

## Weather



## News Briefs

### Exchange Closure

The Columbus Air Force Base Exchange is closed Jan. 17 for annual inventory.

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Jan. 20, at the Columbus Club for newly arrived active duty and civilian personnel.

### SUPT Class 15-04 Graduation

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-04 is graduating at Kaye Auditorium, 10 a.m., Jan. 23. The graduation speaker is Gen. Robin Rand, Commander of Air Education and Training Command.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Sandra Marrero/Released

**U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jeffrey Hogan (right), 81st Fighter Squadron commander, receives the guidon from Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, during an assumption of command ceremony Jan. 15, 2015, at Moody Air Force Base, Ga. An assumption of command is a military tradition that represents a formal assumption of a unit's authority and responsibility by a commander.**

## Inside



### Feature 8

The 48th unveils new tail flash is highlighted in this week's feature.

## Air Force reactivates 81st Fighter Squadron

### Sonic Johnson

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training wing commander, published the reactivation order for the 81st Fighter Squadron, 9 a.m., Thursday morning in a formal ceremony at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia.

The mission of the newly activated 81st FS is to graduate on-time, combat ready attack pilots and maintenance professionals

for the Afghan air force. The squadron will grow to 20 A-29 Super Tucano aircraft that will be used to train 30 Afghan pilots and 90 maintainers as part of a requirement from the International Security Assistance Force to conduct training outside of Afghanistan. The need for the A-29 comes as the current Afghan air force Light Air Support aircraft, the Mi-35 attack helicopter, reaches the end of its service life in January 2016.

See 81st FIGHTER SQUADRON, Page 2

## COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (15-13)	-1.44 days	-2.88 days	Feb. 12	48th (15-04)	0.63 days	-1.77 days	Jan. 23	49th (15-DBC)	3.44 days	0.71 days	Jan. 30	T-6	370	897	7,874
41st (15-12)	0.43 days	-1.76 days	Jan. 16	50st (15-04)	-2.08 days	-0.25 days	Jan. 23					T-1	357	306	2,802
The graduation speaker is Gen. Robin Rand, Commander Air Education and Training Command.															
												T-38	312	212	2,634
												IFF	115	93	1,050

## The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.  
I am a Warrior.  
I have answered my nation's call.  
I am an American Airman.  
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.  
I am faithful to a proud heritage.  
A tradition of honor,  
And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman.  
Guardian of freedom and justice,  
My nation's sword and shield,  
Its sentry and avenger.  
I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman.  
Wingman, leader, warrior.  
I will never leave and Airman behind.  
I will never falter,  
And I will not fail.

## 81st FIGHTER SQUADRON

(Continued from page 1)

Underscoring the significance of the new 81st FS mission, audience members included the Honorable Eric Fanning, the Under Secretary of the Air Force and Maj. Gen. Michael Keltz, Air Education And Training Command's 19th Air Force commander.

Immediately following the squadron activation, Nichols passed the squadron guidon to Lt. Col Jeffrey Hogan, making Hogan the 81st FS's newest commander. The Jan. 15 activation date has some historical significance to the unit. The 81st was first activated at Key Field, Meridian Mississippi on Jan. 15, 1942 and again on Jan. 15, 1973 at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.

"This mission is about the future of airpower in Afghanistan," remarked Nichols during the activation ceremony. "More than 12 years of blood, sweat and tears were spent getting us to this day."

## 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 25 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

## Silver Wings

### How to reach us

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### Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday	20 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club	21	22 AETC/CC and Command Chief visit	23 SUPT Class 15-04 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	24/25	Feb. 6: Annual Awards Ceremony Feb. 10: Wing Newcomers Orientation Feb. 13: SUPT Class 15-05 Graduation Feb. 16: President's Day Holiday Feb. 27: Enlisted Promotions Mar. 8: Daylight Savings Time begins Mar. 9-13: Lowndes County Schools Spring Break Mar. 13: SUPT Class 15-06 Graduation Mar. 23-30: UEI Mar. 28-29: Keesler AFB Airshow Mar. 31: Enlisted Promotions Apr. 3: SUPT Class 15-07 Graduation Apr. 5: Easter Sunday Apr. 6-18: 75th Annual Spring Pilgrimage
26	27 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. @ Club	28	29 Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m. @ Chapel Annex  Enlisted Promotions, 3:30 p.m. @ Club	30	31/1	





Courtesy photo  
**Brothers 1st Lt. Sean Rush, right, and Staff Sgt. Brandon Rush are both assigned to the 388th Fighter Wing at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. Sean is a pilot in the 421st Fighter Squadron and Brandon is from the 388th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.**

## BARGAIN LINE

*The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.*

**Transportation**

**For Sale:** 1989 Harley Davidson FXRP, 98,000 miles, \$4,300 or best offer. For more information call 574-8549.

**Pets**

**Free:** One-year-old Guinea Pig with free large cage. For more information call 574-7988.

**Miscellaneous**

**For Sale:** Gateway 15.6 inch laptop computer with high-speed wi-fi, Windows 8.1 , Intel Pentium Processor, 500GB hard drive, DVD SuperMulti

**Homes**

**For Sale:** House for sale, moving must



Cycle safe,  
wear a helmet

### FORMER AIRMAN

(Continued from page 12)

self back into custody while his Air Force discharge paperwork was nearing completion.

“He started losing hope,” Kodiak said. “His demeanor started changing; I guess he felt the screws were tightening.

“Even as restricted as he was (with the custodian), on base or in his dorm room, he liked that a hell of a lot better than jail,” Kodiak said. “When the discharge was complete, the last thing he asked me was to get his story out. ‘If it saves one Airman, it will be worth it,’ he said.”

Eventually he was moved to the Goose Creek Correctional Center, where he resides for the present. Even there, Wyatt said, he sees people who knew Townes-Sweatt.

“Every single day I run into people who were affected by it,” he said. “They were dating someone who knew her, or they were friends, or people she knew in high school... They say they forgive me, but it doesn’t feel right being around them. I try to avoid being around them. I don’t deserve to be around them.”

Wyatt said he heard the safety briefings and seen the videos about the dangers of drinking and driving. He’d even been at an Airman’s Call where the guest speaker was an Airman who’d gotten a second chance after a DUI.

“I thought, ‘I’m never going to be “that guy,”’ he said. “I never thought I’d do it. And then I became that guy.”

If he’d given it any real thought, Wyatt said he knew a DUI could be devastating to his future.

“But hurting someone ... that’s not what you think about,” he said. “You don’t think you’re going to kill someone.”

“Ninety-nine years is the maximum they could give me,” he said Aug. 7, 2014 before his sentencing. “But it’s not the years. That doesn’t matter as much as I killed a young woman. Seeing people so affected, that’s

what matters.

“I brought shame on the military, I brought shame on my parents — and those people (in Townes-Sweatt’s car), they’re still recovering from serious things they’ll have to live with for the rest of their lives. I’m just sorry.”

Wyatt pled guilty to a count of murder in the second degree, one charge of assault in the first degree, and a DUI, condensing some of the assault charges in exchange for the upgrade from manslaughter to murder, and was sentenced to 18 years in prison.

“I hope to get out before I’m 35,” he said. With good behavior, a chance at parole may give him that opportunity, but it’s still a long way off.

“Until then, I take it a day at a time. There will be difficulties finding a job. I’ll be a convicted felon, and I know how that looks on a resume. It will be hard to go back to normal.”

He has three brothers, one in the Air Force, and his family has stood by him.

“I thought I’d be disowned,” he said. “It makes it easier, having people — it gives me hope for the future. I’m not going to be by myself.”

Kodiak, now a first sergeant with the 673d Logistics Readiness Squadron, said the two years he has spent in contact with Wyatt have given him a new outlook on his role as an NCO.

“He’s motivated things that had kind of died out in me,” Kodiak said. “Being more alert, not taking things for granted, and especially to dig a little deeper, to not stop at the second layer; to know your Airmen — and their friends. You maybe can’t stop them from a bad decision, but you can mentor them, encourage them (and) inform them.”

Though he is facing 18 years of incarceration, Wyatt said he feels it’s a life sentence anyway.

“It’s not something that will go away, ever. That seemed like a night that nothing could go wrong. I wasn’t thinking straight. “I don’t blame anyone else.”



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin  
**The 14th Medical Operations Squadron Aerospace Medicine flight is presented the Diamond Sharp Award for the fourth quarter of 2014 by Team BLAZE first sergeants Dec. 19 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Diamond Sharp Award is a way for the first sergeants on base to pick an individual or team and recognize them for outstanding performance.**

## Team BLAZE personnel receive Diamond Sharp Award

**Master Sgt. Noe Torres**

14th Medical Group First Sergeant

The Diamond Sharp Award is a way for the first sergeants on base to pick an individual or team and recognize them for outstanding performance.

Unlike the Wing Awards Program, this is not a lengthy process of 1206s and bullet writing to ensure a candidate meets all three gradable areas, this is simply a room of first sergeants discussing an outstanding Airman

or team that has stood out amongst their peers and is given out once a quarter.

The 2014 third quarter winner was Senior Airman Calvin Blakeney, 14th Security Forces Squadron, who exemplifies what an Airman in the United States Air Force stands for. He is an outstanding Security Forces member, a dedicated Honor Guardsman, and a true wingman. Blakeney was recognized on numerous occasions for the above-and-beyond manner in which he greets those entering the base, most notably by Col. John Nichols,

14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Mr. Mark A. Smith, Air Education and Training Command appointed representative to the Commander. His dedication is second to none earning him the Columbus Air Force Base first sergeant’s “Diamond Sharp Award” for the third quarter.

The 2014 fourth quarter winner was the 14th Medical Operations Squadron Aerospace Medicine flight. The AOP flight conducted a combined 232 hours of Physiology instruction for 241 aviators, conducted 25

hazardous Duty Hypobaric Chamber Flights, and successfully mitigated 11 medical reactions. They also graduated personnel from six SERE courses and amassed 11 college credit hours during off duty time. Somehow this team still found time to volunteer 318 hours to base and community events. Ultimately the AOP flight saved the Air Force \$3 million in retraining costs, by teaching aviators airsickness management techniques helping boost their tolerance levels.



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens  
**Senior Airman Calvin Blakeney, 14th Security Forces Squadron, is presented the Diamond Sharp Award for the third quarter of 2014 by Master Sgt. Jeremy Heideman, 14th SFS First Sergeant, Oct. 8 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Blakeney was recognized on numerous occasions for his above-and-beyond manner in which he greets those entering the base, most notably by Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Mr. Mark A. Smith, Air Education and Training Command appointed representative to the Commander.**

### Commander’s Action Line

# 434-1414

The Commander’s Action Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB a better place. Although the Commander’s Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command.

The Commander’s Action Line phone number is 434-1414. Callers should leave their name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Message may be answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the PA office in the Wing Headquarters building, BLDG. 724, suite 210. Questions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.



### 2015 Tax Center hours of operation

The Columbus AFB Tax Center opens Feb. 4 and trained volunteers will prepare your tax returns through April 8 for free. The Tax Center is located on the first floor of the Personnel Center, building 926, room 105.

**Military members (active or reserve), retirees, and dependents may qualify for tax preparation service if your rank is E-5 or below or your combined family income is less than \$58,000.**

#### The hours of operation are:

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday by appointment only  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday by appointment only

Walk-in hours are from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays for simple 1040 returns.

On-site tax preparation at the enlisted dorms is also tentatively scheduled for Jan. 21-22 from 4-7 p.m.

The scope of our tax preparation is limited. However, starting this year a self-service kiosk will also be available in the tax center for you to prepare and file your own taxes, for free.

**For more information, or to schedule an appointment, please call the Tax Center at 434-7613 (starting Jan. 26).**



# SECAF flies with Columbus AFB pilots

**Airman Daniel Lile**

14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

A 43rd Flying Training Squadron pilot was part of a formation flight at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Dec. 18 that included Secretary of the Air Force, Deborah Lee James.

Maj. William Parrott, 43rd FTS Assistant Flight Commander, flew a T-38 Talon in the flight, which showed the Secretary how Columbus AFB produces its pilots.

“In the flight, we went out and showed the Secretary how we train



U.S. Air Force photo/ Airman Daniel Lile

**Maj. William Parrott, 43rd Flying Training Squadron Assistant Flight Commander, explains air to air maneuvers with a student pilot Jan. 13 at the 49th Fighting Training Squadron on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Parrott, a reservist, contributed to a flight with Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James like he and his entire reserve unit contributes to the Air Force mission every day.**

Texas; Columbus AFB Mississippi; Laughlin AFB Texas; Sheppard AFB Texas; and the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado.

“The reserve component contributes greatly to the training mission here at Columbus,” Parrott said. “We fly numerous student sorties, fill supervisory roles and serve as flight evaluators. We bring a lot of experience to the table. I have been an instructor for over 13 years in the military while some of my active-duty counterparts are on their first assignments as instructors. There is a fairly significant total force integration that goes into training pilots.”

Reserve instructor pilots are usually very senior compared to first assignment instructor pilots, allowing them to play a valuable mentor role.

“Most of the reservists are older so they bring a level of experience that a lot of the younger instructors

don’t have,” Parrott said. “We not only train the student pilots, but we also provide continuity for the active-duty component and serve as mentors for new instructors as well.”

TFI within the 340th has played a large role in training Airmen all around the country, from producing pilots to creating Military Training Instructors.

“I think TFI is such a high priority because it has been so successful,” said Lt. Col. Larry George, 43rd FTS Commander. “Our instructors have the experience, skill and motivation, which allows them to be highly productive for the Air Force. Even though some of our members are no longer full-time, they still want to contribute. They can contribute in a very cost effective and efficient way, which is great for the Air Force overall.”

The number of Airmen contributing to the mission from a reserve



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

**Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James, Maj. William Parrott, 43rd Flying Training Squadron Assistant Flight Commander, and Maj. Jonathan Garner, 49th Fighting Training Squadron Instructor Pilot, pause for a photo before a flight in a T-38 Dec. 18 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The flight was to demonstrate to the Secretary how Columbus AFB trains future fighter pilots.**

component has grown substantially over the past few years.

“The 43rd FTS, in the past 14 or 15 years, has grown to over 100 instructors,” Parrott said. “I think decision makers are learning that reservists can be a viable option for many positions that have been traditionally filled by the active duty. I think the reserve and guard role will grow significantly in the next 5 to 10 years as a cost-saving alternative.”

TFI is able to function well when there is a positive relationship between the reserve component and active duty. The 43rd FTS displays

just how effective TFI can be.

“We are so integrated here at Columbus AFB that really the only way you can tell us apart from our active duty counterparts is by our flight patches. We fly with the same students, fly in the same airplanes and wear the same uniforms as the active duty,” George said. “We have a great, close working relationship with the active-duty personnel, and that’s what allows us to work together and make the program work as well as it does.”

The 43rd FTS flew over 10,500 sorties in FY14 representing 20 percent of the 14th FTW total.

## Brothers in arms

**Senior Airman Justyn Freeman**  
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — Brothers in arms is a common expression among military members, but rarely do actual siblings directly complement each other’s contributions to the mission.

At the 388th Fighter Wing, 1st Lt. Sean Rush, a pilot in the 421st Fighter Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Brandon Rush from the 388th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, are doing exactly that.

When it comes to the relationship between aircraft maintainers and pilots, Sean said that it is important to maintain a close, professional relationship with the crew chief, because every day he steps into a jet his life depends on the work done by the maintenance team.

“We definitely joke about pilot versus maintenance,” Sean said. “It is a playful rivalry, but we both realize that we 100 percent rely on each other.”

Brandon was assigned to Hill AFB in January 2010, after joining the Air Force more than 10 years ago. When he was just a child, he developed an interest in working with his hands, so when he was asked to build his list of job preferences, he filled all five slots with positions that fell in the mechanical career field.

“The opportunity just kind of fell into my lap,” Brandon said. “My grandpa was also in the Air Force, so it has always been in our blood.”

Sean also followed in his grandfather’s footsteps, taking on the same career field as the former fighter pilot. While studying at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Sean was simultaneously working toward a commission through the ROTC program at the University of Utah through a crosstown agreement.

“With Brandon going to the Air Force, a lot of things came together that definitely made me want to fly,” Sean said. “My brother actually gave me my first salute when I commissioned three years ago, so that was pretty cool.”

After completing pilot training, the entire class of graduating pilots is provided a sheet of available bases to choose from based on his or her respective aircraft training.

“There was one slot to Hill and everyone knew I wanted it,” Sean said. “I really like

See **BROTHERS**, Page 14

## Power lifting through faith, strength

**Senior Airman Matthew Lotz**  
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — (*This feature is part of the “Through Airmen’s Eyes” series on AF.mil. These stories focus on a single Airman, highlighting their Air Force story.*)

As Staff Sgt. Ashley Bryant approaches the bench she takes a moment to whisper to herself.

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,” she said. “I’m nothing without you, but I’m everything with you.”

She takes two deep breaths, lies on the bench, clings her chalked hands to the bar carrying six steel plates and waits for the judge’s instructions.

“Lift!” he yells.

Bryant, a Tulsa, Oklahoma-native, broke the women’s national bench press record with a 231.1 pound lift during a weight-lifting competition in Illinois while home on leave.

She returned here to break her own record at the Dragon Fitness Center by lifting a total of 235 pounds, hours before leaving for deployment.

“Breaking records isn’t necessarily a goal for me,” Bryant said after having her picture taken for the gymnasium’s “Wall of Fame”—a board that recognizes the most pounds lifted by an individual. “I always go into these competitions, asking ‘how can I beat my personal record?’”

The 29-year old emergency actions controller from the 31st Fighter Wing command post started competing in 2004. Her first competition was completed only three months prior to leaving for Air Force basic military training.

“Although I was stationed in Japan after all my training and there weren’t many competitions overseas, I continued to train because I still loved power lifting,” she said. “I would look online for meets in the states, take leave, and use my money to fly back to compete.

“I remembered how I felt during my first competition after winning, that’s when I decided to give this passion my all,” she added.

Since departing for the military, Bryant has competed in seven additional competitions and has placed first in all of them, to include ‘Best Lifter Award’. The award calculates her total weight of 165 to the fi-



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Matthew Lotz

**Staff Sgt. Ashley Bryant recently broke the national record for bench press while on leave in Illinois. Since departing for the military she has competed in eight competitions and received first place in all of them. Bryant is a 31st Fighter Wing Command Post emergency action controller.**

nal amount of pounds she lifted during all three events: bench press, deadlift and squat - 826.1.

Bryant says that the dedication and time she puts into power lifting is the same effort she gives the Air Force, hoping she can continue pursuing both for a long time.

“Everything I do in life, I give credit to God,” Bryant said. “For me, being spiritually fit is just as important as being mentally and physically fit.”

Bryant says although some competitive lifters use elaborate equipment and coaching to help them succeed, she prides herself on being able to use only her faith and inner strength.

“For me it’s just my body, the bar and some chalk,” she said smiling.

The norm for this sport is for lifters to be part of a team, but for Bryant, she’s the coach and the athlete on a one-woman team. With her success over the years, she will continue the sport because of the way it makes her feel after working hard in the gym.

“It puts me in a great mood and allows me to smile a little more during work,” she said.

*“Breaking records isn’t necessarily a goal for me,” Bryant said after having her picture taken for the gymnasium’s “Wall of Fame”—a board that recognizes the most pounds lifted by an individual.*

Leaving with a good mood and attitude for her deployment, Bryant defeated her old bench press record to become the first female to join the 600-pound club at Aviano Air Base.

“I’m going to keep pushing myself,” she said. “And when I come back to Aviano, I’m going to reach my goal of joining the 1,000 pound club.”



# Former Airman sentenced to 18 years in drunken-driving death tells story

Chris McCann

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Public Affairs

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — He was born into an Air Force family, moving around from Florida, to Okinawa, then to Oklahoma.

“My parents were strict,” said Lane Wyatt, a former airman first class and client-systems technician stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

His father, a retired Air Force major, started off as an enlisted Airman before commissioning. His parents inculcated values, but for a while, Wyatt said, he slipped.

“I knew I was going wild when I got out of high school,” Wyatt said. “I had to straighten up, and the military was the best option.”

He enlisted in the Air Force and his parents came to the ceremony when he graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas.

“They were happy — they thought I was party-crazy, and I flipped the script on them,” he said. “I was planning on going to college, and before I’d said I wasn’t going to go. I wanted to be a scuba instructor, so I was figuring out what I had to do to get there.”

For his first duty station, Wyatt was assigned to the 673rd Communications Squadron at Elmendorf where he took to his job immediately.

One senior NCO said Wyatt appeared to be on the fast track to achieve his dream of being a chief master sergeant. But that dream disappeared when Wyatt made the choice to drive drunk — killing Citari Townes-Sweatt, a 20-year-old woman.

On June 29, 2013, former Airman 1st Class Lane Wyatt and a couple of his friends decided to hang out at the home of another friend who’d just returned from a deployment. They later decided to go out for the evening, so they dropped off their cars and called a taxi.

“We just had fun,” he said. “It was a guy’s night out. I left my car; I didn’t plan on driving...The plan was to go home and crash out.”

At some point later, the group decided to go dancing at a bar in the area where they ran into an Airman Wyatt knew from base.

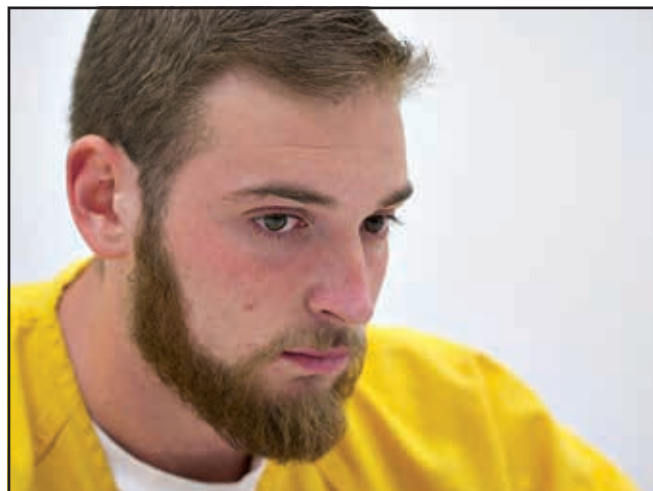
As the evening was coming to a close, Wyatt and his compatriots called Joint Base Against Drunk Driving, an Elmendorf-based volunteer organization that offers free rides home to service members. Not wanting the fun to stop, they invited the newcomer, and the girl he was hanging out with, to join them. They returned safely to the house, where they listened to music and goofed off.

Sometime after 4 a.m., the new Airman and the girl he was hanging out with decided they wanted to head home, which was about a half-mile away.

“I decided I’d give them a ride,” Wyatt said. “I thought I was good to drive. I thought I was fine.”

His friends protested, but ultimately they all piled into his Chrysler 300 and were on their way, laughing and joking.

While on their journey, they stopped at a red light where Wyatt said someone pulled up beside them and revved their



U.S. Air Force photos/David Bedard  
**Former Airman 1st Class Lane Wyatt recounts the night of June 30, 2013, when he killed Citari Townes-Sweatt in a drunken-driving accident. Wyatt was sentenced Dec. 19, 2014, to 18 years in prison.**

engine as if they wanted to race. He did it back, in jest, before they started through the intersection. Though he didn’t actually race, the other car fell behind.

“I remember coming up to a green light,” he said. “Then it turned yellow.”

He wasn’t sure whether to speed through the intersection or try to stop. According to prosecutors, Wyatt was doing 50 to 55 mph when he opted to go through the light.

“I didn’t see anyone, I just saw lights,” Wyatt said.

The next thing Wyatt remembered was waking up draped over the steering wheel, his nose bleeding. He got out of the car, as did his friends.

“I just stood there and looked, trying to take it in... I thought they hit us,” he said.

One of the other Airman asked how he was doing.

“It was like after an explosion in a movie, when there’s no sound, just the ringing,” he said. “I had no idea what to do. The girl was in the back seat and there was blood on her face, so we tried to get her out and calm her down.”

“I just remember standing there, not knowing what to do... People were yelling at me to stay where I was. I told my friend I was going to jail. I was terrified,” he continued.

Shortly after the accident the police showed up.

“I didn’t want my friends to get in trouble,” he said. “I said they didn’t know I had been drinking.”

The police took him to the Anchorage Correctional Center where they asked about the evenings events. His blood alcohol concentration was 0.196.

When they were done, Wyatt asked for his phone and he called his father.

“He told me to stay calm,” Wyatt recalled. “Neither of us realized how serious it was. I didn’t know anyone was seriously injured or anything.”

When the police officer returned, he placed Wyatt under arrest for one count of driving under the influence, three counts of assault in the third degree, four counts of assault in

the first degree, and manslaughter.

He was shocked.

He later called his supervisor, Staff Sgt. Corina Arangure.

“I was pretty hysterical,” he said. “I told her the charges and I asked her to call my parents. And then I sat. They let me walk around, but I didn’t want to be seen. It was my first time in jail.

“I felt horrible. I spent the next few hours crying on the floor of the cell. A mental health provider came and asked me about it and all I could say was ‘someone died, someone died.’”

Townes-Sweatt was killed almost instantly in the crash. Her four passengers sustained serious injuries, which led to the first-degree assault charges. Wyatt’s own three passengers had superficial injuries, adding up to the three counts of third-degree assault.

“She was the designated driver,” Wyatt said, tears spilling down his face. “And I feel like the trash of the earth. It’s one of those things that’s unforgiveable. A lowlife does that, and that’s not me.”

Master Sgt. Paul Kodiak was the communication squadron’s acting first sergeant. He had known Wyatt as an Airman in another section, but didn’t really meet him until that day in jail.

“The reality of the situation really hit me when that second door closed behind me,” Kodiak said. “He couldn’t answer a lot of things because of the investigation, but he said ‘I’m not that kind of guy, sergeant Kodiak.’ ... I sat and talked with him until they kicked me out. It was only about 45 minutes — not long enough... I left there empty.”

Wyatt was freed on bail after about six months, and was able to return to work. He had an ankle monitor and a third-party custodian — a guardian who, outside of work, could never leave his side.

Going back was a relief, Wyatt said, especially compared to the stress of incarceration. His parents came to visit him, and even at work people didn’t treat him any differently.

“The Airmen welcomed him back -- not exactly with open arms, but they liked him and respected him for the level of effort he put in,” Kodiak said. “They wanted him back.”

According to Arangure, Wyatt was a stellar Airman.

“He was excellent; he was definitely on track,” Arangure said. “He’d ask for ways to improve himself, look for projects to do himself. He’d give anybody the shirt off his back — and he always will. That’s part of who he is.

“He definitely feels all the remorse, the regret, the devastation,” Arangure said. “All the conversations he’s had with Ms. Townes-Sweatt’s family, there’s been nothing but forgiveness. But as much forgiveness as they’ve given him, and the love, he’s still full of absolute regret and remorse.”

Wyatt went online and looked up Citari Townes-Sweatt on Facebook. He ended up on her mother’s page, looking at posts she’d made and videos she’d linked.

“It was my own personal hell,” he said. “I haven’t talked to her. I don’t know what to say.”

After a while, his custodian couldn’t provide the around-the-clock presence the court required. Wyatt remanded him-

See **FORMER AIRMAN**, Page 14

## Dollars & \$ense: How to start or stop an allotment

2nd Lt. Harry Oms

14th Comptroller Squadron Financial Services  
Flight Commander

Attention active-duty members. You can start, stop and change allotments to financial institutions using the myPay web site.

Allotments to pay for insurance premiums, privatized housing rent, and home mortgage payments can be started, stopped and changed using the eFinance application. If your allotment can’t be processed on myPay or eFinance, complete a DD Form 2558 (Authorization to Start Stop or Change an Allotment) and submit it to your servicing Finance Office for processing.

Civilian employees can also start, stop or change allotments to financial institutions using the myPay web site. For all other allotment processing such as charity, union dues or insurance, employees need to contact their local customer service representative.

Active-duty members and civilian employees who want to purchase savings bonds by payroll deduction need to first establish an account at Treasury Direct Website. After you establish your account, you will need your account number and the Treasury Direct routing number to start an allotment via myPay to Treasury Direct for purchasing your bonds.

### Helpful Links

**MyPay:** <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>

**eFinance:** <https://www.my.af.mil/efinanceprod/GovWarning.aspx>

**Electronic DD Form 2558:** [dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2558.pdf](https://dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2558.pdf)

**Treasury Direct:** [TreasuryDirect.gov](https://www.treasurydirect.gov)

**Note:** If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact 14th Comptroller Squadron Finance Customer Service via email at 14CPTS.FCS@us.af.mil, or call 742-2705. We are located on the main floor of the 14th Mission Support Group Building.

**Regulation Reference:**

DODFMR Volume 7A Chapter 40

## Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website, with exception of Air Force publications, through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at 434-7068.

# What is the Airmen Powered by Innovation program?

Maj. Dawn Zink

14th Force Support Squadron  
AFSO 21 Program Manager

Does short manning and lack of funding have you frustrated on how to accomplish your daily tasks? Do you have ideas that could improve the way we do business but no way to have them heard?

Well, the Airmen Powered by Innovation Program is the solution you have been waiting for.

In April 2014, the Air Force launched the API program as part of the “Every Dollar Counts” campaign which supports process improvement throughout the Air Force. This initiative is one of Secretary of the Air Force Deborah James’ top priorities for the Air Force. API allows bright, enthusiastic Airmen an opportunity to turn their ideas into realities by saving time and/or money, increasing productivity, or decreasing waste.

The Air Force developed an enhanced API page found on the Air Force Portal as a resource to you. This page provides submitters a wealth of information from the latest API approval stats, to tools that can help refine and enhance potential submissions. To get the most out of this application, Airmen need to provide an evaluation-ready idea with sufficient details describing the current method, proposed method, expected benefits, and cost of implementation to support the idea. Another great aspect of the API page is you can research other ideas that have previously been submitted to see if your idea has been evaluated by another base.

Not sure how to submit an idea? The Air Force Smart Operations of the 21st Century office, aka AFSO

21, located in the Manpower Section of the 14th Force Support Squadron, can help take your ideas and determine the best proposed method by following the eight-step problem solving method. Also, starting February 2015, Columbus Air Force Base will have 24 newly trained Green Belt facilitators ready to help find the best solutions to your problem or idea. Once all of the required aspects are met, the idea can be submitted through

the API program for potential Air Force approval and widespread implementation.

Finally, there is a brand new AFSO 21 SharePoint Site on the 14th FTW SharePoint main page. It is there that you can submit ideas for the AFSO 21 office to research. Just locate the “Process Improvement” tab and, under your organization, let us know how we can help you find answers on how to improve your work area.

Visit us online! [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil)



# Who is Montgomery?

**Airman John Day**  
14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

*(Editor's note: This is the first article in a continuation of a 2014 series on the memorializations on Columbus Air Force Base.)*

Here at Columbus Air Force Base, many buildings, hangars and streets are dedicated to important figures in Mississippi history. These individuals have been an important part of the base, often having been stationed here, or being deeply involved in the community.

On Jan. 15, 1999, the enlisted Airman dormitories were dedicated in honor of Gillespie "Sonny" Montgomery.

Montgomery commissioned in the U.S. Army after graduating from Mississippi State University in 1943. He served in World War II and the Korean Conflict where he earned the Bronze Star for Valor, a Legion of Merit and a Combat Infantry Badge. 35 years later, he retired from the Mississippi National Guard as a major general.

Montgomery opened an insurance business in Meridian, Mississippi, and was shortly after voted to the state Senate. His next step up came in 1966 when he was elected the U.S. Congress.

He spent the next 30 years in the U.S. House of Representatives fighting for

veteran rights and improving military funding. He established an education bill that provides education benefits for active duty, National Guard and Reserve members. It was named the Montgomery GI Bill in his honor.

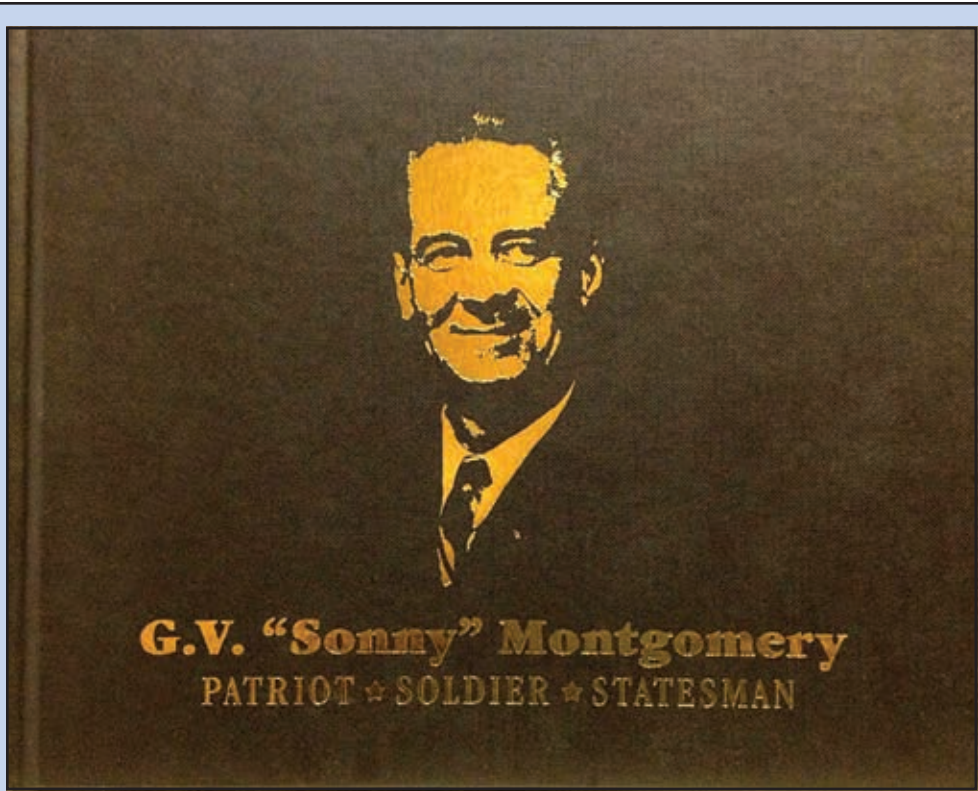
In 1995, Montgomery was awarded the highest civilian award given by the Pentagon, the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Service. He also earned the Congressional Award from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Distinguished Service Award from the American Legion, the Silver Helmet Congressional Award and the National Guard's highest honor, the Harry S. Truman Award.

Former 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, retired Col. Michael G. Lee, also named the congressman and retired soldier as a Columbus Wingman in 1996.

After retiring from politics in 1997, Montgomery opened a lobbying firm called the Montgomery Group, where he worked on defense, veterans, and health care issues. He retired in 2004 and returned to Mississippi.

For his efforts to strengthen the Reserve and Air National Guard unit in Mississippi, a C-17 Globemaster was named the "Spirit of G.V. 'Sonny' Montgomery" in his honor.

In 2005, at the White House, President George Bush awarded Montgomery



Courtesy Photo

The enlisted dorms of Columbus Air Force Base are named after Gillespie "Sonny" Montgomery; a Columbus Wingman retired U.S. Army major general and retired congressman who was from Mississippi. The building was dedicated on Jan. 15, 1999 and was dedicated to Montgomery for his service in the National Guard and his great strides taken during his time in the Senate to improve the lives of military members and veterans.

the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

On May 12, 2006, Montgomery passed away due to natural causes. Though he has passed on, to all military members, he is remembered as the father of the GI Bill.

# The Role of the Community in Suicide Prevention

**Staff Sgt. Elizabeth McDowell**  
14th Medical Operations Squadron  
Mental Health Technician

All Airmen have a responsibility to watch out for their Wingmen. Wingmen include people we work with, family, friends and other Airmen we contact within our community.

In 2013, the Air Force had 48 total suicides and in the first quarter of 2014 there were 19 suicides. All of these uniformed members served with other Airman at their jobs, had friends, or family members they encountered on a daily basis that might have notice changes in the Airmen.

The Air Force has often talked about resilience but what does that mean? Resilience is another way of describing how someone copes with their problems/stressors in their lives. Some of the most common stressors for Airmen who have committed suicide were relationship problems, marital issues, financial issues, work stressors, mental health problems such as depression, and/or more.

The suicide prevention program is here to make Airmen and their families aware of the helping agencies in the community that can help with everyday stressors like the ones listed above. It incorporates the resilience program to strengthen people and help them maintain their overall well-being across the Comprehensive Airmen Fitness domains. The CAF domains focus on seeking help when needed, noticing warning signs, and practicing a healthy lifestyle physically, mentally, socially and spiritually.

Here are some resources available to you in the local community:

**Mental Health Clinic:** The flight consists of Mental Health, Family Advocacy and Alcohol and Drug Prevention and Treatment. The MH clinic provides individual counseling for active duty, dependent family members, and retirees. The FA clinic offers stress management, anger management, and marital counseling sessions and reading materials. The ADAPT clinic offers prevention through briefings for squadrons, alcohol education events and activities, and education-

al counseling for Airmen with alcohol issues. On-call provider services are available at 434-2239.

**Chaplain:** Offers non-spiritual and spiritual counseling for all members. For more information please call 434-2500.

**Behavioral Health Outpatient Provider:** This provider is located in the outpatient clinic to offer brief services such as sleep hygiene counseling, stress management and/or anger management in less than four sessions.

**Airman & Family Readiness Center:** Military and Family Life Consultants are counselors that rotate from base to base, on 45-90 day rotations, to offer counseling services with no documentation. Financial services are also available to include: budgeting/saving classes, meetings for budget analysis and Air Force Aid for members in need of loans. For more information please call 434-2790.

If you have additional questions about suicide prevention or would like to schedule a briefing for your squadron, please contact Maj. Raymond Bouchard, Columbus Air Force Base Suicide Prevention Program Manager, at 434-2239.

## Air Force Readiness Programs

*(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790.)*

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is Jan. 20, 8 a.m. – noon, and is mandatory for newly-arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club. For more information call 434-2839.

### First Term Officer's PFR

The First Term Officers' Personal Financial Readiness Workshop is required by Air Force Instruction for all newly assignment personnel to their first station. The event will be Jan. 20, 9-10 a.m. For more information call 434-2790.

### Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop, Jan. 20, 1-2 p.m., allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

### Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

This workshop will be held, Jan. 21-22, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Entrepreneurship workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register and for more information call 434-2790.

### Capstone

This class is scheduled for Jan. 22, 8 a.m. – noon. The Capstone is required for all separating/retiring personnel and should occur no later than 90 days prior to anticipated separation/retirement; however, if a member has less than 90 days left in the military, the member should attend as soon as possible within their remaining period of service. It verifies if service members have/have not met their Career Readiness Standards/Individual Transition Plan Checklist, DD Form 2958. The checklist, in conjunction with the ITP, will be used by the A&FRC to verify status of CRS completion. Call 434-2790 for more information.

### Smooth Move

This class is Jan. 22, 10 - 11:30 a.m. This is a class that provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

### Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for



U.S. Air Force photo illustration/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

**2nd Lt. Robert Reay, 14th Security Forces Squadron Augmentee, checks identification of Team BLAZE members entering Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Jan. 14. The South Gate has reopened and is currently operating at its normal hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

### Pre and Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings for active-duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

### Survivor-Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Jamey Coleman at (662) 434-2720.

### Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide a non-medical counseling to help Airmen, (both single and

married) their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges, such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health providers. Counselors can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC call 662-364-0504.

### Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center. We have volunteer opportunities located throughout the base for a one-time event, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, the Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

### Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

The Recovery Coordination Program streamlines and improves the way care and support are delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and their families. The RCP provides the support of a Recovery Care Coordinator (RCC) who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill and injured Airmen who: (1) have a seri-

ous illness or injury (2) are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time (3) may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Columbus AFB RCC at DSN: 493-3399, Office: 334-953-3399 or tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

## Base Community Organizations

### DRMO

Recycle first by using the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office as your facility's source of supply. Authorized personnel may retrieve property free of charge if the property is still physically located here in Base Supply and marked at DRMO facilities. Other DRMO processing is available via the web at www.drmo.dla.mil. Cost of shipping will apply.

Please call Inspection at 434-7231 to review DRMO property or Stock Control at 434-7197 with questions or concerns you may have. Parking and assistance is available in the back of building 158.

### Last Look Area

Recycling is what the Last Look Area provides! Slightly used furniture and equipment is available to all Columbus Air Force Base facilities for free. Pick-up and delivery is the customer's responsibility. There is a three-day maximum for customers who wish to reserve items. Facility hours are from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Need more information? Contact Inspections at 434-7231 or 434-7332. Parking is available at the back of building 158.

## Chapel Schedule

Whether you are new to Columbus Air Force Base or have been around for a while, our parish communities welcome you to join us as we worship, fellowship, and encourage one another. For more information, please call 434-2500.

### Catholic Community

**Sunday:**  
3:15 p.m. – Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (Chapel Annex)  
3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex)  
4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)  
4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)  
5 p.m. – Mass w/Children's Church  
**Tuesday:**  
11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass

### Protestant Community

**Sunday:**  
9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)  
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service  
**Tuesday:**  
5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)  
**Wednesday:**  
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal



### CAFB FSS Rocks

Join our Facebook page at CAFB FSS Rocks, Twitter at @CAFBFSS, MyAirForceLife App on any smart phone or visit our website at [www.cafbssrocks.com](http://www.cafbssrocks.com) to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact 434-2337.

### 100 Ton Club

The Fitness Center is offering an opportunity for you to become a member of the 100 Ton Club for males or Fifty Ton Club for females. Stop by the Fitness Center Jan. 16 during normal business hours and track your weights throughout the day; turn the log in at the front desk. For more information, contact 434-2772.

### Celebrate an American Icon

Join the Youth Center for a free program celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr., Jan. 16, at 4 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Iceberg Golf Challenge

The Golf Course is offering a 3 person 18-hole scramble Jan. 24; 10 a.m. shotgun start. The cost is only \$10 plus green fees and cart. Register and pay by Jan. 22. For more information, contact 434-7932.

### Ice Skating Trip

The Youth Center is offering an ice skating trip Jan. 24 for ages 10 - 18. Depart Columbus 11 a.m. and return 5 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person; includes transportation. Sign up by Jan. 20. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Spring Soccer Registration

Are you ready to get outdoors and enjoy soccer? Sign up Jan. 26 - Feb. 20 for Youth Spring Soccer. The cost is \$35 for ages 3 - 4; \$40 for ages 5 - 18. Save \$5 off registration if registered by Jan. 30. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Family 3-Point Shootout

The Youth Center is offering a Family 3-point Shootout and Hotspot Competition Jan. 31 at 9 a.m. An adult must compete with each child; ages 6 - 18. Register no later than Jan. 20. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Youth Super Bowl Party

The Youth Center is offering a Super Bowl party for youth/teens Feb. 1 at 4:30 p.m. The cost is only \$10 for one, \$15 for two, or \$20 for three or more. Register no later than Jan. 27. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Super Bowl Party at the Club

Win prizes. Watch the game for free. The Columbus Club is offering a Super Bowl Party Feb. 1. Doors open at 5 p.m. Purchase a ticket for All You Can Eat Buffet for only \$7 members or \$9 non-members. For more information, contact 434-2489.

### Xbox 360 Madden 15 Football Tournament

Sign up and play a full season as your favorite team at the Youth Center. Participants must be a Youth Center Member age 12 - 18. Championship game played the week of the Super Bowl.



For start date and to sign up, contact 434-2504.

### Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Class

Free classes are scheduled every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 p.m. The benefits include huge gains in confidence, functional strength, flexibility, discipline, and overall physical conditioning. Mandatory equipment: BJJ Kimono (Gi); for ages 13 and up. For more information, contact 434-2772.

### Horseback Riding Lessons

Check us out, learn a new sport, start riding again, or enhance your riding skills. Lessons are available at the Columbus Air Force Base stables for ages five and up in the ways of English and western riding. For more information, contact (610) 248-4824.

### Wood Shop Self Help

Do you need to complete a wood project? The base wood shop is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. for only \$4 per hour. For more information, contact 434-7836.

### "Beach Body" Body Blast Fitness

"If it's Burning, It's Growing." The class is Monday - Friday at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Brandy at 434-2772.

### Hot Hula Fitness Class

Polynesian dance workout is an easy to follow, low impact exercise that strengthens arms, abs, and legs. Classes offered Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:15 a.m. at the Fitness Center. For more

information, contact 434-2772.

### Events at the Club

Schedule your next event (big or small) at the Columbus Club. Event planning, preparation, tours, and payments are made by appointment only Tuesday- Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call the club caterer at 434-2489 to schedule your event.

### RV Storage Lot

Don't clutter your home space, park with us. Outdoor Recreation offers a great place to store your RV year around. You will have 24-hour access and can pay monthly or yearly. For more information, call 434-2505.

### Earn Free Lunch at the Columbus Club

Pick up your blaze lunch punch card today at the Columbus Club. Purchase just 10 lunches at the Columbus Club and receive the 11th free. For more information, contact 434-2489.

### Green Plate Special

The Pro Shop at Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a special for lunch Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 434-7932 or check us out on Facebook at CAFB FSS Rocks or Twitter @CAFBFSS!

### Feeling Lucky?

Outdoor Recreation offers monthly casino trips the last Saturday of each month. The casino offers more than 5,000 slot machines, 115 table games and 14 poker tables including the wildly popular Texas Hold'em. Join the fun for only \$25 which includes transportation and receive \$20 in bonus bets. Contact 434-2505 for more information.

### Instructional Classes at Youth Center

Youth Programs is offering piano lessons, guitar lessons, tumbling classes, dance classes, and martial arts instruction. Times and ages vary for all classes. Call 434-2504 or stop by the Youth Center for more information.

### Fitness on Request

CAFB Fitness and Sports offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with over 30 different classes on the Fitness on Request system. For more information, call 434-2772.

### Space A Lodging

The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at 434-2548.

### Ride in Style

If you don't want to leave your car at the airport over a vacation, we can help you out. Outdoor Recreation offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. Transportation one way is \$225 for Memphis, \$175 for Birmingham, and \$50 for Columbus. Call 434-2505 for more information.

### Hot and Easy to Use

Force Support Squadron gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most Force Support Squadron facilities at Air Force installations worldwide and they never go out of style.

## MyMC2 app

Welcome to the My Military Communities information page. MyMC2 is the mobile application that centralizes all of your installation's community events, organizations and services right in your pocket.



### How do I get MyMC2 for my phone?

You can access this app by navigating to the native app store or market on your device and search for "MyMC2", or you can scan this QR code and it will take you directly to the download page in your phone.



iPhone  
QR code

Android  
QR code

If you have any questions or need support please visit [www.facebook.com/mymc2support](http://www.facebook.com/mymc2support)

## Alley Cat's Tale

### 1st Lt. Andrew Carlson

48th Flying Training Squadron Executive Officer

"History makes you smarter, heritage makes you proud-er." - Gen. Robin Rand, Air Education and Training Command Commander

Heritage in the United States Air Force is something that runs deep in our veins. Although the Air Force has a short history of only 67 years, a small span in comparison to world history, United States Air Force heritage is rich. The same could be said for the 48th Flying Training Squadron and, if General Rand's quote is true, there is no prouder squadron in the Air Force than the 48th FTS.

Dating back to 1917, originally the 48th Provisional Squadron at Kelly Field, Texas, the 48th has been stationed at more than 30 different locations, assigned 16 different airframes, involved in conflicts from World War I, World War II, the Cold War, and the Cuban Missile Crisis, and has seen combat all over the world.

Yet, as we know, it is the people that make the Air Force the global power it is today. The heritage of excellence is still displayed to this day in the halls of the 48th was paved by men and women of years past, many of whom paid the

ultimate sacrifice.

Such examples are Jack Ilfrey and Virgil Smith, pilot training classmates of class 41-01. Ilfrey was originally credited as the first P-38 Ace of World War II, however after the war the Army changed the accounting rules and Virgil Smith was the newly titled ace. In addition, Lt. Michael Brezas, a Hispanic American fighter pilot, paved the way for future generations with twelve confirmed kills in the war and most likely garnered many more. It may not surprise you that both Smith and Brezas belonged to the 48th.

It is from this proud heritage that the 48th reveals the new tail flash that will adorn the mighty T-1A Jayhawk. Originally designed by Walt Disney Studios, the 48th Fighter Intercept Squadron tried for years to have the Alley Cat logo integrated into their patch, but ultimately was unable.

However, in 1986 the battle was finally won and the 48th was granted permission by Disney to use the design for patch purposes; the same one you see on the shoulders of men and women of the 48th FTS today. Similarly, with the same hard work displayed by our predecessors, the 48th overcame many odds and is proud to incorporate the design into the new tail flash. Be on the lookout as the new tail flash will begin appearing on T-1s around Columbus soon.

## DEAMS to start at Columbus AFB in February

### DEAMS Functional Management Office

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio - Full-time and additional-duty contracting specialists and financial managers at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, including those at its on-base tenant units, will be among the next to use the Air Force's new financial management system.

The Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System is scheduled to deploy to users at Columbus AFB on Feb. 1. The DEAMS Functional Management Office has already begun preliminary activities with base leaders to prepare for deployment. The Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System is scheduled to deploy to users at Columbus AFB on Feb. 1. The DEAMS Functional Management Office has already begun preliminary activities with base leaders to prepare for deployment.

DEAMS is an Air Force initiative using industry-proven Oracle® software to provide warfighters with timely, accurate and reliable financial information leading to more efficient and effective decisions. It replaces decades-old inefficient technology that no longer complies with federal law and Department of Defense regulations. Capabilities consist of Procure-to-Pay, Orders-to-

Cash, Budget-to-Reports, and Acquire-to-Retire.

DEAMS deployed at Scott AFB, Illinois, as a two-phased technical demonstration, deploying commitment capabilities in July 2007 and adding general accounting capabilities in May 2010. DEAMS was implemented at McConnell AFB, Kansas, in October 2012 as a proof of concept with commitment and general accounting capabilities deployed at the same time. As of June 2014, DEAMS has been implemented at all Air Mobility Command bases. Future rollouts will provide those capabilities together as DEAMS deploys across the Air Force in a series of releases between fiscal years 2014 and 2017.

Initially after the rollout, Columbus AFB will use dual processing. During dual processing, all contracts and transactions, and their associated data, initiated before DEAMS is implemented will continue to reside in the legacy systems; contracts and transactions initiated after DEAMS goes live will be processed in DEAMS. The legacy systems eventually will be phased out.

When fully implemented, DEAMS will be an integrated, contemporary financial management system for the Air Force and U.S. Transportation Command. It will comply with existing laws, regulations and policies to achieve audit readiness by 2017 as required by the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act. DEAMS uses shared data, proven business best practices and state-of-the-art commercial off-the-shelf software to automate processing, eliminate many manual processes and reduce residual off-line processing. Together, these improve timeliness, accuracy and reliability.

Current and future DEAMS users are encouraged to register for access to the DEAMS milBook site at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/deams>. The site serves as a central hub where subscribers can share information through documents, discussions and group blogs. User preferences can be set to receive notifications when new information is posted.

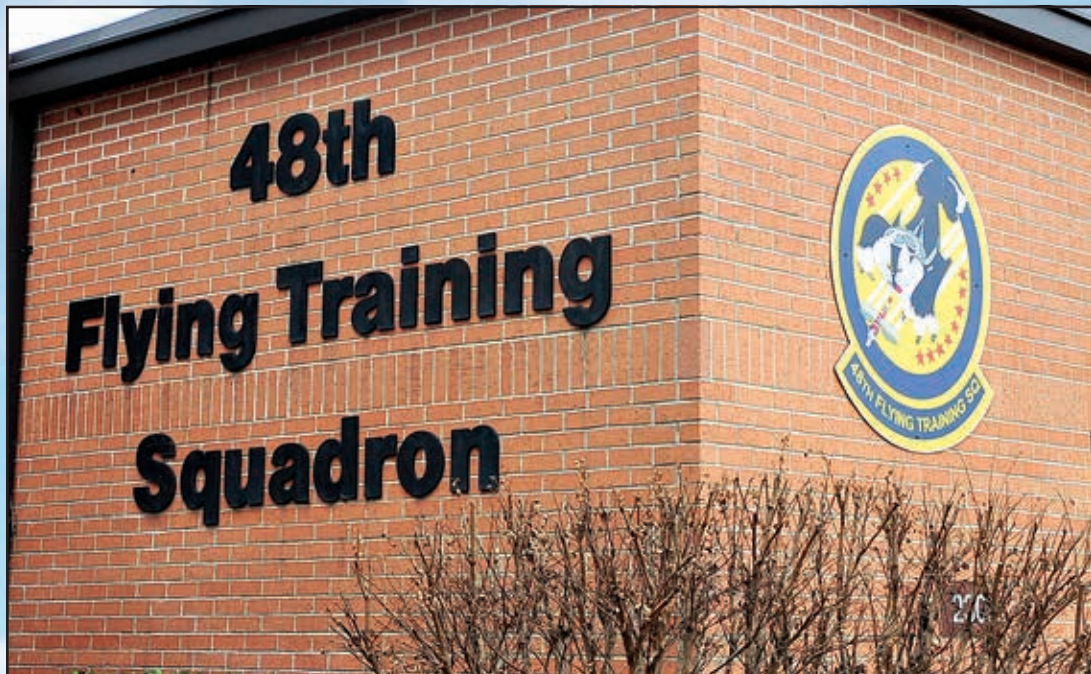
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U.S. Air Force photo/Airman John Day  
1st Lt. Luke Williams, 48th Flying Training Squadron Instructor Pilot, Lt. Col. Paul Baker, 48th FTS Commander, and Air Force retired Col. Bob Jessup, a previous member of the 48th FTS, speak during the 48th FTS's tail flash unveiling ceremony Jan. 9 in the Walker Center at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The speakers, all proud members of the 48th, showed their immense pride for their squadron in the form of personal stories and historic tales of past Airmen.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman John Day  
The 48th Flying Training Squadron is stationed at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The 48th FTS flies the T-1A Jayhawk for training Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training students in phase III of training.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman John Day  
A model replica of the P-38 Lightning hangs from the ceiling of the 48th Flying Training Squadron's heritage room at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The P-38 is just one of the many aircraft that were flown by the 48th in the past.



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens  
Lt. Col. Paul Baker, 48th Flying Training Squadron Commander, and Air Force retired Col. Bob Jessup, a previous member of the 48th FTS, pose for a photo at the 48th FTS's tail flash unveiling ceremony Jan. 9 in the Walker Center at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. From this day on, the T-1s of Columbus AFB will showcase the pride of the Alleycats in its new tail flash.

## 48th unveils new tail flash

Airman John Day

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

A ceremony unveiling the new tail flash for the T-1A Jayhawks of the 48th Flying Training Squadron was held Jan. 9 at 8:48 a.m. in the Walker Center here.

Tail flashes are often important to heritage and can vary by base, squadron and aircraft.

In attendance for the occasion was special guest Air Force retired Col. Bob Jessup, a previous member of the 48th during the Fighter Interceptor period of existence.

Ceremony narrator 1st Lt. Luke Williams, 48th FTS Instructor Pilot, spoke on the rich history and unique heritage of the 48th and showed a video on the squadron patch that was designed by Walt Disney Studios. He also explained the great lengths that previous commanders went to get the patch on

*"The first time I saw the 48th squadron patch was as a student in Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 98-01," Baker said. "I was glad I had made it that far in pilot training and I was excited to be in the squadron and I was ready to learn to fly a new plane. Now, 17 years later I'm back in the same squadron and I proudly wear the same patch I was given back in 1998."*

the shoulders of pilots and the tails of aircraft at Columbus Air Force Base.

Lt. Col. Paul Baker, 48th FTS Commander, then took the stage to highlight the stories of famous past Airmen of the 48th and to express his own pride of being a member of the 48th FTS.

"The first time I saw the 48th squadron patch was as a student in Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 98-01," Baker said. "I was glad I had made it that far in pilot training and I was excited to be in the squadron and I was ready to learn to fly a new plane. Now, 17 years later I'm back in the same squadron and I proudly wear the same patch I was given back in 1998."

Jessup closed the ceremony with a short thank you to the men and women past and present of the 48th, then gave the order to unveil the tail flash.

From this day on, the T-1s of Columbus AFB will showcase the pride of the Alleycats in its new tail flash.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman John Day  
Mugs with nametags hang on the wall of the 48th Flying Training Squadron's heritage room at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. After a member of the squadron leaves, their nametag is left on the wall underneath the mug.