

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 36, Issue 39

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

September 28, 2012

Upcoming Inspection



128

3 Excellents
3 Zeros
100%
Accountability

Days until the CUI

News Briefs

CFC Begins Oct. 1

The Combined Federal Campaign began on Columbus Air Force Base Oct. 1 and will run through Oct. 31. Contact unit or squadron representatives to donate.

Enlisted Promotions

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

Columbus Day Holiday

Most base offices will be closed Oct. 8 for Columbus Day. The Commissary will be closed Oct. 9 and will reopen at 10 a.m. Oct. 10.

Inside



Feature 8

Stories beneath the streets: POW Memorials on Columbus AFB are highlighted in this week's feature.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Melissa Doublin

Barbra Sisson, Air Education and Training Command Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission support, and James Fitzpatrick, Deputy to the Command Civil Engineer, listen to Capt. Tyler West, 14th Operations Group give a briefing on the state of Columbus Air Force Base's Runway Supervisory Units in a T-6 RSU. Sisson saw Team BLAZE and how it operates for the first time and was briefed on which base infrastructures are in most need of remodeling and modernizing.

Sisson sees 14th FTW in action

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

The Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support at the Headquarters of Air Education and Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas visited Columbus Air Force Base Sept. 24 and 25.

Barbara Sisson, a member of the Senior Executive Service, saw Team BLAZE and how it operates for the first time and iden-

tified which base infrastructures are in most need of remodeling and modernizing.

“Some people think that every Air Force base should look exactly the same; I don't really agree with that,” said Sisson. “I like the fact that Columbus has a certain look and feel to it that's uniquely ‘Columbus’ to honor its heritage. I think that's a good thing.”

Though the architecture throughout Columbus is unique, some of the buildings

are in need of remodeling. According to Sisson, because of the poor economy and shrinking budgets, the most important part of modernizing infrastructures is trying to balance truly mission-essential and people-essential projects.

“Over the last year we've developed a model by which we grade the infrastructure across AETC and rate it according to the level of risk to either the mission or people,” said Sisson. “We then crank it

See SISSON, Page 3

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 (13-10) | 2.37 days | 1.93 days | Nov. 14 | 48th (12-15) | -3.33 days | 2.01 days | Oct. 5 | 49th (12-AB) | -4.38 days | -3.13 days | Oct. 18 | T-6 | 2,314 | 2,010 | 31,544 |
| 41st (13-09) | 2.19 days | 2.11 days | Oct. 19 | 50th (12-15) | -2.86 days | -3.81 days | Oct. 5 | | | | | T-1 | 915 | 858 | 10,711 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | T-38 | 908 | 949 | 11,631 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | IFF | 257 | 310 | 3,466 |

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

Track Select

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Capt. Michael Holden | T-1 |
| Capt. Adam Mattheis | T-38 |
| Capt. Leo Moore | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. James Anderson | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Bryan Balkenbush | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Ian Crawford | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Brian Davis | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. William Gregg | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Joshua Johnson | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Kelman Khersonsky | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Zoe Lauro | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Brandon Lee | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Kumpei Matsui | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Ryan Moate | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Ryohei Ono | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Aaron Peercy | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Thomas Pena | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Marc Penninga | T-38 |
| 2nd Lt. Luke Rosenbohm | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Edward Sheehan | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Theodore Slusher | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Daniel Winningham | T-1 |
| 2nd Lt. Paul Zampini | T-1 |



Leverette Award/Overall

2nd Lt. Brian Davis

Top Guns

Academic: 2nd Lt. Thomas Pena

Contact: Capt. Leo Moore

Instrument: 2nd Lt. Brian Davis

Formation: 2nd Lt. Brian Davis

13-08

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat/Sun |
|---|---|-----|---|---|--|
| 1 Night Flying Week CFC Begins | 2 Miss. State Legislature Tour, 8 a.m. | 3 | 4 Dealing with Grief Workshop, 11 a.m. @ Chapel Annex Class 71-01 Reunion (4th - 8th) | 5 Class 12-15 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye | 6/7 6th - Fire Dept. Parade and Open House, 9 a.m. @ Base Housing |
| 8 Columbus Day Holiday, Most CAFB Offices Closed | 9 Hearts Apart, 6:30 p.m. @ Country Pumpkins | 10 | 11 Business After Hours, 5 p.m. | 12 Class 13-01 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club | 13/14 13th - Career Day/Civil Fly-in, 8 a.m. @ SAC Ramp |

Long Range Events

Oct. 16: Newcomer's Orientation
Oct. 17-18: Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Visit
Oct. 19: Class 13-09 Track Select Autocross
Oct. 20-21: Autocross
Oct. 22-26: Night Flying Week
Oct. 26: Class 13-01 Graduation
Oct. 30: Quarterly Awards
Oct. 31: Enlisted Promotions
Oct. 31: Harvest Fest
Oct. 31: Halloween
Nov. 2: Class 13-02 Assignment Night

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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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.

Laughbaum to speak at Class 12-15 Graduation

Col. (USAF, retired) Kent Laughbaum is an air and missile defense program director and systems architect with Raytheon in Tucson, Arizona. At Raytheon since 2008, his areas of expertise include national strategy, future warfighting concepts, and future air weapons.

Kent served as commander of the 355th Fighter Wing at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base from 2006 until 2008. At D-M he was responsible for America's largest A-10 wing, commanding 6,700 Airmen and leading 3,200 civilians. Kent also commanded the 48th Operations Group and 494th Fighter Squadron, at RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom.

A 1983 graduate of Texas A&M University, Kent also holds post-

graduate degrees from the USAF School of Advanced Airpower Studies and the United States Naval War College. Prior to his USAF command tours Kent he served as a Fighter Weapons School instructor pilot in the A-10 and F-15E, and held staff responsibilities with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). He is a command pilot with more than 5,100 flying hours, and led expeditionary fighter squadrons over Afghanistan and Iraq during Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Northern Watch, and Operation Southern Watch.

Kent maintains numerous civic and professional responsibilities in Arizona and across the nation. These including service on the AFA Chairman's Air Power



U.S. Air Force Photo
Col. (USAF, retired) Kent Laughbaum

Advocate Group, as President of the Texas A&M University Club (Southern Arizona), on the Board of Directors for the American Red Cross (Southern Arizona), on the Board of Directors for Arizona Public Media, and on the Board of Directors for the 355th Fighter Association.

SISSON

(Continued from Page 1)

into a formula which tells us all of the deficiencies across the 13 different bases and try to prioritize which projects have the highest risk to mission and to people. Where those two things intersect, those projects tend to go to the top of the heap when it comes to funding because we don't have nearly enough money to do everything we'd like to do."

According to Sisson, while it is important to upgrade essential infrastructure to ensure it is properly able to assist in completing the mission, side-projects need to take a backseat; it is important to remember where the project funding originates.

"I wish we could do more, but you have to think that every time we spend a dollar, that's one more taxpayer's dollar that's being spent, which means one more person that has to pay another dollar in taxes," said Sisson. "We have to be conscious of the cost of what we're doing and how we can get the most utility out of our facilities with the least amount of money."

Sisson talked about the most mission-essential and people-essential infrastructures on Columbus AFB, the Runway Supervisory Units and the fitness center. These buildings have been included in the 14th Civil Engineering Squadron's extended project plan.

"The engineers have developed a long-range plan, a base master plan, that looks out to the year 2030 and exhibits some of the things they would like to do," said Sisson. "It's taking advantage of the infrastructure that is already in place that's useable and has a plan for tear-

ing down some of the older buildings that would cost more to renovate than to replace."

One way to help get the money for the future projects on Columbus AFB is by winning Air Force or AETC-level energy awards. The 14th Flying Training Wing has won two AETC-level awards for reduction in energy usage thus far with hopes of receiving more, though Air Force-level awards are unlikely.

"The Air Force gives awards to the bases that do the best job with energy efficiency and conservation, but compared to other parts of the country our energy costs are relatively low," said Sisson. "Energy projects are ranked on a return-on-investment and because our energy costs are relatively low in this part of the country, as opposed to more populated areas, we don't compete well for those energy-focused funds."

As if receiving awards for reduction in energy usage was not enough of a reason to turn off extra lights and computer monitors, Sisson said there is another large reason to reduce energy use.

"Typically we pay our energy bills with operation and maintenance money," said Sisson. "Every dollar we save on an energy bill can directly be put back into the base's operation."

The operation at Columbus AFB is integral with other pilot training bases to produce the U.S. Air Force pilots that roam the skies. The mission is the central focus for anyone assigned to the 14th FTW.

"It was nice to see the commitment and professionalism of the people, regardless of whether they were government civilians, contractors or active duty," said Sisson. "It was nice to see how everyone focused on the mission here; singular focus on training pilots."

Columbus AFB gathers to honor POWs, MIA

Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base held a prisoner of war and missing in action retreat ceremony at Smith Plaza Sept. 21 to remember those captured or missing during wartimes.

Two repatriated POWs and two family members of former POWs joined the 14th Flying Training Wing and Col. Jim Sears, 14th FTW Commander and event speaker at the ceremony.

"Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action are casualties that can all too easily be ignored, however, great lengths have been taken here at Columbus Air Force Base to ensure we have daily reminders of the sacrifices these patriots and their families have made," said Sears.

Multiple streets and areas throughout Columbus AFB have been named after prior Prisoners of War to honor the contributions they made to protect the freedoms of the United States, said Sears. Retired Col. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris, former Col. Glenn Shumake and former Staff Sgt. Rufus Ward, Sr. have roads on base named after them and Smith Plaza, located in front of the Wing Headquarters building, is named after retired Lt. Col. Gene Smith.

However, only the POW/MIA flag honors these heroic Americans and the promise their country has made to never forget them.

"That flag represents the sacrifice and plight of those Americans who have sacrificed their own freedom to preserve liberty for us all," said Sears. "Its presence serves to remind us that, while we enjoy the privilege of freedom, somewhere there are service members who have not been accounted for and whose whereabouts are unknown."

"Since World War I, more than 200,000 Americans have been listed as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action," said Sears. "Less than half of them were returned at the end of hostilities, leaving more than 125,000 Americans, servicemen and servicewomen, missing in action since 1914."

An organization known as the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command seeks out the remains of service members listed as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action and return them home. Due to the command's continued efforts, the number of missing service members from World War II on steadily decreases from the remaining 83,473 missing according to the command's announcement last December.

"The greatest nation will never rest until all those who have served something greater than themselves and for whom we cannot account are returned," said Sears. "Let us remember their sacrifice. Let us remember the price they paid to defend our freedom, defend our democracy and defend this great nation."

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 63 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.



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Dublin

Airman Leadership School Class 12-7 poses together after their graduation ceremony on Sept. 20 at the Columbus Club. ALS prepares Airmen for the responsibilities of being a front-line supervisor and is held at Columbus Air Force Base twice per year.

ALS Class 12-7 graduates

After over five weeks of hard work, sixteen Airmen graduated Airman Leadership School in a ceremony Sept. 20 at the Columbus Club.

During their graduation ceremony, commanders, coworkers and friends gathered to celebrate ALS Class 12-7's accomplishment in completing their preparations to become front-line supervisors in today's Air Force.

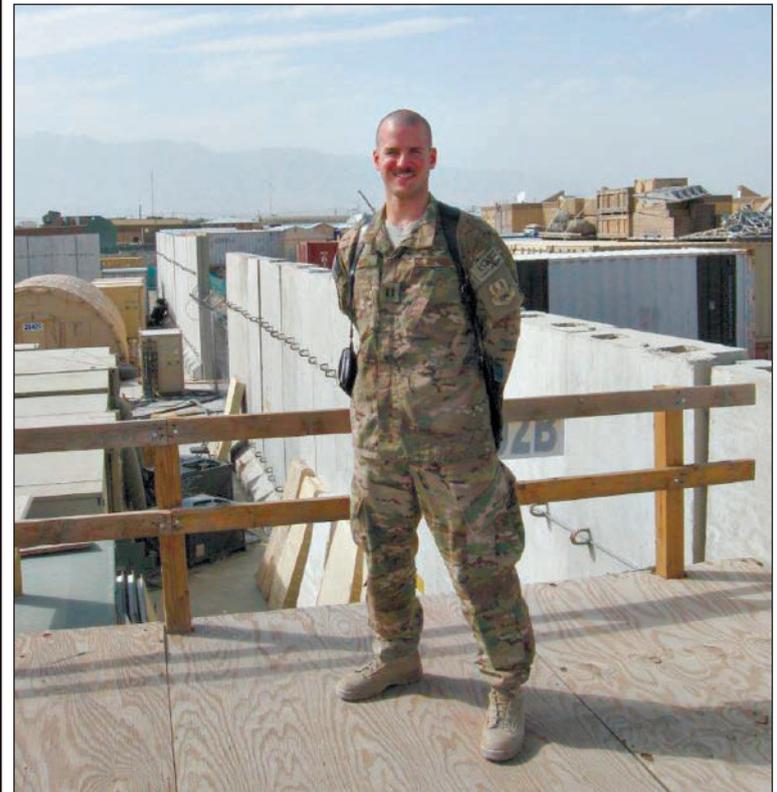
Congratulations to:

- Staff Sgt. Ryan Cope, 14th Contracting Squadron
- Senior Airman William Bryan, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Senior Airman Dajuantaye Brown, 14th CES
- Senior Airman Jason Pincheon, 14th CES
- Senior Airman Jerod Trainor, 14th CES
- Senior Airman Kyle Burns, 14th CPTS

Senior Airman Terrika Hayes, 14th Security Forces Squadron

- Senior Airman Tamarah Williams, 14th SFS
- Senior Airman Terrance Williams, 14th SFS
- Senior Airman Cody Howk, 14th Operations Support Squadron?
- Senior Airman Jayson McNary, 14th OSS
- Senior Airman Jontahan Modrall, 14th Communication Squadron
- Senior Airman David Murphy, 14th CS
- Senior Airman Steve Sherrill, 14th CS
- Senior Airman Matthew Spiegle, 14th Medical Operations Squadron
- Senior Airman Gregory Wilkins, 48th Flying Training Squadron

Feed the Fight



Courtesy photo

Capt. Christopher "Hopper" Duhon is assigned to the 14th Student Squadron as a flight commander and T-38 instructor pilot at Columbus Air Force Base. He is currently deployed to Afghanistan and is assigned to the 4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron as an MC-12 Executive Officer. 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

Multimedia services reduced

Ron Wooten

14th Flying Training Wing
Multimedia

The words "Times are changing" and "reduction" have been heard quite often lately. Funding cuts have now impacted Multimedia Support on Columbus AFB. Effective Oct. 1 many services and products previously provided by the Multimedia Center will no longer be available.

Customers will no longer be able to request any charts, certificates, programs, storyboards, nametags, place cards, scheduling charts, status rosters, track select materials, door signs or facility enhancement prints or posters. Anything for any type of going away gift, memento, souvenirs

or for any type of entertainment activity support is prohibited by AFI 35-109.

Additionally, no video support other than emergency incident coverage is available. Still photography has also been reduced. Still photo coverage of events below wing level has been eliminated. Coverage of award presentations has been restricted to group level and above. Studio photography has been changed from five days per week to restricted hours three days per week for AFI required portraits, passport and ISOPREP products.

Product delivery will be digital imagery delivered via E-mail. Hard copy prints will only be delivered if required by an AFI.

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Space shuttle arrives home for one last ‘endeavor’

Laura Mowry

Edwards Air Force Base Public Affairs

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — For the Edwards community who has been actively involved in NASA’s Space Shuttle program since flight testing began in the 1970’s, it was a bittersweet day when Space Shuttle Endeavour arrived one last time Sept. 20, piggy-backed on NASA’s Boeing 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft.

When the SCA departed the following morning to deliver Space Shuttle Endeavour to the California Science Center in Los Angeles, Calif., it was an appropriate ending to an epic chapter in American and aviation history that happens to be very personal for so many at Edwards.

While Team Edwards gathered around the base to watch the historic arrival and takeoff, unaccompanied Airmen living in the dorms and family members of deployed spouses had the rare opportunity to get up close to the SCA and Space Shuttle Endeavour.

“I enjoyed being a part of something bigger than me, to look up at something that was actually in space and realize the countless hours and effort that went into putting that in motion. That’s what really moved me,” said

Airman Michael Day, 412th Communications Squadron. “It was cool to see such an iconic piece of history.”

For the young Airman, the opportunity to see Space Shuttle Endeavour up close reminded Day of how he was inspired as a child watching the space shuttle with his family.

“I remember growing up and watching various shuttle take offs and landings with my grandma and wanting to do that. She always told me to do my best and I can be whatever it is I wanted to be; even an astronaut,” said Day.

Just as Airman Day continues to be captivated by the shuttle program, people from all over the world have marveled at the country’s space program from 1981 to 2011.

While the world looked on in amazement, the Edwards community continued working with NASA to flight test the space shuttle and subsequently functioned as a critical support system when Edwards was picked as the primary alternate landing site.

Programs throughout the 1960’s and 1970’s such as the North American X-15, Northrop HL-10, X-24A and X-24B, tested hypersonic flight; lifting body designs and aerodynamic characteristics; manned atmospheric re-entry and the ability to land a piloted aircraft with no power on a conventional runway.

The first major milestone for the shuttle program at Edwards occurred Aug. 12, 1977 when the Space Shuttle Enterprise successfully launched from the back of the Boeing 747 SCA and landed on Rogers Dry Lake. After four more tests, Edwards personnel had successfully demonstrated the reliability of the shuttle for routine approach and landings.

“Testing was done at Edwards that proved the concept that a space shuttle orbiter could return to Earth, manned and land on a conventional runway,” said Dr. Joseph Mason, Air Force Test Center chief historian. “That testing was done at Edwards and it was largely done in cooperation between NASA and the Air Force”.

According to Dr. Mason, the first four missions flown by the orbiter were flight test missions with landings at Edwards. Although the Enterprise was the first full-scale shuttle, it never went into orbit.

It landed on the dry lakebed and then the runway. After that, the first four or so shuttle missions with Columbia were essentially flight test missions for the program and it demonstrated the systems would work.

April 14, 1981, the Space Shuttle

See SHUTTLE, Page 13



Courtesy photo by Matthew Short/Lockheed Martin
An F-35 Lightning II flies over Space Shuttle Endeavour Sept. 20, 2012. The space shuttle landed at Edwards after completing the fourth leg of its ferry flight to the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

COMPROLLER

(Continued from Page 11)

operating support.

“We’d try to protect families wherever we can,” Hale added, “but we would have to make some of these cuts.”

Cuts would also be required in the Defense Health Program, including TRICARE, he said.

“These are the consequences that would come into play in fiscal 2013,” the comptroller said, noting that the sequestration law that would go into effect on Jan. 2 also would reduce DOD budgets by \$50 billion to \$55 billion in each year from fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2021.

This would double reductions already imposed by the Budget Control Act and accounted for by DOD, forcing the department to make substantial reductions in military personnel and units and giving the department fewer options for responding quickly to emerging crises, Hale said.

Hale was joined at the hearing by Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, Army vice chief of staff; Adm. Mark E. Ferguson III, vice chief of naval operations; Gen. Larry O. Spencer, Air Force vice chief of staff; and Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., Marine Corps assistant commandant.

Without exception, the military leaders said the results of sequestration would keep their forces from properly executing requirements of the new defense strategy.

Representing the Air Force, Spencer said sequestration

would “affect our ability to fulfill current wartime deployments, operational requirements and defense of the homeland, but it would also significantly impact our ability to prepare for future operations and ... make investments in modernization.”

Such cuts would also impact the future of vital aerospace technology, the general said, “one of our key competitive advantages.”

Austin said the cuts required by sequestration would “adversely affect just about every aspect of our Army,” including that service’s readiness and its ability to respond to contingencies.

For the Navy, Ferguson said sequestration would translate over time to a smaller force with less presence, longer response times and reduced ability to provide surge forces in support of major operational plans and other emerging needs.

“This month I visited the Central Command region,” the admiral told the panel. He visited both aircraft carriers in the region, the USS Enterprise and the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, along with the minesweeper force, patrol craft and other ships. In the process he said he spoke with more than 10,000 forward-deployed sailors.

“At every forum,” Ferguson said, “sailors from the most junior to our operational commanders expressed concern regarding what sequestration will mean to our Navy and their service. The uncertainty of our fiscal future is increasingly on the minds of our force.”

For the Marine Corps, Dunford said sequestration would

have “a chaotic effect on the force during a time of extraordinary challenges to our nation.”

For the last 10 years, the nation’s Marines, Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen have done everything asked of them, he told the panel.

“The competence, responsiveness and flexibility of our force was seen again last week when Marines responded within hours to reinforce (U.S.) embassies in the Middle East and North Africa,” the general said, adding that such a response has occurred so often over the past few years that it might be taken for granted.

Most of the young men and women in uniform, like those who are part of the Fleet Antiterrorism Support Teams that deployed last week, or those in Afghanistan, are too busy doing their jobs to worry about the details of how the nation’s leaders and legislators develop and pass budgets, he said.

“Frankly, given all they do for us, they have a right to expect that whatever it is we’re supposed to be doing to properly support them, that we’re actually doing it,” Dunford said.

“One of my greatest concerns about sequestration ... is that we will lose the trust and confidence of the all-volunteer force that we have worked so hard to build,” the general added.

Along with impacts on the budget and the defense strategy, sequestration also puts at risk “the intangible qualities that make our military the very best in the world,” he said.

“That fact needs to be a key part of the debate as we move forward,” the general added.

How the MilPDS downtime will affect you

14th Force Support Squadron

During the month of Dec. 2012, AFPC will be required to comply with DOD regulations by upgrading the Military Personnel Data System and transferring it into the Defense Information Systems Agency’s Defense Enterprise Computing Center. This upgrade and migration will require MilPDS to be unavailable beginning Dec. 3 for approximately 23 days.

How does this affect you? Several essential personnel and pay systems, education and training systems, and transactional applications will be impacted during the downtime because they rely on data from MilPDS. Whether you are due to retire, separate, or reenlist, appropriate actions must be taken earlier than the usual time frame. Some non-critical pay-affecting updates will be performed post-upgrade.

Here are a few personnel actions that Airmen must consider before downtime:

| If an Airman is considering any of the following during December 2012 | Submit Application to: | |
|--|------------------------|---------------|
| | FSS/MPS NLT | AFPC NLT |
| Scheduling OPI test for Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus | Sept. 15, 2012 | |
| Applying for Reenlistment / Extension or Separation | Oct. 29, 2012 | |
| Completing a Base of Preference (BOP) application | | Nov. 1, 2012 |
| Completing an In-Place Base of Preference (BOP) application | | Nov. 2, 2012 |
| Applying for Voluntary Retraining | | Nov. 15, 2012 |
| Scheduling DLPT test for Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus | Nov. 15, 2012 | |
| Updating SGLI | Nov. 16, 2012 | Nov. 16, 2012 |
| Reenlisting (if delayed, SRB could pay in January 2013 & December 2013, which could increase income tax) | Nov. 16, 2012 | Nov. 16, 2012 |
| Extending current Enlistment | Nov. 16, 2012 | Nov. 16, 2012 |

Fire Prevention Open House Oct. 6



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
Airmen from the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Services Flight, demonstrate a vehicle rescue extraction at the 2010 Fire Prevention Week Open House Oct. 2 on Columbus AFB. To highlight Fire Protection Week Oct. 7-13 the base fire department will hold an open house Oct. 6 at 10 a.m. featuring a events including a live aircraft fire burn, auto extrication and rope rappelling. All DoD military and civilians with identification cards to get on base are welcome.

Air Force Super Car to visit Columbus



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Scott Reed
The AF X-1 Super Car will be here in Columbus, Miss on Sept. 29 at Leigh Mall parking lot from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The ‘X-1’ Mustang is matte-pearlescent painted with a jet cockpit that includes a single-driver ejection seat in the center of the vehicle, short shifter, flight stick and advanced instrumentation panel. The X-1 also has a concealed motorized steering wheel, custom foot pedals, GPS transponder and the innovative dash is equipped with a touch screen monitor and sensor pack that displays night and thermal vision. The 4.6 liter engine includes 3-valve Ford Racing heads, cold air intake, hot rod cams, and long tube headers creating 500hp and is maintained by a custom Ford Racing Tuning Program.

Look beyond the bullet

Senior Airman Jessica Hines
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea — Have you ever heard someone say, “You should do that; it would make a great bullet”?

Bullets on an enlisted performance report can be daunting when the pressure to go the extra mile replaces the motivation for self-improvement and a dedication to serve.

Last time I checked, the Air Force motto wasn't to ‘Fly, Fight and Write Strong Bullets.’ The pursuit of a strong EPR is certainly important, without a doubt, especially for promotion. But how often do we get involved in our community or base without some kind of personal gain?

It can bring up an age old question: “Is there truly such a thing as a selfless act?”

But that's another conversation.

As a young enlisted Airman, I can only image the time spent writing strong performance reports. I have yet to be in a position to write an EPR, however, I've observed the stress and countless man-hours spent mulling over well-crafted EPR bullets and the quest for a “firewall 5.”

Personally, I know I'm guilty of volunteering for something because I knew it would be a good bullet. Is that wrong? I don't believe so. But I also believe it's what you do when no one is

looking that ultimately defines you.

As my time at my second duty location draws to a close, I'm inclined to reflect on what change I left behind, although only a short-tour assignment. Could I have done more? What did I do differently at this base that I didn't do before? Where should I have been more involved? What clubs or organizations should I look into at my next base?

In thinking about this, I can't help but look back to a couple of groups I've come across in my short time in the Air Force, which sadly did not evoke the change, improvements or morale they could have. I have, of course, seen many organizations, clubs and units ignite amazing team spirit and companionship in their communities and fellow Airmen.

But what about those other clubs? What was holding them back?

Type “complacency” into your online search engine and you'll find the definition: “an instance of usually unaware or uninformed self-satisfaction.”

Essentially, I believe they became content or “self-satisfied” with the bullet they were receiving, causing them to be “unaware or uninformed” to the opportunities around them. The chances to evoke real positive influence in each other's lives or even their communities were passed by because they weren't looking past the bullet written on the paper.

As United States servicemembers, we have already commit-

Personally, I know I'm guilty of volunteering for something because I knew it would be a good bullet. Is that wrong? I don't believe so. But I also believe it's what you do when no one is looking that ultimately defines you.

ted to one of the greatest selfless acts, a service to our country.

But I urge you to ask yourself the question, “Have I become content with the bullet?” “Am I in this for the credit or the chance to make a difference?”

Be honest, are you a bullet hog? We all know them, they show up to every meeting, every event. If there's a council or committee, they're probably on it. But what do they actually do?

Now I challenge you, and myself, to go beyond the bullet, the EPR, or the quarterly award. Ask, what now?

What change do I potentially have the power to invoke? Who could I be helping?

It's probably more than you realize. Whether an airman first class or a second lieutenant, we all have the power to evoke positive change and lend a helping hand.

True service knows no rank.

Whether you want to call it being a good Wingman, citizen or leader, I encourage us all to take a look around and open our eyes to opportunities that might be passing us by even if they don't benefit us personally.

Look beyond the bullet.

Cultural battlegrounds: Why culture matters in Global War on Terror

Dr. William L. Dulaney

Air Force Culture and Language
Center

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — In every culture, there exists the possibility of a mob of people that could be easily compelled to action by those who know how. Understanding culture, for the military professional, should be thought of as the art and science of understanding cause and effect in social contexts.

In operational contexts, culture is human terrain: just as real as the ground on which we fight, the airspace we own and the seas we dominate. Culture subsumes, among so much else, a people's morals, values and ethics — what is beautiful, right and wrong; what people will or will not fight and die for. These are all aspects of culture that military professionals need to understand to be successful in 21st Century warfare.

Why worry about what is beautiful? Military information support to operations cannot produce effective media and/or con-

duct psychological operations without a working knowledge of what certain people regard as pleasing to the eye, ear or heart.

Understanding what people consider right or wrong is as important to the private on his first foot patrol through an Afghan village as it is to the four-star general who makes a speech to another nation on international television.

The knowledge of what people are willing to fight and die for should be obvious. Sadly, it is not. Evidence is clear that the spate of Green-on-Blue shootings in Afghanistan is overwhelmingly caused by cultural transgressions. From refusing to urinate in private to condemnations of the Qur'an, we as a military seem not to understand that we sometimes cause our own problems.

Military professionals must, of necessity, not succumb to flimsy explanations, such as those bandied about on television, radio and internet news sources, that “those” people are just “crazies.” Sure, fanatics exist in the form of extremists all around the globe. Many of them are lobbying Molotov cocktails, rocks and RPGs at our embassies and consulates across

the north of Africa as I write this. But one must ask him or herself: “Which is more likely?” An entire culture of people is crazy enough to be incited to violence by a poorly produced video clip downloaded from the Internet. Or, there are a few — maybe only one — individuals or organizations behind the violence.

Experience has shown that the latter is usually the case. One example is a band of bad actors that understand a culture so well that all they need do is search the Internet for the most effective stimulus to create a predetermined effect on the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

Leaders of extremist, Islamist and illicit organizations understand well that culture is a fire burning in the heart of every human. All one needs to do to make that fire erupt into action is fan the flames just a little. And then sit back from a safe distance and watch. Watch as their small efforts spread across a region or even a continent. Watch as we Americans continue to try and explain what is happening while wearing what can only be described as

blinders of ethnocentrism. Watch as we lose more American lives and treasure fighting an enemy that is overwhelmingly outmatched on every single plane of warfare save one: the human terrain.

So the challenge seems clear: military leaders of all ranks must strive to cleave the extraneous information away from the actual causes of deadly effects. To understand that it is impossible to fight an idea or ideology, but very possible to target our awesome military might on the specific bad actors perverting ideas and ideologies. To bring the fight to the few who are manipulating the many.

(Dr. William Dulaney is the professor of organizational communication at the Air Force Culture and Language Center, part of the Spaatz Center for Officer Education at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. He spent 12 years on active duty for the Air Force prior to receiving his Ph. D. in Human Communication Theory and Research. He also served as the Senior Human Terrain Social Scientist in Region Command South, Afghanistan, for the U.S. government.)

Fifth-generation formation



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Jeremy T. Lock
An F-22A Raptor, foreground, from the 43rd Fighter Squadron at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., and an F-35A Lightning II joint strike fighter from the 33rd Fighter Wing at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., soar over the Emerald Coast Sept. 19, 2012. This was the first time the two fifth-generation fighters have flown together for the Air Force.

Comptroller: Sequestration would devastate defense spending

Cheryl Pellerin
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Sequestration will devastate every aspect of Defense Department spending, from fighting the war in Afghanistan and supporting troop health and morale to training, maintenance and modernization, and carrying out the defense strategic guidance, Pentagon Comptroller Robert F. Hale said here Sept. 20.

Sequestration refers to a mechanism in the Budget Control Act that would trigger an additional \$500 billion across-the-board defense spending cut over the next decade, in addition to \$487 billion in cuts already programmed, unless Congress identifies equivalent savings by January.

Testifying before the House Armed Services Committee, Hale said the only way

to avoid bad consequences is for Congress to enact a balanced deficit-reduction plan that the president can sign, a move that would halt sequestration.

“If that action is not taken,” the comptroller said, “we're faced with the dollar consequences that the Sequestration Transparency Act report spells out.” The Office of Management and Budget last week released a report required by the 2012 Sequestration Transparency Act. The document details the financial effects of sequestration.

At today's hearing, Hale offered the panel a high-level assessment of sequestration's impact on DOD.

“Cuts in the national defense function will total \$54.7 billion in discretionary and direct spending in fiscal 2013 under the assumptions of (the OMB) report. Of this amount, \$52.3 billion would come out of the DOD budget,”

the comptroller said.

President Barack Obama exercised his authority to exempt military personnel spending from sequestration, Hale said, but each nonexempt budget account will take a hit of 9.4 percent.

Funding for overseas contingency operations will be subject to sequestration, he said. “We will protect wartime operating budgets to the extent that we can — support of our warfighters is our highest priority,” Hale said. “But that will mean greater cuts in the base budget portions, especially of the operations and maintenance accounts, and particularly in the Army and the Marine Corps.”

Such cuts would mean reductions in training, which “would affect our ability to respond to a new warfighting contingency should one occur,” the comptroller added.

Sequestration almost certainly would force

High retention leads to promotion board delay

Tech. Sgt. Shawn J. Jones
Air Force Public
Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials announced they will delay the Line of the Air Force promotion board for captains commissioned in 2005 from its anticipated December 2013 date.

Air Force officials made the announcement Sept. 25 as they released the 2013 Selection Board Schedule. Record retention rates coupled with Defense Officer Personnel Management Act restrictions have resulted in a delay that will move this board into 2014.

The Line of the Air Force board, which does not affect judge advocates, chaplains or health profession officers, will be pushed back approximately nine months. The major's board for judge advocates will also be delayed for scheduling reasons, but this delay will not affect projected pin-on dates.

Public law prevents the Air Force from carrying a surplus of officers in grades of major, lieutenant colonel and colonel.

“If the Air Force were to continue at the pin-on rates common over

the past several years, the total number of majors would surpass the total allowable by the law,” said Lt. Col. Emi Izawa, chief of the Military Force Policy Division.

Izawa said the delay in the 2005 year group's promotion board does not drive a later pin-on date — high retention did that. Delaying the board moves it closer to the start of that year group's pin-on date so the Air Force can comply with Office of the Secretary of Defense policy and congressional expectations. The 2014 Selection Board Schedule will be released in the summer of 2013.

“The delay is a product of high retention rates and public law and not related to force management programs or budget cuts,” said Lt. Gen. Darrell Jones, Air Force deputy chief of staff for Manpower, Personnel, and Services. Jones emphasized the board delay will not make the affected officers less competitive for future promotion consideration throughout their career.

For more information about promotion board schedules and milestones, go to <https://mypers.af.mil> under active duty officer promotions.

DOD to reduce spending for civilian personnel, leading to hiring freezes and probably unpaid furloughs, he said, affecting weapons maintenance, contracting, and financial management and audit efforts.

A sequester also would substantially affect DOD investment programs, Hale added.

“While there'd be no impact on prior-year funds already obligated on contracts — and that's an important point — there would nonetheless be substantial adverse effects,” he said, adding that the 9.4 percent cut would affect each of the budget accounts that fund procurement, military construction, and research, development, test and evaluation.

Sequestration would adversely affect military retirees and families, he said, and cause cuts in family housing maintenance and base

See **COMPTRROLLER**, Page 12

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.

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.

Pumpkin Carving Time!

The Library will host the Fall Pumpkin Carving contest on Oct. 26. Sharpen up your carving skills to enter this fun contest. Stay tuned for information on picking up a free pumpkin... for more information contact 434-2934.

Boo! The Monster March is back!

This event is fun for ALL ages. Get dressed in you favorite costume and take a bus ride (or walk) from Freedom Park to designated locations for fun, games, and prizes on Saturday, Oct. 27. Registration will be held at Freedom Park from 8:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. and the march will run from 9-11 a.m. For more information contact 434-2507.

Bowling Special!

Every Friday in Oct. 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.

Pam's Place at Whispering Pines Golf Course
October 9 - 6 p.m.
Sign-up Deadline Oct 1st
Act Now Limited Seating!
\$32 per person

- Menu -
Appetizer
 Beef Hibachi Skewer
teriyaki glazed beef rolled around fresh green and red peppers, onions, jalapeños and cheeses.

Salad
 Spinach Salad
with mandarin oranges and walnuts

Main Entrée
 Cornish Game Hen with garlic & rosemary stuffed with wild rice, roasted green beans with mushrooms & parmesan with rosemary rolls and beer bread

Dessert
 Pam's Chocolate Dessert along with a Stout Float with Chocolate Shavings

Maximum capacity 40, sign-up TODAY 434-7932!

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.

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.

Bowl to Win

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

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.

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.

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 Open

Visit the batting cages which 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 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.

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.

See FSS, Page 14

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 service members, 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 Wells in the legal office at 662-434-7030 to register.

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

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 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.

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.)

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.

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)

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".

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>

Hearts Apart Social

Oct. 9, 5-7 p.m., Held at the Country Pumpkin, food and activities are provided; barn fire, weenie roast, and hay ride; social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel, information, refreshments, and activities. Please RSVP when invitations are received. Headcount of attendance prior to event is critical for planning and preparation. Advance registration required, call 434-2790.

See BRIEFS, Page 14

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.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Sonic Johnson

“D Street” was renamed Carlyle Harris Street to honor retired Col. Carlyle “Smitty” Harris. Colonel Harris was an F-105 pilot and Vietnam POW for nearly eight years. He perfected and spread a tap code.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | A | B | C | D | E |
| 2 | F | G | H | I | J |
| 3 | L | M | N | O | P |
| 4 | Q | R | S | T | U |
| 5 | V | W | X | Y | Z |

The Tap Code that became the gold standard for communication between prisoners during the Vietnam War was spread by Col. Carlyle “Smitty” Harris. To pass a message, the first series of one to five taps gave the letter’s column on the grid, and the second set of taps gave the letter’s row.

Stories beneath the streets: POW Memorials on Columbus AFB

2nd Lt. Katie Amerson
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Harris Street, Smith Plaza, Shumake Street, Ward Street. These names may sound familiar and many Columbus Air Force Base personnel probably pass them by at some point during their workday. However, there is more to these locations than meets the eye. While they may not look much different from Capitol Avenue or 7th Street, their significance is far greater. These are just four of the multiple monuments found around Columbus AFB that are dedicated to those who have come before us to serve our nation. These four memorials in particular represent individuals from the Columbus area who have gone to serve our country in one of the most difficult ways: as a prisoner of war. Col. Carlyle “Smitty” Harris, an F-105 pilot and Vietnam POW, Lt. Col. Richard “Gene” Smith, an F-105 pilot and Vietnam POW, Col. Glynn Shumake, a B-17 pilot and WWII POW, and Staff Sgt. Rufus Ward Sr., a B-17 tail gunner and WWII POW. These local memorials represent the sacrifice they made for their country in times of war and continue to tell their story, even when they are unable to do so.

Harris Street, which can be found between Freedom Park and the fitness center, was named after Colonel Carlyle “Smitty” Harris, an F-105 pilot in Vietnam. Tasked with bombing the Dragon’s Jaw, a formidable bridge in North Vietnam that spanned the Song Ma River, Harris and his flight of F-105 pilots from the 45th Tactical Fighter Squadron began an attack on April 4, 1965. Harris, flying as “Steel 3”, took the lead and headed towards the bridge, but his F-105 was hit with what he believed to be a 37 mm anti-aircraft round, causing significant damage to the aircraft. He reported that his bombs impacted the target, but as radio contact became indecipherable, the rest of his flight members watched as his plane trailed smoke and flames 20 feet behind. None of the formation observed a parachute or the aircraft impact the ground and it wasn’t until much later that they learned he had been captured by the North Vietnamese. Harris spent the nearly 8 years as a POW in various prisons where he was confined, mistreated, and tortured; five and a half of those years he spent in solitary confinement. Fellow POWs credit him with introducing the “tap code” which enabled them to communicate secretly between cells. He was repatriated on February 12, 1973 during Operation Homecoming on the C-141 “Hanoi Taxi.” He retired from the Air Force in August 1979 and entered directly into the University of Mississippi law school, joining the Mississippi Bar in December 1981. He and his wife Louise currently live in Tupelo, Miss.

Smith Plaza, located in front of the Wing Headquarters building, is named after Lt. Col. Richard “Gene” Smith who was born and raised in Mississippi. He attended Mississippi State University and entered the Air Force in 1956. Assigned

to 333rd Tactical Fighter Squadron in Thailand, Smith was flying his 33rd mission over North Vietnam on October 25, 1967 in the F-105D when he was shot down over Hanoi. After ejecting from his aircraft, Smith received anti-aircraft fire and bailout wounds to his right lower leg and was shot twice in the left thigh when captured. Smith survived his initial injuries, the brutal interrogations, the solitary confinement and more than five and a half years of imprisonment. After his release on March 14, 1973, Smith was assigned to Columbus Air Force Base where he was the Commander of the 50th Flying Training Squadron and Director of Operations of the 14th Flying Training Wing. Following his Air Force career, Smith went on to be the Director of the Golden Triangle Regional airport where he saw the original airport terminal structure built. He also held numerous leadership roles in the Air Force Association from president of the local Golden triangle chapter to the National President. Now retired, Smith lives in West Point, Miss. with his wife Lynn.

Shumake Street, which runs parallel to the flightline, is named after Colonel Glynn F. Shumake. Shumake was a B-17 pilot and WWII POW who flew over 30 missions during WWII over Germany. On March 30, 1945, Major Shumake, the 358 Bomb Squadron commanding officer and lead pilot, was flying in the lead aircraft of 13 B-17’s on a mission over Bremen, Germany in the co-pilot position. Their intended targets were the submarine building yards, but before they reached their target, their plane was hit with anti-aircraft fire. With #3 and #4 engines out and total electrical failure, the crew was forced to crash land in a wheat field on the east bank of the Rhine River, hoping to get to allied-held territory. Miraculously all ten crewmembers were uninjured, but after making their way out of the destroyed aircraft, they were immediately captured by German soldiers and transported to POW camps. Shumake became a POW in Barth, Germany where he remained until the end of the war. He later returned to Mississippi to serve as a member of the Mississippi State Legislature and House of Representatives from 1972-1980. His daughter, Jo Shumake, retired from the U.S. Department of State with the rank of Minister-Counselor at the end of 2008 after 25 years of helping promote U.S. foreign policy in a variety of overseas and domestic postings. She was born and raised in Columbus and since her return, has been active in the community.

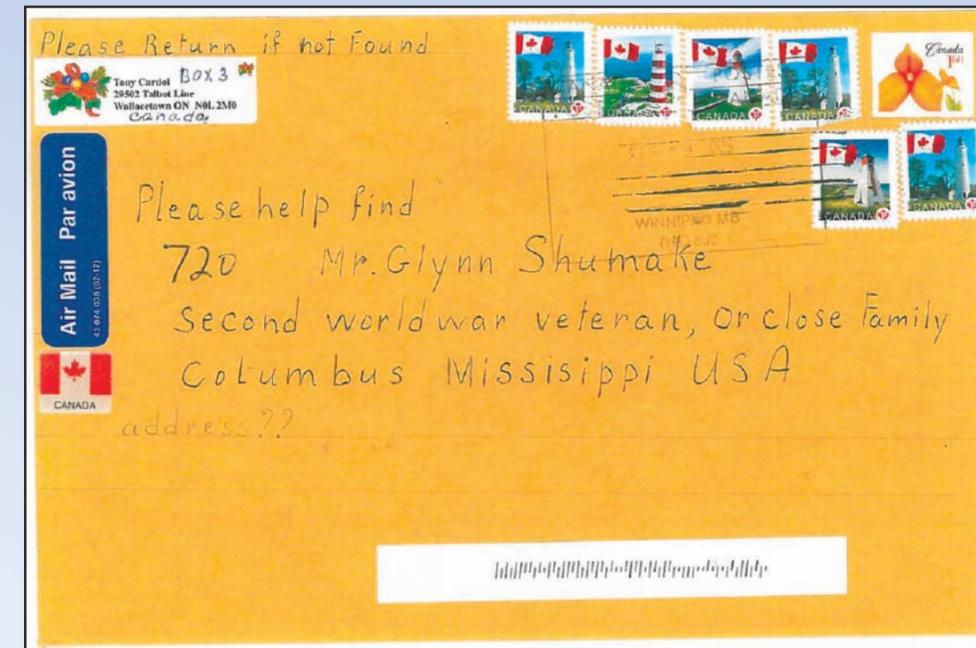
Ward Street, located near the Unaccompanied Officer Quarters, is the only street on Columbus AFB named after an enlisted member. Staff Sgt. Rufus Ward Sr. grew up in Columbus, Miss. before entering the Army Air Corps where he served as a B-17 tail gunner during WWII. On May 12, 1944, Ward was the tail gunner on Smokey Stover Jr., a B-17 from the 337th Squadron of the 96th Bomb Group based at Snetterton Heath, England. That day near Frankfurt, the squadron was attacked by more than 60 German fighters and Smokey Stover



The crew of the B-17 “Smokey Stover Jr.” pause for a photo. Staff Sgt. Rufus Ward, a member of the crew assisted two wounded crewmembers as the plane was going down, saving their lives before jumping himself and being captured. Ward street is the only street on Columbus Air Force Base named after an enlisted service member.

Jr. was heavily damaged with its left wing almost shot away and two engines set on fire. Communications had been cut to the tail and Ward did not hear the pilot’s orders to bail out. Still firing his .50-caliber guns at a German fighter, he suddenly saw his pilot and co-pilot parachute past his window. As Ward was about to bail out he discovered the waist gunner and the ball turret gunner lying wounded on the catwalk. He went and assisted each of them with their parachutes and helped them out of the aircraft before he bailed out. All survived and became prisoners of war. After he was liberated, Ward returned to Columbus. His son, Rufus Ward, Jr., was born and grew up in Columbus, Miss. where he attended Mississippi State University and the University of Mississippi for undergraduate and law school. He is a former Clay County Prosecuting Attorney, elected to four terms and served 16 years as well as a former President of the Clay County Bar Association.

For these men, Columbus AFB was more than just a work place. It was a place where they rebuilt their lives upon their return. All of them returned to Columbus after their repatriation and eventually settled in Mississippi. Some of them continued to serve in the Air Force and became active members in their communities. While they have all played vital roles in our Air Force, none of them consider themselves heroes; a statement with which many would disagree. We remember those who were prisoners of war and are missing in action, as well as their families and friends. They have sacrificed so much for our country and will always be remembered and honored at Columbus AFB.



This letter to Glynn Shumake was sent in 2009 by Wilma Cardol, a daughter of the farmer who’s land Shumake landed on prior to his capture. An excerpt of the letter reads “We the people of the old Dutch background will never forget your great sacrifice for our freedom. I am now 77 years old, and I appreciate you as much today for our freedom then we did 64 years ago, 1945. Farewell my dear Americans, God bless you. Until we meet again. Thank you and again thank you.”



U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick

Col. Jim Sears, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander and his wife Vikki Sears talk with two former prisoners of war, retired Col. Carlyle “Smitty” Harris and retired Lt. Col. Gene Smith, prior to the 2012 Columbus Air Force Base POW/MIA retreat ceremony. Smith and Harris were both F-105 pilots that were shot down and became POWs in Southeast Asia.