

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 34, Issue 52

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Jan. 14, 2011

## Weather



**Today**

High: 47, Low: 26  
Partly cloudy



**Saturday**

High: 53, Low: 38  
Mostly Sunny



**Sunday**

High: 53, Low: 33  
Few showers



**Monday**

High: 58, Low: 44  
Showers

## News Briefs

### MLK Holiday

Most base offices will be closed Jan. 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. day

### CSC Dinner Social

The Columbus Spouses Club will hold a dinner social at the Club on Jan. 18 beginning at 6 p.m.

### Class 11-12 Track Select

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 11-12 will hold their Track Select at 5 p.m., Jan. 19 at the Columbus Club.

### Main Gate closure changed

The CAFB Main Gate will be closed Jan. 20 from 8:30 a.m. till 3 p.m. Lanes will be closed to facilitate the placement of the T-37 and T-38 static displays back on their pedestals.

## Inside



### Feature 8

Local education opportunities are highlighted in this week's feature.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Bryan Franks  
Snow falls on the Columbus Air Force Base welcome sign during a winter snow storm Jan. 9. The storm left just over three inches of snow and resulted in delayed reporting for most base members Jan. 10.

# Snow storm hits Columbus AFB; causes work delays, winter fun

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

Columbus Air Force Base and the local area were hit by a winter snow storm the evening of Jan. 9, resulting in delayed reporting the following day and an invasion – of snowmen.

Just over three inches of snow fell

throughout the evening of Jan. 9 and morning of Jan. 10, bringing with it early closures, delayed openings and a multitude of winter activities.

The record snowfall for Columbus AFB was just over 11 inches in February 1960, according to Capt. Bart Hopkins, 14th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight Commander.

Captain Hopkins said this recent

snowfall at Columbus AFB, and most others like it this time of year, are caused when warm gulf air impacts cold air coming from the north.

“It depends mostly on three things: the track of the low pressure center, the amount of cold air coming in and the moisture available,” he said.

“In deep winter, when we have strong

See SNOW, Page 2

## COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF			WING SORTIE BOARD				
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (11-12)	-0.08 days	-3.74 days	Jan. 19	48th (11-04)	4.00 days	0.38 days	Jan. 21	49th (10-DB)	0.16 days	0.08 days	Feb. 3	T-6	857	706	8,140
41st (11-13)	-3.00 days	-5.61 days	Feb. 14	50th (11-04)	-1.99 days	-3.25 days	Jan. 21					T-1	307	237	2,683
												T-38	350	214	2,670
												IFF	82	55	627

The graduation speaker is Brig. Gen. William Thornton, Director, Air Space and Information Operations, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

## SNOW

(Continued from Page 1)

cold air moving into the area, if we get a Low that moves to the south of us or along the coast, we historically will see between one and 12 inches of snow.” Captain Hopkins added. “If the Low tracks over us we just get a dusting of snow. If the Low tracks north of us, we see flurries or no snow at all, because the Low forms the boundary between the colder air mass to the north, and the warmer one to the South. The collision of different air masses gives us the snow.”

According to the National Weather Service, locations in extreme Northern Mississippi received up to 10 inches of snow between Jan. 9 and 10.

Base leadership began planning and preparing for the possibility of an unusual snow storm on Jan. 7, after receiving recommendations and weather predictions from the base weather flight.

After watching the storm make its way across the U.S., it was decided to delay reporting the morning after the snow hit till noon, in order to ensure the safe travel of base personnel.

“When we make our recommendations (on severe weather response) we are mostly looking at hazardous road conditions

and whether people can travel safely,” Captain Hopkins said. He added another consideration taken into account is whether local area schools and child care facilities will be closed in response to the weather.

The National Weather Service’s website, [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov), states that in 2009 there were 12 fatalities associated with vehicle accidents in winter storms in the U.S.

While the majority of the base spent Monday morning warm in their beds or facing the chilling weather to play in the snow, some key and essential personnel braved the cold to keep the base running smoothly.

In addition to the security forces personnel manning the snow-covered gates, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron members were clearing the roads of ice, snow and debris in order to keep travel safe on-base.

Answering the likely question most weather professionals expect – whether more snow is likely in the coming days for the base – Captain Hopkins said it’s highly unlikely such a heavy snowfall will be repeated.

“Through January, there are a couple of days with a slim chance for snow flurries, but not enough to accumulate on the ground,” he said.

## Tips for safe driving in winter

The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) offers the following safety tips for motorists:

- \* Drive according to current road and weather conditions.
- \* Please pay close attention to the roadway and don’t text while driving.
- \* Keep a safe distance between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- \* Avoid situations where you may have to brake suddenly on a slippery surface.
- \* Have tires and tire pressure checked. Tire pressure decreases in colder weather.
- \* Give yourself extra time for travel or wait until conditions improve. Also, log on to [www.MSTraffic.com](http://www.MSTraffic.com) for real-time traffic information.
- \* Tune in to your local television station for local weather reports and always keep your weather radio handy.
- \* Make sure you travel with at least half a tank of gas and have sufficient windshield washer fluid in the reservoir.

## SILVER WINGS

### How to reach us

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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.*

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
17 Martin Luther King, Jr., Day holiday, most CAFB offices closed	18 Newcomers, 8 a.m. @ AFRC  CSC Social, 6 p.m., @ Club	19 Class 11-12 Track Select, 5 p.m., @ Club  Jan. 19-22: AETC Symposium	20 Daedalian’s Dinner, 6 p.m., @ Club	21 Fun Run, 7 a.m., @ Gym  Class 11-04 Graduation, 10 a.m., @ Kaye	22/23
24 Wing Retreat, 4:30 p.m., @ Smith Plaza	25 Class 12-04 PPW, 6 p.m., @ Station 7	26	27 Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m., @ Chapel Annex	28 Quarterly Awards Ceremony, 3:30 p.m. @ Kaye	29/30 Jan 29: Proposed Saturday fly day

Long Range Events
Jan. 31: Enlisted Promotions
Feb. 3: IFF Grad
Feb. 4: BCC Luncheon
Feb. 4: 11-05 Assignment Night
Feb. 7-11: Night Flying Week
Feb. 7: Black History Month Luncheon
Feb. 8: Newcomers
Feb. 11: Annual Awards Banquet
Feb. 14: Class 11-13 Track Select
Feb. 15: CSC Social
Feb. 18: Class 11-05 Graduation

## Thornton to speak at SUPT Class 11-04 graduation

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

The Director, Air, Space and Information Operations, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, will be the guest speaker at the graduation ceremony for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 11-04 at 10 a.m. Jan. 21 at the Kaye Auditorium here.



Brig. Gen. William Thornton graduated from pilot training at Vance Air Force Base, Okla., in April 1986 after commissioning in 1985 following attendance at Northeastern University in 1984.

As Director, Air, Space and Information Operations, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, General Thornton is responsible for shaping the workforce and infrastructure for operations to test, field and sustain war-winning expeditionary capabilities.

He is also responsible for the command's test policy and resource allocation flight manage-

ment, aircraft control services, weather services, and command and control operations and plans.

He serves as the headquarters test and evaluation mission area focal point for three Air Force test organizations: Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards AFB, Calif.; Arnold Engineering Development Center, Arnold AFB, Tenn.; and Air Armament Center's 46th Test Wing, Eglin AFB, Fla.

Prior to his current assignment at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, he was commander of the 412th Test Wing, Edwards AFB, Calif.

General Thornton is a command pilot with more than 3,700 hours in the F-16, F-16, T-38 and more than 40 other aircraft.

(For more information on General Thornton, visit his official bio at [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil)).



**2nd Lt. Jacob "Jake" Breth**

**14th OSS/14th FTW/JAG**

**Job title:** Transition Officer

**Time at Columbus AFB:** Three months

**Time in Service:** Five months

**Hometown:** Wichita, Kansas

**Career goals:** Earn pilot wings / future squadron commander

**Family members:** Daniel and Conni Breth

**Favorite musician:** Corey Taylor

**Favorite movie:** Happy Gilmore

**Biggest pet peeve:** Closed-mindedness

**Favorite book:** "Eye of the Viper" by Peter Aleshire

**Inspirations:** Dad, Maj. Corey Edmonds, Cory Swords

**Personal motto:** Suffer the pain of discipline or suffer the pain of regret

## Dollars & \$ense Topic #19: 2011 POV Mileage Rates

The General Services Administration has released the CY 2011 privately owned vehicle mileage reimbursable rates, which went into effect on Jan. 1. Pursuant to the Federal Travel Regulation § 301-10.303, the following rates are:

- Privately owned automobile: \$0.51
- Privately owned motorcycle: \$0.48
- Privately owned airplane: \$1.29
- Privately owned automobile when a government owned automobile is authorized: \$0.19\*

\*This reimbursable rate is to be used for travelers who are authorized to use a government owned automobile for temporary duty travel and chooses to use a privately owned automobile instead.

NOTE: Any travel voucher created in 2010 for travel after Jan. 1 will need to be updated. To update, login to DTS and navigate to the mileage portion of the voucher. Remove the current mileage listed, and re-enter it. DTS will automatically load the new rate and recalculate appropriately.

**14th CPTS Finance Customer Service:**  
Bldg 730, first floor lobby.  
Hours of operation: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
14th CPTS Finance Customer Service e-mail: [14CPTS.FCS@columbus.af.mil](mailto:14CPTS.FCS@columbus.af.mil)  
\*\*If you are unable to come during customer service hours due to mission requirements, please call 434-2705/2095 to schedule an appointment.

## Eight receive next stripe at latest enlisted promotions ceremony



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

Congratulations to Team BLAZE's newest enlisted promotees: (front row) Senior Airman Michaela Spiegle, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; Senior Airman Matthew Spiegle, 14th MDOS; Senior Airman Rupert Martinez, 14th Security Forces Squadron; Staff Sgt. Richard Leslie, 14th SFS; (back row) Senior Airman Willie Lopez, 14th Communications Squadron; Senior Airman Tyler West, 14th Operations Support Squadron; Senior Airman Anthony Cambisi, 14th Communications Squadron; and Airman Michael Worth, 14th Contracting Squadron.

## 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.

## Foster and Adoption Opportunities

The Mississippi Department of Human Service is in need of foster and adoptive families in Lowndes Clay County. If you would like to open your heart and home to a child please contact Penny Peralto in Lowndes County at 329-1101. For adoption contact Karen Ward in Clay County at 494-8987.

## BARGAIN LINE

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

### Homes

**For sale:** Great 3/2 brick home just outside of Caledonia city limits. Open floor plan with 10 ft. ceilings throughout, wood laminate and ceramic tile flooring, gas fireplace, wood blinds, laundry room, pantry, large covered patio with ceiling fans, two-car carport and attached workshop, on circle drive. Must sell due to military move. For photos and contact information, visit [www.fsbo.com](http://www.fsbo.com), listing #138068.

**For sale/rent:** Beautiful 3/2 brick home 5 miles to front gate in Ridgeland Estates. Vaulted ceiling in living room, huge brick fireplace, dining room, laundry room, mud room, ceramic tile counter in kitchen, tiled master bath shower, two car garage, new carpet, must sell/rent due to military move. Call Jeremiah at 662-425-1531 or [www.militaryforsale.com](http://www.militaryforsale.com) #MBO172016 for photos, details.

### Miscellaneous

**For sale:** 30", 30 oz. Louisville slugger. FP Bat, brand new, \$70. Call 386-7656.

**For sale:** Kenmore refrigerator, white, 18.5 cu. ft., ice maker. Only 3.5 years old,

excellent condition. \$300 or best offer. Call 497-2540.

**For sale:** 27" RCA TV with remote \$45. 27" SAMSUNG TV without remote \$40. RCA VCR/DVD Combo \$15. Microwave \$35. Infant Car Seat (Graco) \$35. Call 570-5883.

**For sale:** 90 gal. fish tank-filters, decorations, food, etc. \$250. Call 364-7877 or 364-5424.

**For sale:** Approximately 150 foot chain link fence. Two gates, lots of posts, and all hardware included. Over \$400 new, asking \$200 or best offer. Call 434-8678.

**For sale:** Mid 90s' model High Country compound bow:31.5 draw length/55-75 lbs draw. \$50 or best offer. XBOX 360 with wireless controller, NFS: Most Wanted and Halo 2 & 3. \$100. Call 242-0160.

**For sale:** Step 2 Red Fire Truck Toddler bed fits crib mattress, \$100, excellent condition 352-1790.

**For sale:** Galaxy Popper Popcorn machine with stand, 12 Oz popping kettle, \$600 or best offer. 251-7925.

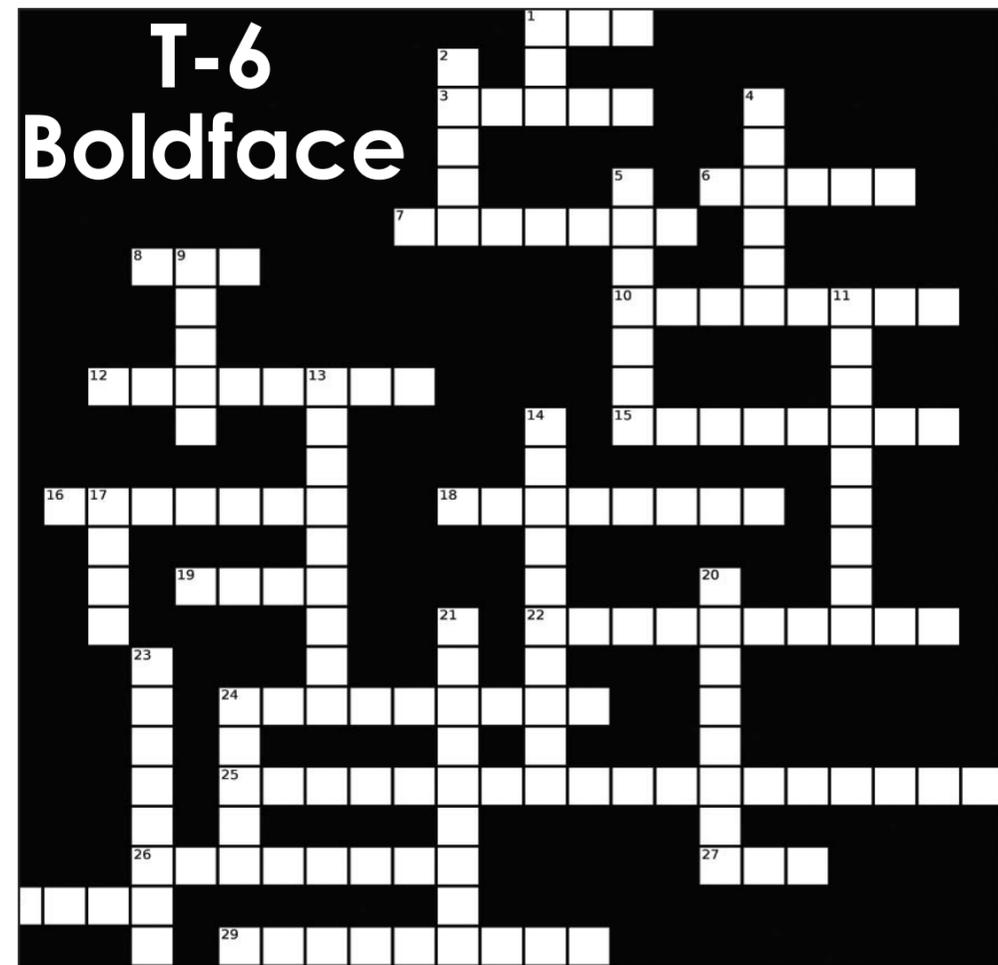
**For sale:** Cream colored dresser drawers with large mirror attachment and two night stands. \$100. Call or Text (419) 438-3345 for more details. Can text pictures.

**For sale:** Magnavox 21" Color TV with remote, great Color -\$35; Memorex 14" HD Color TV/DVD Combo - \$45, IBM Thinkpad Laptop, 1.8Ghz, P4, 60ghd, 512ram, DVD-CDRW drive, USB, Internal WiFi, Windows XP, MS Office Productivity Suite, Fingerprint Security, Very Good Cond. Asking \$245.00 Call 386-6981.

### Found Pets

**Found:** Female cat, friendly, appears to be family pet, found behind BX. Call 251-1413 or 251-1413.

## T-6 Boldface



- Across
- Uncommanded Power Changes- \_\_\_\_\_ Switch-OFF
  - Uncommanded Power Changes- Prop SYS Circuit Breaker-Pull, if Np \_\_\_\_\_ 40%
  - OBOGS Inoperative- \_\_\_\_\_ Ring-Pull(as required)
  - Inadvertant Departure From Controlled Flight- Controls- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Winds- Max Crosswinds for \_\_\_\_\_ Runway 10 Knots
  - Prohibited Maneuvers- \_\_\_\_\_ Stalls and Spins
  - Fuel- Normal \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel 200 Pounds
  - Uncommanded Power Changes- PCL- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Immediate Airstart- \_\_\_\_\_ Switch - Auto/Reset
  - Engine Failure Immediately After Takeoff- 110 Knots(Max)
  - Immediate Airstart- PCL- \_\_\_\_\_, above 13% N1
  - Prohibited Maneuvers- \_\_\_\_\_-spins past two turns
  - Acceleration Limitations- Gear/Flaps 0 to +2.0 Gs
  - Pressurization- \_\_\_\_\_ Valve Opens 4.0 PSI
  - Inadvertant Departure From Controlled Flight- \_\_\_\_\_-Check
  - Winds- Max Crosswinds for \_\_\_\_\_ Runway 25 Knots
  - Emergency Engine Shutdown on the Ground- Firewall shutoff handle - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Acceleration Limitations- \_\_\_\_\_ Clean -3.5 to +7.0 Gs

- Down
- Emergency Engine Shutdown on the Ground- \_\_\_\_\_ is set to OFF
  - Intentional Spin Entry- Minimum Cloud clearance 7,000 Feet \_\_\_\_\_ clouds
  - Engine- \_\_\_\_\_ above 102 is indicative of a system malfunction
  - Starting- \_\_\_\_\_ Oil Pressure 200 PSI
  - "Ejection Handle-Pull" is the BF for \_\_\_\_\_
  - Engine- \_\_\_\_\_ 106 to 110
  - Fuel- \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel 100 Pounds
  - Engine- \_\_\_\_\_/Spins 40 to 130 PSI
  - Prohibited Maneuvers- \_\_\_\_\_ slides
  - Winds- Max \_\_\_\_\_ Component for Takeoff 10 Knots
  - Engine Failure During Flight- \_\_\_\_\_ ELP
  - Fire in Flight- \_\_\_\_\_ Shutoff Handle-Pull
  - "PCL-Idle/Brakes-As required" is BF for \_\_\_\_\_

Visit [www.Columbus.af.mil](http://www.Columbus.af.mil) for past issues of Silverwings, contact information for CAFB offices and much more!



Visit [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil) to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.



## Base News

### CSC Cosmic Bowling night

Come join the Columbus Spouse's Club at the Strike Zone Lanes Jan. 27 for Cosmic Bowling. The CSC will pay for shoe rental and one game of bowling for each member and their guests. Food and drinks can be purchased from the Strike Zone Snack Bar. The Ways and Means table will be there so look forward to picking up some great items after the holidays and winning some cool door prizes. Drop in any time between 6-9 p.m. to eat, bowl, meet new faces, reconnect after the holidays and learn more about the Columbus Spouses' Club. For questions, please contact Rosie Rausch, CSC Social Chair, 910-603-7659 or at rosierausch@hotmail.com.

### DBIDs Registration

Registration for the Defense Biometric Identification System, a new gate access system, is currently ongoing for Common Access Card holders as well as dependants and retirees. Please visit the Military Personnel Flight, Visitors Center or the Operations Group building to complete the mandatory registration.

### Landing at Columbus tenant eligibility

The Landings at Columbus has entered into the category C of the Waterfall which makes the following groups eligible to live in base housing:

1. All Active Duty Members including single and unaccompanied members
2. Federal Civil Service Employees and their families
3. Retired Uniformed Services member and their families
4. Retired Civil Service Employees and their families
5. Permanent Employees of DOD Contractors

The aforementioned tenants would qualify to live in our newly renovated Capitol Village. The homes range in size from three bedrooms to six bedrooms with 1-2 bathrooms all with a one car garage.

### CSC Scholarships for High School Seniors and Spouses of CAFB Employees

The Columbus Spouses' Club (CSC) is offering scholarships to graduating high school seniors and continuing education students. Each applicant must be a dependent of an active duty, retired, MIA, active duty reservist, deceased military member, or employee associated with Columbus AFB. Applications can be obtained at the Columbus AFB Education Center, CAFB Library, CAFB Airman & Family Readiness

Center, CAFB School Liaison Office, CAFB Housing Office, high school guidance offices, or collegiate financial aid and VA offices. The application Deadline is March 1 (postmarked). For more information please contact: Perla Hopkins, Scholarship Chair, 356-4611 or Sarah Ayers, CSC 2nd Vice President, (585) 503-5925 or email us at: CSCCAFB@gmail.com.

### Information Protection Moved

The 14th FTW Information Protection Office has moved to building 926 Room 125. Anyone requiring fingerprints, security manager training, safe custodian training, e-QIP/SIF/JPAS training, classified briefing or secure room information, ISAG information or security clearance final processing, please call Master Sgt. Pender at 434-2603 or Senior Airman Rosero at 434-2413 to schedule an appointment.

### 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.

### 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 434-7231 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.

### Attention Supply Customer

If you are looking for that special piece of equipment or furniture for your office, your point of contact is the Inspection Section of Base Supply. Inspection maintains the Last Look Area, which has used equipment and furniture turned in from other organizations. All items in the Last Look Area are available without charge to your organization. For more information, contact 434-7233 or 434-7234.

### 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.

## 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.)*

### 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.

### Budgeting Basics

Every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to noon. Learn practical ways to tell your money where to go rather than wonder where it went.

### Relocation assistance

Weekly workshop on programs, services and resources available through the Airman & Family Readiness Center held every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the

AFRC. Topics of discussion include preparing for a move, environment/cultural issues or needs, adaptation and community awareness.

### Employment Workshop

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

### Spouse welcome

For new personnel assigned to CAFB held every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Magnolia Inn lobby. Local information is presented.

### Hearts Apart

Hearts Apart social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel. Jan. 11, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Information, refreshments, and prizes. Advance registration required.

### Newcomers Orientation

For newly arrived AD and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Jan. 18, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Chapel Schedule

### 2011 Pioneer Clubs Program

Pioneer Clubs meets every Wednesday evening 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. This program is open to children ages three years through seventh grade. All are invited to attend. 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. For more information, contact Ms. Ida Hall, 434-2500.

### 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.

### Wednesday Night Chef Advertisement

The Chapel is looking for a chef for their Wednesday night events. A demonstration of skills will be required. Bid documents may be obtained from the Chapel front office personnel. POC is Senior Airman Melissa Free at 434-2500. Bids, resumes and other documents may be submitted to chapel front office personnel. POC is Capt, Ch, Jason Raines at 434-2500. Submission and demonstration due

date is no later than close of business Jan. 10. Individual will be selected based on "best value" to the government. Background checks will be required as this position will require contractor to work with children below the age of 18, as directed by DoDI 1402, Criminal History Background Checks on Individuals in Child Care Services.

### Chapel Schedule

**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**  
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 third Sunday of the month except Lent and Advent. Call (808) 271-4882 for more information.

# Secretary Gates outlines 'Don't Ask' repeal process

**Cheryl Pellerin**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates Jan. 6 described the Pentagon's three-step process for preparing to allow gays to serve openly in the military services.

At a Pentagon news conference with Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Secretary Gates updated reporters on the department's plan for implementing repeal of the so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, which has been in effect since 1993 and remains in effect until the process is complete.

"Our goal here is to move as quickly, but as responsibly, as possible," Secretary Gates said. "I see this as a three-step process. The first is to finalize changes in regulations (and) policies (and) get clearer definition on benefits."

The second phase is to prepare training materials for use by personnel specialists, chaplains, commanders and other leaders, and those who are in daily contact with service members, he said.

The third phase, the secretary explained, is the actual training for service members.

"We're trying to get the first two phases of that process done as quickly as possible," he said. "My hope is that it can be done within a matter of a very few weeks, so that we can then move on to what is the real challenge, which is providing training to 2.2 million people."

The House of Representatives passed legislation in May that called for the president, defense secretary and Joint Chiefs chairman to certify the implementation plan before the repeal takes effect.

On Nov. 30, 2010, Pentagon officials released the report of a working group that reviewed issues associated with a potential repeal. On Dec. 18, the Senate voted 65-31 for repeal, and President Barack Obama signed the legislation into law Dec. 22.

Secretary Gates said Clifford L. Stanley, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, is leading the



DOD photo/Air Force Master Sgt. Jerry Morrison  
**Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates makes a point during a Jan. 6, 2011, Pentagon news conference with Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.**

effort.

"I have asked Undersecretary Stanley to accelerate the first two phases of this process as much as he possibly can so that we can get on with the training process," the secretary said.

Admiral Mullen said the legislation specifies that the repeal will take effect only after he, Secretary Gates and President Obama certify that new policies and implementing

regulations are consistent with standards of military readiness, effectiveness, unit cohesion and retention.

"From my perspective," the chairman said, now is not the time to 'come out,' if you will," noting that even after the required certification takes place, the present law will remain in effect for 60 more days. "We'll get through this. We'll do it deliberately. We certainly are focused on this, and we won't dawdle."

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**By following Columbus\_AFB on Twitter, you can keep up with weather warnings, special events and important CAFB information. You can even receive text messages and e-mails letting you know when we post something! Visit [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and search for Columbus\_AFB to start.**

# Air Force Global Strike Command gets new top leader

**Maja Stevanovich**  
Air Force Global Strike Command  
Public Affairs

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. — Lt. Gen. James Kowalski assumed command of Air Force Global Strike Command here Jan. 6, becoming the second commander of the organization. As such, he is responsible for all of the nation's ICBMs and nuclear-capable bombers.

Presiding over the ceremony, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz said General Kowalski, who commanded Global Strike Command when it was a provisional unit, has "done remarkable work from the earliest days of Air Force Global Strike Command and he is poised for success."

"I have complete confidence that he'll perform well," General Schwartz said.

In Barksdale's historic Hoban Hall, General Kowalski addressed the crowd which included a military formation led by the commanders of 8th Air Force, 20th Air Force and all six of the command's wing commanders. Also gathered were hundreds of Airmen and distinguished military and civilian leaders from North Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Missouri, Louisiana and throughout the Air Force.

"From our deployed Airmen who stand ready in the AOR, to our Airmen who stand ready in the missile fields, to our Airmen who stand ready to fly, fix, fuel, (and) arm B-2 (Spirit) and B-52 (Stratofortress) bombers, this command is 23,000 American Airmen and civilians, committed to the defense of our nation," General Kowalski said. "To those warriors, I pledge to stand ready with you, and to give you the best leadership, guidance and example I possibly can."

The new commander highlighted three challenges for Global Strike Command.

The first challenge, the general said, is to consolidate the gains across the nuclear enterprise and complete the restoration of a culture that embraces "the special trust and responsibility of nuclear weapons."

Second, he said, "We have to be agile enough to maintain an intense focus on our nuclear deterrence mission while also aggressively supporting the current conventional fight."

Third, General Kowalski said, "We must be innovative so we can sustain and enhance our current force while preparing to meet the challenges of the future."

As the crowd departed and walked outside, a crew from Barksdale's 2nd Bomb Wing piloted a B-52 in a flyover, in honor of the occasion.

General Kowalski comes to the top position after serving as the command's vice commander since the organization's activation Aug. 7, 2009. He was promoted to his three-star rank in a ceremony about an hour before the change of command.



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Corey Clements  
**Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz passes the Air Force Global Strike Command guidon to Lt. Gen. James Kowalski Jan. 6, 2011, at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., as General Kowalski assumed command, becoming responsible for organizing, training and equipping all U.S. ICBM and nuclear-capable bomber forces. Command Chief Master Sgt. Jack Johnson serves in his role as guidon bearer.**

# Defense official outlines pay freeze details

**Karen Parrish**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Department civilian employees affected by the federal pay freeze for 2011 and 2012 will still have the opportunity to receive performance awards, promotions and normal longevity increases, a senior defense official said.

Pasquale M. Tamburrino Jr., the deputy under secretary of defense for civilian personnel policy, said senior leaders are working to ensure that employees are treated fairly during the freeze.

"We value the contributions of our career federal employees, and we value their service to the nation," he said. "Nothing has changed there."

From the time the pay freeze was announced, the emphasis has been on ensuring all federal employees receive equal treatment, he said.

"Whether you're the most junior civil servant on the first day of the job or you're a member of the executive leadership team, it applies to you," he said.

Defense leaders, he noted, have been "very clear" in directing that the freeze should affect all employees equally.

"Not everything is covered by statute," Mr. Tamburrino said, noting that heads of agencies have some administrative discretion in some dimensions of pay.

Guidance on the pay freeze instructs agency heads to manage administrative privileges the same way the president treated general pay increases in the executive order, he said.

"You should not use that privilege to grant a pay raise," he said.

Mr. Tamburrino said he encourages managers to use the tools that always have been available to them, and still are, to reward employees.

"When it's appropriate, you give somebody a performance award," he said. "If you tell them the organization has five or six goals, and they do a lot of heavy lifting to help you get to those goals, then I think you should sit down as a leader and say, 'We have to recognize that.'"

Most employees, he said, want three things: clear guidance on the management team's priorities, the tools and resources necessary to complete their work, and coaching and feedback.

"Financial compensation is important because it is; we all have financial obligations that have to be satisfied," he said. "But what's really important as well is (that) you want to tell your employees, 'You're doing a really fine job.'"

President Barack Obama announced his intent for a two-year pay freeze for federal civilian workers Nov. 29. Congress approved the proposal, and President Obama signed it into law Dec. 22.

Officials at the Office of Personnel Management issued a memorandum Dec. 30 to heads of executive departments and agencies, detailing how the freeze applies to the federal work force in accordance with existing law and presidential guidance. Defense Department officials issued guidance in line with OPM's the same day.

"It's a response to the difficulties the country is facing, and I think what's really good about it is (that) it's universal," Mr. Tamburrino said. "You have to have a very clear understanding of what's in and what's out, because that's what affects employees."

# Health plan to remain free for troops, officials emphasize

**Donna Miles**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Though Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates seeks modest premium increases for working-age military retirees who use the TRICARE Prime health plan, the benefit will remain free to service members, defense officials emphasized Jan. 7.

Secretary Gates unveiled sweeping, cost-cutting initiatives Jan. 6, including a recommendation to increase TRICARE Prime premiums for working-age retirees in fiscal 2012, the first increase in the plan's 15-year history.

"For some time, I've spoken about the department's unaffordable health costs, and in particular the benefits provided to working-age retirees under the TRICARE program," he said.

"Many of these beneficiaries are

employed full-time while receiving their full pensions, and often forego their employers' health plan to remain with TRICARE," he said. "This should not come as a surprise, given that the current TRICARE enrollment fee was set in 1995 at \$460 a year for the basic family plan, and has not been raised since."

Secretary Gates noted the dramatic increase in insurance premiums during that period for private-sector and other government employees. Federal workers pay roughly \$5,000 a year for a comparable health insurance program, he said.

"Accordingly, with the fiscal year 2012 budget, we will propose reforms in the area of military health care to better manage medical cost growth and better align the department with the rest of the country," Secretary Gates said. "These will include initiatives to become more efficient, as well as modest increases to TRICARE fees for ...

working-age retirees, with fees indexed to adjust for medical inflation."

These initiatives could save the department as much as \$7 billion over the next five years, he said.

Military retirees automatically are enrolled in one of two TRICARE plans, program spokesman Austin Camacho explained. Retirees who join TRICARE Prime, the system's managed-care option that covers active-duty members, pay an annual enrollment fee of \$230 per year for an individual, or \$460 for a family. Those in TRICARE Standard, a fee-for-service plan, pay no enrollment fee or premium. Instead, they pay a yearly deductible of \$150 per person or \$300 per family, as well as co-payments or cost shares for inpatient and outpatient care and medications, up to a \$3,000 annual cap on out-of-pocket expenses.

Military retirees aren't required to report whether they have jobs that offer insurance

The freeze covers what have traditionally been known as general pay increases, he said, which normally take effect each January and consist of a combination of base pay and locality pay increases for most civilian employees.

Federal civilian pay increased an average of 3.5 percent in 2008, 3.9 percent in 2009, and 2 percent in 2010, according to government figures.

"The president determined, based on the state of the economy, that those pay raises that are statutory in nature should not be granted (during the two-year freeze)," Mr. Tamburrino said.

According to the OPM guidance, the freeze, which extends through Dec. 31, 2012, affects some 2 million federal civilian employees in most pay systems: general schedule, executive schedule, senior executive service, senior foreign service, senior-level and scientific, and professional. Postal employees and military service members are not affected by the freeze.

However, OPM officials said, the pay freeze policy may not apply to any increase that is required by a collective bargaining agreement that has already been executed.

Except for minor instances in Alaska, Hawaii and other nonforeign areas, locality pay also is frozen, Mr. Tamburrino said.

"I think everybody recognizes (the pay freeze) was a really difficult decision," he said. "I think we did a tremendous job in issuing some very clear guidance, and I think the leadership of the Department of Defense did a really good job in making it very level and even across the department."

plans, Mr. Camacho said, noting that having other insurance does not take them off the TRICARE rolls. Rather, he explained, TRICARE becomes the "second payer" for health care, picking up co-payments and deductibles from the primary insurance plan.

Meanwhile, the senior TRICARE officer said the system is poised to support Secretary Gates' new efficiency measures and already is making progress as it strives to provide the best health care at the best cost.

"All of these things help us work together to help us achieve the secretary's goals, and we are already starting to make progress," Navy Rear Adm. (Dr.) Christine S. Hunter said. "We need to be very aware that there is a pressure (to improve efficiency and control costs) and the resources are not infinite. But we are all part of the solution."

# Base families offered a variety of activities

## Mommie and me crafts classes

Stop by the Arts and Crafts Center to check out the display of upcoming projects for both youth and adult. Classes are held Thursdays at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 434-7836.

## 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.

## Youth Center sponsorship program

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

## Casino trip

Register at outdoor recreation for this monthly trip the first Friday of every month to the Silver Star and Golden Moon casinos. Cost is \$25 and includes transportation and \$25 in player money. Bus leaves at 5:30 p.m. from the BX parking lot and returns at 1 a.m. For more information, call 434-2507.

# Knowledge, education key to success

**Command Chief Master Sgt. Zefrem Smith**  
14th Flying Training Wing



Have you ever stopped to think about the price of learning? Technical training in the civilian world can be expensive.

Civilian trade schools can cost in upwards of \$35,000. In our Air Force, learning is your job, so your education is free.

Men and women who enlist in the AF today immediately begin receiving a pay check, with benefits, to the tune of about \$2,400 a month. It is the essential framework of our success in the Air Force.

We are afforded a variety of unique and specialized programs geared to help each Airman meet their targeted educational goals and reach their true potential. From exclusive colleges and universities to technical training and firsthand experiences, you'll be able to enhance your education throughout your military career.

There is also the Airman Scholarship and Commissioning Program which almost mirrors AECF with a couple of exceptions. You are released from active duty and placed in the AF Reserves with scholarships available for two and four year. Airmen with "some" or "no" college credits may apply and you can use your Montgomery GI Bill benefits as well.

Leaders Encouraging Airman Development is another great program that allows commanders to seek out outstanding and deserving qualified Airmen for appointment to the AF Academy and AFROTC scholarship programs.

There is also the Academy Preparatory School, also known as the "Prep School." It is designed to academically, physically and mentally prepare qualified young men and women to enter the USAF Academy. One of our very own Team BLAZE enlisted members was selected and recently graduated the Prep School.

There are several others ECPs our education office can provide you information and if you qualify. So, enlisted commissioning programs can be considered another source of meeting your targeted educational goals. In case you didn't know; Enlisted Commissioned Programs are alive and well in our AF too. Here are a few I'd like to highlight for you. The Airman Education & Commissioning Program allows members to remain on active duty and subsequently reassigned to an AFROTC

detachment. There, you go to school "full time" as your job, receive tuition and scholarship fees for up to \$15,000 per year. Additionally, you may attend for up to three years.

What a great tool to use as a recruiting talking point. We are all recruiters you know! As you can see, there are several programs designed and tailored to meet your targeted educational goals. Whether it is enrolling in and completing your CCAF degree, pursuing higher learning through the various enlisted commissioning programs, using the various "pots of money" you have earned by raising your hand to support and defend this great country or finally, using educational tools to recruit our countries most important treasure; "her sons and daughters" through avenues like the college loan repayment program.

We have a duty and responsibility to strive for excellence in everything we do. Education is no exception. It is definitely to your advantage to complete it early in your career. As job responsibilities increase, you take on a family or current family grows and time just becomes less available, getting it knocked out early pays huge dividends. I leave you with one of the challenges all Airmen have been given by Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Jim Roy;

"It is our duty to deliberately develop ourselves and our Airmen through the channels of experience, education and training."

Education is power! Continue to pursue it whenever and wherever you can.

This biblical scripture holds true for all; "...people perish for lack of knowledge!"

ly no out-of-pocket cost, minus books at some institutions. TA pays 100 percent (up to \$250 per semester hour or equivalent) of the cost of college tuition with a \$4500 cap per fiscal year. Courses and degrees may be academic or technical.

The Post-9/11 and Montgomery GI Bill are pretty common programs, but have you ever heard of the College Loan Repayment Program? It is designed for all non-prior-service persons considering enlistment in the AF. If they have taken college courses and accumulated debt along the way, this program may be beneficial to them. The member can sign up when signing their enlistment contract.

That was my introduction to the CSA program. Over the next several weeks I saw the benefits of the new cash advance cards that will replace the GTC.

At base level the biggest benefits offered by the CSA are manpower savings and increased rebates.

CSA has no reports, only account listings. For me, this saved about 12-20 hours per week.

When we disbursed cash to complete mission requirements prior to the GTC, we didn't spend hours tracking cash advance abuses. We just wanted our Airmen to travel, complete the mission and return home safely. The CSA is a modernized version of that cash advance system.

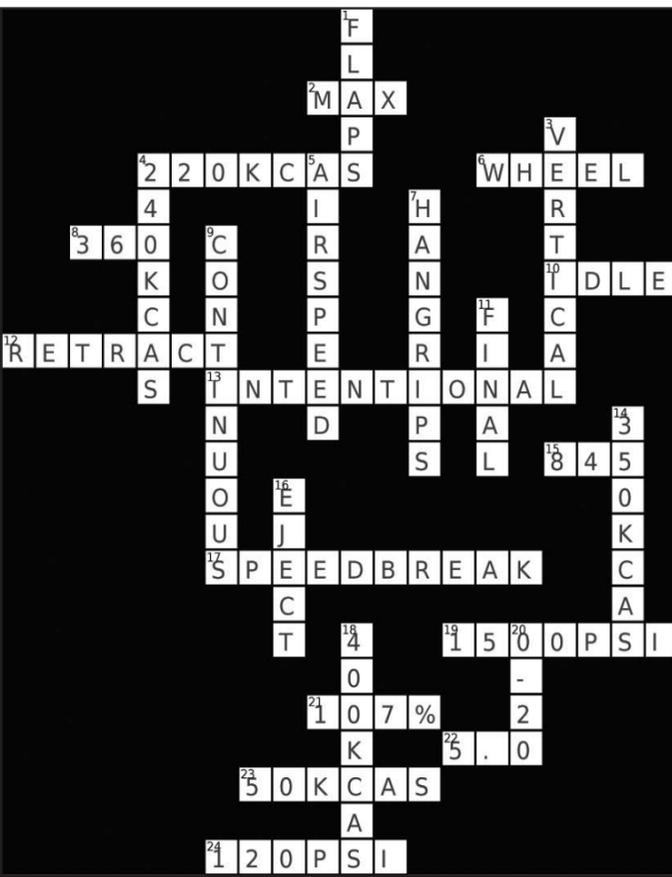
The card's controlled spending limits are based on the approved travel order estimates. This cash amount is uploaded to the card electronically and is visible to both the financial manager and the customer. Because we don't monitor how the traveler spends the allotted money, there's no need to run reports to track misuses. To clarify, the card should still only be used for official travel expenses, but should be used for all travel expenses.

Additionally, delinquencies are extremely limited by the controlled spend capability and Citibank manages the few instances when overspending does occur. Our responsibility is to ensure travelers are using the card for all expenses, so major commands and wings can recapitalize rebate dollars for mission requirements. The CSA significantly reduces administrative tasks and increases MAJCOM and wing-level rebates, but its greatest benefits — more control and freedom — are passed on to our customers.

Better for customer The CSA program provides the customer the ability to call and establish a temporary spend limit to meet changes in the mission. An e-mail is generated to the approving official as a notification of change, but the traveler can complete the mission with no hiccups. The card also provides more freedom to cardholders. With the CSA program, customers no longer need to worry about using the card for the wrong thing; instead, they can focus on managing allocated funds to complete the mission.

Additionally, funds saved or earned while traveling can be used in several ways after the temporary duty is over. Customers may choose to transfer the unused funds to other personal accounts or continue using the card until the allocated funds are spent. At the base level, the new card offers many benefits to both our customers and our financial managers. As the program expands to other bases, sharing our lessons learned will help facilitate smooth transitions as CSA is implemented across the Air Force.

# Last week's answer



# AETC commander connects through Twitter

**Lt. Col Sean McKenna**  
Air Education and Training Command  
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The commander of Air Education and Training Command has taken to the micro-blog site Twitter to more effectively reach those interested in hearing what he has to say.

Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr. "tweets" via the username "AETCBoss" on the popular social media site. His aim is to reach a wide variety of audiences, including AETC Airmen, civic and government leaders, as well as senior defense officials. The general's messages center on command priorities and activities, personal experiences, and historical lessons.

General Rice is one of a handful of senior Air Force officials who have delved into the social media arena. He said he sees the medium as a vital tool that meets the command's philosophy of applying innovation and leveraging technology to improve the Air Force's capabilities.

"Social media sites play an important role in connecting the world," General Rice said. "There are millions of people connected every day through these sites, so I feel it's critical for AETC to have a voice in that discourse. It's a primary communication tool for our Airmen and I want to engage with them in a format they feel most comfortable with."

Those interested in signing up to receive General Rice's tweets can follow him using the AETCBoss Twitter page at [www.twitter.com/aetcboss](http://www.twitter.com/aetcboss).



## 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 81 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

# Enlisted education benefits

## College education opportunities for military members



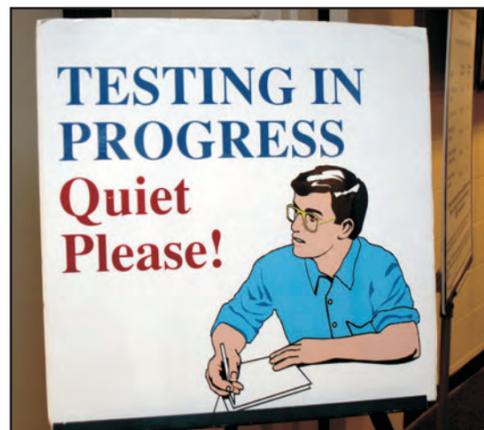
U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick

Senior Airmen Erin Leon, 14th Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, listens during a class held Jan. 12 at the education center. Airman Leon said that she is particularly impressed with the wide range of classes offered on base.



U.S. Air Force photo

The Education Services Center offers advice and assistance with numerous degree seeking programs and college-level tests.



U.S. Air Force photo

The Education Services Center offers numerous testing options to help Airmen supplement their education, including CLEP, DANTES and Excelsior college-level examinations.

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

To many people college education has traditionally been thought of as a full time endeavor at a fixed location, something not readily available to military members with jobs and unexpected moves.

However opportunities to improve academically while maintaining military responsibilities abound for those in the Air Force who seek to excel.

Every member of the Air Force who has received their first duty assignment is already on their way towards their degree, said Edward Hodge, 14th Flying Training Wing chief of education and training sections.

Upon completing many types of military education such as basic training, technical school, and many other types of professional military education college credits are automatically added with the Community College of the Air Force.

Undergraduate level credit hours can also be added towards a degree without taking any classes at all.

"In lieu of taking a course military members can take college level exams that if they pass can obtain college credits to the CCAF or civilian colleges," Mr. Hodge.

He continued that the education center offers 71 test titles covering a variety of subjects including math, social sciences, and humanities that are all free for military members the first time the each test is taken.

"One great thing about being in the Air Force is that you often find colleges that operate on base," said Mr. Hodge. "Here at Columbus (AFB) we have three colleges that offer classes on base. Embry Riddle

Aeronautical University, Saint Leo University, and East Mississippi Community College."

Mr. Hodge said that classes on base are sometimes available outside of normal duty hours for those who work during the day, and some ambitious students combine their lunch breaks with a short class.

For Airmen who work shifting hours and may not be able to consistently attend classes at a specific time, Mr. Hodge suggested online courses which can be as flexible as the Airman needs them to be.

Mr. Hodge said that in addition to scheduling flexibility, online courses also provide a greater range of flexibility with location. This allows Airmen who become or are on temporary duty or deployed to continue their classes as they fulfill their military duties.

"I have been in education services since 2001, and have never found somebody who has not been able to take college courses because of their Air Force job," said Mr. Hodge.

Aside from personal development, new doors can be opened by completing degrees and learning new things. Mr. Hodge noted that for enlisted promotions to senior master sergeant and chief master sergeant requires a CCAF degree, and a bachelor's degree can open up commissioning opportunities. Assignments under heavy competition sometimes also are decided by a service member's degree.

"When applying for some special duty assignments such as First Sergeant duty or professional military education teaching assignments having your associate's degree, CCAF degree or being within 12 months of getting your CCAF degree is strongly suggested," explained Staff Sergeant Latrice Harris, 14th Force Support Squadron NCOIC of career management.

# SLO helps parents navigate local area education

## What can SLO do for you?

Parents often want to make sure their children have the best education they can get, and with some of the challenges and opportunities that come with military life finding the best options can become all too confusing. That's where the School Liaison Officer comes in.

SLOs can be found at several bases, and are a great resource for helping parents find the schooling opportunities they want for their children, from kindergarten through high school.

The School Liaison Officer for Columbus Air Force Base is Mr. E.J. Griffis, who works with the wing commander and the local school system. Mr. Griffis defines the majority of his job with three basic duties:

- Primary Advisor to the Wing Commander for all issues related to the education of dependent children.
- Providing Family Support in promoting and improving the educational environment of children.
- Promoting Communication and Partnerships by emphasizing communication, awareness and partnership between the schools, military organizations and parents.

Through the CAFB School Liaison Office social media Mr. Griffis gives updates on school closings and delays, information on special educational events in the local area, and links to new articles concerning schools to keep parents informed and aware of the best options available for their children.

There have been many initiatives between the SLOs and wing commanders at CAFB including school district choices for on-base children, five new magnet schools, and the Education Task Force.

The local school systems also work to support the SLOs efforts. Jan. 13 Col. Barre Seguin, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, and Mr. Griffis received a tour of the new Columbus Middle School just off base, and were similarly impressed. After seeing the new \$19 million dollar building Mr. Griffis had one thing to say, "Wow."

School Liaison Officer contact information:  
14 MSG/CCL  
495 Harpe Blvd  
Building 730, Suite 174A  
Columbus Air Force Base, MS 39710  
Commercial: 434-2792  
Cell: 352-6456  
DSN: 742-2792  
FAX: 434-3461  
email: slo@columbus.af.mil  
Website: www.GriffisWeb.net



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

Col. Barre Seguin, 14th FTW commander, speaks with Dr. Del Phillips, Columbus Municipal School District Superintendent, Col. Ken Bryson, 14th MSG commander, and E.J. Griffis, 14th FTW school liaison officer, Jan. 13 inside the cafeteria of the newly constructed Columbus Middle School on Highway 373 outside Columbus AFB. The new school will begin housing students Jan. 19 and is estimated to have just over 1,000 students attending it this year.



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

Col. Barre Seguin, 14th FTW commander, takes a turn at writing on one of the new Columbus Middle School's "smart boards" Jan. 13 during a tour of the facility. Each classroom in the newly constructed facility houses one of these interactive boards that allow teachers a multitude of innovative tools to instruct with.



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

Lori Cargile demonstrates a variety of the capabilities a "smart board" offers teachers while Col. Barre Seguin, 14th FTW commander, watches during a tour of the new Columbus Middle School Jan. 13. Ms. Cargile is the academic coach and International Baccalaureate coordinator for Columbus High School.