

"Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight"

Vol. 34, Issue 37

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Sept. 17, 2010

Weather



Today

High: 97, Low: 66
Sunny



Saturday

High: 97, Low: 64
Sunny



Sunday

High: 96, Low: 64
Sunny



Monday

High: 95, Low: 68
Sunny

News Briefs

POW/MIA Ceremony

The 14th Flying Training Wing will host a POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony today at 4 p.m. in Smith Plaza.

Class 10-15 Assignment Night

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-15 will hold their assignment night at 5 p.m. tonight at the Columbus Club.

Columbus Spouses' Club Information Fair

The Columbus Spouses' Club will host an Information Fair on Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. in the Columbus Club. On and off-base organizations and businesses will showcase their services.

Blood Drive

There will be a blood drive Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Base Chapel.

Free Beautification Voucher

Columbus AFB housing residents may stop by the Landings' Pride Store to pick up a \$25 beautification voucher to be used at the Briar Patch located at 8603 Hwy 45 North 434-8433.

Inside



Feature **10**

Team BLAZE celebrates its 63rd at the Air Force Ball.

AFMC/CC visits Columbus AFB

Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The commander of Air Force Materiel Command recently visited Columbus Air Force Base and offered some advice and information for Team BLAZE members.

Gen. Donald Hoffman came to Columbus AFB to speak at the 2010 Air Force Ball and visit the base he left in 1997 after serving as 14th Operations Group commander.

While here, the general offered some tips for success for Team BLAZE members.

- Know your job, whatever it may be.
- Know the standards and live by them.
- Always be curious.
- Never be satisfied with "good enough."
- Take time for families and yourself.
- Bloom where you are planted, do the best you can at whatever job you currently have.

General Hoffman also had some advice for a more specif-

See HOFFMAN, Page 2



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin
Gen. Donald Hoffman, Air Force Materiel Command commander, is greeted by 49th Fighter Training Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Chris Stricklin. General Hoffman was a previous 14th OG commander and Air Force Birthday Ball speaker.

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 (11-08)	5.00 days	0.67 days	Sept. 28	48th (10-15)	2.87 days	0.02 days	Oct. 1	49th (10-AB)	2.05 days	0.26 days	Oct. 15	T-6	1,514	1,504	33,632
41st (11-09)	2.00 days	-0.70 days	Oct. 21	50th (10-15)	-3.34 days	1.51 days	Oct. 1					T-1	540	484	11,222
												T-38	526	524	11,086
												IFF	103	108	2,337

The graduation speaker is Retired Lt. Gen. Garry Trexler, former 14th Flying Training Wing commander.

Former POW, CAFB squadron commander, to speak at POW/MIA ceremony

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Richard "Gene" Smith will be the guest speaker for today's POW/MIA ceremony held in Smith Plaza, named after the colonel.

Colonel Smith was born in Marks, Miss., in 1935 and grew up in Tunica, Miss., After high school graduation in 1952, Smith entered Mississippi State University and studied Chemical Engineering. Graduating in 1956, he entered the Air Force and beginning a 22 year Air Force career. His assignments include flying a variety of fighter-type aircraft in Air Defense Command and Tactical Air Command.

Flying F-105D's with 333rd Tactical Fighter Squadron out of Takli Air Force Base, Thailand, Smith was shot down flying his 33rd mission on Oct. 25, 1967, over Hanoi; Prisoner of War five and a half years and repatriated March 14, 1973. Assigned to Columbus Air Force Base, he was the Commander of the 50th Flying Training Squadron, Assistant Director of Operations of the 14th Flying Training Wing, and Director of Operations of the 14th Flying Training Wing.

Following his Air Force career, Smith went on to be the Director of the Golden Triangle Regional airport and saw the current terminal structure built. He was also a past National

Chairman of the Board of the Air Force Association; Past National President of the Air Force Association; Past President, Mississippi Air Force Association; Past President, Golden Triangle Chapter Air Force Association; Past President, Starkville Chamber of Commerce; Past President, Mississippi Airport Managers Association; Past President, Southeastern Airport Managers Association;

The wing ceremonial plaza was named in his honor on Sep.19, 2007 during the base's 60/65 anniversary celebration.

His military decorations include two Silver Stars, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, Legion of Merit, two Air Medals, two Purple Hearts, POW Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry and Meritorious Service Medal.

His civilian awards include the FAA Kitty Hawk Award (7th ever presented), Southeastern Airport Managers Association/Southeastern Chapter of American Association of Airport Executives Leadership Award (first ever presented), Air Force Exceptional Meritorious Service Award.

Wife Rae of 45 yrs deceased after a long battle with cancer, He remarried in Oct. 2004 to Lynn and resides in West Point, Miss. He has three grown children, Kelly, Richard, and Stacy

HOFFMAN

(Continued from Page 1)

ic Team BLAZE member – his 13 year-removed successor, new 14th OG Commander Col. Steven Stater.

"Enjoy the tour," he said. "Empower the people below you. Get fully checked out in whatever aircraft you fly and start training students."

AFMC develops, acquires and sustains the aerospace power needed to defend the United States and its interests for today and tomorrow. This is accomplished through management, research, acquisition, development, testing and maintenance of existing and future weapons systems and their components.

General Hoffman said almost every product (whether an aircraft, uniform or system) on Columbus AFB has been touched by AFMC.

He said some of the larger programs include T-1, T-38 and T-6 sustainment; and T-38 structure and repair issues.

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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Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

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.

<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thur</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat/Sun</u>
20	21 Newcomers, 8 a.m., @ AFRC Hearts Apart, 4:30 p.m., @ AFRC CSC Dinner Social, 6 p.m., @ Club	22	23	24 Pilot For a Day	25/26 Sept 25: Retiree Appreciation Day, 9 a.m., @ Club Sept 25: 100 Mile Run SNCO Induction Fund Raising
27	28 Blood Drive, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., @ Chapel Class 11-08 Track Select, 5p.m., @ Club	29	30 Enlisted Promotions, 4 p.m., @ Club	1 Class 10-15 Graduation, 10 a.m., @ Kaye Auditorium, Grad Speaker: Lt. Gen. Garry Trexler	2/3 Oct 2: Daedalian's Fall Scholarship Golf Tournament Oct. 2: Fire Prevention Parade, 9 a.m., Base housing Oct. 2: Fire Prevention Open House, 10 a.m., Fire Department

<u>Long Range Events</u>
Oct 5: Active Shooter Exercise
Oct 8: BCC Luncheon
Oct. 11: CAFB Closed
Oct 14: Hispanic Heritage Luncheon
Oct 18: Wing Retreat
Oct 19: CSC Social
Oct 19: Hearts Apart
Oct 21: Daedalian's Dinner
Oct. 21 BX Ribbon Cutting
Oct 28: Golden Triangle Employment Expo

IFF 10-HB graduates six

Capt. Pedro Esquivel

49th Fighter Training Squadron

The 49th Fighter Training Squadron hosted a graduation Sept. 13 in the squadron heritage room at 4 p.m. for Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals, Class 10-KB. Six members graduated this phase of their training on their way to becoming fighter pilots and fighter weapons system operators in various aircraft for the Combat Air Forces.

The 49th FTS is responsible for Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, and International flying training in the T-38C aircraft. The 49th FTS provides training to fighter pilots and weapon system officers entering Air Force major fighter weapons systems,

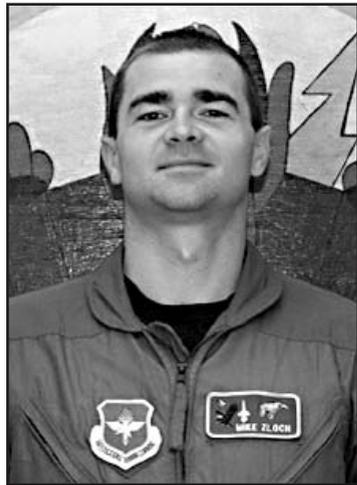
which include the F16, F15C, F15E and A-10.

The nine-week course begins with tactical formation flights and then introduces pilots 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!



Polish Air Force
Capt. Krzysztof Jedrzejczak
F-16



Polish Air Force
1st Lt. Michal Zloch
F-16



1st Lt. Neal Simpson
F-16



2nd Lt. Jonathan Kay
F-16



1st Lt. Daniel Hermanski
F-15E WSO



1st Lt. Timothy Causey
F-15E WSO

Airman of the Week

Name/unit:

Senior Airman William Bryan
14th Civil Engineer Squadron/
CEF.

Career goals:

Stay in the Air Force.

Favorite musician:

Lil Boosie.

Job title:

Fire Protection Journey- man.

Favorite movie:

Gran Torino.

Time at Columbus AFB:

43 days.

Biggest pet peeve:

Leaving things unfinished or messy.

Time in Service:

Two years.

Inspirations:

I try to inspire myself to do something good every day that I am living.

Hometown:

Richburg, S.C.

Personal motto:

Might as well!



Senior Airman William Bryan

Colonel Seguin speaks at graduation

Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Col. Barre Seguin spoke during the graduation ceremony for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-14 on Sept. 9 at the Kaye Auditorium.

The speech centered on praise for a job well done, motivation for continued learning, and reminders that assignments are never bad.

Colonel Seguin spoke in particular about first assignment instructor pilots, also known as FAIPS. He informed attendees that FAIPS are often chosen from the best of the graduating classes to stay at training bases in order to teach new pilots. During the speech he brought up several rumors he had heard about how members of Class 10-14 had attempted to avoid becoming FAIPS, from being excessively happy to taxing to the wrong runway.

He congratulated Class 10-14 on not being able to avoid producing FAIPS, and credited their teamwork and motivation for the accomplishment of graduating from SUPT. Colonel Seguin suggested that the class's members should keep in contact with their classmates and hold the bonds they have developed during their training.

Colonel Seguin also reminded Class 10-14 during the speech that there is no bad assignment and that the true hallmark of a pilot is the desire to improve knowledge and skills, no matter the aircraft.



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin
Capt. Eric Carlo, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-14 senior ranking officer, presents Col. Barre Seguin, 14th Flying Training Wing commander and the guest speaker for Class 10-14's graduation, a token of the classes thanks after the colonel spoke Sept. 10.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Many products such as these contain Box Tops and can be found at the base commissary. The base commissary also has a Box Tops collection point at the front of the store for convenience as part of this community fundraising program..

Box Tops help local schools

Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Team BLAZE members can support local schools through the Box Tops for Education program just by doing their grocery shopping.

The Box Tops for Education program works with the makers of many products bought by Team BLAZE members every day to raise money for schools of the buyer's choice. On the boxes of over 250 products there are box tops that can be cut out and given to a school's volunteer Box Tops Coordinator. For every box top turned in the school will receive 10 cents to help with their needs.

The Box Tops program has raised a total of over 300 million dollars for schools since it began.

This year, the program introduced products featuring two or more box tops instead of just one. Last year's fundraising total was \$49 million.

"It's a great no cost way of giving back to schools with challenging budgets," said E.J. Griffis, Columbus AFB school liaison officer.

The Box Tops for Education website, <http://www.boxtops4education.com>, has more support for those looking at participating in the Box Tops program. There's an online tracker to see how much money a specific school has raised through Box Tops as well as downloadable coupons for Box Top products.

Mississippi Symphony Orchestra

The Mississippi Symphony Orchestra will perform at MUW's Rent Auditorium Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for senior citizens and students. Call 328-2787 for more information.

Friends of the Library

Mississippi writer Richard Wright is the focus of the Sept. 22 Friends of the Library's fall writers' series. Mississippi's University for Women's Dr. Kim Whitehead will focus on Wright's groundbreaking novella collection, "Uncle Tom's Children." Bring your lunch at 11:30; iced tea provided. Or join friends from noon to 1:00 p.m. for the program at the Columbus-Lowndes Public Library at 314

Seventh Street North. For more information contact the library at 329-5300.

Columbus-Lowndes Humane Society seeking volunteers

The Columbus-Lowndes Humane Society is seeking volunteers and foster homes. We are a non-profit and we depend on donations to operate. If you would like to help volunteer, foster, or donate; please call 327-3107.

Hitching Lot Farmer's Market

Located at 2nd Avenue and 2nd Street North.

Open Tuesday and Thursdays from 6 until 10 a.m.

Open Saturdays from 7 until 10 a.m.

BARGAIN LINE

and one-half bathrooms, whirlpool tub. Approximately one acre of fenced yard with large wired shop. Call 240-0226.

For sale: 2005 Clayton mobile home, 14 X 56, two bedrooms, one bath, all electric. \$17,000, call 251-5990.

Transportation

For sale: 2008 Toyota Prius Hybrid Touring Package loaded with everything. Leather, 32,000 miles, new tires, 48 MPG. Paid \$34,000, current new sticker is \$36,000. Asking \$22,000 or best offer. Moving overseas. (662) 574-9556.

For sale: 1987 Ford Escort, automatic, good condition, new tires, some engine work done, A/C works but needs recharging, as is, \$1,000 or best offer. Call 251-1413.

For sale: 2005 Triumph Rocket III, Black w/ lots of extras! 6,800 miles. Excellent condition. \$8,950 or best offer. Call (808) 221-2005.

For sale: 2000 BMW R1200C, cruiser, black w/ pinstripes. 11,500 miles. Recently serviced. Excellent Condition. \$6,450 or best offer. Call (808) 221-2005.

Miscellaneous

For sale: Bass Pro Shop Bass boat 2 seats with electric motor \$950. Hidden bar and antique Chinese cabinet \$200.

Oak computer armoire with chair \$500. Wood futon bunks with drawers \$60. Antique butterfly tall cabinet \$200. Farmhouse dining table with four chairs \$200. Glass top kit and computer table \$75. Gas grill \$50. Norwalk distressed leather sofa and recliner \$800. Huge custom oak ent center with 37" Sony TV \$950. Huge dollhouse with tons of furniture \$50. Moving overseas, call for pictures and more details (662) 574-9556.

For sale: Compaq Presario Notebook, 160 GB hard drive, Windows Vista Premium operating system, DVD/R/RW, Intel Dual Core processor. Built in Wi-Fi and many extras. \$295 or best offer. HP Pavilion Slimline Desktop Computer with Windows Vista Premium, 1 GB Intel Pentium Dual Core processor, 160GB hard drive, DVD+R/RW. Loaded with additional software i.e. photo package, Norton, 22 inch LCD monitor. Internet ready. \$495 or best offer. Please call 327-1205.

For sale: Blue couch, fair condition, cloth, \$25. Wooden love seat rocker, excellent condition, \$25; Built in double oven, brown, works, \$25; Green recliner, \$20; Quick Set 18'x48" pool w/filter, pump, HD ladder, etc. \$100 for all. Call 251-1415

For sale: Recliner with heat, vibration and open arms. Beige microfiber, excellent condition, \$100. Chaise lounge, beige microfiber, excellent condition, \$125. Sofa, pillow-back, light blue and beige plaid, excellent

condition, \$150. Call 329-4615 after 4 PM.

For sale: Washer and dryer \$150 for the set, Magnavox 5.1 surround sound with five disc CD changer \$50. Call 570-4991.

For sale: Renegade Mountain bicycle 26", seven speeds, excellent condition \$75. Backwater Jeep Mountain bicycle 24", six speeds, excellent condition, \$65. Huff bicycle 20" new \$50. Call (662) 425-6526.

For sale: Coleman gas lantern with case. \$20. Emergency roadside warning signs. \$10. Sharp Carousel II microwave \$20. American amper back pack. \$10. Small two man tent in bag. \$10. Small fold up vinyl table. \$5. Three way bissell broom style vacuum cleaner. \$10. Regal Electric 12 cup coffee maker \$10. Electronic Bug Lite bug killer \$10. Metal folding camper step up steps \$10. Stove top griddle, non-stick \$5. One box parts for motor home plumbing system \$10. Please call 327-1205.

For sale: HP Desktop PC, 250 GB HD, Intel 4 3Ghz, 2.038GB RAM, 19" LCD monitor, MS Office, Vista, like new \$350 or best offer. Delta crib and changing table with drawers \$300. Baby stroller that converts to back carrier, great for traveling, \$30. High chair, \$15. For more information, call 497-2175.

For sale: Full size round patio table and four chairs with cushions \$30. Call 570-1856 if interested.

For sale: Frigidaire, 15 cubic feet,

chest type freezer and a General Electric, 21.2 cubic foot, upright freezer, both in excellent working condition, \$75 each. For information call 327-4766 or 329-5792.

For sale: High Boy cherry chest of drawers bought new for \$2,000, will sell for \$500. Microwave oven almost new \$30. Oak colored queen size bedroom suite with night stand, dresser, headboard \$400. Ab exerciser \$30. Whirlpool washer white \$30. Microwave cabinet \$10. Old dresser \$5. Call 328-3977.

Pets

Free: Two small very cute mixed spaniel dogs. One male, 1 female. Call (305) 849-1386.

Saturday Yard Sales

Yard sale: Sept. 18th at 87 Brandys Place, New Hope. Lakeover Subdivision. Starting at 7 a.m. Lots of wedding supplies, baby clothes, toys, home decor, floral arrangements, furniture, and clothing items.

Garage sale: Humphries Cove and Point Harbor neighborhood garage sale 2 Oct. 7 a.m. to noon. Take Highway 50 West towards West Point, and go over the Tombigbee River Bridge. First and second left for Humphries Cove or first right for Point Harbor. Multiple homes involved. Furniture, books, clothes, motorcycles, cars, and more.



Visit us online!

Web page:
www.columbus.af.mil

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB

Twitter: www.twitter.com/Columbus_AFB

Base News

Columbus Spouses' Club Information Fair

The Columbus Spouses' Club will host an Information Fair on Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. in the Columbus Club. On and off-base organizations and businesses will showcase their services.

Sealed Bid Sale

The 14th FSS will be having a sealed bid sale at Outdoor Recreation from Sept. 13 to Sept. 26 at noon. Bids will be opened Sept. 27. Items for sealed bid: Pontoon boat and trailer, dunk tank/trailer, electronic dartboard, safe, CD jukebox, large flat screen TV and stand, English snooker table. All purchasers must hold a valid military ID or CAC card. All bids to be placed on sealed bid sheet obtained from Outdoor Recreation or NAF Accounting Office. For more information please call Outdoor Recreation at 434-2507 or 434-7861.

NAF Open Sale

There will be a NAF open sale at the Outdoor Recreation area Sept. 24. View items for sale from Sept. 20 to Sept. 23 from 9 a.m. to noon each day. You will be required to show a military ID or CAC card to enter the sale area.

Housing Asset Management Office Co-location

The Housing Asset Management Office in-processing and relocations services have co-located to 256 State Loop (Landings at Columbus). The Relocations Services telephone number is 434-8402

Chaplain Account Manager

The Columbus Air Force Base Chapel is looking for an account manager for all Chaplain Fund purchase requests. Deadline is Sept. 20. Contact Tech. Sgt. Floyd Recto at 434-2500 for more information. Background checks will be required.

Wednesday Night Chef

The Columbus Air Force Base Chapel is looking for a chef to provide cooked meals for the Pioneer Club's weekly fellowship. Deadline is Sept. 20. Contact Tech. Sgt. Floyd Recto at 434-2500 for more information. Background checks will be required.

Adjunct Instructors Needed

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University needs instructors for their Master of Aeronautical Science and Master of Science in Management degree programs at Columbus AFB. Email resumes to the ERAU's Director of Academics at reginald.boring@erau.edu.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Columbus AFB classes for ERAU's Master of Science in Management and Master of Aeronautical Science degree programs will begin Oct. 18. Please contact (901) 507-9969 for more information.

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.)

Hearts Apart

A social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel. Information, refreshments, and prizes. Sept. 21 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Advance registration required.

Employment Workshop

Workshop on local and base employment opportunities, held every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Self-paced Tutorials

Available on MS Office 2007 Suites; Access, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Word and Windows Vista. Set your own learning pace at your AFRC.

Relocation assistance

Weekly workshop on programs, services and resources available through the Airman & Family Readiness Center held every Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. at the AFRC. Topics of discussion include preparing for a move, environment/cultural issues or needs, adaptation and community awareness.

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 be 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.

Pilot Partner Welcome



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 11-14 listens to local Air Force Association Vice President Rick "Sonic" Johnson during the pilot partner reception on Sept. 14 at The Grill in downtown Columbus, Miss. The pilot partner welcome gives new SUPT students and local community leaders an opportunity to interact and introduce students to the some of the local community programs.

Chapel Schedule

2010-2011 Pioneer Clubs Program

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 7:30p.m. This program is open to children ages three years through 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 Worship Service

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 Services

Daily Mass at 11:30 a.m. until Sept. 23
Thursday
6 p.m. — Choir Practice
Sunday:
3:30 p.m. — Religious Education, grades K-9
3:45 p.m. — Choir Practice
4 p.m. — Confession
5 p.m. — Mass
6 p.m. — RCIA
Baptisms every 3rd Sunday of the month except Lent and Advent. Call (808) 271-4882 for more information.

New logistics support system coming to CAFB in 2012

Elise Branson
14th Logistics Readiness Division

In preparation for the launch of the Air Force's new Expeditionary Combat Support System, Air Education and Training Command officials conducted a kickoff meeting with Columbus AFB leaders and ECSS users Sept. 14.

Col. Barre Seguin, 14th FTW Commander, hosted Mr. Garry Richey, HQ AETC Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support; and his AETC ECSS team. During that meeting, the AETC team delivered an informational and educational briefing about ECSS, its goals, program timelines and how the Air Force will be affected.

The way the Air Force is organized and the ways that airpower is employed are changing in revolutionary ways. Changing, too, are the ways in which Air Force Logisticians provide support to Warfighters.

ECSS is the cornerstone enabler of the logistics transformation effort. Using an Enterprise Resource Planning software solution, ECSS is applying best commercial practices and using industry-proven tools to establish the Air Force's first capability to globally view and manage its logistics resources (i.e., major end items, materiel, people and funds).

But ECSS is much more than an IT system. It will fundamentally change business processes, personnel roles, and jobs across the spectrum of the Air Force Logistics community. Locally, ECSS will drive dramatic changes and improvements in the way logistics is done.

For example, the process of scheduling a repair currently means setting a repair date at the base level without the ability to ensure technicians, parts, facilities, tools, etc., are available Air Force-wide. With ECSS, an integrated global view of people/parts availability will enable greater scheduling effectiveness and ultimately increase availability of repaired components or major end items.

Today, Air Force Logisticians collectively rely on paper forms and enter data into multiple base-level systems. This labor-intensive effort will be replaced by entering data once into one system. When fully implemented, ECSS will replace hundreds of logistics information systems and will be the single source of truth for logistics information.

While it will be several years before ECSS reaches full operational capability and its benefits are fully realized, the implementation process is already underway.

ECSS will be fielded throughout the Air Force in multiple releases and Columbus AFB will see ECSS fielded in



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin
Mr. Garry Richey, HQ AETC Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, speaks to Team BLAZE leadership at a kickoff meeting for the new Expeditionary Combat Support System. ECSS will be fielded throughout the Air Force in multiple releases and Columbus AFB will see ECSS fielded in September 2012.

September 2012. While that may seem to be a part of the distant future, the reality is that everyone needs to begin preparing for ECSS now.

As is always the case, these sweeping changes will not be easy, as long-standing ways of doing business will either dramatically change or completely disappear. ECSS will pull people from their comfort zones and cause them to do new tasks in different, unfamiliar ways. To help logisticians navigate these changes, the ECSS program will provide education and training programs for those who will use the new system. An Air Force-wide change agent network, supported by an ECSS program team, will share information on ECSS activities, schedules, and lessons learned

and conduct local problem-solving meetings to help smooth implementation at each installation. This same network will support the sustainment of ECSS after fielding is completed.

ECSS will drive changes in the way the Air Force does business and the way logisticians perform their jobs. The result will be an Air Force enterprise better enabled to provide its Warfighters the right materiel at the right time. ECSS will also enable logisticians to use their time more productively, significantly reducing the cost of accomplishing the Air Force Logistics mission.

To learn more about ECSS, contact Logistics Readiness Division or visit <https://www.ecss.wpafb.af.mil>.



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 68 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed worldwide.

Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



Energy Awareness: Indoor Lighting Tips

– Be sure to buy ENERGY STAR qualified Compact Fluorescent Light.

– They will save you about \$30 or more in electricity costs over each bulb's lifetime.

– Producing about 75 percent less heat, they are safer to operate and can cut home cooling costs.

– Visit www.energystar.gov to find the right light bulbs for your fixtures. They are available in sizes and shapes to fit in almost any fixture.

– They provide the greatest savings in fixtures that are on for a long time each day. The best fixtures to use qualified CFLs in are usually found in your family and living rooms, kitchen, dining room, bedrooms, and outdoors.

– Consider purchasing ENERGY STAR qualified fixtures. They are available in many styles including table, desk and floor lamps — and hard-wired options for front porches, dining rooms, bathroom vanity fixtures, and more

– ENERGY STAR qualified fixtures distribute light more efficiently and

evenly than standard fixtures and they deliver convenient features such as dimming on some indoor models.

– Controls such as timers and photo cells save electricity by turning lights off when not in use. Dimmers save electricity when used to lower light levels. Be sure to select products that are compatible with CFL bulbs; not all products work with CFLs.

– When remodeling, look for recessed down lights, or “cans”, that are rated for contact with insulation (IC rated).

– Take advantage of daylight by using light-colored, loose-weave curtains on your windows to allow daylight to penetrate the room while preserving privacy. Also, decorate with lighter colors that reflect daylight.

– If you have torchiere fixtures with halogen lamps, consider replacing them with compact fluorescent torchieres.

– Compact fluorescent torchieres use 60 percent to 80 percent less energy and do not get as hot as halogen torchieres.

United we stand

Capt. Dominique Haig
Hispanic Heritage Month Representative

“No matter how long it may take U.S. to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people, in their righteous. might, will win through to absolute victory.” – President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dec. 8, 1941

World War II was the largest and most violent conflict in the history of the world. While it has been over 70 years since the resolution, there is still much that we can learn from those that sacrificed. In a time when the country was very much segregated, many minority groups joined together to help ensure victory.

Approximately 16 million men and women served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the Second World War. The U.S. Army alone grew from 175,000 to more than 8,000,000 over the course of the conflict. Of these 8 million, 7,054,422 were Caucasian (87percent), 891,938 African-American (11 percent), and 162,170 (2percent) were Japanese, Hispanic, or from other minority groups. Despite the varieties of discrimination prevalent in American society, citizens with foreign ancestry were still allowed to enlist.

African-Americans made up the largest number of minority soldiers. In 1940, the Selective Service allowed African-Americans to enlist in the various military branches and attend officer training schools. The famed Tuskegee Airmen boasted a record of almost 15,000 sorties and 1,500 missions; all without a single aircraft lost to enemy fire. Dorie Miller, Navy 3rd class, was the first African-American to be awarded the Navy Cross for his heroic efforts at Pearl Harbor. Despite the fact that he was a cook and had never fired an anti-aircraft weapon, he did not shy away when the opportunity presented itself on Dec. 7, 1941. Miller took control of a 50 caliber anti-aircraft machine gun and fired at the enemy until he ran out of ammunition. These men were a great testament to the false racial assumptions that plagued the country.

No one is a stranger to the role women played in the Second World War. While they were not allowed on the battlefield, millions of women joined the war effort by providing labor and resources necessary to the military's campaigns. Prior to 1941, women served in the Army solely as nurses, but Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers set out to change that. She met with General George C. Marshall, the Army Chief of Staff, and introduced a bill that established the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. By the end of the war, 150,000 women were serving as clerks, control tower operators, mechanics, engineers, researchers,

weather forecasters, and pilots. In fact, between September 1942 and December 1944, 141 WASPs flew a collective 9,224,000 miles while delivering 12,652 planes. Without the assistance of American women, both in the military and on the home front, the war effort would not have been as successful.

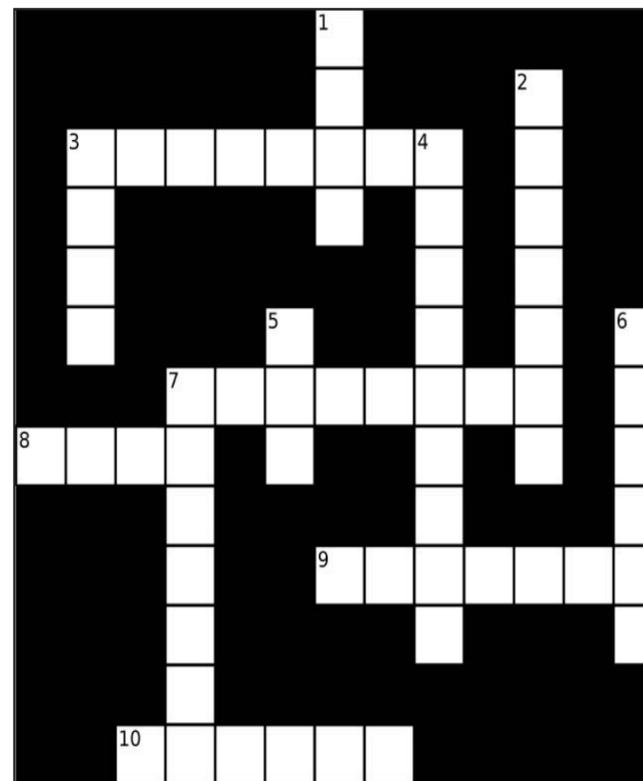
The Navajo code talkers took part in every U.S. Marine conducted assault in the Pacific theatre from 1942 to 1945. They served in all six Marine divisions transmitting messages in their native language, a language the Japanese were never able to decipher. “Were it not for the Navajos, the Marines would never have taken Iwo Jima,” Maj. Howard Connor, a 5th Marine Division signal officer, stated. A total of 540 Navajo men served with the Marines in World War II.

Hispanic Americans served in every major battle fought in the European Theatre, including the Bataan Death March. The 200th and 515th Battalions, activated in New Mexico in 1940, were made up of mostly Spanish-speaking Hispanic Americans. When sent to the Bataan Peninsula following the attack on Pearl Harbor, these soldiers endured a 12-day, 85-mile march to the Japanese prison camps. Records show upwards of 53,000 Puerto Ricans served in the Army during this crisis.

Japanese Americans were faced with extreme amounts of resentment following the Pearl Harbor attacks. More than 120,000 Japanese Americans were placed in interment camps after being accused of spying on the government. It wasn't until 1943 that these Americans were given the chance to enlist, and the 442nd regiment was born. Over 33,000 Japanese Americans joined and fought in many European campaigns. The unit is recognized as the most decorated unit in United States history, receiving a total of 18,000 awards – among these 7 presidential unit citations, 9,500 Purple Hearts, and 52 Distinguished Service Crosses.

Each of these minority groups faced their own hardships and discrimination, yet they all answered the call and paid the same sacrifice. While the military calls for conformity to ensure discipline and order, every race, gender, age, and experience level will bring vital skills to the fight. It is in our diversity that we are united.

Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. Sept. 15 was chosen because it marks the independence of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile also celebrate their independence days in September.



This week's crossword: POW/MIA

- Across
- The Central Identification Laboratory, which is used for identifying the remains of missing Americans, is the largest _____ anthropology laboratory in the world.
 - Andrew Jackson, the seventh President of the United States was taken as a prisoner of war when he was _____ years old.
 - The U.S. has _____ service members MIA from Operation Desert Storm.
 - SERE stands for Survival, _____, Resistance, Escape.
 - POW/MIA recognition day is one of six days throughout the year that Congress has mandated the flying of the National _____ of Families' POW/MIA flag.

- Down
- POW/MIA bracelets traditionally are only inscribed with the person's name, rank, and date of _____.
 - The USAF Thunderbirds were the first military aerobatics unit to ever perform the _____ man formation.
 - The POW/MIA _____ was designed by Newt Heisley.
 - The first POW/MIA recognition day was held on July 18, 1979 at the National _____, Washington, D.C.
 - The POW Code of Conduct contains _____ articles.
 - Vietnam veteran John Devitt created a half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial named The _____ Wall in 1984 which has since visited hundreds of U.S. towns and cities.
 - During a forced 1966 North Vietnamese television interview now retired Navy Rear Adm. Jeremiah Denton spelled out the word _____ in morse code by blinking.

Dollars and Sense— Welcome to Virtual finance

Want to save time and avoid the Finance Customer Service counter? Well, Finance is only a click away. Log onto the AF Portal and go to “Money—Welcome to Virtual Finance” under the “Life & Career” tab.

The Virtual Finance page brings together information and transaction resources putting finance at the user's fingertips. In many cases, the information provided or the forms available eliminates the need for the member to physically visit Finance. The site is packed with valuable information. It provides guidance on how to properly file manual vouchers. The “Rates and References” tab provides links to assist the member with finding per diem rates, mileage rates and distances, and civilian GS wage scales. The “Tools” tab has calculators for military PCS, civilian PCS, TLE, deployment allowances, leave sellback, etc. The “Take Me To...” tab has links to myPay, DTS, Citibank, Thrift Savings Plan, and many more. Finally, the left navigation menu assists military members and civilian employees with finding answers to their

frequently asked questions, such as how to start/stop/change allotments, check a GTC balance, change banking information, and interpret a LES, to just list a few.

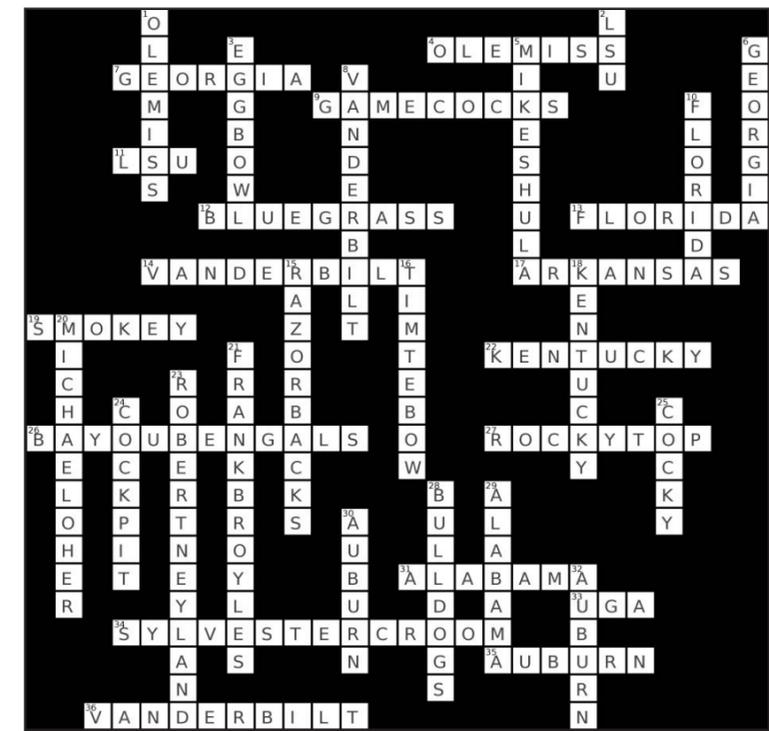
There is more to Virtual Finance than can be described here. Visit “Money--Welcome to Virtual Finance” and see what it offers to you.

****NEW CUSTOMER SERVICE EMAIL****
Please send all travel pay, MILPAY, and GTC inquiries to 14 CPTS Financial Customer Service, 14CPTS.FCS@columbus.af.mil.

14th CPTS Finance Customer Service:
Bldg 730, first floor lobby.
Hours of operation: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

****If you are unable to come during customer service hours due to mission requirements, please call 434-2705/2095 to schedule an appointment.**

SEC Football answers



Good reasons for young adults to vote

2nd Lt. Adam McClish
Installation Voting Assistance Office

As an 18-24 year old, I am always getting hassled about voting. Whether by TV, radio, or internet, I just can't seem to get away from it. In my opinion, this campaign to increase voter participation seems no different than "going green" or eating organic foods...it's simply the trendy thing to do. We hear commercials and celebrities regurgitate the same tired catchphrases like "Rock the vote!" or "Make your voice heard!" Yet, with all these advertisements telling you what to do, they never get around to giving you a good reason to. An article by Mike Hardcastle provides clear, concise reasons why, especially as a young adult, you should vote. I've edited it to fit in our newspaper. The full article can be viewed at: <http://teenadvice.about.com/od/teenlifefaqsandqas/a/youthvote2004a.htm>

The youth vote is underestimated by party analysts.

The reality is that the percentage of eligible youth who register and vote is small when compared with other demographics. This means youth voter issues aren't a main motivator in the drafting of campaign platforms and pre-election advertising and therefore do not receive as much attention.

The biggest election issues often directly effect our nation's youth.

War, education, employment, and reproductive rights are just a few of the current issues that directly effect the quality of your life RIGHT NOW. Think about the world you will one day "inherit" and you can add environmental concerns, fossil fuel consumption, social security, and healthcare.

The only way democracy works is if citizens active participants.

A government by the people, for the people just can't work without the people. This is a simple fact. Like a car without an engine, or a computer without a hard drive, a democracy without voters is just a shell and has no power.

If you don't vote, you have no right to complain about government decisions you don't like.

If there is one thing that is really annoying it is the endless ramblings on the bad policy of a current government spewing from the mouths of eligible voters who never bothered to vote. If you don't bother to contribute where do you get the idea that you can complain when something happens that you don't like?

You should vote because you can.

Voting is a tremendous gift. People in other countries fight and die for this right; a right that so many youth in democratic nations ignore. You should vote because you can, if you don't, you may one day wake up in a country where you can't.

Political dos and don'ts during campaign season

Seth Cowell
Electronic Systems Center
Legal Office

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass. — With the 2010 elections coming up, television newscasts and newspaper articles are filled with the latest news about the candidates running for various offices.

While exercising a right to vote is the duty of all Americans, military and civilian federal employees should understand the laws and regulations that outline what constitutes appropriate participation in the political process.

Although the rules for civilian employees are slightly less restrictive, there are common provisions that apply to both civilian employees and military members. The provisions for federal employees are published in the 5 U.S.C. 7321, "The Hatch Act", DODD 1344.10 and Air Force Instruction 51-902, Political Activities by Members of the U.S. Air Force.

Federal employees are encouraged to participate in the political process. However, these rules are established to ensure that partisan politics and government service are properly and reasonably attenuated to avoid even the appearance of official endorsement of candidates or issues.

For more information on this subject, call the Electronic Systems Center Ethics Office at 781-266-0139.

The Department of Defense's Federal Voting Assistance program website, www.vfap.gov, offers servicemembers voting information, including state-by-state absentee voting instructions and registration deadlines.

Civilian employees may:

- Be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections
- Register and vote as they choose
- Assist in voter registration drives
- Express opinions about candidates and issues
- Contribute money to political organizations
- Attend political fundraising functions
- Attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
- Sign nominating petitions



- Campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments and municipal ordinances
- Join and be an active member of a political party or club
- Campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
- Make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections
- Distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
- Hold office in political clubs or parties, including serving as a delegate to a convention

Civilian employees may not:

- Use their official authority or influence to interfere with an election
- Solicit, accept or receive political contributions, unless both individuals are members of the same federal labor organization or employee organization, and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee
- Knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business before the agency
- Engage in political activity while on duty
- Engage in political activity in any government office
- Engage in political activity while wearing an official uniform
- Engage in political activity while using a government vehicle
- Be candidates for public office in partisan elections
- Wear political buttons on duty

Servicemembers may:

- Register, vote and express opin-

ions on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the U.S. armed forces

- Attend partisan or nonpartisan political meetings, rallies or conventions as a spectator and not in uniform
- Join a political club and attend meetings as a spectator
- Display bumper stickers on a personally owned vehicle or wear campaign buttons on civilian clothes
- Write a letter to the editor regarding public issues, but cannot promote a partisan political cause or candidate
- Make a political contribution to an organization supporting a particular candidate, but cannot contribute to the candidate personally

Servicemembers may not:

- Participate in partisan political campaigns, except as a spectator, or make public speeches related to such activity
- Solicit votes or contributions for a particular candidate or issue
- Use official government authority or influence to interfere with or affect the outcome of an election
- Publish articles or opinions promoting or discouraging partisan political issues or candidates
- Run for or hold civil office
- Take an active role in partisan political activity, including:
 - Serve in an official capacity
 - Advocate in media
 - Conduct opinion polls or other clerical duties during a campaign
 - March in a parade
 - Actively promote fundraisers

Air Force officials increase deployment times

Jon Hanson
Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz announced a change to the air and space expeditionary force rotational baseline from 120 to 179 days for the active component.

He said the revised construct will increase predictability and stability for affected Airmen and their families, while providing better support to combatant commanders by increasing continuity at deployed locations.

"In the two years the Tempo Band construct has been in existence, the number of Airmen deploying for 120 days has steadily decreased," General Schwartz said. "Since Airmen in Tempo Band 'A' expected to deploy for 120 days but were frequently tasked for 179-day deployments, I saw no reason to maintain a 120-day baseline."

Previously, the Air Force used five tempo bands, ranging from "A" through "E." With the change, the Air Force will move Tempo Band "A" unit type codes and associated personnel to Tempo Band "B." Incorporating a 1-to-4 deploy-to-dwell time, the change results in six months of deployed time for Airmen and 24 months at home.



Revising the baseline also provides a single battle rhythm for all Airmen, regardless of functional area. The difference between the remaining tempo bands is the deploy-to-dwell time, ranging from 1-to-4 to 1-to-1.

Because of the complexity of changing the baseline, officials said it will take until October 2012 before all deployments are six months.

Expeditionary combat support Airmen will

Officials welcome new Air Force chief of safety

Marie Vanover
377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. — In a Sept. 1 change-of-command ceremony here, Maj. Gen. Gregory A. Feest assumed command of the Air Force Safety Center from Maj. Gen. Frederick F. Roggero.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz presided over the change of command. In his comments, he highlighted AFSC's performance under the leadership of General Roggero, and welcomed the Air Force's new chief of safety.

"You have demonstrated outstanding leadership as a commander, and as you step into your new role, I am confident that you too will excel," General Schwartz said of General Feest.

General Roggero took the opportunity to recognize the men and women of the safety center.

"I was and still am humbled by the opportunity to save lives and preserve the combat capability of the Air Force," he said.

The general also acknowledged the support from leaders across the Air Force and emphasized that "safety is about leadership, attitude and communication."

General Feest spoke on the center's commitment to the safety, security and well-being of Airmen and Air Force families.

"We will continue to build existing programs and initiate new programs that reach out to our Airmen," the general said.

He also reaffirmed that preventing mishaps and preserving combat capabilities is the center's top priority and closed by saying to the safety center staff, "I can think of no greater privilege than to be your commander."

Before assuming command, General Feest was the commander of 19th Air Force at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.



U.S. Air Force photo/Dennis Carlson
Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz (left) passes the Air Force Safety Center guidon to Maj. Gen. Gregory A. Feest in a change-of-command ceremony on Sept. 1, 2010, at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. General Feest, now the Air Force chief of safety also is the new safety center commander.

SUPT Class 10-15 gives back to local community

**Capt. Mike Wells and
2nd Lt. Joshua Ishiki**
SUPT Class 10-15

Upon arriving at Columbus AFB, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-15 made it their goal to give back to the city of Columbus.

This goal culminated in over 250 service hours donated to the local community during their year of training.

In March, Class 10-15 teamed with Capt. Lacy Gunnoe and his Warhawk instructor pilots to work with the Starkville Habitat for Humanity to construct framing for a house.

"Knowing we were working for a family with eight kids who were sleeping in closets – but still on the honor roll – made this experience all the more meaningful," said 2nd Lt. Steven Marinos.

His classmate agreed with Lieutenant Marinos' sentiment.

"It was an honor to extend a hand and serve a family in need," 2nd Lt. Julian Vilata said.

Some of Class 10-15's more recent projects included walking and bathing dogs at the Columbus-Lowndes Humane Society and another stint with the Starkville Habitat for Humanity. Currently under the direction of Capt. Jason Knab in the 48 FTS and preparing for their graduation Oct. 1, Class 10-15 donated their time to install windows and roof a house.

"This was a great opportunity to give back to the community and show them our support," 2nd Lt. Randy Perkins explained. "It felt good to be a part of something greater than myself."



Courtesy photo
Members of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-15 pose for a photo after working on a house with Habitat for Humanity Aug. 28. Class 10-15 donated over 250 hours of time to the local community, including two projects with Habitat for Humanity.



Courtesy photo
Second Lt. Joshua Ishiki, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-15, places a board while working with Habitat for Humanity Aug. 28. Class 10-15 logged over 250 service hours donated to the local community during their year of training.



Courtesy photo
Second Lt. Rick Jansen, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-15, hammers in a nail while working with Habitat for Humanity Aug. 28. Class 10-15 donated their time to install windows and roof a house.

Remember

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief, 14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

COLUMBUS AFB, Miss. As we pause today in honor of POW/MIA Remembrance Day, I would like to focus your thoughts on this ostentatious gathering.

Why? Why do we gather to remember our former Prisoners of War and those still unaccounted for, our Missing in Action? The answer is two-fold. We gather to honor those former POWs from our wars for the service to their nation, to keep the hope for those still standing vigilant for a loved one to return and to help our nation remember.

Reflecting on former Vietnam POWs, I cannot help but to ponder on our Air Force core values, specifically Service Before Self. The speaker for Columbus Air Force Base's ceremony is retired Lt. Col. "Gene" Smith, who was a POW for nearly five and a half years after being shot down while flying his F-105 on Oct. 25, 1967.

In our modern era, I often hear Service Before Self referred to frequently when you are about to receive a "good deal" from the Air Force or you will be pulling extra long duty periods. I cannot help but to think about Colonel Smith sitting in soli-

tary confinement for over five years...never giving up hope in his Air Force, his country or his God. Character, yep. Personal courage, yes. Service Before Self, absolutely!

We are a flying training wing; part of our mission statement says it; we Produce Pilots. It may be part of your nature to evaluate the Missing Man Formation as it puts the ending punctuation point on the ceremony. We may be judging the position of number 2 and number 4 aircraft, were they too loose or out of position? How was the timing of the #3 wingman's pull up and did the formation flyover exactly on time?

While all these thoughts are natural and inherent in what many do here for a living, I challenge you to focus on that hole in the formation that was once occupied by the #3 aircraft. A vacant wingman, much like our POWs and MIAs that is no longer there, but we still honor their place and position in the formation by leaving the space, the placeholder. We stand silently hoping for the wingman's formation rejoin, their return with honor. Like today's wingman philosophy, we look after each other, even though the wingman is absent, they are not forgotten.

Secondly, we must gather to show the rest of America, and the world, we care. We must continue as a Service to honor our traditions like our Air Force Birthday, Veterans Day, Memorial Day and other patriotic holidays. The results are simple: if we stop caring and celebrating, so will America. Why should America honor those who we no longer have the time to honor?

For sake our future we must continue to honor our past.



US Air Force Photo
The Missing Man Monument was sculpted by artist Mark Pritchett and depicts three planes flying side-by-side and one plane flies alone representing the United States Air Force Thunderbird Aerial Demonstration Team's version of the missing man formation to salute fallen comrades. The monument was dedicated on Mar. 4, 1977 at Randolph AFB, Texas.

All I really ever needed to know about leadership I learned in BMT

Lt. Col. Kieran Denehan
11th Bomb Squadron commander

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. — The only thing that amazes me more than approaching 24 years in the Air Force is how quickly time has flown by. Thus, I was grateful for the opportunity to share some thoughts for this article, because it made me sit back and reflect on all the people, places and adventures, good and bad, that I had the fortune to meet, go to or experience in my career.

As far as examples of great leaders go, I could spend several pages writing on any one of the many outstanding individuals I have worked and served with over the years. Yet, all of them are similar in that they share several traits, which I believe were the key to their organizations' success.

Among their most important traits were enthusiasm, a positive attitude and the abilities to listen and "read" their people to determine what motivates each individual. One particular leader stands out in my mind and does so because he was not an experienced and respected senior officer or noncommissioned officer, yet demonstrated many of aforementioned traits at such a young age.

I'm prior enlisted, and going through Basic Military Training is tough. Going through BMT and being handpicked to lead other new recruits is even tougher.

As our dorm chief in BMT, Airman 1st Class Denny Cook faced the daunting task of getting a group of strangers from very different backgrounds and experiences to work together in a very demanding environment.

He was constantly under pressure, top-down from our training instructor who demanded steady improvement from the flight, bottom-up from his flight-mates who constantly bickered and fought for the first week of training, and from outside-in as he worried for his young wife and 8-month old daughter back at home. For a 19-year old in BMT, he bore the weight of the world on his shoulders.

The easy thing for him to have done would have been to threaten or punish us in order to get us to perform. After all, he had the authority to do so, the motivation to get through BMT to provide for his family, and the knowledge that he did not have to make friends since he would likely never see any of us again after our 30 training days were over. It also seemed like the likely response to stop the

petty juvenile arguments that plagued the dorm.

Instead, Airman Cook took it upon himself to inspire rather than intimidate, to listen rather than yell, and in doing so, showed us we were a lot more talented and capable than how we saw each other and ourselves.

The ways he did this were many. First and foremost, he learned what motivated each individual. He figured out that if you gave the guy from Connecticut a pat on the back and a "great job," he would polish the floors until they gleamed.

He challenged the north wing of the dorms to beat the south wing in pushups and run times.

His special project was teaching the kid from New York City how to shine his boots so it actually looked like there was polish on them, and he would sit down with the clueless kid and work with him for hours.

He was able to motivate so effectively because he did a heck of a lot more listening than talking, and teaching instead of yelling.

Airman Cook would also sit down with guys and talk about their families and their futures or be the first one to share a package from home. He genuinely showed he was

interested in them. When things went wrong, as they often did those first few weeks, he would never lose his good-natured smile, and his Georgia drawl never got faster or louder.

After what seemed a decade back then, BMT was finally over and we all went on our separate paths.

Mine took me through several twists and turns over the years, but I always tried to make sure it crossed Denny's once and a while for several reasons.

First, he made such an impression on me that I wanted to make sure we kept in touch throughout our careers. Second, I felt it important to tell him that the more I learned about leaders and leadership the more I saw how remarkable his was during our short but demanding time together.

I have learned that all effective leaders share common traits, traits exemplified then by young Airman Cook, and that I was very fortunate to see them so early in my career.

Hence the parody title of this article, "All I really ever needed to know about leadership I learned in BMT."

Finally, I had to show him that it had taken me a few years, but I finally learned how to polish a mean boot.

Base families offered a variety of activities

Fall Festival

Specialty beer tasting along with an oompah band and German finger food buffet in the ballroom from 4 to 8 p.m. Sept. 24 in the Columbus Club. There will also be a wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres in the Happy Lounge. The cost is \$5 for members and \$15 for non-members which includes the price of the tasting. This is an adults only Event.

Home Décor Project

Register by today for this workshop making a twin size upholstered headboard. Cost is \$50 plus three yards of your fabric. For more information, call the arts and crafts center at 434-7836.

Steak Night with Music on the Patio

The Whispering Pines Golf Course is hosting a steak night from 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 23 on their back patio under the tent. Cost is \$10.95 for an 8 oz. rib eye steak or chicken breast. Price includes salad, baked potato, vegetable and a 16 oz. iced tea or fountain drink. Cost for children ages 12 and under is \$2.50 for a hot dog, chips and fountain drink. Stay for the acoustical sounds of base musicians from 6-8 p.m. Reservations are recommended for dinner. Make your reservation in the pro shop at 434-7932.

Kindermusik enrolling for fall semester

Kindermusik by Musical Munchkins is now enrolling for the fall semester. Kindermusik Village (ages Newborn – 18 months) will hold classes Tuesdays 11 a.m.-12 p.m., and Kindermusik Family Time (Newborn - 7 years) will be Tuesdays 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. Please contact the Youth Center at 434-2504 for more details. Kindermusik is a music and movement program for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and big kids. You and your child will play, listen, and dance to musical activities specifically designed to stimulate early childhood development and strengthen neural pathways in your child's mind.

Norwegian Cruise Line Special to Alaska

Take a 7-night Alaskan cruise from Seattle to Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, and Prince Rupert BC Canada. Ship departs Aug. 27, 2011. Cost is \$881.64 per person for an inside cabin, \$1,121.64 for ocean view and \$1,501.64 per person for a balcony. Pricing does include



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Sherry Easter shops at the base thrift shop on Sept. 16. The thrift shop carries clothing items, books, toys and more.

port charges and taxes and a \$75 onboard ship credit but not transportation to Seattle. Fares are cruise only, per person based on double occupancy. Rates are subject to availability and can change without notice. Restrictions may apply. Contact the Information, Ticket and Travel Office at 434-7861 or visit www.aftravelonline.com to make your reservations.

Royal Caribbean Cruise Special to Alaska

Take a 7-night Alaskan cruise from Seattle to Juneau, Skagway, Tracy Arm Fjord, Victoria, British Columbia and back to Seattle. Cruise departs June 10, 2011. Cost is \$939.17 per person for an inside cabin, \$1,069.17 per person for an ocean view or \$1,879.17 for a balcony. Pricing includes port charges and taxes and \$50 onboard ship credit. Prices are per person, based on double occupancy for cruise only.

Smart Shoppers

NFL tickets

The ITT office has home game tickets for the New Orleans Saints and the Dallas Cowboys –For more information about the tickets and group trips, call 434-7861. Limited seating/tickets available.

Tops in Blue

Four positions are available with this special group with auditions open now for trumpet, bass, video technicians and technician support stat. The deadline for audition packages for the 2011 worldwide talent search is Nov. 5. The competition will be held Dec. 5 to 13 at Lackland AFB. Go to www.topsinblue.com to begin the application process.

Squadron DUI-Free Bowling Party

The bowling center is offering a free squadron bowling party from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday for those squadrons who have been without a DUI for three months. Shoe rental, food and beverage charges still apply. For more information or to reserve the center, call the Bowling Center at 434-3426.

Join FitFamily!

Air Force Services family fitness and wellness initiative, FitFamily is an integral component of the Year of the Air Force Family. Families can register as a team at www.USAFFitFamily.com to earn points and achieve levels for participation in Family Fun activities, family sports and fitness and family nutrition. Recognition is provided at each level to encourage families to continue on the path of wellness. The FitFamily program encourages Air Force families to make healthy lifestyle choices and provides resources and tips in an effort to promote overall family fitness. For more information, contact the Youth Center at 434-2504.

Space A lodging

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

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.

Price does not include transportation to Seattle. Rates are subject to availability and can change without notice. Restrictions may apply. Contact the Information, Ticket and Travel Office at 434-7861 or visit www.aftravelonline.com to make your reservations.

National Hispanic Heritage Month Library Program "Guess Who" Contest

Open to adults and teens ages 13-18. There will be photos of a dozen or more notable Hispanic Americans along with a brief bio of the person and contestants must take their best guess as to who these people are. They can use the databases in the library to research their answers. Entries are due no later than 7:30 p.m. Sept. 30. Winner will be announced the first week of October.

Air Force firefighters honored by DOD officials

Jennifer Elmore

Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency

CHICAGO — Airmen took home more than half of the trophies presented at this year's Department of Defense Fire and Emergency Services Awards ceremony Aug. 27 in Chicago.

DOD nominees are submitted from the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard and Defense Logistics Agency consisting of more than 20,000 firefighters and 651 fire departments.

There are 10 DOD-level awards with only one winner selected in each category except for the Heroism award. Firefighters selected as the Heroism award winners (individual or team) from each branch of service are honored equally as DOD winners. This year's winner of the DOD Heroism award from the Air Force is Tech. Sgt. Jayme Scammahorn, from Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

While deployed to Southwest Asia, Sergeant Scammahorn led a small convoy through a checkpoint where enemy shots were fired striking his vehicle and the one directly behind him. The driver of the second vehicle was struck in the eye. Sergeant Scammahorn proceeded through an open area with no weapon, body armor, or cover fire to protect and save the life of a wounded firefighter. He dragged his wounded comrade to a short concrete barrier out of the line of fire and requested immediate fire team support and a medical response. Sergeant Scammahorn persevered through hyperthermia to care for his teammate on the ground, in the ambulance and in the emergency room.

This year, Air Force officials renamed their Firefighter Heroism Award to the Robert A. McAllister Firefighter Heroism Award in honor of the most decorated firefighter in Air Force history. This award, given to Sergeant Scammahorn, annually recognizes individual acts of heroism above and beyond the call of duty.

Retired Senior Master Sgt. Robert A. McAllister served 28 years on active duty before starting a 22-year civilian career and rising to the rank of fire chief at Columbus AFB, Miss.

During his active duty career, he was awarded two



U.S. Air Force photos
LEFT: Senior Airman Jessica Morehouse was named the 2010 Department of Defense Military Firefighter of the Year. Airman Morehouse is assigned to from the U.S. Air Force Academy Fire Department, Colo. RIGHT: Tech. Sgt. Jayme Scammahorn earned the Department of Defense Heroism award, now known as the Robert A. McAllister Firefighter Heroism Reward, for the Air Force. Sergeant Scammahorn is assigned to Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Bronze Star medals (one with valor), 33 Air Medals, the Vietnam Armed Forces Honor Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals and four Air Force Commendation Medals.

"It's fitting that this award is now named for Chief McAllister," said Donald Warner, the Air Force fire chief. "In addition to his many decorations, Bob McAllister represents the many fire protection heroes that emerged during Vietnam and haven't been recognized. He was a proven hero. His actions demonstrated his willingness to risk all to save another."

Senior Airman Jessica Morehouse from the U.S. Air Force Academy Fire Department, Colo., is this year's DOD Military Firefighter of the Year. A nominee for the Air Force 12 Outstanding Airman of the Year Award and promoted to senior airman six months early, she demonstrated flawless pre-hos-



pital care at more than 100 medical emergencies (i.e., heart attack victim, multiple injury vehicle accident). She also provided rapid response to a significant hazardous materials fuel spill, preventing contamination of the storm water drainage system; and prepared three fire stations for environmental compliance inspections resulting in a 100 percent adherence rating with zero findings.

DOD firefighters also honored in August:

- Civilian Firefighter of the Year: Golden Barrett, of Hill AFB, Utah
- Military Fire Officer of the Year: SMSgt Joseph Orona (recently retired), of Vandenberg AFB, Calif.
- Small Fire Department of the Year: FE. Warren AFB, Wyo.
- Medium Fire Department of the Year: Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Officials extend spouse career program deadline

Elaine Wilson

American Forces Press Service

start-date cutoff was Jan. 15.

However, spouses still must submit their financial assistance request by Oct. 21.

The change was based on feedback from spouses and schools. Many schools offer a later start date for the spring semester, and extending the enrollment deadline will give more spouses the opportunity to attend courses, said Robert L. Gordon III, the deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

Previously, MyCAA offered a lifetime benefit of \$6,000 to all spouses of servicemembers.

Starting Oct. 25, however, financial assistance will be limited to spouses of active-duty servicemembers in pay grades E-1 to E-5 and O-1 to O-2. Spouses of guard and Reserve members within those ranks can participate as long as they can start and complete their courses while their sponsors are on Title 10 orders.

Eligible spouses will be able to receive a maximum financial benefit of \$4,000 for up to three years from the start date of the first class, with a \$2,000 annual cap. The money can be used to fund associate's degrees, licenses and

certification programs, but not higher degrees. The annual cap can be waived if a license or certification's cost exceeds \$2,000.

Currently enrolled spouses who meet the new criteria will be able to continue with the program after Oct. 25, but under the new parameters.

Spouses who no longer will be eligible to receive financial assistance after Oct. 25 will still be able to access career and education counseling services.

Military spouses can find more information about MyCAA on the Military OneSource website at <http://militaryonesource.com> or by calling Military OneSource at 800-342-9647.

Team BLAZE celebrates 63rd Air Force birthday



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin

Nearly 400 Airmen, spouses, friends and community supports of Columbus AFB came together to mark the Air Force's 63rd Birthday at the Air Force Birthday Ball held in the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus Friday, Sept. 10. The Air Force was established on Sept. 18, 1947 and throughout the decades has become and continues to be the world's leading Air Power.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin).

Staff Sgt. Frances Kness, vocalist with the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve Concert Band and popular music group Reserve Generation, sings at the 2010 Air Force Ball Sept. 10 at the Trotter Convention Center. Reserve Generation performs a mix of contemporary adult songs, rhythm and blues, jazz, and country. They also perform hits from the 60's to today's Billboard Magazine Hot 100 listing to include rock, rap, and hip-hop.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin

Col. George Ross, 14th Flying Training Wing vice commander and wife Marti, pass through the ceremonial saber arch way upon entering the Air Force Birthday Ball Sept. 10 at the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus, Miss. Columbus AFB celebrated the Air Force's 63rd Birthday with the theme "Blazing through the Decades" highlighting the base's active role in the nation's defense for over 68 years.

Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Columbus AFB Airmen, spouses, guests and community members gathered Sept. 10 to celebrate 63 years of Air Force history at the annual Air Force Ball held downtown at the Trotter Convention Center.

Attendees were treated to an evening of food, music, camaraderie, cake and mentoring from guest speaker Gen. Donald Hoffman, Air Force Materiel Command commander.

"For 63 years, it has been a challenge, but through that whole time, we have been the best Air Force in the world," General Hoffman said.

General Hoffman said that through the years some things change,

but while we should always be ready to embrace change, some things will never change.

"Our mission is to fly fight and win, and that will not change, no matter what domain we do it in," he said.

While guests dined or spoke with friends, they were treated to music played by members of the Air Force Band of the Reserve's, Reserve Generation band. Reserve Generation performs a mix of contemporary adult songs, rhythm and blues, jazz, and country. They also perform hits from the 60's to today's Billboard Magazine Hot 100 listing to include rock, rap, and hip-hop.

While the evening's festivities were available to entertain attendees, the reason for the ball was at the forefront of everything.

"A connection to the past, a connection to our heritage, is important," General Hoffman said.

For four consecutive years, Columbus Air Force Base has held a

ball to celebrate the birthday of the U.S. Air Force.

The Department of the Air Force was created when President Harry S Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947. It became effective Sept. 18, 1947, when Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson administered the oath of office to the first secretary of the Air Force, W. Stuart Symington, a position filled by presidential appointment.

Since then, Sept. 18 has been viewed and treated as the youngest service's "birthday."

General Hoffman said one thing has been responsible for the success of the Air Force since its inception - it's people.

He said all the best technology and weaponry in the world means nothing without quality men and women.

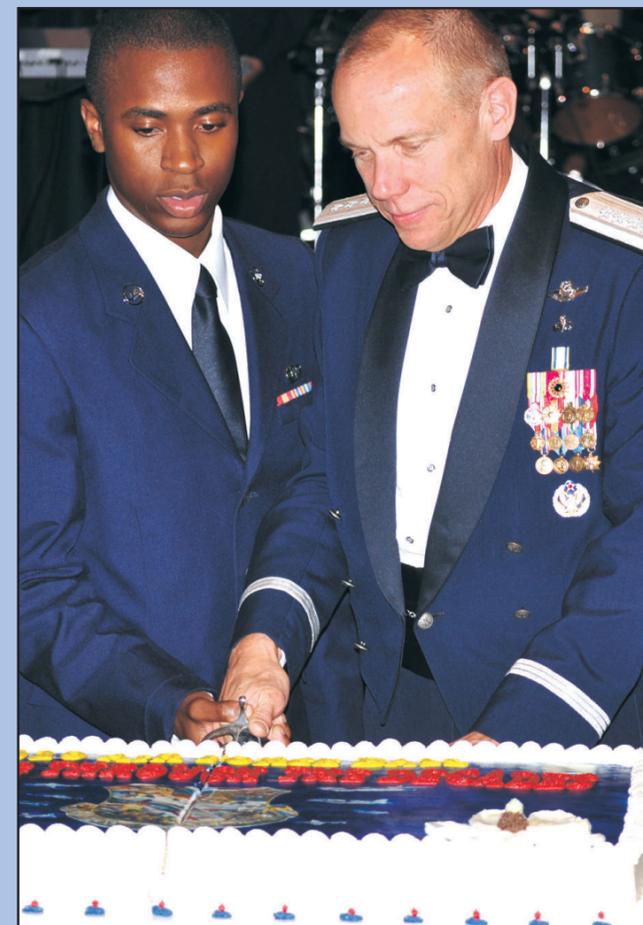
"Since day one, it has been all about leadership ... all about people," General Hoffman said. "The future is in your hands."

"Happy birthday, United States Air Force."



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin

Master Sgt. Chin Keomanila, 14th Flying Training Wing honor guard, performs the POW/MIA ceremony at the 2010 Air Force Ball at the Trotter Convention Center Sept. 10.



U.S. Air Force photo/Col. George Ross

It is tradition that the most senior ranking and junior ranking members at the Air Force Birthday Ball cut the Air Force's birthday cake together. To honor that tradition, the most junior ranking, Airman Tevin Moore and the most senior ranking, Gen. Donald Hoffman, commander Air Training and Education Command, marked the Air Force's 63rd Birthday by cutting the ceremonial cake during the event Friday Sept. 10 held in the Trotter Convention Center. To put the difference in rank into perspective when Airman Moore was on his way to his first day of kindergarten in 1996, General Hoffman was taking command of the 14th Operations Group at Columbus AFB.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin
Staff Sgt. Stephen Toussaint, Columbus AFB Honor Guard member, posts the Colors during the opening ceremonies of the Air Force Birthday Ball at the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus Sept. 10. Nearly 400 members of Team Blaze celebrated the Air Force's 63rd Birthday highlighting Columbus AFB's active role in the nation's defense for over 68 years.