



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Just in time for Saturday Night Fireflies Baseball!

Local non-profit group sets goal to sign 2,500 cards for troops during Columbia Fireflies Baseball Game

Operation Thank You will be featured as the **“Community Organization of the Game”** this **Saturday evening, July 30th (7:05pm)** at Spirit Communications Park when the Columbia Fireflies play the Asheville Tourists.

Just stop by the **two red Operation Thank You tents inside Spirit Communications Park on the concourse behind left field** to write a message of support and encouragement on thank you cards that will be delivered to deployed service members, veterans, wounded warriors, military families, and first responders.

This card-signing event is part of an ongoing effort of Operation Thank You to **collect 100,000 cards each year** to inspire America’s bravest men and women. McEntire Joint National Guard Base Chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel Brian Bohlman and his wife, Shelley, founded the non-profit organization in 2002 and lead a team of dedicated volunteers that help collect signed cards at various events around the Midlands.

Chaplain Bohlman says, “As we close out the month of July, it is important to pause and remember the service and sacrifice of our troops, veterans, wounded warriors, military families, and first responders. Writing a personal message of encouragement on a card only takes a minute, but could encourage a military member for a lifetime, as these cards often become treasured keepsakes for the heroes who receive them.”

While serving at a combat trauma hospital in Afghanistan in 2012, Chaplain Bohlman says he will never forget the wounded warriors who told him that receiving a card was *the best “medicine” they had ever received*. Bohlman hopes that many people will come out to the Fireflies baseball game this Saturday night to help Operation Thank You meet their goal.

Those who can’t make it to the Fireflies ballgame, can still view and order a variety of cards online at OperationThankYou.org to hold a card signing at their workplace, civic club or place of worship. Tax-deductible donations to support the work of Operation Thank You.org can be made online or by calling toll-free 1-866-645-6284.