

## CAFB prepares for electoral season

Airman Cecilia Rodriguez  
Public Affairs

Voting season is approaching, and many political participation guidelines exist for Department of Defense employees.

According to the DOD, employees are encouraged to freely exercise their right to participate or to refrain from participating in the political processes of the nation, to the extent not expressly prohibited by law, without fear of penalty or reprisal.

"It is important to vote, have your voice heard and support the electoral process," said Lt. Col. David Franz, base voting officer. "It's just as important to exercise a freedom very few people in the world enjoy and to fulfill the responsibility that goes with that freedom by voting."

Air Force Instruction 51-902, Political Activities by Members of the US Air Force, details the "do's" and "don'ts" of servicemembers' participation in the political process.

Servicemembers may:

- Register, vote and express a personal opinion on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the Armed Forces.

- Make monetary contributions to a political organization. This is subject to certain limitations, which can be further explained by the legal office.

- Attend partisan and nonpartisan political meetings or rallies as a spectator when not in uniform.

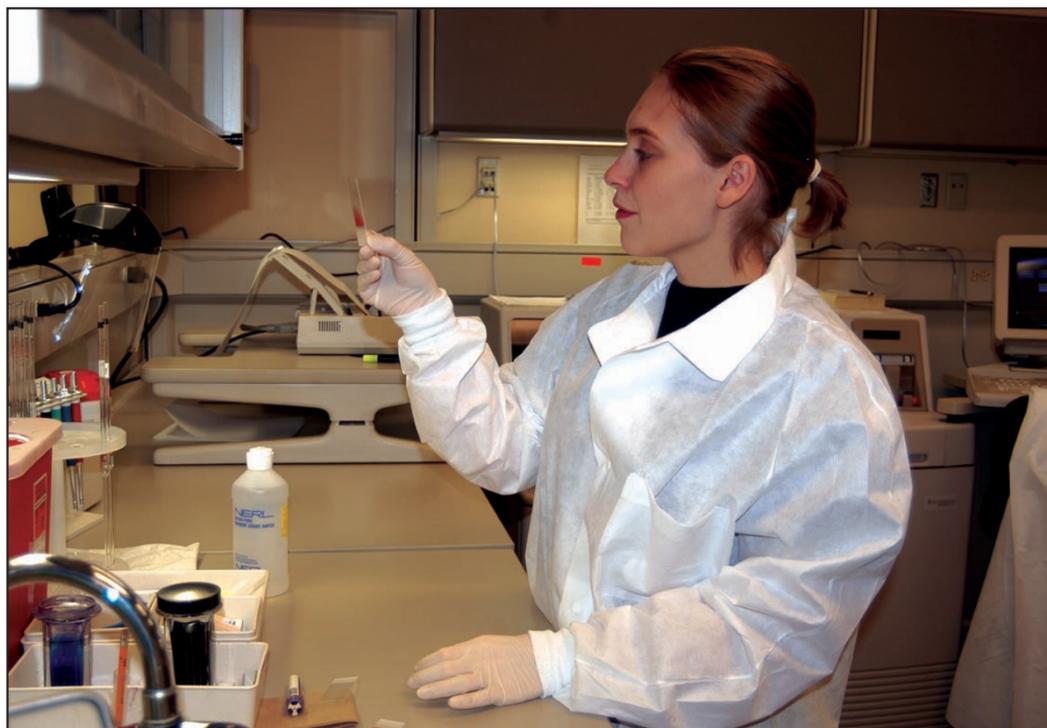
- Wear one political button when not in uniform and not on duty.

- Display one political sticker on a private vehicle. This policy applies to all vehicles at Columbus AFB, whether owned by a dependent or a visitor to the base.

- AFI 51-902 specifically prohibits the displaying of a "large political sign, banner, or poster on the top or side of a member's private vehicle."

- A DOD employee may not engage in political activity while on duty, in a government building, while wearing a uniform or official insignia identifying the office or position of the employee, or while using any vehicle owned or leased by the government.

See ELECTIONS, Page 2



Airman 1st Class Boto Best

Senior Airman Shawna Ortiz, 14th Medical Group laboratory technician, prepares a sample slide for testing. The laboratory received an "accredited with distinction" rating on a recent biennial inspection.

## Laboratory aces inspection

Airman 1st Class Boto Best  
Public Affairs

The 14th Medical Group laboratory earned its accreditation with distinction after an on-site inspection by an international commission Dec. 16.

The Commission on Laboratory Accreditation for the College of American Pathologists awarded the laboratory its highest accreditation rating based on its performance in a letter to Lt. Col. Michael Fields, laboratory director, dated Jan. 17.

Colonel Fields credited the laboratory staff for the "first rate job" they did to earn such high marks.

During the daylong process, a CAP inspector examined records, quality

control, equipment, adequacy of facilities, safety and overall management of the laboratory for the past two years.

The inspector also examined the entire staff's education qualifications to ensure the highest standard of care is given to patients.

"It took a lot of hard work and long days to make sure that we were ready for this inspection," said 1st Lt. Daryl White, chief of laboratory services.

He commended his five-person team including Tech. Sgt. Cory Santos, Senior Airman Shawna Ortiz, Airman 1st Class Meredith Carrick, Mr. Gary Bailey and Mr. Sam Fox for the great effort they put forth to obtain the highest inspection results possible.

Each member of the team was

responsible for going through the pre-inspection checklists to make sure that everything was in order.

"I was proud that we were recognized for doing our job well," said Senior Airman Shawna Ortiz, laboratory technician.

The laboratory performs urinalyses, cholesterol, diabetes and other tests that assist doctors in diagnosing patients' ailments.

Technicians also refer samples to laboratories with bigger testing facilities such as Keesler AFB and the Air Force Reference Laboratory at Brooks City Base when necessary.

"These results mean our clients can rest assured that the testing and care they receive is top notch," Lieutenant White said.

## CAFB helps promote National Children's Dental Health Month

Airman Cecilia Rodriguez  
Public Affairs

Representatives of the Columbus AFB dental clinic visited New Hope Elementary Tuesday in honor of National Children's Dental Health Month.

Capt. Trey Labella and Airman 1st Class Nicole Paille, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, shared electric toothbrushes, toothpaste and dental hygiene tips with more than 100 third-graders.

"It's important to educate the children at a young age," Captain Labella said. "The earlier they learn about preventative tooth care, the more likely they are to develop good dental hygiene and prevent problems down the road."

In addition to a giant toothbrush and models of teeth, playfully known by the dental clinic staff as "chompers," New Hope students also enjoyed a cartoon movie provided by the American Dental Association. "Dudley the Dinosaur" and his little sister "Dee Dee" taught the children about how to fight plaque, the correct way to brush their teeth, and the importance of eating healthy and visiting the dentist regularly.

Students were quizzed about what they had learned afterwards, and given dental floss as prizes.

"Dr. Labella gave me floss because I know you're supposed to brush your teeth at least two times a day, and after eating and drinking," said Toya McQueen, 8. "He taught us a lot about bacteria in your mouth and how to get rid of it."

Pamphlets with tooth-brushing tips for children and parents were also distributed.



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

Capt. Trey Labella and Airman 1st Class Nicole Paille, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, hand out dental floss to third-grade New Hope Elementary students with answers to dental hygiene questions.

Some helpful hints found in the pamphlets include:

- Choose soft, rounded toothbrush bristles to protect gums.

- Opt for rippled bristles, as they fit the shape of teeth.

- Change tooth brushes every three months or when worn.

- Remember to brush the tongue to remove any food particles.

- Gently clean up and down, and curve around teeth at the gumline while flossing.

According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, millions of school hours are lost each year to dental-related diseases.

Learning about dental hygiene early on affects the quality of a child's edu-

cation, said school nurse Susan Halechico. If students take poor care of their teeth and develop problems, it can be a distraction in the classroom and hinder their learning abilities.

In addition to Tuesday's visit, representatives from the dental clinic are scheduled to talk to 12 more classes and four headstart programs about dental hygiene, educating about 1,100 children in the local area.

"The clinic also has samples and handouts available while supplies last for base-affiliated parents with children," Captain Labella said. "There's information on everything from teething, brushing, flossing, fluoride, x-rays, braces and more."

For more information, call Ext. 2250.

## ELECTIONS (Continued from Page 1)

Military members, regardless of their duty status, may seek and hold nonpartisan civil office on a local school board, neighborhood planning commission and similar agencies. In order to avoid any potential conflicts, base personnel are encouraged to review AFI 51-902. National Guard and Reservists should contact commander's and legal offices.

According to DOD policy, all military personnel, including National Guard and

reserve forces, are specifically prohibited from:

- Wearing military uniforms at political campaign or election events.

- Engaging in public commentary, including speeches and written submissions offered for publication, concerning political campaigns or elections while on duty.

- Distributing political campaign or election literature while in uniform, while

on duty or while on a military installation.

- Using his or her official authority or influence for interfering with an election.

"On Nov. 2, the next president and vice president, 34 U.S. senators, 435 U.S. representatives and 13 state governors will be elected," Colonel Franz said.

BLAZE team members can register to vote by visiting their unit voting representatives, Maj. Lee Baker or Colonel Franz.

"There are specific voting requirements

### '70s party

The multicultural committee is hosting an all-ranks '70s party from 7 to 10 p.m. Sunday at the Columbus Club. Prizes are awarded for the best '70s fashion ensemble. Tickets are \$5. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Tywann Telfair at Ext. 3179.

### Room inspections

First sergeants and commanders will conduct 100-percent room inspections in the base dormitories Tuesday. Shift workers should place notes on the outside of their doors suggesting a time for inspection. For more information, call dorm manager Master Sgt. Edward Marallo at Ext. 2392.

### Tea group

A women's prayer tea group is from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at an on-base residency. The group is open to all women. For more information, call Karen Clark at 434-6529.

### IP Awards banquets

The 14th Operations Group is hosting its annual Instructor Pilot of the Year Banquet from 6 p.m. to midnight Feb. 21 at the Trotter Center in downtown Columbus. For more information, call Capt. Eric Zihmer at Ext. 7695.

### Prescription processing

The medical clinic has implemented a new prescription-filling process. Patients are now required to check into the pharmacy following all in-house doctor visits. Prescriptions are not processed unless patients have checked in with the pharmacy.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to the base-housing recyclers of the month: from Capital Village, Staff Sgt. David Dutho, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; from State Village, Capt. Dan Carpenter, 37th Flying Training Squadron; and from Magnolia Village, Master Sgt. Michael Pascale, 14th MDOS.

for each state, so people are highly encouraged to seek the help of their unit voting representatives," Colonel Franz said.

For a list of unit voting representatives, frequently asked questions and more useful information, visit the 14th Flying Training Wing voting Web site link found on <https://columbusweb> or [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

For any further questions, review AFI 51-902 or contact the base legal office at Ext. 7030.

# America votes 2004 – but you don't have to

**Maj. Walter Lassiter**  
14th FTW staff judge advocate



If you watch CNN or any major cable news network, you are going to hear or see the phrase America Votes 2004 or a similar phrase everyday until Nov 2. And if you watch MTV, BET or any of the Christian broadcast stations, you are going to receive constant reminders of a so-called "moral duty to vote." I do not believe you have a duty to vote.

But wait ... you are wise enough to recognize that this is the beginning of this editorial. Of course there is a catch. I will share it with you, and I promise no legal or technical gibberish.

Voting is an extremely important right and should be taken very seriously. Not voting is equally as important and should be taken just as seriously.

Whichever you choose, you should be able to articulate the basis for your decision. In my opinion, not voting is

just as dangerous as a dumb vote.

Members of the U.S. Armed Forces make up the most important group of voters in this country. The candidates we elect to lead us as president, senators or congressional representatives are vested — directly or indirectly — with the power to sacrifice our lives. A few years ago, that statement may have been viewed as a remote concept. Today, it is a distinct possibility. Therefore, it can be argued that it is figuratively — if not literally — suicidal for anyone in uniform to believe the political process is of no consequence to him or her.

Apart from the constant sound bytes and political critics on every channel, we primarily treat voting as the beginning of the political process. However, nothing can be further from the truth.

Voting or not voting is actually the end of a set political process. What occurs after that is the legislative process. By that time, you are stuck with the consequences of your decision.

So why would a lawyer tell you the right to not vote is as important as voting? I am getting there, be patient.

First let's talk about the value of your vote.

What is the value of a vote if it is based on a Fox News sound byte or a suggestion from a hip hop or rock star on VH1? Do you check the history of the candidate you are about to select? If he or she already holds public office, did they vote for or against a raise for military personnel? Did they vote against affirmative action? Did they vote in favor of equal pay for women?

This is the online generation, as my young staff members tell me. You can find almost anything online, including how a candidate has voted on issues that are of interest to you. In the last election you voted in, did you know what your candidate stood for other than their party affiliation?

In addition to the spin-doctor sound bytes, people tend to vote for reasons that do not include their own independent research. Some vote purely by party affiliation and because their parents voted for that party. Others vote because a union or other organization, such as a Political Action Committee, advises that a particular candidate is the right one.

See VOTE, Page 7

## 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](http://www.columbus.af.mil).

Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.

## Exchange, commissary privileges for government civilians

**Question:** I would like to make a suggestion. I think government civilians should be able to have exchange and commissary privileges. Is this possible, or is it against a regulation?

**Answer:** There are different regulations and policies that pertain to civilian use of the commissary and the base exchange.

Because the commissary is supported by appropriated funds, regulations do not permit government civilian employees to use the commissary in the continental United States. Army and Air Force Exchange Services regulations

concerning the exchange and shoppette permit me to authorize government civilians to purchase consumables.

A consumable is anything that you may eat or drink during lunch or a break. For instance, a bag of chips and soft drinks from the shoppette would be allowed. Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes are not considered consumables, and would not be available for civilian purchase. This new consumables policy will be available at AAFES shortly.

Col. Steve Schmidt  
14th Flying Training Wing commander

## 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

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## SILVER WINGS

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434-7069, or e-mailed to [silverwings@columbus.af.mil](mailto: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.

# Music: Soulful expression of a people

**Airman 1st Class Boto Best**  
Public Affairs

Some scholars maintain that when Africans came to America as slaves, they brought with them a "rich cultural heritage transplanted in the American environment." They find certain 'Africanisms' in the African-American way of life. As one scholar put it, "It is obvious that Africa's golden past is crucial to an understanding of black America."

One of those 'Africanisms' is the importance of music. Music is a thread that weaves its way through almost every aspect of African culture.

It is a part of their everyday lives and can be used as a form of communication. For example, a drumbeat can communicate information from one village to another, like the arrival of an important guest.

In African cultures, almost every occasion is marked by music as a celebration of life and good fortune. Because many parts of Africa suffer from drought, malnutrition and starvation, Africans give thanks for planting seasons and the coming of the rainfall, an abundant harvest, weddings and childbirth.

They celebrate with rhythm, collective movement to one beat, expressive songs and dances — sometimes wild with elation, sometimes demure and mischievous — and vibrant colors. All of these make up the African musical expression of joy.

Africans are also a deeply religious people, and religion is intertwined with music as part of their everyday life. Whether traditionalists, Muslims or Christians, it is something they feel very deeply, and it shows through their way of worship. Much praise, thanksgiving and prayer in song as well as dance mark the typical church service. The same is true of African-American culture — much singing and dancing, and even the sermon sometimes turns into song.

As they began to face colonization, segregation and slavery, music would play a crucial role in strengthening, comforting and unifying them through this most difficult time in their history.

During the times of segregation in South Africa, music became the voice of the people. Students took to the streets in protest against the government, demanding change. These protests were

marked by very spirited warlike chants. The police sprayed tear gas into the crowd and it would scatter. Even in prison, the people would sing bittersweet, soulful, harmonious melodies in their native languages. The police would order them to be quiet, and with good reason — the music spoke of freedom. More importantly, it showed that the spirit of the people was unbeatable.

When Africans came to America as slaves, their one and only hope was religion, and they transplanted their belief system into Christianity. They believed in a God who would deliver them, even if only after death. Spirituals like "Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child" became their souls' expression of sorrow. Their hopes and dreams for a day they might not live to see were also expressed in songs like "We Shall Overcome Someday."

Interestingly enough, music still plays that role today in African-American culture.

Though times have changed, different kinds of economic and social hardships still exist for many, and new genres of musical expression have been created, including hip-hop and rap. Though many would dismiss them as bad forms of music, these are still forms of expression. Rap, for example, can be described as the story of the African-American male fighting for his dignity in system he feels is built to imprison him and strip him of it. Artists like Tupac Shakur, Lauryn Hill and the Notorious B.I.G. express these ideas in their music.

Through all of these eras, music is still being used in a very thematic way to express the hearts of a people who are still trying to be free.

Senior Airman Timothy Vidal, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Post is a saxophonist. He expressed his thoughts on music in these words: "Music is not simple notes that a musician plays with no feeling or passion. It is the heart, soul and mind of a person trying to be free — free from all the hurt, harm and danger we face every day. When I play, I feel like I am the only person in the room. Just knowing that I could make someone's day better by hitting one note — a note that is so passionate, expressive and wistful that it sends a chill down my spine. That is where I feel and find my freedom."

*(Editor's note: This article is part two of a series in honor of African-American History month.)*

## VOTE (Continued from Page 3)

Your vote is way too important for you to use it without your own query regarding the candidate that you choose to vote for. So what is the value of an uneducated vote when compared to not voting?

If you have conducted your own research and are truly convinced that none of the candidates are worthy of your vote, then don't vote. Not voting, in my humble opinion, can be as much a protest as voting against someone simply because you don't like them. But if you don't vote, allow me to talk about the consequences.

First, even if you can articulate why you did not or will not vote, that does not leave you free to walk away from the political process. You owe it to yourself

and your family to continuously monitor this nation's political landscape and stay politically aware. Every year this country's leaders enact legislation that impacts your pay, housing and allowances. They also enact or consider legislation that will affect your retirement benefits.

The people we send to Washington, D.C., directly impact our daily lives and might very well impact the rest of your life with just the stroke of a pen. This is all in addition to possibly sending you to war. You need to learn and understand the significance of every election and the impact of your decision not to vote.

We are all now well aware of the numerous comedies that occurred during

the last presidential election. If you paid any attention at all, then you know that Al Gore won the popular vote but did not win the presidency. George W. Bush won the election. How? An entity called the Electoral College selects the president — regardless of who wins the popular or so-called "people's vote." So how is your vote important if the Electoral College may reach a different conclusion? Your vote's imperative because each state's legislature determines who will represent its citizens in the Electoral College.

You are authorized to vote in your state's local elections. Therefore, you have a say as to which candidates will become a part of your state's legislature. Candidates elected to the state legislature

## African-American History Month Spotlight



Senior Airman Deena Moore  
14th Medical Operations Squadron

**Hometown:** Lincoln, Vt.  
**What does African-American History Month mean to you?:** African-American History Month is a time to learn, understand and celebrate the history of black Americans and their struggle for equality. It is a reminder that we should continuously dispel the many stereotypes, falsehoods and misrepresentations that are placed upon us. Many of these are propelled into our minds based of the portrayal of African-Americans by the media. Too many times people only see what they are shown and base perception on that experience. It is important for all of us to understand our history and be proud of the heritage. We should all continue to work together and represent ourselves as Americans.

have a say as to the individual(s) who will represent your state in the Electoral College. Bottom line: voting or not voting in state elections may have the same impact as voting or not voting in federal elections.

You absolutely, positively do not have to vote. But the last catch is — if you do not vote, regardless of your reasoning, and/or you are not active in the political process, then you cannot and should not be heard to voice any opinion regarding your pay, deployment concerns or any other matters associated with your military service. Why? If you don't vote and you don't participate, your opinion does not get counted. It's really up to you.

# Story behind 'day of romance' revealed

**Airman Cecilia Rodriguez**  
Public Affairs

This Saturday, loved ones will share boxed chocolates, balloon bouquets, candlelight dinners, flowers and teddy bears, all in the name of St. Valentine.

But many are unfamiliar with the mysterious saint and why February 14 has long been considered a day of romance.

The history of Valentine's Day is said to stem from the ancient Roman feast Lupercalia.

In the early days of Rome, wolves roamed the nearby woods and villagers called upon their God, Lupercus, to keep the wolves away.

A festival held in honor of Lupercus was observed on February 15, and younger people celebrated by practicing a name-drawing custom.

On the eve of the festival Lupercalia, the names of the Roman girls were written on slips of paper and placed into a jar. Each young man drew a slip, and the girl whose name he chose was to be his sweetheart for the year.

The holiday became Valentine's Day after the legend of a Roman priest named Valentine.

The Roman emperor Claudius II had



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

A variety of Valentine decorations, cards, candy and stuffed animals is available at the base exchange.

ordered his soldiers not to marry or become engaged because he believed that as married men, his soldiers would want to stay home with their families rather than fight in his wars.

But Valentine refused to comply with Claudius' decree and secretly married young couples. He was eventually arrested and imprisoned.

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself. It is believed that while in prison,

Valentine fell in love with a young girl who visited him during his confinement — a girl rumored to have been his jailor's daughter.

Before his death, he allegedly wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today.

Valentine was eventually beheaded on the eve of Lupercalia for his disregard for Claudius' orders. He was later named a saint.

As Rome became more Christian, the

priests moved the spring holiday from February 15 to February 14, honoring St. Valentine instead of Lupercus.

But while the bittersweet legend of Valentine may have ended in misfortune, his memory has given romance the opportunity to flourish between loved ones around the world.

*(Editor's note: Information for this article was compiled from www.holidays.net and www.historychannel.com.)*

## How do you plan on spending your Valentine's Day?



"I'm having dinner at the restaurant 'Old Venice' in Starkville."

~ Staff Sgt. Jeff Risley  
14th Communications Squadron



"My sister and I are shopping, and my kids are doing something special for me later."

~ Jewelene Mathews  
DynCorp fabric worker



"I'm going to be my dad's best man at his wedding in Colorado Springs, Colo."

~ Airman 1st Class John Stenstad  
14th Civil Engineer Squadron



"My husband and I are going to dinner at 'J'Broussard' in downtown Columbus."

~ 1st Lt. Charlene Talafuse  
14th Mission Support Squadron

Whispering Pines Golf Course and the Columbus Club offer a 9-hole scramble and Sweetheart Dinner Saturday. For more information, call Ext. 2490 or Ext. 7932.

# 14 FTW Annual award winners announced

## CGO of the Year

Capt. Nathan Campbell, 14th Operations Support Squadron, is the Company Grade Officer of the Year for 2003. Captain Campbell was selected from 79 competing pilots for B-2 Spirit intern program. He built Web-based ancillary training tracker, which helped flight commanders keep real-time visibility on all training, and compiled the wing's flying hours and airspace data. Captain Campbell volunteered at the youth center and discussed Air Force careers and taught safety to more than 30 children.



## SNCO of the Year

Senior Master Sgt. Darryl Curvin, 14th Operations Support Squadron, is the 2003 Senior NCO of the Year. Sergeant Curvin was No. 1 out of eight group NCOs chosen to be the 14th Flying Training Wing Lance P. Sijan Award nominee and was also the wing's second quarter senior NCO. He filled a chief master sergeant slot as chief controller of the Air Force's fourth busiest radar approach control complex. He was president of the Columbus AFB's Top Three Council after being on station for only two months.



## NCO of the Year

The 2003 NCO of the Year is Staff Sgt. Rhonda Knipmeyer, 14th Services Division. Sergeant Knipmeyer deployed to Diego Garcia for 132 days as lodging manager and accounted for more than 900 deployed personnel. She organized more than 100 honor guard details to include 70 last honors details in 74 counties as the wing honor guard scheduler. Sergeant Knipmeyer created a disaster preparedness program book and trained more than 200 services personnel on the program.



## Airman and Honor Guardsman of the Year

Senior Airman William Roberts, 14th Comptroller Flight, is the 2003 Airman and Honor Guardsman of the Year. He processed more than 800 travel vouchers monthly. Airman Roberts helped support Columbus AFB's best end-of-year closeout enabling all vouchers to be paid by Sept. 30 and getting money back to the wing. Airman Roberts performed 52 excellent honor guard details during the year.



## First Sergeant of the Year

The First Sergeant of the Year for 2003 is Senior Master Sgt. Lonnie Slater, 14th Operations Group. Sergeant Slater secured more than \$3,000 to ensure emergency finances were available for families during difficult or trying times. He also gave enlisted families more than \$2,000 in donations to help support their families. He resolved and forwarded a myriad of issues to the chief of staff to help improve the quality of life of Air Force personnel.



## Category I Civilian of the Year

The 2003 Category I of the Year is Robert Johnson, 14th Services Division. Mr. Johnson extended the hours of operation at the auto hobby shop to open the shop for 12 more hours to meet customer needs. He saved more than \$1,000 and reduced down time by 50 percent by performing minor and major repairs on equipment. He also performed more than 1,500 Mississippi vehicle inspections on privately owned vehicles with 100-percent compliance.



## Category II Civilian of the Year

Link Weinrich, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, is the Category II of the Year for 2003. Mr. Weinrich developed and distributed 3,000 flyers containing critical fire safety messages and briefed all housing residents to help provide the highest degree of safety for Columbus AFB's military family housing occupants and local communities. He was rated a superior performer during the 2003 Environmental Safety and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment Management Program inspection.



## Category III Civilian of the Year

Brenda Dale, 14th Comptroller Flight, is the 2003 Category III of the Year. Ms. Dale directed Columbus AFB to its best end-of-year closeout certifying \$40 million and \$22.8 million in end-of-year fallout. The fallout money purchased \$300,000 in plasma screens for the 14th Operations Group. She was the only comptroller recognized as a "Top Performer" in the 2003 Operational Readiness Inspection. Ms. Dale balanced all 92 Columbus AFB government purchase card accounts validating vendor invoices.



## Volunteer of the Year

William Maddox is the 2003 Volunteer of the Year. Mr. Maddox has been volunteering on Columbus AFB for 10 years. Mr. Maddox helped planned Columbus AFB's best Retiree Appreciation Day for more than 150 retirees. He helped with the "Wings Over Columbus" Air Show by mailing flyers and working the lost and found booth. He also volunteers and is a member of the North Columbus Lions Club, local Veteran's of Foreign Wars, American Legion and the Air Force Sergeants Association.



**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

**Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. — 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 theater.

**Today**  
"Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" (PG-13, intense epic battle sequences and frightening images, 200 min.)

Starring: Elijah Wood and Ian McKellen.

**Saturday** (Free Showing at 2 and 7 p.m.)  
"50 First Dates" (PG-13, adventure action sequences and peril, 113 min.)

Starring: Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore.

**Feb. 20**  
"Disney's Teacher's Pet" (PG, some mildly crude humor, 84 min.)  
Animated.

For more information about movies, visit [www.cafbgrapevine.com](http://www.cafbgrapevine.com).

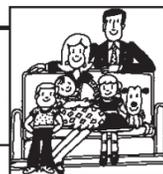
**CHANNEL 64**

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  
**Monday through Feb. 20**  
**9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.**  
College Level Examination  
Program Tapes:  
No tape due to holiday

**FAMILY SUPPORT**



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

**Coping:** A two-part seminar on how to cope with difficult people is from 1 to 3 p.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday. The event will focus on how to communicate effectively on the job by learning new skills and identifying with difficult people.

**Hearts apart:** A social for families of deployed or remote personnel is at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. The event features St. Patrick's Day crafts, games, prizes, refreshments and information.

**Financial aid:** A workshop on financial aid is from 11 a.m. to noon Feb. 24. It provides information on scholarships and grants. Free applications for Federal Student Aid are available.

**Scholarship:** The deadline to apply for the General Henry Arnold Education Grant Program scholarship is March 12. The scholarship is for family of Air Force active duty, retired, reservists on extended duty. Grants are awarded to \$1,500. Applications are available at the family support center. For more information, call Ext. 2855 or Ext. 2790.

**Recipes needed:** The FSC is collecting favorite "quick and easy" recipes from base personnel to create a newcomers' cookbook.

Categories include appetizers, soups and salads, vegetables, main dishes, breads and desserts.

Drop off recipes with name, organization and phone number, or e-mail them to [FSC@columbus.af.mil](mailto:FSC@columbus.af.mil).

This is open to all Columbus AFB personnel.

**BASE NOTES**



**Bible study:** A ladies' Bible study is at 6:30 p.m. Mondays.



Tech. Sgt. Jim Moser

**Drug-free tunes**

Staff Sgt. Dennis Pack and Tech. Sgt. Aaron Miles of the Air Force Reserve Generation Band perform at Lee Middle School Feb. 4. The band's mission is not just to entertain, but also to educate elementary and middle school students in cities near military bases with its drug-free message.

A midweek Bible study is from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel annex. The focus of the study is the video series "The Measure of Spiritual Maturity," and dinner is provided.

A Bible study is held at noon Tuesdays in the chapel annex. The focus of the study is the "Fruit of the Spirit" Bible series: Building Healthy Relationships.

A teen Bible study is held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays in the chapel annex for ages 12 to 19. "Crossroads" is the focus of the study, and dinner is provided. For more information, call Ext. 2500.

**Lunch and learn:** The health and wellness center has a brown bag lunch and learn seminar on healthy heart matters from noon to 1 p.m. today in the HAWC's classroom. Cookbooks are distributed to attendees on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call Ext. 2477.

**Spouse award:** The nominations for the 2004 Joan Orr Air Force Spouse of the Year award are due for the 14th Flying Training Wing by Monday. The award period is Jan. 1, 2003, to Dec. 31, 2003.

The award recognizes the significant contributions made by spouses of Air Force military members. The nominee's husband or wife must be serving in the Air Force, including reserve components. Active duty or reservists are not eligible for the award.

For more information and regulations, see Air Force Instruction 36-2805, Special Trophies and Awards.

**Scout trip:** Troop 52 meets at 6 p.m. Tuesdays in the personnel building, room 111. For more information or to join the Boy Scouts, call Wayne Boswel at Ext. 2611 or Greg Johnson at Ext. 7871.

**Commissary scholarship:** A \$1,500 academic scholarship is offered to children of active-duty, retired, guard and reserve military members.

The deadline to submit an application is Wednesday.

The goal is to award at least one scholarship at every commissary location, depending on the number of qualified applicants and funding. For more information, call Ext. 7106.

**Volunteers needed:** Volunteers are needed for the Camp Henry Pratt clean up at 8 a.m. Feb. 21. The camp staff provides lunch. To volunteer, call Ext. 2431.

**Spouse aircraft briefing:** A spouse aircraft briefing is 7 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Phillips Auditorium. For more information, call Ext. 7158.

**Assignment night:** Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 04-06 has its assignment night at 5 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Columbus Club. There will be a live band and free food. For more information, call 329-5896.

**Services provides base with variety of entertainment**

**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 night between 4:30 and 6 p.m. Club card holders must be present to win. Call Ext. 2490.

**New library hours:** The library is now open Saturdays. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday through Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Call Ext. 2934.

**Valentine's Day dance:** The youth center offers a dance from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday. Cost is \$1 for members and \$2 for nonmembers. Members who bring a guest are admitted for half price. Children under 13 years of age must depart at 9 p.m. Call Ext. 2504.

**All-ranks brunch:** The Columbus Club offers a brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Cost is \$8.95 for members and \$10.95 for nonmembers. Call Ext. 2489.

**Midday bingo:** The Columbus Club offers bingo at noon Mondays. Two \$25 games and one \$50 progressive game are played. Must have a minimum of ten players to offer. Cards are \$1 each for the two \$25 games and \$1.50 for the \$50 jackpot game. Call Ext. 2490.

**Crafts classes:** The skills development center offers adult and youth classes Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Adult classes include a patriotic wooden heart door hanging Tuesday for \$17 or a wooden patchwork heart hanging Feb. 24 for \$15. Youth classes include a red, white and blue whale Wednesday for \$5 or a red, white and blue wooden tree Feb. 25 for \$5.

Participants must register at least four days in advance in order for supplies to be available. To register, call Ext. 7836.

**Keystone Club:** The youth center offers this program at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday. The Keystone Club focuses on building productive teens, leaders and citizens. Other areas of focus are education, leadership, life skills and many other related topics.

As a Keystone Club member are be travel opportunities. Call Ext. 2504.

**Silver Star casino trip:** The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip Feb. 20. Cost is \$15 per person and includes transportation and \$15 in coins. For reservations, call Ext. 7861.

**Comedy night update:** The Columbus Club and enlisted lounge comedy night set for Feb. 21 has been rescheduled. For more information, call Ext. 2490.



Pam Wickham

**Etchin' away**

Dena McGuff, 14th Services Division, engraves a nameplate at the skills development center. Service dress name tags are available at the skills development center for \$7 each, and delivery of the name tags is guaranteed within three business days. For more information, call Ext. 7836.

**Dorm World party:** The community center hosts a Dorm World party at 8 p.m. Feb. 21 at the enlisted lounge. Call Ext. 7450.

**2004 teen aviation camp:** The youth center is accepting applications until Feb. 21 for the teen aviation camp June 5 to June 11 at the Air Force Academy in Colorado. The program is open to high school sophomores and juniors who would like to explore the Academy as a possible college choice.

Applicants will participate in a wide variety of outdoor and classroom activities in the camp including piloting an aircraft, swimming and horseback riding. Application forms are available at the youth center. Final selections will be announced by April 9. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

**2004 chess tournament:** The 2004 chess tournament for active-duty personnel is March 13 to March 14 at Maxwell AFB, Ala. Transportation is provided to and from Maxwell AFB for participants. Participants must be a member of the U. S. Chess Federation to compete in this rated tournament. To register, call Ext. 7450.

**Theater camp:** The Air Force Community Center Program is offering a special theater camp for teens, ages 14 to 18. The camp is held in Missoula, Mont., July 26 to July 30. Submit applications to the youth center by March 15.

Thirty-two chosen teens will participate in a week of specialty classes in voice, dance, stage presence, acting, arts and crafts, waterfront activities and campfires. All transportation to and from Montana is provided, as well as all meals, lodging and activities.

The rules and entry forms have been placed on the Services Family Members Program Agency Web site at <http://www-p.afsv.af.mil/FMP/SpecProj.htm>. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

**Dance classes:** The youth center offers dance classes in tap, jazz and ballet. Ages 5 to 7 may register for the preparatory dance classes offered Mondays at 4:30 p.m.; children ages 8 to 13 may register for the Jazz II classes Tuesdays; children ages 3 to 4 may register for the creative movement classes at 4:30 p.m. Thursdays; and adults may register for the jazz dance classes at 5:30 p.m. Thursdays. Call Ext. 2504.

**Science fair:** Heritage Academy hosts a science fair March 2 and is looking for volunteer judges. Volunteer forms are available at the public affairs office. People are needed to sign up by today. The judges are needed from 9:30 a.m. to noon. For more information, call Ext. 7068.

**Valentine's Day extravaganza:** The Lowndes County Alumni Association of Mississippi University for Women hosts the sixth annual Valentine's Extravaganza from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kyle. The event raises money for the Lowndes County Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$75. Advance reservations are required. For more information or to make a reservation, call Frances Jutman at (662) 327-3700.

**Open House:** Franklin Academy hosts an open house Monday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Children and parents can meet teachers and visit classrooms.

The Columbus Municipal School District superintendent and assistant superintendent will conduct a meeting from 5:30 to 6 p.m. For more information, call (662) 241-7150.

**Baptist Memorial volunteers:** Baptist Memorial Hospice begins a new series of volunteer training sessions at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 21 on the third floor solarium of Baptist Golden Triangle's Willowbrook building. The remaining two sessions are at 3 p.m. Feb. 26 and March 4. For more information, call Hospice at (662) 243-1173.

**Camp expo:** Parents and Kids Magazine's 11th Annual Camp and Education Connection is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 21 at Northpark Mall in Jackson, Miss. Parents and children may sample more than 30 different overnight, day, special needs and educational camps.

Camps offering sports, arts, music, outdoor survival, dance, games, swimming and equestrian training will be represented. Admission is free, and there will be door prizes and giveaways throughout the day. For more information, call (601) 366-0901.

**Beginner yoga class:** A mind-body workout designed to improve health, athletic performance and mental acuity is Feb. 24 to March 30. The class is open to adults of all ages and fitness levels. Deadline registration is

Wednesday. For more information, call Heather Rowland of the Columbus Arts Council at (662) 328-2787.

**Weekly events:** Every night is military identification card night with a 10-percent discount at the Princess Theatre and the Stage Door Coffee House.

Tuesdays are Ladies' Nights with specials all night at the Stage Door Coffee House. Thursdays are Open Mic Nights at the coffee house at 9 p.m. For more information, call (662) 327-6789.

**Overseas returnees:** A local Columbus eating establishment, Fleet's Eats, offers a free lunch to the sponsor and family when a military member returns from overseas.

The restaurant is open for lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is located at 576 West Lowndes Drive. For more information, call (662) 328-5747.

*For more event listings, visit [www.columbus-ms.org](http://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](mailto:silverwings@columbus.af.mil).



Airman Alexis Lloyd

### That's my ball!

John Talafuse, Gold Team, battles Mike Hardwick, Red Team, for the ball in Sunday's soccer league championship. The Gold Team won 5-3. The Columbus AFB soccer league runs yearround. Base-affiliated people and dependents 18 years and older are eligible to join. For more information call, Ext. 2772.

## SHORTS

### Youth spring soccer

Children ages 3 and older may register for youth spring soccer now through Feb. 27. Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. Participants must have a current physical on file or obtain one prior to the start of the season. A late fee of \$10 will be assessed after Feb. 27. Volunteer coaches are need. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

### Caledonia sports

The Caledonia Sports Association is

now accepting applications for umpires for the 2004 baseball and softball season. For more information, call 386-0336.

### Skeet range

The skeeting and trap range has open shooting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays. The range is located next to the SAC alert facility. For more information, call Ext. 2507.

### Spin class

Spin classes are at 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the fitness and sports center.

The class is a one-hour self-paced training session of sprinting, resistance climbing and jogging all on a stationary bike. For more information, call Ext. 2772.

### Kindergym childcare

Kindergym is offered from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the fitness and sports center.

This program is for people with friends who can take turns watching each other's children while working out.

This is an opportunity for mutual motiva-

tion and free childcare. For more information, call Ext. 2772.

### Nine-pin no-tap

A nine-pin no-tap tournament is scheduled every Friday except when cosmic no-tap is happening. It starts at 7 p.m. at the bowling center.

Sign up by 6:30 p.m. The center will pay for one place for every four entries and there will be a men's and women's division. Entry is \$10 per person. For more information, call Jennie Hodges at 434-6723.