

Weather

Friday  Afternoon Rain w/ Chance Thunderstorms High 69°F Low 53°F	Saturday  Afternoon Rain High 69°F Low 53°F	Sunday  Rain High 65°F Low 51°F
Monday  Cloudy High 69°F Low 50°F	Tuesday  Partly Cloudy High 70°F Low 45°F	Wednesday  Partly Cloudy High 77°F Low 46°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight.

News Briefs

Unit Effectiveness Inspection

The 14th Flying Training Wing Unit Effectiveness Inspection takes place March 23-30. Remember customs and courtesies, such as saluting senior-officer-designated vehicles driving through the base and dress and appearance.

AFAF Campaign

The Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign is scheduled March 23 – May 1. Contact your group or unit POC for more information.

BCC luncheon

The Base Community Council luncheon is scheduled at 11:30 a.m. March 27 at the Columbus Club. RSVP to Public Affairs at 434-7068 or 14ftw.pa@us.af.mil.

Inside



Feature 8

The 14th Security Forces Squadron is highlighted in this week's feature.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman Daniel Lile

Retired Maj. Gen. Jack Catton speaks at Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-06's graduation March 13 at Kaye Auditorium. Catton, a former 14th Flying Training Wing commander, is known to Columbus as the “father of BLAZE.”

Catton urges for strong core of character

Airman Daniel Lile

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Retired Maj. Gen. Jack Catton urged all Air Force members to strive to live their lives by the Air Force core values during Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-06's graduation March 13 at Kaye Auditorium here.

Catton, a former 14th Flying Training Wing commander, is known to Columbus as the “father of BLAZE.”

“Our Air Force core values of ‘Integrity first, Service before self and Excellence in all we do’ are the fabric of who we are in America's Air Force,” Catton said. “It is a way of life for me

and it is my priority to be that person who lives their life with integrity and that is true to their priorities.”

The Columbus Air Force Base slogan, BLAZE, stands for Building Leaders, Advancing Integrity, Service before self and Excellence in all we do, integrating the Air Force core values into the Columbus AFB mission.

“The BLAZE slogan embodies the Air Force core values,” Catton said. “The neat thing about Columbus AFB BLAZE is that you do so much more than train men and women to fly; you are teaching them to be men and women of strong character.”

See CATTON, Page 4

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 (15-15)	2.53 days	-1.92 days	Apr. 1	48th (15-07)	-1.88 days	-1.97 days	Apr. 3	49th (15-FBC)	0.76 days	2.48 days	Apr. 2	T-6	1,662	1,206	12,424
41st (16-01)	3.44 days	1.64 days	Apr. 23	50th (15-07)	-0.42 days	0.41 days	Apr. 3					T-1	598	457	4,830
												T-38	802	369	3,580
												IFF	211	188	1,687

The graduation speaker is Lt. Gen. James Kowalski, Deputy Commander of the U.S. Strategic Command.

Unit Effectiveness Inspection Major Graded Areas



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
23 UEI AFAF Campaign begins	24	25	26 ALS Graduation, 11 a.m. @ Club	27 BCC Luncheon, noon @ Club Lt. Col. Jantzen retirement, 4 p.m @ Smith Plaza	28/29 28th & 29th - Keesler AFB and Tuscaloosa Airshow	
30	31 Enlisted Promotions, 3:30 p.m. @ Club	1	2	3 SUPT Class 15-07 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	4/5 5th - Easter Sunday	

Silver Wings

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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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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

Community hosts picnic for ALS Class 15-3



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman Daniel Lile

Airman Leadership School Class 15-3 poses with Columbus Air Force Base senior leaders and community partners from the Military Affairs Committee and the Columbus Chapter of the Air Force Association during the ALS picnic March 14 at the John C. Stennis Lock and Dam. ALS is a six-week program designed to train Airmen to be future supervisors in the United States Air Force.

Track Select

Capt. Miguel Santibanez	T-1
1st Lt. Caden Ho	T-38
1st Lt. Samuel Olson	T-1
1st Lt. Daryl Pung	T-1
2nd Lt. Daniel Aceti	T-1
2nd Lt. Evan Aldinger	T-1
2nd Lt. Jacquelyn Barrett	T-1
2nd Lt. Dane Christensen	T-1
2nd Lt. Jonathan Daniels	T-1
2nd Lt. Benjamin Deschaine	T-1
2nd Lt. Gregory Fratantaro	T-1
2nd Lt. Paul Kenter	T-1
2nd Lt. Matthew Miller	T-1
2nd Lt. John Scott	T-38
2nd Lt. Taylor Smith	T-1
2nd Lt. Travis Tate	T-1
2nd Lt. Jordan Wiggins	T-38
2nd Lt. Sean Zarsky	T-1



Dubisher Award

2nd Lt. John Scott

Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. John Scott
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Jordan Wiggins
Formation: 2nd Lt. Paul Kenter

15-14

Future Air Force leaders host retreat



U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Stephanie Englar

Airmen of Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., salute as the graduates of Airman Leadership School Class 15-3 lower the flag during a retreat ceremony March 12 at the flag pole in the Richard "Gene" Smith Plaza. ALS is a six-week course designed to give the attendees the tools they will need to be future supervisors.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman John Day

Members of Airman Leadership School Class 15-3 lower the American flag during a retreat ceremony March 12 at the flag pole in the Richard "Gene" Smith Plaza on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The retreat ceremony encompasses decades of Air Force history and American pride and is performed at the end of the duty day.

Nature Trails with Mike and Mike

Mike Blythe and Mike Jago
14th Civil Engineer Squadron



Spring is here and it is time to walk or ride the nature trails.

The trails are open year-round even during hunting season, as the trails are an off-limits area to gun hunting.

The hike offers a self-guided tour with a trail book outlining the types of native plants found at the marked signs. There are two picnic areas, one at SAC Lake and another hidden along the willow oak trail.

Trails are well marked and going off trail is permitted. There are no protected species on base so there are no restrictions related to them.

The trails are open to walk, run or bike. Equestrian visitors are asked to not leave apples on the trail, but be warned, you might find some.

Trail dos & don'ts:
Pack out your trash: There is no scheduled trash pickup service. Trash cans only get emptied if the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron is notified on an AF 332 Request for Service.

Help clear the trail: Please pull small limbs off the trail and report larger trees and large branches to 14th CES at 434-7958/7974. Do not cut any standing trees. Be courteous to other users. Walkers please step to the right to allow bikes to

pass. Cyclists please use the rules of the road and pass left, approach right.

Take pictures: The trails are lovely all year. Common wildlife includes deer, fox, squirrel, armadillo, possum, birds, reptiles and many others. If you see a snake, please do not harm it; you are in his house.

Volunteer as a trail host: Take some ownership as a volunteer or as a volunteer organization. The trail is low maintenance but needs attention after storms and events. If you need volunteer hours for school or scouts, please contact 14th CES at 434-7958/7974.

Contact Outdoor Recreation: If you want to camp

or picnic at SAC Lake as a group or family or get a fishing permit before fishing at SAC Lake call 434-2507.

Our natural resources officer is relocating excess turtles out of the pond to control the overpopulation issue. Please leave the trap alone. The pond is stocked and the fish are fed. The feeder is automatic. Please report anyone tampering with the fish feeder, the rowboat or any part of the pavilion to the 14th Security Forces Squadron immediately.

For more information, contact Mike Blythe or Mike Jago at 434-7353/7974, or by email at michael.blythe@us.af.mil / michael.jago@us.af.mil.

CATTON

(Continued from page 1)

acter. That is what our Air Force, our country and the world needs more of.”

Columbus AFB's main mission is to produce the pilots who in turn directly defend our country, which is critical to the overall Air Force mission.

“We need to have the most qualified and best trained pilots in our Air Force and in the world, and I believe Columbus AFB does that,” Catton said. “To protect our nation's freedoms we have to be really good, and part of being really good is having a deep

and strong core of character so that we can trust each other literally with our lives while defending freedom.”

Core values can have different and deeper meanings to all service members. Catton concluded by urging everyone to come to grips with what builds their personal resiliency.

“If you are in the military, whether you're in the Army, Air Force, Navy or Marines, you are literally facing life and death situations as part of your job,” Catton said. “So you better have a grip on what you really believe in and what you're willing to fight for. I think it's important for any military person to have faith in someone or something that they can rely on.”

Soldier, Airmen Win \$17,000 in Prizes with Exchange 'Proud to Serve' Essay Contest

Julie Mitchell
Exchange Media Contact

DALLAS – Maj. Chris Hormel, Tech Sgt. Nicholas Lakey and Airman Nicholas Wedlow all have a way with words. Their passion for writing helped them win the top prizes in the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's “Proud to Serve” essay contest.

Hormel, who serves with the 18th Military Police Brigade at U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria, took home the grand prize—a \$10,000 Exchange gift card. He received his prize during a presentation March 11 at the Grafenwoehr Exchange.

In his essay, Hormel talks about his grandfather's service during World War II.

“On his headstone it reads simply: Husband, father, PV2 World War II,” Hormel wrote. “Of all the contributions of his life, he chose to be remembered for the short time he spent fighting for our nation in the Pacific.”

Hormel, who has served nearly 16 years in the Army, says he's always humbled to visit cemeteries and see veterans' ranks listed on the gravestones.

“They want to be remembered for their service—and that's the story I was trying to tell with my essay,” he said.

Lakey, who serves at Aviano Air Base, Italy, took second place and a \$5,000 Exchange gift card.

In his essay, Lakey recalled seeing yellow ribbons tied around trees in his neighborhood in 1991 during the Gulf War. He was only 6 years old. His father explained that the ribbons were to honor the troops serving in the war.

“I asked if everyone got to come home and my heart sank when I found out that many

people gave their lives to achieve victory,” Lackey wrote.

That moment from Lakey's childhood came full circle, when, as an Airman at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, he volunteered with Iraqi children, playing games and giving them gifts.

“The sight of their smiles and joy reminded us all of why we're there,” he wrote. “Somewhere back home there was a yellow ribbon waiting for me, but on that day I was exactly where I needed to be.”

The third prize—a \$2,000 Exchange gift card—was presented to Creech Air Force Base Airman Nicholas Wedlow during a ceremony at the Nellis Air Force Base Exchange.

Wedlow entered the contest after encouragement from his wife. He said he's always enjoyed writing, and English was his best class in school.

“I serve because of the great men and women before me who have set such a great example by giving their lives for this country and what they believe in,” Wedlow wrote. “I would be doing myself an injustice if I didn't follow my intuition and pick up where our late veterans left off.”

Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Sean Applegate, Exchange Senior Enlisted Advisor, praised all three winners.

“The Exchange is honored to recognize these three service members for their dedication and sacrifice,” Applegate said. “They poured their hearts into these essays, and their pride for America and their service.”

The “Proud to Serve” essay contest was part of the Exchange's Because of You campaign, a yearlong effort to recognize and reward service members' sacrifice and dedication our country.

The three winning essays can be found at shopmyexchange.com/BecauseOfYou.

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

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NEWS AROUND TOWN

March 20-22:

Starkville Restaurant Week: Every time you eat at a participating restaurant in Starkville during Starkville Restaurant Week, you can cast a ballot for which charity out of the Top 3 Charity Finalists will receive \$5,000. The Top 3 charities are The Salvation Army, Starkville Habitat for Humanity and The Autism and Developmental Disabilities Clinic.

March 20-24:

Art Rocks Tupelo: A fantastic weekend of arts, film, music, theatre, shows and more, “Celebrating the Arts.” Event will take place in multiple venues around Tupelo. For more information please call 690-4011 or visit artrockstupelo.com.

March 28:

Chronicles of the Blue and the Gray: Held at 7 p.m. March 28 in the Rent Auditorium at the W, 1100 College Street. Music by John Purifoy based on the poem by Francis Miles Finch. As part of

Columbus' 75th annual Spring Pilgrimage, the Columbus Choral Society, together with the Starkville Symphony and many other area choirs, will be performing John Purifoy's work, “Chronicles of Blue and Gray.” Written for orchestra and chorus, the work weaves numerous American folk songs, spirituals, rallying and battle cries with tunes and lyrics from the American civil war period of history. Texts from Lincoln's two Inaugurals, the Gettysburg Address, the Emancipation Proclamation, secession proclamations, chronicles of battle casualties, and recollections of Grant's and Lee's meeting at the surrender at Appomattox are set to musical choral statements. The concert is free but a ticket is required for entry. Tickets available Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Tennessee Williams Home and Welcome Center, 300 Main Street, and the Columbus-Lowndes Convention and Visitors Bureau, 117 3rd Street South.

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.

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Service members involved in UH-60 crash identified

Eglin Air Force Base Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — It is with a heavy heart that the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, U.S. Special Operations Command and the Louisiana National Guard formally announced the names of the seven Marines and four Soldiers who died in an Army UH-60 Black Hawk crash near Eglin Air Force Base, at approximately 8:30 p.m., March 10.

They include:

Marine Capt. Stanford H. Shaw, III, 31, from Basking Ridge, New Jersey
Master Sgt. Thomas A. Saunders, 33, from Williamsburg, Virginia
Staff Sgt. Marcus S. Bawol, 26, from Warren, Michigan
Staff Sgt. Trevor P. Blaylock, 29, from Lake Orion, Michigan
Staff Sgt. Liam A. Flynn, 33, from Queens, New York
Staff Sgt. Kerry M. Kemp, 27, from Port Washington, Wisconsin
Staff Sgt. Andrew C. Seif, 26, from Holland, Michigan

Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 George Wayne Griffin Jr, 37
Chief Warrant Officer 4 George David Strother, 44
Staff Sgt. Lance Bergeron, 40
Staff Sgt. Thomas Florich, 26

Recovery efforts for the UH-60 began March 13. Once the aircraft has been removed from the water, the recovery operations are expected to be turned over to a safety investigation board. The effort will be led by the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center from Fort Rucker, Alabama.

(Information for this story was contributed by Eglin Air Force Base Public Affairs, Release Number: 050315; Capt. Barry J. Morris, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command; and the Louisiana National Guard)

Report details causes of December mid-air collision at Pope Army Airfield

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Air Mobility Command released the results of its accident investigation board (AIB) regarding a Dec. 1, 2014, mid-air collision near Pope Army Airfield and Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

A C-130 Hercules assigned to Air Force Reserve Command's 440th Airlift Wing, and a C-27J assigned to the Army Special Operations Command Flight Company, both at Pope AAF, collided approximately 8 miles south of Mackall AAF. Both aircraft declared emergencies and landed safely, the C-27 at Mackall AAF and the C-130 at Pope AAF. There were no injuries to the eight C-130 crewmembers or the five C-27 crewmembers.

The investigation identified several relevant human factors in the mishap: a breakdown in visual scan resulting in insufficient clearing of the aircraft flight path by both

aircrews; both aircrews were over-reliant on Traffic Collision Avoidance Systems to alert them to potential traffic conflicts; and both aircrews exhibited complacency due to the routine nature of the mission profiles, despite the inherent risk associated with night, low-level visual flight rules operations on night vision goggles.

The AIB report is the result of an investigation that included witness testimony; input from technical experts; review of planning, maintenance, and training records; and review for compliance with Air Force directives and guidance.

The full report is available on the Air Mobility Command Freedom of Information Act site.

For more information regarding the AMC AIB, contact Public Affairs at (618) 229-7839. For information on the Army investigation, please contact the Army Special Operations Command at (910) 432-7585.

OTS eliminates component distinctions

Phil Berube

42nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — The Air Force Officer Training School here has removed all service component distinctions from its line officer commissioning courses.

Regular Air Force and Reserve cadets no longer receive their commissions through Basic Officer Training or Air National Guard cadets through the Academy of Military Science.

With the start of OTS Class 15-03 in early January, all line officer cadets receive the same training at the same time in the same classrooms. Instead of saying they graduated from either BOT or AMS, the newly commissioned officers will simply say that they received their commissions from OTS.

“Neither of those acronyms — BOT and AMS — is necessary any more, as we now have ‘one furnace, one metal,’” said OTS Commandant Col. Scott Lockwood. “We have one program, which is just OTS.”

The current class of 78 Guard, 15 regular Air Force and 13 Reserve cadets will graduate together March 13.

The move to one program started in late 2014.

In October, the school celebrated its first-ever simultaneous graduation of regular Air Force, Reserve and Guard cadets. Though they graduated together, the cadets attended either BOT or AMS classes, which ran in parallel over eight weeks.

The graduation was heralded as a true ‘total force’ milestone.

However, just as OTS has removed service distinctions in the classrooms, Lockwood said he would like to avoid the ‘total force’ label altogether at the school.

“It is no longer needed, much like the caveat from the chief of staff when he said when we quit calling things ‘total force,’ we will know we are there,” he said.

In this go-around, Lockwood said he’s aware that the percentage of students heavily favors the Guard. In future classes, he sees a more balanced mix of students.

“We will attempt to offer up the traditional number of seats to each component, but we also would ideally have a percentage mix that better reflects the overall populations being trained throughout the year,” he said. “However, we will simply fill seats as needed, and that can alter the mix from one class to the next.”

The average size of future classes will be

“They will not feel as if there is a difference in quality and professionalism,” Lockwood said. “They will all have faced the same crucible and belong to the same fraternity as a whole. This will better perpetuate a trust, loyalty and commitment to the service, to include all components.”

between 150 to 200 cadets, he said. He anticipates commissioning about 800 regular Air Force, 500 Guard and 200 Reserve line officers this fiscal year.

Tweaking the mix of students here and there is not nearly as important as the benefits the cadets will realize from sharing the same instructional environment from the start.

“They will not feel as if there is a difference in quality and professionalism,” Lockwood said. “They will all have faced the same crucible and belong to the same fraternity as a whole. This will better perpetuate a trust, loyalty and commitment to the service, to include all components.”

The colonel said the Air Force as a whole will also benefit by enmeshing cadets from the three components together from day one in the service.

“Not only will they make important relationships that will benefit them throughout their careers, but it will greatly increase the education of our regular Air Force and Reserve cadets on the Guard and who they are,” he said. “It is simply too late in their careers to end up commanding a total force wing and then have to start from scratch in finding out about how the Air National Guard operates.”

In fiscal 2014, OTS commissioned 748 second lieutenants and trained more than 1,300 officers through its Commissioned Officer Training and Reserve COT programs. AMS commissioned 511 Guard officers during that same time period.

Officer Training School is part of Air University’s Jeanne M. Holm Center for Officer Accessions and Citizen Development. The center also includes Air Force ROTC, Air Force JROTC and Civil Air Patrol-U.S. Air Force.

Columbus Airmen train for Air Force Marathon, encourage others to join

Air Force Staff Sgt. Blake Mize

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Two Columbus Air Force Base noncommissioned officers are in the process of training for September’s 2015 Air Force Marathon and are encouraging other Team BLAZE members to join them.

Tech. Sgt. Thomas Russell, 14th Force Support Squadron Fitness Assessment Cell Manager, and Air Force Staff Sgt. Chigbo Nzoiwu, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Post Controller, plan to run the full 26.2-mile event at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Sept. 19.

For the less ambitious among us, however, half-marathon, 10K and 5K options are also available.

“Being here, I’ve noticed that everyone is open to new things, [but] we don’t necessarily have as many programs as some other bases, [such as] running clubs,” said Nzoiwu, who got to Columbus last May. “Anyone else that wants to do this marathon, let’s team up. Let’s go on runs and let’s represent Columbus AFB to the strongest power that we can.”

Nzoiwu, who is relatively new to long-distance running, agreed to run a half-marathon in New Orleans with his girlfriend earlier this year after her running partner had to drop out at the last minute. He had only a few weeks’ notice, but with the guidance of more experienced runners and a few long runs, was able to prepare himself for the grueling 13.1-mile trek.

“I’m not a runner. Running has never really been a passion of mine,” Nzoiwu said. “I didn’t have any clue about technique, but I got a lot of great tips and I put them into practice. The day of the event, we just ran through it and had a blast.”

And that was it. He was hooked.

“It’s kind of funny; it was never a part of my bucket list to ever do a marathon or half-marathon, but as soon as I finished this one I realized how fun it was,” Nzoiwu said. “Rising to the challenge wasn’t as hard as I thought it was going to be.”

Training with the more experienced Russell has already proven beneficial, the California native said.

“[He] is a whole lot faster than I am, so training with him has pushed me to a limit that I didn’t even think I wanted to go,” Nzoiwu said. “I’m excited about that because in just two instances running with him, my time dropped by a minute and a half.”

Russell’s speed is no accident. He said he has run consistently throughout his 11-year Air Force career.

“I run every day, Monday through Friday, about three to four miles each day,” Russell said. “I’ve never done a really long distance [though], so [Nzoiwu] has run a distance I’ve never done before.”

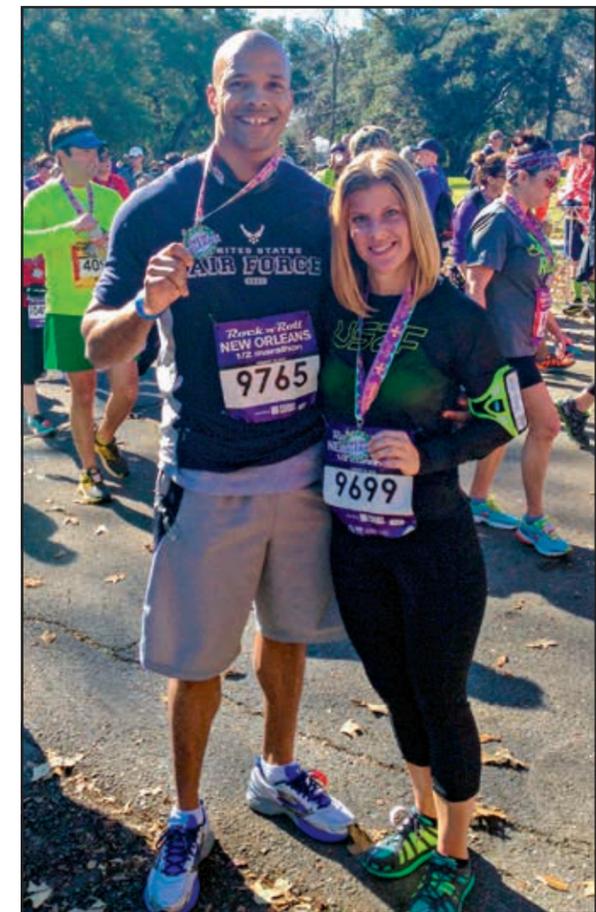
The two NCOs have very different running pasts, but a shared goal. Some Team BLAZE members may have similar running experience, but varying fitness goals. That’s why Russell and Nzoiwu think a running club, a group of people who run together and motivate each other, could be so beneficial to Columbus Airmen.

“Our run club is not just for the Air Force Marathon,” Russell said. “It’s for people who enjoy running, who just want to get out of the house and have fellowship with other people. It’s not going to necessarily be for people trying to do the marathon. There are other options for people who want to sign up for the half marathon, the 10K or the 5K.”

Anyone interested in joining the Airmen in their training is encouraged to do so. In addition to the Air Force-sponsored events in September, there are myriad running events throughout the country for all levels of runners.

“Running with thousands of people with music along the way and new sights to see, it kind of takes your mind off the pain and struggle of the run,” Nzoiwu said. “It kind of makes it enjoyable. I would recommend everyone do a professional, sponsored event. A 10K or half marathon is attainable for most people with a little bit of practice, especially if you have some time to prepare for it.”

For more information about the Air Force Marathon and its associated events, go to www.usafmarathon.com. For information about the running club, contact Russell at thomas.russell.2@us.af.mil.



Courtesy photo
Air Force Staff Sgt. Chigbo Nzoiwu, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Post Controller, and his girlfriend, Sherry, pose for a photo after completing the New Orleans Rock-n-Roll Marathon Jan. 25. Nzoiwu and Tech. Sgt. Thomas Russell, 14th Force Support Squadron Fitness Assessment Cell Manager, are in the process of training for the Air Force Marathon and are encouraging fellow Team BLAZE members to join them.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 12 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

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.



First female flying training squadron commander remembered at Columbus AFB



Courtesy photo
Retired Maj. Gen. Teresa Peterson, then lieutenant colonel, stands outside of her aircraft, the T-38 Talon. This month, Columbus Air Force Base celebrates history by recognizing Women's History Month. Peterson is remembered for assuming command of the 42nd Flying Training Squadron at Columbus AFB in December 1990, becoming the first female commander of a flying squadron in the U.S. Air Force. Not only was she a commander of a flying squadron here, but also was the first female to take command of the 14th Flying Training Wing years later in 1998.

Nichols holds Commander's Calls



U.S. Air Force courtesy photo
Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, talks to the enlisted, officer and civilian Airmen of Columbus Air Force Base during a Commander's Call March 19 at the Kaye Auditorium. The commander addressed key issues such as the upcoming Unit Effectiveness Inspection as well as gave statistics for cases of Driving Under the Influence and sexual assault for Fiscal 2014. Nichols also addressed developmental special duties and the 81st Fighter Squadron, the 14th FTW's newest geographically separated unit at Moody AFB, Ga.

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.)

Hearts Apart Social

The Hearts Apart Social program is a monthly event to provide community bonding, fun and appreciation for the families of active duty personnel who are deployed, remote, or on an extended TDY. Food and activities are provided. This month the social will be from 5 to 7 p.m. March 28. Please call 434-2790 in advance to register.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief, held 8 a.m. to noon March 31, 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.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop, held from 1 to 2 p.m. March 31, 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 receive more information please call 434-2790.

Resume and Cover Letter workshop

This workshop, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. April 1, gives you preparation for writing effective civilian resumes and Cover Letters. To sign up, call 434-2790.

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 6-10. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop For Senior Leadership, is for entrance at the corporate level based on education, and/or experience. It is reserved for officers and senior NCOs. It has seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Dept. of Employment Security, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Dept. of Labor TAP portion. Pre-separation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance 8 - 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register for TAP, call 434-2839.

Smooth Move

This class, 10 to 11:30 a.m. April 8, 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, Tricare, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register

Troops To Teachers

This workshop, from 10:30 a.m. to noon



U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Stephanie Englar

Children visit various stations during Kick Butts Day March 18 at the Youth Center on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Children visited the stations set up by Mississippi Tobacco Free Coalition, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Mississippi State University, Mississippi Department of Health, Tombigbee Asthma Coalition of Mississippi, 4H, Red Cross and Community Counseling to learn more about the dangers of tobacco use and other substances that are harmful to the body. They also learned how to stay fit and the importance of eating a healthy diet.

April 8, is an informational workshop for members pursuing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief, from 8 a.m. to noon April 14, 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.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for 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, 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. 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 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 who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill and injured Airmen who: (1) have a serious 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.

Temporary Jobs for the Summer

Job opportunities include: Clerical, Life-guard, Recreation Aid, Computer Clerk, General Laborer and others. Posting on USA Jobs will begin March 9 at usajobs.gov.

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.

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

Fridays during Lent - Stations of the Cross, 5:30 p.m. Followed by catfish and fellowship.

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

First AF female general paves way for military women

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. — Jeanne M. Holm was the first woman in the armed forces to be promoted to the rank of major general in 1973, and is credited as single driving force in achieving parity for military women and making them a viable part of the mainstream military.

Holm was born in 1921, in Portland, Ore., and enlisted in the Army in July 1942, soon after the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps was established by Congress. She attended Officer Candidate School at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and in January 1943 received a commission as a "third officer," the WAAC equivalent to second lieutenant.

During World War II, Holm was assigned to the Women's Army Corps Training Center at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where she first commanded a basic training company and then a training regiment.

At the end of the war, she commanded the 106th WAC Hospital Company at Newton D. Baker General Hospital, W.Va. She then left active military duty in 1946 and attended Lewis and Clark College for two years, returning in 1956 for her Bachelor of Arts degree.

In October 1948 during the Berlin crisis, she was recalled to active duty with the Army and went to Camp Lee, Va., as a company commander. The following year she transferred to the Air Force, when a new law integrated women in the regu-



lar armed forces, and was sent to Erding Air Depot, Germany.

Holm served in a variety of personnel assignments, including Director of Women in the Air Force from 1965-1973. She played a significant role in eliminating restrictions on numbers of women serving in all ranks, expanding job and duty station assignments for women, opening ROTC and service academies to women, and changing the policies on the status of women in the armed forces. For her exceptionally meritorious service in this assignment; she was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

On March 1, 1973, Holm was appointed director of the

Secretary of the Air Force Personnel Council.

She was promoted to the grade of brigadier general July 16, 1971, the first woman to be appointed in this grade in the Air Force. She was promoted to the grade of major general effective June 1, 1973, with date of rank July 1, 1970.

The general retired in 1975. She served three presidential administrations: special assistant on women for President Gerald Ford, policy consultant for President James Carter and first chairperson of the Veterans Administration's Committee on Women Veterans for President Ronald Reagan.

In recognition of General Holm's pioneering career, Air Force officials renamed the Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., the Jeanne M. Holm Officer Accession and Citizen Development Center in June 2008. Its mission is Air Force officer recruitment and training within the Air University.

Holm authored two books about women in the military. "Women in the Military: An Unfinished Revolution" came out in 1982 and was updated in 1994. Four years later she wrote "In Defense of a Nation: Servicewomen in World War II."

Holm died Feb. 15, 2010.

(Sources compiled from Air Force History Support Office and Air Force News Service)

NEW Force Support Squadron Website

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbliving, MyAirForceLife App on any smart phone or visit our website at columbusafbliving.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.

Community Service Project

The Youth Center is collecting donations for the Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen of Columbus, Mississippi. Drop off any type of dried beans or rice to the Youth Center by March 31. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Baseball, T-Ball, and Girls Softball Registration

Register at the Youth Center from March 2 - 27 for ages 3 - 18. The cost is \$35 for ages 3 - 4; \$40 ages 5 -18. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Air Force Club Scholarship

Club Membership has its rewards. Submit your essay online March 2 - May 1 for a chance to win a \$1,000 or \$500 scholarship. Open to Air Force Club members and their eligible dependents. For more information, rules and instructions, visit: MyAirForceLife.com/Clubs.

Golf Course Open House

The Golf Course is offering an Open House from 1 - 5 p.m. March 22. Enjoy free green fees, \$5 per person golf cart rental (must share) and hot dog, chips, or a drink for only 50 cents each. Sign up for the Annual Green Fees Program no later than April 1 and receive a 10 percent discount on annual green fees. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Egg Hunt and Information Fair

The Youth Center is offering a free egg hunt and information fair from 9 - 11 a.m. March 28. Register from 9 - 9:30 a.m. at Freedom Park. Event includes information fair, food, games, parent/child contest, and lots of fun. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Boys and Girls Club Week

The Youth Center is celebrating Boys and Girls Club Week March 29 - April 4. Special programs and activities will be offered daily. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Tales of the Crypt Family Trip

The Youth Center is offering a Month of the Military Child family trip from 7 - 10 p.m. April 3. This is a family-oriented (non-scary) historical bus trip to Friendship Cemetery to see the award winning Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science students perform as historic characters from the past. Tickets purchased at the cemetery; \$5 for adults and \$3 for students K-12. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Easter Brunch at the Columbus Club

The Columbus Club is offering an Easter Brunch April 5. Seating begins at 10:30 a.m. with additional seating times every 30 minutes until 1:30 p.m. Reservations required by April 2. Menu includes pork loin, roast beef, fried chicken, bacon, sausage, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, turnip greens, cabbage, macaroni and cheese, black-eyed peas, biscuits, rolls, cornbread, sausage gravy, dessert table, waffle station, omelet station, and drink station with Champagne mimosa. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Wine Pairing

The Golf Course is offering a wine pairing event at 6 p.m. April 9. The cost is only \$22.50 per person; includes a sampling of at least four wines with heavy hors d'oeuvres with each pairing.



Easter Brunch
at The Columbus Club

Sunday, April 5
Reservations Required by April 2

Seating begins at 10:30 with additional seating times every 30 minutes until 1:30
The cost for adults is \$17 for members and \$19 for nonmembers
Children (5-11)...\$6 for members and \$8 for nonmembers
Children 4 and under eat free

Menu includes...
• pork loin • roast beef • fried chicken • bacon • sausage
• mashed potatoes • green beans • corn • turnip greens
• cabbage • macaroni & cheese • black eyed peas
• biscuits • rolls • cornbread • sausage gravy
• dessert table • waffle station • omelet station
• drink station with Champagne mimosa

For More Information
or to Make Reservations,
434-2489

For more information, contact 434-7932.

Italian Lunch Buffet

The Columbus Club is offering an Italian lunch buffet from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. April 14. Menu includes: homemade lasagna, Italian grilled chicken, penne pasta with Alfredo, Caesar salad with garlic bread, penne pasta with marinara sauce. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Pitch In

The Youth Center is offering a community service project to clean up Happy Irby Parkway at 8:30 a.m. April 18; permission slips are required. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Summer Day Camp Registration

The Youth Center is offering summer day camp May 26 - Aug. 5. Registration is open until all slots are filled; first come basis. The cost is based on total family income. For more information, contact 434-2504.

British Soccer Camp

The Youth Center is offering British soccer camp June 8 - 12 for ages 3 - 18. The cost varies according to age. Stop by the Youth Center or call 434-2504 for more information or register online at challengersports.com.

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 Columbus AFB Living or Twitter @CAFBLiving!

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

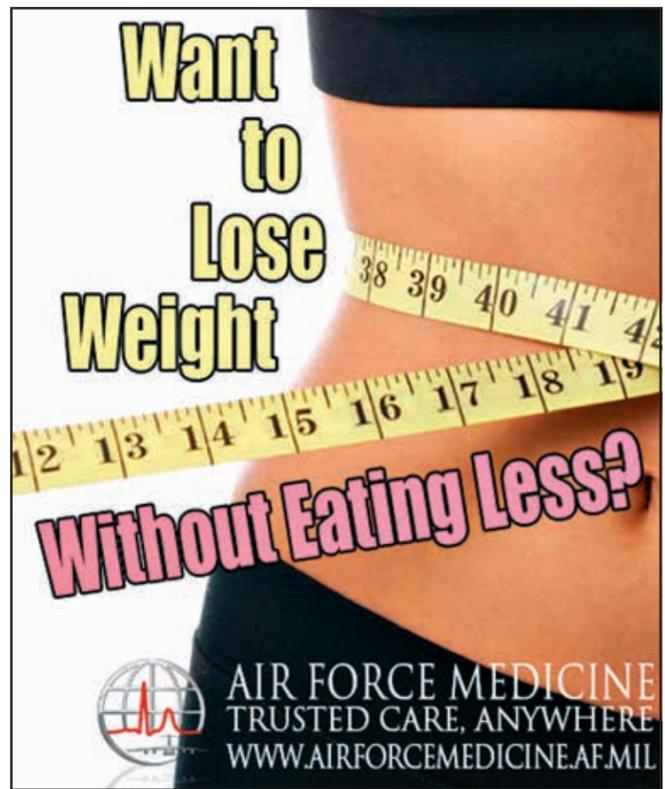
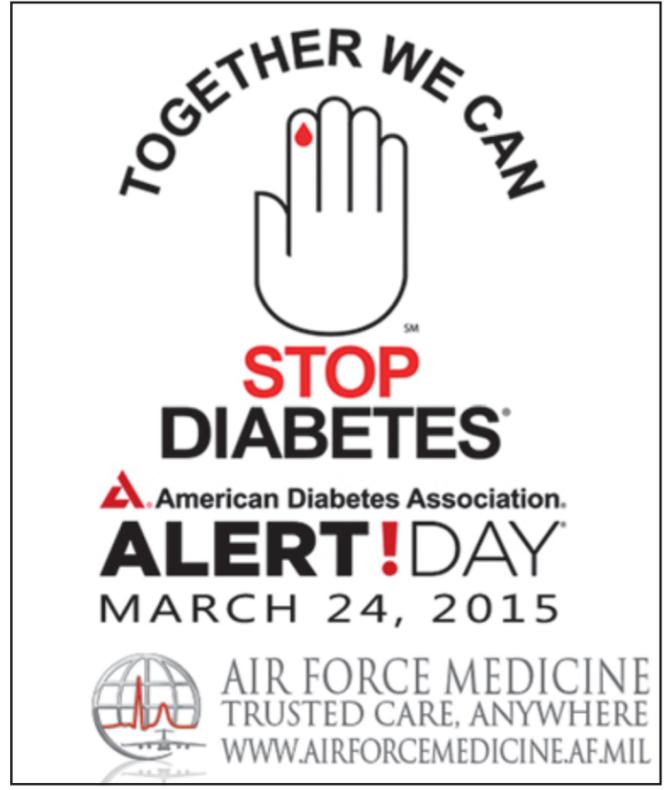
The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at 434-2548.

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 \$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.

We are all antiterrorism

John Beamon
14th Flying Training Wing
Antiterrorism Program Manager

"Antiterrorism," what is that? The Department of Defense's definition for antiterrorism is: Defensive measures used to reduce the vulnerability of individuals and property to terrorist acts, to include rapid containment by local military and civilian forces. At Columbus Air Force Base, this could be defensive measures used to ensure we continue to Produce Pilots, reducing vulnerabilities so that we can continue to Advance Airmen, and quickly containing any incident so we can continue to Feed the Fight. We do this through a variety of random antiterrorism measures. The key word is random. If anyone is watching how we do business, when we randomly change what we do, it makes our adversaries re-think what they are doing, forcing them to change plans. These changes frustrate terrorists causing them to find a "softer target."

When you drive through our entry control points and they change from just asking for the driver's identification to asking for everyone in the vehicle's identification, they are not doing this to inconvenience you. They are changing defensive measure to confuse and frustrate our adversaries. When you show up for work and the door you normally enter is locked and the sign says single point of entry, no one is trying to make you late or increase your cardio, we are trying to reduce our vulnerability by not allowing the bad guy to enter through a normally open, unattended door. When your commander or unit antiterrorism representative tells you to complete your overdue Force

We do this through a variety of random antiterrorism measures. The key word is random. If anyone is watching how we do business, when we randomly change what we do, it makes our adversaries re-think what they are doing, forcing them to change plans. These changes frustrate terrorists causing them to find a "softer target."

Protection Training in Advanced Distributed Learning Service, or asks you, "Who owns that unattended backpack?" while they are doing building checks, they are not purposefully trying add to or disrupt your already full workload. They are making sure that you know and are doing your part to prevent a terrorist act at Columbus. Anytime you see something that does not look right or are asked probing questions about your work or what happens at the base, report it. With everyone's help, we have over 3,000 sets of eyes conducting antiterrorism, ensuring we continue Producing Pilots, Advancing Airmen, and Feeding the Fight.

MDG Closure



On the first and third Thursday of each month the 14th MDG will be open for business from 7:30 a.m. to noon and then closed for training for the remainder of the afternoon.

Visitor's Center Closure

The Visitor Control Center will be closed on the 3rd Thursday of the month for in-house training. Passes can still be received at Columbus Air Force Base main gate.

Visit us online! www.columbus.af.mil

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.

Security forces continues to keep Team BLAZE safe

Airman Daniel Lile

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Whether you see security forces coming through one of the gates or passing you in a patrol car, they are constantly defending the entire Columbus Air Force Base installation.

Without their support, the mission would not be possible.

“We protect, defend and provide police services to enable mission success at home and abroad,” said Maj. Brenton Pickrell, 14th Security Forces Squadron Commander. “We provide dedicated, adapted and battle ready defenders committed to excellence throughout the spectrum of military operations.”

Defenders ensure laws are upheld while on the installation, varying from traffic violations to criminal investigations.

“We enable commanders to make better decisions by informing them about misconduct and bad behavior and verifying that people are following the rules that they should be following,” Pickrell said. “When they are not we hand it over to their commander so they can carry-out whatever actions need to be done.”

One common misconception to some Airmen about defenders is they only check identification cards at the base gates.

“The place everyone sees most security forces personnel is at the gate, but we also defend the entire installation,” Pickrell said. “We do perimeter checks, patrols and coordinate through our Emergency Control Center to respond to anything varying from

active shooter to something happening at any particular location including domestic violence.”

Columbus AFB defenders play a huge role in keeping both personnel and aircraft safe so the mission of producing pilots never has to stop.

“We protect the base every day whether that is at the gate doing random anti-terrorism measures, on the roads or actively going around the perimeter of the gate making

sure there are no deficiencies,” said Airman 1st Class Evan Narred, 14th SFS Armorer and Patrolman.

Security forces are not only responsible for keeping equipment and personnel safe, also they are charged with defending Airmen and their families.

“People have family on this base,” Narred said. “I have a family on this base; it’s our duty to protect them.”



Defenders tackle a suspect to the ground after he refused to get back into his vehicle and was demonstrating aggressive behavior during an exercise March 13 on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The suspect tried to run and evade the defenders but was quickly chased down.



Senior Airman Anthony Parsons, 14th Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms Instructor, inspects a weapon Feb. 24 on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Columbus AFB defenders play a huge role in keeping both personnel and aircraft safe so the mission of producing pilots never has to stop.



Defenders attempt to peacefully resolve a conflict with a suspect during an exercise March 13 on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The exercise scenario was a disgruntled Airman who drove through the gate without stopping.



Defenders detain a suspect after wrestling him to the ground during an exercise March 13 on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The security forces personnel are trained to hold down and detain suspects who don't stop fighting back.

U.S. Air Force photos/Airman Daniel Lile