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SILVER WINGS

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"Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight"

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

September 15, 2017

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@us.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.

Miscellaneous

For sale: 1989 Alumacraft Super Bandit 17.5 feet with an 80-horsepower Mercury 2 stroke engine, very few hours on it. Runs great, has new plywood, new Tempres high-back seats, new Minn Kota 25-pound electric anchor, Minn Kota 40-pound trolling motor and fish finder. Asking \$4,000. If interested contact, 662-574-6823.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Sept. 22-23

The Columbus Arts Council is hosting the Annual Possum Town Tales Storytelling Festival Sept. 22-23, both days start at 7 p.m. at the Rosenzweig Arts Center in Columbus, Mississippi. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door, or get both nights for \$20, but must be purchased in advance. For more information, call (662) 328-2787 or go to www.columbus-arts.org.

Sept. 23

The Mississippi Science Fest is from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 23 at the LeFleur Museum District in Jackson, Mississippi. Four museums will have hands-on science, technology, engineering and mathematics activities

for all ages. For more information visit MSScienceFest.org.

U.S. Congressman Trent Kelly will host Academy Day 2017 at 10 a.m. Sept. 23 at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville, Mississippi. The event is for anyone who is interested in attending one of America's prestigious military academies. For more information, please contact the Military Academy Liaison at (662) 687-1525.

Oct. 14

The Mississippi State University football team will face off against Brigham Young University Oct. 14 at Davis Wade Stadium in Starkville, Mississippi.

Congratulations
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2331 Military Rd. • Columbus, MS • 328-4837

Chef Specials
Friday, Sept. 15th • 6-9pm • Reservations 329-6761

Appetizers
Molten Pumpkin & Chorizo Dip \$10

Entrées
Rack of Lamb \$28
Rack of Lamb topped with Strawberry Pepper Jelly

Dessert du Jour
Cinnamon-Chocolate Bread Pudding \$6

Sunday Brunch
Sept. 17th • 11am-2pm • Adults \$19.50 • Children 3-10 \$8
Prime Rib • Roasted Greek Chicken Roulade • Smoked Salmon Carving Station
Potato Cakes with Parsley Cream Sauce • Saffron Vegetable Rice Pilaf • Mushroom and Artichokes
Parmesan Baked Zucchini • Minestrone Soup • Peaches & Cream Bread Pudding

Brunch Selections Include:
Cheese, Pastry & Fruit Station • Salad Station • Egg Station • Waffle Station • Breakfast Station

Short Order Menu Also Available That Includes Sandwiches, Salads, & Burgers

September 15th
Come Play the new Tif-Eagle Greens

Weather

Friday Partly Cloudy High 89°F Low 64°F	Saturday Partly Cloudy High 89°F Low 65°F
Sunday Partly Cloudy High 90°F Low 65°F	Monday Partly Cloudy High 90°F Low 66°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OWS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Columbus Air Force Base Triathlon

The Columbus Air Force Base Triathlon is scheduled for 7 a.m. Sept. 23 at Independence pool. The event features a 300-meter swim, 22K bike ride, and a 5K run. For more information, call 434-2772.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Columbus Club for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Free Club member breakfast at the Club

There will be a free breakfast for Club members and an \$8 charge for nonmembers from 6:30-9 a.m. Sept. 26 at the Columbus Club. The buffet will feature a build your own breakfast taco.

Inside



Feature 8

The honor guard is highlighted in this week's feature.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross

Gen. Mike Holmes, Commander of Air Combat Command, and Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, congratulate Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-14 on their graduation Sept. 8, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Students have completed a year of training and now earn the right to be called Air Force pilots. Holmes was the guest speaker for the graduation.

ACC Commander offers encouragement to newest AF aviators

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Holmes, a former 14th Operations Group Commander, spoke to the Air Force's 22 newest aviators, one of which was his son, 2nd Lt. Wade Holmes.

Gen. Mike Holmes, Commander of Air Combat Command, addressed Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-14 during their graduation ceremony here Sept. 8.

Holmes told his son's journey of how he got to become a pilot.

See HOLMES, Page 3

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 (18-09)	-5.02 days	-0.39 days	Oct. 20	48th (17-15)	-6.19 days	-2.69 days	Sept. 29	49th (17-LBC)	-0.50 days	-2.49 days	Sept. 20	T-6	972	925	30,843
41st (18-08)	-2.64 days	-1.74 days	Sept. 27	50th (17-15)	-0.01 days	-4.21 days	Sept. 29					T-1	330	248	8,033
												T-38	328	375	10,935
												IFF	152	130	4,491

* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.

The graduation speaker for SUPT Class 17-15 on Sept. 29 is Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service Commander.

DOCTORS

(Continued from page 14)

force team rises up to the challenge every time."

A total force team of active duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command Airmen are working side-by-side with federal, state, local and international mission partners to ease suffering and assist in the nation's and international community's recovery from Hurricane Irma.

New Salem Baptist Church welcomes you!

7086 Wolf Road
3 miles south of Caledonia, MS
(662) 356-4940
www.newsalembaptistcaledonia.com
Pastor: Bro. Mel Howton

SUNDAY
Worship Service - 8:00 & 10:30 am
Sunday School (all ages) - 9:15 am
SUNDAY EVENING
Youth Drama & AWANA - 4pm
Discipleship Training - 5pm
Evening Worship - 6pm

WEDNESDAY
Kid's Drama - 6 pm
Adult/Youth Bible Study, RAs, GAs & Mission Friends - 6:30 pm
Nursery available for all services.

Featured listing by:

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3 bedroom/ 2 bath





Columbus AFB Top 3 spotlight



Date: Aug. 15, 2017
Category: NCO
Nominee Rank/Name:
Tech. Sgt. Bryan S. Albrecht
Unit: 14th Operations Support Squadron
Duty title: NCO in Charge of Airfield Systems Flight



Courtesy photo
Tech. Sgt. Bryan Albrecht receives the Columbus Air Force Base Top 3 Spotlight award from Master Sgt. Carmina Beedle, 14th Operations Support Squadron Superintendent, for the month of August 2017.

Background:
Home Town: Beeville, Texas
Time in the Air Force: 14 years
Time at Columbus AFB: 10 months
Career short-term goals: Reach the rank of master sergeant and assume the Flight Superintendent role.
Career long-term goals: Retire from active duty as a chief master sergeant.
Nominated by: Master Sgt. Juan Diaz
Nomination reason: Albrecht has performed well above his peers and rank, and has shown leadership through his actions.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
18 Air Force 70th Birthday	19 POW/MIA Recognition Day	20	21	22 Spaghetti Dinner, 5 p.m. @ Club, free for everyone	23/24 23rd: CAFB Triathlon, 7 a.m. @ Independence Pool 23rd: Oktoberfest, 6 p.m. @ Whispering Pines Cafe 24th: Gold Star Mother's Day	Oct. 3: SUPT Class 18-15 Pilot Partner Welcome Oct. 7: Retiree Appreciation day Oct. 13: SUPT Class 18-01 Assignment Night Oct. 14: BYU vs. MSU Oct. 17: Wing Newcomers Orientation Oct. 20: Fiesta Party Oct. 21: MSU vs. Kentucky/Alabama vs. Tennessee Oct. 28: Base Trick or Treating Oct. 28-29: Autocross Oct. 31: Enlisted Promotions/Quarterly Awards Nov. 3: SUPT Class 19-02 Assignment Night
25	26 Wing Newcomers Orientation	27 Enlisted Dorm Dinner, 5:30 p.m. @ Chapel	28	29 SUPT Class 17-15 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye Enlisted Promotions, 3 p.m. @ Club	30/1 30th: Ole Miss vs. Alabama	

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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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) 328-2424.

Suicide prevention month: stopping suicide is everyone's battle

Peter Holstein
Air Force Surgeon General Office of Public Affairs

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — September is Suicide Prevention Month, a time for Americans to build awareness and help understand suicide in our culture. More than 40,000 Americans lose their life due to suicide each year and research shows that rates in the military and the general population are very close. The loss of any one person to suicide is a tragedy, and that is why the Air Force is committed to the goal of zero suicides.

Making progress towards this goal requires buy in from everyone in the Air Force, from its most senior leaders to junior Airmen. Everyone has a role to play in prevention. The most basic, and often most effective, way to prevent suicide is to make sure that our family members, friends, coworkers and anyone else in our life feel connected and have a sense of belonging in the world.

"To combat something as complicated as suicide, we need leaders at every level involved," said Lt. Col. Alicia Matteson, the Air Force suicide prevention program manager. "We need the front line supervisors, all the way up to squadron, group and wing commanders involved and being connected to their airmen."

Risks for suicide include people with substance abuse problems, those experiencing loss or guilt, feelings of isolation,



and those undergoing stress, both professionally or in their personal life. This is why it is important for commanders at every level to know the Airmen they supervise, and connect to them enough to know if they have experienced an event in their life that might increase their risk for suicide.

"If suddenly someone comes in and they're looking exhausted, or they exhibit signs of depression or mood swings, then ask," said Dr. Jeffrey Greenberg with the Air Force Suicide Prevention Program. "It may be nothing, and that's fine, but it is still important to demonstrate to someone that you are concerned about what's going on with them. We want to increase that, the connection between Airmen."

Building connections helps sustain emotional strength,

and creates a sense of belonging that fortifies against suicidal thoughts. This sense of belonging, whether it is to a unit, a family, a friend group, or something else entirely, helps sustain people when times get tough.

"You can't control the world to stop bad things from happening. Emotional stresses are part of the reality of life," said Greenberg. "When bad things happen, it causes a strong emotional response – anger, fear, anxiety, sadness or anything. That's normal. We need to help our Airmen develop the tools to manage those feelings."

This commitment to connection is backed by the Air Force's adoption of the ACE method, which stands for "Ask, Care, Escort." These three steps can guide Airmen when confronted with someone contemplating suicide. The Air Force Suicide Prevention website has more information on ACE and other resources to help prevent and respond to suicide.

If you, or someone you know, needs immediate help, call the Military Crisis Line and speak to a counselor by dialing 800-273-TALK and pressing 1.

Every life lost to a suicide is tragic, but together we can make a real difference. Building bonds with the people around us, even by simple gestures and friendly comments are important, and can sustain people in the face of adversity.

"Every Airmen's job is to look out for each other," said Matteson. "That's what it means to be a wingman, and it's the culture change we need to prevent the tragedy of suicide."

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Air Force delivers doctors, aid to Florida

Capt. Ryan DeCamp
18th Air Force Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Three C-17s from Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina and Dover Air Force Base, Delaware flew more than 300 doctors, nurses and other medical professionals to Orlando, Florida, Sept. 9, 2017, in anticipation of Hurricane Irma's landfall Sept. 10.

"When the world presents a challenge, our Airmen adjust to meet the need and do what it takes to accomplish the mission," said Gen. Carlton Everhart II, Air Mobility Command commander. "Our Airmen are mission ready and prepared to help others impacted by Hurricane Irma while meeting worldwide needs."

The mission came at the request of the Department of Health and Human Services, which is coordinating the federal medical and public health medical support to states and territories impacted by one of the largest hurricanes in history.

"Across the federal family, we are committed to meeting the needs of local communities, especially in times of crises," said Dr. Robert Kadlec, HHS assistant secretary for preparedness and response. "With the help from our partners at (the Defense Department), our medical personnel now are positioned to provide medical care after the storm, whether they're needed at overwhelmed hospitals or for residents taking refuge in evacuation shelters."

The team landed just before midnight in Orlando, dropped

off medical teams to waiting busses and left as the edge of the storm began reaching the airport. As they took off, rain from Hurricane Irma's storm-front began to pelt the C-17's windshield. Meanwhile, in Washington, D.C., C-17s from Dover AFB loaded more health care professionals in a race against Mother Nature. The C-17 departed Washington, D.C. for Florida at about 12:40 a.m.

"I had no idea I would ever be doing anything like this, or be a part of a national effort to help out in hurricane relief," said Staff Sgt. Rob Lummus, 15th Airlift Squadron loadmaster. "It's been pretty amazing to watch all the different pieces of the puzzle with all the groups working together."

The mission to deliver medical teams to Florida is one small piece of the overall response to Irma, led by the state of Florida and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Other agencies like the DoD and HHS are working to support the state where needed.

Aircraft and crews from JB Charleston evacuated from their base ahead of Hurricane Irma and are now operating out of other bases such as Scott AFB, Illinois, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. They are currently assigned to provide aeromedical evacuation and airlift to areas affected by the hurricane.

"It takes a tremendous amount of agility and coordination to relocate aircraft while simultaneously supporting global requirements," Everhart said. "Realizing what's at stake, our total

See DOCTORS, Page 16



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Ryan DeCamp

Doctors, nurses and paramedics await take-off from Washington Dulles International Airport, Washington, D.C., aboard a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft from Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, Sept. 9, 2017. Air Force aircraft from three bases came together to move more than 300 medical personnel to Orlando, Florida, in anticipation of Hurricane Irma making landfall in the state. Air Mobility Command and 18th Air Force are providing airlift, aeromedical evacuation, contingency response and aerial refueling forces as part of the whole-of-community effort to respond to Hurricane Irma.

HOLMES

(Continued from page 1)

pilot and said each graduate had their own story of how they got to where they are; he is proud of every single one of them and what they've accomplished so far.

"We've tested your skills, we've tested your confidence, we've tested your work ethic," Holmes said. "You've completed the events, you passed the tests, you've exceeded the standards and you're joining the ranks of professional military pilots."

As the pilots get ready to move onto their advanced training in either the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker, Holmes said just like any other profession, the Air Force has a code of ethics in which its Airmen are held accountable to: the Air Force core values.

The first value Holmes addressed was excellence. He let the pilots know they can no longer expect or accept anything less than the best from themselves and those they will serve with. He said they'll be put in situations that will demand a high level of excellence.

Secondly, Holmes talked about integrity and the trust instilled in each of them that they're always doing the right thing. Their word will mean a lot. When they say they've completed a job, others are going to trust that the objective was accomplished and done right.

The third Air Force core value, service before self. Holmes said there will be times when the pilots are asked to go on assignments and



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross

Gen. Mike Holmes, Commander of Air Combat Command, pins his wings onto his son, 2nd Lt. Wade Holmes, during Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-14's graduation Sept. 8, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Wade will go onto fly the F-16 Fighting Falcon at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. Gen. Holmes was the guest speaker for the graduation.

go to places they may not be fond of and this may be an inconvenience for them and their family, but it's all to serve their country.

With core values in mind, Holmes spoke of the challenges that they will also face.

"I think the biggest challenge we encounter now in Air Combat Command is trying to balance the continuing requirements we

have to support the war against violent extremist in the Middle East, with trying to make enough time to be able to train [and] to be ready to fight more capable adversaries in contested environments."

Being able to overcome these challenges starts with training and preparing pilots. Being an instructor pilot himself, Holmes said

he knows how important of a job it is and what's demanded of the IPs.

"Being an instructor for two years I know how hard it is, I know what the tempo is, and as an Air Force leader I know that we're asking you to produce more pilots without any more resources," he said.

Holmes also said there's a lot that goes on behind the scenes, and the pilots and the Air Force "depend on the permanent party Airmen here to prepare them to do that job. ... Everybody matters and every job plays a part in that."

The special moment of this particular graduation ceremony for Holmes was being able to pin on his son's wings.

"I think watching my son graduate, one of the meaningful parts about it, is that he chose this himself," Holmes said.

He said after attending college his son wanted to pursue the career as an Air Force pilot. Along the way, though, he needed eye surgery and waited for approval to come in after having it done. He also had to find his own way in, as he didn't commission through ROTC or the U.S. Air Force Academy.

"He found his way, his own way into the same career I did, so it's pretty neat," Holmes said.

As the pilots get ready to begin their next chapter, Holmes said they should "trust the instruction and their instructors, and put their heart in it so that they'll come out of their next training as successful as they did here."

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Online Code: PS142MED
\$14 Two Medium
2 toppings each
Not valid with any other offer or discount. Coupon required. Additional charges may apply. Expires 10/31/17.

Gospel Meeting

September 24th- September 27th

*Perry Jinkerson
of Starkville, Mississippi*

The church of Christ at Magnolia
161 Jess Lyons Road, Columbus, Mississippi
662-769-5514 (Voice Mail)

Times of Services:
Sunday Sept. 24th9:15 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
12:30 p.m. (singing)
2:00 p.m.
Monday Sept. 25th.....7:00 p.m.
Tuesday Sept. 26th.....7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Sept.27th.....7:00 p.m.

*We'll have lunch together between services
on the Lord's Day.*

Visit us online!
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St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
on Sunday
(childcare provided)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
The Rev. Anne Harris
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14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 58 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Deployment numbers provided by the Installation Personnel Readiness Office.

BLAZE 5/6 Highlight Award recipient recognized

Name: Senior Airman Aaron Crebessa
Hometown: Greenville, Michigan
Unit: 14th Operations Support Squadron
Duty Title: Air Traffic Controller

Crebessa received the Blaze 5/6 Leadership Highlight Award for the month of August 2017 in recognition of his outstanding leadership. Crebessa, led the RADAR Approach Control from the coordinator position during a critical National Airspace System outage. He kept flights flowing to 10 adjacent facilities in real time to accommodate military and civilian traffic, maintaining safety of flight for about 100 wing aircraft, ensuring the mission went uninterrupted. He remains involved with the community participating in programs like "Night Out on Crime," where he volunteered three hours, served over 200 meals and distributed 100 school supplies to families in need. Finally, he applied 16 credit hours to his Community College of the Air Force degree and enrolled in classes for his final eight credits needed for completion.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Britton Olson

Staff Sgt. Viviana Chalfonte, Blaze 5/6 representative, recognizes Senior Airman Aaron Crebessa as the Blaze 5/6 Highlight Award recipient for the month of August 2017.

AF Birthday Ball Bus Plan

CAFB to Trotter
Bus Pick Up Times:
1715, 1730
1815, 1830

Trotter to CAFB
Return Bus:
Continuous loop
2030 to 2300

Reminder:
The CDC
is open from
1800 - 2300

Available parking spots for personal vehicles outlined in red.

Bus pick up/drop off location is in the CAFB Club parking lot.

AF Birthday Ball Downtown Parking Plan

Entrance to AF Ball is on 5th Ave. Please do not use the 2nd Ave entrance.

To parking (use east ramp)

From Hwy 45/CAFB. Turn Right on 2nd Ave to Parking.

Signs/Posters Will Lead Pedestrians From Lots on 2nd Ave to 5th Ave Entrance

Additional Parking Across 5th Ave Next to Courthouse

Parking at Soccer Fields Holds 100+ Vehicles

Secondary Parking Lot Holds 100-120 Vehicles

From Hwy 45/CAFB

Hazardous chemicals at home answers to last week's puzzle

Across

- An exit for liquids.
- Ethanol or isopropyl are examples.
- Chemical in windshield wiper fluid that can be absorbed through the skin.
- Vinegar and lemon juice are these.
- When an acid and a base react and cancel each other out.
- Strong alkaline chemical that whitens fabric.
- Common acid found in yellow citrus.
- The interaction of two or more chemicals, sometimes violently.
- Acid made from wine.
- Baking soda is the most common household one.
- Type of soap usually recommended as a natural cleaning agent.

Down

- From nature.
- The cold gaseous phase of a chemical.
- Toxic chemical used in swimming pools.
- The least dense form of matter, or slang for petroleum.
- Acid used to help stabilize egg whites.
- Colorless liquid that is often used in glass cleaner.
- Basic chemical used in baking and as an antacid.
- Liquid commonly used as a first aid antiseptic.
- Natural hair and skin dye, usually reddish brown.
- People are becoming more concerned about these in their homes.
- The Universal solvent.
- Not dangerous

Airmen document Hurricane Irma with Hurricane Hunters

Maj. Hamilton B. Underwood
4th Combat Camera Squadron

JOINT BASE CHARLESTON, S.C. — It's not often that Air Force reservists arrive at Unit Training Assembly "week-end drill," and in short order find themselves flying into the eye of a hurricane, but that's exactly what happened to Staff Sgts. Kyle Brasier and Corban Lundborg with the 4th Combat Camera Squadron, Joint Base Charleston.

The two combat camera Reserve Airmen were en route from their homes in Stevensville, Michigan and Venice, California, respectively, when they were informed the UTA had been postponed due to the impending landfall of Hurricane Irma. They arrived as the evacuation order was issued and immediately attempted to book a return flight home, but were diverted to the hurricane instead of away from it.

Air Force Reserve Command rerouted them to Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, where they joined their fellow Reserve Airmen of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, "The Hurricane Hunters." Brasier and Lundborg soon found



U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Kyle Brasier

Tech. Sgt. Jenna Daniel, 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron loadmaster at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, communicates with the pilots of WC-130J Super Hercules during engine start for a mission to fly through the eye of Hurricane Irma, Sept. 10, 2017. The Air Force Reserve 53rd WRS "Hurricane Hunters" fly through hurricanes to collect weather data using aircraft and externally dropped sensors to provide accurate weather data to the National Hurricane Center.

themselves in a WC-130J Super Hercules flying through the eye of Hurricane Irma, documenting efforts to collect weather data using externally dropped sensors.

The sensors provide accurate weather data to the National Hurricane Center. Low-level, real-time data collection in Atlantic and Pacific Ocean tropical weath-

er systems can be a vital mission that is unique capability to the Air Force Reserve.

An artist who makes his living working in multiple mediums, Lundborg recently joined the 4th CTCS.

"This is exactly why I joined combat camera," he said. "I can combine my talent for visual storytelling and my desire to serve my country into a single action that has an immediate impact."

Lundborg's video has been picked up by multiple media organizations reaching millions and providing near real-time imagery.

A photojournalist who recently completed back-to-back missions in support of exercises Mobility Guardian and Patriot Warrior, Brasier was ready for the next opportunity to tell the Air Force story.

"I take tremendous pride in being an Air Force reservist and when I can tell the Citizen Airmen, it's awesome," said Brasier. "These Hurricane Hunters have a vital mission that I enjoyed documenting."

The two flew two missions passing through the eye of Hurricane Irma eight times before heading home after 22 hours of flight time with the 53rd WRS.



The 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron "Hurricane Hunters" fly WC-130J Super Hercules through the eye of active hurricanes to collect weather data using aircraft and externally dropped sensors to provide accurate weather data to the National Hurricane Center on approaching hurricanes, Sept. 10, 2017. The Reserve Airmen provide 100 percent of the Air Force capability in low-level, real time data collection in Atlantic and Pacific Ocean tropical weather systems.

Tech. Sgt. Karen Moore, 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron loadmaster at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, holds a dropsonde while flying into Hurricane Irma Sept. 8, 2017. The 53rd WRS "Hurricane Hunters" fly WC-130J Super Hercules through the eye of active hurricanes to collect weather data using aircraft and externally dropped sensors to provide accurate weather data to the National Hurricane Center on approaching hurricanes. The Reserve Airmen provide 100 percent of the Air Force capability in low-level, real time data collection in Atlantic and Pacific Ocean tropical weather systems.

Lt. Col. Duckworth and the 'Surprise Hurricane' of 1943

By Rufus Ward

As Hurricane Irma tracked across the Caribbean last week, we got frequent updates of where it was and where landfall might be. We got an indication of how strong it was and the disaster that would befall wherever it hit.

That was not always the case. Prior to the 1940s devastating hurricanes could surprise coastal communities, such as with the Galveston hurricane of 1900. Other than warnings from ships at sea, horrendous storms could strike with little notice.

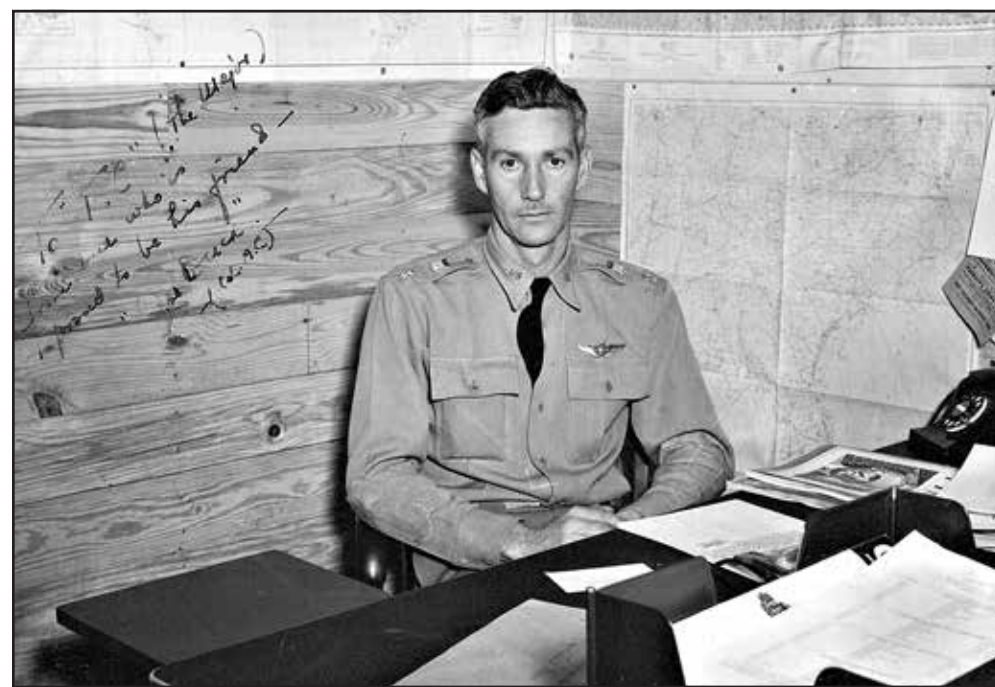
One of today's most important tools for tracking tropical storms and gauging their strength and potential are the Hurricane Hunters of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi. The story of their creation partly begins at Columbus Air Force Base. The first aircraft to fly through the eye of a hurricane and make weather observations was not a four engine WC-130J "Super Hercules" as flown by the Hurricane Hunters. It was a single engine AT-6 "Texan" trainer.

Major Joseph Duckworth arrived at Columbus Army Air Field (then Kaye Field) in early 1942. He rented a Columbus antebellum home and merged not only into his work at the base but also into the social life of the town. The April 1942 Columbus Pilgrimage Guide included the home now known as "Magnolia Hill" as a "Star Home" occupied by Major Joseph B. Duckworth. To the people of Columbus he became known simply as "Joe Duck."

Little did the citizens of Columbus know the important role in aviation that Col. Duckworth would play. That role became apparent in November 1942, when Duckworth's efforts to improve safety and better train pilots resulted in his accomplishments being featured in Time magazine. His innovations in instrument instruction and flying led to his being known as the "father of Air Force instrument flying."

He is less well-known for making history when he and Lt. Ralph O'Hair took off on an adventure in an AT-6 Texan airplane one July morning. It was an adventure that changed the way we look at weather.

During early 1942, the Army Air Force was experiencing an excessive rate of pilot training accidents and fatalities at all of its training bases. At the twin engine advanced flying school the Army had just opened at Columbus, base commander Col. Louie C. Mallory decided to do something about the



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Joseph Duckworth is shown at his desk at Columbus Army Air Field in 1942. He became known as the "Father of Air Force Instrument Flying," but to his friends in Columbus he was just "Joe Duck." In 1943, Duckworth became the first pilot to fly through a hurricane.

problem. He assigned his training director, Major Joseph B. Duckworth, to figure out the problem and fix it.

Many of the problems seemed to center on the twin engine A-29 Lockheed Hudson. Instructor pilots hated it and said it was "full of green dragons." It was the transition trainer to the B-26 bomber which combat pilots "loved."

What Duckworth found was the instructor pilots were not being properly trained to teach cadets how to fly a trainer-bomber that was "mighty hot to fledglings." Duckworth reported back to Mallory and the qualifications to become an instructor pilot at Columbus were upgraded. In addition, a "Flying Evaluation Board" of four officers to evaluate and retrain instructors was established. He also found a deficiency in instrument flying training and started the "full panel attitude system of instrument flying."

Between May and October of 1942 the number of students at Columbus doubled, but the number of accidents decreased by 44 percent. Soon instructor pilots from bases as far away as the Pacific Coast were sent to Columbus to be evaluated. Then in November of 1942, Major Gen. Ralph Royce put newly promoted Lt. Col. Duckworth's system

in place throughout the entire 56 station Southeast Training Command. The innovative success story of Mallory and Duckworth was then featured in a Nov. 30, 1942, Time article titled "Teaching the Teachers."

In 1943, Lt. Col. Duckworth became commander of the Army Air Forces "Instructors' School (Instrument Pilot)" at Bryan, Texas. It was there that Duckworth's adventure and aerial first occurred. On the morning of July 27, 1943, a hurricane was making landfall near Galveston, Texas. Duckworth and O'Hair were having breakfast with some veteran British pilots who were at the base learning the finer points of instrument flying. The British were kidding Duckworth because American airplanes were being flown away from the storm's path and they made jokes about the frailty of what they considered the unreliable AT-6 Texan. Duckworth got tired of the ribbing and, liking the Texan, bet the British a "highball" libation he could fly through the storm in the plane. No pilot had ever intentionally flown through a hurricane before as it was considered too dangerous. The British took Duckworth up on the bet and he and O'Hair had a AT-6 fueled up.

They took off from Bryan Field and headed for Galveston in an AT-6 Texan single engine

trainer. As they approached Galveston, the air traffic control tower at the Houston Airport asked them on the radio if they realized there was a hurricane. When informed of their plans, the tower asked where to send the search parties to find their wreckage.

O'Hair later recalled "being tossed about like a stick in a dog's mouth" until they entered the eye. They completed the flight and returned to Bryan Field, the first pilots to ever intentionally fly through a hurricane. Upon landing they were met by the base weather officer, Lt. William Jones-Burdick, who wanted to fly back through the storm and collect data. He climbed into the airplane and Duckworth flew through the storm a second time. Lt. Jones-Burdick made observation and kept a record, which showed the importance of the flight.

The Air Corps quickly realized the value of flying into a storm to measure its intensity and provide better warnings. Prior to Duckworth's flight, the only information on the path and intensity of hurricanes approaching the coast came from ships, but in 1943 there were German U-Boats operating off the Gulf coast and ships were required to maintain radio silence. Because of that, the hurricane Duckworth flew into at Galveston had only been reported the day before it hit. It was called "The Surprise Hurricane" making landfall as a Category 2 storm and killing 19 people, injuring several hundred more and destroying two refineries. Within a year, regular reconnaissance flights were being made into tropical storms and hurricanes. Out of Duckworth's flight evolved the Air Force Hurricane Hunters and modern tracking and study of hurricanes. Today, the Air Force "Hurricane Hunters" still fly into storms and are based at Keesler AFB in Biloxi and lately they have been very busy.

Col. Duckworth retired from the Air Force in 1955 and served for a time as the head of the safety bureau of the Civil Aeronautics Board in Washington, D.C. He died in 1964 in Battle Creek, Michigan. The significant innovations in pilot training developed by Col. Duckworth began at Columbus Army Air Field. His legacy remains at Columbus AFB with the continued training of the world's best pilots. His memory is recalled in the Base Operations Building, which is named for him and contains a small display honoring him.

(Editors note: This column first appeared in the Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017, edition of The Commercial Dispatch.)

Moody AFB evacuated 21 A-10s to Columbus AFB

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

In order to avoid possible damage from Hurricane Irma, 21 A-10 Thunderbolt IIs from the 75th Fighter Squadron and a HC-130J Combat King II evacuated from Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, and began arriving here Sept. 8; the HC-130J was transporting aircrew.

As Hurricane Irma approached parts of Georgia and Alabama it was classified as a tropical storm, with sustained wind speeds of 50 mph, according to the National Hurricane Center.

The decision to leave Moody AFB and come to Columbus was made Sept. 6, said 1st Lt. Ryan Noblin, 75th Aircraft Maintenance Unit Officer in Charge. He said the squadron has several locations identified in their hurricane evacuation plan, and where they go is based on which direction the hurricane or storm is going.

According to Master Sgt. Anthony Spencer, 75th AMU maintenance project officer, preparing for this evacuation was challenging because when the A-10 deploys, it requires more than just the pilot, but also a team of aircrew that are able to support the jet. He said when they received the evacuation notice, half of his team was participating in an exercise at Nellis AFB, Nevada.

"You have to identify the people, which sounds easy, like 'oh just pick names,' but just like any other [Air Force specialty code, we have to have] different skill levels, different levels of competency, so we can't just take anybody," Spencer said.

With half of his team TDY, he said it made finding Airmen to support the evacuation even more challenging.

Noblin said aside from finding the people, planning



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross

Capt. James Knauss, 74th Fighter Squadron home station detachment commander at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, prepares his A-10 Thunderbolt II for takeoff Sept. 13, 2017, at Columbus AFB, Mississippi. Knauss and several other pilots left Columbus Air Force Base Sept. 13 to return to Moody AFB and other locations.



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Amanda Savannah

Three A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft from Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, taxi to the SAC Ramp Sept. 8, 2017, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. The aircraft were evacuated to Columbus AFB to avoid possible damage from Hurricane Irma.

the logistics of which aircraft will be hangared and which will evacuate was also something the team had to overcome.

Maj. Thomas Harney, 75th FS Director of Operations, said the team at Columbus AFB made the arrival as smooth as could be.

"Columbus Air Force Base was incredibly proactive and responsive with assisting us in getting out here and everything we need, especially for such a large footprint all these aircraft have," Harney said. "We can't be more thankful for what they were able to do for us."

Lt. Col. Michael Cancellare, 14th Flying Training Wing Chief of Wing Plans and Programs, said multiple organizations played a part in making this evacuation and transition as easy as possible for the Airmen coming from Moody AFB. Airmen throughout 14th FTW units handled the logistics, like lodging, flightline arrangements and ensuring meeting the needs of the aircrew and aircraft.

The A-10s left Columbus AFB Sept. 13 to return to Moody AFB and other locations.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb

Airman 1st Class Michael Polprasert, A-10 Thunderbolt II crew chief with the 23rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, checks an A-10 Sept. 13, 2017, as it prepares to depart from Columbus AFB, Mississippi. Crew chiefs are tasked with the responsibility to find and aid in servicing aircraft they are assigned to.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

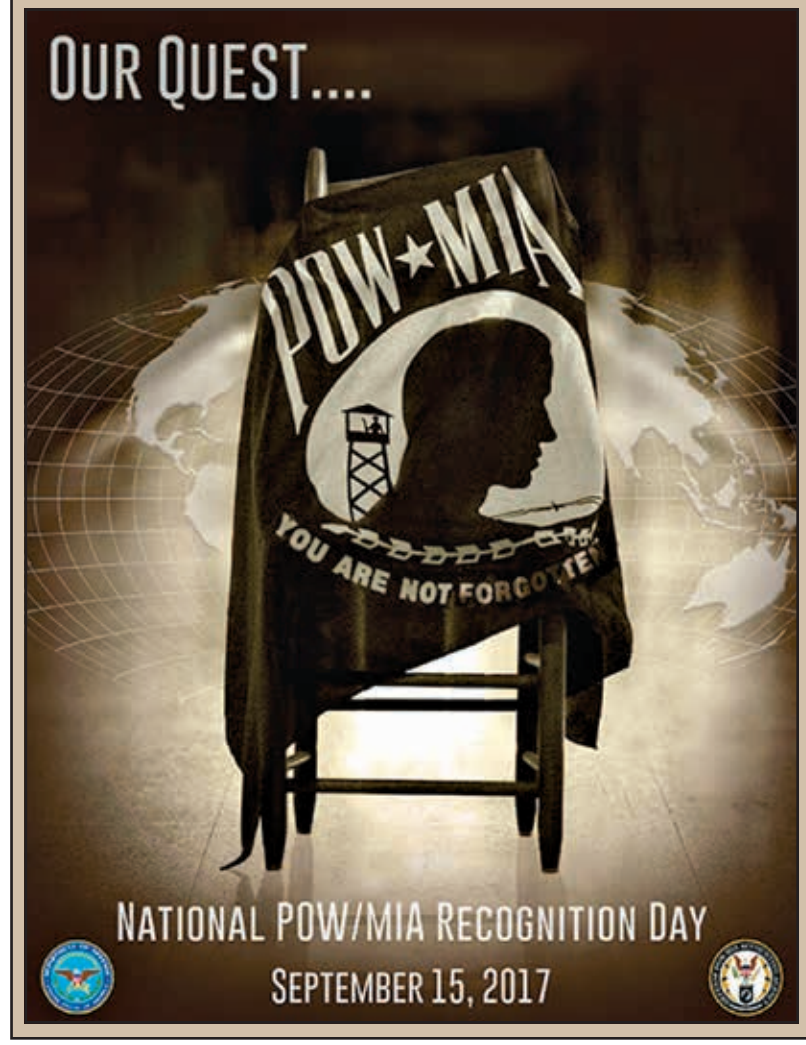
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

WASHINGTON — Observances of National Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. It is traditionally observed on the third Friday in September each year. This observance is one of six days throughout the year that Congress has mandated the flying of the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag. The others are Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

The flag is to be flown at major military installations, national cemeteries, all post offices, VA medical facilities, the World War II Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the official offices of the secretaries of state, defense and veterans affairs, the director of the selective service system and the White House.

A Pentagon ceremony featuring members of each branch of military service is held annually on National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

For more information about the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and their mission go to www.dpaa.mil.



Hangar tails: B-2 Spirit

Mission

The B-2 Spirit is a multi-role bomber capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions. A dramatic leap forward in technology, the bomber represents a major milestone in the U.S. bomber modernization program. The B-2 brings massive firepower to bear, in a short time, anywhere on the globe through previously impenetrable defenses.

Features

The B-2 provides the penetrating flexibility and effectiveness inherent in manned bombers. Its low-observable, or “stealth,” characteristics give it the unique ability to penetrate an enemy’s most sophisticated defenses and threaten its most valued, and heavily defended, targets. Its capability to penetrate air defenses and threaten effective retaliation provides a strong, effective deterrent and combat force well into the 21st century.

The revolutionary blending of low-observable technologies with high aerodynamic efficiency and large payload gives the B-2 important advantages over existing bombers. Its low-observability provides it greater freedom of action at high altitudes, thus increasing its range and a better field of view for the aircraft’s sensors. Its unrefueled range is approximately 6,000 nautical miles (9,600 kilometers).

The B-2’s low observability is derived from a combination of reduced infrared, acoustic, electromagnetic, visual and radar signatures. These signatures make it difficult for the sophisticated defensive systems to detect, track and engage the B-2. Many aspects of the low-observability process remain classified; however, the B-2’s composite materials, special coatings and flying-wing design all contribute to its “stealth-

iness.”

The B-2 has a crew of two pilots, a pilot in the left seat and mission commander in the right, compared to the B-1B’s crew of four and the B-52’s crew of five.

Background

The first B-2 was publicly displayed on Nov. 22, 1988, when it was rolled out of its hangar at Air Force Plant 42, Palmdale, California. Its first flight was July 17, 1989. The B-2 Combined Test Force, Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base, California, is responsible for flight testing the engineering, manufacturing and development aircraft on the B-2.

Whiteman AFB, Missouri, is the only operational base for the B-2. The first aircraft, Spirit of Missouri, was delivered Dec. 17, 1993. Depot maintenance responsibility for the B-2 is performed by Air Force contractor support and is managed at the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center at Tinker AFB, Okla.

The combat effectiveness of the B-2 was proved in Operation Allied Force, where it was responsible for destroying 33 percent of all Serbian targets in the first eight weeks, by flying nonstop to Kosovo from its home base in Missouri and back. In support of Operation Enduring Freedom, the B-2 flew one of its longest missions to date from Whiteman to Afghanistan and back. The B-2 completed its first-ever combat deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, flying 22 sorties from a forward operating location as well as 27 sorties from Whiteman AFB and releasing more than 1.5 million pounds of munitions. The aircraft received full operational capability status in December 2003. On Feb. 1, 2009, the Air Force’s

newest command, Air Force Global Strike Command, assumed responsibility for the B-2 from Air Combat Command.

The prime contractor, responsible for overall system design and integration, is Northrop Grumman Integrated Systems Sector. Boeing Military Airplanes Co., Hughes Radar Systems Group, General Electric Aircraft Engine Group and Vought Aircraft Industries, Inc., are key members of the aircraft contractor team.

General characteristics

Primary function: multi-role heavy bomber
Contractor: Northrop Grumman Corp. and Contractor Team: Boeing Military Airplanes Co., Hughes Radar Systems Group, General Electric Aircraft Engine Group and Vought Aircraft Industries, Inc.

Power plant: four General Electric F118-GE-100 engines
Thrust: 17,300 pounds each engine
Wingspan: 172 feet (52.12 meters)
Length: 69 feet (20.9 meters)
Height: 17 feet (5.1 meters)
Weight: 160,000 pounds (72,575 kilograms)
Maximum takeoff weight: 336,500 pounds (152,634 kilograms)

Fuel capacity: 167,000 pounds (75,750 kilograms)
Payload: 40,000 pounds (18,144 kilograms)
Speed: high subsonic
Range: intercontinental
Ceiling: 50,000 feet (15,240 meters)
Armament: conventional or nuclear weapons
Crew: two pilots
Unit cost: Approximately \$1.157 billion (fiscal 1998 constant dollars)

Initial operating capability: April 1997
Inventory: active force: 20 (1 test); ANG: 0; Reserve: 0 (Current as of December 2015)



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Micajah Anthony

A U.S. Air Force B-2 Spirit from Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, flies away after receiving fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker assigned to the 100th Air Refueling Wing, RAF Mildenhall, England, off the coast of Spain, June 13, 2017. Two B-2s deployed to the U.K. to participate in theater bomber assurance and deterrence operations. Bomber deployments enhance the readiness and training necessary to respond to any contingency or challenge across the globe.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Ken Bergmann

A B-2 Spirit bomber prepares to receive fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker during a mission in the European theater supporting NATO Operation Allied Force. The B-2 Spirit is a multi-role bomber capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions. A dramatic leap forward in technology, the bomber represents a major milestone in the U.S. bomber modernization program. The B-2 brings massive firepower to bear, in a short time, anywhere on the globe through previously impenetrable defenses.

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.)

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. For more information, please contact the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 434-2790.

Pre and Post Deployment Tour Brief

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

Career Technical Training

This transition event is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 18-19. The Career Technical Training workshop explores technical careers for post military personnel using Veterans Affairs’ educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, a private company contracted by the VA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of eight participants. To register and for more information, call 434-2790.

Federal USAJobs Workshop

The Federal USAJobs Workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. Sept. 20. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications and job search, using USAJobs. To register, call 434-2790.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

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

Linked-In Workshop

The Linked-In workshop is from 2-5 p.m. Sept. 25-26 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Learn how to establish and use a Linked-In account. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

The Wing Newcomers Orientation is from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Columbus Club. The orientation is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Columbus AFB wingmen plan for future



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Marcello Peray-Genovese

Wingmen of Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, took turns speaking at the Wingman Dinner Sept. 12, 2017. A wingman is a civilian that supports Columbus AFB and typically is involved with community partnership programs within the base. They spoke about future wingmen and gathered input from all the wingmen in attendance.

Spouses are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop is from 1-2 p.m. Sept. 26. The workshop allows Veterans Affairs’ 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 434-2839/2790.

STOMP

A Specialized Training of Military Parents webinar training opportunity will be from 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sept. 28 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. STOMP is a parent-directed program and exists to empower military parents, individuals with disabilities, professional and community members with knowledge, skills, information, resources and support for all types of disabilities. The training will include TRICARE and applied behavior analysis. For more information and to register by Sept. 25, please call 434 -2790.

Hearts Apart

The Hearts Apart Social Program’s monthly event will be from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 28. The event provides community bonding, fun and appreciation for the families of active-duty personnel who are deployed, remote or on an extended temporary duty assignment. Food and activities will be provided. For more information, call 434-2790.

Resume and Cover Letter

This workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. Oct. 4 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. This workshop gives you preparation for writing effective civilian resumes and cover letters. To sign up call 434-2839/2790.

Smooth Move

This class is from 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 12 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. This class 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. For more information, please call 434-2790 to register.

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 Jamey Coleman, SBP counselor, at (662) 434-2720.

Military and Family Life Counselor Program

The Military and Family Life Counselor Program 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 marital issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All counselors 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.

Personal Financial Resources

Need help with financial matters? Want to make the most of your money? The Personal Financial Counselor can help you and your family: manage finances; resolve financial problems; and reach long-term goals such as education, buying a home and planning for retirement. PFC services are no cost, private and confidential. For more information, call the PFC at (662) 998-0411 or 434-2790, or email PFC.Columbus.USAF@zeiders.com; the PFC is also located in the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

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

Sundays:
3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex) Start date TBA
4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. – Mass
Fellowship Dinner after Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month
Tuesdays:
11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass
Wednesdays:
11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

Protestant Community

Sundays:
9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service
Wednesdays:
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal
Thursdays:
5:30 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)

Ecumenical services

Wednesdays:
6 p.m. – AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade
6 p.m. – Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John
6 p.m. – Youth Group

Position opening

The Columbus AFB Chapel is looking for an Account Manager. Submit all inquiries by Sept. 21. Contact the chapel at 434-2500 for more information.

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbliving, Instagram at columbus_afb_living, or visit our website at www.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.

Youth Fall Soccer

The Youth Center is offering Youth Fall Soccer for ages 3-18. All games played on base. Register no later than Sept. 15. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Lap Swim

Independence Pool is offering lap swimming from 6-7:30 a.m. Monday-Friday until Sept. 22. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Free Annual Day for Kids

The Youth Center is offering a free day for kids Sept. 22 from 4-5:30 p.m. Enjoy fun, food and prizes. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Free Triathlon

The Fitness Center is offering a free triathlon starting at 7 a.m. Sept. 23 at Independence Pool. Each adult participant will swim 300 meters, bike 22K, and run 5K. Individual, team, and youth categories available. For ages 5 years and up. For more information, contact 434-2772.

Free Breakfast for Club Members

The Columbus Club is offering a free breakfast for club members from 6:30-9 a.m. Sept. 26. The cost is \$8 for nonmembers. The buffet will feature build your own breakfast taco. Speak with any Club staff member to find out how you can become connected with Club membership to enjoy the perks of free monthly breakfast and other great deals and discounts. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Play Paintball

Book your next paintball event at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$10 per person for party of 10 or more; \$15 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$50 per case of 2,000 paint balls. For more information, contact 434-2505.

The Overrun Open Friday Nights

The Overrun is open from 4:30 p.m.-midnight Fridays. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Library Hours of Operation

The Base Library hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday from 8 a.m.-noon. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? Arts & Crafts is looking for craft instructors, for more information, contact 434-7836.

Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair

Lawn mower repair is now available at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$40 per hour plus parts; pickup and delivery available. Self-help bicycle repair is also available. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Referees Needed

Referees needed for various sports at the Fitness Center. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-2772.

Make Your Shopping Easier

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. Purchase your gift card at one of the following locations: Bowling Center, Golf Course or Youth Center. For more information, contact 434-3426.

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.

Instructors Needed

The Youth Center is seeking instructors for tumbling classes, dance classes, piano and guitar lessons. For more information, contact the Youth Center.

Fitness on Request

Columbus Air Force Base 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. Call 434-2505 for more information.

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.

To honor with dignity

Master Sgt. Damon Snead
Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard

All honorably discharged military service members and veterans, once they have passed, are entitled to the folding of the American flag, presentation of the American flag and the playing of taps.

The Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard is tasked with performing military funeral honors for an area of responsibility that includes 74 counties throughout two states. As the program manager, I am responsible for oversight of the honor guard mission which is perform military funeral honors for fallen service members and participate in wing and community events as directed by the Wing Commander.

Dignity, what does that mean to us? Dignity is the quality or state of being worthy, honored, or esteemed. Every member past or present of the armed services raised their hand to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. What better way to show our appreciation

to the fallen by presenting the American flag to their loved ones thanking them for their loved one's service to our country.

The guardsmen and women who perform the honors can be the only interaction the family members of the fallen has ever had with the military. We represent every member of the U.S. Air Force, past and present. Every time I fold the American flag or hear the playing of taps, I shed tears knowing that the loved one in front of me is hurting.

When I fold the flag at a funeral and the family member says thank you, that gives me comfort knowing that I helped a family member obtain comfort by presenting the flag.

The honor guard performs funerals (Air Force fallen members), colors presentation and posting, firing party (21-gun salutes), and pallbearers. Base honor guard members are selected by their commanders to perform with the honor guard for a total of nine months. Three months on duty and three months back at their work centers. After one more stretch of

Dignity is the quality or state of being worthy, honored, or esteemed. Every member past or present of the armed services raised their hand to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. What better way to show our appreciation to the fallen by presenting the American flag to their loved ones thanking them for their loved one's service to our country.

three months on, the member returns to their units. I highly encourage any Team BLAZE member who desires to join the honor guard to let their supervisor know. Please contact Master Sgt. Damon Snead or Staff Sgt. Janessa Ebbert at 434-2316 for any questions.

Columbus AFB firefighters remember heroes of 9/11



U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
Four 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Airmen climb stairs Sept. 11, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, in honor of fallen firefighters. The firefighters climbed 50 stairs and swapped until they completed 341 steps in honor of the 341 fallen firefighters who sacrificed their lives during the 9/11 terrorist attacks.



Col. Anthony Sansano, 14th Mission Support Group Commander, speaks with 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Airmen Sept. 11, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Firefighters from the 14th CES climbed stairs in honor of the fallen firefighters who died during the 9/11 terrorist attacks.



Three 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Airmen perform exercises Sept. 11, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, in honor of fallen firefighters. They performed multiple exercises and allowed other service members to do stair climbs in honor of the fallen firefighters who died during the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Visit www.columbus.af.mil to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2017

Sept. 25 - Boy Scout Fire Safety Presentations
Sept. 26 - Caledonia Elementary School visits
Sept. 27 - Girl Scout Fire Safety Presentation
Sept. 28 - CDC and Youth Center visits 4-6 p.m.
 Live fire extinguisher training @ Hunt Housing building - OPEN to ALL
Sept. 29: Community Bonfire. S'more's and a free movie 6:30-8:30 pm. @ Fire Station 1
Sept. 30 - Parade and Open House
 9 a.m. - Parade through Housing
 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m - Open House at Fire Station
 Live fire demo's, bouncy castles, give aways and free lunch @ Fire Station

Daily activities Sept 25 - 29
 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fire safety demonstrations @ BX

By appointment - in home fire evacuation plan
 Custom family evacuation plan
 Assistance developing family fire alarm
 Interactive experience for the whole family
 For more information, contact Pete Dellilo at 434-2262 or via e-mail @ peter.dellilo@us.af.mil

Columbus AFB Honor Guard leads the way

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
14th Flying Training Wing



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guardsmen practice folding the American flag into the traditional tri-fold Sept. 12, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Guardsmen need to ensure the flag is folded neatly in order to present it to the family of a deceased veteran.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
Airman 1st Class Cameron Newhouse, Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guardsman, inspects his uniform Sept. 13, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. A guardsman's uniform must be in pristine condition, free of lint and wrinkles. Guardsmen pride themselves on the sharpness of their uniform.

The Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard's overall mission is to render military honors to fallen active-duty Airmen and veterans. This requires a group of sharp and precise Airmen.

To be a member of the honor guard, an Airman must undergo about a month of training to be certified on all aspects of rendering honors at events such as military funerals, presenting the colors, firing parties and other tasks.

"A sharp Honor Guard Airman must be motivated and ready to render military honors for the fallen active-duty and veteran Airman," said Master Sgt. Damon Snead, NCO in Charge of Columbus AFB Honor Guard. "That Airman must be willing to drive four hours on a Saturday, render military honors for the fallen, and drive back. Sometimes there will be multiple events in one day and the guardsmen must be on time and still looking professional."

The next step is ensuring their specialized uniforms are in pristine condition. The uniforms first have to be dry cleaned in downtown Columbus. Then the uniforms are brought back to the Walker Center on base, and are steamed by the guardsmen. They then inspect the uniforms for any lint and remove any visible strings. Lastly, the guardsmen add their decorations and badges, paying extreme attention to detail.

"The guardsmen are meticulous with the uniforms," said Staff Sgt. Tremaine Jones, NCO in Charge of C Flight.

There are currently three flights of guardsmen that are on a three-month rotation. One flight will train for a month, be on-call for the next and be off for the last month. However, there will be a new rotation schedule and only two flights starting Oct. 1. The new schedule allows guardsmen to be full-time for three months.

Their area of responsibility covers 40,000 square miles, over 70 counties in two states. They also perform at community events such as Prisoners Of War/Missing In Action remembrance events, Veterans Day, Memorial Day, retreat ceremonies, military retirements and other formal events. They participate in about 100 community events and 250 funerals annually.

Strong military bearing is a crucial trait that guardsmen must possess in order to complete their mission.

"Presenting the flag to the family is very emotional," Jones said. "Sometimes we are presenting the flag to the deceased's child or spouse and the guardsmen can't let what's going on inside of them affect the mission."

Snead said that Airmen's time in the honor guard has a way of changing them. Most times Airmen volunteer to be a guardsman, but there are some who are "voluntold" and Snead thinks those are the ones who are affected the most.

"The honor guard changes Airmen," Snead said. "It allows them to become more professional and show them there is something out there bigger than themselves. After the first time they present a flag to a family, they come to me and say 'Sergeant Snead that was a hard one today' then the next day they are back and ready to work and ask if there is anything to do."



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert

TOP: The Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard performs a retreat ceremony May 25, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. In addition to funerals, guardsmen also participate in multiple community and volunteer events.

LEFT: Airman 1st Class Robert Carrico, Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guardsman, practices drill movements with the M-14 rifle Sept. 13, 2017, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. Guardsmen must be trained and certified before they can execute the 21-gun salute at a military funeral.