – 5 to 7 p.m. at the Portales CC
Mexican Buffet – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The

Landing

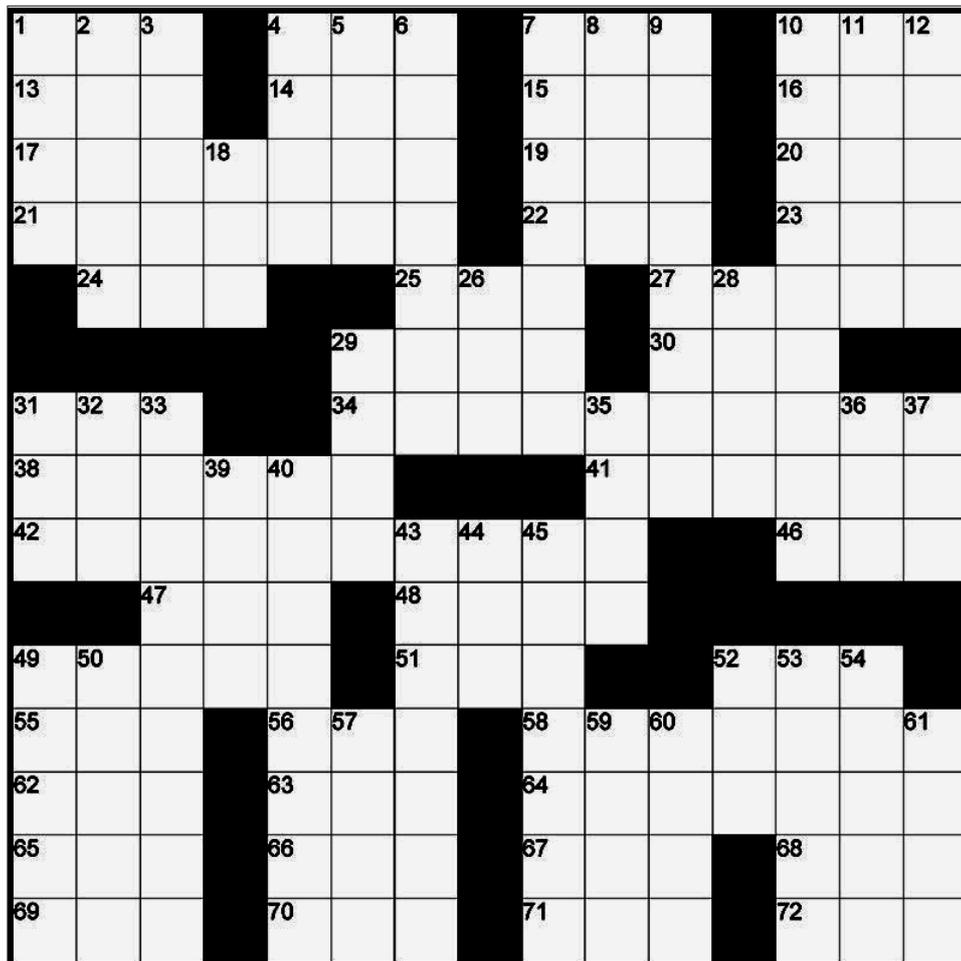
Mongolian Buffet – 5 to 8 p.m. at The Landing
XBox Challenge – 5 to 7 p.m. at the Portales CC
Community Theater – 6:30 p.m. at the Central CC



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



THE LIGHTER SIDE



Bombs Away

By Capt. Tony Wickman

71 Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

ACROSS

- 1. Baseball stat
- 4. Reindeer relative
- 7. USAF bomb depot
- 10. Angry
- 13. Charged particle
- 14. US airline, in brief
- 15. Everything
- 16. Type of MK-82, in short
- 17. M-29
- 19. Computer giggle
- 20. Gun lobby
- 21. Two continents combined
- 22. Confederate general
- 23. Carve
- 24. Embroider
- 25. Signal
- 27. Browses
- 29. Hail a ship
- 30. Alcoholic beverage
- 31. Eur. country
- 34. AIM-9
- 38. TV type
- 41. Wildcat
- 42. Commiserate
- 46. Dir. 67°30 from due north

- 47. Gun the motor
- 48. Pilots with 5+ kills
- 49. Domicile
- 51. Actor Stephen
- 52. Grad. degree
- 55. Staff
- 56. Music genre
- 58. Ropes
- 62. USAF bomb org.
- 63. Simpson trial judge
- 64. Stone shaft
- 65. Formerly
- 66. Co. head
- 67. X, to Julius Caesar
- 68. Oahu memento
- 69. Compute
- 70. Barbie's beau
- 71. Sault __ Marie
- 72. Tree product

DOWN

- 1. Secretary of State
- 2. Round mass
- 3. Acclimate
- 4. Tolkien tree shepherds
- 5. Angolan currency
- 6. Pakistan city
- 7. AGM-62
- 8. North American plum tree
- 9. Hypersensitive

- 10. Brutalize
- 11. Broadcasted
- 12. Pulls
- 18. Cut up
- 26. Uniform wear term, in brief
- 28. 31 ACROSS article
- 29. ASM-135
- 31. GBU-31/32 JDAM guidance control unit
- 32. Tarzan, once
- 33. Forced passage
- 35. Troubles
- 36. Long time
- 37. A different st.
- 39. Raced
- 40. AGM-65
- 43. AGM-84
- 44. Froze matter
- 45. Extremists
- 49. Stadium
- 50. Jeered
- 52. USAF Web site ending
- 53. Empties a canoe
- 54. On the water
- 57. Fits to _ _ _
- 59. Help a criminal
- 60. Actress Russo
- 61. Ignore



Unit Spotlights



Col. Scott West, 27th Fighter Wing commander, congratulations Cannon Diamond Sharp Award Winners



**Senior Airman John Ulyak,
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron**
Sponsored by*: Ms. Kim Wilson,
Cannon Federal Credit Union



**Airman 1st Class Tabitha Jones,
27th Comptroller Squadron**
Sponsored by: Sharon Dorman,
Army and Air Force Exchange Service



**Airman 1st Class Richard Mahaney,
27th Mission Support Squadron**
Sponsored by: Master Sgts. Mike Dols & Colleen Ketchuck,
Cannon 1st Sergeants Association

PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS HEATHER SALAZAR

*SPONSORS DONATE \$50 IN CASH OR GIFT CERTIFICATES TO EACH WINNER. CANNON FEDERAL CREDIT UNION CONTRIBUTES TO A CELEBRATION BREAKFAST AS WELL. NO FEDERAL ENDORSEMENT OF SPONSOR INTENDED.

CANNON AIR FORCE BASE CHAPEL

Summer Schedule

CATHOLIC

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is 8:30 a.m. Sunday mornings.

Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Mass 12:05 p.m. M,W,F

PROTESTANT

Sunday Services

Traditional Service 8 a.m.

Contemporary Service 11 a.m.

Fellowship Noon

Inspirational 12:30 p.m.

For more information about other programs or other faith groups, call the chapel office, call 784-2507.

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.

X-Men: The Last Stand

Today and Saturday at 7 p.m.

Description: The continuing adventures of the superpowered group, the X-Men attempt to foster good will for mutants like themselves. They find themselves in a world where some are born with extraordinary powers and many ordinary humans fear them for it.

PG-13 – intense sequences of action violence, some sexual content and language

Running time: 104 min..

The DaVinci Code

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

Description: The murder of a curator at the Louvre reveals a sinister plot to uncover a secret protected since the days of Christ.

PG-13 – disturbing images, violence, some nudity, brief drug reference and sexual content

Running time: 148 min..

Over the Hedge

Saturday at 1 p.m. and Sunday at 4 p.m.

Description: Spring has sprung and Vern and his woodland friends awaken from their long winter's nap to discover that a tall, green "thing" has mysteriously cropped up right in the middle of their home.

PG – rude humor and mild comic action

Running time –96 min..



SPORTS SHORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Book over to bowling

Children can 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.

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

Best of Four Night – From 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday. Bowl four games for \$10 and throw your lowest game out to win a prize. Prizes for both men and women.

Cosmic Bowling – From 9 p.m. to midnight – \$2.50 per game.

Moonlight and Music – From 6 p.m. to midnight July 15. Come out and bowl to music – \$1.75 per game.

Cosmic Family Fun Night – From 6 p.m. to midnight July 22. Enjoy music, flashing lights, glow in the dark lanes, pins and bowling balls. Cost will be \$2 per game for this special night.

Whispering Winds Golf Course

Monday Night Scrambles – Two person team, players may select their own partners. Handicaps will be used. Sign up by 3 p.m. on Monday.

Tee Time Policy – Tee times will only

be given to groups of three, four or five on weekend or holidays. Groups of five must have at least one electric cart per group. Single or groups of two come out and try joining another group to make a three-, four- or five-some. If the course is not crowded the counter attendant or course marshal may allow smaller groups to play.

Senior Days – Senior golfers 50 years and older receive \$2 off daily green fees and 50 percent off electric carts Monday through Friday.

Retiree Wednesdays – Golfers with a retired military ID card will receive \$2 off daily green fees and 50 percent off electric carts on Wednesdays.

Member First Discounts – 10 percent discount off annual, quarterly and monthly greens fees. Half off club rentals. \$2 off cart rental for 18 holes.

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.