

SILVERWINGS

"Year of the Air Force Family"

Vol. 33, Issue 50

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

December 18, 2009

Weather



Today

High: 57, Low: 34
AM Clouds, PM Sun



Saturday

High: 48, Low: 29
Mostly Cloudy



Sunday

High: 49, Low: 29
AM Clouds, PM Sun



Monday

High: 48, Low: 33
Partly Cloudy

News Briefs

Holiday Information

Most Columbus Air Force Base services will be closed for federal holidays on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, and for Air Education and Training Command Family Days on Dec. 28, Dec. 31 and Jan. 4.

Commander's Holiday Reception

Col. Roger Watkins, 14th FTW commander, and his wife Leslie invite all BLAZE Team members to their Holiday Reception Jan. 3 at their home. Members of the 14th Operations Group, 14th Medical Group and DynCorp should attend between 1 and 3 p.m. and members of the 14th Mission Support Group and Wing Staff Agencies should attend from 3 to 5 p.m.

14th FTW Command Chief Farewell

The farewell event for Chief Master Sgt. Richard Brackett, 14th FTW command chief, and his wife Debbie, will be Friday, Jan. 8 at 11:30 a.m. at the Columbus Club. Contact your first sergeant for more information.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 10-03 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.

Next issue of Silverwings will be Jan. 8.

Carolers help ring in holiday season



The Caroler Crashers, a group of BLAZE Team members who have been visiting unit holiday parties and singing seasonal tunes, perform for the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building Dec. 11. They carolers visited units around base, including the 14th Mission Support Group and the personnel building.

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

14th FTW CC and CCC wish BLAZE Team and supports happy holidays

Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Recently, the 14th Flying Training Wing commander and command chief released a video expressing their wishes for

a happy and safe holiday season.

"(My wife) Leslie and I want to wish and thank each and every Airman, civilian, contractor and community supporter a very happy holiday season," said Col. Roger Watkins, 14th FTW commander.

"As we pause for our holiday break, I

ask that you take a few moments to think about our over 60 deployed BLAZE Team members and their families," Colonel Watkins continued. "It is through their service and sacrifice that we all have the freedom to celebrate the holiday season"

See MESSAGE, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select
37th (10-13)	-6.15 days	-4.18 days	Feb. 24
41st (10-12)	3.74 days	-3.99 days	Jan. 10

PHASE III

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
48th (10-03)	0.00 days	-0.37 days	Dec. 18
50th (10-03)	0.00 days	-0.93 days	Dec. 18

IFF

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
49th (10-CB)	2.83 days	2.83 days	Dec. 18

WING SORTIE BOARD

Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
T-6	1,678	1,507	7,120
T-1	554	562	2,350
T-38	554	508	2,065
IFF	107	108	465

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

Track Select

Leverette Award
2nd Lt. Herbert T. Williams

Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. Don P. Hilton
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Stephen A. Roberts
Formation: 2nd Lt. Nathanael M. Smith

10-11

2nd Lt. Adams, Andrew N.	T-44	USAF
2nd Lt. Althubaiti, Sultan A.	T-38	RSAF
2nd Lt. Armstrong, Joshua C.	T-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Bonaventure, Mary C.	UH-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Boulanger, Gregg R.	T-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Carnes, Michael L.	T-1	AFRC
2nd Lt. Cord, Travis L.	T-1	USAF
2nd Lt. DarConte, Chris F.	T-1	USAF
1st Lt. de Araujo, Jason R.	T-1	AFRC
2nd Lt. Delaney, Nathaniel D.C.	T-38	USAF
2nd Lt. Dougherty, Matthew J.	T-38	USAF
2nd Lt. Ghale, Hassan H.	T-6	IAF
2nd Lt. Godfrey, Patrick E.	T-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Hilton, Don P.	T-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Hoover, Charles S.	T-1	ANG
2nd Lt. Kilpatrick, Kimberly R.	T-1	AFRC
2nd Lt. Ludwig, Jacob D.	T-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Payne, Daniel G.	T-1	USAF
1st Lt. Plummer, Michael K.	T-44	USAF
2nd Lt. Pokorney, Kyle R.	T-1	ANG
2nd Lt. Pringle, William J.	T-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Roberts, Stephen A.	T-38	USAF
2nd Lt. Smith, Nathanael M.	T-38	USAF
2nd Lt. Stein, Daniel G.	T-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Tapp, Brian D.	T-1	USAF
2Lt Torigoe, Ladd T.C.	T-1	ANG
2nd Lt. Vranek, Adam D.	UH-1	USAF
2nd Lt. Williams, Herbert T.	T-38	USAF

MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 1)
Colonel Watkins said the holiday season is a great time to spend time with families and loved ones, while reflecting on what is most important. The colonel closed out his portion of the message emphasizing safety over the season. "Safety never takes a break," Colonel

Watkins said. "I ask each of you, as you celebrate the holiday season, to think before you act. We need each and every BLAZE Team member to come back and have an even better 2010." The video also featured clips from the last year at Columbus AFB. Chief Master Sgt. Richard Brackett, 14th FTW command chief, also extended his hopes for a happy holiday season to the BLAZE Team and its supporters. "My wife Debbie and I would like to say

a special thank you to all our BLAZE Team members both here at home and deployed to many locations all around the world," he said. "You play a very important role in ensuring the United States remains the strongest nation in the world today." The chief also thanked the BLAZE Team for their sacrifices and wished them a happy and safe holiday. The video message can be viewed on www.columbus.af.mil.

SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

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

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

14th FTW/SE makes finals in local flag football tournament

The 14th Flying Training Wing Safety Office represented Columbus Air Force Bases at a flag football tournament in Caledonia, Miss., this weekend. The team raised over \$60 for charitable Caledonia programs. The Columbus Air Force Base team made it into the final four round before the tournament was postponed to the following weekend.



Football: Air Force accepts bid to Armed Forces Bowl

Troy Garnhart
U.S. Air Force Academy
Athletic Communications

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Air Force officials here accepted a bid Dec. 6 as the Mountain West Conference representative to play in the 2009 Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl, scheduled to be held Dec. 31 in Fort Worth, Texas.

The U.S. Air Force Academy will play against the 25th-ranked Houston Cougars of Conference-USA at Amon G. Carter Stadium beginning at 11 a.m. Central Standard Time, and the game will air on ESPN.

"We are thrilled to have the Air Force Academy as the MWC's representative," said Brant Ringler, the bowl's executive director. "With Falcon and military fans numerous at our past two New Year's Eve games, we've established record attendance figures."

Falcons head coach Troy Calhoun lauded his team for earning a third consecutive bowl appearance.

"It's a remarkable accomplishment by our cadets," he said. "We never take that for granted. It is a great opportunity to play in a bowl game — but we aren't content just to play. We

are going to play to win."

Coach Calhoun said the Air Force looks forward to playing the Cougars.

"We know the University of Houston has a very rich football history and currently has an incredibly talented team," he said. "They have great size and skilled people; they have a great quarterback; they are absolutely loaded at receiver."

Academy defensive back and team captain Ben Garland said winning a bowl game has been one of the Falcons' main goals coming into the 2009 season.

"It would certainly be a great way to go out," said Garland, a senior and native of Grand Junction, Colo. "We love this opportunity to play Houston and go up against such a powerful offense with all those great weapons. We look forward to the challenge."

The matchup will be the third between Air Force and Houston in 15 months. They first played Sept. 13, 2008 in Dallas, in a game that was moved from Houston due to Hurricane Ike. The Falcons won the teams' first match, 31-28. The two played in the 2008 Armed Forces Bowl in Fort Worth Dec. 31, 2008, and the Cougars won the rematch, 34-28.

"This game offers us a chance at redemp-

tion from last season," Garland said. "This will give us an opportunity to show what our team is about."

Falcons offensive lineman Nick Charles said he also looks forward to the second chance to win against Houston in the bowl game.

"You don't always get second or third chances, but we have one," said Charles, a senior and one of 27 Falcons players originally from Texas. "It's been an awesome journey for this senior class, and (winning) would put an exclamation point on our careers."

The Air Force finished the 2009 regular season with a record of 7-5, and 5-3 in conference play. The Falcons' defense is one of the best in school history, with a scoring defense ranked ninth in the nation with 15 points allowed per game, a top-ranked passing defense with 149 yards allowed per game and 10th-ranked total defense with 280 yards allowed per game. The Falcons rank third nationally in turnovers with a plus-17 mark this season, including two fumble returns and three interception returns for touchdowns.

This is the Academy's 20th postseason bowl game, and it is the first time since 1990 through 1992 that the Falcons have played in three consecutive bowl games.

Sports Shorts

Holiday bowling special: The bowling center offers 50 cents a game bowling Dec. 21-23, Dec. 18-20 and Jan. 4.

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.

Long Range Events

- Jan. 4: AETC Family Day
- Jan. 5: Safety Briefing
- Jan. 6 - Enlisted Promotions
- Jan. 8 - Fun Run
- Jan. 8: Class 10-04 Assignment Night
- Jan. 8: CCC Farewell
- Jan. 12: Hearts Apart
- Jan. 14-15: AETC Symposium
- Jan. 14: Key Spouse Training
- Jan. 18: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan. 19: Class 10-12 Track Select
- Jan. 21: Dorm Dinner
- Jan. 22: Class 10-04 Graduation
- Jan. 25: CMSAF Visit

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 70 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



IFF 10-CB Graduates Three

Capt. Brian Walski
49th Fighter Training Squadron

The 49th Fighter Training Squadron will host an Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals graduation on December 18th in the squadron heritage room at 1649. Three members graduated this phase of their training on their way to becoming fighter pilots in the F-16 and F-15E for the Combat Air Forces.

The 49th FTS is responsible for Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, and International flying training in the T-38C/IFF aircraft. The 49th FTS provides training to fighter pilots and weapon system officers entering Air Force major fighter weapons systems, which include the F-16, F-15C, F-15E, and A-10.

The nine-week course begins with tactical formation flights and then introduces pilots and WSOs to basic fighter maneuvers (BFM) and air-to-air employment in offensive, defensive, and high aspect fight scenarios. Students bound for aircraft with an air-to-ground attack capability then move on to surface attack and low-altitude tactical navigation phases learning to employ ordnance against ground targets. The skills learned during IFF directly translate to the fighters these students will soon fly in their follow-on training and one day employ in combat.

Congratulations to the following fighter candidates!



1st Lt. David Dubel
F-16



1st Lt. Adam Huffman
F-15E WSO



2nd Lt. Jeffrey Blaufuss
F-16

Military housing allowance rates set for 2010

WASHINGTON — Military members will see an average raise of 2.5 percent in housing allowance rates in 2010, a BAH program analyst for the Defense Department here said Dec. 16.

The increase comes to average of around \$37 per month for the more than 900,000 servicemembers expected to draw the basic allowance for housing in 2010. Some areas will see a higher increase, while others will see less, Cheryl Anne Woehr said.

The 2010 raise is down from 2009's 6.5 percent average, and is the smallest percentage increase since the inception of the BAH program in 2000. This is due the past year's recession and declining housing market, she said.

"Rates are set based on actual housing data, so as the economy has declined, vacancy rates have increased [and] rental prices have declined, which results directly to lower BAH rates in various areas," Ms. Woehr said.

Those who do notice the BAH rates lower in their area than last year shouldn't worry, she said, because an individual rate protection law is in place. The policy protects those who already are under a rental agreement. So if BAH rates in their area are lower Jan. 1 than on Dec. 31, the previous, higher rate applies.

"Servicemembers are able to take advantage of the increase in rates, but are not affected by decreasing rates," she said. But servicemembers who change duty stations, change dependency status or get promoted on or after Jan. 1 will be affected by the new rates.

"Servicemembers who are newly reporting to an area get to take advantage of the lower market when they arrive," she said.

The BAH program is designed to benefit the servicemember, but it's not designed to pay 100 percent of housing expenses, Ms. Woehr said. The rate is intended to cover rent, renter's insurance and utilities based on pay grade and dependency status.

Who benefits most from the H1N1 Vaccine

Lt Col (Dr.) Michael Rappa,
Public health emergency officer

Dr. Misty Looney,
Public Health element chief

First Lt. Basil Aboul-Enein,
Public health officer

With every flu season, there is risk of serious illness, doctor's appointments, hospitalizations and fatalities. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza has remained above the epidemic threshold for the tenth consecutive week.

Additionally, the hospitalization rates for people aged less than 65 years continues to exceed the rates for the entire 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 influenza seasons. The CDC recommends vaccination against both seasonal and the H1N1 flu to prevent getting sick this year. The seasonal flu vaccine will not provide protection against the H1N1 influenza strain. The H1N1 flu vaccine is intended to be used along with the seasonal flu vaccine.

The Immunizations clinic at the 14th Medical Group has a supply of H1N1 vaccine provided by the Mississippi Department of Health. Use of this vaccine has expanded to include everyone, active duty and non-active duty alike, between the ages of 6 months to 64 years. This includes active duty, other uniformed personnel, dependents and DoD civilian cardholders (to include retirees less than 65 years of age).

The CDC recommends that the following groups in particular should receive the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine:

Pregnant women - They are at higher risk of complications, and the vaccine can potentially provide protection to infants who cannot otherwise be vaccinated.

Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age - Younger infants are at higher risk of influenza-related complications and they cannot be vaccinated. Therefore, vaccinations of those in close contact with infants younger than 6 months old will help in protecting infants.

Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel - Infections among health care workers can be a potential source of infection for vulnerable patients. Also, increased absenteeism among health care workers may seriously impede health care system capacity.

All people from 6 months through 24 years of age -

Children from 6 months through 18 years of age - Cases of H1N1 influenza have been seen in children who are in close contact with each other in schools and day care settings; this can increase the likelihood of spreading infection.

Young adults 19 through 24 years of age - Cases of H1N1 influenza are common among healthy young adults. They often live, work and study in close proximity to one another, and they are a frequently mobile population.

People that are 25 through 64 years of age who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

The Immunizations Clinic is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., except for the first and third Fridays of the month when it closes at 3 p.m. It is open on Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. till noon.

The Clinic will close at noon on Dec. 24 and will be closed Dec. 25-28 as well as Jan. 1-4. Please contact the Public Health office at 434-2143 for any questions regarding the vaccine. If you are driving a long distance, we ask you that you please call the Immunizations Clinic at (662) 434-2187 to make sure the clinic has a sufficient number of vaccines available.

Healthy Holiday Eating Tips

Tech. Sgt. Ryian Caviness
Health and Wellness Center

The holiday season is upon us once again. Traditionally, this time of the year has been synonymous with a decrease in diet management. Holiday feasts combined with inactivity can make the holidays a time of regret when it comes to food. Here are a few tips that will allow you to enjoy your holiday favorites while maintaining your weight.

Don't overeat: Portion sizes definitely increase during the holidays. Try to maintain small portions and avoid seconds.

Choose healthier foods: Try to stick with low fat foods like vegetables, fruits, white meat instead of dark meat, or cider verses eggnog. White meat contains 70 percent less fat than the dark meat per serving size and eggnog contains 200 calories more per serving size than apple cider. Be conscious of the choices you make.

Limit alcohol consumption: Depending on the type of alcohol you select, there can be a significant increase in the amount of calories and carbohydrates you consume. When choosing to drink, consider enjoying alcohol derived from fruit such as wine or champagne or choosing the "light" version of a beer. Avoid mixed drinks made with a blender. Most contain over 250 calories per serving size depending on the contents.

Eat before attending holiday parties: Most party snacks aren't healthy, but they are always plentiful! It is best to enjoy a light, healthy meal before attending holiday parties. This will help you avoid eating too much unhealthy food at social gatherings.

Exercise when you can: Trying to fit exercise in during the holiday season can be challenging. Incorporate a 30 minute jog or walk early in the morning to jump start your metabolism to help burn those extra calories. Ask friends or family to participate.

Eat slowly: It often takes about 20 minutes for your brain to realize your stomach is full. Eating slow and savoring your food will allow you to keep your portion sizes in check and consume fewer calories.

Food and the holidays go hand in hand. You don't have to deprive yourself of your favorite holiday foods if you enjoy them in moderation. By following these tips and eating smart, you can enjoy the holidays without any unnecessary weight gain. For more tips on how to stay healthy and fit over the holidays, contact the HAWC at 434-2477.

Columbus AFB hosts holiday parade



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Participants in the Columbus Air Force Base holiday parade wave to parade watchers Dec. 14. The parade featured floats of carolers, BLAZE Team members and Santa Claus, as well as members of the 14th Security Forces Squadron and the base fire department.

Boy Scout helps fitness levels soar

Capt. Alysia Harvey
48th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH, England — One local Boy Scout's vision, some brand new equipment locked away in a store room for more than 13 years, a passion for fitness, and love for the RAF Lakenheath community. This is the recipe for the base's new outdoor fitness stations and for a member of local Boy Scout Troop 219 being one step closer to Eagle Scout.

Joshua Kent, 15, took on the project of the erecting 15 fitness stations along the base's running trail with the help of his family, a few active duty Airmen and some of his fellow scouts.

"I wanted to build something of importance that would also be long lasting," Joshua said. "I wanted to build something that didn't just affect one certain organization but a lot of people, like the squadrons on base and the high school sports teams. The RAF Lakenheath community has been extremely helpful to me, and I felt I should give something back.

Lt. Col. Debbie Kent, 48th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander and Joshua's mother, shares her son's hopes for the new equipment.

"The new fitness stations will offer individuals additional options, particularly outside when the weather is enjoyable,"

she said, adding that the stations will benefit many people and have a very long-lasting impact on RAF Lakenheath.

Staff Sgt. Jerry Fruth, 48th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Senior Airman Alex Andrejkovics, 48th Logistics Readiness Squadron, assisted with this project and agree the community will benefit from the equipment.

"Any exercise in addition to running the trail will provide a better overall workout," said Sergeant Fruth, adding that the push-up bar is his favorite station.

"These stations will benefit the base by providing a way to improve muscle strength and endurance," said Airman Andrejkovics, a vehicle and equipment maintenance mechanic, who is an Eagle Scout and also serves as an assistant scoutmaster to Troop 219. "The pull-up station is my favorite because it exercises your core, back and arms. It provides the best all around workout in conjunction with running the trail."

While the general consensus seems to be that the stations are a welcome addition, not to mention just in time for Airmen preparing for the Air Force's new PT test standards, Sergeant Fruth, a structural craftsman whose expertise was extremely helpful in completing the 192-hour project, says there's also something more to consider.

"It's good to see today's youth take an interest in helping out their community," he said.

AROUND TOWN

Community Volunteer Opportunity of the Week
Helping Hands is moving to a new location on Monday, December 28 and needs help moving. They need men that can move large furniture and have trucks/trailers. Also, a couple of volunteers will be needed to clean the facility as the furniture is being moved out. The goal is to get all items out and moved and facility cleaned on Monday. This can be done during a time that works for the volunteers. Of course, the earlier the better.

BARGAIN LINE

Miscellaneous

For sale: Ashley 3-piece Entertainment Center, with 2 end towers with lights, glass doors, CD/DVD and VCR Shelves, lighted bridge, and center stand for 42" TV or larger. Paid \$1100, will sell for \$300 o.b.o. Negotiable. Sofa and loveseat - — \$300 OBO for both; three-disc, 150 watt, CD sound system \$100 o.b.o.; household items, computer speakers, PC computer games, and electronic items. ALL PRICES NEGOTIABLE! FMI call 662-549-9970

For sale: Electric organ w/bench, Troubadour, has accompanying flute, trombone, clarinet, violin, mandolin and banjo, plus plays automatically; excellent condition. \$295; RV rock shield for towed vehicle; heavy duty plastic RM4000; protects motor home towed vehicle from rocks and gravel; excellent condition; \$195 o.b.o FMI call 327-1205.

For sale: 20-inch Insignia TV/DVD combo, \$60; FMI call 328-4610.

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. Pro Form walking treadmill in excellent

condition, new \$599; firm sale price \$175. FMI call 329-1843.

For sale: Kenmore washer and gas dryer, \$300; complete patio set (sofa, 2chairs, table and rug) \$150; chocolate microfiber chaise lounge \$50; Kenmore portable 18" dishwasher \$100; will email pics: alanna74@gmail.com. FMI call 352-6533.

For sale: Banquette kitchen set, seats 5 adults, solid oak, in bench storage \$250; sleigh twin bed w/trundle, no mattress \$200 o.b.o; Evenflo exercisauer-CLEAN! \$45. FMI call 662-889-3583.

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

For Sale: New, in the box, sealed, Apple Ipod ITouch 3rd generation, 8gig, integrated Wifi, multimedia player, asking \$200; FMI call (662) 386-6981

For sale: 2002 Buick Rendezvous CXL sporty SUV with leather, roof rack, new tires, CD system, plus many more premium options. Very clean, well maintained, one owner, 84K miles, 24 mpg hwy. Must sell. \$6,250.00 o.b.o. FMI call 662-327-1205.

For sale: 2007 BMW G650 X-Challenge, Enduro Motorcycle, warranty until June 2010. Excellent Condition. Price lowered from \$6k to \$5450 obo! 2005 Honda CBR600RR, Exhaust, K&N, Integrated Turn Signals, New tires, Lots of extras. \$5450 obo. Must sell! 808-221-2005.

For sale: 2002 Mercury Mountaineer AWD. Loaded, 86k miles, maroon, V6 SOHC, auto trans, power windows, power door locks, power steering, power brakes, AC, AM/FM 6 disc CD player, tilt wheel, cruise, delay wipers, auto headlights, rear window defogger, towing package, 3rd seat, rear A/C and new tires. Runs and looks great, asking \$8,500.00 o.b.o. FMI call 662-244-6091 after 5 p.m. or 662-889-3545. Located in Columbus.

For sale: 2006 Clayton mobile home, 14 X 56; 2 bedrooms; 1 bath; all electric. \$1,000 and assume note and payments. FMI call 662-251-5990.

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

Homes

For sale: 2006 Clayton mobile home, 14 X 56; 2 bedrooms; 1 bath; all electric. \$1,000 and assume note and payments. FMI call 662-251-5990.

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

Pets

Free to good home: Pointer named Lily, pretty, 1 y/o, crate trained, good with kids and other dogs, heartworm neg, UTD on shots/flea/tick/worm prevention, spayed, microchipped and started on obedience lessons. Excellent dog, but doesn't get along w/our cats. Crate and extras available for low cost. FMI call: 607-427-5888.

Missing: Brown/black with a little gray, long-haired dachshund, male. Missing since Saturday, please call (407) 301-5681 if found.

Missing/Lost cat: 6 month Black/Brown female with calico markings. Lost on Alabama Ave 13 Dec. If found please call HP: 434-8678 Cell: 497-2302.

Wanted

Honda Accord car, 2002-2003, white; must be in excellent condition, automatic transmission only, low mileage a plus, needed immediately, call 662-329-1843.

Pet Sitter for Golden retriever, 23 Dec 09 - 3 Jan 10, FMI call 859-248-1428.

Saturday Yard Sales

Yard sale: 19 December, 429 Wynhurst Ct. (east Columbus); post PCS sale from Germany, lots of larger woman's clothes. FMI call 570-4441.

Silver Wings is online!

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

Base News

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.

Call for Victim Advocates

The Columbus Air Force Base Sexual Assault Prevention and Response needs volunteers who are willing to serve our 14th FTW Airmen as victim advocates. Victim Advocates (VA) serve as liaisons between a victim and outside agencies, including Legal, OSI, and Mental Health. VAs can answer questions about reporting options, and lend moral support to someone in need. Being a VA is a big responsibility, but can be very rewarding. The 14 FTW is looking for mature, discreet individuals, both male and female, in the rank of SSGT and above to serve as VAs (individuals holding a lower rank will be considered on a case-by-case basis). Sorry, but individuals assigned to the 14th SFS, 14th MDG, 14th FTW/JA, EO, Chapel staff, or OSI, are not eligible to serve as VAs. Please contact Captain Nicole Droney via email at nicole.droney@columbus.af.mil or by phone at 434-1330 for more information.

COSC January Casino Night

The next COSC Social will be a Casino Night on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 6:00 pm, Columbus Club featuring Casino Style games, poker and more. The menu is marinated chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetables and salad. \$12 for Columbus Club-Members, \$14 for Non-Columbus Club Members. Please RSVP by Jan. 7 to coscrsvp@yahoo.com.

Testing Office Holiday Schedule

The Education Office will NOT conduct testing on Dec. 22, 24, and 31. Testing will be conducted as usual on Dec. 29 at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Please plan accordingly.

Thrift Shop closed for the Holidays

The Base Thrift Shop will be closed on Dec. 22, 24, 29 and 31 for the Holiday break. They will be back open on Tuesday, Jan 5, 2010. Normal opening hours are Tuesdays &

Thursdays from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Consignments till 12:00. Donations are accepted and very much appreciated. They can be dropped off anytime in the donation shed. The Thrift Shop is non-profit and proceeds benefit CAFB Community. It is located in Bldg 345, Imes Street (next to Youth Center), Phone: 434-2954

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

January 18 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (2010 Theme: Remember! Celebrate! Act!; A Day On, Not a Day Off)

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 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 afr@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.

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.

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

Christmas Eve Service, 5 p.m. Dec. 24
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

Christmas Day Mass, 10 a.m.
Thursday:
5 p.m. — Choir Practice
Sunday:
3:45 p.m. — Choir Practice
4:30 p.m. — Confession
5:00 p.m. — Mass

Refueling is lifeline of U.S., NATO air operations

Tech. Sgt. Kevin Wallace
100th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

ROYAL AIR FORCE MILDENHALL, England — Thirty Royal Danish air force F-16 Fighting Falcons took to the sky over their homeland Dec. 8 to rendezvous with a Royal Air Force Mildenhall-based KC-135 Stratotanker and perform semi-annual aerial refueling training.

The mission fortified both operational readiness and mutual trust between the NATO allies.

"Regular training and exercises in an allied multinational environment help aircrews to increase interoperability with other aircrews and aircraft," said Manfred Reudenbach, a spokesman for the Allied Air Component Command in Ramstein, Germany.

During the eight-hour training mission, the KC-135 offloaded more than 40,000 pounds of fuel and provided valuable training to dozens of Danish pilots who regularly fly combat sorties with the International Security Assistance Force, Afghanistan.

"There is a principle in the alliance that's called 'train as you fight,' which explains it all," Mr. Reudenbach said. "This proficiency gained in peacetime is an important basis for improved performance during real-world missions. Practically said, the Danish F-16 fighter pilot who has already received gas from a U.S. KC-135 during air-to-air refueling will handle this situation with routine in a real-world environment, as demonstrated in ISAF operations every day."

The 100th Air Refueling Wing leadership understands the vital role the wing plays in NATO operations.

"Our cooperation with NATO partners like the Royal Danish air force contributes immensely to building partner capacity," said Col. Chad Manske, the 100th ARW commander.

Tankers enable America and its allies the capability to maintain air superiority across the globe. The 100th ARW's tanker fleet is responsible for much of that area.

"This wing is a diverse organization with a variety of combat support missions throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East," Colonel Manske said. "Refueling U.S. and NATO part-

ner aircraft is a primary mission responsibility as our geographic area of coverage spans more than 20 million square miles using 15 assigned KC-135 Stratotankers."

Air Force officials understand the importance of aerial refueling and only selects the best Airmen to perform the task, said Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Powell of the 100th Operations Group. After all, air-to-air refueling is a complex operation and takes a specialized Airman to accomplish the precise mission.

RAF Mildenhall's fleet has the capability to refuel any type of U.S. and allied aircraft using either a "probe" boom system or "drogue" wing-mounted system. The boom operator is the Airman responsible for guiding the boom and actually refueling the receiving aircraft.

Chief Powell was the boom operator responsible for refueling the Danish F-16s during the Dec. 8 mission.

"Because we have the ability to provide receivers with extra fuel in the air, we expand their combat capability exponentially," Chief Powell said.

Chief Powell cited the RAF Lakenheath-based F-15E Strike Eagles as an example.

"On a full tank of fuel, Lakenheath's fighters can safely fly to Germany and back. Any attempt to go further, they would have to land and take on fuel," the chief said. "With tanker support, the same Lakenheath fighter can fly to the Middle East or Africa, perform a combat sortie, and fly home to the U.K. without ever landing."

Specialized KC-135s can refuel several types of receivers, even those that burn different types of gas by using a system that segregates fuel tanks spread throughout the wings and belly of the airframe.

"Our tankers allow all types of aircraft the ability to leave stateside bases and fly directly to the Middle East without landing in Europe," Chief Powell said. "They also extend the capability to our allies."

For U.S. and NATO, the tanker is the lifeline to extending air operations, said Colonel Manske. "Our tankers and combat support capability play a central role in enabling global reach in the United Kingdom, and while supporting NATO in Europe and Africa, as well as the (U.S. Central Command) area of responsibility."



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Kevin Wallace
A Royal Danish air force F-16 Fighting Falcon receives fuel Dec. 8, 2009 as Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Powell commands the operation. The Danish F-16 was one of 30 performing their semi-annual aerial refueling training. Chief Powell is a 100th Operations Group boom operator.

Air Force officials to begin involuntary phase of retraining for NCOs

April Rowden
Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — In order to rebalance the NCO force, more than 700 Airmen volunteered this fall to retrain through the NCO retraining program. However, more than 300 additional Airmen are needed to retrain to ensure all career fields are equally manned.

Phase II, which identifies non-volunteers for retraining, begins Dec. 14. Airmen have until Jan. 22, 2010, to submit a completed

retraining package for the Air Force specialty code for which they are selected.

Any Airman identified to retrain and who fails to submit the initial retraining application by this date will be determined to have officially declined retraining and will be separated from the Air Force on their current date of separation.

"Airmen selected for retraining who have the necessary retainability cannot decline retraining," said Master Sgt. Dee Mathis, the superintendent of Air Force enlisted retraining at the Air Force Personnel Center here.

"All Airmen identified as being retraining eligible must retrain or face separation under guidelines established for the retraining program."

The master retraining listing by AFSC and grade will be updated weekly on AFPC's virtual Military Personnel Flight. Airmen should click on the retraining button to view current information.

Phase II will end when retraining quotas are met, but not later than Feb. 1, 2010.

"This phase of the retraining program is necessary to help meet the needs of the Air

Force by putting Airmen where they are needed most," Sergeant Mathis said. "We will work with those Airmen who are selected for retraining, as we would any retraining case, in order to make the transition as smooth as possible for the Airmen and their families while still meeting the needs of the Air Force."

For more information on NCORP, visit AFPC's "ASK" Web site and search the keyword "retraining." Airmen can also contact their MPS, career development section, their base career assistance advisor or the Air Force Total Force Service Center at (800) 525-0102.

Nellis commander completes 6-show run on 'Jeopardy!'

Airman 1st Class Michael Charles
99th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

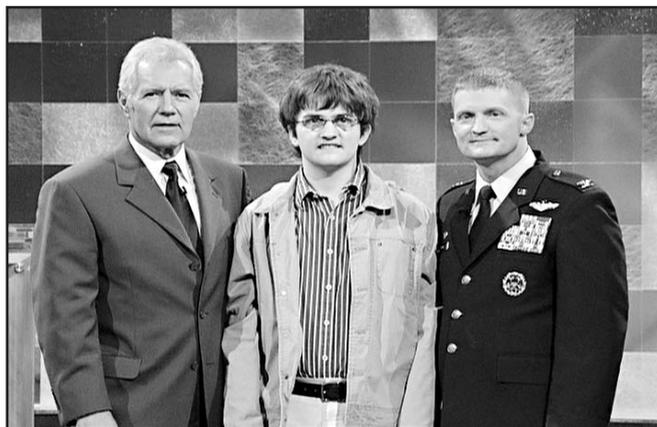
NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. — The set wasn't the same as he remembered from watching the show in its inaugural season more than 25 years ago. The chalkboard scheme has been replaced by liquid crystal display screens; the money at stake has doubled; and contestants are no longer limited to just five wins.

From the first day Col. Dave Belote walked onto the set of "Jeopardy!" for familiarization to six shows and \$134,801 later, he described the experience as almost surreal.

"If I was writing a script of my life, this part of the movie would be happening in a dream," said the 99th Air Base Wing commander who represented the Air Force on one of the world's most famous game shows Dec. 2 through 9.

Colonel Belote has become accustomed to being in uncertain situations. He was the face of Nellis Air Force Base during an appearance on the Bravo Television Network show "Top Chef: Las Vegas" and provided President Barack Obama a personal tour of the Nellis AFB solar photovoltaic array field earlier this year. But, despite the years of training and dealing with individuals more influential than any game show host will ever be, nothing quite prepared him to be on the big blue stage when the lights came up for the announcement of those iconic words ... "This is Jeopardy!"

With five wins, Colonel Belote showed the aptitude of Air Force commanders by beating some of the nation's smartest lawyers, college professors and doctors in dramatic fashion. Whether it was the \$39,999 he earned on his first day, to the dramatic come from behind \$1 victory in final "Jeopardy!" during his second appearance, the native of Virginia Beach, Va.,



Courtesy photo
Col. Dave Belote (right) and his son, Drew (center) pose for a photo with Alex Trebek, the host of "Jeopardy!" while participating on an episode of the show Dec. 9, 2009, in Los Angeles. Colonel Belote is the 99th Air Base Wing commander at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

continued to dominate the field in numerous categories such as, "Ends in 'it,'" "National anthems," and "Women celebrities."

On the sixth game, which aired Dec. 9, Colonel Belote was in a game in which he and Jove Graham of Lewisburg, Pa., exchanged leads repeatedly in the last few questions. Both answered correctly on the final "Jeopardy!" question, but the colonel's winning streak had come to an end.

"It's not every day that a contestant ends final "Jeopardy!" with \$25,999 and loses," Colonel Belote said. "I would have rather been beaten in a great match and gone down swinging than to have been blown out. All in all, I was extremely grate-

ful to be able to compete and represent Nellis and the many current and former Airmen in the Air Force."

Colonel Belote was able to share his "Jeopardy!" experience with millions watching around the globe, but more meaningful was sharing the spotlight with just one — his 21-year-old autistic son Drew, who flew from Virginia to Los Angeles to cheer on his father during his fifth and sixth games of "Jeopardy!" After the final taping, the producers brought Drew, who loves game shows, on stage to meet the show's well-known host. The colonel couldn't hold back the tears as Drew took the host's hand and whispered, "It's Alex Trebek. I'm inside 'Jeopardy!'"

"My moment of glory might be over, but I walked away with my head held high for being able to represent Nellis and the U.S. Air Force to the countries who air this show around the world," Colonel Belote said. "I've heard from active and retired military who loved seeing the uniform on 'America's favorite game show.' What a privilege to touch veterans from Korea and Vietnam onward while living out a dream."

But, Colonel Belote's "Jeopardy!" dream may not be over. His earnings currently sit as the 12th highest total of all-time in the show's history. Currently, the colonel is No. 1 in earnings this season and, with his five consecutive wins, he qualifies to return for the end-of-season "Jeopardy!" Tournament of Champions. The competition pits the season's top 13 earners and two college champions against each other to see who will win \$250,000 and be crowned the champion for the entire season.

With his recent performance, will "Who is Col. Dave Belote?" be the answer? Nobody knows, but one thing is for sure: the dream sequence in the script for the movie of the colonel's life wins an Oscar for drama, suspense and best performance by an Airman participating in surreal experience.

Law allows spouses to keep residency while under orders

Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A new law protects military spouses from being taxed for work performed in states where they're living outside their home states as a result of military orders.

President Barack Obama signed the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act, an amendment to the 2003 Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, on Nov. 11.

"This act, among other things, would provide that when a servicemember leaves his or her home state in accord with military orders, the servicemember's spouse may retain residency in his or her home state for voting and tax purposes, after relocating from that state to accompany the servicemember," the president said in a Nov. 12 White House statement.

The new law means a change in fundamental tax law for military spouses, said Army

Col. Shawn Shumake, the director of legal policy in the office of the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

"If a spouse accompanies a military member to a state that is not the spouse's (state of legal residence) and does so solely to be with the servicemember under military orders, then the income the spouse earns from services performed in that nondomiciliary state cannot be taxed," he said in a Pentagon Channel interview Dec. 15.

But, he warned, some states interpret the act to apply only if the military servicemember and the spouse live under the same roof.

"A number of states believe that to get this tax break, or tax exemption, the spouse and the servicemember must have the same domicile," he said. "Different states interpret this possible requirement differently."

The law does not necessarily mean that someone who makes their permanent home in

one state will never be taxed in the state they're living in because of a servicemember's military orders, Colonel Shumake said. In fact, he explained, the act states only that income earned from work performed in the nondomiciliary state is not taxable. That doesn't mean the spouse wouldn't have to pay income tax on such income to the state of legal residency.

"Of course, there are those states that don't have any income tax at all," Colonel Shumake said. "If the spouse were a legal resident of those states, then they would likely not pay income tax from (work) performed in any state."

Understanding the meaning of "domicile" and knowing how to prove it are keys to understanding the law, Colonel Shumake said.

First, he said, the terms "domicile," and "legal residence," are synonymous. A person can have only one domicile at a time. It is one's primary home or permanent residence,

and it's formed by being physically present in a state and simultaneously forming the intent to remain there for the indefinite future.

"You have to prove your intent by establishing certain contacts with the state, such as voting there, buying property there, getting your professional license there, claiming in-state tuition rates there, registering a vehicle or obtaining a driver's license there," Colonel Shumake said. "Of all of those, voting may turn out to be the most important for proving your domicile for the purposes of the (Military Spouses Residency Relief Act)."

The act also has an effect on personal property taxes, Colonel Shumake said.

"The (act) now says that a nondomiciliary state cannot tax personal property such as automobiles and boats if that property is in the state only because the spouse is with the servicemember in that state in compliance with military orders," he said.

Base families offered a variety of activities

Family New Years Eve Party

The bowling center is offering this special 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.

Two for One prime rib night

The Columbus Club is offering this members only special Jan. 15 from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$19.95 and includes 8 ounce prime rib with au jus for two, baked potato, chef's vegetables and garden salad. Also offering a grilled chicken breast with mushroom sauce, baked potato, chef's vegetables and garden salad for \$14.95. Please reserve your table by Jan. 8. Wine list, dessert tray, appetizer menu and children's menu available. For more information, call 434-2490.

Family Fun Night

Mark your calendars for Jan. 20 from 5 to 8 p.m. Soft and hard shelled tacos, chicken enchiladas, Mexican rice, ranchero beans, chips and salsa, churros, ice tea and punch are on the menu. Cost is \$10.95 for adult members, children of members, 11 and younger are free. Nonmember prices are \$12.95 for adults and \$5.95 for children, ages 5 to 11. For more information, call 434-2490.

Space A lodging

The Magnolia Inn has some openings for Space A family and single units anytime during December and January. Contact the lodging desk at 434-2548.

Youth of the Year competition

Deadline for submitting an application is Jan. 15 at the Youth Center. Open to ages 13-18. Judging is at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 28. For more information, call 434-2504.

New Year Family Reading Program

The Child development Center invites children and families to share books brought home each week by the child from Jan. 11 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.

VIP Readers

The child development center is celebrating National Book Month with family members as well as base "family members". i. e. First Sergeants, Commanders, etc. invited to read a story to a group of children. They will set the days and times according to the reader's schedules. For more information, call 434-2479.

Parent's day out

The youth center and child development center offer a parents day out Jan. 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register by Jan. 6 at the respective activities.

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.

Fine Arts Competition

The youth center is conducting this program with judging and viewing from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Jan. 7. Register by Jan. 5 at the Youth Center. Artwork must not exceed 30x40 inches. Entries must have been completed by the youth center member within the last year. Age categories are: 9 and younger, 10 to 12, 13 to 15 and 16 to 18. Categories of competition are monochromatic drawing, multi-colored drawing, pas-

tels, watercolors, oil or acrylic, print making, mixed media, collage, sculpture and a group project. For more information, call 434-2504.

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 on Jan. 8 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 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.

14th FSS Holiday hours

Arts & Crafts - Closed from Dec. 21 - Jan. 4

Wood Shop - Closed Dec. 23 - Jan. 5

Auto Hobby - Closed Dec. 22 - Jan. 4

Library - Closed Dec. 24-27 and Dec. 31-Jan. 2, Abbreviated hours Dec. 21-23 and Dec. 28-20 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fitness Center - Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 24, Dec. 26, Dec. 28, Dec. 31, Jan. 1 and Jan. 4. Closed Dec. 25.

Bowling Center - Closed Dec. 24-25 and Jan. 1; open 11 am. - 4 p.m. Dec. 28 and Jan. 4, special hours Dec. 31, 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

Golf Course - Closed Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

Child Development Center and Youth Center - Closed Dec. 25-28 and Jan. 1-4

Outdoor Rec/ITT - Open Dec. 21-22, 8 a.m.-Noon, closed Dec. 23-25, open Dec. 26-29, 8 a.m.-noon, closed Dec. 30, open Dec. 31, 8 a.m.-noon; closed Jan 1, open Jan. 2-4, 8 a.m.-Noon

Vet Clinic - Open Dec. 21-22, closed Dec 23-28, open Dec. 29-30, closed Dec. 31-Jan. 4

Daily Grind - Closed Dec. 19-Jan 4

Columbus Club and Indy - Closed Dec. 21 - Jan. 4

All other days are regular hours of operation.

For more information please visit www.Columbus.AF.mil today!

Lorenz on Leadership — Jessica's legacy

Gen. Stephen R. Lorenz
Commander, Air Education
and Training Command



RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — There are certain times in our lives where a single moment or significant event causes us to pause . . . and reflect. These moments can catch us after both happy times and sad - after accomplishments of our own or those of others. Sometimes they catch us off guard, by surprise. More often, though, these moments sit out in front of us . . . and we either run into their embrace or are drawn toward them despite struggles to avoid them.

This holiday season I found myself at one of those moments. I was hosting a tour through the Center for the Intrepid at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. The CFI is an amazing facility that helps rehabilitate military members who have suffered significant injury. I love walking through the CFI - it is a bright, airy building filled with hope. On the top floor of the circular building there is a hallway with windows lined with pictures of those injured Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines whose lives were touched by the CFI team. It was there, looking at the large photos, that a particular pose caught my eye.

The photo took me back to last June, at a memorial service for one of our Airmen who, at 24 years of age, left our ranks far too soon. Senior Airman Jessica Tarver stared from the photo, a smile beaming from ear to ear. Her story is one of perseverance and strength. A rare infection that she contracted during her second tour in Iraq tragically led to two years of challenges that, along the way, took both of her legs and, eventually, her life.

Jessica's memorial ceremony at the CFI had seating for 75, but twice as many stood around the perimeter to attend. Such a crowd is one of the simplest and strongest compliments anyone can receive. She was an inspirational person and I, along with so many others, am better for having known her.

During the ceremony, many people stood to talk and reflect on their special relationship with Jessica. Her squadron commander, Lt. Col. Raymond James, had flown to San Antonio from Hurlburt Field, Fla. Jessica's battle began right after he took command of the 1st Special Operations Helicopter Maintenance Squadron. In fact, he'd only been on the job for two weeks when Jessica first went into the hospital.

His words resonated; someone who had been forced to deal with a challenging situation from the very first days of command. Through Jessica, Colonel James grew into the seasoned, well-respected leader that he is today. All of the members of the 1st and the Air Force at large benefited from Jessica's courage, inner strength and perseverance.

One of her doctors stood to reflect on her memories of Jessica. While most double-amputees work hard to walk in athletic shoes, Jessica told the doctors and physical therapists that she wanted to walk in six-inch heels. A tear fell from the doctor's eye while remembering the moment when Jessica strutted down the hall on four-inch stiletto heels with her prostheses. She had been an inspiration.

The others who flowed past the podium to tell their story and reflect on their relationship with Jessica shared a similar theme. Although their interaction varied, in each case they described a woman who challenged them to be better than before. She made a difference in their lives and they were there to say, "Thank you." Through her example, Jessica left them wiser, stronger and more able to handle future challenges. She was their wingman.

The caregivers from the CFI stood around the ceremony, embracing the sadness. These are selfless heroes, who meet the unknown each and every day with a steadfast confidence and compassion. Their approach instills hope and enables otherwise impossible opportunities for their patients. They too make a difference in people's lives.

I could still feel the warmth of that embrace standing in the circular hallway last month, gazing at the portrait of Jessica. She taught everyone so much, challenged all to grow, and strengthened our Air Force family. It is now our duty to pay this forward and push everyone to be better Airmen, teammates and wingmen.

Such a message must never die. Standing in that hallway, I found myself feeling so thankful for having known Jessica Tarver and the way her smile could brighten any room. I also felt thankful for the members of the CFI team and all the good that they do. Lastly, I was then and am forever thankful for each of you, the service you provide our nation, and the difference you make each and every day. May we never forget the positive example and spirit of those Jessica's in our lives.

Stepping Outside Your Comfort Zone

Maj. Nathan Smith
14th Flying Training Wing
Commander's Action Group

During the Thanksgiving holiday my family and I drove back home to Tennessee to visit with close friends and family. Everyone always asks if we like Mississippi and what job I currently have. When I tell them I am a CAG, they get a puzzled look on their face.

I expect that reaction from friends and family members who have little or no affiliation with the Air Force, but surprisingly, I get the same puzzled look from many of my coworkers here on base.

To tell you the truth, before I became the Chief of the wing CAG I did not know what a CAG was either. CAG stands for Commander's Action Group. The wing CAG works for the wing commander and alongside wing protocol and public affairs.

Together the CAG, protocol, and public affairs form a unique Columbus Air Force Base office called the Commander's Activity and Operations Center. Just as the Combined Air Operations Center is the hub of air operation in a particular theater, the Columbus CAOC is the hub of all wing level events.

These events include, but are not limited to, group and wing level change of command ceremonies, retreats, building/road dedications and wing level distinguished visitor event coordination. The CAOC also assists project officers for wing level events such as the Air Force Ball by providing them with information and access to the vast network of base and community agencies required to put together a large event.

One of the responsibilities of the CAG is to collect volunteers from each group and provide them to the wing commander who then selects an event project officer. Being selected as a project officer sharpens leadership skills by placing you outside your comfort zone.

The comfort zone is reached when each of us achieves a particular level of competency within our core duties. Eventually, this level of comfort can lead to settling into a daily routine that makes us reluctant to try something new. This reluctance can stifle our growth as a leader because we stop broadening our perspective of the world outside the walls of our workplace. I challenge you to put aside your doubts, actively seek the unfamiliar, and step outside your comfort zone. By doing so, you will grow as a person and as a leader.

If you would like to volunteer to be a project officer for a squadron, group, or wing level event, talk to your supervisor. If you are chosen to be a wing level POC, you will not be going at it alone, the CAOC will be here to help you every step of the way.

SUPT Class 10-03 earns silver wings



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon



Capt. Bryant Harrison
Medford, N.Y.
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



Capt. Stephen Raham
Youngstown, N.Y.
C-17, Dover AFB, Del.



First Lt. Ryosuke Semba
Chiba, Japan
F-2/F-15, Hamamatsu AB, Japan

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-03 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker for the class will be Maj. Gen. Charles Davis, commander, Air Armament Center, and the Air Force Program Executive Officer for Weapons, Air Force Materiel Command, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The center is responsible for the development, acquisition, testing, deployment and sustainment of all air-delivered weapons. Additionally, AAC plans, directs and conducts test and evaluation of U.S. and allied air armament, navigation and guidance systems, and command and control systems. The center supports the largest single base mobility commitment for AFMC and the second largest in the Air Force.

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



Second Lt. Jeffery Entine
Madison, Wisc.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



Second Lt. Samuel Freeland
Boulder, Mont.
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



Second Lt. Jonathan Jackson
Canton, N.C.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



Second Lt. Andrew Johnson
Barrington, Ill.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.

Second Lt. Jeffery Entine, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Andrew Walter, 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. Peter Shenk, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Jonathan Jackson, 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.

Lieutenants Entine and Walter were named the distinguished graduate of Class 10-03.

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 in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

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

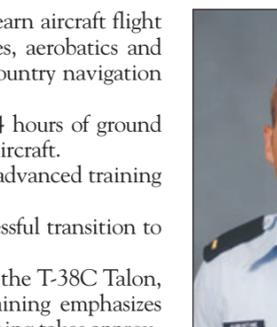
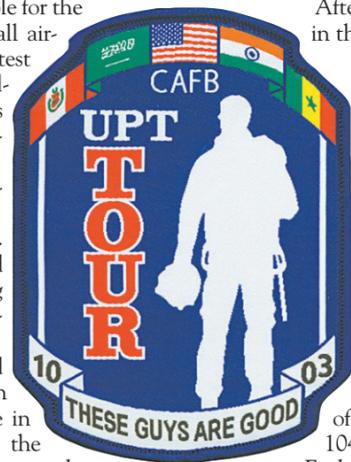
Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

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 two business or civic organizations 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 pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners.

Class 10-03's Pilot Partners are Mr. Roger Burlingame, Robertson-Ceco Building Systems, and Mrs. Sharon Burton, Cable One.



Second Lt. Ian Augustine
Elburn, Ill.
MC-12/C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



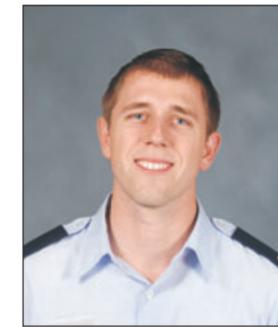
Second Lt. Charles Brantigan
Denver, Colo.
T-6A, Columbus AFB, Miss.



Second Lt. David Carlo
San Diego, Calif.
MC-12/E-8, Robins AFB, Ga.



Second Lt. Gray Kaempf
San Ramon, Calif.
T-6A, Columbus AFB, Miss.



Second Lt. Seth King
Atlanta, Ga.
C-130, Dobbins, Ga.



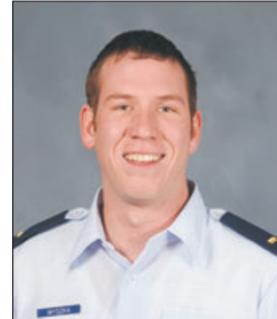
Second Lt. Matthew Ledyard
Rockway, N.J.
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



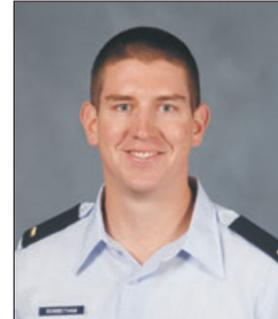
Second Lt. Steven Marks
Lake Havasu City, Ariz.
RPA, Creech AFB, Nev.



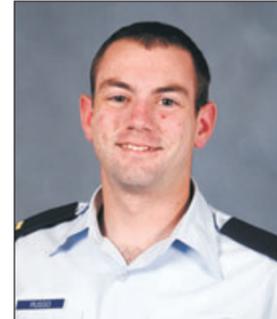
Second Lt. Julian Mihai
Caracal, Romania
MiG-21, Fetesti AB, Romania



Second Lt. Adam Myszka
Buffalo, N.Y.
MC-12/KC-10, Travis AFB



Second Lt. Kyle Rowbotham
Ellensburg, Wash.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



Second Lt. Paul Russo
Middleburg Heights, Ohio
RPA, Creech AFB, Nev.



Second Lt. Peter Shenk
Minnetonka, Minn.
C-17, Hickam AFB, Hawaii



Second Lt. Ryan Sullivan
Peachtree City, Ga.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



Second Lt. Andrew Walter
Penns Creek, Penn.
C-21, Ramstein AB, Germany



Second Lt. Brandon Wolf
Saginaw, Mich.
T-6A, Columbus AFB, Miss.



Second Lt. Benjamin Woodason
Dalton, Ga.
C-130, Little Rock AFB, Ark.

