



# GREENE COUNTY DAILIES

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## Leaders try out military maneuvers at Wright-Patt

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*Nikki Ferrell/Greene County Dailies*

Beavercreek City Councilman Brian Jarvis trains alongside Tech. Sgt. Jason Grant during Operation Community Warfighter, a 24-hour deployment training simulation.

simulated explosions.

"It's been incredible to really get into the boots of the warfighters and see what they do on a day to day basis to protect our freedom. I had no idea of the kind of physical and mental capacity that is required," said Howard.

"It's about the community," said Perales. "It's understanding what the troops are going through, just a little."

Spacey said that the training also included eating field rations, going through the processing stations that deployed airmen use and learning how to shoot M-16's in simulation, with blanks and with plastic bullets.

FAIRBORN — Fifteen community leaders participated in a 24-hour intense training simulation at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Thursday and Friday, Oct. 22-23.

Greene County participants included Fairborn City Manager Deborah McDonnell, Beavercreek City Council members Brian Jarvis and Phyllis Howard, Greene County Commissioner Rick Perales and Rob Arnold of Coventry Homes in Beavercreek.

"We're always trying to teach people what the Air Force does," said Col. Bradley Spacey, commander of the 88th Air Base Wing at WPAFB.

"Most people think of the Air Force and they don't think of this. They think of airplanes," he added.

This was the first time WPAFB invited civilians for the simulation, but Spacy said he hopes it wouldn't be the last.

"They've done remarkably well," he said. "They seem to be fast learners. They ask good questions."

Spacey added that, though the participants were not aware yet, they would be participating in a staged battle using the combat skills they spent the afternoon learning, and when they slept in the barracks last night, he said, they would be woken up by some