

Vance At A Glance

May 6, 2025

“The chains of habit are too weak to be felt until they are too strong to be broken.” – Samuel Johnson

This week in pilot training – The Ballers’ & Dragons’ T-6s flew 394 sorties; the Shooters’ T-38s flew 173 sorties; and the Peugeot’s T-1s flew 62 sorties, for a total of 629 training sorties this past week. Every member of Team Vance has contributed to delivering 221 world-class pilots so far, this fiscal year. Vance Proud!

National Police Week, May 11-17 -- The 2025 National Police Week at Vance is scheduled from Sunday, May 11 through Saturday, May 17.

Events planned for the week include:

Monday, May 12 -- Opening ceremony at 9 a.m., Base Auditorium.

Tuesday, May 13 -- Softball tournament on base softball fields.

Wednesday, May 14 – Shooting competition at the Enid Police Department range.

Thursday, May 15 -- Golf tournament at Pheasant Run & Security Forces Open House to include a K-9 demo, weapons display, obstacle course and more.

Remove vehicles from training range, May 10-11 – A Motorcycle Safety Foundation course is scheduled May 10-11 on the MSF training range/parking lot north of the Chapel Community Activity Center. All vehicles should be removed from the lot by the close of business the Thursday before. The MSF training range/parking lot will be coned off and closed the Friday morning before training weekends. Vehicles that remain will be towed at owner’s expense. For more information, contact Wing Safety, 580-213-7793.

Vance Toastmasters meeting, May 7 – Would you like to improve your public speaking skills? Come to the next Toastmasters meeting scheduled from 11 a.m. until noon, Wednesday, May 7, in the Vance Fitness Center conference room. Toastmasters International is a nonprofit organization that aims to improve members’ public speaking and leadership skills through planned speeches, impromptu tabletop discussions and other exercises. Membership also allows access to online self-paced training and certifications. For more information, contact Senior Airman Alyssa Adasa, alyssakaye.s.adasa.mil@health.mil.

Law Day, May 14 – The Vance Legal Office has scheduled a “Law Day” Wednesday, May 14. They will be offering 36 half-hour legal assistance appointments with an attorney from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Paralegals will offer power-of-attorney services during those same hours. For more information and to schedule an appointment for “Law Day,” call 580-213-7404.

The Murph Challenge, May 22 – The Vance Fitness Center is teaming with the 71st Security Forces Squadron to host The Murph Challenge, May 22. The Murph Challenge is a CrossFit workout named after fallen Navy SEAL Lt. Michael P. Murphy, consisting of a 1-mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 push-ups, 300 air squats and another 1-mile run. If you can’t participate, consider showing up to cheer on those who can. For more information, call 580-213-6639.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day at Vance, May 9 – To show their appreciation for Vance’s military spouses, several special events are scheduled Friday, May 9, by the 71st Force Support Squadron:

The Crosswinds Club is offering all military spouses a free meal between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

The Falcon’s Nest Bowling Center is offering all military spouses a complimentary game of bowling with shoe rental.

The Arts & Crafts center in Building 305 is offering military spouses a free take-home craft kit and a Military Spouse Appreciation coin.

For more information, contact 71st FSS Marketing, 580-213-6459

Aviation Expo 2025, June 10 – The 2025 Vance Aviation Expo is scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 10, in the Crosswinds Club. Instructor pilots will be on hand to talk about different airframes, missions, locations and lifestyles. All students and their families are invited. Childcare will be provided on location. For more information, contact 1st Lt. Kristen Williams, kristen.williams.3@us.af.mil.

Ballroom dancing – Interested in learning to dance, whether it be the waltz, tango, salsa or the cha-cha-cha? For more information, contact Airman 1st Class Lucie Bednar, lucie.bednar@us.af.mil or 312-918-7221.

Grilling safety tips -- There’s nothing like outdoor grilling. It’s one of the most popular ways to cook food. But a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. They can be very hot, causing burn injuries. For more information, contact the Vance Fire Department, 580-213-7220.

Immunizations Clinic hours changing – The Vance Immunizations Clinic will close for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., from May 5 through May 20. For more information, call 580-213-7711.

Chief Polesky retiring, May 9 – Chief Master Sgt. Benjamin Polesky will retire from active duty during a ceremony scheduled at 3 p.m., Friday, May 9, at the Crosswinds Club.

OST walk/run/ruck -- Vance's Operational Support Team is hosting two physical fitness events designed to build camaraderie and boost morale. The first is a walk/run scheduled Friday, May 9. The second is a walk/ruck scheduled Friday, May 23. Both events will follow a planned route, and OST will provide water jugs for refills. For more information, call 580-213-7968.

STUS change of command, May 16 – Lt. Col. Eric Pounds will relinquish command of the 71st Student Squadron to Lt. Col. Brian Seymour at 2 p.m., Friday, May 16, in Hangar 199.

5th FTS change of command, May 22 – Lt. Col. Christina Hopper will relinquish command of the 5th Flying Training Squadron to Lt. Col. Dustin Ash at 1:05 p.m., Thursday, May 22, in Hangar 199. RSVP not later than May 7 at

<https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=1093902&k=03614B0A72577F>.

Tax tip – Those who receive a cancellation of debt Form 1099-C may be unpleasantly surprised to learn the IRS considers cancelled debt to be income with a few exceptions. Credit card debt cancellation is always considered taxable as income unless you can prove you were bankrupt at the time of the debt forgiveness. Even if this is the case, the Form 1099-C amount is reported, and an additional Form 982 addresses the reduction of tax due to insolvency. Cancellation of debt on a home may be fully taxable, partially taxable, or not taxed at all. A great many variables have to be answered on whether the home was a primary or secondary residence, whether a home sale took place, whether a second mortgage was involved, whether the second mortgage was used to make improvements on the home or not, and the process of figuring what taxes are due involves the home's purchase paperwork, the home's sale paperwork, and what portion of the debt cancellation reflects the second mortgage and whether the second mortgage home improvements should be added to the home's basis. If you have one of these, the retiree activities office recommends you seek help early. For more information, contact Greg Butterfield, 580-213-7859.

Today's chuckle – Guess who I bumped into on the way to get my glasses fixed? Everybody!