

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 36, Issue 27

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

July 6, 2012

## Weather



### Today

High: 97, Low: 72  
Isolated T-Storms



### Saturday

High: 95, Low: 73  
Isolated T-Storms



### Sunday

High: 92, Low: 72  
Isolated T-Storms



### Monday

High: 90, Low: 70  
Isolated T-Storms

## News Briefs

### Wing Retreat Ceremony

The 14th Flying Training Wing will hold a Wing Retreat Ceremony July 16 at 4:30 p.m. in front of the Smith Plaza.

### Class 12-12 Assignment Night

SUPT Class 12-12 will hold their assignment night at 5 p.m. in the Columbus Club on July 13.

### 19th AF Inactivation

Air Education and Training Command's Nineteenth Air Force will inactivate after managing the command's flying training operations for more than 19 years. Gen. Edward Rice, AETC commander, will lead an inactivation ceremony and furling the 19th Air Force flag at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, in Hangar 41 at 9 a.m., July 12. In 2011, Secretary of the Air Force, Michael Donley, called for the inactivation of three numbered air forces and the consolidation of their duties to their respective Major Commands.

## Inside



### Feature 8

The Base Automated Telephone Tree is highlighted in this week's feature.



Neil Hogan, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Chief renders a salute to the memory of Senior Airman Geoffrey Cullen Jr. during a memorial service July 3 in the base chapel. Cullen Jr., passed away June 29 due to injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident.

## CAFB holds memorial service for firefighter Airman

**Senior Airman Chase Hedrick**  
14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

firefighter during a memorial service in his honor at the Columbus Air Force Base Chapel on July 3.

Friends, family and wingmen mourned the loss of a 14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Airman Geoffrey Cullen Jr., passed away June 29 due to injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident.

Fellow firefighters spoke throughout the service of Cullen's kindness, sense of humor and ability to live life to the fullest. According to them, some of Cullen's favorite things were hunting, trucks and

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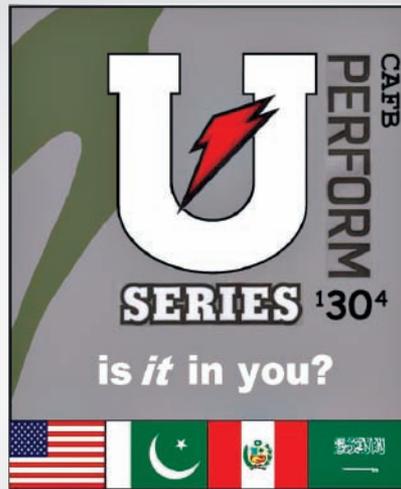
## COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

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 (13-06)	--- days	2.0 days	Aug 10	48th (12-12)	--- days	0.9 days	Jul 13	49th (12-JB)	--- days	0.5 days	Jul 25	T-6	—	—	—
41st (13-05)	--- days	1.1 days	Jul 20	50th (12-12)	--- days	-2.0 days	Jul 13					T-1	—	—	—
												T-38	—	—	—
												IFF	—	—	—

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Burton Moore (USAF Ret.).

# 13-04 Track Select

2nd Lt. Travis Adams	T-38
2nd Lt. Ibrahim Aljaloud	T-38
2nd Lt. Mansour Amer	T-38
2nd Lt. Jonathon Ashley	T-1
2nd Lt. Nicholas Bargiband	T-1
2nd Lt. Ryan Blakeney	T-1
2nd Lt. Andrew Campbell	T-1
2nd Lt. Nathan Carter	T-1
2nd Lt. John Christy	T-1
2nd Lt. Patrick Doyle	T-1
2nd Lt. Christopher Farrell	T-1
2nd Lt. Kyle Gadoury	T-1
2nd Lt. Joshua Hammervold	T-38
2nd Lt. Caleb Howard	T-1
2nd Lt. Alexander Kiel	Helo
2nd Lt. Bryan Koenig	T-38
2nd Lt. Brendan Lanphear	T-38
2nd Lt. Evan Lomeli	T-1
2nd Lt. Shayne McAfee	T-38
2nd Lt. Chad Meyer	T-1
2nd Lt. Nathaniel Moyer	T-38
2nd Lt. James Nichol	T-1
2nd Lt. Douglas Parrish	T-1
2nd Lt. Liam Stein	T-1
2nd Lt. Tristan Stonger	T-1
2nd Lt. Skyler Villers	T-38



### Leverette Award

2nd Lt. Skyler Villers

### Top Guns

**Contact:** 2nd Lt. Shayne McAfee  
**Instrument:** 2nd Lt. Joshua Hammervold  
**Formation:** 2nd Lt. Skyler Villers

## 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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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
9	10	11	12	13	14/15
CAP USAF SUPT Familiarization Course (7-14)	Clergy Appreciation Day, 8:30 a.m. @ Chapel  Hearts Apart, 4:30 p.m. @ Airman and Family Readiness Center		19th AF Inactivation	Class 12-12 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club	SCCA Autocross, 9 a.m. @ SAC ramp (14-15)
16	17	18	19	20	21/22
Wing Retreat Ceremony, 4:30 p.m. @ Smith Plaza  Night Flying Week	Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club  Class 13-11 PPW		Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m @ Chapel Annex  Medical Group Closed, noon	14th Medical Operations Squadron CoC, 3 p.m. @ Club Hearts Apart, 7 p.m. @ Pool Class 13-05 Track Select, 9 a.m. @ Phillips Auditorium	BLAZE COMMUNITY Day, 9 a.m. @ Freedom Park

### Long Range Events

July 24: Quarterly Awards Ceremony  
July 25: IFF Class  
July 27: Class 12-12 Graduation  
July 31: Enlisted Promotions  
Aug. 3: Class 12-13 Assignment Night  
Aug. 6: 14th CS AoC  
Aug 6-10: Night Flying Week  
Aug. 7: Newcomers  
Aug. 8: 13-12 PPW  
Aug. 10: Class 13-06 Track Select  
Aug. 11: Tops in Blue

## Summary Court Officer notice: Estate claims

Col. Jim Sears, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, regretfully announces the death of Senior Airman Geoffry Cullen, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron. Anyone having claims against or indebtedness to the estate of Senior Airman Geoffry Cullen should contact Capt. Jaclyn Sullivan, the Summary Court Officer at 434-7944 or (336) 757-6017.

## 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 69 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



## 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 Wing Headquarters building, BLDG. 724, suite 210. Questions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.



## Oakden assumes command of 49th FTS



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin  
Col. Steve Stater, 14th Operations Group Commander, passes the 49th Fighter Training Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Neil Oakden, 49th FTS Commander during a change of command ceremony on June 29 at the Fuels Maintenance Hangar.

## MEMORIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

sweets. They told stories showing just how much Cullen embodied the core value of Service Before Self.

"He was the kind of person that for anything you needed he would be there for," said Senior Airman Jason Pincheon, 14th CES. "Ask for the shirt off his back, and it was yours."

During the memorial service Lt. Col. David Meissen, 14th CES Commander shared a story

about how just a week prior, Jeff and three other firefighters saved a baby and father caught in the current the Buttahatchee river.

"Immediately afterwards the family was reunited, the baby made safe. Jeff made his way back over to the river's edge and proceeded to throw up," said Meissen. "He had just given his all to save the life of another."

"Though this is a time of grief I'm happy and grateful that he has been a part of and impacted so many of our lives," said Steven Ferrell, 14th CES

The accident is under investigation by local and Air Force officials.

## 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.

# Positive steps every AETC Airman can take to be C3

## Utilities

AETC spends more than \$100 million annually on utilities. While we've enjoyed success decreasing our use of electricity and water, there's still room for improvement. One of the easiest things we can do is to simply turn things off. Instead of leaving printers and copy machines in sleep mode turn them off the end of day and save \$30 per machine per year. Large TV monitors left on during non-duty hours are costing AETC over \$300 annually. For each computer monitor you turn off at night and on weekends, you save at least \$10 a year ... doubled if you're one of the many who have two monitors. If you and your office mates turn off printers, copy machines and large TVs, the savings could reach \$400. For an office of five, that's \$80 per person. Add that to switching off monitors and you could save \$90 - \$100 a year—simply turning equipment off.

Our command can enjoy additional savings by turning lights off when going to lunch or to a meeting and ensuring lights are off in the bathrooms and common areas not in use. Every penny saved adds up to significant aggregate savings.

## IT/Supplies

AETC spends another \$100 million on office supplies, paper and information technology devices. Within this pot of funding, there are opportunities for savings. You can easily generate savings by questioning each requirement, reducing your consumption and using what's already available.

When it comes to cell phones and Blackberries, let's examine who really needs a device and scrub the rate plans. Are you using all of your hours each month? If not, reduce the number of hours on your plan. In my command section we saved more than \$27,000 dollars by examining the number of devices and

associated rate plans. That amount of savings covers the annual savings bogey for almost 40 Airmen.

Regarding office supplies, some organizations have cabinets overflowing with supplies. You may also have enough daily supplies in your middle desk drawer to last the year. Most of our units make large office supply purchases at the end of the year because it's a time to fill up supply stocks before the funding expires. However, we need to decrease our office supply purchases across the command. Before making any more office supply purchases, check around to see if your requirement can be met with existing supplies somewhere in your organization. And, don't hesitate to recycle binders and folders. You can save \$7 by recycling a 3" binder. Also, we don't need to purchase special folders or other glossy supplies. Often, cheaper solutions may work just fine. It's the content of the material and not the appearance that takes priority.

Lastly, we need to cut down on the amount of paper we use. If you attend a meeting where only a couple slides address your area...print just those slides. Better yet, don't print any slides and take a note book instead. A box of paper costs about \$35. Reduce your consumption by a ream and save \$4 - \$5.

## Temporary Duty

Our command spent more than \$80 million on TDYs in FY11. While we won't eliminate TDYs, we know budget cuts will necessarily reduce TDYs in the future. We will continue to send AETC members TDY to attend valuable training and mission-essential meetings. However, there are opportunities for savings within our remaining TDY program.

We spent an average of \$1,400 on each TDY in FY11...a \$60 increase over FY10 levels. There are two primary actions you can take to reduce these costs: limiting use of rental cars

and staying on-base. We spent more than \$800,000 on rental cars in FY11 with an average daily cost of \$54. Are we spending too much? Our approving officials need to review rental car requests ensuring the rental is a mission necessity and costs are the best available.

Once you're selected for a TDY, one of the first things you should do is make a lodging reservation. There are seasoned travelers who are not living C3 and prefer to check for on-base lodging availability upon their arrival. These folks are betting that lodging can't accommodate them and they can stay off-base. Travelers who do not take advantage of on-base lodging increase the average daily cost by more than \$80. If you're going TDY, take every opportunity to reduce costs. If the 15,000 AETC travelers in FY11 reduced expenses to the FY10 level, we would have saved \$900,000. The savings add up!

## Recycling/Refuse

Recycling is not only the right thing to do for our environment, but it also fits into our cost conscious culture. We spend almost \$9 million putting waste into landfills. In addition to our refuse costs, we incur costs in our recycling programs. But unlike our refuse program, we can make money recycling paper, cans and plastic. While each base has different cost factors and market demand for recycled material, each base can offset refuse/recycle costs through its recycle program. The programs are in place, but we must participate.

The Air Force has just kicked off the U.S. Air Force Blue Acts of Green campaign. ([www.facebook.com/blueactsof-green](http://www.facebook.com/blueactsof-green)) There you can follow the Facebook link to find multiple ideas on how to be a better steward of your environment and possibly earn AETC some green savings.

# ANG announces C-130 crash victims

**Lt. Col. Robert Carver**  
North Carolina National Guard  
Public Affairs

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Four Airmen died and two others were seriously injured when a Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System-equipped C-130 Hercules crashed July 1 while fighting a woodland fire in southwestern South Dakota.

Dead are Lt. Col. Paul K. Mikeal, 42, of Mooresville, N.C.; Maj. Joseph M. McCormick, 36, of Belmont, N.C.; Maj. Ryan S. David, 35, of Boone, N.C.; and Senior Master Sgt. Robert S. Cannon, 50, of Charlotte.

The crew part of the 145th Airlift Wing with the North Carolina Air National Guard here.

"Words can't express how much we feel the loss of these Airmen," said Brig. Gen. Tony McMillan, the 145th AW commander. "Our prayers are with their families, as well as our injured brothers as they recover."

Mikeal was assigned to the 156th Airlift Squadron as an evaluator pilot and had more

than 20 years of service. He leaves behind a wife and two children.

McCormick was an instructor pilot and chief of training for the 156th AS. He was married with four children.

David was an experienced navigator and was also assigned to the 156th AS. He joined the North Carolina Air National Guard in 2011 after prior service in the active-duty Air Force. He is survived by his wife and one child.

Cannon had more than 29 years with the Charlotte unit and was a flight engineer with the 145th Operations Support Flight. He was married with two children.

The names of the injured will not be released. Both of the injured Airmen remain hospitalized.

The crew and its aircraft, along with two other 145th AS C-130s and three dozen Airmen, flew from Charlotte to Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 30 to assist with fighting forest fires in the Rocky Mountain region. They were due to move to a base in Cheyenne, Wyo., July 2. The crash occurred around 6:30 p.m.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Brian E. Christiansen, U.S. Air Force graphic/Robin Meredith

Mountain time near Edgemont, S.D., as the crew assisted with battling what is being called the White Draw fire. The cause of the crash is unknown and is under investigation.

North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue declared that flags will be flown at half staff July 3 and President Obama expressed condolences honoring the dead Airmen.

"The support of civil authorities during natural disasters is a key and unique mission of the National Guard," said Army Maj. Gen. Gregory Lusk, the adjutant general of the North Carolina National Guard. "The MAFFS mission is probably one of the seminal missions of the Air National Guard, representing interagency coordination between the Guard and the U.S. Forest Service, the Department of Homeland Security, and Department of Defense organizations to suppress the fires."

MAFFS is a joint Department of Defense and U.S. Forest Service program designed to provide additional aerial firefighting resources when commercial and private air tankers are no longer able to meet the needs of the forest

service. MAFFS is a self-contained aerial firefighting system owned by the U.S. Forest Service that can discharge 3,000 gallons of water or fire retardant in less than five seconds, covering an area one-quarter of a mile long by 100 feet wide. Retardant is discharged along the leading edge of a fire while water can be dropped directly on the flames. Once the load is discharged, it can be refilled in less than 12 minutes.

According to Forest Service records, the agency had worked with the North Carolina Air National Guard on fire suppression missions since the early 1970s.

# Officials say progress must continue in PTSD treatment

**Terri Moon Cronk**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Great strides have been made in treating service members with post-traumatic stress disorder, but progress must continue, military and medical leaders told an audience here today.

The military's three surgeons general and the Army's senior sergeant major spoke at an event to mark the third-annual National Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day.

Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Charles Green noted that the good news is that there is recovery from PTSD, and veterans have access to the very best evidence-based care in both the Defense Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"The hard part is choosing to share your experience, and choosing to recover from something you might not recognize," Green said, noting that more than 75 percent of service members treated for PTSD are returned to active duty.

"My message to you this morning is simple: Seek the help you need ... just do it," Green said.

Raymond Chandler III, the sergeant major of the army, called himself the poster child of someone with PTSD who is concerned about the stigma associated with seeking treatment, something which he says is an on-going issue for many.

His first brush with a life-threatening event in Iraq became life-altering, he said, adding that it caused him to do things that led to a "downward spiral." For example, during his post-deployment health risk assessment, he wasn't completely hon-

*"While it is difficult to ask (for help), it is more difficult, and frankly tragic, to lose a loved one ... to suicide or any high-risk behavior," Horoho said. "Soldiers and families must come to realize that (cases of PTSD) resulting from deployment are curable with the proper care."*

est about his situation because he was being redeployed.

"I felt that if I said truthfully what happened and what I was feeling, I wouldn't be able to succeed and move on. I've come a long way since 2005," he added, noting that he had turned off a good part of his life — the emotional, spiritual and physical elements to deal with being the professional Soldier.

Chandler finally entered a two-week behavioral health program which he said made a significant difference.

In 2011, when he interviewed with then-Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. for the job as sergeant major of the Army, he said Casey was glad to have him onboard with his experience in PTSD counseling because Chandler could speak to the challenges and treatment.

Chandler got the job and went on to tell his story to service members and families.

"I think we've made a difference," Chandler said. "I know in

many of our Soldiers' lives and the many challenges of the past 10 years, we've made tremendous strides in our behavioral health care access, and our care and quality of care, (but) we still have a long way to go.

"I believe we will work through this and we will be better as a nation," he said.

Army Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Patricia D. Horoho told the audience, "As a society in military medicine, we must be able to provide care for the invisible wounds of war in the long run. As a nation, it is our opportunity to partner and lead the way in breaking the silence (of the invisible wounds)."

"While it is difficult to ask (for help), it is more difficult, and frankly tragic, to lose a loved one ... to suicide or any high-risk behavior," Horoho said. "Soldiers and families must come to realize that (cases of PTSD) resulting from deployment are curable with the proper care."

The majority of service members with PTSD return to productive and engaging lives, and remain on active duty, she said. "We will not leave anyone behind," Horoho vowed.

Navy Surgeon General Vice Adm. Matthew Nathan said it "takes a village" to conquer PTSD — and it begins with awareness across the military, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the private sector.

Nathan, who also is the chief of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, said he is encouraged by the embedded teams of mental health care providers who treat service members, and that service members know what to look for in their battle buddies for signs of PTSD.

# Trail BLAZE'r

**Name:** 2nd Lt. Corbin Lind  
**Unit:** 14th Flying Training Wing Plans and Exercises  
**Job title:** Crisis Action Team Augmentee  
**Time at Columbus AFB:** Three Months  
**Time in Service:** Four Months  
**Hometown:** Idaho Falls, Idaho  
**Career goals:** Manage the best intelligence team in the military someday  
**Family members:** Wife Kristen and son Ryder  
**Favorite musician:** Eddie Van Halen  
**Favorite movie:** Independence Day  
**Biggest pet peeve:** People who make decisions before getting the facts  
**Favorite book:** "Lone Survivor" by Marcus Luttrell  
**Inspirations:** Creating/playing music, American military history, God  
**Personal motto:** Always play the 1st quarter like it's the 4th quarter and tied with 30 seconds left.



# AETC commander addresses recruits' allegations of sexual misconduct

Tech. Sgt. Jess Harvey  
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON — The commander of the Air Force's Air Education and Training Command spoke to members of the media here June 28 about the on-going investigation into allegations of sexual misconduct by military training instructors (MTIs) at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

"In the fall of 2011 we discovered, to our great disappointment, that we had a number of MTIs who were alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct with trainees," said Gen. Edward Rice, Jr. "We are all committed to doing everything possible to investigate those allegations, to take care of the victims, to hold the perpetrators accountable and to fix any institutional problem that may have facilitated this completely unacceptable behavior."

In total, 12 MTIs have been accused of engaging in the misconduct, nine of which were from the 331st Training Squadron at Lackland. The squadron commander was relieved, and the MTIs were moved to other responsibilities within the squadron pending the results of the investigation.

Rice said the first allegation was raised by a victim in June 2011, and then, in November 2011, a group of MTIs came forward with information they overheard from other instructors.

"The vast majority of our 500 military training instructors are performing magnificently in a tremendously demanding environment," said Rice. "No one is more angry and disappointed than they are that a relatively small number of their cadre has cast a shadow over the entire program."

That's why, he said, the instructors came forward.

"Some of this alleged misconduct occurred while the trainees were in basic military training and some of this alleged misconduct occurred after the trainees graduated from BMT but were

still in what we call the technical-training environment," said Rice.

But the general pointed out that, no matter where or when it happened, the Air Force has a zero-tolerance policy for this type of behavior and AETC has policies in place to deter it.

"Regardless of whether the activity occurred in basic military training or in the technical training environment," said Rice, "personal relationships of any kind between trainees and instructors are strictly prohibited by our regulations and our instructions."

As soon as AETC leaders received the first allegation, they began an aggressive investigation and further tightened the measures already in place to deter such misconduct.

One such measure includes a briefing given to all recruits within the first 72 hours of their arrival, according to Rice. The training group commander, chaplain, judge advocate, and sexual assault response coordinator talk to recruits about their rights and responsibilities to report misconduct.

Another measure includes comment boxes located all throughout the training areas where recruits can use comment sheets to anonymously report incidents.

"The training group commander reads every urgent sheet within 24 hours," said Rice. "And any allegation of sexual misconduct results in immediate action."

That includes the instructor being removed from his or her flight immediately and a no-contact order being issued, according to Rice. In addition, the MTI hat is removed from that instructor pending investigation.

He said the command is also looking closely at the instructor and trainee training process, the instructor selection process, and hiring more instructors among other things to combat this in the future, according to Rice.



U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash  
**Gen. Edward Rice Jr., Commander, Air Education and Training Command, gives a press briefing on allegations of sexual misconduct involving basic military training instructors at Lackland Air Force Base in the Pentagon on June 28, 2012. An investigation since June 2011 into the allegations is still ongoing.**

"These actions are designed to help us address the root causes of the issue," said Rice. Additionally, Rice directed an outside look by a major general not assigned within AETC to review the command's policies and practices.

"This external review will examine all the actions we have taken thus far to address this issue and provide me with feedback on what more we can do to prevent misconduct in our training environment and to strengthen our entire training enterprise," said Rice.

"At the end of the day, the best line of defense is for the training instructors in fact to police themselves and that's what happened in this case," said Rice.

But, the general stressed, "It's important that we not pre-judge any of these cases, in any way. Remember that each person we are investigating is innocent until proven guilty."

## Academy cadet uses training to save life

Senior Airman Christina Brownlow  
Air Force Public Affairs Agency



Courtesy Photo  
**Air Force Academy Cadet Christopher Kirk recently saved the life of one individual after arriving on the scene of a horrific vehicle accident on I-395 in Washington, D.C. during the early hours of June 9, 2012. Kirk has just finished his third year at the Academy and is attending a five week internship at the Pentagon.**

WASHINGTON — A United States Air Force Academy cadet put his military training into action when he saved the life of a civilian from a car accident on June 9, 2012.

Christopher Kirk, of Burlington, Iowa, has just completed his third year at the academy and was selected amongst his peers to attend a 5-week internship at the Pentagon.

On the early hours of June 9, Kirk was driving back to his temporary lodging at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling when a Dodge Charger sped past him at about 100 mph while driving east on I-495. Soon after, he saw a flash of yellow light which looked to be an explosion. Within seconds he noticed the front of the Charger was completely smashed in and engulfed in flames.

Kirk pulled his car over as he assessed the accident. At this point, he and four other people were

the first responders on scene.

"I stopped because I was so close in time and proximity to the accident," Kirk said. "Just knowing that there is someone in that car."

Two people began pulling one of the victims from the back seat out of the car and Kirk was able to grab him under the arms and help remove him from the vehicle. The driver and the passenger were still in the car and unresponsive but there was no way to get those victims out because of the intensity of the flames and the condition the car was in.

Kirk then began to perform first aid and worked to stabilize the victim. The backseat passenger was fading in and out of consciousness and had substantial lacerations on his face and back of his head. Kirk has not had contact with him since the accident but was informed that the victim was airlifted to a local hospital and has suffered severe burn wounds but is going to survive.

"You know, you see that stuff in the movies all

the time and so actually being involved was pretty foreign and surreal to me," he added.

Although they had three fire extinguishers at the scene of the accident, the flames were too intense to put out. The entirety of the vehicle was engulfed by flames within minutes.

"I never really thought to have a fire extinguisher in the car before," Kirk said. "I would suggest having a first aid kit, fire extinguisher, a blanket and the mindset to be prepared for anything."

Kirk and his fellow Air Force Academy cadets attend basic military training in addition to combat survival training which teaches them to deal with stress and perform basic medical care. Kirk attributes his Academy experience and training to being able to perform in this stressful situation.

"I was in the right place at the right time," said the cadet. "I did what I thought anyone else would do and tried to keep calm and keep my bearing and let the training take over."

## I am an American Airman: I will not fail!

Staff Sgt. Torri Savarese  
90th Missile Wing Public Affairs

F.E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, Wyo. — Early in my Air Force career, I overheard an NCO say, "The only tradition in the Air Force is constant change." I should clarify that he more grumbled it than said it. I remember thinking how odd of an expression that was, and how the disdain in his voice was unmistakable. I was still very "blue" of course, so I had not had any of the Air Force newness wear off yet.

It wasn't until about a year ago that I realized the newness had worn off. It was within my first few days of Airman Leadership School where it was explained to us that we were to learn the Airman's Creed as part of our curriculum. Before even realizing what I was doing, I found myself spouting the same words I heard from that NCO, years before. "The only tradition in the Air Force is constant change," I mumbled to my fellow classmates. Some of them laughed, some of them agreed, but I couldn't shake the numb feeling that crept over me.

We all learned to recite the creed, and most of us could say it on the spot. There was something missing, though; something that lacked conviction and true feeling. I have heard many people grumble about the Airman's Creed, saying it is fabricated motivation and just one more thing the Air Force is doing to inconvenience its Airmen. People who feel overworked and underappreciated ridicule the Air Force's "attempt" to motivate its Airmen through something as ambiguous as a few stanzas jotted down on a page. I have to confess I was one of those people, until about a month ago.

June 1 was an exciting day for me. My brother-in-law, Jonathan Savarese, was graduating Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. It was the first time I had been back to Lackland since my own graduation almost six years ago. I wanted to make sure my uniform was perfect from head to toe, and that I was representing the NCO corps well. I knew the young Airmen graduating would look to me as an example of what the standard should be, and I knew I could not have one hair out of place.

The pass and review was spectacular; I had never seen anything like it before. Each Airman, so proud of their accomplishment, marched as straight and as perfect as it gets. I remembered how proud I was



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Torri Savarese  
**New Airmen march along the bomb run on the parade field at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, June 1, 2012.**

when I marched that same bomb run, and my eyes started to water. I held back emotion when every Airman pledged their Oath of Enlistment; their solemn promise to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. I was filled with pride to have these new Airmen as my brothers and sisters, knowing we all came from the very same place, and marched on the very same field.

The ceremony culminated with the reciting of the Airman's Creed, which is something every new Airman is taught from their first day of BMT. I was worried the creed would come out as I have heard it so many other times — mumbled, morose and monotone. I was shocked when I heard the conviction of all the Airmen speaking in one voice, "I am an American Airman..." I wanted to join in with them halfway through their oration, and wasn't surprised to see many other Airmen in the audience already had. The final line of the creed was not spoken; no, it was shouted in a unified voice that made the chills run up and down my spine — "AND I WILL NOT FAIL!"

I know that every Airman who comes into my keeping is still very "blue" like we all once were, and I know how important it is to grow that Airman into an exceptional NCO, despite my own prejudices. I ask all of my fellow NCOs to take a minute and reflect on your march down the bomb run. I ask each of you look at your "blue" Airmen and not snuff out the pride and excitement they have. Instead of trying to morph them into shells of their basic-trainee selves, mocking their motivation as something to be embarrassed about, can we cultivate the professionalism, pride and determination they come to us with? Can we let them remind us what it means to be an American Airman? This openness to change will ensure that we all will not fail.

## Leaders: born or made?

1st Lt. Tony Richardson  
436th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. — Let me start by saying that if I had the real answer to this question, I wouldn't look at Powerball winners with envy. I'd be buying countries with "straight cash, homie," as San Francisco 49ers wide receiver Randy Moss would say.

In its rawest form, the only thing required for one to be considered a leader is to have a follower. Simple enough.

So, the real question may be, "how do people get followers so that they can be leaders?" I think some of these answers can be found within the fields of psychology, interpersonal communication/social influence and common sense.

Essentially, a person seeking to become a leader is searching for ways to influence the way they are perceived by others. This is where credibility enters the picture: credibility, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. Person or object X isn't beautiful until someone perceives it to be. Credibility falls in the same category.

As more people agree that someone is credible, that person becomes what some would call an "opinion leader." We all know these types: they are in your office, your huddle, your church, on TV. If there are people, there's communication; and when there's communication, inevitably someone will emerge as an opinion leader.

The qualities, communication, or behaviors that lead us to view others as credible are varied. Maybe you were deceived. Maybe you know person X's reputation. Maybe you view person X as a competent, knowledgeable person on a particular subject. Maybe it evolved through conversation and communication upon meeting person X for the first time. Maybe you were or are being coerced. Maybe it is institutional.

No matter what pushed you over the brink, your attitude toward person X shifted to afford them credibility. When a few people feel the same way as you, well, you have the makings of what they call a "grassroots campaign" in politics.

Equipped with an attitude regarding a subject, something must push you over the edge to make you enact and adopt behaviors consistent with those attitudes. In other words, you must have a vested interest in the idea or behavior that is being advocated.

That, my friends, is the process. A person needs a follower to be considered a leader; otherwise, he's just a person, floating in the time-space continuum, kind of like the Higgs boson, for you science junkies.

All of this points to the idea that leaders are

made. However, some would argue that leaders are born. You just can't teach charisma, character, confidence or competence, they say. I agree with those sentiments completely.

On the other hand, I would argue that those qualities are the result of interactions, experiences and transactions involving a person from birth until the time that you meet them. How a person chooses to respond, as well as how adept a person is at learning from the successes and mistakes of others, is critical to establishing one's leadership potential. To me, potential is a bunch of stuff you may or may not be using, so if you have a lot of it, and start to act on it — look out.

That's probably why I'm such a strong believer of the notion that "those with ability, share the responsibility."

That leaves religious leaders, prophets, kings, dictators and the military. Institutionally, whether you are born into or join one of these establishments, your leader has already been appointed. But, as we've seen throughout the course of history, all it takes is a movement (sometimes accompanied by weapons) to overthrow the ruler or institution, and you're back at square one: influence.

Yes, weapons are a form of influence. So is logic.

In other words, the fact that you were appointed as some sort of leader doesn't make you a leader. Proof: watch what happens the moment you lose the ability to influence others: "Off with his head!"

It is important to note that many of the aforementioned institutions survive for many years, even centuries, maintaining the status quo. By virtue of appointment, the group continues to follow the traditions of the institution, the "cause", if you will, regardless of who is actually in power.

One of the great minds of our lifetime, Simon Sinek, once said, "250,000 people didn't show up to Washington D.C. in 1963 to hear Martin Luther King speak. They showed up because they believed in his cause." This is why we were so successful in advocating and advancing equality despite his assassination a few years later. (Side note: I highly encourage you to read his book, "Start With Why." It will undoubtedly change the way you think about leadership and organizations...it is now one of the top recommended leadership books in influential circles within the Air Force, and is now on the Chief of Staff of the Air Force's reading list).

So, are leaders born or made? My answer for those who consider themselves leaders: who died and made you king? No one? Well, I guess you're going to have to show me.

## Base News

## The Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Consignments until noon. The Thrift Shop is non-profit and all proceeds benefit CAFB Community. It is located in building 530. Phone: 434-2954.

## Airman's Attic

The Airman's Attic is open Tuesday/Thursdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-noon. The Attic serves junior enlisted members (E-1 through E-5) with uniforms and basic household items at no cost. Donations of uniforms, household goods, family clothing, maternity, infant care items and furniture are welcomed. Please coordinate furniture or other large donations with the staff during business hours. The Attic is located in building 530, across from the Thrift Shop.

## Contraceptive Counseling Class

There are currently many safe and effective options for preventing or delaying pregnancy. The staff of the 14th Medical Group, wants to make sure you have the information you need to make your best choice. The Family Health Clinic is now offering a Birth Control Counseling Class covering topics ranging from natural family planning to tubal ligation. The class is offered once a month and taught by a Women's Health Provider and a Registered Nurse. Classes will be held at the Koritz Clinic, the last Friday of each month from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Please call the clinic appointment line at 434-2273 to reserve your spot in the next Birth Control Counseling Class.

## Sleep Enhancement Class

There is a new Sleep Enhancement Class at the Koritz Clinic held every other Friday. You are a good candidate for the Sleep Enhancement Class if you have trouble falling asleep or staying asleep. Call 434-CARE (2273) to schedule.

## Education Testing Center Closures

The Education Office will NOT conduct testing (PME, CDC, CLEP/DANTES) on Thursday, July 5 and Tuesday, Sept. 4. Please plan accordingly. Testing is held each Tuesday and Thursday at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Call 434-2562 434-2563 to schedule an exam.

## FREE Computerized CLEP Exams

Computerized CLEP testing is available at the Mississippi State University Assessment and Testing Center (<http://www.ats.msstate.edu/test>

ing/). Military members will NOT be charged a fee for the first-time administration of any CLEP exam. However, retakes of CLEP exams must be paid for by the military member. DANTES (DSST) paper-based exams will continue to be administered in the CAFB Ed Office. Please call 434-2562 or 434-2563 for more information.

## 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>.

## LGR Mobility Individual Protective Equipment Element closed for Training

The 14th Logistics Division, Mobility and Individual Protective Equipment Element located in the Walker Center, building 1030 will close for training Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. beginning Thursday, May 10, 2012. All appointments must be scheduled around these days/times to avoid delays and inconveniences. Walk-ins are no longer accepted. All appointments must be scheduled in advance by calling 434-7305, 7306, 3363 or 3364. For more information, please call 434-7212 or 434-7306.

## 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](mailto:afrc@columbus.af.mil).)*

## Military and Family Life Consultant Program

MFLC consultants provide a non-medical counseling to help Airmen, (both single and married) their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges, such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental

health providers. Consultants can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC call 251-8627.

## 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.

## Sponsorship training

An electronic version of sponsorship training called eSponsorship Application and Training (eSAT) is now available. It can be found on the MilitaryINSTALLATIONS homepage <http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil>, under "Are You a Sponsor?"

## Survivor-Benefit Plan

One of the best feelings about retiring from the military Service is to know you are guaranteed a lifetime income as the result of a successful career. What about your spouse or dependent children? If you die, what guarantees do they have? Enrolling in the SBP prior to retiring will ensure they will have guaranteed

income after your death. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Jamey Coleman at 434-2720.

## 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.

## TAP workshop

A Transition Awareness Program will be held 10-12 July starting at 7:30 a.m. Seminars on July 10: 7:45 a.m. Health Benefits; 8:45 a.m. MS Dept of Employment Security; 9:30 a.m. Dept of Veterans Affairs; 12:30 p.m. Disabled TAP; 2 p.m. Dept. of Labor TAP portion. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. POC AFRC, 434-2790.

## Wing Newcomers Orientation

Wing Newcomers Orientation, July 17, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for newly arrived Active Duty and Civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Held at the Columbus Club, for more information call 434-2839.

## Hearts Apart Social

Hearts Apart Social, July 20, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel, information, refreshments, and activities. Please RSVP when invitations are received. Headcount of attendance prior to event is critical for planning and preparation. Advance registration required, call 434-2790.

## Chapel Schedule

Library  
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Service  
**Tuesday:**  
5 p.m. – Lieutenants Bible Study, Chapel Library  
**Wednesday:**  
4:30 p.m. – Choir Practice, Sanctuary  
**Saturday:**  
7 a.m. – Men's Monthly Breakfast and Study—*Twelve Ordinary Men* (2nd Sat)

## Catholic Community

**Sunday:**  
4 p.m. – Choir Practice, Sanctuary  
4 p.m. – Confession  
5 p.m. – Mass  
**Thursday:**  
4:15 p.m. – Choir Practice

## Protestant Community

**Sunday:**  
9 a.m. – Sunday School for Adults, Chapel

## AETC leaders on resiliency: 'It's personal'

## Staff Sgt. Clinton Atkins

Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The commander of Air Education and Training Command Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr., released a video at the beginning of this year's Critical Days of Summer campaign with a clear message: It's personal.

"As commander, when someone in our AETC family hurts, I hurt. I take mishap prevention and resiliency seriously," the general said. "For me, it's personal."

Matters of resiliency are a top priority to AETC leaders. Last year alone, six AETC family members took their own lives. As a result, leaders are taking a harder look at the programs supporting Airmen and their families who are living within an increasingly constrained operational and fiscal environment.

"Being resilient isn't just about job performance. Nor is it about preventing mishap fatalities and suicides," General Rice said. "Resiliency is the mental, social, physical and spiritual well-being that propels our everyday lives. It leads us to prosper, make good decisions and overcome adversity. It's eating right, sleeping well and exercising. It's spending time with family and friends. It's job satisfaction. It's finding that necessary balance in your life that helps you to cope with virtually any situation thrown your way. It's the peace of mind of knowing and trusting that you can lean on family, friends and your wingman when situations seem desperate or things seem their lowest."

In addressing the matter of resiliency, AETC leaders laid their expectations in a community action plan on how to better foster the mental, social, spiritual and physical wellbeing, collectively known as Comprehensive Airmen Fitness.

AETC bases, through their Community Action Information Boards and Integrated Delivery Systems, will use a combined approach by stringing together the helping agencies like the chapel, mental health, Airman and family



U.S. Air Force photo by Benjamin Faske  
**Ray Quenneville, 902nd Comptroller Squadron, and his son, Kyle, use straws to blow their boats across the finish line during Famaganza April 14 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. Downtime with family is one of the many activities Airmen can take part in to help them stay resilient.**

readiness center, and the health and wellness center.

The CAP is based on a framework supporting the individual, group and environment. The CAP describes a goal for each area: the individual — create a culture of responsibility; the group — foster strong community integration, sense of Air Force family; the environment — maintain a robust customer support environment with facilities, services and processes.

Col. Creig Rice, AETC safety director, said it is the responsibility of every person in AETC to implement the plan.

"Let's figure out a way, on an individual- and group-level, to help our Airmen, including DoD civilians and families, deal better with the stresses involved in military life," the colonel said.

To achieve the goals set by the CAP, AETC will use a

multitude of classes and programs that already exist at the helping agencies. However, Colonel Rice said many Airmen are either not informed about their options or feel there's a negative connotation that comes with seeking help.

Command leaders found class attendance at many of the agencies is often poor. To boost attendance, AETC will use a successful program, called Leadership Pathways, first implemented, at Air Mobility Command. The command will begin implementation soon and will be up to full speed by September 2013.

Leadership Pathways is designed to use individual recognition at the squadron, group and wing levels to encourage Airmen to attend classes offered by Air Force helping agencies. One star is given for completion of eight classes and the individual receives squadron-level recognition; two stars are given for taking 15 classes and results in group-level recognition; and three stars and wing-level recognition are given for 20-plus classes.

Colonel Rice said he hopes this concerted effort will ensure widespread awareness of the benefits each class offers. Leadership Pathways, along with the community action plan, are designed to improve information dissemination and the way helping agencies are viewed.

"We, as leaders and supervisors, must better inform our Airmen and their families about the programs available to them that can really make a difference in their lives," said Lt. Gen. Douglas Owens, AETC vice commander. "We also need to do a better job of showing them it's alright to use these helping agencies."

"Leadership Pathways will help us get there," he said.

For AETC to accomplish its goal of improving Airmen's and their families' resiliency, leaders from the top all the way down to the frontline supervisor need to get involved, Colonel Rice said. "The more leaders take care of their Airmen, the better their Airmen are going to take care of the mission," he said. "But it really takes leadership to make it happen."

"Let's all take it personally," General Rice said.

## AF members gain PLAYpass use, discount opportunities

## Eric Grill

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — As summer approaches, eligible Airmen and their families have the opportunity to use the PLAYpass Get Out and PLAY program to save hundreds of dollars with discounts in recreational and life skills classes.

PLAYpass cards, valued at more than \$500, allow single Airmen returning from deployments, families of deployed Airmen and families of Airmen at dependent-restricted

assignments to participate in Air Force Services activities such as trips, sports and child care at either a reduced cost or free of charge.

"I think it's an absolutely wonderful program," said Shelta Reese, the 902nd Force Support Squadron marketing director. "It provides both families of deployed members and single Airmen returning from deployment an amazing opportunity to take a break from some of the stressors of deployment, to just get out and have some fun together as a family or with some friends."

Using the PLAYpass and going through the Outdoor Recreation Center, families are

able to pay for a variety of things to include pool passes, swim lessons and youth programs, including instructional classes, seasonal sports and teen camps.

"In addition to all of the other phenomenal programs we've already talked about," Reese said, "bowling, golf, fitness center classes and child development programs, including Kids Adventure Night and drop-in care, are also available to families as a part of the PLAYpass program."

Since the Air Force program launched in 2011 and later expanded to include dependent-restricted assignments, more than 37,000 eligible members have participated in

PLAYpass, said Linda Weston, an Air Force Services Agency marketing specialist.

The top activities used with the discount cards include youth programs, swimming pools, outdoor recreation, golf, bowling, and information, tickets and travel offices, she said.

The PLAYpass program runs through Dec. 31.

For more information about the PLAYpass program, program eligibility or how to obtain a PLAYpass card, visit [www.MyAirForceLife.com](http://www.MyAirForceLife.com) or an installation force support squadron.

# Safety officials urge Airmen to celebrate Independence Day safely

**Darlene Y. Cowser**  
Air Force Safety Center

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. — While Fourth of July celebrations and special outings to enjoy the holiday are traditional early-summer pastimes, experts at the Air Force Safety Center here caution all Airmen to practice basic safety precautions.

“Everyone is anxious to enjoy summertime activities, and participating in Fourth of July fun is a great tradition,” said Bill Walkowiak, the Air Force ground safety deputy chief. “It’s important to recognize Independence Day and reflect on its history. While looking forward to traditional celebrations with friends, family and community, we all need to keep safety at the forefront of celebration plans.”

Planning is key to enjoying a safe holiday, Walkowiak said, and offered the following tips to remind Airmen of the importance of reducing the potential for mishaps:

- Keep barbecue grills at a safe distance from your house and never leave them unattended.
- Know state boating requirements, inspect

*“Sometimes people get hurt because of the little things that they forget,” Walkowiak said. “We want everyone to have a great holiday and enjoy the free time. But we need everyone to come back safe and to remember: ‘Safety—it’s personal.’”*

your watercraft and double-check availability of life jackets before setting out on the water.

- Don’t swim alone or dive into water of unknown depth.
- Know your community’s restrictions regarding use of fireworks. If fireworks are permitted, encourage spectators to view from a distance, and keep a bucket of water or water hose near.
- Use plenty of sunscreen and keep hydrat-



U.S. Air Force photo/Mike Litteken

**Air Force Safety Center officials urge Airmen to enjoy traditional Independence Day celebrations while remembering basic safety precautions.**

ed while participating in all outdoor activities.

- Use seatbelts while driving and a helmet and appropriate protective gear while riding a motorcycle.

“Sometimes people get hurt because of the

little things that they forget,” Walkowiak said.

“We want everyone to have a great holiday and enjoy the free time. But we need everyone to come back safe and to remember: ‘Safety—it’s personal.’”

## Academy residents return home, operations return to normal



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Brad Sisson

**Tammy Rich gathers personal belongings from her vehicle June 29, 2012, after residents were allowed to return to their homes at the Air Force Academy, Colo. Rich and her family, along with all everyone else residing on the Academy, were forced to evacuate their homes because of the Waldo Canyon fire that was threatening the base.**

**Tech. Sgt. Chris Powell**  
Air Force News Service

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — More than 2,100 Airmen and their families who had to evacuate their homes at the U.S. Air Force Academy due to the Waldo Canyon fire were allowed to return as of 5 a.m. June 29.

With the fire contained after burning about 10 acres of land on the installation, Academy leaders determined it was safe for residents to return to Pine Valley, Douglas Valley and the dorms.

Approximately 111 Airmen who lived in the dorms temporarily relocated to Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

“Today, it’s back to business as usual here,” said Staff Sgt. Heather

*“Today, it’s back to business as usual here,” said Staff Sgt. Heather Stanton, from the Air Force Academy’s Public Affairs Office. “The (base exchange), commissary and childcare locations are all open as normal.”*

Stanton, from the Air Force Academy’s Public Affairs Office. “The (base exchange), commissary and childcare locations are all open as normal.” Before the return announcement, only mission-essential personnel were allowed on base.

Airmen assigned here now have 24 hours from the 5 a.m. notification to check-in with their chain of command before they return to duty, Stanton said.

An additional 200 cadets were moved to the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs campus, and officials have yet to decide whether they will return to the Academy or continue their summer classes at UCCS, Stanton said. About 400 more cadets who were in the airmanship program were released to their local sponsors due to base officials temporarily suspending the program because of the fire.

# Base families are offered a wide variety of activities

## White Water Rafting

Outdoor Recreation is offering its annual White Water Rafting Trip to the Ocoee in Tennessee July 28-30. The cost is \$182 per person and includes lodging in a large cabin for two nights, three full meals on Sunday, rafting on the middle river run and transportation. The cost is \$144 without rafting. A \$50 deposit is required no later than June 15, and space is limited. For more information, call ODR at 434-2505.

## Free SCUBA Diving

Ever been curious about SCUBA diving? Here’s your chance to try it for free on July 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the base pool.

## Six Flags Over Georgia

Travel with Youth Programs to Six Flags Over Georgia July 16-17. The cost is \$180 for one person, \$250 for two, \$325 for three and \$400 for a family of four. Cost includes transportation, lodging and park tickets. Space is limited, so contact the Youth Center today at 434-2504.

## Let’s Schlitterbahn!

Your Information, Ticket and Travel office now has discounted tickets for Schlitterbahn – the number one water attraction in America with locations in Galveston Island, South Padre Island and New Braunfels, Tex., as well as in Kansas City, Kan. Contact ITT at 434-2505 today for more information.

## Sunday Brunch

The Columbus Club will host a Sunday Brunch July 22, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., with seating times every 30 minutes. Reservations are required no later than July 19. The cost for adults is \$16.95 for members and \$18.95 for nonmembers. The cost for children ages 5-11 is \$5 for members and \$7 for nonmembers. Kids under 5 eat free. For reservations or more information, call the Club at 434-2471 or 434-2489.

## Get Moving!

Your Columbus AFB Fitness Center has two exciting programs to get in super shape this summer. The 444-Mile Summer Cardio Challenge is June 20 – Sept. 19 on the new LifeFitness Cardio Equipment. Imagine running the Natchez trace, where Native Americans, Kaintuck boatmen, post riders, government officials and soldiers moved along the trail tying the Mississippi Territory to the fledgling United States...all from the equipment at your fitness center. Log cards are available at the front desk at the Fitness Center, and participants who complete the challenge receive a commemorative T-shirt. Also, start training and run if you dare in the Friday the 13th 13K Warrior Run on July 13,

6 a.m. The first 13 participants to complete the 8.1-mile receive a t-shirt. A 5K route is available, and families are welcome to participate. Commander’s trophy points will be awarded. For more information, call 434-2772.

## Don’t Let Your Kids Get Bored

The Youth Center has a variety of fun and exciting camps and trips (something for all ages, including adults). For a complete list of programs and for more information contact the Youth Center at 434-2504.

## Pool Passes at Outdoor Rec

Independence Pool is now open daily; get

your pool passes at Outdoor Recreation. These passes will NOT be sold at the pool or the Columbus Club, but only at ODR. Swim lessons are scheduled in two-week increments throughout the summer for all ages and all skill levels. Stop by or call ODR at 434-2505 for more information.

## Summer Bowling Specials

Bowling punch cards are back on sale with 10 games for \$10, 25 games for \$20 and 50 games for \$40. Finally, Bingo at the Bowling Center is back for just \$1 per card. Dads, visit the Bowling facility on Wed., June 20, for the Father’s Day Special; enjoy two free games of bowling and free shoe rental. Also, check out the Summer

Sizzling Specials to win great prizes for your patronage. Call the Bowling Center at 434-3426 or 3577 for more information.

## Summer Reading at the Library with New Books!

Stop by your Base Library today and ask about the Summer Reading Program, choose from a variety of new books including adult best-sellers and children’s new favorites! Also, soon to arrive are new teen books and updates to the non-fiction collection.

## Affordable Tickets at ITT

The Information, Ticket and Travel office has discounted tickets for Disney World, Universal Studios, Dollywood, Sea World, Busch Gardens, and Six Flags over Georgia, the Memphis Zoo, Alabama Adventure, Dixie Stampede, Geyser Falls and more. Call 434-2505/7861 for more information.

## Need a Break from the Kids?

Parents, contact the Child Development Center for information on the Parents Night Out/Give Parents A Break program, 434-2479.

## Club Scholarships Up for Grabs!

Application packages for the \$1,000 scholarships are due at the Columbus Club or in the Force Support Squadron front office (Bldg. 730, Rm. 231) by Mon., July 2, 2012. Air Force Club members in good standing and their family members who have been accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry for the Fall 2012 term as part-time or full-time students in either undergraduate or graduate programs are eligible. Entry forms with rules and full eligibility requirements are available at the Club, Library, Education Center and in the foyer of the MSG Building. Or go to [www.afclubs.net](http://www.afclubs.net) for more information.

## Batting Cages Now Open

The new batting cages are now open for business. Get 12 balls for just \$1. Machines accept quarters only. The new machines and elevators have been installed behind the adult ball fields.

## Massage Therapy is Back!

Massage therapy is available by appointment only at the Fitness Center. Swedish massage is just \$35 for 30 minutes, \$60 for 60 minutes and \$90 for 90 minutes. Therapeutic/deep tissue massage is \$45 for 30 minutes, \$70 for 60 minutes and \$100 for 90 minutes. Reflexology is \$35 for 30 minutes, and a chair massage is \$1 per minute. Call Terrance Bonner at 662-251-9255 for an appointment.

# Savings drive telephone automation AETC-wide

**Dianne Moffett**

Air Education and Training Command public affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — A key component of Air Education and Training Command's Culture of Cost Consciousness, or C3, is the application of technology to achieve cost savings — also known as Information Technology Efficiencies.

AETC is changing the way it conducts Consolidated Telephone Operations. The end result will be the automation of some CTO services like Hearts Apart, morale calls and conference call hosting.

*“Rest assured, service to our customers is still a priority for AETC — we just think there are smarter and more efficient ways to provide these services,” said Rebecca Meares-Jones, chief of the AETC Computer Systems Squadron’s Services Flight.*

The most visible change for customers will be the elimination of full-time base operator services. Beginning April 1, operator assistance will be available Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to midnight.

“Rest assured, service to our customers is still a priority for AETC — we just think there are smarter and more efficient ways to provide these services,” said Rebecca Meares-Jones, chief of the AETC Computer Systems Squadron’s Services Flight.

The Computer Systems Squadron plans to implement the fully automated system as soon

## CAFB replaces telephone operator

**14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs**

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — As the U.S. Air Force becomes an increasingly cost-conscious organization, many changes are being made to keep up with current constraints.

Columbus Air Force Base made a change to the telephone operating system May 18 in compliance with Air Education and Training Command's order. During non-duty hours the telephone operator is now partially automated.

This is a necessary change in order to still be able to maintain other currently



available services in full.

By Aug. 12 CAFB is slated to transition to a fully automated telephone operating system.

The current schedule for

the automated operator is: Monday through Friday 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 a.m., Friday 4:30 p.m. to Monday 7:30 a.m. and holidays excluding AETC down days.

as possible and complete the change during the next six months, Meares-Jones said.

Initially, she said there may be some impact to customers from bases currently served by the CTO. She explained that deployed Airmen who previously made morale calls to their home station through base operators, will now be issued a personal identification number and will complete those calls without operator assistance.

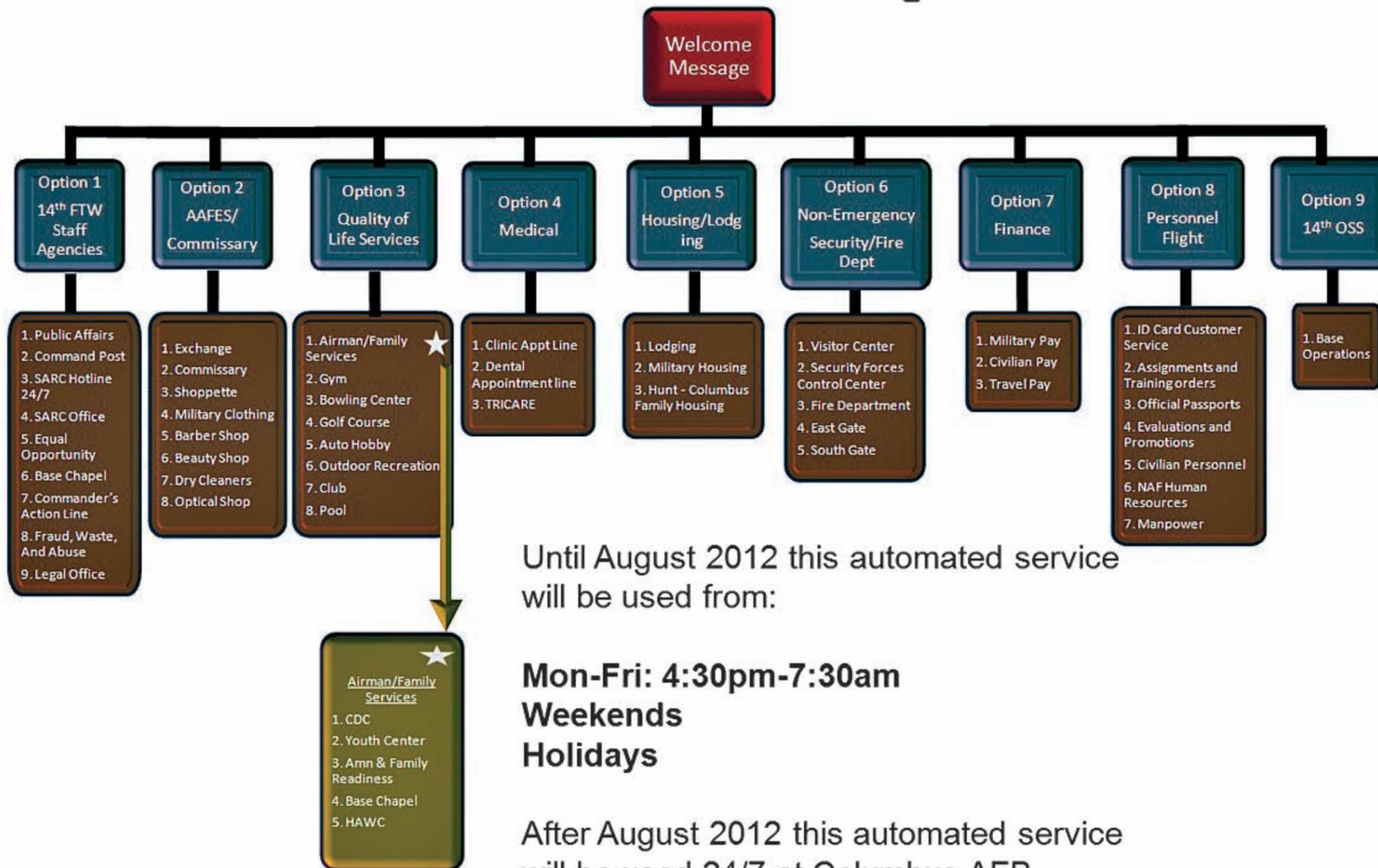
Similarly, callers looking for organizations or people on base were previously helped by base operators. Instead, base operators will be available for the next few months, but hours for directory service will be decreased over

time. Eventually, all callers will be forwarded to a call tree for the most frequently called numbers.

“Manpower constraints will drive us to reduce operating hours before all of the automated solutions are in place,” Meares-Jones said, “but we will ensure all possible actions are taken to minimize impact to AETC’s mission and personnel.”

“This is one small beginning step,” said Lt. Col. Michael Moyles, Computer Systems Squadron Commander, “as we find ways to continue providing service to our customers both efficiently and economically. There will be many more in the days ahead.”

# Base Automated Telephone Tree



Until August 2012 this automated service will be used from:

**Mon-Fri: 4:30pm-7:30am**  
**Weekends**  
**Holidays**

After August 2012 this automated service will be used 24/7 at Columbus AFB.