

Electrical outage scheduled

An electrical outage is planned for Sept. 13, 8 a.m.-noon.

The outage affects the FamCamp and Temporary Living Facilities.

For questions call Joseph Lujan at 846-6703.

Settlement of estate

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of Airman 1st Class William B. Wilson IV, assigned to 898th Munitions Squadron, Kirtland AFB, should contact the Summary Court Officer, Maj. Rene Morejon at 846-4281 or cell 975-3666.

Hispanic Heritage Month breakfast scheduled

An Hispanic Heritage Month breakfast is Sept. 15, 7-9 a.m., at the Mountain View Club.

This year's guest speaker is Loretta A. Armenta, President and CEO of the Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce.

The price is \$9 a person. Club members receive a \$2 discount.

The breakfast buffet menu includes scrambled eggs, chorizo and egg, sausage and bacon, papas rancheras (potatoes with green peppers, tomatoes and onions), flour tortillas, yogurt, bran muffin, cereal with skim milk, orange juice, coffee or tea.

Call 1st Lt. Jose Mendez at 846-4637.

Retreat ceremony scheduled

A retreat Sept. 15 at 4 p.m. on Hardin Field celebrates the 57th anniversary of the Air Force.

The retreat with remarks by Col. William Cleckner, parade field presiding commander, includes formations of the 377th Maintenance Group, 377th Medical Group and 377th Mission Support Group. The group commanders will be on the field along with 377th Air Base Wing Command chief master sergeant as guidon bearer.

TEAM KIRTLAND is invited to observe the ceremony noting the Air Force's founding.



Photo by Dennis L. Carlson

Get ready to vote

Master Sgt. Bruce Bernard of the 58th Special Operations Wing, right, helps Master Sgt. Gary Kaczmarek, also of the 58th SOW with his voter registration. Representatives on Kirtland AFB for the Federal Voting Assistance Program are ready to help you make your vote count. If you need assistance with absentee ballots or assistance determining your state of residence for voting purposes, contact your unit voting representative or call 853-2223.

Unit voting representatives

342nd Training Squadron, Detachment 1
Staff Sgt. Clint Mattoon

373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 16
Master Sgt. Edward Johnson

377th Aerospace Medical Squadron
1st Lt. Anthony Crane

377th Communications Division
Master Sgt. Billie Crider

377th Comptroller Squadron
Staff Sgt. Johana Quintana

377th Contracting Squadron
Master Sgt. Elizabeth Wills

377th Logistics Readiness Squadron
1st Lt. Willie Cox

377th Maintenance Group
Genie Smith

377th Medical Group, Dental, Medical Support
1st Lt. Anthony Crane

377th Mission Support Group, including wing staff
Master Sgt. Billy Crider

377th Security Forces Squadron
Master Sgt. Jeffery Jordan

377th Services Squadron
2nd Lt. Ryan Thompson

512th Rescue Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Chris Seber

550th Special Operations Squadron
Capt. Steven Kline

551st Special Operations Squadron
Staff Sgt. Dave Couch

58th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
1st Lt. Stephen Fischer

58th Maintenance Squadron
Master Sgt. Samuel Hollivay

58th Medical Operations Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Robert Weber

58th Special Operations Wing, and wing staff
Master Sgt. Bruce Bernard

58th Training Squadron
1st Lt. Heather Thompson

704th Medical Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Bradley Halsey

705th Exercise Control Squadron
Capt. Eric Trias

898th Munitions Squadron
Genie Smith

Air Force Inspection Agency
Master Sgt. Carrie Farrin

Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center
Capt. Dan McCann; Capt. Mike Cook; Capt. Samuel Palmer

Air Force Research Laboratory
Directed Energy Directorate,
1st Lt. Edward Ferguson;
Space Vehicles Directorate,
Capt. Brian McFarland

Air Force ROTC, Detachment 510
Tech. Sgt. Berland Roberts

Air Force Safety Center
Master Sgt. Thomas Micke

Defense Threat Reduction Agency
Senior Master Sgt. Michele Jackson

Kirtland NCO Academy
Master Sgt. Paul Jenkins

377th Medical Operations Squadron
Capt. Gabe Holguin

Nuclear Weapons Counter-Proliferation Agency
Master Sgt. John Romero

Space and Missile Systems Center, Detachment 12
1st Lt. Adam Schmidt



Photos by Dennis L. Carlson



Oldies but goodies at the State Fair Parade

ABOVE: Retired Col. Lowell Little shows the engine of a World War II vintage Willys Jeep to Col. William Cleckner, 377th Air Base Wing vice commander, prior to the annual New Mexico State Fair parade Saturday.

LEFT: Colonel Little and Colonel Cleckner lead Kirtland AFB Fire Department ladder truck during the New Mexico State Fair parade Saturday morning.

Facts about West Nile Virus in New Mexico, how people can protect themselves

TECH. SGT. RODERICK O. JOHNSON
377th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

West Nile Virus is a potentially serious illness. Experts believe WNV is established as a seasonal epidemic in North America that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall.

The U.S. Public Health Services' Centers for Disease Control has been monitoring WNV in the United States for several years. The disease's progression across the United States has been evident in New Mexico with the presence of the mosquito that carries the virus as well as both animal and human illnesses. However, cases reported this year are much lower than last year.

Mosquitoes, a natural WNV host, become infected from biting infected birds. In turn, the mosquitoes can infect humans and animals.

Most people (80 percent) who are infected with this mosquito-borne virus do not become ill or have very mild symptoms.

For persons who do become ill, the time between the mosquito bite and the onset of symptoms, known as the incubation period, ranges from 3-14 days. Two clinically different types of disease occur in humans.

Symptoms of the viral fever syndrome include fever, headache and malaise. These symptoms persist for about 2-7 days and affect approximately one in five infected people.

In rare cases, the virus can cause a more serious brain infection such as aseptic meningitis or encephalitis, affecting approximately 1 in 150 in-

fectured individuals. These infections begin with a sudden onset of high fever and a headache, and then may progress to stiff neck, disorientation, tremors, and coma.

Severe infections can result in permanent brain damage or death. Most deaths occur in persons over 50 years of age.

There is no specific treatment for WNV infection. In cases with mild symptoms, people experience symptoms such as fever and aches that pass on their own. In more severe cases, people may need supportive treatment from a medical facility.

For most, risk is low. Very few people who are bitten by mosquitoes develop any symptoms of the disease and relatively few mosquitoes actually carry WNV.

The Albuquerque Bio-Disease Management Division collaborates with other agencies such as the CDC, the University of New Mexico, the New Mexico Department of Health and the New Mexico Scientific Laboratory Division to conduct surveillance for WNV in Bernalillo County in an effort to protect humans, horses and to a lesser degree, other animals from this disease.

Surveillance traps are stationed in selected sites in the North and South Valley where mosquito populations are highest. Surveillance traps are also located at selected sites on Kirtland AFB by the 377th Aerospace Medicine Squadron's Public Health Flight. Mosquito samples are collected weekly from May-September. Mosquitoes are identified and processed by staff for analysis.

Prevention is key. Being aware of how to avoid

exposure to mosquitoes will reduce the disease in the population. These prevention methods are also helpful in protecting those who travel outside the state.

- Wear long sleeve shirts, long pants and socks sprayed with repellent while outdoors.

- Stay indoors at dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active.

- Spray insect repellent containing 33 percent DEET on exposed skin and clothing when you go outdoors. Adults and children more than two months of age can use preparations containing up to 33 percent DEET. Don't put repellent on children's hands because it may get in their mouth or eyes.

- Keep mosquitoes outside by fixing or installing window and door screens.

- Drain standing water. A small amount of standing water can be enough for a mosquito to lay her eggs. Look around every week for possible mosquito breeding places.

- Empty water from buckets, cans, pool covers, flowerpots and other items. Throw away or cover up stored tires and other items that aren't being used. Clean pet water bowls daily. Check if rain gutters are clogged. If you store water outside or have a well, make sure it's covered up. Encourage your neighbors to do the same.

- If you find a dead bird, don't handle it with your bare hands. Reporting dead birds is not necessary and - the dead bird can be removed using a shovel or your gloved hands.

If you have questions, you can contact Public Health at 846-3449 or the Albuquerque Bio-Disease Management Department at 873-6613 ext. 223. You can also go to www.cabq.gov, click on A-Z site, then click on Environmental Health Department to get more information about West Nile Virus.

Mosquitoes, a natural West Nile Virus host, become infected from biting infected birds. In turn, the mosquitoes can infect humans and animals.