

Base education survey results to be released

Before summer vacation gets rolling, the results of the recent base-wide public education survey will be presented to the base community at 6:30 p.m. May 12 at a town hall meeting in the base theater.

All assigned Columbus AFB families are invited.

The education survey, completed in March and tallied in early April, gave Columbus AFB people the opportunity to provide feedback on the educational setting, quality and curriculum available in the Columbus Municipal School District, Lowndes County and in private and parochial schools. The comprehensive survey revealed satisfaction levels with the educational options available to base families.

"This was our first attempt in recent memory at capturing the educational opinions and experiences of base families," said Col. Keith Keck, 14th Mission Support Group commander. Colonel Keck also serves as the liaison to the city board of education.

The survey uncovered some expected concerns, he said, focusing on the atmosphere, academics and safety at nearby schools attended by base children. It also touched upon day-to-day challenges such as drive time, bus schedules and discipline.

Many respondents compared Columbus with their educational experiences at other bases.

Colonel Keck has gathered data from several other Air Education and Training Command bases and noted that many of the concerns expressed here in Columbus also exist at other bases.

"The results for Columbus were more balanced (positive and negative) than we expected," Colonel Keck said. "We will use this as a baseline tool as we work to strengthen our relationship and communications with new school superintendent, Dr. Lester Beason, with the local school board and with others involved in education.

Dr. Beason arrived at Columbus from New Mexico in December as the interim superintendent and was recently confirmed under a permanent contract with the Columbus Municipal School District.

"We know there are issues here," he said. "Many are similar to the issues seen in school districts across the nation. We in Columbus are fortunate to have devoted teachers and the involvement of the base families.

"Though education in general lacks the funding to accomplish all we'd like, with parental involvement we can solve many issues and ensure a good learning environment for our youngsters." (Courtesy of 14th Mission Support Group)



Kenn Brown

What so proudly we hail'd...

Staff Sgt. Timothy Panzer and Airman 1st Class Jared Keith, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Jason Herndon, 14th Communications Squadron, prepare their paperwork for a deployment exercise line. Columbus AFB performed a readiness exercise April 14 through April 16.

CAFB slated for privatization in 2006

2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore
Public Affairs

Columbus AFB is one of eight Air Education and Training Command installations recently bundled into a single housing privatization project slated for award in March 2006.

Col. David Bird, the AETC Civil Engineer, made the announcement during a housing privatization conference at Randolph AFB, Texas, March 29.

"The goal of Columbus housing privatization is to provide our Airmen high quality housing without any out-of-pocket cost," said Rod Roberts,

14th Civil Engineering Squadron deputy commander. "The proposal will provide us new houses faster, with more space and amenities such as two-car garages, screened-in porches, playgrounds, sports courts and more."

The Air Force currently faces the problem of replacing or renovating about 40,000 housing units deemed inadequate, as well as providing continued maintenance, management and support for existing units — an effort that would cost more than \$7 billion in unavailable housing funds.

The Military Housing Privatization Initiative, part of the 1996 National Defense Authorization Act, is

designed to help improve housing conditions for servicemembers and their families in order to increase quality of life, readiness, morale and retention.

The goal of privatization is to provide military families with safe, quality, affordable, well-maintained homes complete with a variety of modernized amenities.

Privatization alleviates the red tape associated with traditional military construction, and helps place families in upgraded homes in the fastest manner possible.

See HOUSING, Page 2

CAFB financier selected to attend law school

A member of the BLAZE TEAM was selected to attend law school through the Air Force Funded Legal Education Program April 16.

First Lieutenant Steven Koester, 14th Flying Training Wing financial analysis deputy chief, was selected to become a member of the Air Force JAG Corps upon completion of his law school studies at Florida State University.

"It's always exciting when I have the opportunity to see someone realize their dream," said Kaye Lee, 14th Comptroller Flight financial analysis chief. "Although Lt. Koester has been in the budget office less than a year, I've been very impressed with his aggressiveness and eagerness to learn.

"Being my deputy is not an easy job, and he has really stepped up to the plate. I am confident he's going to be an outstanding Air Force attorney."

Through FLEP, commissioned officers who have served on active duty for at least two years but not more than six years may apply to have the Air Force pay for law school. During this time, officers also maintain their pay.

Upon successful completion of law school, they become Air Force lawyers.

"FLEP is an awesome opportunity the Air Force offers to company grade officers, and it is truly an honor to be given this opportunity to enter the JAG Corps," Lieutenant Koester said.

The lieutenant competed against 64 other Air Force members and was one of



1st Lt. Steven Koester
14th Flying Training Wing

only 12 officers selected for the program.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be in the pay grade of O-3 or below as of the first day of law school classes. Funded Legal Education Program candidates must fully complete the application then successfully take the Law School Aptitude Test and interview with a staff judge advocate.

Throughout the process, members of the base legal office and the Recruitment Branch of the Judge Advocate General's Department are available to answer questions and walk people through the process.

"This is a very selective program and the process is highly competitive," said Capt. Deric Prescott, 14th Flying Training Wing deputy staff judge advocate. "The selection rate for Lieutenant Koester's board was less than 18 percent. But clearly, his grades, a good score on the LSAT and a positive interview with the SJA led to his selection to the Air Force JAG Corps. We are very proud of his accomplishment."

Applications for FLEP are due every March. People interested in applying next year are encouraged to take the LSAT as soon as possible, and begin collecting letters of recommendation and putting together an application package.

The legal office is available for assistance during the process and can answer questions regarding the program. For more information call Ext. 7030. (Courtesy of the Legal Office)

HOUSING (Continued from Page 1)

"Housing privatization is faster because money in the private sector is more readily available since projects show greater return on investment for potential developers and finance companies," Mr. Roberts said. "Traditional military construction is money appropriated by Congress; it's a slow process and it competes with all other appropriations within the Department of Defense."

Under the program, the Air Force essentially leases a portion of land to a private developer for a period of 50 years. The developer is then responsible for the full spectrum of financing, planning, designing, constructing, operating and maintaining the privatized housing area.

Military members who eventually move into privatized housing units will sign individual leases with the developer, and pay rent in the form of basic allowance for housing via monthly allotment.

Although the Columbus AFB project is in its initial planning stages, it took a baby step Monday when the first project development team workshop met on base to discuss the elements of a successful housing project.

Columbus AFB is scheduled to receive a minimum of 250 housing units through privatization which, coupled with current housing units, will bring the base to a full complement of 452 housing units.

Construction of new housing units on Columbus AFB could begin as early as October 2006.

Columbus AFB is grouped with Maxwell AFB, Ala.; Tyndall AFB, Fla.; Keesler AFB, Miss.; Laughlin AFB, Texas; Goodfellow AFB, Texas; Vance AFB; Okla. and Randolph AFB, Texas for the single contract privatization project.

(Editor's note: Additional articles on the privatization process will be featured in upcoming issues of the Silver Wings.)



Courtesy photo

Ready for more responsibility

The 14th Flying Training Wing congratulates the April enlisted promotees. Pictured are (from left to right, front to back): to airman first class: Troy Teigen, 14th Civil Engineering Squadron; to staff sergeant: Kerri Clapsadle, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; to airman first class: Jamie Lee, 14th MDOS; Nikiah Trimble, 37th Flying Training Squadron; to senior airman: John Lyman, 14th Operations Support Squadron; Dustin Ashmore, 14th OSS; to airman first class: Michael Peacock, 14th CES; to staff sergeant: Carl Densford, 14th OSS; Jason Stone, 14th OSS; to technical sergeant: Glenn Armstrong, 14th Mission Support Group; to master sergeant: Clarence Duff, 14th Security Forces Squadron; to senior master sergeant: Stephen Gregory and Mary Hughson, 14th FTW.

Not pictured are:
To master sergeant:
Kyle McKellips, 14th Medical Support Squadron

To senior airman:
Victor Nanez, 14th CES

Starting young: Columbus school district third graders get hands-on lessons at Earth Day event

Tech. Sgt. Jim Moser
Public Affairs

The 14th Flying Training Wing hosted an annual Earth Day celebration April 16, at Freedom Park.

Third graders from the Columbus School District visited the Columbus AFB for this event.

"We look forward to Earth Day each year because the



At her "Wetland Wonders" station, Janet Chapman, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, shows students how much erosion occurs during construction.

children have so much fun learning about their environment," said Renee Howell, Earth Day coordinator. "It is also exciting to see community involvement."

Col. Stephen Wilson, 14th FTW commander, welcomed everyone to the celebration.

The colonel said it is important that natural resources are protected. At Columbus AFB, people work hard to save energy and recycle to protect the environment, he said.

He encouraged the children to learn a lot and have fun.

The children visited 12 different environmental stations manned by different organizations from all over the state. Students also had a chance to "guess the weight" of a bale of recycled material to win t-shirts.

The Columbus AFB Pollution Prevention Program also provided a cap for each student with an Earth Day logo on it.

Other activities included horseshoes, a moonwalk and face painting.

"This is the second Earth Day celebration at Columbus AFB, and both years we have had tremendous support with regards to transportation and food," Ms. Howell said. "The participation from state and local agencies and local businesses who provided the learning stations for the kids made this event possible."



Photos by Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

Columbus school district third graders inspect a fox pelt while learning about wildlife native to Mississippi. About 400 students attended the event.

NEWS BRIEFS

Volunteer appreciation coffee

The family support center is having a volunteer appreciation coffee at 2 p.m. today in honor of National Volunteer Week. All Columbus AFB personnel who have volunteered during the past year are invited to attend. For more information, call ext. 2790.

Chief's induction ceremony

Two Columbus AFB senior master sergeants will become chiefs in an induction ceremony at 6 p.m. today at the Columbus Club. The guest speaker is Chief Master Sgt. Timmothy Dickens, 19th Air Force command chief. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Lewis Mohr at Ext. 2633.

Boy Scouts

A golf scramble benefit for Boy Scout Troop 52 is at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Whispering Pines Golf Course. The fundraiser is a four-person nine-hole scramble, and is open to all civilian and military golfers. Cost is \$30 per person including greens fees, a barbecued burger lunch and prizes. For more information, call Ext. 2729 or Ext. 7932.

Change of command

Lt. Col. Paul Judge will relinquish command of the 48th Flying Training Squadron to Lt. Col. Lloyd Ballard in a change-of-command ceremony at 8:48 a.m. Monday at Ceremonial Plaza. For more information, call Ext. 7608.



Airman 1st Class Boto Best

Learning to protect the earth

Lt. Col. William Sherman, 14th Mission Support Group deputy commander, and Col. John Burgess, 14th Flying Training Wing vice commander, plant a tree with children at the child development center as part of an Arbor Day celebration April 16 at the center. A representative from the Mississippi Forestry Commission presented Columbus AFB with a Tree City USA award for the 11th year in a row for its commitment to tree planting, and a Growth Award for demonstrating a higher level of tree care.

View from the Top – AFAF shows commitment to caring

Gen. Don Cook
AETC commander



RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — The men and women serving in Air Education and Training Command are renowned for their commitment to excellence in everything we do. We are also recognized for our commitment to caring.

Time and again, you and your fellow teammates in the First Command have demonstrated uncommon generosity and have taken every opportunity to help others in need, especially those in our Air Force family through your generous contributions to the Air Force Assistance Fund.

This service-wide campaign is designed to help Airmen and their families with emergency assistance, education grants, volunteer childcare, community

enhancement programs and assisted living for our veterans and their widowed spouses.

AFAF gives Airmen the opportunity to directly help other Airmen by contributing to four charitable organizations that benefit active-duty, reserve, guard and retired Air Force people and their families, including surviving spouses.

The organizations are the Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Village, Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund, and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.

In 2003, the Air Force's contributions totaled \$5.1 million, 122 percent of the Air Force goal. This year's goal of \$5.2 million was set to ensure these charities have the necessary funds to continue supporting our Air Force family during such hardships as deployment, illness and death.

Last year, AETC contributed more than \$1 million to the AFAF campaign. During the same year, people in AETC received well over \$2 million of assistance from the AFAF in one form or another.

As we near the end of this year's AFAF campaign, I am very proud the people of our command have again so willingly and generously participated in this very worthwhile opportunity to help others.

I realize some of our wings have already closed out their individual campaigns for this year, but we still have a few weeks to go before the campaign officially ends May 7.

Opportunities exist for all our people to participate if they so desire. Thus far during this year's campaign, about 30 percent of those eligible to participate have done so.

The decision to contribute to the AFAF is an individual choice, but I ask that you remember this campaign is where we help our own and favorably consider taking an opportunity to participate in this very worthwhile endeavor.

Your contribution directly benefits everyone in the Air Force family, and no one knows when they will need to outreach to AFAF through their first sergeant, commander, supervisor or friend.

STRAIGHT TALK LINE

The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.

The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724.

People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main website at www.columbus.af.mil.

Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.

Dining facility privileges for Air National Guard members

Question: Is it possible to change the dining facility's policies to allow Air National Guard members to eat there for breakfast and lunch? There are quite a few guard members working on base and I think it would benefit the dining facility's bottom line.

Answer: Air National Guard personnel on temporary duty orders indicating they are receiving the meal portion of per diem are authorized to eat in the dining facility. They must present identification, a copy of their TDY orders and pay the meal cost plus a surcharge. We welcome all guard members

during their official duty time. During non-duty status, however, guard members are considered to be civilians.

Meals for civilians in the dining facility cannot be authorized with our current options of Robin Hood, Anthony's Pizza, Subway, the Columbus Club and the bowling center. I appreciate your comments and invite you to take advantage of any of these meal options here at Columbus AFB.

Col. Stephen Wilson
14th Flying Training Wing commander

SILVER WINGS

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724, Columbus AFB, Miss., phone 434-7069, or e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil by 2 p.m. Friday. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary.

Silver Wings Editorial Staff

14th FTW commander

Col. Stephen Wilson
Chief, Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Rick Johnson

Editors

Airman 1st Class Boto Best
Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

Key phone numbers

Base Exchange.....	434-6013
Chaplain.....	434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk.....	434-2856
Civilian Personnel.....	434-2635
Clinic:	
Family Practice.....	434-2172
Appointment Desk.....	434-2273
After Hours Care.....	434-2273
Columbus Club.....	434-2489
Commissary.....	434-7106
Finance.....	434-2706
Housing Maintenance.....	434-7370
Inspector General.....	434-2927
Legal Office.....	434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity.....	434-2546
Security Forces.....	434-7129
Shoppette.....	434-6026

Help conserve energy for our base, our future

Lt. Col. Joseph Lacatus
14th Civil Engineer Squadron



As I drive throughout the base and occasionally stop and visit housing, one thing stands out clearly: People aren't thinking about saving energy. Carport lights are continuously left on; garages are left open all night; garage lights are left on all night; air conditioning and heating are left on high settings with no concern about the amount of energy wasted.

Living on base is one of our military benefits that we take for granted. More often, it is cheaper to live on base than off. Living off base usually costs more due to our out-of-pocket utility costs, which fluctuate with the seasons.

During one wing standup meeting a few weeks ago, someone brought up the fact that the cost of electricity and gas for their house was a couple of hundred dollars per month.

Those who live on base should think about energy consumption just as those who have to pay their utility bills off base. Although the base pays the utility bills, we indirectly pick up the tab through our taxes.

In the wintertime, some people crank up the heat so they can walk around indoors in T-shirts and barefoot. During the summer, I've seen people crank up the air

conditioner and open windows for fresh air. This is not something you would consider doing if you directly paid your utility bills, so why do it on base?

When I confronted someone living in base housing about his AC being cranked up, he said he felt it was his right because he was giving up his basic allowance for housing and that covered the cost. Even though I explained that he was wasting energy and that his BAH didn't cover what he would pay downtown, it didn't register. In his mind, it was his inherent right to do as he pleased in his house.

Executive Order 13123 established a mandated 30-percent reduction in energy from the 1985 baseline by the year 2005 and by 35 percent by 2010. These goals cannot be achieved if people don't realistically make every effort to conserve energy.

Last quarter, the wing commander was briefed that we are only achieving a 13-percent energy reduction towards this mandated goal. Housing was actually using 51 percent more energy this past quarter than compared to the base year. We annually spend \$1.4M at Columbus AFB on housing utilities.

We have picked all the low-hanging fruits by making the industrial part of the base as energy efficient as possible, including controlling the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning of certain facilities through computerized thermostat controls.

However, thus far, nothing has been done in housing so that our quality of life is not affected. The only control is through our own efforts to conserve energy.

In the past, some bases have actually contemplated installing computer controls on housing HVAC units to manage occupant usage. This definitely defeats the point that living on base is a benefit, and it reduces the quality of life we are accustomed to.

It seems that the only way that some people will get the message is through housing privatization when occupants will be responsible for paying for their electricity and natural gas consumption. Part of the BAH will be given to those living on base. This pay out will be based on the average cost of electricity and natural gas multiplied by 1.1.

In effect, the occupant will receive 110 percent of the average cost of utilities for that area. If you use more energy, it will be an out-of-pocket expense. If you use less, you pocket the difference.

We all need to think about what can be done now to save energy. Only then will we progress toward the mandated savings goals. Our kids will also grow up with an energy consciousness and this will benefit the entire country. The production of energy causes us to use up fossil fuels that are limited.

Please think about saving energy now so that we can all benefit as taxpayers.

"The only control is through our own efforts to conserve energy."

Combating domestic violence: Base, local agencies offer legal, financial, medical, psychological, emotional support to victims

Etha Brooks
14th Flying Training Wing

National Crime Victim Rights and Awareness Month allows all of us to become better educated on ways to combat domestic violence.

On April 1, various agencies around the state began holding workshops and programs emphasizing the important roles we all play in reducing violence. These agencies are informing area residents that help is available for everyone including those involved in violent relationships.

Our main goal is to get the word out to victims who may not know of our services. It's important that area residents know there is help available and there are people eager to support them.

But before we can provide services to victims, we need either victims or those in their support network (family and

friends) to understand the signs of violence.

Individuals who victimize others may do so through stalking, harassment, jealousy, controlling behavior, physical threats, sexual assaults and isolation from family and friends, just to name a few examples.

Recognizing the signs and asking for help when you are the victim are the first steps in getting help. Let me dispel a myth many victims may have: just because you have not suffered physical violence does not mean you are not a victim.

Many are victimized via emotional and mental abuse. April is dedicated to all victims and the services available to them and those who support them.

Base and local agencies offer nearly every service a victim requires, whether it's shelter, legal advice, financial, medical and psychological assistance or emotional support for someone who is starting over. If an agency cannot help

with a particular situation, then other agencies are contacted.

Our Victim and Witness Assistance Program (VWAP) Liaison works closely with other agencies throughout Lowndes County.

Additionally, Columbus AFB is in the process of forming a new victim support agency led by the vice wing commander.

Through the joint efforts of all agencies victims can receive the best support possible.

In observance of National Crime Victim Rights and Awareness Month and to show solidarity, local agencies held a candlelight vigil service at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

The vigil was an emotional reminder of those who have suffered. It further highlighted that once a person has been victimized, society can't give them their innocence back.

Thus, our focus during this month should also be on preventing victimization.

Next week, various agencies will unite to distribute green ribbons throughout the Columbus, Lowndes County and Columbus AFB communities to promote victims' awareness.

If you are a victim, allow our office or some other agency to assist you. If you don't want to contact us, please feel free to contact any of the agencies listed below. Remember, you are not alone.

- Emergency dial 911
- Security Forces - for on base incidents only 434-7128
- VWAP Liaison dial 434-7030 during duty hours or the Command Post after duty hours at 434-7020 (concerning victims/witnesses only)
- Contact Crisis Center at 328-0200 for assistance with shelter, rape or any abuse, if you have not contacted the local authorities
- Domestic Violence Crisis Hotline 327-6040
- Rape Crisis 327-2259
- Save Haven 327-6040



Tech Sgt. Jim Moser
Maj. Jon Olekszyk, 14th FTW Commanders Action Group chief, rides his way to victory for the Operations Group in the 10K bicycle race.



Tech Sgt. Jim Moser
2nd Lt. Aaron Mitchell, 14th Communications Squadron, Kendrick Hollings, 14th Logistics Group, Master Sgts. Annie Hollings and Andrew McClinton, 14th CS, run the last leg of the stretcher carry to capture first place in the event.



Tech Sgt. Jim Moser
Maj. Cameron Holt, 14th Contracting Squadron commander and Col. Keith Keck, 14th Mission Support Group commander, fight for a rebound during 3 on 3 basketball.



Col. Stephen Wilson, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, leads the wing staff agencies' tug-of-war team at Wednesday's BLAZE Sports Day at Freedom Park. Pulling with him are: Maj. Mike Stahr, Capt. Deric Prescott, Capt. Tamona Bright, and Maj. Jay Fisher.

Airman 1st Class Boto Best

Overall group scores are:

14th Operations Group	122.5
14th Mission Support Group	107.5
14th Medical Group	60.0
14th Wing Staff Agencies	45.0

AT THE CHAPEL**Catholic****Sunday activities:**

9:15 a.m. — Mass
10:30 a.m. — CCD
5 p.m. — Confessions
5:30 p.m. — SUPT Mass

Protestant**Sunday activities:**

9 a.m. — Sunday school
10:45 a.m.— Traditional worship
1 p.m. — Contemporary worship
Tuesday:

Noon — Lunch and Bible study

Wednesday:

5:30 p.m. — Dinner and Bible study
7 p.m. — Choir rehearsal
For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the base theater.

Today

"Secret Window" (PG-13, violence/terror, sexual content and language, 97 min.)

Starring: Johnny Depp and John Turturro.

Saturday

"Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights" (PG-13, sensuality, 87 min.)

Starring: Diego Luna and Romola Garai.

April 30

"Dawn of the Dead" (R, violence, gore and language, 97 min.)

Starring: Sarah Polley and Ving Rhames.

CHANNEL 64

For more information about movies, visit www.cafbgrapevine.com.

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

Call public affairs for more information at Ext. 7068.

Weekdays

9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.
Air Force Television News

FAMILY SUPPORT

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Ext. 2790.)

Resumes: A workshop on different types of resumes and how to write an effective one is from 10 to 11 a.m. May 5.

Bundles of Joy: A workshop for active-duty Air Force spouses who are pregnant or have a child six months or younger is from 2 to 4 p.m. May 6. Speakers will provide information about finances, labor and delivery, and infant care. The Air Force Aid Society provides a gift package valued at more than \$50.

TAP workshop: A transition assistance workshop for personnel who are retiring

or separating from the military is from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 11 through May 13. Spouses may accompany service-members. To register, call Mark Horning at Ext. 2839.

Health benefits: An informational seminar on health benefits available to personnel who are separating or retiring is at 3:30 p.m. May 12.

Business development: A seminar on how to start a small business is at 1 p.m. May 13.

Remote/deployment briefing: Military personnel going remote or being deployed must attend a mandatory briefing held daily at 9 a.m.

Calling cards: Free \$20 value calling cards, sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society, are available to all personnel going on temporary tours of duty for 30 days or longer. Cards must be issued to military servicemembers. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Jamey Coleman at Ext. 2794.

Air Force Aid Society: The AFAS offers 24-hour emergency assistance. Possible aid includes interest-free loans, grants, food, utilities, car repairs and emergency travel.

BASE NOTES

Thrift shop: The thrift shop, located at Building 345 C Street, is open Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Spring and summer items are now being accepted, and consignments are taken until one hour before closing. A thrift shop garage sale is from 9 to 11 a.m. May 1. Volunteers are welcome. For more information, call Ext. 2954.

Tea party: A Mom and Me Tea Party is at 10:30 a.m. May 8 at the youth center. All ages are welcome. Cost is \$15 for a mother/child pair, and \$5 for each additional child. For reservations, call Ext. 2504 by May 4.

OSC social: The Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club holds its next social at the Columbus Club at 6:30 p.m. May 11, hosted by the COSC board. Activities include Southern Belle Bingo and election of COSC officers for 2004-2005. The menu is fried chicken. Cost is \$10 per person, and club members receive a \$2 discount. New members are welcome. For reservations, call Lisa Davis at 434-8723 or e-mail airtex60@yahoo.com by noon May 4.

Case lot sale: A case lot sale is 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 22 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (or as long as supplies last) May 23 at the commissary. A list of items, including paper goods, canned goods, beverages and more, is available at the commissary and at www.commissaries.com. For more information, call store director Paula Lewis at Ext. 7109.

CLEP exams: New CLEP exams available at the education center include: CLEP generals: English composition without essay, social science and history, natural sciences, humanities and college mathematics; CLEP subjects: Principles of management, freshman college composition, college algebra, information systems, U.S. history I, U.S. history II, analyzing and interpreting literature, introductory sociology and introductory psychology.

Variety of programs available to base families

Catfish buffet: The Columbus Club offers an all-you-can-eat catfish buffet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays. Cost is \$5.95 for members and \$7.95 for nonmembers.

Customers may still order off the a la carte menu. Call Ext. 2490.

Club card drawings: The Landing Lounge and enlisted lounge offer a club card drawing for cash every Friday around 6:30 p.m. Cardholders must be present to win. Call Ext. 2490.

Disc Jockey Big E: The enlisted lounge features DJ Big E from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. today. Call Ext. 2490.

Play NTN games: The enlisted lounge now offers free NTN games for members and \$2 for two hours for nonmembers. The lounge is open Friday nights. Call Ext. 2489.

Family fun day: The information, ticket and travel office offers a family fun trip to Tuscaloosa, Ala., Saturday to visit the Children's Hands-on Museum and Chuck E. Cheese. Cost is \$20 per person and includes a ticket to the museum and transportation. The bus will depart at 9 a.m. from the community center parking lot and return at 4 p.m. Call Ext. 7861.

Southern lunch buffet: The Columbus Club offers Southern cuisine for its lunch buffet Wednesday. The buffet is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$5.95 for club members and \$7.95 for nonmembers. Call Ext. 2489.

Children's parade: The child development center's children will participate in a parade starting at 9 a.m. Thursday. Call Ext. 2479.

Beale Street Music Festival: Register early for this trip to Memphis, Tenn., May 1 and May 2. Cost is \$125 per person and includes transportation and two nights' lodging (double occupancy). Tickets are sold separately for the concerts. The bus will leave the community center parking lot at 9 a.m. A \$50 deposit is required when registering. Call Ext. 7861.

Canton flea market: The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip to Canton, Miss., May 6. Cost is \$20 per person and includes transportation. The city of Canton closes down the town twice a year for one of the largest flea markets in Mississippi. Call Ext. 7861.

Buddy bass tournament: Outdoor recreation offers this fishing tournament May 8 at Columbus Lake. Entry is \$100 per boat. First place receives 70 percent of the purse. Call Ext. 2507.

Mother's Day brunch: The Columbus Club offers this special brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. May 9. Reservations are encouraged. Call Ext. 2490.

Youth drug and alcohol mini-seminar: The youth center offers this free seminar at 4 p.m. May 10.

Children will learn what alcohol and drugs can do to the mind and body. Bring a friend. Call Ext. 2504.

Youth financial management workshop: The youth center offers this free workshop for youth at 4 p.m. May 13. Agenda includes learning about opening and balancing a checkbook, tracking purchases and more. Call Ext. 2504.

Give parents a break: The child development center and youth center offer this program from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 21. Register by May 18 at either location.

Silver Star casino trip: The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip May 22. Cost is \$15 per person and includes transportation and \$15 in coins. The bus leaves the community center parking lot at 5:30 p.m. For reservations, call Ext. 7861.

White water rafting trip: The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip to the Ocoee River May 29 through May 31. Cost is \$99 per person and includes river/rafting run, two meals, two nights' lodging in a cabin and transportation. To sign up, call Ext. 7861.

Preschool story time: The library offers a 30-minute preschool story time Wednesdays. Call Ext. 2934.

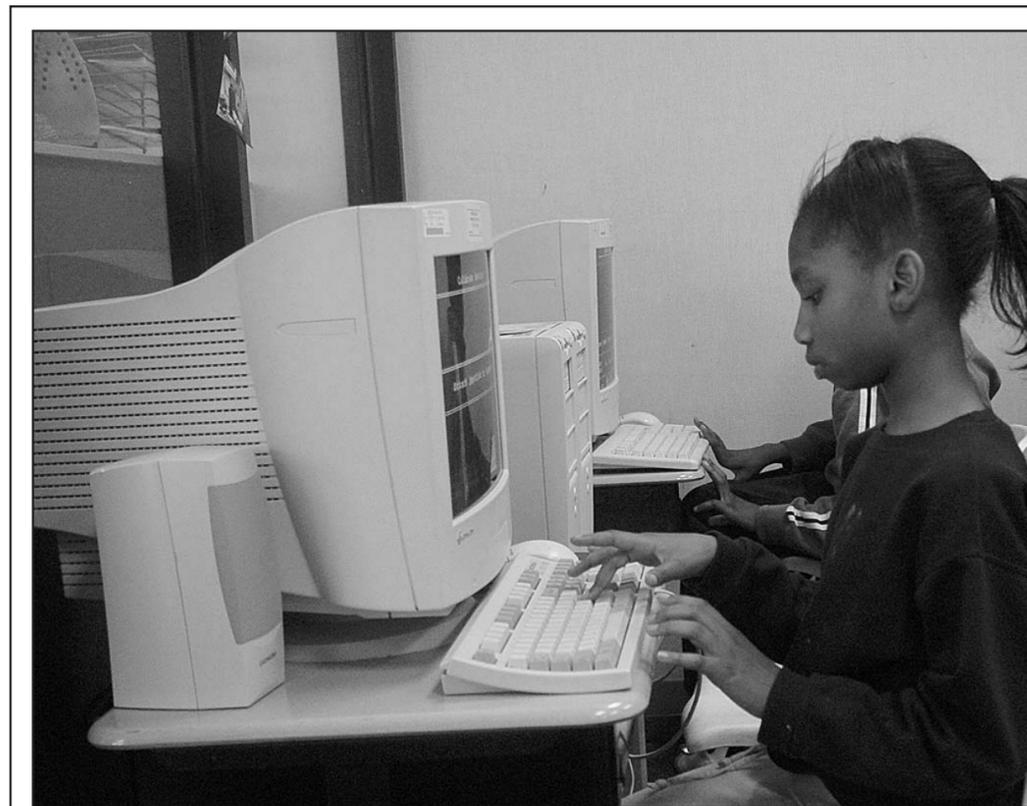
Adult and youth crafts classes: The skills development center offers classes for adults on Tuesday and for youth on Wednesdays. A display of the crafts projects are available in the center. Call Ext. 7836.

Drop-in care available: The child development center offers drop-in care Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$3 per hour. Call Ext. 2479.

Birthday Parties: The Strike Zone Lanes offers three different birthday party packages ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$4.75 per person. Stop by to pick up a brochure on what is offered with each package. Call Ext. 2426.

Quick shot bingo: The Bowling Center offers quick shot bingo anytime during normal business hours. Cash prizes are awarded. Cards are \$1 each. Call Ext. 2426.

Vacation packages available: The information, ticket and travel office, located at outdoor recreation, offers vacation, cruise and airline packages. Call Ext. 7861.



Pam Wickham

Future computer programmer

Maya Snow, 10, practices her computer skills during the youth center's after school program. Parents may register their children for the summer day camp program starting May 25. The program is from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and is open to children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Fees are based on family income. For more information, call Ext. 2504.



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

International women's group

Liisi Herring shares a book on conversational English with Kanako Sato and Aki Ko Taneshashi at an international women's group meeting Monday at the chapel annex. The monthly meeting is both informative and recreational. For more information, call Liisi Herring at 356-9267.

Keesler Air Show: Keesler AFB is having its first air show in four years Saturday. Gates open at 9 a.m., flying begins at 11 a.m., and admission is free. The event features the Lima Lima Flight Demonstration team in their six T-34 aircraft, the USAF A-10 with pyrotechnics demonstration and the T-6 Texan II Demonstration Team.

The event will also showcase the history of the Air Force with a Heritage Flight in the A-10 and P-51D Mustang. It also promises one of the largest displays of vintage aircraft on the Gulf Coast including the B-17G, B-25J, P-47N and P-51D. For more information, visit www.keesler.af.mil or call (228) 377-1601.

Spring Carnival: Franklin Academy hosts its annual Spring Carnival from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. The event promises fun for all ages. For more information, call Michelle Robinson at 434-0310.

Hope Community Church twice a month for encouragement and socialization.

Meeting dates for this year are Tuesday and May 11 from 9 to 11 a.m. Childcare is provided for children up to 6 years old. For more information or to make reservations, call 434-6862.

Sesame Street Live production: The Mississippi State University Music Maker Production presents Sesame Street Live's "Everyone makes music" at the school's Humphrey Coliseum April 30 at 7 p.m., May 1 at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. and May 2 at 2 p.m.

For more information, call 325-4201 or visit www.humphreycoliseum.msstate.edu.

McRae's charity sale: Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 04-15 is participating in McRae's Spring charity sale from 7 to 11 a.m. May 1 at the store in downtown Columbus. Tickets are \$5 and include \$5

off a \$25 purchase coupon, good through May 5, a free gift wrap coupon and a chance to win a \$100 merchandise certificate.

Ticket holders will have exclusive access to sales and specials throughout the store for this event only.

Ticket sales and part of actual merchandise sales will be donated to charity. For more information or to buy tickets, contact Lisha Peacock at 434-8703.

Market Street Festival: An annual Market Street Festival is May 1 in downtown Columbus. This event brings thousands into downtown Columbus every year for arts and crafts, food, music and entertainment. It features entertainment and activities for children and adults. This year the event features the Dave Matthews Cover Band and the Jason D. Williams Band. For more information, call 328-6305.

For more event listings, visit www.columbus-ms.org.

BARGAIN LINE

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one): Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement: _____

Name: _____

Home Telephone #: _____ Duty Telephone #: _____
(in case we need more information)

Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:

Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes No

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News Sports Photos

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.

Columbus AFB team contributes to cause: Airmen relay, remember cancer victims, survivors

Airman Cecilia Rodriguez
Public Affairs

More than 100 people from Columbus AFB joined the local community in donating their time and energy to the American Cancer Society's 12-hour Relay For Life April 16 and April 17 at Saunders Field in downtown Columbus.

Four different teams from the base contributed a total of \$4,212 to the fundraiser in support of the society's research and programs.

"I haven't had anyone in my family die from cancer, but I do know people who have," said Senior Airman Leanna Cummins, 14th Medical Support Squadron and relay participant. "I also think about, 'What if I have cancer someday?' I'd hope that if a cure hadn't been found yet, there would be funding to continue searching for one."

Participants from Columbus AFB took turns walking or running laps, and most remained overnight.

"I lost my father to cancer in 1988, and my mother is a 29-year survivor of throat cancer," said Margaret Evans, 14th Flying Training Wing Comptroller Flight and relay participant. "I couldn't walk very much because I have arthritis, so I stayed all night with the young ones. I was freezing, but I did it in honor of my parents and a good cause."

Originally, 76 people from the base registered to participate on relay teams. But on the day of the event, many more arrived to show their support for the event.

"[Relay For Life] is an event that brings the community together, and that in itself is an accomplishment," said 1st Lt. Ariol Paz, acting commander of the 14th FTW Comptroller Flight and Relay For Life team recruitment chairman, treasurer and activities co-chairman. "However, the greatest accomplishment is personal satisfaction for playing a role in the march to victory in the fight against cancer."

In May 1985, Dr. Gordy Klatt, a colorectal surgeon and avid runner, completed a 24-hour walk/run around a track in



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

Participants from the Columbus AFB Relay For Life team warm up before the event begins. Columbus AFB raised a total of \$4,212 to contribute toward the American Cancer Society fundraiser.

Tacoma, Wash., and raised \$27,000 to support the American Cancer Society. The following year, 220 people on 19 teams joined Dr. Klatt in this overnight event, and the American Cancer Society Relay For Life was born.

Almost 4,000 communities in the United States and eight foreign countries annually participate in Relay For Life.

The event reinforces a three-pronged motto: The hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, those who face cancer will be supported and one day, cancer will be eliminated.

For more information about the society and its programs, visit www.cancer.org.

SHORTS

Golf fundraiser

A golf scramble benefit for Center Hill Church youth missions is at 1 p.m. May 1 at Whispering Pines Golf course. The fundraiser is open to all civilian and military golfers.

Teams are comprised of four people. Cost is \$40 per person, which includes an 18-hole tournament, longest drive and closest-to-the-pin contests, refreshments and pull carts. There is a limited number of pull carts, and golf carts are available for an additional fee. Prizes will be awarded. To sign up, contact David Lee at Ext. 7739, 343-5905 or david.lee@columbus.af.mil.

Tuskegee Airmen golf tourney

A Tuskegee Airmen golf tournament is May 15 at the Whispering Pines Golf course.

Everyone is invited to participate in this four-person scramble. Cost is \$35 per person and includes lunch. Tee off is at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call Charles Gilliam at Ext. 2829.

Sunday golf scramble

Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a scramble at 1 p.m. every Sunday. Players must register by 12:30 p.m. Entry is \$5 plus greens fees. Call Ext. 7932.

Family bowling

The bowling center offers family bowling all day Sundays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$1.50 per game and shoe rental is free. Call Ext. 2426.

Summer bowling league

A sanctioned summer bowling league begins May 17 and ends Aug. 21. Cost is \$10 per night. Call Ext. 2426.

Youth teeball

The youth center is seeking volunteers to coach the upcoming youth teeball season. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

All-star basketball camp

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp. The camp is by invitation only, and boys and girls ages 10 to 19 are eligible.

Players from 50 states and 11 foreign countries attended the 2003 camp.

Past participants include Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Grant Hill and Antwan Jamison.

College basketball scholarships are also possible for players selected to the All-American team.

Camp locations include Atlanta, Lebanon, Tenn., Hickory, N.C., and Blacksburg, Texas. For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873.