

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 36, Issue 38

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

September 21, 2012

Upcoming Inspection



135 | 3 Excellents
3 Zeros
100%
Accountability

Days until the CUI

News Briefs

Class 13-08 Track Select

SUPT Class 13-08 will hold their track select on Wednesday Sept. 26 at 9 a.m. in Phillips Auditorium.

Enlisted Promotions

Enlisted Promotions will be held Friday, Sept. 28 at 4 p.m. in the Columbus Club.

CFC Begins Oct. 1

The Columbus Air Force Base Combined Federal Campaign will begin on Oct. 1 and will run through Oct. 31.

Inside



Feature 8

Team BLAZE celebrates the 65th Air Force birthday is highlighted in this week's feature.

CAFB to honor POW/MIA day with ceremony

Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base will hold a POW/MIA Retreat Ceremony at Smith Plaza today, Sept. 21 at 4 p.m. to honor those captured or missing during wartimes.

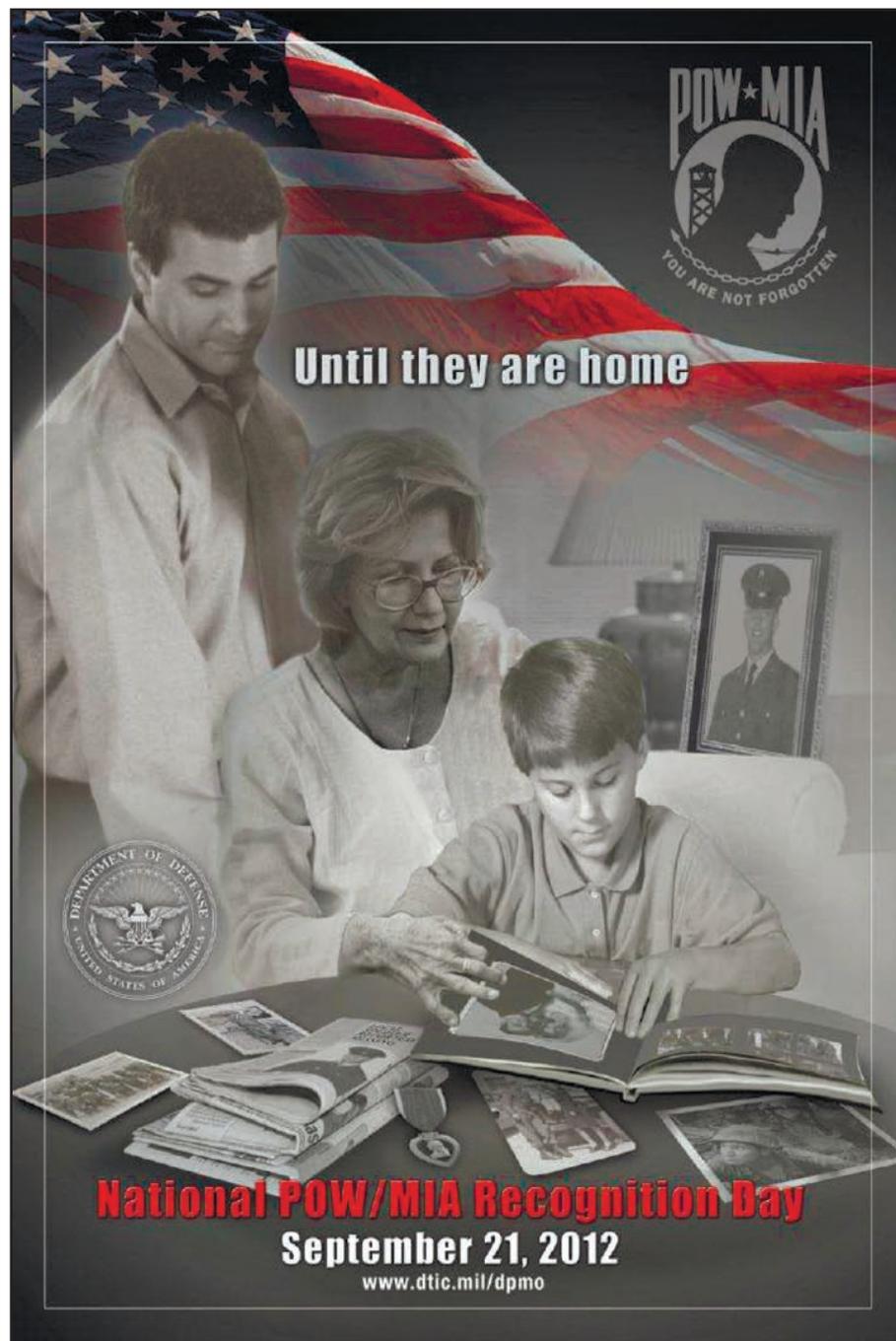
The 14th Flying Training Wing Commander will be speaking at the event.

“POW/MIA day is a time for us to renew our promise to the 83,400 missing service members that the POW/MIA flag represents. The promise that they are not forgotten,” said Col. Jim Sears.

Members of the 49th Fighter Training Squadron will fly over the retreat ceremony in the missing man formation, an aerial salute reserved for solemn and commemorative events.

Two former Vietnam Prisoners of War will also attend the ceremony: Col. Carlyle “Smitty” Harris, an F-105 pilot who was repatriated on Feb. 12, 1973 after nearly 8 years as a POW. Lt. Col. Richard “Gene” Smith, F-105D pilot who survived five and a half years as a POW to return March 14, 1973 will also attend.

Family members of WWII POWs Col. Glynn Shumake, B-17 pilot, and Staff Sgt. Rufus Ward Sr., B-17 tail gunner will also be in attendance.



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)	1.08 days	0.01 days	Sept. 26	48th (12-15)	-2.23 days	1.15 days	Oct. 5	49th (12-AB)	-2.2 days	0.80 days	Oct. 18	T-6	1,604	1,446	30,980
41st (13-09)	1.82 days	2.21 days	Oct. 19	50th (12-15)	-2.75 days	-3.81 days	Oct. 5					T-1	635	593	10,446
												T-38	648	650	11,332
												IFF	186	217	3,373

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

Feed the Fight



Courtesy photo

Maj. Philip Poeppelman, currently deployed from Columbus Air Force Base to Afghanistan as the Chief of Flight Safety for the 451 Air Expeditionary Wing. If you have a photo of a currently deployed Team BLAZE Airman you would like featured in Feed the Fight, send it to Silverwings@Columbus.af.mil.

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.

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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<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thur</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat/Sun</u>
24 Ms. Sisson, AETC A4/A7 Visit	25 Newcomers, 11 a.m. @ Club	26 → Class 13-08 Track Select, 9 a.m. @ Phillips	27 Heart Link, 8:45 a.m. @ Club	28 Enlisted Promotions, 4 p.m. @ Club	29/30
1 Night Flying Week CFC Begins	2	3	4 Dealing with Grief Workshop, 11 a.m. @ Chapel Annex	5 → Class 12-15 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	6/7 6 - Fire Dept. Parade, 9 a.m. @ Base Housing 6 - Fire Dept. Open House, 10 a.m.
			Class 71-01 Reunion		

Long Range Events

- 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
- Oct. 16: Newcomer's Orientation
- Oct. 18: Medical Group Closed
- Oct. 19: Class 13-09 Track Select
- Oct. 20-21: Autocross

AETC Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support visits CAFB Sept. 24-26

Barbara A. Sisson a member of the Senior Executive Service, and the Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas will be visiting Columbus Air Force Base Sept. 24-26. During her



visit Sisson will tour many areas of the base including the Fitness Center and Media Blast Facility to obtain a better understanding of Columbus Air Force Base's capabilities and requirements.

Sisson is a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. The directorate provides maintenance engineering, supply, transportation, civil engineering, and security forces support for 13 flying and training wings. The directorate also oversees plans and policies supporting integration of new weapons systems into the command inventory, including the F-22A, CV-22, C-130J, F-35 and TH-1H.

Ms. Sisson graduated first in her Naval ROTC class at the University of Notre Dame and was commissioned an ensign in the Civil Engineer Corps in 1980. Her active-duty assignments included tours with Navy Public Works Center; Construction Battalions, Atlantic; and the Civil Engineer Corps Officer School. As a Navy Reservist, Ms. Sisson served in numerous leadership positions, most recently as the Chief of Staff and Deputy Engineer for USCENTCOM's Logistics Directorate. She has also served as Commander, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 23; Commander, Contingency Engineering Unit, Atlantic; Commodore, 3rd Naval Construction Regiment; and Commander, Theater Contingency Engineering Management, U.S. Southern Command.

Ms. Sisson has more than 32 years of federal service, including assignments with Naval Facilities Engineering Command, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Army, and the Central Command. She has also performed considerable engineering consulting work in the private sector.

Below-The-Zone winners



U.S. Air Force/Elizabeth Owens
Airman 1st Class Michael Worth, 14th Contracting Squadron is awarded senior airman Below-The-Zone by Col. Jim Sears, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander and Chief Master Sgt. Vance Kondon, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief.



U.S. Air Force/Elizabeth Owens
Airman 1st Class Ariel Morgan, 14th Operations Support Squadron is awarded senior airman Below-The-Zone by Col. Jim Sears, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander and Chief Master Sgt. Vance Kondon, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief.

14th FTW releases inspection guidance

Lt. Col. Tim Lawrence
14th Flying Training Wing
Chief of Wing Inspections

Col. Jim Sears, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander has approved Air Force Instruction 90-201 Columbus Air Force Base Guidance Memorandum. This memorandum will soon be available on USAF e-Publishing website. Until such time, the approved memorandum is available to read on the 14 FTW/CVI SharePoint site at: <https://columbus.eis.aetc.af.mil/14ftw/CVI/default.aspx>. This Columbus AFB GM implements and extends the guidance of

AFI 90-201, The Air Force Inspection System. It prescribes procedures for implementing the Wing Commander's Assessment Program utilizing the Management Internal Control Toolset. Additionally, it outlines the Wing Commander's guidance for HQ AETC Consolidated Unit Inspection preparation and spin-up. The objectives for Team Blaze are outlined in the GM and they include:

1. "Excellent" or better rating overall for the wing
2. "Excellent" or better in all areas directly related to our core mission of

Producing Pilots

3. >50 percent of all remaining areas "Excellent" or better
 4. Zero "Unsatisfactory" ratings
 5. Zero "Marginal" ratings
 6. Zero "Critical" deficiencies
 7. Zero repeat deficiencies
 8. 100 percent accountability of any deficiency in unit self-assessment program
- Individuals responsible for complying with this guidance should carefully review this new GM. The Columbus AFB Consolidated Unit Inspection is currently scheduled for Feb. 4-11, 2012.

BITC mail pick-up/delivery services end Oct. 1; \$50,000 saved

**14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs**

A recent 14th Flying Training Wing contract review identified a Cost Conscious Culture opportunity to save \$50,000 with minimal impact.

The Base Information Transfer Center contract mail pick-up/delivery services will no longer be provided starting Oct. 1, 2012. Instead building 926 will serve as a central hub for all mail pick-up and delivery.

There will be no changes for processed metered mail, and FedEx/UPS deliveries will not be affected by the change.

To measure the impact of this change to Airmen's time the 14th Communication Squadron is working with Team

BLAZE leaders to ensure a seamless transition of mail processing. Upon full implementation of the change over the 14th CS will request feedback from leaders regarding advantages and disadvantages of the new system.

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.

Management Internal Control Toolset business rules

Lt. Col. Tim Lawrence
Chief of Wing Inspections

Let me introduce myself. I have recently taken over the job as Chief of Wing Inspections. I hail from Mobridge, South Dakota, and my primary weapon system before coming to Columbus AFB was the F-15C Eagle. Before this current job at Columbus, I was the Chief of Stan/Eval for the 14th Operations Group where I served during the last headquarters inspection. I fly as an instructor pilot in the T-38C with the 50th Flying Training Squadron, and I have been here for just over three years. I look forward to leading us to a successful Consolidated Unit Inspection.

MICT is the Headquarters Air Force mandated program for conducting unit self-assessments. IAW AFI 90-201, the MICT Lead Manager will develop "business rules" for subordinate agencies for MICT data entry. Like many things we do here at Columbus, we are leading the way in this endeavor, and my goal is to set the standard for AETC.

MICT is very front-loaded endeavor ...the first time. Once the checklists have been identified and tracked to your dashboard, you have won 80 percent of the battle. Priority should be given to doing it right the first time and finding the appropriate Headquarters AF and MAJCOM checklists to reduce our workload in the future. Time spent now, will pay big dividends in the future.

Here is a listing of the current business rules that I would like all commanders, self-assessment program managers, and checklist assessors to be familiar with.

A. Searching for Checklists

A.1. Search for HAF and MAJCOM checklists by searching AFIA and AETC in MICT.

A.2. If searching checklist questions select HAF and AETC.

B. Tracking Checklists

B.1. Your first priority should be to "Track" HAF and MAJCOM checklists.

B.2. If the HAF or MAJCOM checklist exist but does not have the option to "Track" then "Clone" the checklist. Include the original title of the checklist in the title to help you keep track of where the checklist originated. You can add descriptors to the title if desired.

B.3. "Tracking" checklists should ensure that any changes made to HAF or MAJ-

COM checklists flow down to your unit dashboard.

C. Local Checklists

C.1. Local checklists should refrain from including questions that are already on HAF or MAJCOM checklists.

C.2. OPRs for Columbus AFB Supplements should create a local checklist and provide CVI the MICT-formatted excel version of the checklist to share with other units to upload if needed. CVI will maintain a local checklist library on the CVI SharePoint site until this capability exists in MICT.

C.3. Seek approval from your functional area manager for any checklists that reference parent AFI or MAJCOM publications.

D. General

D.1. "My HAF or MAJCOM checklist is not in MICT" – First, send CVI an email identifying what is missing. CVI will call AETC MICT Lead or forward the email if it has enough information. Send word up your chain of command to the Functional Area Manager (or AFI OPR) inquiring about the checklist. Maybe they have a checklist but you are looking in the wrong place. IAW AFI 90-201, HAF and MAJCOM checklists are required to be loaded into MICT, and they have 90 days to update the checklists if the AFI changes.

D.2. After exhausting the FAM route, our fall back option is to utilize the checklist questions from our previous inspection cycle, WebSIP.

E. Beginning an Assessment Cycle

E.1. All inspection checklists for the cycle must be re-started on or after the date of the beginning of the cycle. This is achieved by clicking on the checklist on the dashboard and selecting "begin new inspection" near the top. All the comments will stay on the checklist and all previous N/A answers will remain selected. All previous N/A answers will be at the bottom of the checklist.

E.2. NLT seven days into the assessment cycle, Checklist POCs should be assigned and verified.

E.3. As soon as possible into the assessment cycle, the checklist POCs or self-assessment program manager should open (click the plus) and save all checklists on the dashboard, so the data will get reported accurately to wing leadership. Checklists that are not saved at least once will not be counted in the report data and skew our

progress data.

F. Closing Out an Inspection

F.1. When closing out a checklist, do not select CWC unless the checklist has had at least one deficiency. If all the items of the checklist are in compliance, then select Comply.

F.2. Only checklist supervisors and above should closeout checklists.

G. Deficiencies

G.1. Any "No" answers will generate a deficiency. Be very thorough in filling out the deficiency data. Use the AFSSO21 template to complete the Root-Cause-Analysis. Upload the RCA document as supporting documentation on the deficiency template.

H. Workcenter Management

H.1. Before proceeding with "Workcenters" contact CVI to discuss the pros and cons. If a workcenter is created, there is no undo option. Certain situations lend themselves well to having workcenters. Some do not. CVI can provide you all the details you need. Ask first.

If these business rules do not make sense to you and you are an integral part of your unit's self-assessment program, then you need to seek more MICT training from your unit self-assessment program manager or 14 FTW/CVI. Your MICT Lead Manager is available to give you the resources and training for a successful self-assessment program. CVI will provide training weekly throughout the assessment cycle (currently Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.) and can be scheduled for one-on-one training with a phone call or email. An excellent self-assessment program will drive "Excellent" inspection results.

Review these business rules and provide feedback to CVI, 434-3683. These business rules may change as this process evolves, but they will be kept up-to-date on the CVI SharePoint site. Run your questions through your unit self-assessment program managers. The CVI SharePoint site is your one-stop location for seek information regarding self-assessments and inspections. It will be used extensively in the planning and execution leading up to our Consolidated Unit Inspection scheduled for Feb. 4-11, 2013. Use your email CAC certificates to access the site located at: <https://columbus.eis.aet.af.mil/14ftw/CVI/default.aspx>. You may email the 14th FTW/CVI at 14ftw/cvi@columbus.af.mil.

Did You Know: Standards for CUI Prep

Master Sgt. Shawn Andrews
14th Operations Group First Sergeant

One of the items that the 14th Flying Training Wing will be graded on during the upcoming Compliance Inspection is the wing's overall compliance with standards. This is different than the many checklists that your duty section may be running. This is an area that each person reading this column can impact.

As part of the Team BLAZE build-up to the upcoming CUI, this will be a continuing piece highlighting different standards in each article. The standards discussed may be under-practiced, little known, or perhaps forgotten.

While some topics may seem trivial to the reader, see how many violators you notice as you go about your business throughout the wing. Each of you are encouraged to educate your peers on the topics and correct those that are not compliant well before the 2013 CUI.

Did You Know?

- **Backpacks:** Black backpacks are authorized for all uniform combinations. When wearing blue uniform combinations, you can only wear solid black backpacks. If wearing the ABU or flight suit, your back pack can be ABU patterned, olive drab, black or Air Force sage green. There should be no ornamentation, designs, hanging/dangling objects, or high-gloss (AFI 36-2903, para 6.3.4.4). So blue back packs are never authorized, nor are multi-colored faddish packs. Let your wingman know!

- **Sunglasses:** Conservative, clear, slightly tinted or photosensitive lenses are authorized. Faddish styles and mirrored lenses are prohibited (AFI 36-2903, para 6.3.2.1). Those red lenses...not authorized. Those Hollywood style mirrored lenses...not authorized.

- **Umbrellas** will be plain, solid colored black and carried in the left hand (AFI 36-2903, para 6.3.6). So those leopard print, camouflaged, blue and pink umbrellas that you see some Airmen carrying are definitely not authorized.

If you have questions about, or would like more information on, any of the above standards, see your First Sergeant!

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 61 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



SecAF highlights 'state of force' at AFA conference

Tech. Sgt. Jess D. Harvey
Air Force Public
Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON — In his keynote address at the 2012 Air Force Association's Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition here Sept. 17, Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley discussed major service accomplishments over the last 12 months and the Air Force's strategic way ahead. Donley said the Air Force's budget plans reflect both priorities identified in the Defense Strategic Guidance and the requirements of the Budget Control Act. They also represent the culmination of a series of tough decisions by Air Force leaders.

"Our Air Force leadership determined the best course of action for our Air Force is to trade size for quality," Donley said. "Becoming smaller

will allow us to protect a high-quality and ready force."

He said a smaller force allows leadership to better focus on modernization and capabilities in the future.

Donley also noted the need to take greater care of Airmen, particularly in the prevention of sexual assaults.

"All of us in the Air Force family and citizens across our nation, as well, have been troubled by allegations of professional and sexual misconduct by basic military training instructors at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, [Texas]" Donley said. "This misconduct has no place in our Air Force culture and is especially egregious when it occurs in the basic military training environment."

The Air Force is taking aggressive steps to assist victims and increase protections for Airmen in

training environments especially, Donley added.

"We can't overlook the fact that if all our Airmen followed the rules and lived by Air Force standards, these crimes and policy violations would never have taken place," Donley noted.

"We hold Airmen to high standards because that's what is expected of us, and what we expect from each other."

Those same high standards, Donley continued, have enabled the Air Force to accomplish so much over the last 12 months.

The secretary discussed the Air Force's success in taking the fight to al Qaeda, strengthening of the nuclear enterprise and remotely piloted aircraft community, returning the F-22 Raptor to flight, and bringing in new service leadership.

"Airmen are making essential contributions to America's national

security and performing important missions every day," Donley said. "Although stretched by two decades of combat, humanitarian and stability operations, the men and women of our United States Air Force continue to provide unmatched global vigilance, global reach and global power across the full spectrum of operations."

He added that America's Airmen are, without a doubt, in the joint fight today.

"Every day, our active duty, guard, reserve and civilian Airmen are adding bright new chapters to the Air Force story, combining air, space and cyber power in new ways that add to our nation's joint warfighting capabilities," Donley said. "Working together in common purpose as one Air Force, there is no challenge we cannot overcome."



U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash
Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley delivers his keynote address during the Air Force Association's Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 17, 2012.

Welsh: 'The only way to move forward is together'

Army Sgt. 1st Class Jim Greenhill
National Guard Bureau



Army National Guard photo/Sgt. 1st Class Jim Greenhill
Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, the chief of staff of the Air Force, addresses the 134th National Guard Association of the United States General Conference in Reno, Nev., Sept. 11, 2012. About 3,700 Army and Air Guard officers, spouses, defense officials and others from all 50 states, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia registered.

RENO, Nev. — The active-duty Air Force, its Reserve and the Air National Guard must work together to move forward, the chief of staff of the Air Force said here last week.

"I have trouble seeing lines between components of services, because I believe on the air side we have an Air Force — it has three components, but we all are working together," Gen. Mark Welsh III told the 134th National Guard Association of the United States General Conference. "We have to, or we can't be successful."

To discuss the future, Welsh drew from the past. More than diagrams, organizational charts or process flow, Welsh said he sees people when he thinks about institutions. So he told the story of one of his favorite members of the National Guard, Jim Duane, born in the late 1800s in Johnstown, Pa.

Duane's father died trying to rescue neighbors during a flood that destroyed the family's home. His mother took the 3-year-old boy to New York City and a new start.

At 18, the young man went on Broadway for the first time in his civilian acting career and also enlisted in the New York Army National Guard, — a "Citizen Soldier." The

family moved again, and Duane transferred to the Massachusetts National Guard. He deployed to Mexico as a private, returning as a first sergeant in a time of much faster promotions.

He took a break in service, pursuing his acting career and opening a jewelry store.

In 1917, during World War I, Duane rejoined the Army National Guard and enrolled in officer training. That was inter-

rupted by his call to the trenches of France, where he arrived as an infantry private and left as a major simultaneously commanding two infantry battalions. Though thrice-wounded and also gassed, Duane never left the line; had a reputation for being first out, last in; and led nighttime sorties to ensure neither wounded nor dead were left behind.

"This is my favorite guardsman," Welsh said. "When I look at organizations ... I see faces of people who are committed to doing the right thing. Faces of people who are willing to risk everything to protect what's important. People like Jim Duane."

Welsh also noted the contribution of the National Guard since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"Quite possibly, the National Guard today is more important than it has been since you stood watch at Concord," Welsh said. "Over the last 10 years, almost half a million Guardsmen have been to the war zone."

The day Welsh spoke was the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

"Most Americans sat paralyzed either in their office or at home staring at their television in disbelief," Welsh said. "A few Americans — a few very special people — did what they always do. They ran toward the danger. They stepped into that chaos to defend

American citizens and to protect the nation. Many of those people ... were guardsmen."

Air National Guard pilots were the first airborne after the attacks, including some who were willing to die to prevent further attacks, Welsh noted.

Since then, Air Guard members have deployed overseas, responded to domestic disasters and undertaken humanitarian relief efforts. They have partnered with the Army Guard at home and overseas. They played key roles in Libya, "bringing expertise that we don't have on the active force," Welsh said.

"Filling a gap we can't fill, no matter how much money we pull out of our pocket," he continued. "To me, that's the National Guard."

Operations over Libya highlighted the ability of the all-volunteer force to deploy and act, the ability of commanders to step forward and act, and the smooth operation of the total force, Welsh said.

National Guard members have helped honor the dead at Dover Air Force Base, Del.; fought fires at home; provided airlift and aeromedical evacuation overseas; flown unmanned aircraft; provided chemical and biological response capability; and flown domestic air sovereignty alert missions, among a plethora of other roles, Welsh said.

MAC and AFA support ALS Class 12-7



U.S. Air Force Photo/2nd Lt. Katherine Amerson
Columbus AFB Airman Leadership School class 12-7 enjoy a cook out at the Columbus Lock and Dam Saturday, Sept. 15. The barbeque was hosted by the Link's Military Affairs Committee and Chapter 163 of the Air Force Association to show support for the Airman of Columbus AFB and to introduce them to a unique venue off base.

MAC hosts Hispanic Dorm Dinner



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Airman 1st Class Henry Schultz grabs a plate of Mexican food at the Hispanic Heritage-themed Dorm Dinner Sept. 13 at the Chapel Annex. The Military Affairs Committee hosted this Hispanic Heritage Month dinner for unaccompanied single Airmen living in the dorms.

AFRC to host "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career" lecture

Brian Anderson
Military Officers Association
of America

The Military Officers Association of America is presenting a "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career" lecture at Columbus AFB. The event will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 2 from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

This top-shelf presentation is a great professional development opportunity. Civilian transition is of course ultimately a part of all military careers. Therefore, the lecture is perfect for those who are contemplating retirement in one to five years. However, it doesn't stop there. Regardless of whether any particular officer or senior enlisted member has reached the point of being in their own transition, they should be educated about the process in order to

mentor and counsel those who work for them and are contemplating or going through their transitions. This "executive summary" presentation can prepare them for that role as well as many multi-day programs. Simply stated, it's a great fit for any commander, officer, or senior enlisted supervisor from the most senior, to the most junior.

The lecture will be given by retired Air Force Col. Brian Anderson, deputy director of transition services on MOAA's national staff. The presentation, given annually at over 150 military installations of all Services worldwide, is universally praised by audiences as, "up-to-date, hard-hitting, and sharply focused — a must see". It includes comprehensive information on the retirement decision itself, employer perceptions, your competition, resumes, cover letters, job search, networking, career fairs, interview

techniques, salary negotiation, benefits packages, the current job market, and other relevant and important transition topics.

The presentation is geared toward officers and senior enlisted, but those of all ranks are warmly welcomed. Civilians, spouses and retirees are highly encouraged to attend as well! All who attend will receive a free copy of the lecture's companion book, also titled "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career". It is an in-depth, all-in-one resource for the transition process.

Registration required by Sept. 28, 2012. To register or for additional information call 434-2790.

Limited to 50 persons. If you are planning on transitioning within the next several years, attend this presentation. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

For further information, contact Mark Horning at 434-2790.

Team Blaze finishes MMRP ahead of schedule

Staff Sgt. Bryan Franks
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Only two years have passed since the first soil samples were taken from Magnolia Village and now 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Element is in the home stretch of the Military Munitions Response Program for Magnolia and State Villages.

"Our contractors have really done an excellent job," said Shane Reed, 14th CES Restoration Program Manager. "So well that our field work is about 18 months ahead of schedule."

The initial samples were collected in response to information that identified a former skeet range in the area of what is now Magnolia Village. While this range has not been operational since the early 1950s, there was a potential for contamination as a result of the historic range activity.

Once the samples were analyzed more testing was needed. MMRP which focuses on areas primarily for discarded or spent munitions materiel, discovered polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) in higher concentration than expected and needed more sampling to determine the extent of the PAHs in the soil.

"Once we realized we had an issue with the PAHs in the soil, the focus turned from investigation to remedial action," said Reed. "The need for this action was sup-

ported in scope and funding by Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment and Higher Headquarters. Everyone in the chain understood how important it was to address this need because it directly affected our Airmen."

There were 22 yards in State and Magnolia Village that needed soil to be excavated and replaced. Residents most directly affected by these removal activities were notified by the Columbus AFB Environmental Element. "Notifications went really well," said Reed. "Fortunately we are blessed with residents that are quick to understand the situation and fully supportive of the whole process."

The contractor is currently demobilizing. All yards have received sod and the contractor will complete landscaping work until vegetation is established. Additionally, the softball field used as lay down area is now ready to reutilize for recreation/physical training, etc.

"The cooperation and understanding between Hunt Military Housing and the residents of Magnolia and State Villages has really been the reason the work has gone so well," said Reed. "That added with our relationship with the state regulators and support from the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment enabled us to get way ahead of the original schedule and complete the needed soil removals in near record time."

Right way to ride

MSF sponsored by major motorcycle manufacturers

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

Motorcycle safety to some folks is an oxymoron and they refuse to accept the fact that there can be a deliberate motorcycle safety program that is both effective and acceptable to the small percentage of people that elect to utilize two-wheeled transportation or recreation.

Air Force Instruction 91-201 contains definite roles and responsibilities for an effective program at all levels from Headquarters AF down to the squadron and even first-line supervisors. The heart of this program is the Motorcycle Safety Foundation headquartered in sunny California.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation is the internationally recognized developer of the comprehensive, research-based, Rider Education and Training System. RETS curricula promotes lifelong-learning for motorcyclists and continuous professional development for certified RiderCoaches and other trainers. MSF also actively participates in government relations, safety research, public awareness campaigns and the provision of technical assistance to state training and licensing programs. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation is a national, not-for-profit organization sponsored by BMW, BRP, Harley-Davidson, Honda, Kawasaki, KTM, Piaggio, Suzuki, Triumph, Victory and Yamaha.

The MSF provides many tools on their website for initial and continuing education. As commanders, we need to ensure we direct our Airmen here to take advantage of their outstanding resources: <http://online2.msf-usa.org/msf/Default.aspx>. More than 6,458,000 students have graduated from MSF Rider Courses since 1974. The initial and continuing courses offered here at Columbus include the Basic Rider Course, Basic Rider Course 2 (formerly known as the Experienced Rider Course. The BRC2 has two variations depending on whether or not the riders require a license waiver. Since there is a wide variety of experience for students in this class,

Columbus AFB uses this variation to ensure in-depth knowledge for our riders. The other BRC2 Skills Practice does not have the classroom portion.

The best place for a new rider to start once they've made the decision to ride is the BRC. Successful completion of this course and its knowledge and skill tests, which consists of approximately five hours of classroom and 10 hours of on-cycle instruction (conducted over two or three sessions), may serve as a license test waiver program in some states. Motorcycles are not provided here at Columbus AFB for your use during the course but you may either borrow or rent a suitable motorcycle to learn on. Also, a course completion card may provide a rider an insurance discount. In some states, this course may lead to only a motorcycle permit and require completion of the BRC2 to obtain full licensure.

For riders who already have basic skills, the BRC2 License Waiver course is a perfect way to enhance your skills. It is similar to the BRC except the speeds are higher and riders should be riding their own motorcycle. It is an excellent refresher course for practicing and renewing basic riding skills. There is an informal classroom component that discusses safety concepts based on past riding experiences and current knowledge. For the BRC2 taught here at Columbus AFB there are no classroom activities there is however a written knowledge test along with a skills practice and a skills test.

There are numerous activities on the MSF website if a rider just wants a good refresher of some topics taught in either the BRC or BRC2 courses without attending the class again. For example, there is a Basic Rider Course review test on the website that provides you an opportunity to brush up on your knowledge of safe motorcycle operation and the interactive motorcycle challenge that allows you to practice important simulations of street riding on a motorcycle in various situations.

Whatever your skill level or interest in riding a motorcycle, MSF has a course or offering for you. Please take the time to browse the MSF website provided above and start enjoying the freedom and fun of riding a motorcycle safely.

Absentee Voter's Week: Sept. 27 to Oct. 4

2nd Lt. Benjamin Kemper
Installation Voting Assistance Officer



A table with registration and voting materials will be set up at the Base Exchange for the entire week. From 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. everyday during this week trained Voting Assistance Officers will be present to help you with all your voting needs and to answer any questions you may have.

For more information about registration and voting, or to fill out your registration form or ballot online please visit: www.FVAP.gov

The November elections are fast approaching. To register, request a ballot, and vote absentee takes time and most states require you to register in advance. The state of Mississippi requires you to register 30 days in advance of the elections, so local residents will need to register by October 7th.

For everyone else, it is quick and easy to register and get an absentee ballot. If you miss our table in the BX, go to www.fvap.gov and get started! Follow the prompts to register and request an absentee ballot for the Nov. 6, 2012 election for the state and district you would like to vote from. Then mail, e-mail, or fax the completed FPCA form from fvap.gov to your district's voting office. Instructions on the website will tell you how to fax or email the form. If you don't have access to the internet to fill out the FPCA online, get a copy from our table, from your Unit Voting Assistance Officer, or contact FVAP directly 24 hours a day at 1-800-438-8683, DSN (312) 425-1584. Online chat is also available to answer all your questions regarding absentee voting at vote@fvap.gov. Follow FVAP on Facebook. If you have questions please contact the CAFB Installation Voting Assistance Office Installation Voting Assistance Officers: Lt. Col. William Donaldson 2nd Lt. Benjamin Kemper 2nd Lt. Okezie Ezekannagha Office: Personnel Center (Old MPF building) Bldg 926, Room 245 Hotline: 434-3680 or DSN: 742-3680 E-Mail: vote@columbus.af.mil

Military Spouses Residency Relief Act

Maj. Melissa Brady
14th Flying Training
Wing Judge Advocate,
USAFR

The Military Spouses Residency Relief Act, signed into law Nov. 11, 2009, amends the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide that spouses of military personnel who move to another state due to the servicemember being posted for duty can keep their former residency for tax purposes throughout the marriage. This exemption does not apply if the spouse is already a resident of the state where the servicemember is stationed. In order to be eligible for the exemption, the following requirements must be

met:

- 1 The spouse resides in the state solely to live with the servicemember,
- 2 The servicemember is in the state in compliance with military orders, and
- 3 The state of residency claimed by the spouse and servicemember must be the same.

An eligible spouse who works in Mississippi should claim an exemption from Mississippi income tax withholding on a revised Form 89-350 with their employers. The MSRRA is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2009, so the spouse may be entitled to a refund of Mississippi taxes paid in 2009 and 2010. The MSRRA exemption only applies to the

spouse of a servicemember. The servicemember is still subject to Mississippi income tax on non-military income.

In order to file a return under the MSRRA in Mississippi you must:

- 1 File a joint Non-Resident Individual Income Tax Return Form 80-205,
- 2 File a paper return,
- 3 Provide your military dependent ID card,
- 4 Provide the servicemember's driver's license, and
- 5 Provide a copy of DD Form 2058.

While the MSRRA can be confusing, help is available at the base legal office. Please contact us at 434-7030 if you have any questions concerning eligibility or procedure.

Base News

Tax Volunteers

The Columbus AFB Tax Center will open in late January and we are looking for volunteer tax preparers and center assistants. All of our volunteers play a critical role in assisting servicemembers, retirees and dependents complete and file their tax returns. This service helps our clients obtain the refunds they have earned! We welcome volunteers with special skills or training, and would appreciate your expertise. However, training will be provided on the latest tax preparation forms and software, so prior experience is not required. Great volunteers are individuals who have prepared their own tax returns; are comfortable with computers; are willing to learn; and enjoy working with people. If you want to become a trained tax preparer or volunteer in any other way, please contact Capt. Laiya Wells in the legal office at 662-434-7030 to register.

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.

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.)

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.

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 plan-

ning 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.

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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.

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—

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".

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.

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.

Base families are offered a wide variety of fun activities

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.

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.

Beer Pairings

Whispering Pines Golf Course will host a Beer Pairing on Oct. 9 at 6 p.m. Enjoy a four course meal matched with a different beer for each course. \$32 per person, maximum capacity, 40 people. For more information or to sign up call 434-7932.

Princess Open

On Oct. 23 the Whispering Pines Golf Course will host Princess Open! Nine holes of scramble golf with cart, adult beverages and hors'doeuvres following play. Non-competitive event just for the ladies. Cost: \$20 per person. Play begins at 4 p.m. For more information contact 434-7932.

Bowling Special!

Every Friday in October from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. you can bowl for \$1 per game with a \$1 shoe rental. For more information contact 434-3426.

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.

Steak Night!

Whispering Pines Golf Course will host a Third Thursday Steak Night on Oct. 18 at 5 p.m. Enjoy an 8 oz Ribeye served with baked potato, salad, Texas Toast and dessert and fountain drink/iced tea for \$12.95. Reservations required by noon, Oct. 15. If this is successful this event will continue every third Thursday. For more information contact 434-7932.

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.

Two for Tuesdays

Two for Tuesdays at Whispering Pines Golf Course, \$25 for two players to play up to 18 holes of golf including cart. For more information contact 434-7932.

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.

MONGOLIAN BBQ
JOIN THE EXPEDITION
-80 Cents Per Ounce Members
-95 Cents Per Ounce Non Members
Tuesday, October 2
Reservation Required by September 28
Seating starts at 5 p.m. and will continue every 30 minutes until 7:30 p.m. Kids 5 and under eat free.

Menu
Chicken Egg Roll
Shrimp Assorted Vegetables
Beef Assorted Sauces
Rice Dessert:
Egg Drop Soup Chinese Donuts
For More Info or to RSVP, call 434-2419

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. 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 Dec. 15-16 (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.

Bowl to Win

World Wide Bowling/Bowl to Win will be held Sept. 26 and 3, 10, and Oct. 17 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.usafbowltown.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.

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.

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 coaches 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 Terri Graves at 434-2504.

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, Geysler Falls, Schlitterbahn Water Park, and more. Call 434-2505 434-7861 for more information.

Batting Cages 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 Tuesday and Thursday, 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 434-2772 or go online to www.cafbssrocks.com and click on the link to the Fitness page.

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.

Who was your best boss?

Lt. Col. Patrick Youngson

821st Air Base Group
deputy commander

THULE AIR BASE, Greenland — I've served in the Air Force for several years now and like many of you, I've experienced my fair share of good and bad leadership. Ironically, it is interesting how those really bad leaders or bad supervisors impact unit morale and can easily impact the work of unit personnel.

For purposes of this discussion, morale is defined as the fuel that powers an individual's engine. In this sense, bad leaders impact morale by siphoning the fuel out of the tank. When that happens, we can all agree that the unit's ability to complete the mission is negatively impacted. However, when bad leadership is encountered, all is not lost. It always provides a learning opportunity. At the very least, it teaches us what we should not do as leaders. Therefore, use that information as a learning tool but also realize that we learn more from good leadership.

Fortunately, I have a much longer list of former bosses who were superb leaders and truly inspired the unit. Some of these individuals were commanders and several were in leadership positions at various levels. Each one may have had a different approach to an issue but they were all consistently dedicated and disciplined professionals who wanted the unit to succeed and also understood the importance of getting the job done as a team.

Now, think back to your previous bosses. Was there a former commander or supervisor that comes to mind as a person who inspired you? Ask

yourself, who was my best boss? What was it about that individual that made them stand out as the best? I can tell you from my perspective; those who stood out had very similar characteristics. The following examples left the biggest impression:

1. Led by example — Said one thing and then did exactly what they said they would do. In my view, this is consistent and disciplined leadership.

2. Set expectations and held people accountable — I knew what was expected and was held to those standards.

3. Proactive communication — I was kept in the loop and knew where I stood. Emails, phone calls and most importantly, face-to-face communication — the best leaders find a way to get out from behind their desks and physically talk to the team.

4. Respectful — Treated everyone with respect. Praise in public and, when necessary, discipline in private.

5. Selflessness — Recognized individual efforts and pushed the team for recognition over their own interests.

As you can see, this list is not about how hard the supervisor worked or how many hours they put in each day. I am sure you can add many more characteristics to this list.

So, what kind of leader are you? Are you replenishing or draining the fuel tank?

In the end, it is clear to see how this is more about being a positive role model, taking care of folks and truly becoming a leader. Always focus on the characteristics that have a positive impact on you. Develop those skills and continue to lead those around you to ensure mission success.

BARGAIN LINE

Homes

For sale: New home under construction in Caledonia, one acre lot in a family subdivision. Call (205) 495-1047.

Transportation

For sale: 2009 Honda Ridgeline SUV/pick-up with 31k miles. Dark cherry ivory with beige interior, anti-lock brakes, four-wheel drive, AF/FM six-disc CD changer, five-speed automatic transmission with overdrive, custom side step bars, aluminum wheels, Michelin tires, power side mirrors, 3.5 liter 24-valve VTECH V6 engine, Ridgeline custom floor mats,

child safety locks, locking/limited slip differential, cruise-control, four-wheel disc ABS brake system, multi-zone air conditioning, rear head air bag, great gas mileage. \$23,900 or best offer. Call 327-1205.

For sale: 1998 Honda Valkyrie motorcycle. Beautifully maintained in classic black/chrome, 1,500 cc six-cylinder engine with straight-pipes. Includes Corbin ostrich-leather "Stinger" seat, chrome studded two-person leather seat with backrest, hard saddle bags, windshield, cruise control, cigarette lighter, cruising foot peg and tank bib with pouch. \$6,500 firm, call 434-8544.

For sale: 1984 GMC Sierra LWB, 305, automatic transmission, cold air-conditioning. Only 64,400 miles, \$3,500 or best offer. Call 549-6646.

For sale: 1997 red Jeep Wrangler, 116,000 miles, custom seat covers, two tops, grill guard, running boards, AC/heater, CD player, \$8,000. Call 582-6065.

Miscellaneous

For sale: Kenmore, white over-the-stove microwave, works great, \$100; White Maytag flat-top stove, double ovens, four burners plus one warmer, \$550. Call (719) 290-5440.

For sale: NordicTrack Elliptical E5 VI space-saver, like new, \$100; air hockey table, seven feet, with table tennis, works perfectly, \$100. Please call 549-7821 or 245-0519.

For Sale: 671 comic collection

You are not forgotten

2nd Lt. Frank Baranyai
14th Student Squadron

Today over 83,400 Americans of battles ranging from World War II up to today remain unaccounted for across the world. While their families await news of the fate of their missing family member, they know they do not wait alone. This Sept. 21, as with every third Friday in September, is National Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Recognition Day. Enacted by presidential proclamation, this day of recognition exists to uphold a promise made by the United States to the men and women who have served this nation—the promise to not leave them behind or forget the sacrifice they have made.

Our nation's dedication to this cause can be seen all over the world from teams in foreign lands seeking out the remains of fallen warriors to the black and white POW/MIA flag hanging proudly in the U.S. Capitol rotunda or waving beneath the Stars and Stripes at the White House, an honor reserved for that flag alone. The dedication can be seen at nationwide observances which honor living POW's and the families of those who have not yet returned from doing their duty. It can be seen around the wrists of thousands of Americans in the form of metal bracelets inscribed with the names of the missing to show their families that they have our

support. Even while driving around Columbus Air Force Base one can see the dedication in the Richard "Gene" Smith Plaza at Wing Headquarters or in streets such as Harris, Lockhart, Pryor, Shumake, and Ward all named after local POW's. While it is important for every American to show this dedication, it is vital that the military supports the cause to the fullest.

As defenders of this nation we vow to follow the standards defined by the Code of Conduct which dictate our behavior during times of combat and captivity. That code ensures that we will return with honor, no matter what hardships we may endure. At the closing of this decree, we place our trust in the United States of America. Part of that trust is the confidence that if we are ever captured or killed, our country will do all it can to ensure we return home and that we will not be forgotten.

Friday merely serves as a reaffirmation of that sacred accord between each service member and his country, between Airmen and between Americans. It is our duty to pay homage to those who have given up years of their lives in captivity or perhaps their entire life in service of our country; not just Friday, but every day. Take this POW/MIA Recognition Day to evaluate whether or not you are holding true to your promise of ensuring the families of those 83,400 do not wait alone.

Yard sale

Yard sale: Sept. 21 from 6 a.m. to noon, 650 Spivey Rd. Have a couch, chairs, tools, linens, kitchen items, games, and jewelry.

Wanted

Wanted: Computer desk in good condition, reasonably priced. Call 328-3977.

Team BLAZE celebrates 65th Air Force birthday

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

shared sacrifice, work, love of nation and love of what they were doing in the individuals I worked with every day that I did not want to walk away from.”

The retired general also shared a story of one such individual he met while in Kadena, Japan.

The Airman was a crew chief at Kadena Air Base who, instead of welcoming (at the time, Colonel) Hester with forms to fill out before his flight, welcomed him by saying “Colonel, welcome to my jet.” Hester said he felt the Airman was committed and professional so he climbed into the aircraft without doing any pre-flight inspections, trusting the Airman with his life. “When I came back you should’ve seen the smile on his face,” said Hester.

These were just a couple of the treasured memories that Hester shared with the audience about his past Air Force experiences. “It was a special privilege to have served 38 years in our Air Force; a privilege to meet those people that I talked about tonight,” said Hester.

Hester said that the record of the past 65 years of United States air power was made up of birthdays of the “big A” Airmen who made him proud to have served in the Air Force, just some of which he had the privilege to meet. “Stack all of those millions of Airmen’s memories on top of each other and you have the history of the United States Air Force. Happy Birthday Air Force.”

Columbus Air Force Base celebrated the 65th birthday of the Air Force Sept. 14 at the Trotter Convention Center in Downtown Columbus.

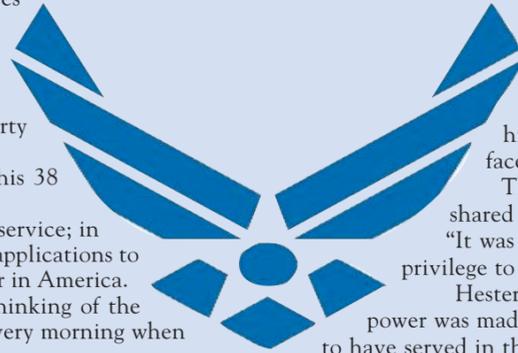
Retired Gen. Paul Hester, prior Pacific Air Forces Commander and Air Component Commander for the Commander, U.S. Pacific Command, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, was the guest speaker at the Air Force Birthday Ball.

“This is the party you should be proud of...this is the party you should have a ticket to every year,” said Hester.

Hester shared stories of experiences he had throughout his 38 years in the Air Force with the audience.

“When I was a young captain I had a chance to leave the service; in fact I wanted to do so,” said Hester. “I had already made my applications to go to law school; I was going to be the next big hotshot lawyer in America. But then, when the moment of execution came, I started thinking of the people I had met and worked for, and what happens to me every morning when I get up to go to work; it puts a smile on my face.”

“All of a sudden, I rethought my decision,” said Hester. “It was the experience of



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
George Irby Jr. accepts a donation for the Happy Christmas Fund from retired Gen. Paul Hester and assists Col. Jim Sears, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander in presenting Hester with a Certificate of Appreciation. The Happy Christmas Fund is an organization that donates clothes and other essentials to children in need.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
The audience of the 2012 Air Force Birthday Ball raises their glasses during the toasts led by the Columbus Air Force Base Group Commanders and the guest speaker. The toasts honor Air Force senior leadership, the president and the men and women fighting for their country.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Sonic Johnson
The musical group “Ops Notes” sings the National Anthem at the annual Air Force Birthday Ball at the Trotter Convention Center in Columbus, Miss. The 2012 Air Force Birthday Ball marks the 65th birthday of the Air Force.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Retired Gen. Paul Hester, representing the oldest veteran present and Airman 1st Class Jason Laufer, the youngest Airman assigned to Columbus AFB perform the traditional cutting of the Air Force Birthday cake.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Airman 1st Class Denisse Ceci, 14th Comptroller Squadron performs the POW/MIA Missing Man ceremony during the 2012 Air Force Birthday Ball. The Missing Man ceremony honors those who have been taken prisoner or have gone missing during wartimes.