

Commander's Call Topics



June 4, 2015

"Success depends upon previous preparation,
and without such preparation
there is sure to be failure."

Confucius
Chinese philosopher
(551-479 BC)

[Blue Star Museums](#)

is a collaboration
among over 2,000 museums
offering free admission to service
members and their families
all summer.

June Triples the Joys of Summer Fun

June is the trifecta of outdoor fun, safety and education. Presidential Proclamations for June embrace "Great Outdoors Month," "National Safety Month" and "National Oceans Month." It's like we've been waiting for just this opportunity.

"With the winter we've had..." is often the lead-in for just about everyone talking about their summer plans. Almost always these plans include lots of time outdoors. Luckily, pursuing the great outdoors in one's own backyard or on the wild frontier just became easier and less expensive. Nearly 200 parks and recreational sites throughout the country are hosting free events on the 8th annual National Get Outdoors Day, Saturday, June 13, 2015, and they are [listed by state](#) on a single website. Encouraging healthy, active outdoor fun, federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and the recreation industry have teamed up to offer opportunities for American families to experience traditional and nontraditional types of outdoor activities (finally!).

"What I live for" is the theme of this year's National Safety Month and it is meant to encourage everyone to explore his or her passions – safely. Sponsored by the [National Safety Council](#), (NSC) the website offers a variety of awareness and training opportunities, resources and injury prevention programs. On the flip side of their theme, NSC promotes the idea that Americans often worry about the wrong thing. To demonstrate this, there is a downloadable infographic titled "What are your odds of dying?" It pairs a variety of avoidable accidents with random occurrences and compares the possibility of death in each instance. For example, one's odds of dying as a result of a fall (1 in 144) is compared with one's chances of dying in a thunderstorm (1 in 6,780). This and five other paired examples illustrate the need to be aware of one's safety in a variety of everyday situations and to take the safest approach to everyday tasks.

"30 Days of Ocean" is the central idea behind the [National Ocean Service's month-long celebration](#) supporting coastal communities, promoting a robust economy and protecting coastal and marine ecosystems. There are nautical charts, mobile sites and apps and infographics, among other learning opportunities, to help the budding scientist of any age better understand and enjoy the world ocean.

June's appetite for fun, safety and education seems limitless. One might say that it's as big as all outdoors!

► TRENDING...

"Madam Secretary, Gen. Welsh, you know you have my commitment and promise that I guarantee you that I will do the best that I can," [Gen. Ellen M. Pawlikowski said during her promotion ceremony](#). "I will never, ever quit and I will do the right thing even when it's hard, because that's who I am."

► RESOURCES

Website access to the following resources can be gained by clicking on the name.

[AF.mil](http://www.af.mil)

[Airman magazine](#)

[Military OneSource/HomeFront](#)

[Air Force Personnel Center](#)

[Air Reserve Personnel Center](#)

[Department of Defense News](#)

[Department of Veterans Affairs](#)

[TRICARE](#)

[U.S. Government Website](#)

[Air Force Association Scholarships](#)

[Air Force Safety Center](#)

[Civil Service Employment Opportunities](#)

[NAF Employment Opportunities](#)

[Air Force Bands/Outreach](#)

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

June 4, 1997 – The Air Force reached a milestone in advanced missile propulsion with the successful ground testing of the Variable Flow Ducted Rocket (VFDR) at Atlantic Research Corp. in Gainesville, Virginia. A solid-fuel, ducted rocket engine, the VFDR increased the capabilities of conventional rockets by burning fuel-rich rocket-exhaust gases with air, thereby doubling or tripling the total energy produced by the engine.

June 5, 1981 – The KC-10 Extender completed qualification testing at Edwards Air Force Base, California.

June 6, 1975 – The last 16 B-52s at U-Tapao Air Base, Thailand, began their redeployment to the U.S.

June 6, 1944 – American and Allied aircraft flew approximately 15,000 interdiction, close air support, and airlift sorties in support of the D-Day invasion.

June 7, 1966 – The first successful launch of an Orbiting Geophysical Laboratory took place when OGO III went into orbit to perform 21 experiments, a record number for a U.S. scientific spacecraft.

June 8, 1911 – The Connecticut State Air Regulation passed and became the first state air law.

June 9, 1967 – The first O-2A Forward Air Controller aircraft arrived in Vietnam.

► CURRENT ISSUES

[SecAF to cadets: "Lead Us Into The Future"](#)

In a graduation address to over 800 newly minted second lieutenants, [Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James](#) told the Class of 2015 that they are entering the profession at a time of unprecedented change and challenges.

► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[DOD helps protect beneficiaries from deceptive pharmacy practices](#)

The Defense Health Agency is taking decisive action against aggressive and deceptive marketing by some compounding pharmacies that have targeted TRICARE beneficiaries.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[AF seeks scholarship, fellowship applicants for 2016 programs](#)

Unique leadership developmental opportunities await those who are eligible for the Olmstead Scholar, White House Fellows and Mansfield Fellowship Exchange programs.

► ENVIRONMENT, SPACE, TECHNOLOGY

[Tech Report: GPS](#)

Military and civilian users worldwide benefit from a constellation of about 30 satellites that triangulate a position within a few feet.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit <http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>

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