

Commander's Action Line 434-7058

The Commander's Action Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB a better place. Although the Commander's Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command.

The Commander's Action Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Message may be answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the PA office in the MSG building, Bldg. 730, suite 186. Questions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.

BLAZE

(Continued from Page 1)

something the entire wing could relate to.

"When I started thinking about core values, I started thinking about building leaders. You know we really already have something that encapsulates all of that and that is BLAZE," said Colonel Seguin. "We were talking with young Airmen both officers and enlisted and I felt like we needed to re-energize BLAZE."

Colonel Seguin said that the return to core values was in part due to concerns from all levels of leadership within Air Education and Training Command about discipline and compliance within the command. He said that while the concerns primarily were due to a flying aspect, the entire team should be built up in those aspects.

"All of these incidences that occurred throughout the command would not have occurred if the Airman involved had stepped back and been the embodiment of our core values. So getting back to an emphasis on core values was very important to me, and that was all there in BLAZE," he said "So I've elected to keep BLAZE, and as the wing moves forward I want to get back to BLAZE. I want to get

back to our Airmen. You all know our mission now, you can all tell me what our mission is and I'm very proud of that."

Looking forward, Colonel Seguin encouraged Team BLAZE to focus on what that means to them.

"Now I want you all to know BLAZE and at all levels I want you all level thinking about how we get back to BLAZE so we don't just make this a hollow slogan," said Colonel Seguin.

Groups then moved to hanger three due to the weather that had moved into the area to see some of the safety programs and sound yet exciting opportunities in the local area.

Representatives from the Mississippi Sports Car Club Association, Core of Engineers, and the Mississippi state highway patrol brought in activities and take-aways to help keep safety at the forefront of Team BLAZE's mind as they continued throughout the day. Safety programs from on base including the dental clinic and public health brought informational papers, presentations and free safety equipment as well.

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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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.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
23	24	25	26	27	28/29
Night Flying Week	CCAF Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Club		APAH Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. @ Club Memorial Retreat Ceremony, 4 p.m. @ Smith Plaza	11-10 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club	
30	31	1	2	3	4/5
Memorial Day	Enlisted promotions, 4 p.m. @ Club		Caring for People Forum, 10 a.m. @ Club	Boy Scouts Flag Retirement Ceremony, 6 p.m. @ SAC Lake	June 4: BLT Offsite D-Day Banquet, 6:30 p.m. @ Ritz

Long Range Events

June 6: Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. @ Chapel

June 8: 12-03 Track Select, 5 p.m. @ Club

June 10: 11-10 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye

June 11: Super Sonic Golf Tournament, 8 a.m. @ Golf Course

June 13: SFS CoC, 2 p.m. @ Club

June 13: IFF Graduation, 4:49 @ 49th

June 14: MDG CoC, 1 p.m. @ Club

June 17: Class 11-11 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 76 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



Track Select

12-02

Wesley Baranowski	T-44
Jonathan Benson	T-1
Thomas Bernard,	T-44
Thomas Braxton	T-1
Clinton Brdlik	T-1
James Bull	T-1
David Carriere	UH-1
James Cruz	T-1
Ian D'Amico	T-1
Cody Dean	T-1
Kevin Elardo	T-1
David Garcia	T-38
Michael Gargano	T-1
Peter Guzowski	T-44
Daniel Hann	T-38
Zachary Huppert	T-38
Andrew Konopacky	T-1
John Moore	T-1
Joseph Philip	T-1
Brian Ray	T-1
Jonathan Renner	T-38
Clarke Sumerel	T-38
Robert Tentler	T-1
Vanessa Warwick	T-38

T-6 Top Guns

Contact: Wesley Baranowski
Instrument: Ian D'Amico
Formation: Robert Tentler

Dubisher Award
 Wesley Baranowski

Name added to Memorial Wall



US Air Force Photo by Sonic Johnson
Columbus AFB Historian Dr. Doris Crusoe guides Jimmy Hall of Columbus Marble Works as he prepares to add a name to the Wing Memorial Wall at Smith Plaza May 18. All wing members are invited to attend the Wing's Memorial Day Ceremony at Smith Plaza on Thursday, May 26, at 4 p.m. when Captain Jeff Hill's, class 04-11, name will be officially added to the wall.

What Does FPCON BRAVO Mean to You?

2nd Lt. Sarah Greco
 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Base members are seeing orange everywhere on Columbus Air Force Base . . . orange cones in fact. This "decoration" addition is due to the elevation in Force Protection Condition from Alpha to Bravo. So what does this change mean to you, as a member of Team BLAZE?

Since May 1, all United States military installations were directed by United States Northern Command to go to FPCON Bravo for general increased threat and will remain so until USNORTHCOM rescinds the order.

FPCON Bravo is the force protection condition that describes a situation with a somewhat predictable terrorist threat. This does not mean that a terrorist act will happen, but all military installations should make proper preparations to ensure the security of the base.

There are certain aspects of FPCON Bravo that should be recognized by base members and passed on to their family.

The security at both gates is heightened. This includes 100 percent ID checks for all vehicle occupants over the age of 16 and more frequent random vehicle searches. All non-government vehicles must be parked at least 75 feet from any building. This can be indicated by many of the orange traffic cones that are in some parking spots which are normally close to the entrance of buildings. All large dumpsters for trash and recyclables need to be moved 25 meters from all buildings.

Also, all vehicles need to be locked when not occupied. Lastly, there is 100 percent ID checks for personnel to enter the exchange, commissary, fitness center and all morale, welfare and recreational facilities.

"If you see a problem with FPCON Bravo implementation procedures, please use your chain of command to funnel the issue up. As always, the Commander's Action Line is available at 434-7058", stated Col. Ross, Columbus Air Force Base vice commander.

If members see any suspicious activity, do not hesitate to call base law enforcement at 434-712.

If it's an emergency, call 911.

It is unknown how long Columbus AFB will be in FPCON Bravo, but it is all of Team BLAZE's responsibility to follow all procedures and to ensure security of the 14th Flying Training Wing.



Facebook

Visit us online!

Web page: www.columbus.af.mil

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB

Twitter: www.twitter.com/Columbus_AFB



Dr. Shaunak to speak at Asian Pacific American Heritage breakfast

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The Asian Pacific American Heritage breakfast speaker this year will feature Dr. Raj Shaunak, Vice President of Workforce and Community Services at East Mississippi Community College, Mayhew campus.

Dr. Shaunak was born in Kenya to Indian parents moved to London in 1966. He graduated from the London Scholl of Economics with a degree in Applied Mathematics. He Moved to Starkville, Miss. in 1972 and studied Agriculture Economics at Mississippi State university. He went to graduate school at Texas A&M and earned a Masters in Economics and then returned to returned to MSU to earn a Doctoral degree



Dr. Shaunak

Self preservation and entrepreneurial spirit led to delving in the business world. An opportunity arose for Shaunak to work in manufacturing at Hi-Tech Wire and Cable – now Southwire. While he was there, he also worked to start a trucking company called Silver Bullet. In October 1989, “I achieved my American dream and met the financial security and at that point decided, ‘What can I do to give back to the community that had helped me achieve my American dream?’” Shaunak pondered. At that time, he decided to come to EMCC, starting as a workforce specialist, providing training for area companies. He has been at East Mississippi Community College since 1994.

Married for 31 years, he is the proud father of a 14-year old son and 15-year old daughter. Contact Maj. Aaron Han or 2nd Lt. Mark Montes for more information at 434-2518.

CSC opens new Thrift Shop

Tina Franklin

CSC 1st Vice President and Thrift Shop Volunteer

Thanks to the continued support of our patrons and dedicated volunteers, the Columbus Spouses Club Thrift Shop continues to do “big things” in the base community and it needed the facilities to match. So, after thousands of logged volunteer hours from retired and active duty dependant spouses and the help of some “Fire Dawgs” and transition officers, the CSC Thrift Shop is now relocated on the corner of Imes and 7th Street where it held its grand opening on May 12. Several volunteers and CSC board members came out to support and help celebrate this joyous event.

You may or may not know the relationship between the Thrift Shop and the CSC. The Thrift Shop belongs to the Columbus Spouses Club, a notable non-profit and social organization on base. Aside from monthly social events, the CSC’s biggest claim to fame is the scholarship money which it awards annually.

This year with the Thrift Shop proceeds, the CSC was able to provide support to several base functions, Air Force wide organizations, provide support to the local community, as well as award \$5,000 in Scholarships. Some of the things we’ve contributed to include: Quarterly Wing Awards, Vacation Bible School, Airman and Family Readiness Center, Air Force Enlisted Village, The Palmer Home for Children, and The



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens
Volunteers and Members of the Columbus Spouses Club along with Col. Ken Bryson, 14th Mission Support Group Commander, cut the ribbon in front of the thrift shop’s new facility on May 12. The Thrift shop is run by volunteers and is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Humane Society just to name a few. But we don’t just give money; we also provide volunteer power for service oriented projects such as the Annual Holiday Cookie Drive, Decorating the Columbus Club at Christmas, the “Happy” Fund Project, and Pilgrimage. The CSC does all that and more!

So, come on over to the Thrift Shop and

consider volunteering or simply stop and shop. Either way, your support will be helping touch the lives of many right here on base and locally.

Our hours of operation are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Our phone number is 434-2954, ask for our manager, Jaynette Robertson.

Dollars and Sense: What is the allotments process?

Allotments allow you to send money to a financial institution directly from your paycheck. Each month, half of the allotment amount is deducted from your mid month paycheck and the other half from your end of month paycheck. The system pays out the total allotment amount to the financial institution on the first day of the following month.

You may have up to 15 allotments at one single time, with up to six of these being discretionary. Discretionary allotments include allotments for dependent support, savings, insurance and home mortgage payments. Non-discretionary allotments include allotments for the purchase of U.S. savings bonds through the Treasury Direct Website.

Most discretionary allotments can be set up through myPay (<https://www.my.af.mil/mypayprod>) and are disbursed via Electronic Funds Transfer to your financial institution.

Home Mortgage and Insurance allotments must be completed

through eFinance (<https://www.my.af.mil/efinanceprod>) or at your servicing Finance Office.

References:

AFMAN 65-116, volume 1, chapter 57.2 and chapter 58.3
DoD FMR, volume 7A, chapter 40, paragraph 400302-400303

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

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

AROUND TOWN

Hitching Lot Farmer’s Market

The Hitching Lot Farmer’s Market is open Mondays from 5-7 p.m., Thursdays from 6-10 a.m., and Saturdays from 7-10 a.m. Visit hitchinglotfarmersmarket.com for more information.

Big Joe Shelton CD Release Concert and Print Exhibit

Friday, May 27 at 6 p.m. Concert starts at 7 p.m. At the Columbus Arts Council featuring the Black Prairie Blues Ambassadors. \$5 Admission at the door. Items and monetary donations will be collected for storm victims.

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, 328-2424.

Homes

For sale: Beautiful three bedroom two bathroom home at 235 Justin Circle in Ridgeland Estates. 1,948 sqft. Stone fireplace with gas logs, French doors to the back patio, 15’ vaulted ceiling in living room, master bath suite with his and hers vanity sinks, an additional room, laundry room, two-car garage, gas connection on back patio for a grill, spacious yard, screened room off the breakfast area in the kitchen, attic storage over garage and master bedroom. \$1,250 per month or buy for \$139,000. See more at www.ahm.com (listing ID 4763383.) Call 570-4221.

For sale: Spacious four bedroom two bathroom home in Caledonia school and youth sports district. House is only three years old, 2,321 sqft and rests on 1.1 acres. Refrigerator, washer, dryer, outdoor children’s playhouse

and swing set, power washer, and riding mower stay! Will also pay \$3,000 towards buyer’s closing costs. See more at www.militarybyowner.com (Ad number MBO173792). Call 356-4611 or email BartandPearl@yahoo.com with questions or to see pictures of the entire house, a virtual tour, or set-up a viewing time.

For sale: Beautiful four bedroom two bath home in Caledonia. Excellent floor plan with 1.2 acres. Very close to schools, and base. For sale with Southern Family Prudential for \$200,000 with owner paying up to \$4,000 in closing costs or for rent for \$1,500 a month. For more information call (605) 430-6251.

For sale: 2001 Damon Daybreak 35 foot Class A motor home. Asking payoff \$31,000. Call 356-6844. Please leave message.

For sale: 2.1 acres on Wood Road in Caledonia. Ready to build! Call 356-6844 please leave message.

Transportation

For sale: 1973 Norton Commando 850. Classic Motorcycle. Call 242-2116.

Miscellaneous

For sale: Bedroom Set Light Pine Wood. Five-drawer chest, full size bed with box spring and mattress. Chest, bed and box spring are two years old. \$600 or best offer. Call 352-3526 for more information.

For sale: Hard wood full size bed and matching dresser, \$425 for both.

Computer desk, \$65. Toro electric leaf blower, \$30. Ruger M77 .270 rifle with Bushnell 4x scope, wood stock, \$400. All negotiable! Please call (703) 501-3275.

For sale: Microwave, \$35. Entertainment center, \$30. Call (228) 202-7585.

For sale: Husqvarna self-propelled three-in-one lawn mower with rear bag and extra fuel can, like new, \$200. Gas powered weed eater with extra fuel can, \$100. New bird cage, \$30. Sony five-disc DVD player, still in box, \$75. Playstation 2 with one controller, \$25. Boston 2.1 computer self-powered speakers, \$20. Logitech Z-640 powered 5.1 surround sound computer speaker system, 70W of power, brand new, \$45. D-Link 802.11G Rangebooster G wireless router, new in box, \$20. All prices negotiable! Call (814) 659-4003 for info or to view.

Free Pets

Free to a good home: Two year old 14 lb. Pekinese Lhasa Apso mix spayed female dog, prefers calm environment. \$200 for one year old registered 17 lb. female puggle, loves kids and lots of activity. Cost to cover half of veterinarian bills and spaying. Please call 356-4611.

Garage Sale

Garage Sale: May 21 at 7 a.m. 101 Cottonwood Lane E.

Sell your item today!

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.

Relocation assistance

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

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.

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.

Creating a Healthy Marriage

Workshop to learn the myths and stages of marriage on May 19 from 11 a.m. to noon. The keys to creating and maintaining a healthy marriage. Conducted by the Military Family Life Consultant.

Sponsorship Training

For all Unit Intro Monitors and sponsors May 24 from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Information on the importance of a good, effective sponsorship program and resources available for both sponsor and newcomer. To register call 434-2790. In addition, A public version of eSponsorship Application and Training (eSAT) can be found on the MilitaryINSTALLATIONS homepage in the Sponsorship article for each installation.

Hearts Apart Social

A social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel on May 24 from 4:30 to 6:30. Information, refreshments, and prizes. Advance registration required.

Bundles of Joy

May 26 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. For active duty military and spouses assigned to Columbus Air Force Base who are pregnant or have a child up to four months of age. Info speakers on finances, labor and delivery, and infant care. An Air Force Aid Society program. Held at the AFRC.

Newcomers Orientation

May 31, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., for newly arrived active duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Held at the AFRC, to register call 434-2790.

Base News

Airman's Attic

The Columbus Air Force Base Airman's Attic has moved locations. They can now be found in building 530 and are open Tuesdays from noon to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon. Donations may be dropped off during business hours. To donate furniture items please call 434-8824 or (719) 369-6791.

Motorcycle PPE at Exchange

Air Force compliant personal protection equipment for motorcycle riders is now carried at the base Exchange.

Operation Purple

Operation Purple camps offer a free week of summer fun for military kids with parents who have been, are currently, or will be deployed. These free week-long camps are provided through the generous support of the Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation. The goal of the Operation Purple camp program is to give military children tools to help deal with the stresses that result from a parent's deployment, through a memorable camp experience in a "purple" environment. Operation Purple camps are open to military children of all ranks and services: active and reserve components-and give priority to children whose parents are currently within a 15 month deployment "window" (specific dates announced each year). At Operation Purple camps military children experience an exciting week of outdoor fun and adventure. 2011 Operation Purple camps will be held in 25 states as well as Japan. For more information and to sign up, go to: www.militaryfamily.org/op

You made the Grade

The Exchange Service is moving military students who excel in the classroom to the head of the class with its "You Made the Grade" program. This education rewards initiative recognizes students who maintain a "B" average or better with a booklet full of complimentary prizes for every qualifying report card. AAFES' "You Made the Grade" booklet includes coupons for a variety of free offers. In addition, each booklet also contains an entry form for a quarterly drawing in which three winners are randomly awarded savings bonds in \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$5,000 denominations. To receive the AAFES "You Made the Grade" booklet, students must present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall "B" or better average to their local Exchange. Students may receive one coupon package for every qualifying report card, but may enter the savings bond drawing only once per calendar year.

Military families can contact the Columbus Exchange main store manager or general manager for more information at 434-8484.

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.

Do you have a supply problem?

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

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.

SAT Testing

The SAT college admissions examination will be given on May 25 at 8 p.m. in the Education Center. The education center can only give the SAT to military personnel. Please call 434-2562 to schedule.

CCAF Graduation Ceremony

The Community College of the Air Force graduation ceremony will be on May 24 at 10 a.m. in the Columbus Club. Chief Master Sgt. Leonard Thibodeaux, 14 Mission Support Group Superintendent, is the guest speaker. All are invited.

vMPF Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Benefits

Members can now access the vMPF and click DoD TEB website to transfer Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. The vMPF application will verify the Airman's eligibility to transfer benefits, provide timely notice regarding eligibility issues and allow Airmen to complete, sign, and forward the required statement of understanding to the Automated Records Management System. You can link to the vMPF through the AF Portal at <https://www.my.af.mil/afpc2ww3/vmpf/Hub/Pages/Hub.asp>.

ACT/SAT Testing

Information on ACT and SAT tests are now available on their respective websites (<http://www.act.org> and <http://www.collegeboard.com>). Answers about registration as well as quick tips regarding both of these important tests for aspiring college students can be found here. The tests are provided throughout the year, with advanced registration required.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

The ERAU office is open Monday Wednesday Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located in Building 926, suite 124. ERAU is offering Master of Aeronautical Science and Master of Science in Management degrees. For

more information contact the ERAU office at 434-8262 or Memphis.center@erau.edu

Saint Leo University

SLU offers on-base classes in psychology, criminal justice, and business administration. Online and CD-ROM classes are also available. Call Saint Leo at 434-8844 (dial 99 on-base) or stop by Room 120 in Bldg. 926 (Old Personnel Bldg.)

Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Consignments until noon. Please visit the Thrift Shop for more information on consignments. Donations are accepted and very much appreciated. They can be dropped off anytime in the donation shed. The Thrift Shop is non-profit and all proceeds benefit CAFB Community. It is located in Bldg 345, Imes Street (next to Youth Center). Phone: 434-2954.

IDEA Program

The Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness is looking for submissions of individual, group, or team ideas about how the Air Force can accomplish something more efficiently. Cash rewards for ideas are possible. Visit <https://ipds.randolph.af.mil> or call Tech. Sgt. Angela Coleman at 434-2388.

Chapel Schedule

Pioneer Clubs Program

Pioneer Clubs' children religious education program has ended for the summer and will resume Aug.23. For more information and volunteer opportunities, contact Ms. Ida Hall, 434-2500.

May RefresHer

Join us May 26 in the Chapel Annex at 6 p.m. for dinner and a movie. Bring your favorite dessert to share. All ladies are welcome to attend. If you would like to be involved in planning the next RefresHer, please contact Senior Airman Melissa Vallia at 434-2500.

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.

Protestant Men of the Chapel: Come out

and join the men of CAFB Chapel every Saturday morning at 7 a.m. for Bible study and devotion in the Chapel Annex.

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

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner! This summer, connect your kids to God and watch them grow stronger in their faith as they discover that God is "wild" about them. The Columbus Air Force Base chapel is proud to present this year's "pandamania" VBS June 6-10. For more information about this ecumenical Christian event including registration, volunteer opportunities, and age requirements, contact the Base Chapel at 434-2500.

EPLOs supporting Mississippi River flood response effort

Angela Pope

Air Forces Northern Public Affairs

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFNS) — The recent flooding along the Mississippi River has disrupted lives and commerce, and now the next threat is to several parishes in Louisiana.

To help save lives and mitigate property damage, officials at the Air Forces Northern National Security Emergency Preparedness Directorate have deployed two emergency preparedness liaison officers in response to the flooding.

Although the river is not projected to crest until May 22 in Louisiana, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is contemplating a slow release of the Morganza Spillway, north of Baton Rouge, La., to alleviate massive flooding over multiple locations, officials said. However, the potential still exists for extensive flooding within those parishes near the spillway.

The EPLOs will be assigned to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Region VI Defense Coordinating Element, the officials said. One EPLO is assigned to FEMA's Regional Response Coordination Center in Denton, Texas, while the other is assigned to the initial operating facility in Baton Rouge.

The EPLO's skills, experience and knowledge of Air Force capabilities will assist in determining the right resources if Department of Defense assets are requested by civilian authorities to support the

response within the flooded areas, officials said.

"When a natural disaster occurs, local officials are initially in charge of the response effort," said Michael Thornal, from the National Security Emergency Preparedness Directorate. "If the disaster becomes as catastrophic as this flood, FEMA typically steps in and takes the lead. Our EPLOs deploy to the scene to augment the local and federal officials and to advise them of the resources AFNORTH can provide to aid in the response."

The EPLOs are slated to be in Texas and Louisiana for 10 days, but they will stay longer if warranted, he said.

"We have been monitoring the flood and began preparing to provide assistance when we learned how bad it was going to get," Mr. Thornal said. "Once AFNORTH was asked for support, we briefed our EPLOs and got them on site as soon as possible."

NSEP officials are prepared to deploy additional EPLOs to other states and regions if tasked.

Air Force EPLOs are senior Air Force Reserve officers who are subject-matter experts in state and regional disaster-response plans, advising state and regional leaders on Air Force capabilities that may be used during disaster responses.

EPLOs are geographically assigned to each state and the 10 FEMA Regional Response Coordination Centers. The officers come from a wide range of career fields, including air operations, logistics, medical, security forces and public affairs.

Travel website helps determine risks when planning events

Senior Airman Clay Murray

52nd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany — Returning from deployment, getting ready for marriage, a promotion and three-day weekends are just some of the occasions in which Airmen take the time to plan and schedule leave.

Planning for a good time on leave is not only limited to the destination, however. The element of safety can be properly attended to with one of many Department of Defense's programs.

According to Tech. Sgt. Brent Ochs, the NCO in charge of the aerospace and operational physiology flight here, the Travel Risk Planning System is an effective way for service members to plan the actual traveling portion of trips while taking any possible dangers into account.

"Military members can use (it) to effectively plan a trip while traveling here in Europe or in the U.S.," Sergeant Ochs said. "It will give door-to-door directions along

TRiPS is replacing the Air Education Training Command Form 29b, and supervisors can use this to inspect their (Airmen's) vehicles and ensure they have a good plan

with a risk-management checklist for effectively mitigating fatigue and any other dangers while driving.

"TRiPS is replacing the Air Education Training Command Form 29b, and supervisors can use this to inspect their (Airmen's) vehicles and ensure they have a good plan," he said.

The form 29b served as a stepping stone to found the concept of an electronic means to ensure safety for Airmen preparing to travel, he said.

"This form was derived from the (Air Education and Training Command) because they have many students and young Airmen

who are statistically involved in many mishaps when they are on an extended holiday or leave," said Tech. Sgt. Anthony Blodgett, the 52nd Fighter Wing NCO in charge of ground safety. "This form or any other pre-departure form is not mandatory in (U.S. Air Forces in Europe); however, it is a good idea to use."

This program not only benefits the user by providing information and ideas that can reduce risks, it also tries to provide a connection within the Air Force chain of command.

"The general purpose of the system is for supervisors to have a more active role in their Airmen's decision-making process and steer them in the right directions for safety reasons," Sergeant Ochs said. "The system outlines what the individual's plan for that specific trip and also calculates the risk by what type of car they are driving, weather forecasts and time of day they are traveling.

Although due for implementation soon, the new steps of operational-risk management are not scheduled to be integrated into TRiPS, said Sergeant Ochs.

Air Force officials announce civilian hiring controls

WASHINGTON — Air Force leaders announced that hiring controls were instituted May 12 to reduce projected growth of the civilian workforce.

The Air Force-wide efforts to stem the civilian personnel growth are a result of Secretary of Defense Robert Gate's efficiency initiatives to maintain civilian manning at fiscal 2010 levels.

Hiring controls will allow Air Force officials to take a targeted approach to meet the mandated manning levels.

Effective immediately, one person will be hired for every two new vacancies in areas affected by hiring controls. This doesn't apply to current hiring actions when a job selection has already been made; however, all other hiring actions may only be filled at a 1:2 ratio as new vacancies occur.

"As our nation and the Air Force face significant budgetary challenges, tools such as hiring controls help us manage hiring and posture ourselves for the future," said Paige Hinkle-Bowles, the deputy director of force management policy.

Hiring controls will enable a more focused approach to hiring, giving higher priority to strategic mission areas such as the nuclear enterprise, the acquisition workforce, and test and evaluation.

"Civilian hiring controls will be used as a bridging mechanism as the Air Force develops strategic plans for the future to ensure civilian authorizations are in the right place to meet mission priorities," said Lt. Gen. Darrell Jones, the deputy chief of staff of Air Force manpower, personnel and services.

Air Force officials will continue to monitor and assess hiring controls throughout the summer and will provide additional hiring guidance and prioritization details as the overall plan develops.

"The Air Force recognizes the invaluable contributions of our civilian workforce, but also recognizes the fiscal constraints under which all the services are operating. We will do our best to balance mission needs while taking care to minimize the effect on the civilian workforce," General Jones said.

For more information about hiring controls, individuals may contact their base civilian personnel office or visit the restricted-access Air Force personnel services website at <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil/app/home>. For information about other personnel issues, call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.

Gates: Bin Laden intel required prompt action

Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael J. Carden
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — While acknowledging concerns about intelligence leading up to the May 1 raid that killed 9/11-attack mastermind and al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden in Pakistan, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates called President Barack Obama's decision to move forward "gutsy."

"I was very concerned," Secretary Gates said in an interview that aired May 15 on the CBS program "60 Minutes." "Frankly, I had real reservations about the intelligence."

Secretary Gates told CBS correspondent Katie Couric he worried that bin Laden was not even in the compound and that American lives were at risk, noting the intelligence was circumstantial.

Still, the secretary said, it likely was the best lead the Defense Department and White House had on bin Laden's whereabouts in a decade. "I think everybody agreed that we needed to act, and act promptly," he said of President Obama's national security team.

Secretary Gates praised President Obama's decision to move forward with the operation despite the lack of certainty in the intelligence, calling the results a game-changer in the war in Afghanistan.

"This is one of the most outrageous calls, decisions, that I think I've ever seen a president make," said Secretary Gates, who has served eight presidents in his public life. "For all of the concerns I just talked about — the uncertainty, the intelligence, the consequences of it going bad, the risk, the lives of Americans involved — it was a very gutsy call."

Although it's still too early to tell whether bin Laden's death will affect troop withdrawal in Afghanistan, Secretary Gates said, "I think we could be in a position by the end of this year where we have turned the corner in Afghanistan and more troops could come home."

Secretary Gates explained that the militant Taliban could reconcile with the Afghan government by year's end, and the past 18 months of progress could ensure that neither the Taliban nor al-Qaida re-emerges as a threat in Afghanistan.

The war in Afghanistan is only part of Secretary Gates' his-

torical tenure as defense secretary. When he retires later this summer, he noted, will have overseen wars in Iraq and Afghanistan at some of the most promising and doubtful periods of each war. And through it all, he said, his highest priority was to ensure the safety of troops by making sure they had what they needed to accomplish their mission.

"If you're in a war, and kids' lives are at stake, you do whatever is necessary to protect them and help them accomplish their mission," Secretary Gates said, explaining his decision to spend more than \$40 billion on the mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicle designed specifically to protect occupants from roadside bombs. The MRAP, he noted, has saved thousands of lives.

"I think of (troops) as my own sons and daughters," he said. "I'm the guy (who) signs the piece of paper that sends them. I'm the guy (who) signs the condolence letters. I'm the guy (who) visits them in the hospital."

"It's very emotional for me," he continued. "They are the best. I want the parents, the wives, the spouses to know that I care about every single one of them."

Congratulations to Team BLAZE's newest Master Sgt. Selects!

Tech. Sgt. Michael Atkins
- 14th MDG

Tech. Sgt. Robert Mozingo
- 14th MDG

Tech. Sgt. Angela Coleman
- 14th MSG

Tech. Sgt. Raymond Corbett
- 14th MSG

Tech. Sgt. Timothy Pitt
- 14th MSG

Tech. Sgt. Sean Wallace
- 14th MSG

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Fitzhugh
- 14th WSA

Tech. Sgt. Renee Oliviel
- 14th MDG

Tech. Sgt. Brian Fisher
- 14th MDG

14th SFS participates in Law Enforcement Torch Run



Courtesy photo
Six members of the 14th Security Forces Squadron participated in the nationwide Torch Run Tuesday, May 10 on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The Law Enforcement Torch Run takes place in 50 states and 30 foreign countries making it the largest fund raising program benefiting Special Olympics.

2011 Spring Into Shape Standings

Tech. Sgt. Ryian Caviness
14th Medical Operations Squadron

Spring Into Shape is a comprehensive weight-loss program that promotes healthy lifestyles through good nutrition and exercise habits. The standings are based on the total percentage of body weight lost by each team or individual. There are 23 teams and 20 individuals competing for the top spot! Here are the team and individual standings:

Top 5 Teams

1. Magic Men
2. The Minors
3. Fearsome Four
4. Sophisticated Ladies
5. Dieting Divas

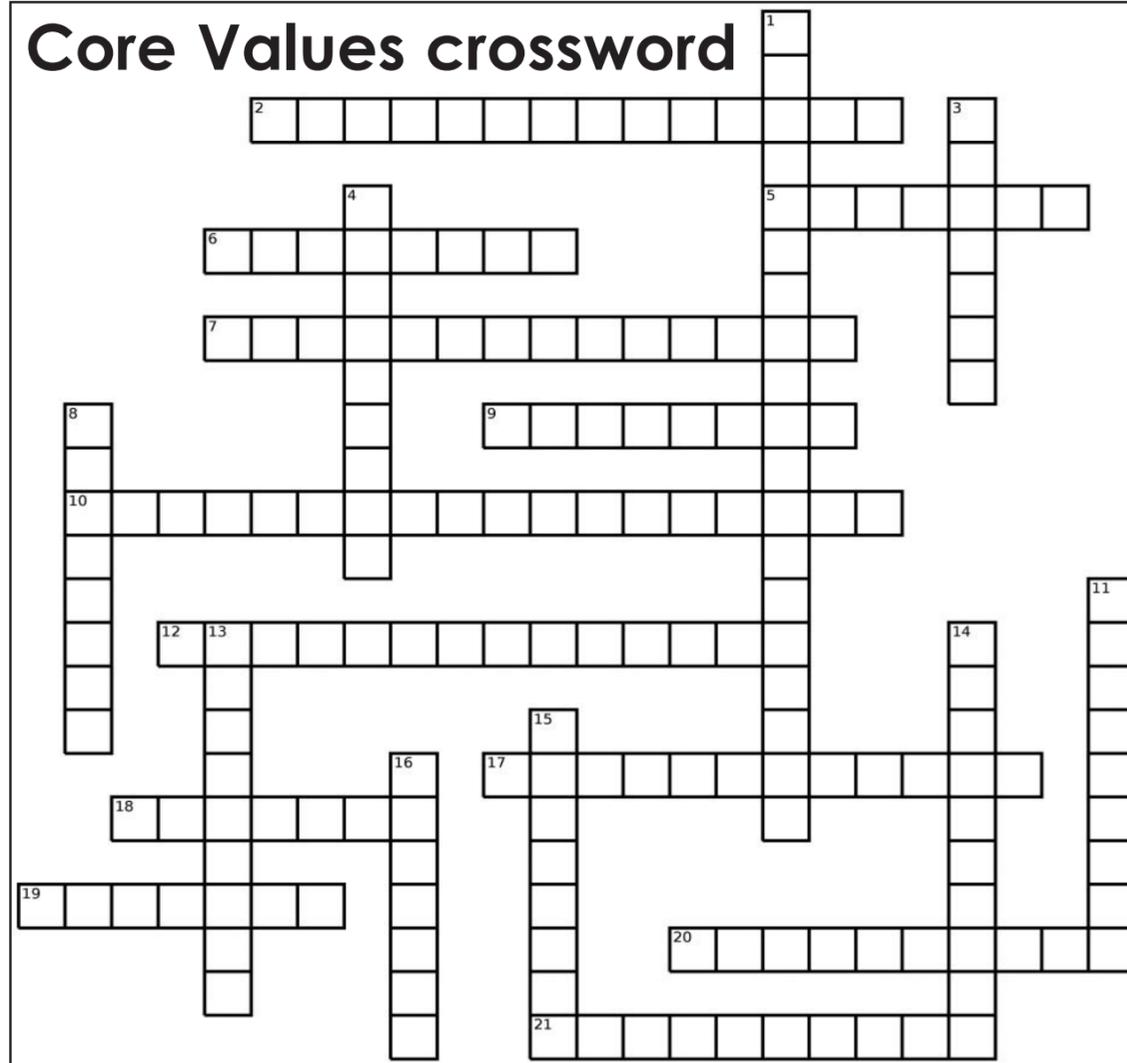
Top 3 Males

1. Staff Sgt. Michael Rowe
2. Tech Sgt. Jacob Longest
3. Airman 1st Class Lance Hulley

Top 3 Females

8. Sherry Symmonds
9. Alyssa Smith
10. Juliana Kyzar

Core Values crossword



- Across
- 2 Trait whereby members acknowledges his or her duties and acts accordingly
 - 5 Hallmark of the military professional, our word must be our bond.
 - 6 encourage a free flow of information within the organization
 - 7 Service Before Self Behavior: Understand that rules have a reason for being and the default position must be to follow those rules
 - 9 grasps and is sobered by the awesome task of defending the Constitution of the United States
 - 10 Service Before Self Behavior: A good leader places his troops ahead of their own personal comfort
 - 12 "___" is where no person of integrity tries to shift the blame to others
 - 17 is to respect oneself as a professional and a human being
 - 18 A grasp of integrity possesses moral "___" and does what is right even if
 - 19 "___" excellence is fully responding to customer wants and anticipate customer needs for service
 - 20 Internal and external are two kinds of "___" excellence
 - 21 "___" directs us to develop a sustained passion for the continuous improvement

- Down
- 1 To lose "___" is to adopt the view that you know better than those above you in the chain of command
 - 3 Those who do similar things must get similar rewards or similar punishments
 - 4 "___" is the willingness to do what is right even when no one is looking
 - 8 "___" excellence is the challenge to seek out and complete PME, stay in physical and mental shape, and continue to refresh your general educational background
 - 11 Excellence in all we do also demands that we aggressively implement policies to ensure the best possible cradle-to-grave management of "___"
 - 13 "___" excellence is achieved when the members of an organization
 - 14 Service Before Self Behavior: You have a fundamental moral obligation to lead with a tone of confidence
 - 15 "___" excellence is the commitment to properly manage our resources
 - 16 "___" Before Self: professional duties take precedence over personal desires

Trail BLAZE'r

Name: 2nd Lt. Caleb Daughettee

Unit: 14th Force Support Squadron

Job title: Operations Officer

Time at Columbus AFB: 11 months

Time in Service: 11 months

Hometown: Charleston, Mo.

Career goals: To become President of the United States

Family members: Wife Erin and daughter Daisy

Favorite musician: O.A.R.

Favorite movie: Forrest Gump

Biggest pet peeve: The acceptance of mediocrity

Favorite book: "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Inspirations: Christ, Erin, and Thomas Jefferson

Personal motto: "Whatever you are, be a good one." - Abraham Lincoln

Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, Academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website with exception of Air Force publications through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at 434-7068.

Base families offered a variety of activities

PLAYpass Program

Single airmen returning from deployment and families of deployed members can receive special discounts and rewards valued at more than \$500 each beginning May 28. The PLAYpass cards offer discounts that provide members and their eligible family members opportunity to participate in the 14th Force Support Squadron's participating facilities and programs for free or at a reduced cost. These cards can be picked up at the Airmen and Family Readiness Center beginning May 28. Please bring a copy of orders and a valid military identification card. For more information or to find out if you are eligible for a PLAYpass card, visit www.MyAirForceLife.com or call the AFRC at 434-2790.

America's Kids Run

The 2011 America's Armed Forces Kids Run will be May 21, starting at the Youth Center parking lot with registration at 8:15 a.m. and a 9 a.m. start. This event is open to all ages and families are encouraged to participate. Sign up by May 20 online at www.americaskids.org or contact the Youth Center at 434-2504 for more information. A free t-shirt will be given to all that sign up.

BLAZE "N" Wheels Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show

The Second Annual BLAZE "N" Wheels Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show will be June 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Freedom Park and will feature food, live music, jumpers and more! Judging begins at 10:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$20 for the first vehicle and \$15 for each additional vehicle if paid by May 21. Late registration is \$25 per vehicle. Classes include classic (1950-1985), late model (1986 to present), trucks (all years), antique (pre-1950) and motorcycles. For more information or to register, go online to www.cafbservice.com.

9th Annual Super Scramble Sponsored in Part by Sonic

Whispering Pines Golf Course is hosting

the Ninth Annual Super Scramble Sponsored in Part by Sonic on June 11-12. The format is a four-person scramble with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. each day. The field is limited to the first 18 paid teams. Cost is \$60 per person plus cart and includes green fees, prize fund, a mulligan, door prizes, tee prizes and lunch after play on Saturday. Carts are on a first-come, first-serve basis and cost \$15 per person for the weekend. If you supply your own carts, the trail fee will be waived. Deadline to enter is June 6 for those without base access and June 9 for all others. Entry forms are available at the Pro Shop, Sonic Drive-In on Hwy 45 North and online at www.cafbservices.com. For more information, call 434-7932.

Thirsty Thursdays

The golf course will have drink specials every Thursday in May from 4-7 p.m. For more information, call the Pro Shop at 434-7932.

Auto Hobby Special

Throughout the month of May, get a free brake inspection with the purchase of an oil change. Call 434-7482 to make an appointment.

Register for Youth Summer Day Camp

Registration for Youth Summer Day Camp or Part-Day Camp continues until the limited spaces are filled. The camps are open to youth (K-6), and cost is based on family income. Day Camp begins May 25. Questions should be directed to Ms. Terri Graves at the Youth Center, 434-2504.

Air Force Club Membership Scholarship

Air Force Club members and their family members are eligible to win a \$1,000 educational scholarship by submitting a one-page essay of 500 words or less entitled "My Contributions to the Air Force." Submissions are due no later than July 1. More information is available in displays around base and online at www.afclubs.net. Ms. Linda Dodson of the 14th Force

Support Squadron is the point of contact and may be reached at 434-2314.

FitFamily Cook It Up!

Enter the FitFamily "Cook It Up Healthy Recipe Contest" for a chance to win great prizes and bring Celebrity Chef Herb Mesa to Columbus AFB. The contest runs through June 30, 2011, and there is no limit to the number of recipes that can be entered. Visit www.usaffitfamily.com for all of the details and to enter the contest.

White Water Rafting Trip

Travel with Outdoor Recreation and ITT to enjoy white water rafting down the Ocoee River, July 16-18. The cost is \$169 per person and includes transportation, lodging, rafting and some meals. For just \$10 extra, float down the river in your own tube. Space is limited and registration is required no later than July 1. Call 434-2505 or 7861 for more information.

Say Cheese!

The Arts and Crafts Center is offering professional 3-D seasonal backdrops for your do-it-yourself photo shoots. You bring the camera, the kids, the pets, the friends...whoever. It's free and available for use Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Saturdays by appointment. Call 434-7836 for an appointment or for more information.

Home School Collection at the Library

The base library has a phenomenal collection of educational fun books, games, puzzles, "how-to" guides and the like for home-schoolers. For more information about the Home School Collection, please contact the Library at 434-2934.

Dance, Dance, Dance!

Children ages 3 to 8 can learn all styles of dance at the Youth Center for just \$30 per month. Classes for ages 3 to 5 are Mondays, 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., and classes for ages 6 to 8 are at the same time on Tuesdays. For registration information, call the Youth Center at 434-2504.

Squadron DUI-Free Bowling Party

The bowling center is offering a free squadron bowling party from 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through 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 lanes at the bowling center, call 434-3426.

Join FitFamily!

All ages can benefit from the Air Force Services fitness and wellness initiative, FitFamily. 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.

Affordable Tickets at ITT

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, Dixie Stampede, Geyser Falls and more. Call 434-2505 or 434-7861 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 travel to interesting places. The Youth Sponsorship Program at Columbus was created by and just for youth. For assistance in this sometimes difficult transition, contact the Youth Center at 434-2504 and join in the fun of the youth sponsorship program.

Never just an Airman

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

Throughout my first year of my first assignment I've heard mutterings of the idea of only being "just an airman" or "just a lieutenant". However I contend that there's nothing like an Airman, of any rank to get the job done. Today's Air Force asks for new Airmen to immediately gain inherent trust to take on gravely important duties early in their careers, and they are prepared to handle the task.

Sometimes I take the opportunity to step back and take a look at the amazing responsibilities junior officers and enlisted take on when they first join the Air Force. I hear and see

incredible feats performed with uncanny accuracy. Second lieutenants responsible for safely putting multimillion dollar planes on the ground with timed precision. An airman first class on-call any time of the day to grab the wheel of an emergency response vehicle and save life and limb. All within their first enlistment or commission.

From my vantage point, I see that the foundation of our ability to take on those responsibilities is our oft repeated core values: Integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do.

Knowing that our Airmen will keep integrity first, always, is what gives others the confidence to believe we will do what needs to be done. Sometimes those trusted enough to be given

Comprehensive Airman Fitness: Daring to care

Gen. Raymond E. Johns Jr.
Commander, Air Mobility Command

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Air Mobility Command officials recently called up hundreds of Guard, Reserve and active duty Airmen to support operations Odyssey Dawn and Unified Protector.

We gave these Airmen between 4 and 36 hours notice to get on an aircraft and forward deploy. These amazing Airmen answered the call to protect freedom and innocent lives. But, the consequence of our expeditionary force is that we often leave families and loved ones behind and ask them to pick up the pieces.

Right now the spouse of a deployed Airman is at home alone and having a very rough day. Maybe the children are sick, or the car has broken down, or a water pipe has burst and flooded the basement. While people at our bases have established a robust support network, it's often hard for Airmen and families to know when to ask for help. At those times, help needs to be delivered, sometimes right to the front door.

Leaders at one base with particularly harsh winters recently found a unique way to deliver help. Members of the Airmen and spouse support network shovel driveways for those Airmen who are deployed. While shoveling a driveway, they also take the opportunity to knock on the door and check up on the Airman's family.

On one day a volunteer was out shoveling a driveway and knocked on the door just to check in. He found a mom with three sick children almost at her wit's end. He made a

simple offer to pick up groceries for her because he dared to care. That offer of help, delivered when it was needed, made a world of difference in that family's life.

Although this great initiative can't be implemented at every base, this example highlights that we as Airmen and spouses should not wait by the phone for those in need to call. We must get a little bit nosy, find out what those Airmen and families need and be there to deliver it.

Now, it takes a lot of courage for these Airmen and spouses to reach out because our society has changed over the years. When I grew up and new families moved in, neighbors used to greet them with plates of cookies. Today, many of us never even meet our neighbors much less welcome interference from a nosy neighbor. The way we communicate with one another has changed too.

Thanks to technology, we can text and email constantly, but we've also become more isolated, making it harder to actually physically reach out to one another. Yet, as leaders we cannot follow this societal trend. We must encourage and develop strong, connected Air Force communities, and we must "dare to care." I would offer that Comprehensive Airman Fitness is just that simple. It's about reaching out to deliver a helping hand.

There's a second story I want to share with you. Just a few months ago, one of our Airmen was going through significant personal difficulties. He began talking to the chaplain and that helped, but everyone in his office realized he was still troubled. Then, one day he suddenly left work and didn't come back.

The Airmen who worked with him knew

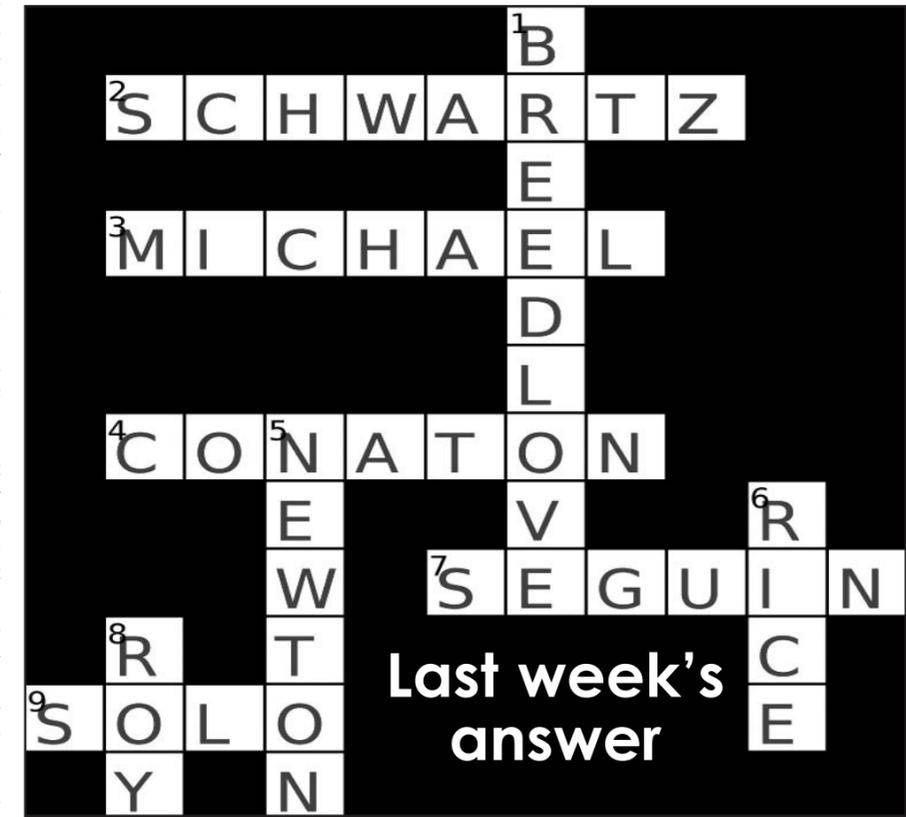
this was out of character and something wasn't right. When he didn't answer his phone, some of the Airmen drove to his house to look for him. When they arrived, they quickly realized that although the garage door was

closed, a vehicle was running inside. The group forced the garage door open and found him passed out in his running car. Later, medical professionals would tell them he was only minutes away from being non-revivable. Recognizing when someone needs help and delivering it, even when you need to break down a garage door to reach that person, that is Comprehensive Airmen Fitness!

The Airmen of today are taking on ever-increasing responsibilities to adapt to the fiscal requirements that our nation needs us to handle, putting their service before themselves to accomplish the mission. Some also balance their responsibilities to family or volunteer commitments.

Most are not just taking on these responsibilities, they are exceeding in them. They are finding new ways to do old processes that are more effective. They are continuing their education and achieving their Community College of the Air Force degree, bachelors or master degree in the midst of long work hours and constant deployments.

Though they are new, these young Airmen are doing these things and more, as they do their best to live up to what the Air Force... what their nation asks of them.



Find more information online at www.columbus.af.mil!

SUPT Class 11-09 earns silver wings



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon



1st Lt. Steven Szente
Springboro, Ohio.
C-130H3, Yeager ANGB, W.Va.



1st Lt. Emem Sunday
Nigeria
Makurdi

Twenty one officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot. Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 11-09 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker for the class is retired Maj. Gen. Ronald "Ron" Ladnier. General Ladnier retired as Commander, 17th Air Force and U.S. Air Forces Africa, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. The command serves as the Air Component to U.S. Africa Command and has responsibility for all Air Force activities in the Africa theater spanning 53 countries, 11 million square miles and more than 900 million people.

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

2nd Lt. Alan Pippin T-38, and 2nd Lt. James Leenman, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

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

Lieutenant Pippin, 2nd Lt. James Leenman, T-1 and 2nd Lt. Michelle Rykard, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 11-09.

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

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

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

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

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

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

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with several business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus Air Force Base. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. SUPT Class 11-09's pilot partner is the Eat With Us Group represented by Aaron Jenkins.



2nd Lt. Daniel Goeser
Fond du Lac, Wis.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Eric Hendricker
Tallapoosa, Ga.
KC-135, McConnel AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Christopher Johnston
Lancaster, Calif.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. James Leenman
Greenville, S.C.
C-17, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Kristina Levins
Virginia Beach, Va.
C-17, Dover AFB, Del.



2nd Lt. Stephen MacDonald
Spokane, Wash.
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Steven Bostwick
Lilburn, Ga.
C-21, Peterson AFB, Colo.



2nd Lt. Dustin Cochlin
Temple, Texas
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Stephen Major
Chicopee, Mass.
C130J-30, Quonset ANGB, R.I.



2nd Lt. Ryan Parrish
DeKalb, Ill.
C-130, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. Christopher Pezzini
Wasilla, Alaska.
A-10, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Alan Pippin
Chattanooga, Tenn.
T-38, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Michael Redding
Robertsdale, Ala.
U-28, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



2nd Lt. Trevor Redding
Nashville, Tenn.
NSA, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Michelle Rykard
Staples, Minn.
KC-135, Macdill AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Durham Snuffin
Harrisonburg, Va.
U-28, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



2nd Lt. Lance Speed
Nevada, Iowa
U-28, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



2nd Lt. Troy VanderWeyden
Grand Rapids, Mich.
C-17, Jackson ANGB, Miss.



2nd Lt. James Witherspoon
Cheraw, S.C.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.