

# SILVERWINGS

"Year of the Air Force Family"

Vol. 34, Issue 3

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

January 22, 2010

## Weather



**Today**

High: 64, Low: 41  
Partly Cloudy



**Saturday**

High: 67, Low: 54  
Partly Cloudy



**Sunday**

High: 60, Low: 39  
Showers



**Monday**

High: 56, Low: 31  
Sunny

## News Briefs

### Tax Center to Open

CAFB Tax Center opens Jan. 29 until April 15, it is free of charge. Located in the Personnel Center, Bldg. 926, room 105. Call 434-7613 for appointments.

### BCC Luncheon

The Base Community Council will hold a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 29 at The Ritz in West Point. RSVP to chuck.bigelow@yahoo.com.

### Enlisted Promotions

The next Enlisted Promotions Ceremony will be at 3:30 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Columbus Club.

## Inside



Feature **8**

SUPT Class 10-04 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.

# CMSAF to visit Columbus AFB



**Senior Airman Jacob Corbin**  
14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

The current Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force will be visiting Columbus Air Force Base next week.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy and his wife Paula, will be joining the BLAZE Team Jan. 25 and 26.

The chief's visit to Columbus AFB will be a coming-home of sorts, as Chief Roy's first command chief position was her from September 2000- September 2002.

In addition to touring various locations on-base, Chief Roy will be the guest speaker at the wing's Annual Awards Banquet the evening of Jan. 25.

Chief Roy represents the highest enlisted level of leadership, and as such, provides direction for the enlisted force and represents their interests, as appropriate, to the American public, and to those in all levels of government. He serves as the personal adviser to the Chief of Staff and the Secretary of the Air Force on all issues regarding the welfare, readiness, morale, and proper utilization and progress of the enlisted force. Chief Roy is the 16th chief master sergeant appointed to the highest noncommissioned officer position.

Chief Roy grew up in Monroe, Mich., and entered the Air Force in September 1982. His background includes numerous leadership roles at squadron, group, numbered air force and combatant command levels. He has been stationed at locations in Florida, South Korea, Missouri, Guam, Mississippi, South Carolina, Virginia, Kuwait, Japan and Hawaii. He has worked a variety of civil engineer duties.

Chief Roy also served as a superintendent of a military personnel flight and a mission support group before becoming a command chief master sergeant at the wing, air expeditionary wing, numbered air force and combatant command levels. Before assuming his current position, he served as Senior Enlisted Leader and adviser to the U.S. Pacific Command Combatant Commander and staff, Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii. He was appointed to this position on June 30, 2009.

## COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (10-13)	0.40 days	-3.26 days	Feb. 24	48th (10-05)	-0.61 days	-2.81 days	Feb. 19	49th (10-DB)	2.90 days	2.90 days	Feb. 3	T-6	1,475	1,802	9,571
41st (10-14)	-5.33 days	-4.22 days	Mar. 10	50th (10-05)	1.39 days	-0.32 days	Feb. 19					T-1	504	412	2,959
												T-38	512	445	2,760
												IFF	98	117	620

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Robert Kane, just returning from Iraq where he was commanding general, Coalition Air Force Transition Team, Baghdad, Iraq.

# Track Select

- |                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| 2nd Lt. Rachael DeRoche       | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Adam Kurzen           | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Kent North            | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Ryan O'Quinn          | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Benjamin Wiford       | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Taylor Wilson         | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Kevin Christian       | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Scott Fredrickson     | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. James Gibson          | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Brandon Hardin        | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Michael Lewis         | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Broderick Lockett     | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Kentaro Mihara,       | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Shingo Nakata         | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Andrew Petersen       | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Roger Rabe            | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Mitchell Simonsen     | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Gregory Smith         | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. David Snyder          | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. William Swinconos     | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Alexandra Trana       | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Phillip Wilkerson     | T-1  |
| 2nd Lt. Liston, James I.      | Helo |
| 2nd Lt. Batanides, Rhett S.   | T-44 |
| 2nd Lt. Huddleston, Andrew J. | T-44 |



**T-6 Top Guns**

Contact: Lieutenant Fredrickson  
Instrument: Lieutenant Wiford  
Formation: Lieutenant Wiford

**Dubisher Award**  
Lieutenant Liston

# 10-12

## 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 74 BLAZE TEAM members are de-deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

## Tax Center to Open

The Columbus AFB Tax Center will open on Jan. 29 and will prepare tax returns through April 15, free of charge. The Tax Center is now located on the first floor in the Personnel Center, Bldg. #926, room #105. We are open to all active duty, dependents and retirees; civilian employees will be seen on a space available basis. The hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are strongly recommended. For more information, or to make an appointment, please call the Tax Center at (662) 434-7613

## SILVER WINGS

### How to reach us

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Layout Designer

### Submission Deadline

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

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

### Last week's answers

1 0 4  
5 0  
2 8 0  
3 3 0  
0

## T-1 Boldface

TRIM  
UNSAFE  
K L I G C  
U H R O T T L E S  
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3 5 0 0 0  
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2 5  
7 2 0

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
25 CMSAF Visit Annual Awards Banquet, 6 p.m., @ Club	26 Key Spouse Training, 9 a.m.	27	28 Quarterly Awards Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., @ Club	29 BCC Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., The Ritz Enlisted Promotions, 3:30 p.m., @ Club	30/31
1	2	3 IFF Graduation	4	5 Class 10-05 Assignment Night, 5 p.m., @ Club	6/7

<b>Long Range Events</b>	Feb. 17: Ash Wednesday
Feb. 9: OSC Wine Tasting	Feb. 17: Class 10-13 Track Select
Feb. 11: Newcomers Orientation	Feb. 18: Daedalian's Sweetheart Dinner
Feb. 12: Fun Run	Feb. 19: Class 10-05 Graduation
Feb. 13: Valentine Gourmet Night @ Club	Feb. 20: Fly Day
Feb. 15: Washington's Birthday	

## Air Force officials extend deadline for warrior games applications

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Air Force officials are accepting applications until Feb. 15 for the inaugural Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Wounded, ill and injured servicemembers will compete across all branches of the military in a joint effort between the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Olympic Committee. Active duty, Guard, and Reserve members as well as retired personnel and veterans are eligible to compete regardless of their injuries, including those diagnosed with post traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries.

Defense Department officials announced Jan. 7 that approximately 200 participants will compete in the Warrior Games May 10 to 14 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The U.S. Olympic Committee will host the games, and events will include shooting, swimming, archery, track, discus, shot put, cycling, sitting volleyball and wheelchair basketball, said Army Brig. Gen. Gary Cheek, the commander of the U.S. Army Warrior Transition Command, at a Pentagon news conference.

In preparation for this event, Air Force officials will host a one-week training camp prior to the games in Colorado Springs. "We understand that several of our ath-

letes cannot take three weeks off from their full-time jobs to dedicate their time for the competitions, so we have reduced the training camp from two weeks to one week," said Capt. Sarah Bruno, Air Force Warrior and Survivor Care action officer at the Pentagon.

"We need a minimum of one week for the volleyball and basketball teams to train together. But for the other events, we can reduce the training time to three or four days on a case-by-case basis. Also, during the training camp, Air Force participants will receive the full per-diem of \$61 per day," Captain Bruno said.

The Army will be represented by 100 Soldiers chosen out of a pool of almost 9,000 wounded warriors. The Marine Corps will send 50 competitors, while the Navy, the Air Force and the Coast Guard will send 25 each, General Cheek said.

"The value of sports and athletic competition and the fact that you can get great satisfaction from what you do is really what we're after," he said. "And we're really looking for this opportunity to (grow) this program in May and have it get bigger and stronger."

For more information or to request an application, contact the Air Force Services Agency lead action officer, 1st Lt. Hannah McDaniels, at 210-652-7021 or DSN 487-7021.

## Sports Shorts

**National Spouses Day Bowling Special:** The bowling center offers buy one game, get one free from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 26. For more information, call 434-3426.

**Paintball Familiarization Class:** Outdoor recreation offers this class at 10 a.m. Jan. 30. Cost is \$7 per person. Register by Jan. 28 at outdoor recreation. For more information, call 434-2507.

**Lifeguards/Instructors needed:** Outdoor Recreation is looking for swim instructors and lifeguards for the coming summer season. For more information, call Steve Bocek at 434-2507.

# 2010 H1N1 and Seasonal Flu: It's not too late to vaccinate!

Lt Col. Michael Rappa

Dr. Misty Looney

1st Lt. Basil Aboul-Enein  
14th Medical Group

The flu season is not over yet! Even though the holidays are over, H1N1 influenza and seasonal influenza continues to spread illness. In Mississippi, H1N1 influenza is widespread and has been confirmed in 14 deaths in this state since August 7, 2009. With everyone heading back to work and the New Year beginning, now is the time to get both your seasonal and H1N1 vaccinations accomplished. There are several months remaining in the flu season and it is up to you to make sure that you and your loved ones are protected. The easiest way to prevent both the seasonal and H1N1 flu is by getting immunized. The Immunizations Clinic at the 14th Medical Group has plenty of vaccine on hand and will continue providing flu shots throughout the season.

From August 30, 2009 to January 20, 2010, there were 236 influenza-associated pediatric deaths in the United States. During the last week of this reporting period, six of seven influenza-associated deaths were confirmed H1N1 cases. Additionally, a recent study published in the New England Journal of Medicine concluded that pandemic 2009 H1N1 influenza was associated with pediatric death rates that were 10 times the rates for seasonal influenza in previous years. This data indicates that H1N1 influenza continues to strike the youngest of our population. Children younger than 5 years of age and children with certain medical conditions are particularly at risk, especially those younger than 2 years of age. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that anyone 6 months through 24 years of age receive the H1N1 vaccine. They also recommend annual vaccination against seasonal influenza for any persons, especially those 6 months to 18 years of age, who wish to reduce

the likelihood of becoming ill with the flu or transmitting the flu to others should they become infected.

There are two ways of flu vaccine administration: one way is by an injection or shot and the other is by way of a nasal spray. Both provide the same protection against the flu virus. Healthcare personnel will determine which way to administer the vaccine to you based on medical criteria.

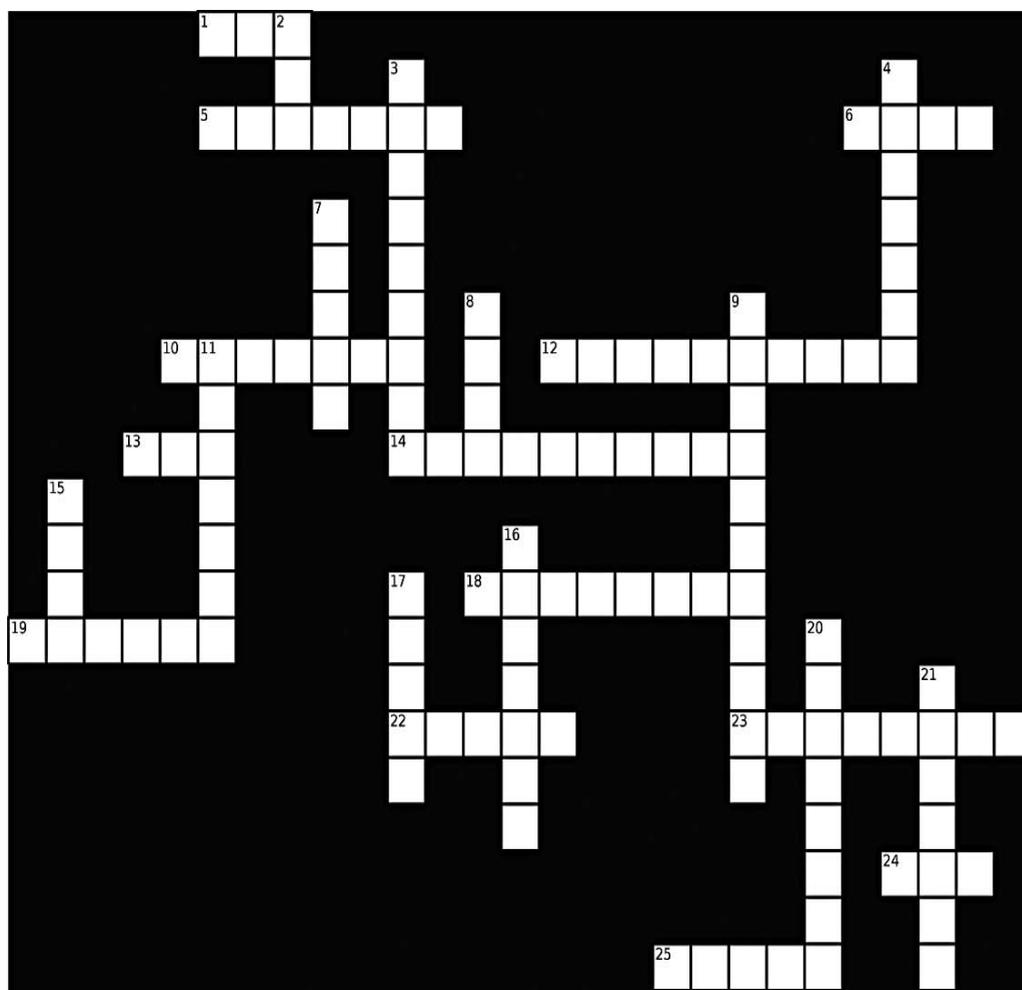
We continue to recommend that everyone get immunized against both the seasonal influenza and the H1N1 influenza virus. It is important to know that a seasonal flu vaccine will not protect you against the 2009 H1N1 flu. All beneficiaries, dependents, and DoD civilians should get immunized with both vaccines to reduce the risk of becoming ill with the flu and the risk of transmitting it to others. Uniform military personnel must receive both H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccinations as a mandatory medical readiness requirement.

Preventive hygiene continues to be the

best protection against the flu. Follow the "flu prevention etiquette" to minimize the risk of disease transmission:

- Wash hands frequently with warm water & soap or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Cough/sneeze into sleeve not hands; avoid shaking hands; avoid touching face
- Wipe surfaces (desktops, door handles, phones, tools—anything frequently touched by hands) with an approved cleaner/disinfectant
- Stay at least three feet away from someone who is coughing/sneezing
- If you get sick, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others

The Immunizations Clinic is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Thursday 7:30 a.m. to noon. Please contact the Public Health office at (662) 434-2143 for any questions regarding the vaccine. For reliable information on seasonal flu, please visit the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>.



## T-38 Boldface and Ops Limits

### Across

- 1 Engine Operating Limitations: Abort start if EGT reaches \_\_\_ degrees celsius to preclude exceeding temperature limits.
- 5 Airspeed Limitations: Maximum airspeed if flaps are over 60% is \_\_\_.
- 6 Engine Operating Limitations: Maximum allowable transient RPM is \_\_\_.
- 10 The Normal Range for Oxygen Pressure is between 50 PSI to \_\_\_.
- 12 \_\_\_ aileron rolls will be accomplished only at 1.0g and 3/4 or less stick deflection.
- 13 Engine Operating Limitations: Maximum Fuel Flow in LB/HR at start is \_\_\_.
- 14 Alternate Airstart/Loss Of Thrust (Low Altitude) boldface: \_\_\_ - CONFIRM CLOSED
- 18 Minimum hydraulic pressure operating limits is \_\_\_.
- 19 Airspeed Limitations: Maximum airspeed if canopy is open is \_\_\_.
- 22 Fire Warning During Flight (Affected Engine) boldface: IF FIRE IS CONFIRMED - \_\_\_
- 23 Engine Failure/Fire Warning During Takeoff, Takeoff Continued boldface: \_\_\_ - ATTAIN SETOS MINIMUM
- 24 Alternate Airstart/Loss of Thrust (Low Altitude) boldface: THROTTLE(S) - \_\_\_
- 25 Single-Engine Go-Around boldface: Airspeed - ATTAIN \_\_\_ APPROACH SPEED MINIMUM

### Down

- 2 Load Factor Limitation: Carrying 1000 lbs of fuel, the Max Asym G range is 0 to \_\_\_ G's
- 3 Ejection boldface: \_\_\_ - Raise
- 4 The Maximum Airspeed Limit with Pods is \_\_\_.
- 7 Single-Engine Go-Around boldface: \_\_\_ - 60%
- 8 Abort boldface: THROTTLES - \_\_\_
- 9 The second DASH -1 Prohibited Maneuvers are \_\_\_ spins.
- 11 Airspeed Limitations: Maximum airspeed if flaps are between 46% and 60% is \_\_\_.
- 15 Engine Operating Limitations: In Flight Steady State, at Military Power, the Nozzle position limits are \_\_\_.
- 16 The Maximum Airspeed Limit with the SB Open or Turbulence is \_\_\_.
- 17 Abort boldface: \_\_\_ Brakes- AS REQUIRED
- 20 The first DASH -1 Prohibited Maneuvers are \_\_\_ stalls.
- 21 Tire Failure During Takeoff, Takeoff Continued boldface: GEAR - Do Not \_\_\_

See pg. 15 for last week's solution.

# BLAZE Team members attend AETC Symposium

**Senior Airman Jacob Corbin**  
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Over 60 BLAZE Team members recently attended the 2010 Air Education and Training Command Symposium.

The symposium featured over 90 separate seminars/lectures, speaking engagements with senior leaders and Air Force heroes and was capped off with a formal ball.

"The symposium offered BLAZE Team members the opportunity to see firsthand the many training activities of AETC," said Col. George Ross, 14th Flying Training Wing vice commander. "I encourage our folks to attend the 2011 symposium."

It was held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in downtown San Antonio, Texas, and had a record attendance of over 3,700 people.

"This year's symposium was truly a world-class event and we have the entire staff and attendees to thank for it," said James Sturch, AETC symposium event director. "We continue to receive positive feedback and are already gearing up for the 2011 symposium which should only get bigger and better."

Those attending the symposium were able to listen to numerous guest speakers, including Gen. Norman Schwarz, Air Force Chief of Staff; Gen. Stephen Lorenz, Air Education and Training Command commander; Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton, retired, former commander of AETC; Gen. Raymond Johns, Jr., Air Mobility Command commander; Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog, 2nd Air Force commander; as well as a large number of senior leaders and subject matter experts.

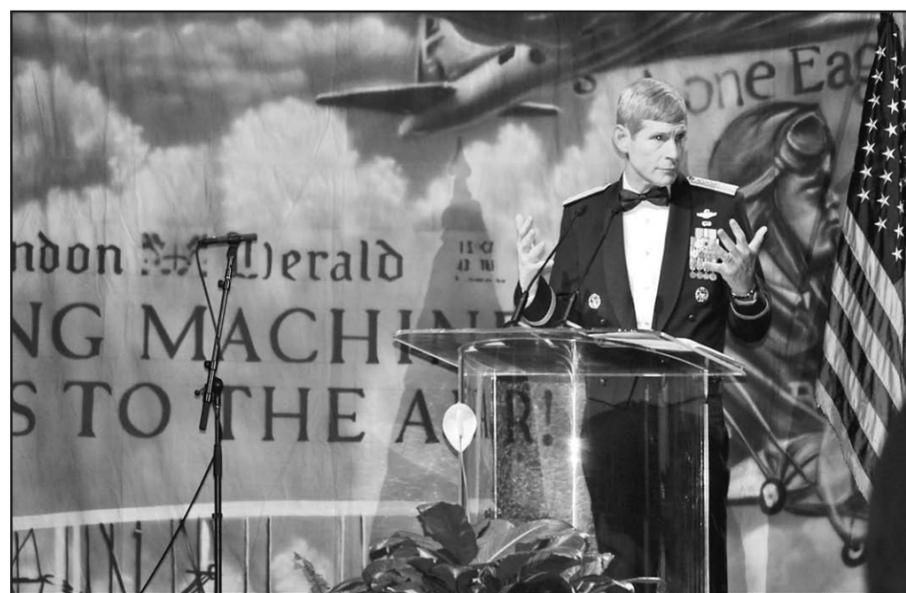
In addition, the symposium featured an open-panel discussion, which ended up being a standing-room only event, with the five living Air Force Medal of Honor recipients, Col. Bernard F. Fisher, Col. James P. Fleming, Col. Joe M. Jackson, Col. Leo K. Thorsness and Col. George E. Day.

While attendees were not attending one of the nearly-100 educational seminars, they were able to tour the Air Force Association exposition area, which featured displays from Air Force units, industry leaders and others.

*(Information from an article written by Capt. Rose Richseon, Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs, was used in this article).*



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin  
**Senior Airman Nathan Milan, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Airman 1st Class Levar Weston, 14th Security Forces Squadron, take part in an interactive Air Force Recruiting Service exhibit at the Air Force Association Exposition at the Air Education and Training Command Symposium Jan. 14. The expo featured over 100 exhibits and demonstrations.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin  
**Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton A. Schwartz speaks at the 2009 AETC Ball Jan. 15 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in downtown San Antonio, Texas. Over 1,000 people attended the ball.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin  
**Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton, former AETC commander now retired, moderates a panel with Col. Bernard F. Fisher, Col. James P. Fleming, Col. Joe M. Jackson, Col. Leo K. Thorsness and Col. George E. Day, the only living Air Force Medal of Honor recipients, speak at an open panel at the 2009 AETC Symposium Jan. 15 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in downtown San Antonio, Texas.**

## Community Volunteer Opportunity of the Week

Project Lace Up is an academic and enrichment program at Lee Middle School with 140 student participants. The idea of Project Lace Up is to prepare junior high students for the transition from middle school to high school. This is the time students begin falling behind their classmates and dropping out becomes a more appealing option. Preparing the students for high school and improving their academics provides them a better chance of going to college. The program also serves as a networking tool allowing community members to volunteer, introduce themselves to the students, and share their success stories. The networking idea of the program teaches students interpersonal skills, networking skills, and how to interact with other community

members on both a personal and professional level. Finally, students are exposed to regional areas of interest such as the state capitol, Jackson State University, and the University of Alabama.

How can the community help? Volunteers are needed to provide community support in several ways. Volunteers are needed to provide academic tutoring to students that need help getting back on track; to improve their grades; and, to prepare them for the next level (eighth grade or high school). Volunteers are needed to serve as mentors. Volunteer mentors will guide a student for the remainder of the year and provide them tutoring, life skills, share life stories, encouragement to succeed, and help improve their interpersonal skills. Volunteers are needed to for networking purposes-to introduce themselves

to the students and share their story; talk about their lives; and, open up a world of possibilities to the students by sharing their success.

Project Lace Up takes place Monday through Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and on Thursday from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Volunteers may attend Project Lace Up on a one-time basis to introduce themselves and aid the students in networking; they may pair up with a student and mentor him or her during the entire process; or they may volunteer once or twice a week tutoring or assisting various students with the program. Ideally, each student would have their own mentor to follow them through this process. But, volunteers may help however it is convenient to them. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old or more.

To volunteer, please contact the

Community Volunteer Center at 327-0807 or email to volunteercenter@cableone.net.

## Link National Health Care Seminar

This seminar will be on Jan. 27 at 8 a.m. at Baptist Memorial Hospital, community room in the outpatient pavilion. Reservations are necessary; please call Maureen Lipscomb at (662) 328-8369.

## Career Booster

East Miss Community College is conducting a Career Booster event on the morning of Thursday, Feb 11. Volunteers will review student resumes and conduct "mock" interviews. If you can volunteer, let MS LL Gates at EMCC (243-1978) know and she will follow up with more details.

# BARGAIN LINE

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

6 ft privacy fence completely enclosed. 10 minute drive from CAFB. \$192,900. FMI call 662-242-0776.

## Transportation

**For sale:** 1997 White Ford Expedition XLT, hwy miles, Great Condition, \$3800 o.b.o.; 1996 Red Mazda pickup truck B2300, 4 new tires, standard transmission, great gas saver, excellent running condition, \$2800 o.b.o.; 2002 Yukon Denali XL, Black, fully loaded, mint condition 120,000 hwy miles, 3rd row seat \$12,500 o.b.o. serious inquiries only to (662) 295-6634 FMI.

**For sale:** 2003 Ford F-150 King Ranch Super Crew, green with beige trim, extra clean, leather, V8, auto, O/D, air, 6CD, remote entry, tow pkg, bed liner, 74k miles. \$13,900 OBO FMI call 662-327-1205.

## Homes

**For sale:** 135 Scarlet Dr., Sherwood Forest: 4 br, 2.5 bath w/new kitchen, all new stainless steel appliances. Formal dining room, living room, sun room w/hot tub and bonus room (2714 sq ft). 2 car garage, with a large back yard with

**Advertise your item in Silverwings today!**

## Miscellaneous

**For sale:** Coleman Powermate 60 gal air compressor, \$450 obo; Bissell Powersteamer, \$20; Graco baby seat w/ stroller and base (like new), \$50. FMI call 662-889-8559

**For sale:** Wool rug, tan with brown and sage green leaves 5x7 (less than a month old) \$100; rug multi neutral colors 4x6 excellent condition \$40; sage green scatter rug \$10; small computer desk wood and metal \$10; three picture art black multi-colored with flowers \$30; wrought iron décor shelf \$10; toilet paper holder \$5; flower container \$5; wall clock \$10; silver and blue clock \$5; set of three Marjolein Bastin pictures white framed \$20; four square metal art hanging bronze colors \$15; Longaberger envelope basket \$30; Longaberger tea basket \$10; metal decorative containers \$5-\$10; Cross flower vase (new) \$20; wooden painted signs for all seasons \$5 each; Décor balls new in bag \$5 and more FMI call 549-1381.

**For sale:** Lazy-boy maroon leather recliner; great condition \$200. FMI call 662-352-9567.

**For sale:** Gorgeous mink stroller coat made of Cerulean Mink size 14; 36" long, only worn about ten times, stored in fur storage (controlled climate) summer months-mint condition, \$300.00. FMI call 662-383-6343.

**For sale:** Armoire entertainment center, cherry wood, good condition, \$100; Broyhill triple dresser and large mirror with matching chest of drawers, walnut wood, good condition, \$200. FMI call 662-356-0280.

**For sale:** Hot Spring hot tub, perfect condition (Rated Best Buy by Consumer Report), seats 4-5, new cost \$7100; firm selling price \$3,500. FMI call 329-1843.

**For sale:** New PSP Ultimate Travel Kit, \$10; Hamilton Beach Prep Star food processor, \$45; baby bedding set, includes comforter, bumper, fitted sheet, bed skirt and 2 pillows, \$30; new in box Nature Purest high chair, \$75; New Avent 3 4 oz natural feeding bottles, \$7. FMI call 337-274-5479.

**silverwings@columbus.af.mil**

## Free

**To good home:** Male munchkin cat, neutered and declawed, current shots. FMI call 662-425-4953 or 337-274-5479.

## Wanted

**Wanted:** 410 Gauge shotgun, 38 caliber revolver, & 9 mm pistol, refrigerator, in good condition. Call 662-329-1843/662-329-1843.

## Garage Sale

**Kids clothes,** girls sizes 0 mths to size 6; boys sizes 0 mths to 4T; lots of toddler and newborn shoes, like new; many clothes for \$1.00 but you must buy at least 10 items to get them for \$1.00; men clothes and women clothes, furniture, office furniture and lots of odds and ends.

Jan. 23, 2010 @ 6:00 a.m. Eastwood Hills off Old Hwy 82 East 59 Quince Street Columbus, MS FMI call (662) 295-6634

**Remember to turn off all lights and computer monitors when you are done for the day!**

## Base News

## COSC Wine Tasting

The next Columbus Officers Spouses Club social will be the annual Wine Tasting on Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 6:00 pm, Columbus Club. Wines from different regions will be featured and paired with heavy hors d'oeuvres. More information will follow. RSVP is by Feb. 4 to coscrsvp@yahoo.com.

## Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club 2009-2010 Scholastic Achievement Awards

The COSC is offering scholarships to graduating high school seniors and continuing education students. Each applicant must be a dependent of an active duty, retired, MIA, active duty reservists, or deceased military member associated with Columbus AFB. Applications can be obtained at the Columbus Air Force Base Education Center, Columbus Air Force Base Family Support Center, financial aid/scholarship offices, or high school guidance offices. For more information contact: Brooke Williams, Scholarship Chair, 662-570-4517 or Bridget Peterson, Scholarship Co-Chair, 707-386-7811 or OSC.CAFB@gmail.com. Application Deadline Monday, March 1.

## School Liaison Officer

The Columbus Air Force Base School Liaison Officer works with local school districts, schools, parents and students on issues related to elementary and secondary education for the children of ALL personnel (civilian, military and contractor) assigned to the installation. As parents of school age children are aware, there are many unique issues our children face as they transition to new schools. The role of the School Liaison Officer is to assist families ensure their children receive the best possible education regardless of where they attend school. For assistance, please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at slo@columbus.af.mil.

## Library Story Time

The base library will hold Story Time on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Story Time will continue to be held each week.

## Personnel Office Information

The Military Personnel Section (MPS) has gone to a single-point of entry for all customer service actions. Please sign-in at the Customer Support counter located in room 106. Additionally, for Common Access Card (CAC)/ID Card renewals, we request one make an appointment with Customer Support at 434-2624 or 434-2626

## POCs and Volunteers needed for special observances

February – Black History Month (2010 Theme: The History of Black Economic Empowerment)

March – Women's History Month (Writing Women Back into History)

If you are interested, please contact the EO office at 434-2546 or email 14ftweo@columbus.af.mil

## Saint Leo U. Military Spouse Discount

Military spouses seeking a degree at Saint Leo U. can enroll in two classes and take a third class for FREE. Contact Dew White at 434-8844 or stop by the Saint Leo U. office in the Personnel Bldg., Room 120.

## Education Counseling Hours

Education counseling (CCAF, Bachelor's/Master's programs, Tuition Assistance, etc.) is now available Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Please contact Edward Hodge at 434-2562 to schedule.

## Attention All Deployers

The 14th Communications Squadron has a new system which allows you to place "free" telephone calls back home from your deployed location via DSN. You can call every day or once a week; whichever you prefer (allotted time is 3.5 hours a week). Pin numbers are required and can be picked up along with instructions from the Telephone Systems office located in Building 900, Room 9. Please call 434-2020 for additional information.

## DRMO as a source of supply

Authorized personnel may retrieve property that is marked for DRMO Facilities only if they are still physically located in Base Supply. For more information, call the Inspection Section at extension 434-7233 to review the property, Stock Control at 434-7198 to check for authorization and Customer Support at 434-7178 to order the property. All other DRMO processing is done via the Web at: www.drms.dla.mil.

## Do you have a supply problem?

Do you need status on an item you ordered? Did you receive the wrong part? The Customer Support section is the single point of contact when requiring assistance on supply related matters. For assistance, you may contact Customer Support at 434-7178.

## Zero overpricing program-incentive awards

Overpricing is an issue everyone should be working. All personnel are encouraged to participate, and will be rewarded for any tangible sav-

ings resulting from their price challenge. Monetary awards will be given in accordance with AFI 38-401, The Air Force Innovative Development Employee Awareness (IDEA) Program. Advice and guidance are available by calling the Customer Support section of Base Supply, located in Building 158, at 434-7178.

## Legal Hours

The legal office offers legal assistance on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. by appointment only. Notary and/or power-of-attorney are done as a walk-in during normal business days from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., arriving no later than 3:45p.m. Participants must be eligible for assistance to receive service. For more information, call the base legal office at 434-7030.

## Airman and Family Readiness Center

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

## Pre-Separation Counseling (DD Form-2648)

Mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring. Briefing should be completed at least 90 days prior to separation and may completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. Counseling held daily at 8:30 a.m. and takes approximately 30 minutes.

## Pre and Post Deployment Tour Brief

Mandatory briefings for active duty personnel who are deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. Briefings are held daily at the AFRC; Pre-deployment at 9:30 a.m. and post-deployment at 1:30 p.m., 434-2790.

## Introduction to American Sign Language Course

The AFRC will conduct an Introduction class at the AFRC Feb. 1, 3 and 5. Each session will be 2 hours long starting at 4 p.m. each day, and going for three days for a total of 6 Hours. If there is more interest they will schedule more advance class at a later date. Please call 434-290 to sign up.

## Budgeting Basics

This event is held every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to noon at Airman & Family Readiness Center. Learn practical ways to tell your money where to go rather than wonder where it went. For more information, call 434-2790.

## Employment Workshop

There is an employment workshop every

Wednesday at 1 p.m. Airman and Family Readiness Center. Participants will learn about local and base employment opportunities. For more information, call 434-2790.

## Spouse Welcome

A special welcome for new personnel assigned to Columbus AFB is held each Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Magnolia Inn Lobby. For more information, call 434-2790.

## Chapel Schedule

## Pioneer Club

The CAFB Chapel has begun registration for the children's program Pioneer Club. The program will be held each Wednesday evening 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This program is open to children ages three years thru seventh grade. This is an ecumenical religious program geared to teach children about Christ in every aspect of life. A pot luck dinner will be served each week at 5 p.m. parents must join their children at dinner.

## Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study

The CAFB Chapel will be holding a variety of Adult Bible Studies from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. A Pot Luck dinner will be served at 5 p.m., please bring a side dish or dessert to share if you are able. Please call the Chapel at 434-2500 for a list of studies.

## RefresHer

Please join us at the Base Chapel for RefresHer at 6 p.m.:

Jan. 28 – Dinner bring a salad or soup to share and Self Defense Class (dress comfortably)

Feb. 25 – Game Night/ Bring a Finger Food to Share

March 25 – Movie Night Casablanca/Bring a side dish or dessert to share

April 29 – TBA

## Protestant

Sunday: 9 a.m. — Adult Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional

Worship Service (Children's Church)

All are invited to a fellowship luncheon following the 10:45 a.m. service the fourth Sunday of each month

## Catholic

Thursday:  
5 p.m. — Choir Practice

Sunday:  
3:45 p.m. — Choir Practice  
4:30 p.m. — Confession  
5:00 p.m. — Mass

## AMC continues efforts to aid earthquake victims; command conducts C-17 air deliveries Jan. 18

## Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE III. — Air Mobility Command Airmen have flown more than 260 sorties in support of Haiti relief efforts, rushing food, water and medical supplies to the people of Haiti.

In fact, since Jan. 13, AMC has delivered nearly 1,600 tons of cargo and about 2,400 passengers to Haiti and evacuated more than 600 victims from the earthquake-ravaged country.

In one of the most recent AMC missions, a C-17 Globemaster III from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., executed a crucial air delivery into Haiti Jan. 18 delivering more than 69,000 pounds of food and water.

Departing from Pope AFB, N.C., the C-17 flew round trip to Haiti delivering 14,000 meals ready-to-eat (MREs) and 14,000 quarts of water during the seven-hour mission. Joint Task Force Haiti provided protection by securing the air delivery area. Once on the ground, supplies were distributed by JTF-Haiti, U.S. Agency for International Development and other relief personnel.

According to AMC officials, lack of infrastructure in Haiti has significantly slowed the delivery of supplies and workers. Officials said air delivery is an alternative the international community is exploring to create alternate distribution points that will enable aid to reach people more quickly.

In other news, partnering with the United Nations, the U.S. State Department and other agencies, the 621st Contingency Response Wing was able to aid in the transport of six Haitian orphans to their new families in the U.S. via a C-17 from McChord AFB, Wash.

The children were among the dozens of orphans who were displaced by the earthquake that rocked Port au Prince early last week. According to news reports, the orphanage was destroyed in the earthquake forcing about 25 children to live outside.

At the Port au Prince Airport, personnel assigned to the CRW were able to get the children safely aboard the C-17 headed for the U.S.

"It was a teamwork effort," said Lt. Col. Randon Draper, assigned to 18th Air Force at Scott AFB. "There were a lot of moving parts coming together: the CRW, the State Department, CNN crews, the U.N. (and) a lot of people back in the states working together."



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Katie Gieratz  
A mobile command and control communications center is loaded onto a C-17 Globemaster III Jan. 15, 2010, at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. Officials from the 621st Contingency Response Wing deployed ground forces to set up air base operations to set the stage for expedient supply of humanitarian aid.

Since Haiti relief operations began Jan. 13, aircrews from across the command have evacuated more than 600 U.S. citizens.

Additionally, AMC continues to support relief efforts through transporting life saving medical supplies. Crews from Scott AFB

loaded nearly 40,000 pounds of medical supplies into a C-17 bound for Haiti. Medical teams from across the command are posturing to provide medical assistance in Haiti as well.

Furthermore, crews from Little Rock AFB, Ark., and Pope AFB continue to transport

Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne to help with the security situation in Haiti. During the past five days, Pope AFB's flight line has seen a total of more than 30 aircraft, nearly 500 passengers, and about 103 tons of cargo headed to aid in the humanitarian relief effort.

## Secretary, chief of staff: Airmen integral to relief efforts

WASHINGTON — Since the startup of relief efforts following the earthquake in Haiti, active-duty, Air Guard and Reserve Airmen have been working around the clock to support aid missions to get people and supplies to the stricken island nation.

Both the secretary of the Air Force and the Air Force chief of staff are closely monitoring the humanitarian efforts being undertaken by the men and women of the U.S. Air Force.

"Airmen are supporting U.S. Southern Command efforts in Haiti as part of the Department of Defense team, in conjunction with other U.S. government agencies and the international community, to help provide critical aid and comfort to hundreds of thousands of Haitians at a time of great need," said Air Force Secretary Michael B. Donley.

"Whether helping to ensure planes carrying much-needed supplies and personnel get into Port-au-Prince around-the clock, repatriating U.S. citizens out of Haiti, or assisting with desperately needed medical care, the contributions made by the men and women of the Air Force supporting USSOUTHCOM have been integral to overall relief efforts," he said.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz offered encouragement to the Haitians as relief efforts continue.

"We send our sincere condolences to the citizens of Haiti," General Schwartz said. "The widespread devastation and loss of so many of our neighbors is daunting, but the Haitian people are exceptionally resilient and the outpouring of support from around the globe has been nothing short of dramatic. We stand shoulder to shoulder with the president and the Department of Defense in our nation's resolve to provide assistance.

"I am extremely proud of the efforts of our Airmen, who were able to respond so quickly," he said. "Our special operators and contingency response group personnel were able to put their skills to immediate use in helping the Haitians manage airfield operations in Port-au-Prince, enabling the flow of much needed aid. Our airlifters were able to rapidly deliver personnel and supplies. And our intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets provided a critical first look for damage assessment. Twelfth Air Force and 1st Air Force are providing essential command and control expertise.

"The Air Force," the general concluded, "along with our joint teammates, USSOUTHCOM, and other U.S. government agencies, will continue to do everything possible to assist in this massive disaster-response effort."



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Daniel Bowles  
**Air transportation specialists with the 437th Aerial Port Squadron at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., work together Jan. 18, 2010, to load a pallet of food onto a C-17 Globemaster III from McChord AFB, Wash. The pallet of food is part of a 116,000-pound shipment of food and water to aid victims of the recent earthquake in Haiti.**

## F-15 rewire flight to save money, manhours

Wayne Crenshaw

78th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — A new rewire flight at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., is playing a key role in keeping the aging F-15 Eagle flying for years to come.

The flight will perform a complete rewire on 122 F-15s during the next five years. The rewiring will be done on C and D models, and when complete, the flight will spend at least another five years working on E models.

The reason for the rewire is that the insulation on the existing wire is getting brittle and causing shorts, said Keith Gilstrap, the rewire flight chief. Although it has not caused any crashes, it has led to a significant amount of field repair time and false troubleshooting, as technicians try to figure out why aircraft systems fail intermittently, he said.

Work on the first plane began Nov. 13, 2009, and, when fully ramped up, they will be working on seven planes at a time, Mr. Gilstrap said. The flight currently has four planes in the hangar.

All of the planes are coming to Robins AFB for programmed depot maintenance,

with the rewire being done in conjunction with that. Robins AFB mechanics did an F-15 rewire in the early 1990s, but at that time it was done in the same hangar as the PDM.

The difference this time is a "cellular concept," in which the rewire will be done in a separate building with electricians and mechanics focused solely on that task. Mr. Gilstrap said that approach will lead to a more efficient workflow. The rewire is expected to take 72 to 77 days per plane. Mr. Gilstrap explained that in normal PDM, electricians would inspect the wiring but replace it only as needed. In the rewire program, all but a few already updated wires will be removed and replaced.

A total of 120 people will be working in the flight when it reaches full capacity, including 47 newly hired electricians. The rest of the crew is being shifted from PDM work.

"This is an all volunteer force," Mr. Gilstrap said. "We did not have to tell one person to come here. They wanted to do something new and different and they wanted to be on the ground floor of a new facility and a new workload."

In addition, the rewiring work will prove

its worth in savings.

"It is really going to save millions of dollars," he said. "It's going to save an untold amount of manhours out in the field, in troubleshooting and repair."

Although the first production plane arrived in November, the flight had already tested the process on three planes in a validation and verification process.

They rely on wiring diagrams to figure out the arrangement of the massive amount of wires and connectors on the plane. Those working on the project said they enjoy the challenge.

"You get to learn a lot about the aircraft," said Eric Bickett, an aircraft mechanic.

The planes come to the hangar basically stripped down to the fuselage, with the wings, engines and avionics removed. After the rewire is complete, the wires are all connected to a large, custom-built machine called a wire integrity tester. The tester has a wire that attaches to each connection on the plane, and it virtually assures that the job has been done correctly before the plane is reassembled.

Mr. Gilstrap said the first plane is scheduled to go on the tester Jan. 21.



U.S. Air Force Photo  
**Aircraft mechanic Eric Bickett (left), and aircraft electrician Robert Lamb use a diagram as they work on the F-15 Eagle rewire project Jan. 15, 2009, at Robins Air Force Base, Ga.**



# WOMEN *of the* AIR FORCE

view other art and photos at [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil)

produced by Air Force News Service

# Base families offered a variety of activities

## Lifeguards/Instructors needed

Outdoor Recreation is looking for swim instructors and lifeguards for the coming summer season. For more information, call Steve Bocek at 434-2507.

## Year of the Family Essay Contest

The Air Force is a great place to live, work and play! Show the world through your story, just what living the Air Force life means to you, your family and your friends. Compete for a chance to win a Grand Prize computer package valued at \$2,000 and have your story featured in Military Spouse magazine! There are two categories of competition: youth: ages 12 to 12; adult: ages 18 and up. Additional information on this and other Year of the Air Force family initiatives at: [www.myair-forcelife.com](http://www.myair-forcelife.com).

## Fit Family lunches Jan. 30

Air Force Services family fitness and wellness initiative, FitFamily begins its inaugural year via a worldwide party Jan 30, 2010 as an integral component of the Year of the Air Force Family. FitFamily encourages the ABC's of wellness:

A is to plan activities that include all family members

B is to Build healthy habits that will last a lifetime

C is to Count progress; small steps each day make a huge difference

D is to schedule Day trips, game nights and fun time to foster togetherness

E is to Encourage healthy Eating and cooking as a family

F is to have Fun as a Family while creating healthy habits.

Families can register as a team at [www.USAFFitFamily.com](http://www.USAFFitFamily.com) when the site goes live on Jan. 30 to earn points and achieve levels for participation in Family Fun activities, family sports and fitness and family nutrition. Recognition is provided at each level to encourage families to continue on the path of wellness. The FitFamily program encourages

Air Force families to make healthy lifestyle choices and provides resources and tips in an effort to promote overall family fitness. For more information, contact the Youth Center at 434-2504.

## Space A lodging

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

## New Year Family Reading Program

The Child development Center invites children and families to share books brought home each week by the child until Feb. 19. The titles of the books are annotated on book jackets and placed in the hall for everyone to enjoy. On the last day, the children will receive recognition for participation in the program and parents will be recognized for their part as well. For more information, call 434-2479.

## National Spouses Day bowling special

The bowling center offers buy one game, get one free from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 26. For more information, call 434-3426.

## Paintball familiarization class

Outdoor recreation offers this class at 10 a.m. Jan. 30. Cost is \$7 per person. Register by Jan. 28 at outdoor recreation. For more information, call 434-2507.

## Mardi Gras Brunch

The Columbus Club is offering this special brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 7. Reservations required by Feb. 1. Cost is \$17.95 for club members members and \$6.95 for their children, ages 5 to 11. Nonmembers are \$19.95 and \$8.95 for their children, ages 5 to 11. Children 4 and younger free. Featuring seafood station with steamed crawfish, crab legs, Cajun shrimp, lunch bar with

crawfish etoufee, spicy fried chicken, dirty rice, gumbo, candied yams and some children's favorites; breakfast bar, salad bar, dessert station with King Cake, specialty drinks include hurricanes, mimosas, bloody Mary and screwdrivers. For more information, call 434-2489.

## Teen Aviation Camp

Air Force Services in conjunction with the US Air Force Academy invite teens to experience the Air Force Academy firsthand during the 11th Annual Teen Aviation Camp. Camp is held in Colorado Springs, CO, from June 5 to 10. The camp is for high school students entering their sophomore or junior year in the fall of 2010. Eligible applicants include teen dependents of active duty military assigned to or living on an Air Force Base, AF retired military, AF civilian employees, or activated Air National Guard or AF Reserve. Teens who participated in the 2009 camp are not eligible to apply this year. Attendees are selected based upon information included in their application. Contact the youth center for more information. Deadline for application is March 15. For more information, call 434-2504, or visit [www.afyouthprograms.com](http://www.afyouthprograms.com).

## Valentine Gourmet Dinner

This five-course, five-star meal is prepared by Chef Carla at the Columbus Club from 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 13. Cost is \$45 per person for members and \$50 per person for nonmembers. Reservations required by Feb. 10. Menu includes assorted canapés, crab cakes on spring greens with sun ripened tomatoes drizzled with balsamic vinaigrette, lemon sorbet, filet mignon stuffed with sautéed spinach and provolone cheese in port wine mustard sauce, chocolate treasures in a pool of ganache. For more information, call 434-2489.

## Tickets available

The information, ticket and travel office has discounted tickets for Disney World,

Universal Studios, Dollywood, Sea World, Busch Gardens, Six Flags Over Georgia, the Memphis Zoo, Alabama Adventure, the Dixie Stampede, Geyser Falls, and more. Call 434-2507 for more information.

## Youth Center sponsorship program

Moving is hard, but it is also a time to meet new friends, find new hangout spots, get involved in fun and different things and go on trips to interesting places. The Youth Sponsorship Program at Columbus was created by and just for youth. To help make your transition from your old base on to your new base, contact the Youth Center and join in the fun of the youth sponsorship program. For more information, call 434-2504.

## Casino trip

Register at outdoor recreation for this monthly trip the first Friday of every month to the Silver Star and Golden Moon casinos. Cost is \$20 and includes transportation and \$25 in player money. For more information, call 434-2507.

## One Page at a Time

This program is open to youth, ages 3-13. The desired outcome of this program is to offer literacy enrichment opportunities for youth and to create a passion for reading. It is a motivational program where children read books, document their literary accomplishments and earn incentives for each level of their literary successes. Participants select books from required readings lists at school, the library, selected by their family members or from a list of 15,000 suggested titles located on the [www.afyouthprograms.com](http://www.afyouthprograms.com) website. Parents of children, ages 3-5 years, who read a minimum of five books to their child's class in the child development center will earn a book at the conclusion of the program. The program concludes March 19. For more information, call the Youth Center at 434-2504.

# In their shoes

## Col. Kenryu Bryson

14th Mission Support Group Commander

Considering different perspectives is an aspect of decision making and leadership that many of us know about but spend little time actually applying. I'm not talking about whether you view a glass half empty or half full, but how we view and react to everyday situations.

Take getting cutoff while driving. If you're like many people you probably initially get angry, may even voice your frustration, which may be followed or accompanied by a physical display of your hand to the driver that cut you off. Now if the driver has seen what they have done to you, they either give a weak "I'm sorry" wave or stare straight ahead ignoring your attempts to tell them how you feel. How you perceive this action will then drive a series of decisions...hopefully they don't lead you to a case of road rage.

Let's look at the same situation with you in the car that

has just cut someone off. After changing lanes, you look in your mirror and realize what you have done. You see the driver yelling at you and perhaps hand gestures to tell you how they feel. In response, you either try to make amends by waving one of your hands in a non-confrontational way or just go with driving straight ahead to let the other driver cool down. Naturally you feel bad, and would apologize if you could. As you continue to watch the other driver's reaction to your inadvertent cutoff you might start getting angry yourself. You might even start thinking how stupid the other driver's over-reaction is to your innocent mistake. This will also lead to a series of decisions...hopefully they don't lead to a two-way case of road rage.

Being able to put yourself in another person's position and look at a situation from their perspective is a vital decision making and leadership skill that each of us needs to help drive better decisions and hopefully avoid having tough situations become bad mistakes. Whether you are



U.S. Air Force photo  
Col. Kenryu Bryson

an over-worked service representative who is worrying about the pile of work in their undermanned duty section, or the customer who has endured hours of waiting; a frustrated commander who is trying to delay picking a person to fill a deployment, or the military member who has to tell their family they are delayed from coming home since their replacement hasn't been selected; considering the perspective of the other person is critical and should be a part of our normal decision making process.

So the next time you're getting frustrated with how a person is acting, try placing yourself in their shoes. Ask questions to learn what might be contributing to how they are acting or reacting. This will help you to better understand both aspects of the situation and make you a better listener, decision maker, leader and overall, a better citizen.

# Maintaining the human weapons system

## Chief Master Sgt. Rob Tappana

Air Education and Training Command command chief

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — It all started during a staff meeting when I was at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. Seeing a major I didn't know, I introduced myself. In reply she spoke a sentence that still echoes in my mind.

"Hello Chief, I'm Maj. Jennifer Halter, I am a crew chief on the human weapons system," she said.

Puzzled, I asked for clarification and she replied, "I am a crew chief on the human weapons system. I maintain the critical emotional guidance system of our most valued asset."

She was our new mental health officer.

I paused to consider her unique point of view. Was I a "weapons system?" Did I want to be one? The answer to that question was a quick "yes."

In the Air Force we revere our weapons systems. When I enlisted there were seldom pictures of people on the walls but there were always pictures of our weapons; aircraft, missiles, satellites, etc.

Afterward, I looked out my window and

pondered the F-15 Eagles on the flightline. Each is a complex system of systems requiring dedicated and skilled maintenance. Each is assigned a crew chief and assistant crew chief responsible for ensuring the jet is always in good repair. No pilot steps to a jet until the crew chiefs prepare it and verify it is ready to go.

"Sir/ma'am, the jet is ready," a crew chief would say. "All systems are green. If you handle it properly it will take you out and back and you'll both be ready for tomorrow's mission."

The crew chiefs have access to specialists in the "back shops" to provide specialized maintenance beyond their expertise. Avionics, fuels, weapons, and others help with whatever is needed to ensure the performance and safety of the jet. On occasion, we will even take a jet off the line and send it for depot-level maintenance, an upgrade of its major systems. This allows us to fly our aircraft for 50 years and more.

I realized there are many parallels between Airmen and aircraft. I am, we are, complex structures of systems. We require constant and competent maintenance. Who is my crew chief? I believe I am. Basic maintenance -- food, rest, exercise and education -- is my

responsibility. My supervisor, teammates, wingmen, and chain of command serve as assistant crew chiefs. Sometimes though, I need more maintenance than my supervisor and I can provide. This is where the "back shops" play their role in maintaining our human weapons system.

Should my spiritual compass go askew, our chaplains will help me "re-center" it. The professionals at the dining facility are here to ensure I am properly fueled. Should I suffer a physical breakdown, the medical group is standing by with specialists for all my physical systems. If I find my thrust-to-weight ratio off and my performance slowing, I can go to the health and wellness center and the fitness center for a fitness tune up. Just as we have preventative maintenance for aircraft, we also have preventative maintenance for people including routine performance feedback, proper diet and exercise and preventative health assessments. We even have depot-level maintenance. After all, what is professional military education but depot-level maintenance for the leadership guidance module of the human weapons system?

Too often, we treat our equipment like treasure and our people like labor. We often work our people as hard as we can and then are

disappointed when they break down or fail. We don't do it intentionally but it still works out that way. I'd like to serve in an Air Force where our human weapons systems are as revered as our other weapons systems. One where each member works as hard at maintaining themselves and their people as the weapons and processes they are responsible for. One where no Airman is sent on the day's mission until his/her supervisor checks him/her over and ensures he/she is mission-ready.

"Sir/ma'am, I've checked out Airman Snuffy. All systems are green. If you treat her right she'll perform well and be ready for tomorrow's mission when we need her."

There is no reason we cannot become more capable as we age. It all boils down to how well we maintain ourselves and our teams.

I owe Major Halter a great deal. She reshaped how I look at maintaining myself and my team. She was right; we are the Air Force's most valued asset. America provides us with her most precious treasure: her sons and daughters. It is up to us to ensure that each reaches their maximum potential and provides their best to our mission of defending the nation.

I am Chief Master Sgt. Rob Tappana. I am a crew chief on the human weapons system, and so are you.

Visit the Silverwings Web site at: [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil).  
You can find previous issues, photos, and lots more information. Visit us today!

T-6 Texan



# SUPT Class 10-04 earns silver wings



T-1A Jayhawk



**Second Lt. Thomas D'Amore**  
Albuquerque, N.M.  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



**Second Lt. John Hartwell**  
The Woodlands, Texas  
C-21, Andrews AFB, Md.



**Second Lt. David Jeter**  
Memphis, Tenn.  
KC-135, Key Field, Miss.



**Second Lt. Marc Lindquist**  
Sioux Falls, S.D.  
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



**Second Lt. Chad Murray**  
Milford, Mich.  
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



**Second Lt. John Newman**  
Flint, Mich.  
C-5, Dover AFB, Del.



**Second Lt. Brian Ross**  
Brooklyn Park, Minn.  
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



**Second Lt. Jesse Strickler**  
Farmington, N.M.  
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kansas

Eleven officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-04 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker for SUPT Class 10-04's graduation is Maj. Gen. Robert Kane, previously the Commanding General, Coalition Air Force Transition Team, Baghdad, Iraq. There he was responsible to the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq for standing up the Iraqi air force. General Kane has been selected for reassignment as Commander, Spatz Center for Officer Education, and Commandant, Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Students receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Second Lt. John C. Hartwell, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Marc E. Lindquist, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Lieutenant Hartwell was named the distinguished graduate of SUPT Class 10-04.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan

II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training airlift tanker track, C-130 track or helicopter track.

These tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet.

Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with a business or civic organization during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus Air Force

Base. Today, each student will be given a set of official Air Force pilot wings with their names and Columbus, Miss engraved on the back as a

token of good luck from their class partner. Class 10-04's Pilot Partner is the Eat with Us Group, which owns and manages Harvey's downtown on Main Street, Sweet Peppers Deli on Hwy 45 and The Grill at Jackson Square, also located on Hwy 45.

