

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 36, Issue 37

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

September 14, 2012

## Upcoming Inspection



# 142

3 Excellents  
3 Zeros  
100%  
Accountability

Days until the CUI

## News Briefs

### POW/MIA Retreat Ceremony

A POW/MIA Retreat Ceremony will be held Sept. 21 at 4 p.m. in front of Smith Plaza to honor those captured or missing during wartimes. Col. Jim Sears, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander will be speaking and former POWs and families will be in attendance. All are welcome to attend. UOD

### IFF Graduation

Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals Class 12-LBC will graduate Thursday, Sept. 19 at 4:49 p.m. at the 49th Fighter Training Squadron.

### Autocross Canceled

The Sept. 15-16 Sports Car Club of America Autocross event on Columbus Air Force Base had been cancelled. The next SCCA Autocross event on Columbus AFB will take place Oct. 20-21.

## Inside



### Feature 8

“What’s your Sept. 11, 2001 story?” is highlighted in this week’s feature.

## Holmes reiterates core values

**Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens**  
14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

The Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters U.S. Air Force spoke at the graduation of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 12-14 on Sept. 7 in the Kaye Auditorium.

Maj. Gen. Mike Holmes stressed to the newest Air Force pilots and the other Airmen in attendance, how important the Air Force core values are and to always look to improve character.

“As in any profession there are skills that we learn and then there’s a code of ethics that goes with it, and for us that code of ethics centers around the Air Force core values,” said Holmes.

Holmes said that integrity is very important to completing the mission because it allows a level of trust that the task assigned was completed properly the first time, saying we need to have that rock-solid level of trust in our military service.

“If you have grandparents or great grandparents that served, they don’t talk about being in the Army or being in the military, you’ll hear them say that they were in the service,” said Holmes. “They say that on purpose because we’ve been called to serve this great nation and our country and many people around the world depend on us.”

See HOLMES, Page 3



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens  
**Maj. Gen. Mike Holmes, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters U.S. Air Force speaks to the audience during the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 12-14 graduation Sept. 7 in Kaye Auditorium. Holmes told the crowd to abide by the Air Force core values daily and to always look to improve your character.**

## 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 (13-08)	1.65 days	0.38 days	Sept. 26	48th (12-15)	-1.78 days	1.06 days	Oct. 5	49th (12-LB)	-0.74 days	0.41 days	Sept. 19	T-6	938	913	30,441
41st (13-09)	0.86 days	1.04 days	Oct. 19	50th (12-15)	-8.03 days	-4.45 days	Oct. 5					T-1	370	363	10,216
												T-38	386	340	11,022
												IFF	116	151	3,307

The graduation speaker is Col. Kent Laughbaum, USAF Retired.

## Airman Leadership School holds retreat ceremony



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens

Airman Leadership School Class 12-7 leads members of the 14th Flying Training Wing in a retreat ceremony Sept. 6 at the Smith Plaza. ALS teaches enlisted Airmen the skills required to be a front-line supervisor in the Air Force.

## SILVER WINGS

### How to reach us

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### Submission Deadline

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

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*Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.*

<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thur</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat/Sun</u>
17	18	19	20	21	22/23
		IFF 12-LBC Graduation, 4:49 p.m. @ 49th FTS	ALS Class 12-7 Graduation, 6 p.m. @ Club	POW/MIA Wing Retreat, 4 p.m. @ Smith Plaza  Class 12-15 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club	
24	25	26	27	28	29/30
	Ms. Sisson, AETC A4/A7 Visit  Newcomers, 11 a.m. @ Club	Class 13-08 Track Select, 9 a.m. @ Phillips	Heart Link, 8:45 a.m. @ Club	Enlisted Promotions, 4 p.m. @ Club	

### Long Range Events

- Oct. 1: CFC Begins
- Oct. 1-5: Night Flying Week
- Oct. 4: Dealing with Grief Workshop
- Oct. 4-8: Class 71-01 Reunion
- Oct. 5: Class 12-15 Graduation
- Oct. 8: Columbus Day Holiday
- Oct. 9: Hearts Apart
- Oct. 12: Class 13-01 Assignment Night
- Oct. 13: Career Day/Civil Fly-in
- Oct. 15: Wing Retreat

**HOLMES**

(Continued from Page 1)

In order to succeed in serving in such a capacity, the requirement for every job and mission is nothing less than "as well as possible", said Holmes.

"We cannot accept or expect anything less than the very best from ourselves and everybody that we work with," said Holmes. "That means 'good enough' can no longer be in your vocabulary, good enough doesn't cut it."

People rarely rise to the occasion of being the best; what happens most often is they sink to the level of their training and character, said Holmes.

"Every day we have a choice in front of us," said Holmes. "We can wake up and enthusiastically say 'yes' to the task in front of us or we can find a reason to say 'no'. I challenge you to build a habit of enthusiastically saying yes every day because when you discipline yourself to do that, pretty soon that discipline becomes a habit. Pretty soon that habit becomes character and you don't have to think about it."

## 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 57 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



## 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.

# Managing the risks of motorcycles in your subordinates' lives

**Lt. Col. Douglas Jantzen**  
14th Flying Training Wing  
Maintenance Authority  
and Motorcycle Rider

At the risk of over generalizing, there seems to be two separate types of supervisors and commanders when it comes to motorcycles and the Airmen that ride them. Either they embrace the individual's freedom to ride and respect the choice to ride, or they want to have all motorcycles banned since they seem to cause more trouble than they are seemingly worth. While this debate might make a great article topic, it's not what this article is about. This article is about risk management. But instead of berating everyone into compliance with more risk management doctrine, we're going to talk about leadership and mentorship.

Any leadership role is fraught with dangers. I don't think I have met a supervisor or leader that hasn't been concerned with the safety and security of his or her troops. Some even lose sleep over their troops. Of special concern are the troops who might display questionable judgment from time to time. These troops often get special attention from supervisors and commanders. Hopefully, the extra attention focuses the troop on their responsibilities and maybe it carries over into his or her personal life. This is

leadership at its simplest level, interaction.

Interaction is what will help you identify with your troops. It is how you will know who rides a motorcycle as well as what type and how often they ride. Someone who rides a cruiser style bike every day is subject to different risks than the guy who has a sport bike they ride twice a year. You can get the basics from a computer, from the MUSTT system or from surveys. But you will only really get the full picture by interacting and discussing things with your subordinates.

A recent fatal mishap investigation at a base out west revealed that the active duty Air Force member was not using all of his PPE at the time of the mishap. Interviews with his coworkers revealed that he seldom utilized his full PPE, usually only when he was entering or leaving base. In other words, he only wore his full PPE when he knew he was being watched. I don't know this member's supervisor and I'm not assigning any blame to him or her, but if it was common knowledge among the troops that the now deceased member had a habit of not wearing or using his PPE, couldn't the supervisor have intervened and mentored the young troop on his responsibilities.

Active duty members must wear all appropriate PPE at all times. That means a DOT approved helmet, long sleeves, full-fingered

gloves, long pants and over the ankle footwear on motorcycles and the use of seatbelts in cars and trucks. There is always the chance that the troop above would have still decided not to use his PPE that day and the outcome would have been the same. But maybe if there was more interaction by his supervisors and maybe even his commander, this troop might have modified his behavior and he would still be with us.

Risk management often seems difficult to describe. As a whole, the Air Force is good at managing risk when it comes to the mission. However, there are just as many or more dangers off-duty as on-duty. Managing these risks starts with identifying them. We can start to identify risks by talking about them with others. For supervisors and commanders we also have to manage the risks of our people. Interaction on a personal level is the key to successfully identifying risky behavior by subordinates. Motorcycle safety is a hot issue right now in the Air Force. That is why motorcycles were the primary focus for this article, but the idea of interaction as being the basis for supervisors and commanders identifying risks goes beyond just motorcycles. So if you supervise someone take some time to talk with them about what they do, ask them if it is dangerous. Who knows, you might identify a risk they never thought of and by doing that you might save them from injury or death.

## Trail BLAZE'r

**Name:** Tim Jackson  
**Unit:** 14th Logistics Readiness Division  
**Job title:** Supply Systems Analyst  
**Time at Columbus AFB:** 18 years  
**Time in Service:** 21 years active duty, 11 years Civil Service  
**Hometown:** Roanoke, Ala.  
**Career goals:** Retirement  
**Family members:** Wife: Angela, son: Tech. Sgt. (Select) Russell Jackson, daughter: Amber Baswell, four grandchildren  
**Favorite musician:** Marty Haynes  
**Favorite movie:** Lonesome Dove  
**Biggest pet peeve:** Political Correctness  
**Favorite book:** "Six Hours One Friday" by Max Lucado  
**Inspirations:** Paul the Apostle, Military Families, Wounded Warriors



**Personal motto:** "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer." - Psalms 19:14

# Good reasons for young adults to vote

2nd Lt. Benjamin Kemper  
14th Student Squadron



As a part of the 60 percent active duty Air Force demographic under 30, we're always getting hassled about voting. Whether by TV, radio, or internet, we just can't seem to get away from it. In our opinion, this campaign to increase voter participation seems no different than "going green" or eating organic foods...it's simply the trendy thing to do. We hear commercials and celebrities regurgitate the same tired catch-phrases like "Rock the vote!" or "Make your voice heard!" Yet, with all these advertisements telling you what to do, they never get around to giving you a solid reason to vote.

## The policy made by our lawmakers affects you more than anyone.

The military will always be an instrument used by civilians to protect our constitution. Your vote about who ends up in office will directly affect how that instrument is used. Issues such as where we are sent and sequestration will affect you.

## Political platforms place little emphasis on the youth vote.

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

## Many of the hot topic election issues affect today's youth.

War, education, employment, and repro-

ductive rights are just a few of the current issues that directly affect the quality of your life right now. Think about the world you will one day "inherit" and you can add environmental concerns, fossil fuel consumption, social security, and healthcare.

## A democracy can only work if its citizens participate.

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

## You cannot complain about decisions that govern you if you don't vote.

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

## Exercise your right to vote.

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

## Flu shots now available



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens  
The 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, Col. Jim Sears, and Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Vance Kondon, get their influenza vaccinations Sept. 10 at the Medical Group. The 14th Medical Group is now offering flu mists and shots on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. All Columbus Air Force Base active duty personnel are required to receive a flu immunization no later than Oct. 19.

## I swear it was this big



U.S. Air Force photo/Frank Lockhart  
This 43 inch, 45 lb albino catfish was found dead in SAC lake. While not extremely rare, it is unusual for a water body the size of SAC Lake.

## 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.

**FSS**  
(Continued from Page 10)

**Get off the Couch and Play!**  
Columbus AFB has an 18-hole disc golf course across the street from the Fitness Center. The course's layout includes par threes, fours and fives plus lots of trees making it great for beginners or pros alike. So grab your friends or family and a disc and have some fun! Disc sets are available for check out at the Fitness Center.

**It's Like FREE Money!**  
Single airmen returning from deployment and families of deployed members can receive up to \$500 in special discounts and rewards through participating FSS facilities and programs. Get discounted trips at Information Tickets and Travel, rent equipment from Outdoor Recreation, play a round of golf, participate in a golf clinic, or go bowling with a friend. These are just some of the offerings through the PLAYpass program. To find out if you are eligible for a PLAYpass card, visit [www.MyAirForceLife.com](http://www.MyAirForceLife.com) or call the AFRC at 434-2790.

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

**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](mailto: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.*

**Miscellaneous**

**For sale:** Two old oak dressers, antique buffet with mirror (ornate), old English buffet, old round oak dining table and four chairs. Very nice condition, have been appraised, best offer. Call 328-1286 after 4:00pm.  
**For sale:** Kenmore white over-the-stove microwave, works great, \$100. Call (719) 290-5440.

**BASE NEWS**  
(Continued from Page 7)

**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.

**Individual Equipment Element Closed for Inventory**  
The 14th Logistics Division, Individual Equipment Element will be closed Thursday, 13 Sep 2012 at 1200 hrs for a mandatory Semi Annual Warehouse Inventory and will re-open Monday, 17 Sept 2012 at 0730 hrs. For more information, please call 434-7212 or 7215.

**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.

**DRMO**  
Recycle first... by using DRMO as your facilities source of supply. Authorized personnel may retrieve property free of charge if the property is still physically located here in Base Supply and marked at DRMO facilities. Other DRMO processing is available via the web at [www.drmo.dla.mil](http://www.drmo.dla.mil). Cost of shipping will apply  
Please call: Inspection at 434-7231 to review DRMO property or Stock Control at 434-7197 with questions or concerns you may have. Parking and assistance available in the back of

building 158.  
**Last Look Area:**  
Recycling... is what the Last Look Area provides! Slightly used furniture and equipment available to all Columbus Air Force Base facilities for free. Pick-up and delivery is the customers responsibility. Three days max for customers who wish to reserve items. Facility hours: Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Need more information? Contact Inspections at 434-7231 or 434-7332. Parking available at the back of building 158.

**Zero Overpricing Program:**  
Interested in saving the Air Force money and making a little yourself? As part of the Air Force Innovative Development Employee Awareness Program there are award incentives for price challenges that result in tangible savings. In accordance with AFI 38-401, responsible personnel will receive a monetary award. Personnel are encouraged to participate on any overpricing issues daily. Please call: Customer Support at 434-7178 for any advice or guidance.

**ACT Testing**  
The ACT college admissions examination will be given on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 9 a.m. in the Education Center. Note: The Ed Center can only give the ACT to military personnel. Information about the ACT is available at <http://www.act.org>. Please call 434-2562 or 434-2563 to schedule.

**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 and 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](mailto: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 building 530. 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](mailto: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.

**2012 Hispanic Heritage month and events**

**Staff Sgt. Aaron Huddle**  
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Did you know the last pilot to earn the distinction of an 'Ace' in World War II was 1st Lt. Oscar Perdomo? Lieutenant Perdomo was assigned to the 507th Fighter Group off the coast of Okinawa in the days the United States was awaiting surrender from the Japanese. On August 13, 1945 during his tenth and final mission, he shot down five enemy aircraft in a single day earning the title 'Ace in a Day'. Hispanic Heritage Month runs from Sept. 15 through

Oct. 15 and is a chance for us to acknowledge and remember those of Hispanic descent that have contributed so much to our Armed Forces. Our country is often referred to as a melting pot; this also applies to our military. With people from so many different backgrounds, knowledge, and experiences to bring to the fight, it is a no brainer why our military is so superior. The following are several events that will be put on by the Columbus Air Force Base Heritage Council. The first event will be the Dorm Dinner Sept. 13 hosted by the Military

Affairs Committee with a Mexican theme for the food. During the dinner, there will be Hispanic related trivia for a chance to earn gift cards. Oct, 12 there will be two events. The day will be kicked off with a 5K run at the fitness center. Finally to end the day and close out our observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, there will be a Salsa Night at the base club for your enjoyment. As we enjoy the events to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, don't forget the diversity that makes our nation so great.

**SEC Football**  
**Last week's answers**

**September exercise hones response skills**

U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

During a hijacking exercise on Sept. 6 a simulated hijacker threatens a hostage on board a T-1 Jayhawk as he makes demands. Exercises such as this one give all units who would be involved in a similar incident the opportunity to hone their skills.

**Visit us online!**  
Web page: [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB](http://www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB)  
Twitter: [www.twitter.com/Columbus\\_AFB](http://www.twitter.com/Columbus_AFB)

# Remembering September 12th, 2001...

**Col. Christopher Coffelt**  
90th Missile Wing commander

F. E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, Wyo. — As we commemorate the 11th anniversary of the tragic events of September 11th, 2001, it is important and appropriate that we remember and honor the victims of the terrorist attacks on our nation and their families/friends who were left attempting to deal with the loss of their loved ones. As one who endured the attack on the Pentagon that day, this 11th anniversary evokes some very strong memories and feelings. I share the same shock, anger, and sense of loss that every American likely feels when reflecting on the events of September 11th, a bit of lingering “survivor’s guilt”, and I think of all that have served, been wounded or made the ultimate sacrifice in response to those attacks, and the families whose constant support make those operations possible, but I also think a lot about September 12th, 2001. While most could easily recall how they felt on September 11th, 2001, likely fewer could quickly recount their feelings on the morning of September 12th, 2001...but as a military professional, my thinking quickly turns to that morning as a guide for our future--I think it is critically important that we also remember September 12th, 2001.

I remember getting up early that morning, placing my short sleeved blue AF shirt that smelled of smoke in the laundry basket, donning my Battle Dress Uniform, and heading straight back into the Pentagon for work in spite of the looks of worry and confusion on my children’s faces. My wife was equally concerned, but fully supported me as I headed out the door as she, too, knew that our return to the still-burning Pentagon would be an important show of resolve that our nation needed. But what I remember most about that day is how differently I felt about the future — likely feelings shared by many of my fellow Americans. Where there was once a feeling of complete certainty about our daily security at home, there was uncertainty. Where there was once unquestioned confidence in the future prosperity of our nation, there were questions. Would today include more

attacks? Is this the way it will be from here forward? Will our daily lives be subject to the same extremist violence that many of our Allies and partners have to plan for and deal with every day in their home countries? The terrorists failed to achieve their primary objective of creating fear which would cause us to bend to their will, but the attacks did leave many Americans feeling uncertain about the future.

Remembering the unacceptable uncertainty about the future that was on many Americans’ minds the morning of September 12th, 2001, should motivate every one of us on the national security team to do our best every day — especially those of us entrusted with the nation’s most powerful combat force. Over the last 11 years, our committed efforts alongside those of our local, state, and federal law enforcement, intelligence and homeland security agencies, and like-minded Allies and partners around the world have done much to diminish the uncertainty. Many 90th Missile Wing deployers have contributed much in direct support of counterterrorism operations worldwide. Our warriors have certainly contributed a great deal in this fight, but our wing’s contributions to our citizens’ daily certainty of their security and confidence in the future go well beyond these efforts. For decades we in the Mighty Ninety have provided a strike ready nuclear force that deters those that would threaten us, assures our Allies and friends, and provides unmatched combat capability and options directly to the President of the United States. What we do, in a sense, is build tomorrows. Our vigilance and the constant combat readiness of our weapons and warriors ensure that Americans will wake up tomorrow morning with the same sense of security, safety, and positive outlook of their future that they woke up with today. Our nation needs us and we simply must deliver our best every day to ensure no American ever again experiences the unacceptable uncertainty they did on the morning of September 12th, 2001. I am extremely proud of each and every one of you and know that you are doing your best every day to uphold this great responsibility. Thanks and please keep up the great work.

## Losing your future to sexual assault

**Col. Tom Posch**  
Air Force Legal Operations Agency

Joint Base Andrews, Md. — “I knew the minute our eyes met that she was the ‘one.’ We exchanged numbers and set up a date. It was planned to perfection. She was the ‘one.’ And then she Googled me. . .and told me never to contact her again. That’s life as a registered sex offender. My face, my name, my address...for the world to see: Sex Offender.”

This is a very likely future for an Airman convicted of sexual assault. I know.

Since 1994, I’ve both prosecuted and represented Airmen charged in “Blue-on-Blue” crimes and all manner of sexual assaults. It happens that my memory of 9/11 was witnessing the attack on America and tragic loss of life on the news ... as I prepared my dress blues for the arraignment and trial of a client charged in the rape of a fellow Airman.

I’ve spent the better part of 18 years advising commanders, prosecuting cases, and representing Airmen charged with violating the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Currently, I am the chief appellate defense attorney in the Air Force. I lead a team of lawyers who defend Airmen after they’ve been convicted at a court-martial. It’s our duty, as required by Article 70 of the UCMJ, to represent these Airmen, search for legal error in their cases, and advocate for their convictions to be overturned and their sentences set aside or reduced. This includes Airmen convicted of sexual assault, which I sadly say remains a large percentage of our docket.

As a matter of professional responsibility, it makes no difference to us whether or not our clients claim to be innocent or guilty — our duty is to defend both equally well — yes, even when they’ve confessed and pled guilty.

In plain speak, the Air Force is not our client, convicted Airmen are.

If you’re concerned that my duties are in conflict with sexual assault prevention, don’t be. In fact, the first thought I’ll share with you is that there are not two sides to this problem. Yes, sides are taken in the courtroom, but nobody is “for” sexual assault or “against” accountability. “Zero tolerance” and potentially severe consequences for those who violate the law have been part of Air Force culture for many years. Accountability is the norm and not the exception. I see it every day at work and have for many years in different duties and settings. Airmen convicted of a sexual offense face

lifelong consequences. If the possibility of trial, conviction, jail, and a punitive discharge don’t dissuade, consider the story at the beginning of this article. There’s a high probability convicted Airmen will carry the label of “registered sex offender” for the rest of their lives. Sex offender registration allows federal and state law enforcement officers to monitor the location and activities of convicted sex offenders.

Airmen convicted of sexual assault at a court-martial are required to register in the state where they live, work, or attend school. Some states even require the offender to notify the registry if they are going on vacation in a different state. If the crime involved minors, state law may bar the offender from living or working near places where children frequent, such as a school, library, day-care center, or park.

Registration laws don’t differentiate well between different types or degrees of sexual crimes, and some don’t even try. Every state keeps a public registry of sex offenders. Many jurisdictions make this information available via a website or app, and may include the offender’s full name, photograph and address.

These laws are designed as public-safety measures rather than additional punishment, but they can carry with them a substantial loss of freedom and liberty. After serving their sentences, Airmen often find it difficult to find a home or a job, and registration also impacts their freedom of association with families, friends and loved ones. What may not have been that big of a deal at age 19, can drastically alter your way of life when you’re in your thirties and married with children. The consequences of a sexual assault conviction go far beyond the immediate sentence.

I share this perspective because prevention is better than prosecution. It’s my hope that knowledge of the consequences may deter Airmen from a poor choice and a lifetime of regret. A sexual assault conviction is often just the beginning of a life of diminished freedom. Understanding the consequences today, may avert the sad outcome of this destructive crime and help our fellow Airmen before they fail or realize too late that such illegal conduct has lasting ramifications beyond the possibility of conviction, confinement, and a punitive discharge. It’s important that Airmen think about the lifelong consequences of sexual assault now, not when having it explained to them by an attorney. This cannot be understated: sexual assault crimes last a lifetime for all involved.

# Airmen urged to reenlist, extend before MilPDS upgrade

**Tech. Sgt. Steve Grever**  
Air Force Personnel Center  
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Air Force officials are urging Regular Air Force Airmen who are eligible to reenlist or extend their current enlistment in December and early Jan. 2013 to complete these personnel actions through the myPers website and their base military personnel sections or force support squadrons by Nov. 15 to avoid processing delays and military pay issues.

Airmen need to accomplish these actions because the Air Force is upgrading and transferring the Military Personnel Data System to the Defense Information Systems Agency’s Defense Enterprise Computing Center in December. The upgrade project is scheduled to take about 23 days to complete, during which time, MilPDS will not be available.

MilPDS is the primary records database for personnel data and actions that occur throughout every total force Airman’s career. MilPDS is also used to initiate Airman pay

*Airmen should access the myPers website and work with their base MPSs or FSSs to minimize the impact the MilPDS upgrade will have on processing military personnel transactions like reenlistments or extending current enlistments.*

actions, maintain Air Force accountability and strength data and support a host of interactions with other Air Force processes and systems that rely on personnel data.

Airmen should access the myPers website and work with their base MPSs or FSSs to minimize the impact the MilPDS upgrade will have on processing military personnel transactions like reenlistments or extending current enlistments.

# AF finishes strong at end of ‘critical days of summer’

**Natalie Eslinger**  
Air Force Safety Center Public Affairs

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. — The Air Force 2012 Critical Days of Summer campaign ended Sept. 4 with zero fatalities for the Labor Day weekend for the first time in five years.

“We at the Safety Center always have a Quest for Zero mission,” said Bill Parsons, Air Force Chief of Ground Safety. “It is, and always should be, our pursuit. Even if we suffer an always-tragic fatality, we strive to prevent another from happening, and we must continue to be aware of the risks associated with off-duty choices and to be the best wingmen possible.”

Parsons attributes the fatality-free holiday weekend to summer safety campaigns, and the contributions of the Airman to Airman Safety Advisory Council members.

“That program allows Airmen ages 17-26 to address their

peers in commander’s calls and safety briefings to share their personal safety lessons so that others may be persuaded to make solid risk management decisions,” Parsons said.

While the Air Force had no a fatalities over the Labor Day weekend and zero on-duty fatalities during the 15-week CDS campaign, 16 Airmen died in off-duty mishaps; two of those involved alcohol.

According to safety reports, nine of the mishaps involved motorcycles. The other seven included sports and recreation, privately-owned motor vehicles and mishaps occurring at home. So far this fiscal year, the Air Force has lost a total of 44 Airmen in off-duty mishaps.

Air Force Safety Center officials remind all Airmen that most mishaps and fatalities are preventable, and that every Airman lost impacts many lives, including family, friends and colleagues.

## Free AFCLC 'Intro to Culture' online course offers CCAF credit, registering now

**The Air Force Culture and Language Center**

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — Officials at the Air Force Culture and Language Center, part of Air University’s Spaatz Center at Maxwell Air Force Base Ala., are now taking applications for the fall session

of its “Introduction to Culture” course.

Enrollment began Sept. 6 and continues through Oct. 3. This general education course introduces Airmen to the principles of culture in the Air Force context. It fulfills three resident hours of social science or program elective credit in the Community College of the Air Force program.

Reenlistment-eligible Airmen or Airmen with service-directed retainability requirements such as Permanent Change of Station or retraining orders should contact their base MPS and complete their reenlistment or enlistment extension paperwork by Nov. 15.

“Airmen who accomplish their reenlistment or enlistment extension by Nov. 15 should not experience interruptions in their pay because their MPS can process their actions and clear any rejects in the system prior to the MilPDS upgrade,” said Michael McLaughlin, Air Force Personnel Center reenlistments branch chief. “Getting these personnel transactions completed and into the Defense Finance and Accounting Service system are the fastest means to update an Airman’s pay and entitlements and will reduce the need for DFAS to manually override or correct an Airman’s pay record.”

Airmen can reenlist during the upgrade in December, but they may experience additional delays in processing these transactions to DFAS if their date of separation expires during the MilPDS upgrade.

The Air Force processes more than 60,000 reenlistments and enlistment extensions annually.

Reserve and Guard members will receive specific instructions from the Air Force Reserve Command and Air Reserve Personnel Center concerning how the MilPDS upgrade will impact their personnel programs. More information is available on the ARPC public website at <http://www.arpc.af.mil>.

FSS and MPS representatives are continuing to host MilPDS upgrade briefings to help base leadership and Airmen understand the upgrade’s impact on Airmen and Air Force personnel programs.

Officials will continue to release additional information and guidance to the Air Force’s manpower, personnel, services and pay communities and total force Airmen to continue to educate them on how the service will perform critical personnel and pay tasks during the MilPDS upgrade.

For more information about the MilPDS upgrade, visit the myPers website at <http://mypers.af.mil>.



U.S. Air Force graphic/Sylvia Saab

## A wide variety of fun activities are offered to base families

### Mongolian BBQ

The Columbus Club will host a Mongolian BBQ on Oct. 2, price is 80 cents per ounce for members and 95 cents per ounce for non-members; children five and under are free. The menu includes chicken, beef, shrimp, assorted vegetables, sauces, egg rolls, rice, egg drop soup, and Chinese donuts. Seating times are 5 p.m., 5:30-p.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Reservations required, call the Columbus Club at 434-2419.

### Comedy Night

The Columbus Club will host Comedy Night featuring Kris Shaw with Chris Smith as opening act on Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m. Advanced tickets \$8 members and \$10 non-members; at the door \$10 members and \$12. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information call 434-2419.

### Horseback Riding at CAFB!

Starting Sept. 1, beginners thru advanced private instruction in both English and Western horseback riding. Ages 6 thru adults are welcomed. Sign up at Outdoor Rec. or call the instructor if you have any questions (972) 822-7585.

### Sunday Lunch N Bowl

Lunch N Bowl on Sundays, for each adult combo purchased at the Bowling Center receive two free games of bowling, must pay for shoe rental. For more information contact 434-3426.

### Are you feeling lucky?

Information Ticket and Travel offers monthly casino trips every first Friday of each month. With more than 5,000 slot machines, 115 table games and 14 poker tables including the wildly popular Texas Hold'em, you will not be bored at the Silver Star Casino in Philadelphia, MS. Join the fun for only \$25 which includes transportation and receive \$25 IN BONUS BETS! Contact 434-2505 for more information.

### Join a Bowling League

Sign up today to join a Bowling League, categories include Monday Ladies Night, Tuesday Night Mixed, and Thursday Morning Seniors. Intramural and Youth dates will be established after meeting. For more information, 434-3426.

### Are you ready for some Football?

Plan now for the New Orleans Saints vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers NFL game trip 15-16 December (game date Dec. 16 at noon). Trip includes game tickets, transportation, and lodging at the Best Western in Slidell. Call 434-2504 for pricing information.

### Where the Buffalo Roam...

The Youth Center will host a family trip to the Tupelo Buffalo Park and Zoo on Sept. 22, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Transportation is free but tickets to the Buffalo Park and Zoo must be purchased upon arrival. A trip to the shopping mall is also included. Registration deadline is Sept. 18, for more information call 434-2504.

### Bowl to Win

World Wide Bowling/Bowl to Win will be held Sept. 26 and 3,10, and 17 October at the Bowling Center at 2:30 p.m. This if a free event for Youth Center participants, non-Youth Center may still participate by visiting [www.usaffbowltown.com](http://www.usaffbowltown.com) to submit your information. You can win a custom bowling ball drilled to fit your hand! Contact the Youth Center for official rules 434-2504.

### Youth Fall Soccer

Fall Soccer registration runs Sept. 4-21 at the Youth Center.



Ages 3-4 \$35; ages 5-18 \$40. All games will be played on base. League play expected to start in October. Volunteer coached needed. For more information contact 434-2503/2504.

### Instructional Classes at Youth Center

Youth Programs is offering piano lessons, guitar lessons, tumbling classes, dance classes and martial arts instruction. Time and ages vary for all classes. Call 434-2504 or stop by the Youth Center for more information.

### Share Your Knowledge

Volunteer tutors are needed for all subjects and all grades. Tutoring will take place at the Youth Center between the hours of 2:30 and 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri. For more information, contact Ms. Terri Graves at 434-2504.

### Hispanic Reading/Trivia Night

The Library will host Hispanic Reading/Trivia Night Sept. 18, 6-7:15 p.m., for more information contact 434-2934.

### Day for Kids

The Boys and Girls Club Day for Kids is an event in conjunction with the Child Find Program. Activities and full for all ages, membership drive, and Fit Factor registration. Free event Sept. 19 at 3:30 at the Youth Center parking lot, for more information 434-2504.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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, Schlitterbahn Water Park, and more. Call 434-2505/7861 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 251-9255 for an appointment.

### Daily Fitness Classes Available

Columbus AFB Fitness and Sports offers a variety of heart-pumping, sweat-inducing classes throughout the week including Aerobics Class starting September 10 on Mon-Wed-Fri at 5:30 a.m. Weekday spin classes are held, Mon., 11 a.m., Wed., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., Tues. and Thurs., 5 p.m. Come check out Zumba every Tues. at 6 p.m. and Sat. at 10 a.m., and circuit training classes on Tues. and Thurs., 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 434-2772 or go online to [www.cafbssrocks.com](http://www.cafbssrocks.com) and click on the link to the Fitness page.

### Car Maintenance on Base

Don't forget you can get your general automotive maintenance and repairs at the Auto Hobby Shop right here on base and even while you work. If you are a do-it-yourselfer or shade-tree mechanic, Auto Hobby offers a wide array of tools and equipment. For more information and pricing, drop by Auto Hobby or call 434-7842.

### Hot and Easy to Use - FSS Gift Cards

These gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most FSS facilities (golf, bowling center snack bars, clubs) at Air Force installations WORLDWIDE...and they never go out of style. FSS gift cards can be purchased at Whispering Pines Golf Course, Strike Zone Lanes or at the Youth Center.

### Deep Disney Discounts Extended

There's still time to get the kids to the Disney parks in Florida for a great price! Disney Military Salute has extended the deeply discounted ticket specials to Sept. 30, 2012, along with an increase in the number of tickets available at the special prices at Columbus AFB's ITT office. For more information about this and other fun, affordable vacation ideas, contact Outdoor Recreation/ITT at 434-2505/2507.

See FSS, Page 12

## Base News

### CSC Social

The Columbus Spouses Club will hold a free potluck dinner and best pie bake off contest social Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. in the Landings. RSVPs are currently closed.

### Retiree Affairs Coordinator Needed

Volunteer needed 2 to 3 days per week to assist with advising military retirees on benefits are provided The Retiree Affairs office is established to coordinate, establish and staff an office on an active-duty, reserve or guard base through command channels that will assist retirees with myriad actions. These actions include: serving as information center for space-available travel, Tricare, base services, etc.; offering referrals for financial-assistance and pay matters; counseling active duty Airmen nearing retirement; and providing literature on retirement issues. Another major activity involves working with base agencies to conduct Retiree Activity Day events. If interested, contact Linda Dodson at 434-2314 or [linda.dodson@columbus.af.mil](mailto:linda.dodson@columbus.af.mil)

### 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 Tuesdays/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.

### FREE Computerized CLEP Exams

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

## 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.

### 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.

### Computer workshops

The cost is \$30 each if taken at the Golden Triangle campus. They are free and taught here on base at the AFRC. We need a minimum of six, maximum of 11. We currently have two in each. If we do not get enough students, EMCC cannot provide an instructor, and we may not be able to offer these workshops in the future.

### Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center. We have volunteer opportunities located throughout the base for a one-time event, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, the Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store the Retiree Activities office and many others".

### MS Word 2007

Sept. 17, 2-4 p.m., workshop to learn how to use MS Word 2007 to work for you. Meets Mon and Wed for three weeks. Finishes Oct. 3, Limited seating, To register call 434-2839. Act now classes may not be offered in the future.

### MS Excel 2007

Sept. 17, 4:15-6:15 p.m. workshop to learn how to build and use spread sheets with formals. Meets Mon and Wed for three weeks. Finishes Oct. 3, Limited seating, To register call 434-2839. Act now classes may not be offered in the future.

### Creating a Healthy Marriage, MLFC workshop,

Sept. 20, 11 a.m.-noon, Learn the myths and stages of marriage. The keys to creating and maintaining a healthy marriage. Conducted by

the MFLC, call 434-2790 for more information.

### Reintegration Day Camp

Sept. 22, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., McWane Center Birmingham, Ala. Reintegration, family focused, day camp for eligible members; returning deployed members and their families last 180 days, current Hearts Apart Families, or Active Duty member with family. For more information and detail please call 434-2790. Advance registration is required.

### Heart Link, For Spouses,

Sept. 27, 8:45 a.m.-2 p.m., Held at the Columbus Club, new to CAFB or military lifestyle. Fun-filled spouse orientation program filled with info protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. Great way to meet other new Columbus AFB, to register and more information call 434-2790.

### Resume Writing Workshop,

Oct. 1, 9-11 a.m., Fined way to write an effective resume, prepare for Golden Triangle Employment Expo to register call 434-2790.

### Marketing Yourself:

Oct. 2, 8-11 a.m. A professional development lecture for officers and senior enlisted who may be in transition, or will mentor/counsel a subordinate through the process. Civilians, retirees and spouses are cordially invited. Please call 434-2790 to register in advance.

### Golden Triangle EMPLOYMENT Expo 2012,

Oct. 3, 9 a.m.-2: p.m., Employment Expo, held at Pohl Gym, MUW Campus, Columbus, Miss., For list of employers <http://www.jobfairs.ms.gov>

See BASE NEWS, Page 12

## Chapel Schedule

### 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 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)

### Pioneer Clubs

The CAFB Chapel has begun registration for the Pioneer Clubs children religious education program. The program is held each Wednesday evening 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. This program is open to children ages 3-12. This is an ecumenical religious program aimed at teaching children about Christ in every aspect of life. A potluck dinner is served each Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. Parents must accompany their children at the dinner.

### Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study

The CAFB Chapel is conducting a variety of adult Bible studies from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. A potluck dinner is served at 5:00. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please contact the Base Chapel at 434-2500 for a list of studies.

# What's your September 11, 2001 story?

**Airman 1st Class Dawn Edwards**  
14th Medical Operations Squadron  
Aerospace Physiology Apprentice



When 9/11 happened I was in 5th grade sitting in math class. Math was put on pause for a minute and then the teachers just sent us home. We kind of had no idea what was going on but we were at the age where we could tell that something was going on wrong. I was definitely scared, it's kind of scary when no one's telling you anything and they're sending you from home school early and you don't know why. Then you get home and your family is just happy to see you. I found out what had happened when I got home, it was all over the news.

**Master Sgt. Tyron Taylor**  
14th Medical Operations  
Squadron Flight Chief – Aerospace  
Medicine Flight



I was 30 years old and a Staff Sgt. in Security Forces at the time at Aviano Air Base. I was working in Combat Arms and we didn't do much Security Forces work but after 9/11, that all changed. I went from working normal duty hours to working 12-hour shifts every day. Because Aviano is a PRP base, we were tasked with guarding all of the munitions. Originally all we heard was that an airplane flew into the World Trade Center and thought that it wasn't a big deal until we got to the gym and saw it on the television there. I saw, on live television, the second airplane hit the Tower. I was thinking that this was the first time in my career that things actually got real, I had never deployed at the time. It seemed surreal, like this never really happened. It doesn't seem like it was 11 years ago and I'm glad we've come to a point in our nation where things have started to calm down or have calmed down. Hopefully something like that won't happen again, but if it does then we know how to react to it next time.

**Lt. Col. Doug Jantzen**  
14th Flying Training Wing Maintenance  
and Quality Assurance Functional  
Commander



I had transferred from Okinawa to Hulbert Field about a month prior and was put in charge of a 980 man squadron. I was in the Daily Aircraft Production meeting and a guy comes running into the conference room and says, in these exact words "Hey some idiot just flew into one of the world trade center buildings." We thought it was just an accident, so we asked him to let us know if anything else happened and continued with the production meeting. He comes back in a few minutes later and says "Hey, another airplane just hit the other building of the World Trade Center." Well now we'd determined it was an intentional act and not an accident. So we stopped the production meeting and turned on the TV to find out what was going on, then watched as they attacked the Pentagon as well. About a week after that we put together a team and sent gunships, talon II's and helicopters into the area almost immediately, so about two-thirds of my squadron was gone as some of the first to respond.

**2nd Lt. Daniel Harrison**  
14th Student Squadron Student Pilot



My family worked for Saudi Armaco. We had been living in Saudi Arabia about 10 years, my father worked as an orthodontist for the compound. They had an Americanized school, U.S. curriculum, English language that kind of thing. We were 7-8 hours ahead of U.S. time so when we got the word it was mid-afternoon. My grandmother called and I remember I had just gotten home from school. I was really young so I didn't appreciate the sense of fear that a lot of the adults there were beginning to express but it was definitely palpable. We were seeing it right there on the news over and over, and I have family in New York so we're frantically trying to get a hold of them. It was definitely a scary time, going to school was definitely interesting afterward. The way the school system worked over there is it operated around the Muslim holy day on Friday, so we had Thursday and Friday weekends. I went into class the next week and it was difficult as a 12 year old kid to be with folks who had been up until a few days before people we had considered friendly. To put it politely our classmates who were from the Middle East who held a different set of beliefs, many of them were not so much expressing the condolences that would be expected. Now granted you can't put a whole lot of stock in the emotional maturity of a seventh grader, but I remember being met with a lot of hostility. We were there until 2004 when we finally left there was a lot of touch and go. There were many who were expressing their deepest sympathies but there was definitely a lot of overt hostility.

**Staff Sgt. Robert Parris**  
14th Flying Training Wing Command  
Post NCOIC of Status of Resources  
and Training System



I was a fresh Senior Airman, 26 years old, stationed at Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base and part of the Logistics Readiness department as a vehicle mechanic. We were outside working on vehicles when our supply person called us in to look at the television. She said "I think an airplane just hit a building in New York." We walked into the break room and everyone was silent; everyone was shocked. It looked like a terrible movie but we realized quickly that it was reality. At the time, you couldn't believe this happened; this is United States soil, this wasn't supposed to happen. I believe most of us thought the U.S. was invincible, so we let our guard down and this happened. I felt, a few days later, like the tragedy brought people closer together. I remember going out the base's front gate and saw three or four people helping to push a man's car out of the middle of the road when it died on him, whereas I've seen it in the past and everyone just sped by. I'm glad to see that Americans have raised the levels of security since then.

**Lt. Col. Bruce Benyshek**  
50th Flying Training Squadron  
T-38 Instructor Pilot



Flying on a 10 hour flight from Tokyo to San Francisco. Shortly after we take off it gets dark, and we're droning across the Pacific. Three person United Airlines crew, captain is sleeping and I and the other first officer are flying. We get a message saying that an American 737 had crashed into the north tower and nobody could figure out why because it was a clear day. So we started talking about what could cause that, unless it was a hijacking or something mechanical. Some of the other airplanes break the silence and ask "You see this message?" Short time later we get another message that said "Witnesses said that a light airplane, a Cessna had crashed into the south tower. It was not a news helicopter." The next message we got said "The Pentagon has been bombed and we have lost contact with five United airplanes." That's when we decided something's wrong. I pounded on the bunk room to get the captain up. Even though I was the junior guy in the crew I took it on my own authority to get all the flight attendants in on this. I told the lead flight attendants to meet me in the cockpit, to not use their key, and get all the other flight attendants awake. First thing I ask is if they're any suspicious characters on board.

At this point it's chaos and all the messages we're getting from the company through the digital system, looking back with perspective, were inaccurate and confused, but at one point we had thought that five United airplanes had crashed instead of two. So I told the flight attendants to get everybody up but not tell the passengers what we going on, and just go about business as usual. I thought "They'd made their statement on the east coast, who's not to say they're going to try and smash us into the golden gate bridge or San Francisco or something like that." So I told them what was going on, what the suspicion was, when the captain got up we briefed her. We took all of our crew baggage and piled it in front of the door so if anybody tried to get through it would slow them down. Every airliner has a crash axe in the cockpit, I took it out of its holder and I held that thing for the rest of the flight, and we still had 6 hours to go.

**Chief Master Sgt. Peter Speen**  
14th Mission Support Group Superintendent



I was 34 and a Tech Sgt. at the time and was TDY for training at the National Air and Space Intel Center with one of our management analysts. We heard about the first crash into the tower and moments later we heard about the second. By this time, the hallways were buzzing with people. Work ceased and mission took full-force with Intel. As a New Yorker who knows people who died in the attack, it really hit home; it was probably the most helpless I've ever felt in my life because there was nothing that I could do. I wanted to throw on my gear and deploy the next day. Air travel ceased, so I wasn't leaving in the near future and the eeriest thing about it was going outside and not seeing a plane in the sky since all air space was shut down with the exception of military aircraft. I've been to the top of the World Trade Center and it blows my mind that it's just gone now. I have a hard time watching movies that show New York before 9/11 because I hate seeing the silhouette of the towers, it causes you to lose track of what you're watching, because you think "Wow, that was before 9/11." I worked at the Pentagon for the last two and a half years and you can still see different colored bricks where the crash took place. We can't forget what happened; never forget.

**Capt. Scott Graber**  
41st Flying Training Squadron Instructor Pilot



I grew up in Freehold New Jersey, about 30 minutes south of New York City. I remember as a kid growing up looking over and marveling at the Twin Towers across the river. I was a senior in High School and in physics class with a bunch of my friends whose parents worked in New York City. One of my best friends growing up came into the classroom and said that a plane had just crashed into the World Trade Center. I couldn't believe it, at first I thought it was just a pilot error, I didn't know what happened. We didn't turn on the TV's or anything, and then I guess a few moments somebody else came in and said the second plane crashed into the World Trade Center. So all of a sudden rumors started spreading and basically we thought we might be at war, we didn't know what was going on. All my friends whose parents worked in the city were a little bit concerned because a lot of them worked in the financial district. The day kind of went on, they let us out of school at normal time but we just watched TV, and I just watched in disbelief at what actually happened. I remember on my way home just an eerie silence; I'm used to planes flying over from the flight path into Philadelphia or New York Airport. It was silent, dead silent.

**Airman 1st Class Michael Worth**  
14th Mission Support Group Contracting  
Administrator



I was 15 and was starting my first sophomore gym class, sitting on the bleachers, waiting on the teacher to come in. The school made an announcement over the intercom saying "Attention everyone, a plane has just hit one of the World Trade Towers." Originally we thought it was a prop plane that flew too low until we got into a classroom and saw a plane hit the second tower. I was just in shock and sat there watching the towers burn on television. It didn't really affect me until we sat and watched it all day and saw the bomb in Baghdad; that's when it really started affecting me.

**Tonya Noble**  
14th Mission Support Group Chief of  
Career Development - Military  
Personnel Section



I was a 36 year old Master Sgt. working on Columbus Air Force Base. I was watching CNN and saw the plane hit the first building and thought it was a trailer for a new movie because nobody was excited or saying anything. Then I realized it was actually happening and the first thing I did was tell my commander what happened. My immediate thought was how can I get to my kids, because if we were going into a full-out war, I wanted my children to be as close to me as possible. After I calmed down, my next thought was if any of the people at the Towers or Pentagon were ours and if we needed to get notification teams together. It was organized chaos. Even to this day, when I think about it, I never would've thought that in my lifetime any country would have been bold enough to attack us in the United States.

**Senior Airman Lillian Martinez**  
14th Force Support Squadron Career  
Development Technician



I was in 6th grade and it was the beginning of the school year in New York City. We were actually looking at applications for junior high school, the way we were sitting I was facing the teacher and the kid next to me was facing the window. I was paying attention, the kid next to me wasn't paying attention instead he was looking outside the window and he yells out "That plane looks like it's about to hit that building!" so we turn and just... boom, it hits one of the twin towers and starts smoking. Everybody's screaming and everybody's running to the window, all the kids across the hall run into our classroom wondering what's going on. I ran to the door because I was scared, I didn't know what was happening. We had to close our windows because all the smoke and the debris was actually blowing our way. Our teacher got her TV and turned on the news and we saw what was happening; people jumping out of windows and running away from the big clouds of smoke and debris and it was crazy. Then the principle made an announcement for everybody to go to the auditorium and people's parents came and picked them up and the rest of us stayed in there for the rest of the day.