

SILVERWINGS

“Year of the Air Force Family”

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Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

December 4, 2009

Weather



Today

High: 50, Low: 28
Partly Cloudy



Saturday

High: 50, Low: 28
Mostly Sunny

News Briefs

Base Cookie Drive

The Annual Base Cookie Drive will be Dec. 7 at the Columbus Club. Cookies that can be frozen may be dropped off at the home of Mrs. Angie Reth 4143 Mississippi St after Dec. 1. Cookies that cannot be frozen can be dropped off the weekend before the 7 at 4143 Mississippi St. All other cookie donations will be accepted beginning at 6:30 a.m. the morning of Dec. 7 at the Columbus Club. Someone will be outside so donors can drive by and drop off their goodies. We would appreciate having all the cookies by 9 a.m. that morning (the earlier, the better) so packaging and delivering can be started as soon as possible.

AAC Meeting

The Airmen's Activity Council will hold a meeting at 4 p.m. on Dec. 10 at the Services Complex. All Airmen grades E-1 through E-4 are encouraged to attend.

Class 10-11 Track Select

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-11 will hold their Track Select ceremony at 5 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature **10**

The 41st Flying Training Squadron, the Flying Buzzsaws, is highlighted in this week's feature.

“Spooky” visits Columbus AFB



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Student pilots talk to crew members of an AC-130U “Spooky” gunship from Hurlburt Field, Fla., Nov. 25. The AC-130 was here to give soon-to-be pilots a chance to view the aircraft up close and learn more about it and its mission.

BLAZE Team rakes in AETC awards

Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The Columbus AFB BLAZE Team won numerous awards at the Air Education and Training Command level recently.

Most award winners will proceed to the next level of competition.

The winners were as follows:
14th Medical Group

Maj. Michelle Brown received the Field Grade Officer Clinical Excellence Award.

The Columbus AFB Dental Clinic was named the Best Small Dental Clinic in AETC.

2nd Lt. Nicole Djanbatian was named

the Best Company Grade Aerospace Physiology Officer in AETC.

Capt. Carolyn Jensen was named the Best Company Grade Base Bioenvironmental Engineer.

Best Bioenvironmental Engineering NCO: Staff Sgt. Bryan Hayes was named the Best Bioenvironmental Engineering

See AETC, Page 2

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 (10-11)	0.25 days	-5.56 days	Dec. 11	48th (10-03)	1.59 days	0.11 days	Dec. 11	49th (10-CB)	1.47 days	2.42 days	Dec. 21	T-6	274	176	5,789
41st (10-12)	4.75 days	-2.09 days	Jan. 10	50th (10-03)	-3.86 days	-1.79 days	Dec. 11					T-1	90	91	1,879
												T-38	90	63	805
												IFF	19	16	506

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Charles Davis, commander Air Armament Center.

MC-12 reaches 1,000th combat mission

Senior Airman Andria J. Allmond
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — Members of the 362nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron here, recently reached 1,000 combat sorties in the MC-12W aircraft only five months after arriving in-theater.

Currently operating only at Joint Base Balad, the MC-12 is one of the Air Force's newest platforms for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. It's not just an eye in the sky, it also serves as a complete collection, processing, analysis and dissemination system.

The modified aircraft system consists of sensors, a ground exploitation cell, line-of-sight and satellite communication datalinks, and a robust voice communications suite, all with manpower for 24-hour operations.

"We can have a ground unit talk directly to a sensor operator who's on board," said Senior Airman Robert Laxton, a 362nd ERS cryptologic operator. "From that sensor operator, we have imagery analysts on the ground who can send out products, almost instantaneously, to ground users and ground supporters."

Providing real time, full-motion video, the Liberty is designed to augment other downrange intelligence-collecting capabilities and help military leaders make battlefield



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christopher Hubenthal
Gary Dunlap marshals out the 362nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron's 1,000th MC-12 Nov. 16, 2009, at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. Activated in June 2009, the 362nd reached 1,000 missions a few days past their five-month mark. Mr. Dunlap is a civilian contractor attached to the 362nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron.

decisions. The aircraft submits the video to relay nodes distributed throughout the country. Those nodes then push the video to forward-deployed ground forces.

Since they started flying in-theater, the 362nd ERS combat sorties have aided in the capture of 12 high-value individuals and

helped discover three weapons caches. And for the entire cumulative time MC-12s have provided overwatch, friendly ground forces suffered zero casualties.

The success of the MC-12 mission leads its operators to believe it could soon be employed in support of Operation Enduring

Freedom.

"I project we'll go over to (Afghanistan) too and do the same stuff over there," said 1st Lt. Mark Finnegan, a MC-12 pilot and part of the four-person aircrew. "We would continue helping to gather intelligence and protecting the troops."

Air Force family forges bonds, eases strain

Staff Sgt. Christopher L. Ingersoll
100th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

ROYAL AIR FORCE MILDENHALL, England — As Airmen, many times we put service before ourselves to accomplish the mission. It's what we signed up for, and it's what we're trained to do.

Even so, what is more than a little difficult is when mission requires us to put service before our spouses and children.

The Air Force does a great many things to take care of families and is working even now, as it is the Year of the Air Force Family, to make our quality of life much better.

As a married father of six, I still feel that no matter what is done to provide better services, housing or anything else, a parent or spouse can simply never be replaced with niceties. That's where our fellow servicemembers become so important.

The Air Force is like an extended family, and the bonds we forge allow us to feel secure in the knowledge our loved ones are taken care of while we have to be separated from them for

extended periods of time.

Since joining the Air Force, I've made friends who understand the strain our families go through and make the effort to take care of my family when I am gone. When I moved to England, there was a problem with my family's paperwork, and I had to move here three weeks early, leaving them in a hotel room in the states.

My friend and fellow Airman, Jonathan, and his family had them over for dinner several of those nights to make sure they were getting good meals. I was also able to tell my teenage sons confidently that if they were in any trouble I would have Jonathan come over and help straighten it out.

Victor, another Airman friend, helped my wife sell the car. While Bill, a civilian contractor with whom I became good friends, lent my wife a van to use in the meantime and gave my family a ride to the airport when it was time for them to join me.

Recently, I took a photo of the wing commander giving Tech. Sgt. Justice Rogers a wingman coin for helping an

Airman's family. I learned that taking care of each other is not just with my friends, it's Air Force wide.

When Sergeant Rogers learned that one of his deployed Airman's family had contracted the H1N1 virus, he spent \$150 of his own money to provide groceries and medications for them. He brought videos for the kids, checked their mail, took care of the garbage collection, transported them to the hospital, fixed the car, cooked meals and made daily visits to their home to make sure they were being taken care of.

After he received the award I told him I thought what he did was admirable.

"You would have done the same thing for your fellow Airmen," he answered.

That really drove it home for me. That's the real meaning of Air Force family. We share the same struggles, triumphs and adventures, but most of all we take care of each other.

The hardest thing to give the Air Force can be more time when we're needed at home, but thanks to our extended Air Force family, even that can be manageable.

Base families offered a variety of activities

Worry Free Christmas Tree Service

Register at Outdoor Recreation for this program scheduled for Dec. 12. Cost is \$20 and includes transportation to the Swedenberg Christmas Tree Farm, you pick out a tree (and pay for it at the farm) and outdoor recreation cuts it down and delivers to your house. After the holidays, outdoor recreation will pick up and dispose of it. Register at outdoor recreation or call 434-2507 for more information.

Bowling Center closure

The bowling lanes, not the snack bar, will be closed until Dec. 19 for installation of new pinsetters and lanes. For more information, call 434-3426.

Family steak night

The youth center offers this program for youth center members and their families from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Dec. 10. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children. Includes steak, baked potato, side salad, roll and tea. Must register and prepay by Dec. 7. For more information, call 434-2507.

Caroling at Trinity Retirement Home

The youth center is inviting all youth, ages 9 to 18, to participate in this program Dec. 12. The group will leave the youth center at noon and return at 3 p.m. Must register by Dec. 7 at the youth center. For more information, call 434-2504.

Youth Christmas Shopping Trip

The youth center offers this free trip for ages 13 and older to Mall of Memphis Dec. 19. Younger children must be accompanied by a parent. Register by Tuesday at the youth center. For ore information, call 434-2504.

Annual Holiday Cookie Baking Contest

The Library is offering this annual contest Dec. 15. All interested persons may sign up Dec. 1 to Dec. 14. Entries should be brought to the Library by 1:30 p.m. Dec. 15. Judging is at 2 p.m. A maximum of two entries per person with at least twelve cookies in each entry. No tarts, and no candy entries accepted. Entries must be cookies. Grand prize is a \$25 AAFES gift card. For more information, call 434-2934.

Family New Years Eve Party

The bowling center is offering this special

Putting in the dark



U.S. Air Force Photo
Participants in the November Glo-Ball Tournament at the Whispering Pines Golf Course putt their ball into the hole. For more information on the next glo-ball tournament, call 434-2504.

program from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cost is \$50 per couple or \$25 for single. Children are free with paid adult. Price includes all night cosmic bowling, free shoe rental, heavy hors d'oeuvres and door prizes. Must register by Dec. 27 at bowling center. For more information, call 434-3577.

Crafts Classes

The Arts and Crafts Center offers a different craft every Thursday at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. All youth classes are \$5 each. Adult crafts classes costs are based on the project. Classes Dec. 10 are making a gift for Mom for \$5 for the kids and making a large

Father Christmas for \$20 for the adults. The class for Dec. 17 are making a gift for Dad for \$5 for the kids and making a candy cane wall hanging for \$10 for the adults. Register at least one day in advance. For more information, call 434-7836.

Christmas time child care

If squadrons are in need of child care for Christmas parties, contact the Child Development Center as soon as possible to set up dates and receive information. Contact Martha Mann at 434-2479 for more information.

Parents time out

The child development center offers a parents time out every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for children, ages 1-3 years of age. Cost is \$20 for the day. For more information, call Martha Mann at 434-2479.

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.

Dec. 1 golden anniversary of chief master sergeant rank

Bryan D. Carnes

Air Force Materiel Command
Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Chief master sergeants weren't a part of the Air Force's enlisted structure when the service was formed in 1947. In fact, it took 11 years after the fact until the rank even existed.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment by Air Force officials of the rank of chief master sergeant, adding another important chapter to the Air Force's enlisted heritage.

The need to create the chief master sergeant rank was forged from the technology that World War II produced. In the attempt to end the war as quickly as possible, officials in the U.S., along with those of other countries, dedicated teams of scientist and engineers to create the most advanced war-winning capabilities possible.

While the U.S. military was fighting the war in Africa, Europe and Asia, U.S. researchers were producing the most advanced technology ever seen. The emergence of faster aircraft, bombers, advanced electronics, radar systems and missiles were on the rise.

With the growth of aviation during the war, President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 creating the U.S. Air Force. It was on Sept. 18, 1947, that the Air Force became a separate entity which "shall include aviation forces both combat and service not otherwise assigned."

It was not until after the Korean War, however, that Air Force officials realized that the enlisted corps suffered from stagnation in rank. Master sergeant (E-7) was the highest enlisted rank a person could achieve. It was then that Congress enacted the Career Compensation Act of 1958.

The act allowed Air Force officials to create two new ranks, senior master sergeant (E-8) and chief master sergeant (E-9). Air Force



U.S. Air Force graphic
Chief master sgt. rank (E-9) turns 50 on Dec. 1, 2009

personnel officials conducted an in-depth study of all Air Force specialty codes and organized the career fields into highly technical, technical and non-technical fields.

It was decided that 1 percent of the master sergeants from the highly technical fields would be promoted to chief master sergeant. This is still true today, as only 1 percent of the

enlisted force at any given time reach the rank of chief master sergeant.

There were 58,000 master sergeants which qualified for promotion to either of the two grades. A promotion board was held to review records and look for demonstrated leadership and supervisory skills, evaluations and commander recommendations. Six hundred and twenty-five Airmen were selected to the rank chief master sergeant. Since there were no line numbers at the time, they all were promoted on the same day, Dec. 1, 1959, becoming the Air Force's charter chiefs.

The rank has flourished since 1959, earning the respect of all other services and ranks. During the 1970s, Air Staff officials made "chief" the official term of address for an E-9.

One of the original charter chiefs, retired Chief Master Sgt. James J. Flaschenriem, wrote, "The chief does not manage by fear or intimidation as the old first sergeant, did but by knowledge, training and great leadership ability."

Tops In Blue officials seek new talent, auditions open

1st Lt. Gina Vaccaro McKeen

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force's premier entertainment group, Tops In Blue, is seeking new performers to be part of the 2010 Tops In Blue World Tour.

Air Force "Mission Audition" is open to all members of the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, and Air National Guard, regardless of rank or career field.

The group is looking for a wide variety of performers including singers, dancers, comedians, instrumentalists, and entertainers of all types. There are also openings on the tour for audio, lighting, video, and staging technicians, along with bus and truck operators.

Applications and audition videos are due to the Air Force Entertainment office by Dec. 8, and there are several ways for interested Airmen to apply. Airmen can apply online at the Tops In Blue Web site, www.topsinblue.com, they can mail an application and video to the Air Force Entertainment office, or they can audition live at a Tops In Blue Show.

Airmen applying online should complete the application form and upload their audition video to the Tops In Blue Web site. Airmen may also mail their application and video to Air Force Entertainment, 10100 Reunion Place, Suite 403, San Antonio, Texas 78216-4138. If Tops In Blue 2009 is performing at a nearby location, applicants can audition live at the performance site between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on the day of the show.

Applicants who show potential will be invited to attend the Air Force Worldwide Talent Search competition, Jan. 17 through 25, 2010, at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Judges at this competition will select the members of Tops In Blue 2010.

For more information, go to the Tops In Blue Web site, www.topsinblue.com, or contact Air Force Entertainment at 210-652-6566 or DSN 487-6566.

Respite child care expands to all 50 states

Samantha L. Quigley

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — It's a few hours a month, but the break the Armed Services YMCA Respite Child Care program provides parents with a deployed spouse always is welcome. And since the program's Oct. 1 nationwide expansion, many more parents will benefit.

The Armed Services YMCA, as part of a Defense Department contract, provides health and wellness opportunities, including the Respite Child Care program, for reserve-component servicemembers and their families across the country through their local YMCAs.

This means deploying Guardsmen and reservists and their families are eligible for a full YMCA membership for three months before deployment, the 12 months of deployment, and three months after, said Mike Landers, deputy national director of the Armed Services YMCA.

"This entire health and wellness contract was designed for them because they don't have the infrastructure that the active-duty families that live near major military installations have," Mr. Landers said. "So the YMCAs, the Pentagon thought, would be a great place for them to be able to connect with other Guard and reserve families who have their same circumstance."

The Respite Child Care program, part of that

contract, provides up to 16 hours of child care for families of deployed Guard and reserve personnel. It's meant to be a "short break" for the parent or guardian responsible the child's care, Mr. Landers said, and not a substitute for full-time or daily care.

"The respite care was designed to be an opportunity for the mom, whose husband is deployed, or the [dad] whose wife is deployed, to be able to drop their kids off to just have a little peace and quiet, to go to the commissary, to go shopping, to do whatever they need to do," Mr. Landers said.

During the first year, however, only the families in 10 pilot states were able to take advantage of the program, which must be offered through state licensed and certified programs and is free to parents. More than 220 children were served. Since Oct. 1, when the program expanded to all 50 states, another 200 children have taken advantage of the program.

"We saw a pretty significant uptick in the demand during the month of October," he said. "There are hundreds and hundreds of YMCAs that are now signed up to do this. I think we'll see a big uptick for the remainder of the year."

Armed Services YMCA officials said they would like to see those using the program establish a monthly routine. This, they explained, makes it easier for the participating YMCAs, since most don't have much excess capacity in their child care programs.

Don't feed the bad things, keep your Wingman close

Chief Master Sgt. M. Kenui Balutski

71st Flying Training Wing
command chief

Heritage Revisited

Lt. Col. Andrew "Bama" Brabson
41st Flying Training Squadron
commander

As the 41st Flight Training Squadron nears its 70th anniversary it is appropriate to take another look at its heritage and what it means to the airmen who work in the 41st today.

At first blush, heritage is often mistaken as simply history, but heritage is much more. It is the link binding present to the past. It is part history, part lore and part tradition mixed with the people who lived it through the years. To the 41st FTS, heritage is the link that binds the pilots today to the Airmen who flew in the Pacific during World War II and those that protected the Japanese islands during the Korean War. This link can never be severed because we are forever bound by the fact that we all are "Flying Buzzsaws."

We proudly display our heritage every Friday replacing our current squadron patch with the original Flying Buzzsaw patch first was worn by aviators during World War II. While the patch is simple, a rotating saw blade cutting through the clouds, its significance cannot be understated. It reminds us of the campaigns flown out of Port Moresby, Lingayen and Morotai.

It is a living memorial to those who gave their lives in defense of the United States and a celebration of their victories. Not only does it bind us to the past, but it also binds us together by reaffirming our allegiance and membership in our small but close group of 41st Airmen.

Throughout history military heritage has been vitally important because of the bond it creates between the individual and their unit. It gives them a higher purpose.

The simple elegance of heritage is that from the moment two people put on the patch of a unit, any unit, they are no longer strangers...they are comrades. Making a sacrifice for a complete stranger may difficult, but it is no problem to do the same for a comrade. Just as the patches we wear bind together, so too do the uniforms we wear. They identify us and bind us to a unique cadre... that of the American Airman.

Just last week we celebrated wingman day and reminded ourselves of the responsibility we have each other as Airmen. What we should not forget, however, is that we are also forever bound to every person who has worn the uniform and called themselves an American Airman.

After his impressive fly-by, my compo-

VANCE AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. — There I was, stranded on a section of coral reef about 100 yards from the friendly sands of Midway Island. Nightfall was approaching, but I just couldn't force myself back into the water to swim to shore.

The sun was setting, the tide was rising and there were sharks everywhere I looked. My survival options were slowly disappearing.

It was the fall of 1982 and I was working for a Hawaii-based construction company on Midway Naval Air Station in the North Pacific. I had been there for a couple of months and was very familiar with the island and its surrounding waters.

One day after work I went snorkeling with my friend Donny Callaway and the base physician, Doctor Boone. It was nearly 5 p.m. and although there were only a few hours of sunlight left, we eagerly hit the surf.

After diving for 30 minutes near Midway's first barrier-reef, my compatriots signaled that they wanted to head out towards the second-reef to look around.

For a 19-year-old kid from Hawaii, Midway's off-shore was like a seafood amusement park. The waters were teeming with gigantic schools of fish and I couldn't believe how easy it was to string-up a bunch of trophies in no time flat.

Unfortunately, my good luck disintegrated after I fed a few "non-keepers" to some baby sharks swimming nearby. In rapid succession, that boneheaded move snowballed into an epically dangerous situation.

Two more reef sharks appeared and made high-speed passes at my string of fish. Then out of nowhere, a lightning-fast attacker ripped into my stringer, leaving a tethered fish-head in its wake.

I speared more fish and fed them directly to the newly arrived sharks thinking they would simply go away with their food. No such luck.

That only lured in more freeloaders. One of the newly-arrived sharks was pretty big, somewhere near 7 or 8 feet long, and he wasn't the least bit intimidated by me or my spear.

After his impressive fly-by, my compo-

sure completely unraveled. My heart-rate went through the roof and my breathing became rapid as I realized that I couldn't physically account for all the sharks in the water.

Thanks to the big shark, I was now broadcasting amplified distress signals to every other shark in the neighborhood. They immediately knew that I was the weakest link in their food chain and sensed it was dinner time.

Thankfully, one of the hungrier sharks took off with my fish-stringer and started a diversionary feeding frenzy off in the distance. Not wanting to look a gift-shark in the mouth, I backstroked to a nearby coral reef and clambered up to where the water was only about a foot deep.

Within seconds a few fins broke the surface and some of the sharks tried to get up on the reef to bite me. It was like a surreal horror movie. I felt my heart pounding out the "Jaws" theme as sharks zigzagged around my protective reef.

I was temporarily safe but knew that once the tide rolled in and the water deepened, I'd be on the appetizer list once again. I prayed for an assault raft full of heavily-armed Navy SEALs but would have settled for Chuck Norris in a dinghy with a butter-knife.

Unfortunately, my feet were still 12 inches below sea-level and a rescue party was nowhere to be found. Regardless, I kept on praying.

Donny and Doc emerged on the beach and heard me shouting for help from the reef. I kept yelling for them to get a boat, but they couldn't understand what I was saying. They only knew that I was in trouble.

Without hesitation Donny jumped back into the water and started swimming out toward me -- straight into the shark pep-rally I started earlier. Although I protested as loudly as I could, Donny just kept swimming full speed ahead.

When he was about 50 feet from me, he started punching at the water to scare the sharks away so he could get to the reef. First thing he did was ask me if I was bleeding or if I'd been bitten. He said that the entire area was chocked-full of sharks and that we'd need to start swimming to shore in a back-to-back configuration before it got any darker.

I asked if he saw "the big one" and his eyes widened as he asked for specifics. I told him about the potential nightmare

lurking nearby just seconds before we began the longest 100-yard swim of our lives.

On the way in we chased off a bunch of the little sharks and kept the medium ones at bay with a few pokes of the spear. Thankfully, the big one never reappeared.

Eventually, Donny and I stumbled onto the shore just as the sun dipped below the horizon. Safe at home and permanently off the menu.

I learned valuable lessons about the consequences of my actions that day. Feeding bad things, whether physical or metaphorical, could ultimately destroy my life. That day I fed real sharks that could literally chew me to pieces.

For many years I also nourished metaphorical sharks that could also destroy my personal and professional life just the same. By feeding things like anger, pride, selfishness, apathy and irresponsibility, I fueled the feeding frenzy of bad things in my life.

Although many allegorical sharks sidetracked me during the early years of my Air Force career, I finally uncovered an effective repellent. As I fed good things and ran from bad things, I realized that my career and personal life progressed exponentially.

By nourishing activities that led to self-improvement, healthy relationships, honor, duty, service and other positive outcomes, I could starve the things that once ruined me and simultaneously drive other bad things away.

At first I purposefully distanced myself from bad habits and bad people until my shark population dwindled down to a manageable level. Then I realized that dire circumstances, regardless of how desperate they seemed, were never really hopeless when I had family, faith and friends to call on.

Over the years I've found competent Wingmen who kept me accountable and helped me maintain focus on my core values and beliefs. Sometimes I felt I needed Chuck Norris around (since sharks get into protective cages whenever Chuck Norris goes swimming). But in actuality, all I needed was a Wingman who would either swim through shark-infested waters with me or help me avoid bad situations altogether.

Bottom line — feed the good things and starve the bad. Seek the high ground. Call for help when you need it and keep your Wingman close.

Reservist keeps in touch with students

Senior Airman David Dobrydney
379th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Master Sgt. Linda Adams has been an elementary school teacher for the past four years.

After just one day on the job in the current school year, however, she departed on a four-month deployment to Southwest Asia with her Air Force Reserve unit from Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

"I was able to say 'hi' to my new class and then I was off," said Sergeant Adams, the 746th Aircraft Maintenance Unit support section NCO in charge.

But this teacher has bridged the distance by keeping up with her students online. Sergeant Adams' school, Kate Shepard Elementary in Mobile, Ala., maintains a blog site where students can write to and speak with local officials.

"They talk to different people like congressmen or school superintendents," Sergeant Adams said, "It's a good way for them to learn writing skills and work on their communication skills."

When Sergeant Adams left for her deployment, school officials invited her to join the site.

"We are so excited that Ms. Adams is sharing her experiences with our students," said Dr. Michelle Dumas, the school principal. "Communicating through the blog allows students to utilize technology and expand their global awareness."

Since her arrival in Southwest Asia, Sergeant Adams said students have been sending her e-mails, pictures and letters.

"I try my best to answer all of them," she said.

Some students have told her about relatives who serve in the armed forces. For those who don't have military family members, Sergeant Adams has taken the opportunity to not only help with academic questions, but also to educate her students about the Air Force and its mission.

"The boys will ask questions like, 'what kind of gun do you have?' or 'do you drive a tank?'" Sergeant Adams said.

"They think of the Air Force and they think of planes, so I'm always asked if I'm a pilot," she said. "I tell the kids not everyone is a pilot and I talk to them about my job as an aircraft mechanic along with other careers in the Air Force."

Sergeant Adams said her students also



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason W. Edwards
Master Sgt. Linda Adams, 746th Aircraft Maintenance Unit support section NCOIC as well as an elementary school teacher, updates her blog Nov. 24, 2009. She uses the blog to stay in touch with her students while deployed. In addition to being an Air Force reservist, Sergeant Adams is a teacher at Kate Shepard Elementary School in Mobile, Ala. She is deployed from Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

often ask about life in Southwest Asia.

"They've asked about the country, what it looks like, and what they have here," she said. "I tell them there are malls, sports and music here just like at home. I sent a picture of me riding a camel and they were real excited about that."

Previously, Sergeant Adams taught fifth-grade students. This year, she was assigned to a kindergarten class and only had a brief time with her new pupils before deploying.

"Knowing I had to deploy, I didn't even tell them I was their teacher because I didn't want to worry them," she said. "They had more important things to think about than their teacher being gone for four months." However, she recently sent her new class a video of her reading a storybook to them.

"The school's principal asked me to

interact with them while here because when I come home, they won't be new students anymore," she said, "I don't want them to wonder who I am when I walk in."

In the meantime, her former students and other students are enjoying the opportunity to communicate with Sergeant Adams.

"We have learned a lot about Ms. Adams' job in the Air Force by talking to her on the blog," said Rueben, a fourth grade student. "I have learned that not everyone in the Air Force is a pilot and carries a gun."

"We love to keep in touch with Ms. Adams on the blog because we really miss her," said Ebony, another fourth grader. "Our entire school is proud of her defending our country, but we can't wait for her to come back home to teaching."

AETC increases suicide prevention awareness with new Web site

Ashley M. Wright
Air Education and Training
Command Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Education and Training Command Medical Services and Training Directorate took another step in caring for the Air Force's most valuable resource by unveiling a new community of practice (CoP) Web site for suicide prevention.

The purpose of the AETC Suicide Prevention Web site is to share pertinent information, educate, and provide tools which raise awareness about suicide prevention, reducing suicides and suicide attempts within the command.

All Airmen within AETC will be able to view and utilize the contents of the Web site, not just personnel in the mental health career field, said Lt. Col. Cheryl Scaglione, command mental health consultant.

The Web site, which can be accessed through the Knowledge Now virtual community, contains links to related Web sites, including the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, recent articles, official suicide policies, self-assessment questionnaires for issues like depression, post traumatic stress disorder, alcohol abuse and suicide prevention resources.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Varnell Johnson, command Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and treatment program manager, the Web site took about four months to complete and still has potential to grow. The sergeant envisions the site growing due to synergy from mental health personnel collaborating and sharing best practices or other useful information for the site. The suicide prevention site began as a strategic review board initiative and the plan is to add additional training resources such as briefings and handouts for Commander's Calls and Wingman Day.

Knowledge Now can be found at <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=OO-SG-AE-40> or via the Air Force Portal. Once the user is in the community, they can search for "AETC suicide prevention CoP" to locate the site.

Afghanistan — the way ahead: McChrystal sends message to troops

WASHINGTON — Army Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, has posted a message to the troops on the way ahead.

The full text follows:

We have been presented a great opportunity to take the tremendous work of our coalition force to the next level. The clarity, capability and commitment outlined in President Obama's address are critical steps toward eliminating an insurgency in Afghanistan and terrorist safe havens that threaten regional and global security.

Each of you can be proud of the effort we have made here, not just in bringing the fight to the enemy, but in reshaping that

fight to achieve more lasting effects, grow our partnership with Afghan security forces, and strengthen relationships with government officials and the Afghan people. You have performed magnificently, and I believe our renewed coalition campaign is fortified by the path President Obama has put forward.

Our NATO International Security Assistance Force objective remains clear: We will work toward a transfer of responsibility to Afghan security forces as rapidly as conditions allow. They need our help and we are here for them, for their future and for the safety and security of coalition nations.

The additional resources called for by President Obama will continue to advance a

winning strategy. In recent months we have seen real progress that must be preserved and expanded. The increase of coalition forces earlier this year in the Helmand River Valley, along with expanded civilian capacity, have improved security and stability. This is also helping to foster essential governance and basic economic development.

We still face many challenges in Afghanistan, but our mission has renewed purpose sustained by one unassailable reality: Neither the international community nor the Afghan people want this country to remain a sanctuary for terror and violence. The price to be paid in this conflict is high. But the stakes are higher.

President Obama's decision is a clear

reflection not only of his intended strategy, but of his confidence in the success we can achieve, success earned by the competence and courage you display every day in Afghanistan.

I am privileged to be serving with you and I am confident that our partnership with Afghans will enable real change to Afghanistan, grounded in a secure and stable environment that allows for effective governance, economic independence and the freedom of every Afghan to choose how to live. In doing so, we will preserve for our own coalition nations the lasting security we seek for the people of Afghanistan.

(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)

3-year South Korea option opens up to federal employees

April Rowden

Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs Office

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — 36-month tour option has been approved for federal employees accepting accompanied tours to select bases in South Korea, a move designed to create greater continuity of operations, increased long-term savings and an improved quality of life for civilian employees and their families.

A memorandum by Gail McGinn, the deputy undersecretary of Defense, cited "new military policy, the improved status of living conditions, better housing, more amenities, and the overall condition of Korea" as some of the motivators for this adjustment.

Employees who initially signed up for a 24-month assignment and are waiting to report to South Korea, and those who are currently fulfilling their 24-month tour, may extend to 36 months at the discretion of the organization and with the guidance of the local civilian personnel section.

The availability of the 36-month option will be determined at the time of the job offer. All 36-month tours and monetary incentives are at the discretion of the gaining agency.

All unaccompanied tours remain 12 months.

Job announcements for Air Force civilian jobs in South Korea can be found using the Air Force civilian job site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afcivilianjobs/.

The three-year option comes on the heels of a similar policy change earlier this year that allows active-duty Airmen the same flexibility for accompanied tours to South Korea.

"This initiative is another example of how we are actively supporting our civilian Air Force families, which is quite appropriate in this Year of the Air Force Family," said Steven Harris, the deputy director of Air Force Personnel Center's Directorate of Civilian Force Integration here.

For more information, call the 24-hour Air Force Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.

Team uses Afghan airwaves to counter flu misinformation

2nd Lt. Natassia Cherne

Nuristan Provincial Reconstruction Team
Public Affairs

NURISTAN PROVINCE, Afghanistan — Nuristan Provincial Reconstruction Team service-members recently took to the airwaves to combat misinformation about the spread of the H1N1 flu virus here.

Navy Lt. Jennifer Dreiling, team senior medical officer from McLean, Va., and Navy Lt. j.g. Stacy Gross, team information operations officer from Lakeville, Minn., broadcast public health messages about the virus Nov. 19 on Radio Kalagush, a U.S.-funded Afghan radio station transmitting from Forward Operating Base Kalagush.

The messages informed people how to respond to the common cold or H1N1 symptoms and what to do if they suspect they have the virus, Lieutenant Gross said.

Military officials in Nuristan say insurgent forces have spread misinformation on how the H1N1 is contracted and where it comes from.

"Part of the aim of the messages themselves is to dispel those rumors, like you can contract the disease by eating pork or that H1N1 was brought to Afghanistan and spread by coalition forces," Lieutenant Dreiling said.

Every radio message the team broadcasts with useful information about the virus is another opportunity to take power away from the enemy's information campaign, she said.

The radio messages are successful, Lieutenant



U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Natassia Cherne
Navy Lt. Jennifer Dreiling, a senior medical officer for the Nuristan Provincial Reconstruction Team, records a radio message Nov. 19, 2009, on Radio Kalagush, a U.S.-funded Afghan radio station that broadcasts from Forward Operating Base Kalagush in eastern Afghanistan's Nuristan province, educating locals about the H1N1 flu virus.

Dreiling said, because they "make the people feel like they have control of their own situation, and it's empowering for them to know what's going on around them."

The Nuristan team releases public health radio messages at least once a week.

(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)

Base News

Volunteers needed for cookie drive

Volunteers are needed to help package and deliver. Over 800 dozen cookies were delivered last year, any and all help will be appreciated. Please call Mrs. Marti Ross at 434-7869 if you have any questions, need more information or have volunteers to help package and deliver.

OSC Social

The next Officer's Spouses Club Social will be at 6 p.m. Dec. 8 at the Columbus Club.

Air Force Academy Briefing

Maj. Cara Shuttleworth, Air Force Academy Liaison, will be briefing the AF Academy's Leaders Encouraging Airman Development (LEAD) Program on Dec. 15 at 10 a.m. in the Education Services Center (Bldg 916), Room 3. Active duty personnel interested in earning a commission through the Air Force Academy are invited. Please send an email to edcenter@columbus.af.mil if you would like to attend the briefing. Call Major Shuttleworth at 662-795-4744 if you have any questions.

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.

Annual Awards Golf Tournament

The Annual Awards Golf Tournament will be Dec. 12 at 9:30 a.m., registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Green Oaks Golf Course. Cost is \$40 per person (covers greens fees and chili/corn bread). The tournament will be a four-person scramble format, shotgun start at 9:30 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place and also nearest to pin, closest to centerline and longest drive. For more information or to sign up, contact Joe Edgell at 889-0724 or George Evans at 434-8652; email sledgge@yahoo.com. Tournament will be capped at 20 teams. The money raised will support the January CAFB Annual Awards banquet.

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.

COSC December Holiday Social

The COSC will have a special Holiday Social on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 6:00 pm, Columbus Club. Please come and enjoy the spirit of the season with Holiday entertainment and a special reading of the "The Night Before Christmas". The menu will be slow roasted rosemary chicken, penne pasta, seasonal sweets and panettone. Price is \$12 for Columbus Club-Members, \$14 for Non-Columbus Club Members. Festive Holiday attire. Please bring an ornament for the ornament exchange.

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 savings 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.)

Military Family Life Consultant Holiday Presentations

The AFRC will hold MFLC Holiday Presentations from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., Dec. 7-11. The following presentations will be available:

Monday, Dec. 7: "To buy or not to buy...that is the question," a presentation focusing on stress during the holidays.

Tuesday, Dec. 8: "Gray skies are gonna clear up," a presentation on how to cope with the winter blues.

Wednesday, Dec. 9: "Redeem the time," a presentation on time management.

Thursday, Dec. 10: "Issues families face when the military deploys," a presentation addressing the separation and re-integration issues with families of deployed members.

Friday, Dec. 11: "Did I just do that," a presentation focusing on making effective decisions.

Sponsorship Training

Sponsorship training will be held from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Dec. 17 for all Unit Intro Monitors and Sponsors. Info on the importance of a good, effective sponsorship program and resources available for both Unit Intro Monitor and Sponsor. To register call 434-2790. In addition, web-based training is offered thru the AF Portal, under Bases-Org-Functional Area TAB, select My Base and look under Training.

Newcomers briefing

The scheduled Newcomers Briefing on Dec. 15 to be held in the Phillips Auditorium will instead be held at the Services Complex. Call 434-2790 for more information.

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.

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.

AFAS...Air Force People Helping Each Other

Sudden emergency and no cash? It can happen to anyone. Your Air Force Aid Society has assisted Air Force people for 66 years and is there to help you. Call 434-2855 for more information.

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

See BRIEFS, Page 17

Retired chief shares experiences with Air Force Wounded Warrior Program

Staff Sgt. Steve Grever
Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs



RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — When Airmen deploy to places like Iraq and Afghanistan they accomplish difficult and challenging missions. Unfortunately some return injured or even having paid the ultimate price for freedom.

The Air Force Wounded Warrior Program is committed to caring for wounded Airmen, their families, and the families of the fallen by providing professional support throughout the entire recovery process.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Erik Wineland answered the nation's call while deployed with the Army and Marine Corps to Afghanistan in 2006 where he

trained Afghan commandos in the Kunar Province. Chief Wineland injured his back during one of his combat missions with the Afghan and Pakistani special forces. Months later, he was medically retired due to the extent of his injuries.

The former Air Education and Training Command supply functional manager said dealing with his separation from the Air Force after 23 years of service was extremely challenging.

"It is very difficult when you have to depart the Air Force on conditions other than your own," Chief Wineland said. "At times I could barely walk. The pain was unbearable and the fear and sadness of leaving the Air Force is overwhelming. I am certain there are others like me who are feeling the same way."

Chief Wineland said he entered a severe depression and certainly did not want any help.

"I wouldn't talk to anyone, especially people in the Air Force, even though I was having trouble putting one foot in front of the other," he said.

Things started to change when he received his first of many calls from Sharon Roark, an Air Force Wounded Warrior Program case manager at the Air Force Personnel Center here. Initially, Chief Wineland did not want to work with her and would not tell her he needed assistance. But her persistence and kindness helped him open up to her.

"Sharon Roark kept calling and e-mailing me and would not take no for an answer," the chief said. "Finally, I returned her call and it was the best call I ever made."

Since then, Chief Wineland has worked with Ms. Roark and the AFW2 program to research employment opportunities and learn about programs available to help wounded war-

U.S. Air Force photo illustration by Senior Airman Brittany Barker. The Air Force Wounded Warrior program provides personalized support to wounded Air Force Airmen and their families throughout their continuum of care.

riors. He said having a case manager to address issues helped get his life on track, turning his life altering event into something from which he can build.

"I just want the AFW2 case managers to know that the men and women who don't answer the phone or are hard to reach are the ones who need it the most," he said. "God bless them for what they do."

For Ms. Roark, working with Chief Wineland and other wounded warriors helps the Air Force identify ways it can continue to improve upon the AFW2 program, making it more conducive to their individual needs.

"The Air Force's commitment to these heroes, who've sacrificed so much, is unwavering. It makes me both proud and humbled to be part of their lives," Ms. Roark said.

Each case manager acts as an advocate for the wounded warriors assigned to them, helping sort through challenges, questions and con-

cerns so the wounded warrior can better focus on recovering from his or her injuries, Ms. Roark said.

"As non-medical case managers, we have full access to all associated agencies that help wounded warriors, such as the personnel, services, medical and finance communities, as well as Social Security and Veterans Affairs," Ms. Roark said. "We monitor and coordinate the transition our wounded Airmen face during the sensitive and difficult process of recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration, and then attempt to make those transitions smoother and easier for them and their families."

Ms. Roark also added that assisting wounded warriors brings her satisfaction in knowing she's helping them get their lives back on the right track.

"For people who thrive on helping others, there is no better job," she said. "We understand wounded warriors go through this process

only one time, so there's always a lot of anxiety and confusion. We want to alleviate that anxiety and confusion as much as possible and act as their navigators through this difficult time to get them back to a stable life."

The Air Force defines a wounded warrior as an Airman who has a combat-related injury or illness requiring long-term care that will require a medical evaluation board and a physical evaluation board to determine fitness for duty. The AFW2 program was developed to provide long-term support and assistance to all Airmen and their families as they either return to duty or transition to civilian communities.

More than 580 wounded Airmen and their families are currently supported under the umbrella of the Air Force's Warrior and Survivor Care. For more information about AFW2, visit <http://www.woundedwarrior.af.mil> or call the AFW2 Program office at 1-800-581-9437.

Enlisted Promotions



Congratulations to the 14th Flying Training Wing's newest enlisted promotees: (front row, left to right): Senior Airman Brianna Rae Bergstrand, 14th Communications Squadron; Senior Airman Keundra Gibson, 14th Force Support Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Keasha Cleveland, 14th Flying Training Wing. (Back row, left to right) Airman Daniel Waldrop, 14th Operations Support Squadron; Airman 1st Class Adam Woosley, 14th Comptroller-Contracting Squadron; Senior Airman John Michael Suarez, 14th CS; Staff Sgt. Nicholas Ward, 14th CS.

U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Duncan

AROUND TOWN

Holiday Arts and Crafts Show 2009

The Lake Lowndes Sate Park's Annual Indoor Holiday Arts and Crafts Show will be held Dec. 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Multi-sports center. Vendor fee is \$35, and vendor set up will be from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Handmade items only please. For more information please call 328-2110.

Happy Fund Shop & Wrap Volunteers Needed

The Happy Irby Christmas Fund will do its annual shopping for local needy school children and then wrap the gifts on Saturday, Dec. 11. The shopping will begin at 6 a.m. at Wal-

Mart and the gifts will be wrapped at the Columbus Club. Call Linda Dodson at 434-2314 for more information or to sign up.

Wassail Fest

Got any plans for Friday evening? Why not spend some time downtown helping with the 6th Annual Wassail Fest? What is Wassail Fest? Wassail Fest is a way to catch the holiday spirit and be a part of the festivities as historic downtown celebrates the 6th Annual Wassail Fest. On Friday, shops & restaurants will serve wassail, offer special holiday activities, in store demonstrations, and door prizes. Volunteers are needed from 4 to 8 p.m. to assist stores in inventorying Wassail Fest supplies, running Wassail Fest cups and ballots to stores, and pick up ballots

from stores at 8 p.m. To volunteer, call Meagan at 662-327-0807! It's time to get into the holiday spirit!

Would you like to become part of the tradition?

Another Columbus tradition! Main Street Columbus needs volunteers to help with the 2009 Christmas Parade "A Hometown Christmas" on December 7th from 4 to 8 p.m. About 20 volunteers are needed to stand at different posts and help direct the parade participants. You must be able to give directions well. What a fun one, you will be in the mix of all the parade sights and sounds! To volunteer, call Meagan at 662-327-0807! It's time to get into the holiday spirit!

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

2.5 bath; kitchen w/breakfast area, formal dining room; fireplace 3 car garage, situated on 3 open acres, 2366 Sq Ft; 7-minute drive to CAFB \$195,900 o.b.o. FMI call 662-328-3644.

Transportation

For sale: 2004 Chrysler Pacifica AWD 64,800 mi, black, pwr seats with memory set, great condition. \$9000 obo; FMI call 386-2025

For sale: 2005 Honda CBR600RR, (Motorcycle) 6,900 mi, Devil exhaust, K&N, Integrated Turn Signals, Lots of extras! \$5449 o.b.o. 2007 Honda CRF230, (Motorcycle) Great dirt bike, low miles, excellent condition! \$2450 o.b.o. 808-221-2005.

For sale: 2003 Harley Davidson Low Rider Motorcycle with 13,000 miles, detachable scissy bar, travel bag, screaming eagle breather kit w/stock breather, Vance & Hines long shot pipes, security system, 2 changes of all fluids, forward control brand new in box, 2 seats (stock/sundowner), Adult ridden and maintained. 2 Helmets will be included in the sale, \$10,250 o.b.o. FMI call 478-320-8808

For sale: 2006 Kawasaki ZX-14, excel-

lent condition, many extras, \$6500. Sport bike motorcycle trailer enclosed, \$2000; FMI Call 660-238-3687. **For sale:** Run Master 150cc go kart, dune buggy style with coil suspension, hydraulic disc brakes, bucket seats, roll cage and lights. Has forward and reverse. Purchased new in 2007. Nice machine. \$900.00. Located in Caledonia. 855-0386

Miscellaneous

For Sale: 7- piece dinette set, glass top table w/double pedestal base \$125; desk with hutch (new) \$150; 36" JVC flat screen TV w/stand \$300. FMI call 356-0104.

For sale: 60"X32" left-handed whirl pool tub, with front skirting \$500; o.b.o. FMI call 1-580-649-9939.

For sale: Case pocket knife-Muskrat Limited XX Edition, \$50; live Cedar Christmas tree, \$10; piano- Henry F. Miller, three pedals \$400, you deliver; American Touristor luggage, \$10; two pair of roller blades, \$5 each; Dell PC monitor 16", \$20; Accent amplified speaker system for PC, \$12; matching antique bright brass table lamps, \$25 each; FMI call 328 4374.

For sale: New queen-size mattress,

box spring and frame, \$400, FMI call 931-206-7922. **For sale:** Taylormade golf clubs, left handed 200 series, includes 2-PW, 360cc driver, Adams 3-wood, Wilson putter and Taylormade bag; all in good condition, \$150, FMI call 328-7227 or 425-4498.

For sale: Patio set, 2 chairs, table and rug \$200; Chocolate microfiber chaise lounge \$75; Kenmore 18" portable dish washer \$125. FMI call 352-6533 or get pics from alanna74@gmail.com.

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.

For sale: Kenmore side by side refrigerator, white, built in ice and water dispenser, new water filter, unit is about 5 years old, have all papers and users manuals, \$400. Baby items: plastic toddler gate, \$15; stroll or carry baby stroller, folds into stroller or use as a back carrier, \$40. Disney baby play swing set, \$15. FMI call 662-497-2175. **For sale:** 27 ft chain link L-shaped fencing with gate. \$400 if you remove. FMI call 940-224-1049.

For sale: Concrete Mixer, vertical portable, 1/2 HP Motor, 110V/60HZ, batch output 275 lbs, batch capacity 1 bag, \$299, new in box. Stack-On project center, 3 drawers, large bulk

Pets

storage area, lockable & impact resistant work surface. New in box \$110. Donut Tire T125/70D15, Universal Hideaway. Never used, \$35. Galvanized Truck Tool Box 17 X 62, dual openings. United Welding Service brand, \$175. Cadillac Deville 1997, silver, clean and well maintained. Mileage 120,400. Asking \$5,000, obo. Call 662-574-5268.

Free to good home: black terrier mix dog, 20 lbs (approx), 1.5 yr old, house trained, shots current, lifetime Guardian membership. Excellent dog, good with kids! Owner diagnosed allergy. FMI call 940-224-1049.

For sale: Two adorable and playful Shih-Tzus, one male-brown/white, CKC registered and one female-black/white, AKC registered 1 year and seven mos old; both micro chips, shots up to date and with papers, \$100 each; FMI call 434-8784.

BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 1)

Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Magnolia Inn Lobby. For more information, call 434-2790.

AFRC Calendar

Would you like to receive e-mails in your home of up-to-date information on events being held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center? Sign up for Airman and Family Readiness Center electronic calendar. To sign up, send an e-mail to AFRC@columbus.af.mil and ask to be added to the list. This calendar provides great information on things happening at your Airman & Family Readiness Center. For more information, call 434-2631.

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.

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

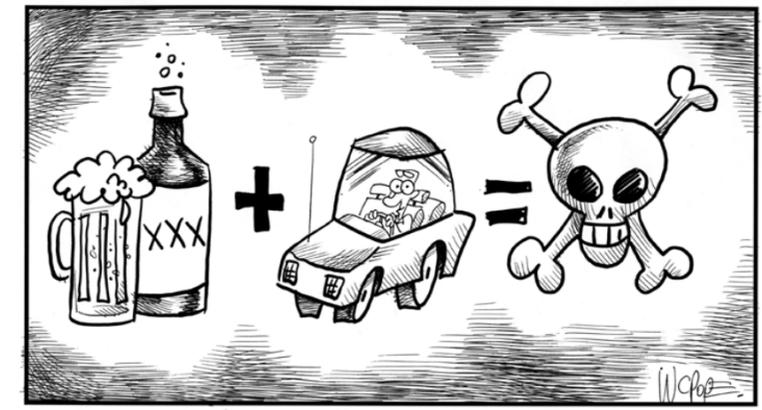
Thursday: 5 p.m. — Choir Practice

Sunday: 3:45 p.m. — Choir Practice

4:30 p.m. — Confession
5:00 p.m. — Mass

Silver Wings is online!

Visit www.columbus.af.mil for articles, digital copies of the paper and other information.



BLAZE Team honors American Indian heritage at food tasting



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin

Airman 1st Class Samuel Nabakowski, an air traffic controller with the 14th Operation Support Squadron, examines a display of Native American history at the American Indian Heritage Month Food Tasting at the chapel annex Nov. 23. The food tasting was the final event during the month-long celebration of Native American history.

Wingman Day and Safety Briefings



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin

Mississippi State Trooper John Poulos speaks at the 14th Flying Training Wing Wingman Day and Safety Briefing Nov. 25 at the Kaye Auditorium. Trooper Poulos covered topics including drunk driving, road rage and safe travel during his portion of the day's events.

Dedication of Highway 82 Bypass

Dedicating it as the "Veteran's Memorial Bypass"

Dec. 7, 2009 at 10:30 a.m.

Located at rear entrance of Leigh Mall

Will be a fish fry following the ceremony at the Columbus American Legion. Additional information call Don Francisco at 570-4030 or 328-6645.

BLAZE Team Airmen receives U.S. citizenship



ol. Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, presents Senior Airman Angel Galindo, 14th Comptroller-Contracting Squadron, a flag that was flown over Columbus AFB in a 14th FTW aircraft, Nov. 25 at the squadron's commander's call. Airman Galindo was presented the flag on the occasion of recently receiving his U.S. citizenship.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 66 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



AETC

(Continued from Page 1)
NCO in AETC.
Best Laboratory Technical Level Civilian: Tony Givens was named the Best Laboratory Technical Level Civilian in AETC.
Terri Craig was named the Best Optometry Civilian.
Master Sgt. Joseph Edgell received the Olson/Wegner Aerospace Medicine Award which recognizes outstanding individual performance to the Flight Medicine/Operational Aerospace Medicine mission.
The 14th MDG was also awarded the

Best Health Promotion Program Award for a small base.
14th FTW/Safety
Col. Chris Stricklin was named the AETC Safety Professional of the Year.
14th FTW/Protocol
The 14th Flying Training Wing Protocol Office received the George Washington Award for Protocol Excellence.
14th FTW Comptroller-Contracting Squadron
Maj. Matthew Wagner was named the AETC Comptroller of the Year.
Master Sgt. Theresa Grolla was named the AETC Financial Management SNCO of the Year.

SILVER WINGS

How to reach us

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
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Manas Airmen further relations with Kyrgyzstan with 'hoops' game

Staff Sgt. Olufemi Owolabi
376th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

TRANSIT CENTER AT MANAS, Kyrgyzstan — A team of Airmen here competed with Kyrgyz athletes in a basketball game Nov. 20, at a local sports facility at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

In the game between the Airmen from the Transit Center at Manas and a team of students put together from a local university, the Airmen defeated their counterparts, 93-86 points.

The friendly showdown was witnessed by a host of Kyrgyz sport dignitaries and hundreds of spectators, the U.S. ambassador to Kyrgyzstan, and Airmen from the Transit Center, who traveled to the city of Bishkek to see the game.

"I really liked the game because they were both playing in a friendly atmosphere," said Bahtiar Kadyrov, the vice president of Kyrgyz Basketball Federation. "Even though both teams are not professionals, they still have very good skills. I would love our friendship with the Americans to extend beyond sports. I would like us to build a stronger friendship through our education, culture and music. These are some of the ways we can develop our relationship as friends and as neighbors."

For about the first 20 minutes into the game, the team of Airmen ran without a defined structure and

didn't maintain their defensive formations. Their fans looked stunned and wondered what went wrong when the team was down by more than 14 points to the Kyrgyz team.

"We got down in the first quarter because we were not doing a good job defensively," Coach McAllister said. "We got out of that hole in the first quarter when we did a good job pressing, forcing turnovers and forcing them to make mistakes. Our guys did a great job by improving their level of play, hustling all over the court. They were much better in the second quarter when the jitters calmed down."

One of the spectators, Lt. Col. Brandon Halstead, a 376th Air Expeditionary Wing judge advocate, echoes the coach's opinion.

"It was really competitive," Colonel Halstead said. "Once we got out of the jitters in the first quarter, we seemed to jell more as a team."

The Airmen's domination of the game was even more obvious in the third quarter when the Kyrgyz team, comprised of students from the Kyrgyz-Slavic University, became tired and made more mistakes. When the game ended, the Airmen won by 7.

"We caught the Kyrgyz team off-guard by our athleticism when we picked up on the full-court press," said Trammel Chisom, the Manas team captain who scored 23 points. "They scared us at first, but I am glad we pulled it out. It feels a lot better coming out with a win."



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Steele C. G. Britton
Staff Sgt. Curt Flynn pats a Kyrgyz basketball player on the back following a friendly basketball game Nov. 20, 2009, at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The Transit Center at Manas basketball team was invited to play a Kyrgyz college team with the final outcome of the game being strengthened relationships with the center's host nation partners. Segeant Flynn is from the 376th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
7 Base Holiday Cookie Drive City of Columbus Christmas Parade, @ 7 p.m., downtown Columbus Veteran's Highway Dedication	8 OSC Social, 6 p.m., @ Club	9	10 Class 10-11 Track Select, 5 p.m., @ Club	11	12/13 Annual Awards Golf Tournament
14 FTAC	15	16	17 Daedalians 6 p.m. @ Club	18 Class 10-03 Graduation @ 10 a.m.	19/20

Sports Shorts

Winter bowling leagues: Sign up now – leagues available for the Thursday night intramural league, the Tuesday night mixed league and the youth league on Saturday mornings. If you would like to start a league, contact the bowling center for more information. Call 434-3577.

Bowling Center closure: The bowling lanes, not the snack bar, will be closed Dec. 2 to Dec. 19 for installation of new pinsetters and lanes. For more information, call 434-3426.

Iceberg glo-ball golf scramble: Whispering Pines Golf Course offers this fun 4-person tournament starting at 4 p.m. Dec. 12. Cost is \$30 plus greens fees and includes shrimp boil prior to play, glo-ball play in the dark and prize fund. Register by Dec. 9 at the pro shop. For more information, call 434-2504.

Long Range Events
Dec. 21: IFF 10-CB Grad
Dec. 25: Holiday
Dec. 28: AETC Family Day
Jan. 1: New Years Day

Jan. 4: AETC Family Day
Jan. 6: Enlisted Promotions
Jan. 8: Fun Run
Jan. 8: Class 10-04 Assignment Night