

"Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight"

Vol. 35, Issue 27

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

July 8, 2011

Weather



Today

High: 88, Low: 70
Scattered T-storms



Saturday

High: 90, Low: 71
Isolated T-storms



Sunday

High: 94, Low: 72
Isolated T-storms



Monday

High: 97, Low: 73
Isolated T-storms

News Briefs

AETC Special Duty Team

An enlisted special duty team will be visiting Columbus Air Force Base July 14 to explain the opportunities and benefits of being a Military Training Instructor, Military Training Leader or Air Force recruiter. A mass briefing will be held at the Kaye Auditorium at 9 a.m. and a meeting for squadron commanders, chief master sergeants and first sergeants will be held in the wing conference room at 1 p.m.

37th FTS Change of Command

The 37th Flying Training Squadron will hold a change of command ceremony at 8 a.m. July 15 in hanger six.

Class 11-12 Assignment Night

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 11-12 will hold their assignment night on July 15 at 5 p.m. at the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature **12**

The 14th MDSS is highlighted in this week's feature.

Frickenstein takes helm of 14th Mission Support Group

Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Colonel-select Scott Frickenstein assumed command of the 14th Mission Support Group on July 6 in a ceremony at the BLAZE hangar.

The colonel select previously led the Analysis Branch in the Force Support Division, Directorate of Force Structure, Resources and Assessment, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. In that position he was responsible for providing analyses and assessments of systems under the purview of the Force Application and Force Support Functional Capabilities Boards, comprising over 40 percent of the DoD budget.

Frickenstein graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1990 as a distinguished graduate with honors with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics and immediately continued his education at the University of Florida to achieve his masters degree in the same subject. In 2000 he received his Ph. D in Operations Research from the Naval Postgraduate School as a Distinguished Graduate.

Frickenstein has served in both academic and analytical leadership roles, having served as a squadron commander both at home and deployed.



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin
Col. Barre Seguin, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander passes the 14th Mission Support Group guidon to Colonel-select Scott Frickenstein, 14th MSG Commander during a change of command ceremony on July 6. Frickenstein previously led the Analysis Branch in the Force Support Division, Directorate of Force Structure, Resources and Assessment, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C..

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 (12-05)	3.08 days	4.15 days	Jul. 25	48th (11-12)	-0.24 days	-0.21 days	Jul. 29	49th (11-1B)	5.00 days	2.55 days	Jul. 13	T-6	278	287	24,432
41st (12-06)	1.92 days	2.66 days	Aug. 11	50th (11-12)	-4.17 days	-5.91 days	Jul. 29					T-1	95	107	8,052
												T-38	110	110	8,673
												IFF	27	23	1,825

The graduation speaker is Lt. Gen. Douglas Owens, AETC/CV.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 74 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



Congratulations to Team BLAZE's newest enlisted promotees.



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin
Staff Sergeant Jason Kislow, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron; Senior Airman Shayne Allen, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; Senior Airman Christina Ortiz, 48th Flying Training Squadron; Senior Airman Marc Bernier, 14th Operations Support Squadron; Senior Airman Steven Ferrell, 14th CES; and Airman First Class Tevin Moore, 37th Flying Training Squadron.

SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

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

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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
11	12	13	14	15	16/17
July 9-16: Civil Air Patrol SUPT Familiarization ESOHCAMP	Hearts Apart, 4:30 p.m. @ Dwayne Hayes Rec. Area Class 12-11 PPW, 6 p.m. @ Trinity Ret. Center	IFF Graduation, 4:49 p.m. @ 49th FTS Command Chief Farewell Lunch, 11:30 a.m. @ Club	AETC Special Duty Team visit	37th FTS CoC, 8 a.m. @ Hangar 6 Class 11-12 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club	16&17: SCCA @ SAC Ramp
18	19	20	21	22	23/24
Wing Retreat, 4:30 p.m. @ Smith Plaza	Newcomers, 8 a.m. @ AFRC 14th CONS AoC, 10 a.m. @ Club	Boss and Buddy Night, 4:30 p.m. @ Club Enlisted Call, 3 p.m. @ Kaye	Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m. @ Chapel Annex	First Sergeants Golf Tournament, 9 a.m. @ Golfcourse Air Force Ball Drawdown fundraiser, 6 p.m. @ Club	23: CCC departs at GTR

Long Range Events

July 25:

Class 12-05 Track Select

July 25:

Health Consumer's Forum

July 26:

Wing Quarterly Awards Ceremony

July 29:

Class 11-12 Graduation

July 29:

Enlisted Promotions

Aug. 5:

14th OSS CoC

Aug. 5:

11-13 Assignment Night

Base inspection scheduled to begin next week

Shane Reed

14th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Restoration
Program Manager

An Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment Management Program audit begins July 11, for Columbus Air Force Base. Col. Scott Peel, 902d Mission Support Group commander will lead an HQ AETC team of 20 Air Force active duty and reserve members, civilians and contractors. ESOHCAMP members are highly trained and bring a different area of expertise to the assessment.

Similar to an Operational Readiness Inspection, assessors will check for compliance with federal, state, local and Air Force requirements. The team will review records, inspection logs, training certificates, plans and other documentation. Unlike an UCL, the ESOHCAMP team will also evaluate conformance with our own policies and programs. Compliance and conformance will be verified through visual shop inspections and interviews. All shop visits and interviews will be coordinated with your unit during normal duty hours Monday through Thursday. There won't be any "surprise" or evening inspections, but keep in mind the length of the assessment is just one week.

Once the team determines we are in compliance, they will look for areas where we go above and beyond. So polish up your unit ESOH programs and don't be afraid to show your success! The team will recognize "positive performers" during the out-brief with the wing commander July 15.

Keep in mind, a finding or deficiency isn't necessarily bad. Findings related to inadequate infrastructure and/or equipment can receive a higher priority when requesting funding.

Here are some ESOHCAMP do's and don'ts:

- DO make sure the assessor is talking to the right person.
- Everyone should have a general awareness of how their work impacts the environment but there's only one or two people in your organization trained to handle your hazardous materials and waste, provide personal protective equipment, or conduct lockout/tagout procedures. Know who they are.
- DO have all your ESOH documents, plans and records handy. If you're asked to provide a document or record that you can't find-just get the assessor's name and number and ask if you can contact them when you locate the document. If you haven't provided the document by Thursday, you'll probably have a finding!
- DON'T be afraid to ask your assessor for their professional opinion or guidance while they are in your shop. They are highly trained and knowledgeable in their respective ESOH areas. Consider this a staff assistance visit.
- DON'T debate a finding with an assessor. If you think the assessor has an invalid finding, contact us--we'll do the haggling for you!
- DO call your BLAZE ESOH team if you have any questions or need assistance during the week:
 - Environmental: 434-7974
 - Safety: 434-2519
 - Bioenvironmental: 434-2284

Good luck Team BLAZE!

Meet the ESOHCAMP inspection team lead: Col. Scott Peel

Scott D. Peel is the Commander, 902d Mission Support Group, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

The 902nd MSG consists of four squadrons and four divisions totaling more than 1,500 personnel with an annual budget of \$97 million and expertise in civil engineering, security and law enforcement, communications and computers, personnel, logistics, contracting, services and trainer development. The group supports more than 145 aircraft performing five operational missions in five distinct aircraft as well as supporting 42 agencies and more than 60,000 active duty, civilian, and retired members.

Previous to this assignment, Colonel Peel was the executive officer to the Air Education and Training Command commander.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in engineering management from the University of Missouri-Rolla, Colonel Peel entered the U.S. Air Force in 1989. A career space and missile officer, he has served in various assignments conducting tactical and strategic nuclear missile launch operations, space-based and ground-based missile warning operations, space surveillance activities, and spacelift range operations. He has served as a staff officer in two joint commands--United States Space Command and at United States Strategic Command--and has experience as an operations officer, squadron commander, and deputy operations group commander. Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Peel was a student at the Naval War College, New Port, R.I., from which he graduated with distinction.

EDUCATION

1989 Bachelor of science degree, engineering management, University of Missouri-Rolla, Rolla, Mo.

1994 Master of business management & industrial production, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, Mo.

1994 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2002 Master of military art and operational science, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2009 Master of national securities & strategic stud-



ies, Naval War College, R.I.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. October 1989 - March 1990, student, 868th Tactical Missile Training Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

2. March 1990 - October 1990, deputy missile combat crew commander, 302nd Tactical Missile Squadron, Comiso AS, Sicily

3. October 1990 - March 1991, student, 4315th Combat Crew Training Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

4. March 1991 - January 1995, commander, Training & Evaluation Flight, 508th Strategic Missile Squadron,

Whiteman AFB, Mo.

5. January 1995 - August 1997, chief, Standardization & Evaluation, 4th Space Warning Squadron, Holloman AFB, New Mexico

6. August 1997 - May 1999, commander, Operations Support Flight, 11th Space Warning Squadron, Schriever AFB, Colo.

7. May 1999 - June 2000, executive officer, 21st Space Wing, Peterson AFB, Colo.

8. June 2000 - July 2001, USAF liaison officer, RAF Fylingdales, United Kingdom

9. July 2001 - June 2002, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

10. June 2002 - June 2003, long range planner, United States Space Command, Peterson AFB, Colo.

11. June 2003 - June 2004, weapon systems programmer, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb.

12. June 2004 - May 2005, operations officer, 320th Missile Squadron, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.

13. May 2005 - June 2006, commander, 12th Space Warning Squadron, Thule AB, Greenland

14. June 2006 - July 2008, deputy commander, 30th Operations Group, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

15. July 2008 - July 2009, student, Naval War College, New Port, R.I.

16. July 2009 - August 2010, executive officer to the commander, HQ Air Education and Training Command, Randolph AFB, Texas.

17. August 2010 - present, commander, 902d Mission Support Group, Randolph AFB, Texas.

Captain Sam Kaye's "Acrobatic Easter Egg"

Rufus Ward

14th MDSS Honorary Commander

On June 15, 1919, the Columbus Dispatch reported that Captain Sam Kaye had arrived home from France. The article described Kaye as returning home; "Decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross, bestowed on him by his own government for bravery in action, and with the Croix de Guerre, bestowed by the French government for exceptional prowess in the air."

Samuel Kaye, a Columbus native, enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Service at the start of World War I. He was sent to the Aviation Field School at Austin, Texas, and then to flight training at Chanute Field in Illinois. He was ordered to Europe and arrived in England in November 1917.

Kaye's first assignment was as a ferry pilot flying between Paris and London. Then on July 9, 1918, he was assigned to the 94th Aero Squadron, 1st Pursuit Group, at Saints, France. The 94th was known as the "Hat in the Ring" Squadron and was under the command of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, America's top Ace of World War I.

Rickenbacker and Kaye became life-long friends. After the war Rickenbacker, who founded Eastern Airlines, would come to Columbus to visit Kaye.

Kaye was awarded his first Distinguished Service Cross for action over the region of Epinonville, France, on September 29, 1918. Lieutenants Kaye and Reed Chambers attacked a formation of six German planes shooting down one and forcing the others to retire back to German lines.

The citation for Kaye's second Distinguish Service Cross reads:

"The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a Second Award of the Distinguished Service Cross to First Lieutenant (Air Service) Samuel Kaye, Jr., United States Army Air Service, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with 94th Aero Squadron, 1st Pursuit Group, U.S. Army Air Service, A.E.F., over the region of Montfaucon and Bantheville, France, 5 October 1918. Lieutenant Kaye encountered a formation of seven enemy machines (Fokker type). Regardless of their numerical superiority, he immediately attacked and by skillful maneuvering succeeded in separating one enemy plane from



Courtesy photo

Capt. Sam Kaye of the "Hat in the Ring" Squadron and his Spad airplane which he called his "Acrobatic Easter Egg". The photo was taken in France during early 1919.

its formation and after a short combat shot it down in flames"

On another occasion he shot down a German Fokker that had a new Spandau model machine gun that was air cooled and able to fire 650 rounds a minute. Kaye went to the crash site and recovered the machine gun so that it could be examined. His closest call came when an "air shell" shot away part of his propeller and he was forced to land,

During aerial combat Kaye was credited with four confirmed German Fokkers shot down and three probables. He was promoted to captain and served as the commander of the 94th Squadron's 1st Flight. At the close of the war pilots of the 94th painted their Spad airplanes in distinctive colors. Sam painted his light blue with red and white

polka dots. He called the airplane his "Acrobatic Easter Egg". The 94th remained in Europe for several months as the last U.S. Army Air Service squadron there.

Sam Kaye continued to live in Columbus after his return from France and had The Columbus Auto Co. which was the local Ford dealership. He died in 1939. Unable to attend the funeral because of a business commitment, Eddie Rickenbacker sent a huge floral arrangement forming the insignia of the "Hat in the Ring" Squadron.

Columbus Air Force Base was originally named Kaye Field in January, 1942 but the name was changed to Columbus Army Air Field in April of that year because of confusion with the older Key Field in Meridian. Planes often flew to the wrong field as it was

spelled Kaye but pronounced Coy. The names were easily confused over aircraft radios. Even mail was often delivered to the wrong base. .

In 2007 the Auditorium at Columbus Air Force Base was named in Sam's honor and his uniform is displayed there.

The British company, 'Blue Rider', sells a decal kit for plastic model Spad airplanes titled "Samuel Kaye's Easter Egg Spad XIIIIC". It is the only airplane kit listed that has an individual's name in the title.

Sam's son, John M. (Jack) Kaye, was an Army Air Corps fighter pilot in the Pacific during World War II.

(Editor's note: This article is reprinted from the "Ask Rufus" column of the Columbus Dispatch with permission from Rufus Ward.)

Base News

Thrift Shop

The Columbus Air Force Base Thrift Shop has moved locations. They can now be found in building 530 and are open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 434-2954 for more information.

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.

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>.

Manpower openings

There are currently openings for qualified NCOs in the Manpower career field. If you have excellent mathematics and communicative skills, you may qualify for a career opportunity in this exciting career field. Interested? Call Linda Kessler extension 434-2341 at the Installation Manpower and Organization Office.

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, Ines 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.

School Liaison Officer

The Columbus Air Force Base School Liaison Officer works with local school districts, schools, parents and students on issues related to elementary and secondary education for the children of ALL personnel (civilian, military and contractor) assigned to the installation. As parents of school age children are aware, there are many unique issues our children face as they transition to new schools. The role of the School Liaison Officer is to assist families ensure their children receive the best possible education regardless of where they attend school. For assistance, please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at slo@columbus.af.mil.

Education Counseling Hours

Education counseling (CCAF, Bachelor's/Master's programs, Tuition Assistance, etc.) is now available Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Please contact Edward Hodge at 434-2562 to schedule.

MPS Training dates require appointments

The Military Personnel Section in building 730 will hold in-house training on Tuesday and

Thursday afternoons during Night Flying Weeks. They will utilize appointments-only on these days to accommodate this necessary training. If you have any questions, contact the MPS Supt, Master Sgt. Taylor, at 434-2611.

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.

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.

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

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.

Key Spouse Training

July 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Columbus AFB squadrons are always looking for energetic spouses who would like to volunteer and be a part of the Key Spouse Team. No experience is required, just a positive attitude and a compassion and commitment to help others. The Airman and Family Readiness Center provides initial Key Spouse Training. To learn more about your unit's Key Spouse Program please contact the AFRC for details at 434-2790.

Hearts Apart Social

July 12 from 4:30 to 6:30. A social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel, information, refreshments, and activities. Held at Dewayne Hayes Recreation Area. Please RSVP when invitations are received. Headcount of attendance prior to event is critical for planning and preparation. Advance registration required, call 434-2790.

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

Trail BLAZE'r

Name: Capt. Sohil Patel

Unit: 14th Medical Operations Squadron

Job title: Flight surgeon

Time at Columbus AFB: Two years

Time in Service: Two years active duty, four in Army National Guard

Hometown: Madison, Ala.

Career goals: Emergency medicine residency, maximize international health opportunities.

Family members: Father, Mansukh Patel; Mother, Rekha Patel; Sister, Swati Patel.

Favorite musician: U2

Favorite movie: Dead Poets Society

Biggest pet peeve: Slow walkers in hallways

Favorite book: "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin

Personal motto: "Rx: 800mg of suck it up."



Inspirations: My sister, my parents and any paraphernalia about living each moment to the fullest

Leprosy in a hard-shell: Armadillos pose infection risk

Airman 1st Class Lloyd Kimble
Public Health Technician, 14th
Medical Operations
Squadron

Armadillos are a very common animal here in Columbus, Mississippi. Armadillos may appear harmless; however studies have suggested that armadillos can pose a potential risk of spreading a disease known as Leprosy.

Leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, is a chronic infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium leprae*, usually affecting the skin and peripheral nerves but has a wide range of possible clinical manifestations. Leprosy is broken down into two classifications; the milder form, known as Paucibacillary Hansen's disease is characterized by one or more areas of skin affected with color loss.

The second is Multibacillary Hansen's disease. This disease is most

commonly associated with symmetric skin lesions thickened skin, and frequent nasal congestion and epistaxis, commonly known as a bloody nose. If infected, the treatment will consist of the use of several antibiotics and supportive care to treat symptoms. Treatment of leprosy can be provided to patients by their family doctor or through the Hansen's Disease Clinic closest to them. Improvements are typically seen after two to three months of beginning treatment.

Since the 1970's, Scientists have suspected that armadillos could possibly carry Leprosy.

Armadillo's low-body temperatures provide the ideal conditions for breeding this dangerous bacterium. Using DNA analysis, researchers were able to identify a unique strain of *M. leprae* that was present in 5 out of 6 armadillos. Less than one percent of residents living in the state of Mississippi are currently infected

with the disease according to US Department of Health. Even though the occurrence of leprosy is low in the United States, infections occur in 1 of every 10,000 persons.

To keep you and your loved ones safe you should treat armadillos the same way as you would treat any other wild animals, do not pet or attempt to capture these animals. Quite simply, stay away from them!

Our base provides several pest management services free of charge, to schedule an appointment call 434-7392. Although many animals in the wild may seem small and harmless, all animals have the ability to act instinctively in unpredictable ways to protect them if you are perceived as a threat. For more detailed information about leprosy refer to the Centers of Disease Control website (www.CDC.gov) or contact Public Health a 434-2411.

Track Select 12-04

2nd Lt. Robert Willet	UH-1
2nd Lt. Matthew Zimmer	T-38
2nd Lt. Blaine Hainebach	T-1
2nd Lt. Tyler McBride	T-38
2nd Lt. Tyler Keener	T-38
2nd Lt. Anthony Mascaro	T-38
2nd Lt. Peyton Eustis	T-1
2nd Lt. Matthew Rice	T-38
2nd Lt. Robert Capparelli	UH-1
2nd Lt. Tyler Russon	T-1
2nd Lt. Susan Finch	T-1
2nd Lt. Jonathan Slater	T-1
2nd Lt. Joshua Rehder	T-1
2nd Lt. Cristina Richter	T-1
2nd Lt. Nicholas Thompson	T-1
2nd Lt. Dustin Hanson	T-44
2nd Lt. Zachary White	T-1
2nd Lt. Thomas Deciutiis	T-1
2nd Lt. Brent Spencer	T-1
2nd Lt. Fidan Thornburg	T-44
2nd Lt. Drew Grotbo	T-1
2nd Lt. Christopher Ladehoff	T-1

Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. Robert Willet
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Blaine Hainebach,
2nd Lt. Tyler Keener
Formation: 2nd Lt. Tyler McBride

Dubisher Award

2nd Lt. Robert Willet

Columbus AFB Top 3 Spotlight



Non-Commissioned Officer

Name: Tech Sgt. Christopher Czerwonka

Unit: 14th Force Support Squadron

Information:

- Home Town:** Air Force family
- Time in the Air Force:** 13 years
- Time at Columbus AFB:** One year, three months
- Career Short Term Goals:** Make master sergeant
- Career Long Term Goals:** Complete BS degree
- Nominated by:** Senior Master Sgt. Kim Heng

7. Nomination reason: Tech. Sgt. Czerwonka is a Manpower Analyst in the 14th Force Support Squadron. As such, he recently coordinated a wing API review, validating 315 flying billets, which is critical to our Team BLAZE flying training mission. TSgt Czerwonka was also the project lead for creating a new HAWC position, thus enforcing the CSAF's fitness mandates. Not only does Czerwonka strive to exceed his personal goals, such as training for the Air Force half-marathon, but he is also dedicated to being a good wingman. As the FSS UPFM and PTL, Czerwonka regularly volunteers to assist personnel reach their fitness potential, be it on or off duty. As a recent CCAF graduate in Avionics Systems Technology, Czerwonka is fully motivated to conquer a Bachelor's degree, even if he has to do so while preparing to represent his career field in a deployed, austere environment. Czerwonka has proven himself as a "Total Package" Airman, and has earned his rightful place in the Top 3 "Spotlight".

Airman

Name: Willie Lopez

Unit: 14 Communication Squadron

Information:

- Home Town:** Seattle, Wis.
- Time in the Air Force:** Two years, six months
- Time at Columbus AFB:** Two years, two months
- Career Short Term Goals:** Finish BS in Information Technology Management and make staff sergeant
- Career Long Term Goals:** Apply for OTS and retire from military
- Nominated by:** Master Sgt. Terry Harris

7. Nomination reason: Senior Airman Lopez is a 14 Communication Squadron extraordinary Airman. He steps up to short-notice challenges on a regular basis and is committed to excellence daily. Lopez stands out as a remarkable Airman because he treats every customer that the Columbus Communication Focal Point supports with the same level of professionalism and respect, regardless of rank. Because he is often one of the first people customers see when they are experiencing network, e-mail or airfield maintenance troubles, Lopez goes out of his way to make a good impression. The feedback provided by his unit and other Team BLAZE customers is nothing short of phenomenal. Additionally, Lopez was promoted to Senior Airman Below-the-Zone because of his ability to lead well beyond his grade. Lopez never ceases to amaze his superiors and peers.



TRICARE expectant, new parents survey validates review program

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFNS) -- Patients enrolled in TRICARE's Parent Review program are giving high marks to this outreach.

Out of 1,037 completed surveys, the great majority of respondents' comments were positive, expressing appreciation for the email service.

More than 2,000 healthy babies are born to military families each week. Meeting the needs of these young families remains a high priority for TRICARE. According to these patients, the Parent Review provides convenient and useful resources to guide them through pregnancy, child birth and care of a newborn.

The Parent Review offers weekly, customized emails to new and expectant parents who receive care at select military treatment facilities and civilian practices. Beginning in the seventh week of pregnancy, through birth and up to the child's third birthday, messages are sent directly to the mother's personal email. Included are tips, questions and answers, information on their baby's current stage of development, parenting news and recent research. Emails may also include customized information from the MTF where they receive obstetric or pediatric care.

Last year, TRICARE Management Activity conducted a Web-based survey of program participants to assess the effectiveness of the Parent Review. Findings include:

- 86 percent always read their weekly email
- 78 percent said the emails were extremely/very helpful
- 74 percent indicated that the emails definitely or usually gave them a sense of connection to their MTF
- 73 percent said the emails provided new information
- Respondents indicated the emails helped them take better care of themselves (76 percent) and their child (84 percent)

Along with using the Parent Review, military families can help keep their child on the path to healthy development by accessing other useful TRICARE resources at www.tricare.mil/baby.

ENLISTED CELEBRATION!



Columbus Club, Friday/15 Jul 11 @ 1900

\$3.00 in Advance/\$5.00 at the Door

2 DJs Card Games Karaoke Enlisted Trivia Door Prizes

Dance Contest Appetizers Dominoes



Fourth of July Facebook photo contest winner



Courtesy photo/2nd Lt. Jared Hageman
Second Lt. Jared Hageman's photo of fireworks bursting on the Fourth of July is the winner of the latest Facebook photo contest. To take part in contests like this one and to keep up-to-date with Columbus AFB, visit www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB.

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.



Base families offered a variety of activities

Join a Bowling League Today

Sign up is ongoing and league play begins Sept. 1 at Strike Zone Lanes. The leagues include Monday night Ladies' League; Tuesday night Mixed League; Wednesday night Couples; Thursday night Intramurals; and Saturday morning Youth. For more information or to sign up, please call the Bowling Center at 434-3577.

Everyone Loves a Gift Card

The 14th Force Support Squadron is making the joy of giving a little easier with new gift cards. They are simple to purchase and easy to use, giving special purchasing power in nearly all FSS activities. The cards are available for purchase in \$5 dollar increments (perhaps for the daily snack bar patron at the Bowling Center) and are limited to \$1,500 (in case a cruise purchase from ITT is in the works). FSS gift cards can be purchased at the Youth Center, Outdoor Recreation/ITT, the Bowling Center, Whispering Pines Golf Course and Arts and Crafts beginning this week. They may be used at all of these facilities plus the Child Development Center and Auto Skills.

Outdoor Summer Fun

Outdoor Recreation's summer hours, effective April 1 through September 30, are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The facility is open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to noon. Independence Pool is open daily from noon to 7 p.m. For more information, contact Outdoor Recreation at 434-2505 or 2507.

"Bump and Run" to the Golf Course for Daily Specials

In addition to offering a great lunch menu with daily specials Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Whispering Pines Golf Course is starting some great daily golfing and drink specials in July. There's "Moonlight Mondays" – nine holes and a cart for just \$15 or 18 holes with a cart for only \$20 from 3 p.m. to close. "Two-Fer Tuesdays" offers two golfers the chance to play 18 holes with a cart for just \$35. Kids under age 14 golf free with a paid adult at each Wednesday's Family Day. The Thursday "Twilight Special" is continuing due to its success. Every Thursday after 6 p.m., play 9 holes with a cart for just \$15. Then "Thirsty Thursdays" offers drink specials in the Pro Shop or on the patio from 4-7 p.m. The Saturday morning "Dog Fights" are open to all

Hookin' Stan prepares to rock Columbus AFB July 9



Courtesy graphic
Texan World's illustrious Rock 'n Roll band, Hookin' Stan, will be continuing their Summer Concert Tour with an incredible live performance at the Columbus Club on Saturday, July 9! The party will start at 8 p.m. and press until the Club kicks us out. The band will be fresh out of the studio over July 4 weekend recording their first album! Hookin' Stan will be debuting several new originals and of course your favorite songs from the 70's, 80's, 90's and today. The bar will be open for food and drinks at the standard Club prices. NO COVER!

levels of golfers and begin at 8 a.m. each week. Every Sunday play 18 holes with a cart for only \$20. Direct questions to the Pro Shop at 434-7932.

Book Your Summer Party Now

Outdoor Recreation is now booking summer parties at Independence Pool. For more information about availability and prices, call 434-2505 or 434-2507.

Passport to Food, Family & Fun

Pick up your Passport to food, family and fun at any of the participating 14th Force Support Squadron activities, and get it validated for such things as attending events, patronizing the facility or just visiting. Turn in your passport at any of the participating activities by Aug. 31 for a chance to win prizes. The participating activities are the Bowling Center, Whispering Pines Golf Course, Columbus Club and Indy's, Arts and Crafts, Auto Hobby shop, Youth Programs, Fitness

and Sports, Outdoor Recreation, ITT and the Child Development Center. For more information about this program, call FSS Marketing at 434-2337.

Hey Single Airmen! Get Your PLAYpass Now!

Single airmen returning from deployment and families of deployed members can receive special discounts and rewards valued at more than \$500 each. 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 now. 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.

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, 5:30 to 6:30 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.

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 434-2505/7861 for more information.

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.

Sounds of Summer Concert Series

Come enjoy the Sounds of Summer Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. in July at the Columbus Riverwalk. Each week features a different band live. Next week's band is Swing Shift. Call 328-6305 for more information.

Columbus Main Street

Looking for something to do in the local area? Check out the Columbus Main Street website, www.columbusmainstreet.com to see what's going on!

Learning to Grow at the Farmer's Market

Come check out the kid's day at the Farmer's Market, July 16 from 7 to 10 a.m.

Kids Saturday at the Hitching Lot! Crafts by Sarah Oswalt, and a watermelon seed spitting contest. The Warehouse Dance Company from West Point will make an appearance as well!

Daily Historic Home Tours

Visit the newly restored Tennessee Williams Welcome Center & Museum beautifully placed in historic downtown Columbus at 300 Main Street. This site is the first home of legendary playwright Tennessee Williams. Take a complimentary tour through this National Literary Landmark and pick up information on local antebellum homes which are open year-round for tours. Tours are \$10 per person, per tour. Contact the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center at 328-0222 for more information.

NASCAR All-American Series

Come watch the NASCAR All-American Series at the Columbus Motor Speedway July 9. Grandstand opens at 4 p.m., racing begins at 8 p.m. Price is \$20 for grandstand admission, \$30 for pit admission, children under 10 are free. Call 574-2572 or visit www.columbuspeedway.net for more information.



Across
1 The 14th Medical Group's annual _____ is managed by the 14th MDSS.
3 14th MDSS first sergeant Master Sgt. _____
5 The 14th MDSS also covers _____ and therapeutic services.
6 The 14th MDSS pharmacy plans to open a _____ window.
7 One of the _____ services the 14th MDSS manages is the TRICARE Service Center.

Down
1 The 14th MDSS supports 4,600 _____
2 The 14th MDSS compares parts of it's _____ to that of the Mission Support Group, but only for the Medical Group.
4 The 14th MDSS commander's first name.

2010 Columbus AFB Drinking Water Quality Report

Spanish (Español) Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuniquese con alguien que pueda traducir la informacion.

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

The base water supply is treated and distributed by Columbus Light and Water Company (CL&W). The water is drawn from eight wells supplied by the Coker Aquifer, a groundwater source, and is stored in various places on base, e.g. water towers. No further treatment is done by base personnel. Source water assessment and its availability The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. This source water assessment can be found in the Columbus Light and Water July 2010 newsletter.

Why are there contaminants in

my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact Columbus Light and Water at: 662-251-4512, Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, and ask for Steve Barksdale. If you want to learn more, please attend any of Columbus Light and Water's regularly scheduled meetings. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 12:30 PM at 420 Fourth Avenue South (CL&W Main Office).

Answers to questions about Columbus AFB water can also be directed to Bioenvironmental Engineering (BE) at 434-2285.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Columbus Air Force Base is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of

drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the

State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Important Terminology

Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: Bioenvironmental Engineering
 Address:
 201 Independence Dr. Suite 114
 Columbus AFB, MS 39710
 Phone: 662 434 2285
 Fax: 662 434 2515

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 rent: \$850 per month. Beautiful three bedroom, two bath house. Perfect for a family or a few pilots! The entire house has been remodeled. New carpet in every bedroom. Patio area

perfect for barbeques. Large fenced back yard great for pets. Washer, dryer, fridge and all other major appliances included. 408 24th Ave N, Columbus. Please call Emma at (715) 570-3484 for more information or to schedule a showing.

For rent: River home, 10 minutes from CAFB. 2,400 sq. ft., three bedroom, four and one half baths, fenced one acre, 250 feet waterfront with dock, two car garage, two carport. New front/rear deck. Available Aug. 1. \$1,550 or best offer. Please call (808) 221-2005.

For sale: 235 Justin Circle. Beautiful three bed, two bath, 1,948 sq. ft. home in Ridgeland Estates (Caledonia School District) less than six miles from Columbus AFB. Home features stone fireplace with gas logs, French doors to the back patio, 15 foot vaulted ceiling in sunken living room, master bath suite with his and hers vanity sinks, formal dining 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. Rent for \$1,250 per month or buy for \$139,000. Please call 570-4221. See more at www.militarybuyowner.com.

For sale: Spacious three bedroom two bath brick home located one mile south of Caledonia. 2,134 sq. ft. 1.67 acre corner lot on cul-de-sac. For photos, visit www.forsalebyowner.com, listing ID 23127663. Contact 319-7380.

For sale: Beautiful cottage-style home in Lee Park. 2,800 sq. ft. Wood floors. 4/5 bedrooms, three bathrooms, deck, carport, and much more. \$173,000 . 574-3218

Transportation

For sale: Boston Whaler, 16 foot, outboard 115 Evinrude Motor, with new trailer tires. Excellent condition. \$12,000 or best offer. Please call (808) 221-2005.

For sale: 1981 Jeep CJ7, 3" lift, 33" super swamper TLS, Rhino liner, new soft top, bikini top and trail top.

\$6,500. Call 425-6246.
For sale: 2008 CBR1000RR, 6,000 miles, Taylor Made exhaust, lots of extras, excellent condition. \$8,650 or best offer. Please call (808) 221-2005.

For sale: 1995 Honda Helix 250cc Scooter, little over 6,000 miles. \$1,400 or best offer. Also have a 1970 and 1972 Honda CT70 trailbikes, one runs and drives with 1,100 miles and the other is 95 percent complete with many new parts. Call for more details, \$1,500. Call 549-6646.

For sale: 2005 Maxima, dark red with tan cloth interior. Very clean, 94,000 miles, new tires, only \$9,800. Call 319-7380.

Miscellaneous

For sale: 60" x 36" rectangle dining table. Oak top with white legs. Good condition. \$100 or best offer. Call 574-8253.

For sale: Brand new Worth Mutant softball bat, 34", 27oz. \$250 or best offer. Call 364-6484.

For sale: IBM Thinkpad R52 Laptop, 1.8ghz Pentium 4 processor. 1G of RAM, 60G hard drive, CDRW-DVD, Wifi, USB Ports, WinXP Pro, Microsoft Word Pro Suite, Adobe. Very Good Condition. Asking \$195 or best offer. Call 386-6981.

Pets

Free: Aquarium and four small fish. Includes filter and top with light.
Free: One year old brown Guinea Pig. Includes sleeping accessories, toys, water bottle, carrier and cage.

Yard Sales

Yard sale: Saturday July 9. Items for sale include household items, kids toys, misc., etc.. Kids items for sale include a Hot Wheels Jeep, Little Tikes desk, toy bins, too much to count! Sale is located at 5303 West Point Ave. (Magnolia Village). Yardsale will begin at 7am.

2010 Columbus AFB Drinking Water Quality Report

	MCLG	MCL,						
	or	TT, or	Your	Range	Sample			
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Water	Low High	Date	Violation	Typical Source	
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	0	NA	2010	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	3.16	NA	2010	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.87	NA	2010	No	Water additive used to control microbes	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.019249	NA	2009	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.838	NA	2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.2	NA	2010	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	0.05	NA	2010	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	

Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	0	NA	2010	No	Naturally present in the environment	
Radioactive Contaminants								
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	0.41	NA	2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.504	NA	2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	1.05	NA	2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Water	Your	Sample	# Samples	Exceeds	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0	2010	0		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	2	2010	1		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
Important Drinking Water Definitions	

The Power in Words

Lt. Col. Robert Paz
14th Medical Support Squadron Commander

Do you remember some of the words you said to your spouse today? When you left the house? Hung up on the phone? How about the words you said to your children? How about your co-workers or customers? Sometimes they are words of love and affirmation and edification and sometimes they are words of hate and anger used to tear down.

Do you remember the illustration about the pebble thrown into a pond and the rippling effect that it has on the surface of the water? Words are just like the pebble; they can effect or change the environment when spoken.

You may be familiar with a television series that ran a few years back called "Touched by an Angel". This is where angels in human form were given different assignments each

week to help solve human problems on earth. In one episode, the angels were given an assignment to help correct a problem where an entire town was angry and rude to each other. As the angels analyzed the situation, they found it all started with one unkind word and before long the entire town was affected. To reverse the problem, the angels had to convince one person to correct their attitude and start being nice to others. This episode really did a good job illustrating how powerful words are at being both destructive and constructive.

King Solomon wrote in Proverbs 18:21 that "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit." Our words are life altering either for good or for bad. Our words do make a difference either positively or negatively.

We have seen it in history over

and over again. Words used to free people and give them life again. The Emancipation Proclamation was written to free slaves in the southern states. The Declaration of Independence was written to declare our country's freedom from Great Britain. The Bible was written to give people a choice to be free from the slavery of sin. Words have also been used to enslave people and give them death sentences. For example, the Nazi's hate propaganda of the Jewish people resulted in the killing of six million Jews during the Holocaust.

We use plenty of words every day whether helpful, hurtful, useful, useless, or needless. In fact, the average person uses about 12,000 - 20,000 words per day. What will you do with your words today? The choice is yours. Will they be life changing or life crushing? How will your words impact others and the world around you?

Gratitude a very different place from which to face challenges

Anthony Braswell
Aerospace Sustainment Directorate

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — I have been reflecting over the past few months on the economic times in which we find ourselves as individuals and as a nation. I wonder how we are dealing with the stress that it places in our lives and in our families.

While I was mulling over my own challenges, I realized how truly grateful I was for all that I have and, more specifically, a great job and being a member of this great organization we call Team Hill. I realized that the evidence of our gratitude may be the very mind-set that will, in fact, help all of us to meet our challenges.

As an avid sports fan, being part of a team is very important to me and provides perspective in many aspects of my life. In today's sports world, the lack of gratitude is very apparent, but that was not always true.

I really like the sentiments of Bobby Hull, the hockey great who once said, "Every professional athlete owes a debt of gratitude to the fans and management, and pays an installment every time he plays. He should never miss a payment."

Great teams pay the price with hard work and dedication and play hard in spite of challenges they face individually or as a team.

Team Hill is no different in that regard. When we look back on the heritage of those who have come before us or reflect on who it is we support, I hope we can do our very best under the constraints that are placed on us. When faced with distinct challenges, those who have an attitude of gratitude find it easier to weather the storms than those who don't.

A favorite saying in our family comes from an unknown author, "The choice to be grateful is the choice to be happy." We have the choice on how we will react to our uncertain circumstances.

I used to work in an organization that had a motto over the door as you entered the building that read, "What are you going to do today to win the war?" And then as we departed the building, on the other side of the door going out a sign read, "What did you do today to win the war?"

With the storms of uncertainty swirling around us, we have to decide how we want to live. We have to decide how we will react when faced with these challenges. I am convinced that being grateful will change the way we approach life in general, but specifically our jobs, and we will see possibilities that we otherwise might sequester because our minds are closed to those possibilities.

John Milton stated, "Gratitude bestows reverence, allowing us to encounter everyday epiphanies, those transcendent moments of awe that change how we experience life and the world."

Gratitude allows us to have the epiphanies that will permit us to make changes to improve the quality of life here at work and at home. We have to stop and smell the roses, don't we? We need to be great wingmen. I hope we can stop and admire the work of those around us and express our appreciation for all they do.

I hope we can be grateful that we work for the greatest organization in the world. Remember, smaller budgets and having less resources to do our jobs will be a reality in these economic times, but we have the choice, not to do more with less but to do our very best with what we have! Nothing more! Nothing less!

Dollars & Sense Topic: How much will I receive for picking up or dropping off my Privately Owned Vehicle?

Uniformed Members:

If your delivery or pick up is separate from your Permanent Change of Station travel, you are authorized round trip POV mileage reimbursement to the Vehicle Processing Center at the TDY rate of \$0.51 per mile.

If you deliver or pick up your POV in conjunction with PCS travel, you will be paid at the same rate as all other POV travel during the PCS. The rate is \$123 per day for lodging and meals and \$0.19 per mile.

Civilian Employees:

If the POV pick up or drop off is concurrent with a Permanent Duty Travel, then you receive the \$0.19 per mile, plus applicable per diem.

If it is not concurrent with PDT, then you receive the applicable \$0.19 per mile for one way travel for the official distance traveled.

References:

- JFTR Volume 1 Chapter 5 Part E Paragraph U5413B
- JTR Volume 2 Chapter 5 Part E Paragraph C5216

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.

Chief Roy reflects on first two years in office, way ahead for Airmen

Master Sgt. Amaani Lyle

Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON — Despite an increased operations tempo and fiscal challenges, Airmen continue to develop and remain an integral part of the joint and coalition team, the service's top enlisted Airman said here June 30 on his second anniversary in office.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy discussed deployments, resiliency, professional development and fitness, with a focus on care for Airmen and their families.

"I'm extremely proud of our Airmen. They're educated, trained, combat-hardened and very motivated," Chief Roy said. "But we are a nation at war and the demands on Airmen and their families are high, so it's necessary to provide the resources and opportunities for their continued growth in overcoming those challenges."

The statistics leave little doubt that Airmen are and will be "in the fight," the chief asserted.

There are currently 41,007 Airmen deployed, he said, with 31,900 of those active duty, 6,501 Air National Guard, 2,409 Air Force Reservists and 197 Air Force civilians. About 219,000 Airmen are supporting combatant command operations daily.

"Our Airmen are proving themselves as valuable assets in every theater," Chief Roy said, adding senior enlisted combatant command feedback about Air Force engagement has been positive.

As the rigors of battle persist, the chief said efforts to ensure Airmen are better able to withstand, recover and grow in the face of stressors include establishing the deployment transition center at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, where more than 1,209 Airmen have already attended. Additional efforts include establishing the headquarters Air Force resilience division; conducting pre- and post-deployment training and tackling numerous family resilience issues, the chief explained.

Of deliberate development, the chief said enlisted development teams, joint and international professional military education and the enlisted fellowship program continue to propel Airmen's careers.

"This year we implemented enlisted development teams for eight specific career fields," Chief Roy said. "We are looking at our senior NCOs to test our process with these career fields this year to ensure we are making the best recommendations. Currently six of the eight AFSCs have met and provided 'vectors' for their career field's senior NCOs. That's what a vector is, a recommendation for continued developmental opportunities in regards to education, training and experience."

Some Airmen, he added, also will be able to take advantage of senior NCO professional military education in Singapore, Canada and New Zealand through joint and international courses.

"This type of education provides a wealth of experience and knowledge not just about the profession of arms, but about our sister and coalition forces' development and cultures, which



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy speaks with Staff Sgt. Thomas Blandino, 14th Security Forces Squadron, during the first day of the chief's visit to Columbus AFB, Jan. 25, 2010.

U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

makes us better partners in future operations," Chief Roy said, adding that senior NCOs who attend these schools will receive Air Force senior NCO academy credit.

Another plan unfolding during his tenure is enlisted fellowship program with Congress.

"After a year-long fellowship, senior NCOs will return to headquarters Air Force or major command legislative offices for two years, during which time they can hone their strengths, capabilities and broaden their perspectives," the chief said.

During his travels downrange, the chief said he observed Airmen continuing to take challenges head on, adding that he wants to ensure warfighters have the necessary resources and gear to effectively perform their missions.

"Having just returned from U.S. Central Command, I can tell you the Operation Enduring Freedom camouflage pattern (or OCP) is outstanding combat gear we're currently issuing to Airmen conducting operations outside the wire," Chief Roy said. "Because OCPs are comfortable, versatile and a better camouflage pattern for that environment, our intention is to eventually issue OCPs for all Airmen deploying to Afghanistan."

The chief explained that the Army and Navy also are

beginning to issue OCPs, a measure that is creating a cost-savings benefit by having one set of gear for everyone in theater.

The chief also is championing fitness as an efficiency, as health costs are among the military's top expenses.

"As I travel, I see the Air Force changing its attitude toward fitness, working out everywhere at all hours of the day with members of other services," he said. "We're seeing a cultural shift in that it's not about passing the test, but maintaining a healthy, active lifestyle, which speaks to resilience."

"If our Airmen are fit and healthy, this increases mission readiness and lowers health costs now and in the future," Chief Roy said. "We must continue to press forward because - bottom line, a fit and healthy force is successful."

Looking ahead, the chief spoke about senior NCO responsibilities to mold Airmen into the most effective leaders for the military's future.

"Today's Airmen embrace emerging missions and advanced technologies with a finesse that was unheard of many years ago," he said. "They make tactical-level decisions that end up having strategic impact across the world daily, so we must ensure our competencies remain relevant to our nation's security and not hollowed."

Air Force chief of staff announces 2011 'Vector'

Staff Sgt. J. Paul Croxon
Defense Media Activity-Air Force

WASHINGTON — The Air Force's senior military officer released his vision for the future in the CSAF Vector 2011, which highlights the service's unique contributions to national security and also provides updates and the way ahead on the Air Force's priorities.

"A year ago I presented a vision for our Air Force," Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz said. "That same vision remains: I see our Air Force rising, strong and capable -- an Air Force consistently and reliably delivering Global Vigilance, Reach and Power for America -- in what is likely to be a very challenging future."

"We made a lot of progress last year, but there is still much to accomplish," he said. "This Vector provides an update of where we have been and where we still need to go as the world's greatest Air Force."

In his Vector, Schwartz discusses the strategic environment and challenges facing today's Air Force, to include budget pressures.

"In the coming years, our nation and our Air Force will face a budget environment unlike anything we have encountered in decades," he said. "As elected officials consid-

er what to do about the growing federal debt, pressure will mount to reduce defense spending.

"The Air Force will play a role in the solution, but not by retrenching or continuing business as usual on a reduced scale," he said. "My pledge for the coming year is to strengthen unit readiness and avoid a creeping hollow force that provides only the illusion of Global Vigilance, Reach, and Power."

"Yet, even as we operate aging systems, many Air Force capabilities require modernization to help us shape and respond to a very challenging future," the general said. "We must make difficult choices to balance near-term operational readiness with longer term needs, and fit all of that into a more affordable package."

The first step to achieving that balance is to reaffirm the Air Force's commitment to its Airmen and its mission, Schwartz said.

"We take pride in having a diverse, highly trained and educated force, and will continue to devote the necessary time and resources to develop Airmen who are prepared, individually and collectively, to solve the challenges of the future," he said.

The Vector also highlights the Air Force's unique contributions to national security, which the general said Airmen must under-



U.S. Air Force graphic

stand, appreciate and be able to articulate.

"While we conduct many missions, there are four unique Air Force contributions that define us: gaining control of air, space and cyberspace; holding targets at risk around the world; providing responsive intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; and rapidly transporting people and equipment across the globe," Schwartz said. "We carry out each of these unique, advanced capabilities through an unmatched global command and control network."

"Collectively, they not only distinguish our Air Force as the preeminent air and space power, they also bolster the United States' reputation as the world's most responsive and

capable strategic actor," he said. "The nature of the rapidly changing security environment demands that we focus on sustaining these enduring contributions."

Schwartz's Vector also provides an update on progress made and the way ahead toward sustaining the Air Force's five priorities of continuing to strengthen the Air Force nuclear enterprise, partnering with the joint and coalition team to win today's fight, developing and caring for Airmen, modernizing inventories and training, and recapturing acquisition excellence.

"Guided by a common vector and the coming year's emphasis on unit readiness, we will continue to train and educate our people while we execute today's missions and work hard to develop the next generation of capabilities that will shape the future security environment," the general said. "Paired with the complementary capabilities of our Joint and coalition partners, we will ensure our Air Force remains poised to preserve peace and to provide Global Vigilance, Reach and Power for today's fights and for generations to come."

To read the CSAF Vector 2011 and other senior leader viewpoints, visit the information section on AFmil at <http://www.af.mil/information/viewpoints/index.asp>.

Gates ends historic term as defense secretary

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Robert M. Gates is the only man to thank two presidents for the privilege of serving as secretary of defense.

At the Armed Forces Farewell Tribute June 30 on the Pentagon's parade field, Secretary Gates thanked President George W. Bush for nominating him for the job in 2006, and President Barack Obama for retaining him in it during the change in administrations in 2009.

At the ceremony, President Obama praised Secretary Gates' bipartisanship, and awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest award a president can confer to a civilian.

Secretary Gates also spoke to those who would have the United States withdraw from world affairs and retreat to isolationism. He took the thought from General of the Army George C. Marshall, the former defense secretary and Army chief of staff during World War II. Secretary Gates said that once while addressing university graduates, General Marshall extolled what he considered the great "musts" of that generation.

He said the musts included the development of a sense of responsibility for world order and security, and the development of a sense of the overwhelming importance of America's acts and failures to act.

"Now, as when (General) Marshall first uttered those words, a sense of America's exceptional global responsibilities and the importance of what we do or do not do remain the great 'musts' of this dangerous new century," Secretary Gates said. "It is the sacred duty entrusted to all of us privileged to serve in positions of leadership and responsibility; a duty we should never forget or take lightly; a duty I have every confidence you will all continue to fulfill," he added.

Secretary Gates said his service as secretary of defense "has been the greatest honor and privilege of my life, and for that I will always be grateful."

The transition from the Bush to the Obama administration was the first during war in nearly 40 years, Secretary Gates said, and it showed how serious people in both parties came together to do good for the country.

"The collegiality, thoroughness and professionalism of the Bush-Obama transition were of great benefit to the country and were a tribute to the character and judgment of both presidents," he said.

When Secretary Gates arrived in the Pentagon in December 2006, Marine Gen. Peter Pace helped shepherd him through the intricacies of the building, and he thanked General Pace, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the time, for his help.

Secretary Gates also thanked his "battle buddy," the current chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Navy Adm. Mike Mullen.

"Without Mike's advice to me, his effective leadership of the uniformed military and our close partnership, the record of the last several years would, I think, have been very different," the secretary said. "Mike was never shy about disagreeing with me, but unfailingly steadfast and loyal to me and to the presidents he served once a decision was made. He is the epitome of a military leader and officer, a man of supreme integrity, a great partner and a good friend."

Secretary Gates said he benefited from the great team in the department when he arrived, and the great team that came in under the Obama administration. He thanked the political appointees of both parties and the career civil servants for their efforts in the Pentagon to provide for those serving on battlefields in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Secretary Gates also stressed the need for cooperation among federal agencies. He specifically pointed out the productive and warm relationship between the State Department,

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Spotlight: Behind the counter or behind the scenes, 14th Medical Support Squadron keeps Medical group running



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Master Sgt. Naressa Allen, 14th Medical Support Squadron Medical Logistics Flight chief, moves a pallet of medical supplies into storage. One facet of the 14th MDSS's mission is to store medical supplies and repair medical equipment for the 14th Medical Group.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Staff Sgt. Michael Talavera, 14th Medical Support Squadron outpatient medical records clerk, pulls a file from the medical record archives. Records are kept for over 4,400 enrolled members and over 1,200 additional beneficiaries.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Michael Nelson, Jack Marlin and Dwaine Smith of the 14th Medical Support Squadron business operations team review records for a member of the 14th Medical Group. The 14th Medical Support Squadron manages the budget, manpower actions, medical logistics, medical readiness, information systems, equipment maintenance and facility maintenance for the 14th MDG.

1. Unit Mission and Vision:

Mission: Enhancing the human weapon system by building a health community
Vision: Leading the way with the right care, anytime, anywhere

2. Key Leaders

Commander: Lt. Col. Robert Paz
First Sergeant: Master Sgt. Norma Chism

3. Personnel numbers

Military: 35
Contracted: 19
Civil Service: 16
Buildings: Medical Clinic, Dental Clinic

4. Squadron Functions:

The 14th Medical Support Squadron provides essential administrative support, beneficiary services and diagnostic and therapeutic services for the 14th Medical Group and our 4,600 beneficiaries. Administrative support services include managing the Medical Group's \$6.7 million budget, manpower actions, medical logistics, medical readiness, information systems, equipment maintenance and facility maintenance for the main clinic and dental clinic. Beneficiary Services include the TRICARE Service Center, referral management and medical records. Finally, diagnostic and therapeutic services include the pharmacy, laboratory and radiology.

5. Upcoming challenges

We have several upcoming challenges and exciting new initiatives. Our Facility Management personnel are working minor construction projects to bring our 50 year old building originally designed as a hospital into compliance with new Family Health Initiative space requirements. Our Medical Logistics personnel are implementing a new Radio Frequency Identification System to track medical equipment. Our Medical Information System personnel are working to upgrade the clinic's IT infrastructure with a swap out of 150 new Personal Computers and wireless capability. Our TRICARE and Patient Administration personnel are working with the Jackson, Miss. Veteran's Administration on the new Integrated Delivery and Evaluation System with will improve the medical retirement disability process. Finally, the Pharmacy will soon be opening a third prescription window for refills.

6. How does the unit support SUPT?

We help ensure student pilots are medically ready to become professional military aviators. Further, we help ensure a healthy base and beneficiary population by completing the functions above.

7. Unique aspects of the unit

We are similar to the Mission Support Group, but dedicated entirely to the clinic. We have our own finance, communications, logistics, readiness, facility management and equipment maintenance personnel.

8. Senior leader comments:

We do all the functions listed above with a very limited number of highly qualified personnel which makes this a diverse and exciting squadron to work in.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Rosalind Boaz, 14th Medical Support Squadron pharmacy technician, counts a prescription by hand. The pharmacy fills an average of 450 prescriptions each day.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Airman 1st Class Nicholas Mack, 14th Medical Support Squadron Medical Materials Apprentice prepares a scanner before performing an inventory check. The 14th Medical Support Squadron tracks medical equipment currently in use, and properly stores inactive pieces.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Staff Sgt. Engeliq Dupre, 14th Medical Support Squadron NCOIC of chemistry inspects a serum after running it through a chemistry analyzer. The 14th Medical Support Squadron's lab performs over 100,000 analytical tests annually for over 8,300 DoD beneficiaries.

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DOD and the intelligence community.

“The blows struck against al-Qaida, culminating in the (Osama) bin Laden raid, exemplify the remarkable transformation of how we must fuse intelligence and military operations in the 21st century,” he said.

Secretary Gates said his views on cooperation with the State Department have evolved over his four decades of government service. When he began his public service career in 1966, he said, the secretaries of state and defense barely spoke.

“In the case of secretaries (Condoleezza) Rice and (Hillary Rodham) Clinton, I have not only been on speaking terms with these two formidable women, we’ve also become cherished colleagues and good friends,” he said.

Secretary Gates also testified before Congress on the need for more money for the State Department.

“We should never forget that diplomats and development experts from State and (the

Agency for International Development) are taking risks and making sacrifices in some of the planet’s least hospitable places,” he said. “And I speak for all our military in appreciating the contributions they are making every day to the success of our missions in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere around the globe.”

The secretary thanked his wife, Becky, for her help and support. When President Bush asked Secretary Gates to be the secretary, he asked his wife what she thought.

“I was really wrestling with the decision and finally told her she could make it a lot easier if she just said she didn’t want to go back to D.C.,” Secretary Gates said. “She thought a moment and replied, ‘We have to do what you have to do.’ That is something military spouses have said in one form or another a million times since 9/11 upon learning that their loved one received a deployment notice or is considering another tour of service.

“She made it easy for me to say yes to this job, to do what I had to do to answer the call to serve when so much was at stake for

America and her sons and daughters in two wars,” he added.

Secretary Gates has spent much of the last few months visiting with American service members around the world. He has put a farewell message out to the troops.

“Though I was only able to meet a small sample of those who deployed downrange, it was important to meet, to look them in the eye one last time and let them know how much I care about them and appreciate what they and their families do for our country,” he said. “I’ll just say here that I will think of these young warriors — the ones who fought, the ones who keep on fighting, the ones who never made it back — till the end of my days.”

Secretary Gates praised his successor as secretary, Leon Panetta, who will be sworn in as the 23rd defense secretary July 1.

“This department and this country are fortunate that a statesman of Leon Panetta’s caliber and experience has agreed to serve once again, and at such an important time,” Secretary Gates said. “My parting advice for Leon is to get his office just the way he likes it.



Defense Department photo/Petty Officer 1st Class
Chad J. McNeeley

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates reviews troops at the Armed Forces Farewell Tribute at the Pentagon, June 30, 2011.

Panetta pledges 'No hollow force' on his watch

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — New Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta pledged there will be no hollow force on his watch.

The secretary made the commitment in a message to the Defense Department released after he took the oath of office July 1. DOD General Counsel Jeh Johnson administered the oath in the secretary's office. Taking the oath transferred responsibility for the department from Robert M. Gates.

Panetta also pledged to be a tireless advocate for service members and their families.

"You and your families will always be foremost on my mind and at the top of my agenda," he said.

The secretary will not hesitate to do what needs to be done to defend America. He also will fight for the needs "of the men and women who serve in harm's way, and the fam-



Defense Department photo/Tech. Sgt. Jacob N. Bailey

Leon E. Panetta takes the oath of office as the 23rd secretary of defense during a Pentagon ceremony, July 1, 2011. Department of Defense General Counsel Jeh Johnson administered the oath in the secretary's office.

ilies who support them," he said. "Even as the United States addresses fiscal challenges at home, there will be no hollow force on my watch. That will require us all to be disci-

plined in how we manage taxpayer resources."

During the day, Panetta will meet with Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn III, and participate in a "tank" meeting with the members of the Joint Chiefs, said Doug Wilson, assistant secretary of defense for public affairs. Panetta and his wife, Sylvia, also will have lunch in his Pentagon office with Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his wife, Deborah.

The secretary, who served as the director of the CIA, has been intimately involved with operations around the world since the beginning of the Obama administration. The nation is at war, he said, and must prevail against its enemies.

"We will persist in our efforts to disrupt, dismantle and ultimately defeat al-Qaida," he said. "The successful operation that killed Osama Bin Laden — a mission that showcased American military strength and precision — is a major step toward that goal."

In Afghanistan, the secretary said service members must continue to work with Afghan security forces and coalition partners to transition security responsibility to the Afghans by 2014. The goal must be an Afghanistan that never again becomes a safe haven for terrorists, he said.

The transition of American troops in Iraq is well under way with more than 100,000 U.S. service members out of the nation, and 48,000 due to leave by the end of the year.

"As we continue our transition out of Iraq, we must cement a strategic relationship with the Iraqi government, one based not solely on our military footprint there but on a real and lasting partnership," Panetta said. "It is in America's interests to help Iraq realize its potential to become a stable democracy in a vitally important region in the world and to reinforce that responsibility, for the future security of Iraq must belong to the Iraqis themselves."