

"Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight"

Vol. 36, Issue 48

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

November 30, 2012

Upcoming Inspection



65

3 Excellents
3 Zeros
100%
Accountability

Days until the CUI

News Briefs

Base Christmas Tree Lighting

Columbus AFB will hold its annual Christmas tree lighting Dec. 6 at 5:15 p.m. on the front lawn of the Mission Support Group building. Cookies and warm beverages will be available at the Chapel Annex following the ceremony as well as an opportunity for photos with Santa.

Base Cookie Drive

The Columbus AFB Base Cookie Drive will begin Dec. 3 at 6:30 a.m. in the Columbus Club. All donations help to provide unaccompanied personnel with baked goods for the holiday season. Volunteers are welcome. Please contact Mai Lan Isler at 434-0288 or at mattisler@aol.com to volunteer or ask questions.

Columbus Christmas Parade

The annual Columbus Christmas Parade will take place Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. in downtown Columbus.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
Joseph McCluan, a paramedic firefighter and Stay Alive From Education instructor, demonstrates lifesaving techniques used on survivors of vehicle accidents as part of the Street Smart presentation at Kaye Auditorium Nov. 20. The safety presentation, coordinated by 14th Flying Training Wing Safety, presented Airmen with the consequences of making bad decisions behind the wheel.

Columbus AFB gets "Street Smart"

Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

saw the consequences of making bad decisions behind the wheel during a Street Smart presentation held at Kaye Auditorium on Nov. 20.

er paramedics, Joseph McCluan and Patrick Kelly of the Florida Stay Alive From Education inc. gave the presentation from their point of view when

Columbus Air Force Base Airmen

Two Florida state-certified firefight-

See STREET SMART, Page 3

Inside



Feature 8

14th FSS Services are highlighted in this week's feature.

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 (13-12) | 3.54 days | 1.57 days | Jan. 16 | 48th (13-03) | 1.24 days | 1.10 days | Dec. 14 | 49th (13-CB) | -0.47 days | 0.35 days | Dec. 19 | T-6 | 2,059 | 1,948 | 4,333 |
| 41st (13-11) | 2.66 days | 0.42 days | Dec. 11 | 50th (13-03) | 2.32 days | 0.78 days | Dec. 14 | | | | | T-1 | 487 | 611 | 1,676 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | T-38 | 448 | 505 | 1,830 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | IFF | 328 | 277 | 720 |

The graduation speaker is Lt. Gen. Glen Moorhead, USAF Ret.

Feed the fight



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Larry "T-Rex" Roof from the 14th Student Squadron pauses for a photo in Baghdad, Iraq. Roof provides an Air Force pilot's perspective as the deputy for the Army Air Defense Command in Iraq. Prior to his deployment Roof was the Director of Operations for the Student Squadron and a T-38 instructor pilot. 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.

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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.

Published by the Commercial Dispatch Publishing Company, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 14th Flying Training Wing.

This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

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

| <u>Mon</u> | <u>Tue</u> | <u>Wed</u> | <u>Thur</u> | <u>Fri</u> | <u>Sat/Sun</u> |
|--|--|---|--|---|---------------------------|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8/9 |
| Services Transformation Base Visit (3rd-8th) | Hearts Apart, 4:30 p.m. @ AFRC | | Base Christmas Tree Lighting, 5:15 p.m. @ MSG Lawn | First Sgt. Steak Burn, 11 a.m. Chapel Annex | 8th - Hanukkah, at Sunset |
| Base Cookie Drive, 6:30 a.m. @ Club | Motorcycle Mentorship Meeting, 8 a.m. @ Kaye | | Daedalians, 6 p.m. @ Club | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15/16 |
| Night Flying Week | CSC Holiday Social, 6 p.m. @ Bryn Bella | Heart Link Spouse Welcome, 8:30 a.m. @ Club | | Class 13-03 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye | |
| | Newcomer's Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club | | | Amory Civic Leaders Visit | |
| | Class 13-11 Track Select, 9 a.m. @ Phillips | | | | |

| <u>Long Range Events</u> |
|--------------------------------------|
| Dec. 20: Happy Wrap |
| Dec. 24: AETC Family Day |
| Dec. 25: Christmas Day |
| Dec. 31: AETC Family Day |
| Jan. 1: New Year's Day |
| Jan. 3: Enlisted Promotions |
| Jan. 4: Class 13-04 Assignment Night |
| Jan. 8: Enlisted Calls |
| Jan. 8: Hearts Apart |
| Jan. 10: Civilian Call |
| Jan. 11: Officer Call |
| Jan. 15: Newcomer's Orientation |
| Jan. 16: Class 13-12 Track Select |
| Jan. 17: Dorm Dinner |



Columbus AFB Top 3 Spotlight



Category: NCO

Nominee Name Grade: Staff Sgt. Horace Conney, Jr.

Unit: 14th Civil Engineer Squadron

1. Home Town: Ochlocknee, Ga.

2. Time in the Air Force: Nine years, four months

3. Time at Columbus AFB: Two years, five months

4. Career Short Term Goals: Continue to give back to our Airmen by helping to advance them and increasing their professional growth, for they are truly the future of our Air Force.

5. Career Long Term Goals: Complete my education and upon retirement start my own deep sea fishing charter business.

6. Nominated by: Master Sgt. Alexius Reid

7. Nomination reason: Staff Sgt. Horace Conney, Jr. is the 14th Flying Training Wing Enlisted Dorm Manager. He is a quiet, but dynamic leader who has contributed immensely to the wing since his arrival in 2010. Conney is a firefighter by trade, but was hand-selected to fill the role of Enlisted Dorm Manager in late 2011. In this capacity, Conney is responsible for leading, managing and mentoring 94 of the best and brightest unaccompanied Airmen in the wing; he is often their first impression of Columbus AFB. Since becoming Dorm Manager, Conney has been instrumental in the formation of the first-ever

Dorm Council, boosting morale and improving the quality of life for our dorm residents. He also recently procured \$263,000 in new dorm equipment and furniture, which was a challenge in these fiscally-restrained times. Although his role as dorm manager is a 24-hour job, Conney has found time to give back to the base and local community by coaching Mighty Mite Football, remaining committed to the wing's first-ever Heritage Council, overseeing Dorm Dinners, regularly supporting the Happy Irby Clean-Up effort, volunteering for the Mayor's Unity Luncheon and setting up the BLAZE Halloween Maze. He is also the 14th CES Booster Club event coordinator and was responsible for the success of 14th CES's recent four-star general equivalent's DV visit. Staff Sgt. Conney is truly amazing, which is why he is this month's Top 3 NCO to Spotlight.



Category: Airman

Nominee Name Grade: Airman 1st Class Diarra McCormick

Unit: 14th Comptroller Squadron

1. Home Town: New Orleans, La.

2. Time in the Air Force: One year, nine months

3. Time at Columbus AFB: One year, three months

4. Career Short Term Goals: To test out of the six credits I need for my Community College of the Air Force degree.

5. Career Long Term Goals: To continue to grow into a professional Airman and writer.

6. Nominated by: Senior Master Sgt. Theresa Grolla

7. Nomination reason: Airman 1st Class Diarra McCormick has been instrumental in the success of Columbus Military Pay process coming back to the base. She has ensured all management notices were updated in the Defense Milpay Office system in a timely manner. The only debt section

in Air Education and Training Command that has accomplished this task every month since May. Also, McCormick has taken over the debt section and has collected over \$290,000 back to the government. She is very active in the community and is always willing to volunteer to support the Airman Activity Council and the Heritage Council. McCormick is highly motivated and is trying daily to become a well rounded Airman.



STREET SMART

(Continued from Page 1)

attempting to save a patient's life, leaving the choices to the Airmen.

"We didn't come here to lecture or preach to you," said Kelly. "We just wanted to show you what we see and do because it happens. Every time we go to work we see it, the numbers don't lie."

Graphic imagery of real crashes and detailed stories told from the firefighter paramedic point of view showed the audience exactly what kind of injuries could be sustained when driving while impaired.

The consequences for not using a seatbelt were shown to be more than personal by the Street Smart presenters when the details of Isaac Newton's laws of physics came into play, turning an unrestrained person in the vehicle into a deadly projectile for other passengers.

Pulling a member from the audience, the Street Smart presenters demonstrated the painful procedures used by medical personnel to save the survivor of a major accident, as well as the long term heal-

"We didn't come here to lecture or preach to you," said Kelly. "We just wanted to show you what we see and do because it happens. Every time we go to work we see it, the numbers don't lie."

ing, and in some cases, the results of those injuries that would haunt the individual for a lifetime.

The solution, the presenters said, is all too often common sense.

"Our best shot is to stack the odds in our favor, and that comes down to choices," said Kelly. "Don't drink and drive, why take that chance? Have a plan, a workable plan, one that makes sense. You already have a backup plan, that phone number (434-RIDE), use it. Put your seatbelt on, front seat or back seat, short trip or long trip, it doesn't matter."

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 56 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.

Visit www.columbus.af.mil to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.



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

Second Lt. Courtney Gallagher holds several Huggable Uniform Gifts made by volunteers at the Columbus Air Force Base Airman and Family Readiness Center. Columbus AFB is the first base to offer these dolls free of charge to family members of deployed Airmen.

HUGs given to families of deployed Airmen

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

During the holiday season having loved ones deployed can be especially rough. For that reason, the Columbus Air Force Base Airman and Family Readiness Center is stepping in and allowing volunteers to assist in making Huggable Uniform Gifts for the deployed service member's family.

"The HUG program is simply a way to stay connected when we are far apart," said Laura Clagg, AFRC Director. "Extended separation is difficult on everyone involved and the HUG provides something tangible that brings family members comfort."

While the AFRC runs the program the Columbus AFB Airman's Attic donates older sets of Battle Dress Uniforms or flight suits for the back of the HUGs. The program runs mainly off of volunteer organizations' support, such as the Key Spouse program.

"This is one of the many deployment and remote support programs that we offer to both single and married Airmen," said Clagg. "If the deploying Airmen bring their families to

"The HUG program is simply a way to stay connected when we are far apart," said Laura Clagg, AFRC Director.

the AFRC, we will also put a family portrait on a pillow case for Airmen to take with them on their deployment or remote tour."

Clagg said that while there is an Air Force-wide program to print photos on pillow cases, Columbus is the first installation to make custom HUGs at no additional cost to the family or base. There is a commercial company that makes a version of deployment dolls, but they have additional costs.

"This is one of many programs we offer airmen and their families to foster resiliency in all phases of Air Force life," said Clagg. "If you would like more information on this or any other program offered by the AFRC please call us at 434-2790."

Clagg also asked to note that in order to volunteer for the HUG program, sewing skills are not required.

OPERATION WARMHEART STEAK BURN

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Air Force Enlisted Village

Time: 11am-1pm
Date: Fri, 07 DEC 2012
Location: Chapel Annex

Tickets are \$10

Each Plate Includes:
8oz Steak
Baked Potato
Corn on the Cob
Beverage

Eat In or Take Out



See your First Sergeant for Tickets!!

Deliveries available for large orders

Operation Warmheart provides financial grants to Columbus AFB families in times of need and food baskets during the holidays.

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.



Through Airmen's Eyes: Saving children, winning smiles

Senior Airman Nick Wilson
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE, Mo. — (This feature is part of the "Through Airmen's Eyes" series on AF.mil. These stories focus on a single Airman, highlighting their Air Force story.)

With a mission to win hearts and minds through pediatrics, he deployed from the 509th Medical Operations Squadron to Afghanistan Dec. 2011 to June 2012.

As a key member of his deployed medical team, Maj. (Dr.) Christopher Wilhelm treated and saved the lives of many severely injured children during his six month-tour in Afghanistan.

"Dr. Wilhelm played a very important yet underestimated role in the overall deployed mission in Southwest Asia," said Capt. Candice R. Holbrook, 509th MDOS. "The value of winning hearts and minds with treatment of children in many ways prevents future injuries in all populations, and as a result it increases cooperation between local civilians and coalition forces."

As a deployed pediatrician, Wilhelm's primary responsibility was to take care of any children from the area who were injured, whether combat-related or not.

"By caring for those children it was my duty to convince the people over there that our military isn't as bad as they think it is," Wilhelm said.

Wilhelm was deployed during the winter months, during which he and other service members endured harsh weather and tough living conditions.

"We lived in rooms that were made with quarter-inch plywood, which makes it rough when there was 12 inches of snow outside," Wilhelm said. "I was freezing, but it made a Spartan out of me!"

As the base's only pediatrician, his day-to-day duties included waking up at 4 a.m. and reporting directly to his base's intensive care unit. After initial situation briefings, he rounded up patients in the ward and worked in the operating room until early afternoon. Toward the end of the day, he recovered patients from surgery or continued to care for them in the ICU.

"Many local nationals don't have electricity or heaters, so they would have a fire in the house to keep warm during winter months," Wilhelm said. "As a result, some children (I treated) would be severely burned."

In addition to the burns, children would also sometimes get in the crossfire between coalition and insurgent forces and would suffer from gunshot wounds. Wilhelm also cared for children who suffered from explosions caused by munitions left over from the Soviet era. The children picked up the munitions



Courtesy photo

Maj. (Dr.) Christopher Wilhelm provides medical care for a 14-month old baby boy with hydrocephalus May 25, 2012, in Afghanistan. A buildup of cerebral spinal fluid putting pressure on the brain so severe the child couldn't interact with his surroundings. After the procedure, the baby was able to perform normal child interactions.

because they believed it was scrap metal that they could sell later.

"Two patients in particular picked up munitions that had white phosphorous on it and they both had 60 percent burns all over their bodies," Wilhelm said. "Additionally, our enemy likes to use children that are about 10 or 11 years-old to plant improvised explosive devices to hurt our American soldiers. Sometimes those IEDs blew up on the children making them."

When American soldiers saw this happening, they would pick up the children and bring them to Wilhelm.

Dealing with patients who have been shot or blown up, whether children or U.S. service members, for Wilhelm, was part of ever-day life in Southwest Asia.

"As a pediatrician who has deployed, my experience gives me more credibility with patients and the parents of children I take care of stateside," Wilhelm said.

In addition to his duties as the base pediatrician, Wilhelm was also a member of the medical staff responsible for caring for service members injured in combat.

"When we would have a mass casualty situation, for example when a mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicle hits an IED and six marines get injured, there is nothing more humbling and honorable for a doctor than caring for injured American soldiers — doing all you can to get them home," Wilhelm said.

The overall experience, along with the lack of many quality-of-life conveniences he normally has, made Wilhelm miss life at home in the U.S.

"What I miss the most about home is probably going to have to be showering without slippers and warm water. We didn't have any warm water while I was over there," Wilhelm said. "We had port-a-potties but the water tanks were stored outside, so being there from December to February ... it was tough, it was tough!"

SecAF talks Pacific airpower

2nd Lt Sarah Bergstein
36th Wing Public Affairs

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley met with Team Andersen Airmen at an Airman's Call here Nov. 20.

The secretary discussed several topics of national and international interest, to include the importance of Guam in the Asia-Pacific region, restructuring the size of the Air Force, changes in the Air Force's inventory and the current state of the Air Force budget.

During his two-day trip to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, he also visited with many Airmen, thanking them and their families for their service and sacrifice.

"It's been said before, but it's still true," Donley began. "Our Airmen, along with their families, joint colleagues and other services, make countless sacrifices to serve our nation and to keep America secure. Our nation depends on you to conduct your missions and maintain vigilance, and this is a 365 day-a-year job."

Guam has been an important part of the United States for more than a century. Secretary Donley highlighted that the spotlight is focused on the region even more so now since the release of the new defense strategic guidance in January.

"The direction from this strategic guidance calls on our nation to focus on a broader range of challenges and opportunities, including the security and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region' as today's wars end," he said. "The guidance also makes clear that while the U.S. military will continue to contribute to security on a global basis, we will — in necessity — rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region."

Guam is said to play an increasingly important role as forces are realigned in the region. For the Air Force specifically, this builds on a long history of U.S. presence on Guam and in the Pacific.

The U.S. territory offers many military advantages, like its strategic value as the westernmost sovereign territory and home base to

Northeast and Southeast Asia, which aids in ensuring peace and stability in the region.

The Asia-Pacific region spans more than 100 million square miles and 15 time zones. Today, about 60 percent of the Air Force's permanent forces outside the continental United States are postured in the region.

"The rebalance to the Asia-Pacific provides an opportunity for the Air Force to leverage the unique characteristics of airpower with range and speed," said Donley. "The armed forces structure rebalancing means the Air Force will invest in modernizing capabilities to project power and operate effectively in this region."

"For the past eight years Andersen has accommodated a continual presence of our nation's premier air assets," he said. "Its importance is only expected to grow, serving as a cornerstone to the new joint-training initiatives here in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands."

Secretary Donley said that Andersen AFB will continue to serve as the strategic and operational nucleus for U.S. military operations, originating from or moving through in support of training, or in building regional partnerships, humanitarian relief or other operational needs.

"The Air Force is committed to protecting critical infrastructure in this area in support of U.S. Pacific Command's strategy," he said. "Andersen (AFB) can be proud of its many achievements."

Team Andersen Airmen had the opportunity to ask Secretary Donley questions regarding personnel and budget cuts, changes in the Air Force's inventory with regards to Andersen AFB, the military buildup on Guam as well as questions concerning the quality of life of Airmen.

Donley recognized Team Andersen for its key role in providing peace and stability in the region through the continuous bomber presence and theater security packages, among other capabilities, as well as their participation in joint and coalition exercises, operations and humanitarian relief efforts.



A holiday gifts and ethics poem

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

The holiday season — a time for good cheer!
For egg nog, for parties, for friends to be near.
But I must be careful
Lest I accept free
A gift not permitted, no matter how wee.

Part two six three five of the 5 CFR
Explains in detail the relevant bar.
It defines the term gift
To mean all things worth money.
That's NBA tickets or jars full of honey.

Some gifts may be taken but some are verboten.
The source is the key — it's the rule that I'm quotin'.
When from me or others
The source seeks some act,
I must find an exception or I could be sacked.

Even others who give can cause problems for me.
If my job prompts the giving — my position, you see.
But lucky for me,
Some exceptions exist.
They're in subpart B and should not be missed.

I can pay market value if the gift I do like,
Or I can at my option say "go take a hike."
I can always say no,
But I need not decline.
If worth twenty or less then the gift can be mine.

This exception has prompted some very loud hollers.
It says gifts are okay if worth twenty dollars.
But surely the public
Is certain to see,
I could never be bought for a sandwich and tea.

Restrictions apply so it does not suffice
To pay twenty bucks for a gift twice the price.
And in any one year
I can't use it, of course,
To go over the limit — fifty dollars per source.

For gifts that a friend or my sister might send,
The rules recognize I don't want to offend.
Regardless of value,
It only must be
That their motive to give wasn't business, but me.

The rule's much the same in the case of my spouse
Who happens to work as she can't stand our house.
Although her employer is one of those sources,
I can go to their fete and avoid more divorces.

In the case of most parties, the rule's not so clear
As the agency must have an interest, I fear.
If worth more than twenty
And it's no friend true,
Then I'd better seek guidance or I could be blue.

When foreign officials are giving the gift,
The rules are less strict so I don't cause a rift.
I can take it if
Fair market value U.S.
Is three hundred thirty-five dollars or less.

What of those in the office with whom I share much?
Are all treats a taboo — must we always go dutch?
The rules here are different,
They're in subpart C.
They okay some gifts even to and from me.

I can give to my boss to a limit of ten —
A baseball, a cap, or a blue ballpoint pen.
If not to my boss
Or my chain of command,
To a friend I can give more without being canned.

I always look forward to my office party.
We're all in good moods and the food is so hearty.
If no arm is twisted,
Collecting's okay
To make sure that everyone has a good day.

But finally, how would these rules affect me
If I served the President as "appointee"?
I know that appointees
Must sign when they're hired
A short ethics pledge (or they risk being fired).

The same rules apply to a person who signed
Except there's an extra gift rule that's enshrined:
Listed as "lobbyist" —
Though no friend or kin is required to be dissed.

So go forth with good cheer and know there's no reason
To think that the gifts rules will ruin your season!



2013 Scholarships for Military Children opens Dec. 3

Tammy Reed
Defense Commissary
Agency Public Affairs

In 2012, the Scholarships for Military Children Program celebrated a major milestone as it reached more than \$10 million in scholarships awarded to 6,742 students from around the globe.

It's time, once again, to add to these impressive numbers, as applications for the 2013 Scholarships for Military Children Program will be available starting Dec. 3 at commissaries worldwide. You can also find them online through a link at <http://www.commissaries.com> and directly at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Scholarship awards will be based on funds available, but the scholarship program awards at least \$1,500 at each commissary. If there are no eligible applicants from a particular commissary, the funds designated for that commissary will be awarded as an additional scholarship at another store.

The scholarship program was created to recognize military families' contributions to the readiness of U.S. armed forces and to celebrate the commissary's role in the military community.

"DeCA is focused on supporting a good quality of life for our military and their families," said Defense Commissary Agency Director and CEO Joseph Jeu. "We do that by delivering a great commissary benefit, while our industry partners and public donations help the scholarship program provide money for higher education to many worthwhile students."

No government funds are used to support the Scholarships for Military Children Program. Commissary vendors, manufacturers, brokers, suppliers and the general public donate money to fund the program. Every dollar donated goes directly to funding the scholarships.

— of a service member on active duty, reservist, guardsman, retiree or survivor of a military member who died while on active duty or survivor of a retiree. Eligibility is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database.

Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current military ID card. The applicant must also be planning to attend or already attending an accredited college or university, full time, in the fall of 2013 or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applicants must submit an essay on a topic chosen by the Fisher House. The essay topic will be available Dec. 3 on <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business Feb. 22, 2013.

The scholarship program is administered by Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance to service members and their families. Scholarship Managers, a national, nonprofit, scholarship-management services organization, manages and awards these military scholarships. If students have questions about the scholarship program application, call Scholarship Managers at 856-616-9311 or email them at militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com.

No government funds are used to support the Scholarships for Military Children Program. Commissary vendors, manufacturers, brokers, suppliers and the general public donate money to fund the program. Every dollar donated goes directly to funding the scholarships.

The most beautiful song

Retired Gen. Steve Lorenz
U.S. Air Force Academy
Endowment

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — By all measures, it was a typical football game day at Falcon Stadium. Many people were tailgating, there was a slight chill in the air, the sky was a brilliant bright blue, and the crowd was excited as the game time approached. With great precision, the Cadet Wing had marched into the stadium. With great fanfare, the Wings of Blue parachute team had jumped onto the football field, and the flyover by several Air Force aircraft had created much excitement.

As the cadet band began to play our national anthem, the audience around us rose up to show respect for our flag and the music Francis Scott Key wrote 200 years ago. In unison, we placed our right hands over our hearts to show the proper respect as the Star Spangled Banner was played.

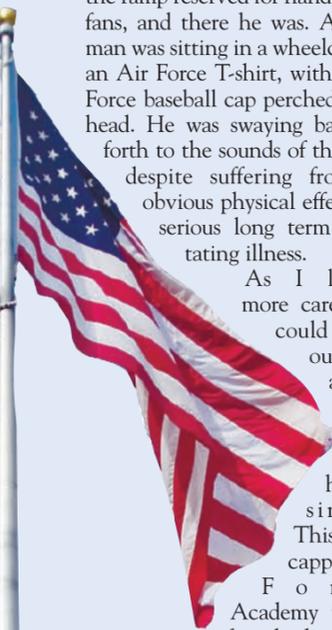
As the ceremony began, the entire stadium went silent as they turned to face the American flag and listen to the music. It was then that I heard what initially sounded like a person yelling at the top of his lungs and making loud, incoherent sounds. I did not know what it was, but my initial reaction was one of disbelief and irritation that this person could be so insensitive and disrespectful while an entire stadium full of people were saluting our nation's flag.

But as I listened closely to this disruptive sound, I began to make out what appeared to be words. I could not understand every word, but every third or fourth word seemed to fit into the melody of our national anthem. Someone, in his own painful way, was singing the Star Spangled Banner.

I looked where the sounds were coming from. In front of me was the ramp reserved for handicapped fans, and there he was. A young man was sitting in a wheelchair, in an Air Force T-shirt, with an Air Force baseball cap perched on his head. He was swaying back and forth to the sounds of the music despite suffering from the obvious physical effects of a serious long term debilitating illness.

As I listened more carefully, I could make out more and more of the words he was singing. This handicapped Air Force Academy football fan had a huge smile on his face as he sang with great gusto our national anthem.

My initial irritation immediately turned to great pride as I watched this young man sing his heart out. Tears welled up in my eyes as I listened to the finest rendition of the Star Spangled Banner I had ever heard. This young man touched my heart and the hearts of everyone around him who really heard what he was singing. I walked up to 31 year old Kenny Frith, who was born with cerebral palsy, and thanked him for reminding me what really is important. I told him I would never forget him or his singing of our national anthem.



'A' musing on mental balance

Lt. Col. Duncan Hughes
4th Aerospace Medicine
Squadron

SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE, N.C. — T.E. Lawrence, more famously known by the moniker 'Lawrence of Arabia,' was a brilliant archaeology student and British Army officer in the early 1900s. His archaeology background was put to use by the British Army in World War I when he was sent to the Negev desert in Israel under the ruse of an archaeological exploration of the region.

I'm sure that a byproduct of such an exploration being an up-to-date, detailed map of the very desert any Ottoman Turk army would have to cross in order to attack Egypt had nothing to do with the venture whatsoever. Nonetheless, Lawrence found himself deployed in the desert with several young servicemen of his day. His assessment of his fellow officers was neither subtle nor complimentary. His observations of the officer corps led him to say, "I feel a fundamental, crippling, incuriousness about our officers. Too much body and too little head."

To state the obvious, it is quite apparent that Lawrence felt there was a profound lack of critical thinkers amongst the officer corps of his day. I would argue that the situation may be far worse today than it was in Lawrence's. A quick word study on the word 'amusement' will serve to illustrate. To 'muse' means to think or to contemplate in silence. When the

Deresiewicz recently opined that marinating one's mind in social media's banter only serves to inculcate one in popular and conventional wisdom and doesn't cultivate one's own critical thinking skills.

prefix a- or ab- is put in front of a word it means to take away from or to remove. So to 'a-muse' literally means to take away from thought or to be removed from silent contemplation. It is to be distracted from serious thought and amused or entertained, which requires only that one be awake—not that any critical thought occur. In today's world of 24/7 amusement and entertainment with TV, movies, gossip magazines, YouTube and all of the pervasive social media, this generation is bombarded by a cavalcade of amusement stimuli and distraction. These serve mostly to provide escapes from purposeful mental exercise; and rather, serve more successfully to breed and cultivate the incurious horde that so worried Lawrence. Are evidences of voracious reading and critical thought readily apparent in your daily observations or are they more easily located in references to the bygone era that existed prior to all of today's technological 'advancements'?

Deresiewicz recently opined that marinating one's mind in social media's banter only serves to inculcate one in popular and conventional wisdom and doesn't cultivate one's own critical thinking skills.

Introspection and solitude are critical to innovative thought and the, new electronic world has disrupted it ... violently. Instead of having one or two true friends that we can sit and talk to for three of four hours at a time, we have 968 'friends' that we never actually talk to; instead we just bounce one-line messages off them a hundred times a day. This is not friendship, this is distraction.

I am not so sure that more interconnectedness via distraction is what will fix suicide rates or poor national academic performance. Faith, core values, meaningful personal relationships, voracious reading and exercised critical thought would reap far greater benefits in this officer's opinion.

While I am sure to have dated myself with such an opinion and, by no means, do I feel that any of the above forms of amusement or entertainment are bad things in and of themselves. However, I do believe the pendulum has swung way too far away from lifelong learning and critical thought toward an extreme of 24/7 entertainment and distraction. For my 2 cents worth, a little more mental balance would serve us all well.

Capitol Christmas tree makes pit-stop

Airman 1st Class Jose L. Leon
22nd Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan. — The 2012 Capitol Christmas tree arrived on the west lawn this morning after spending the night at McConnell Air Force Base, Kans., Nov. 16, 2012, on its way from Colorado.

The Capitol Christmas tree has been a tradition since 1964 when a live tree was planted on the west lawn of the Capitol. The Department of Agriculture Forest Service began providing trees in 1969.

Each year a tree is harvested from a different national forest and 2012 marks the third time that Colorado has provided a tree.

This year's tree came from the Blanco Ranger District of the White River National Forest near Meeker, Colo., and makes its journey after 74 years in the forest.

"I hope everybody can enjoy the tree," said Paul Krisanicks, U.S. Forest Service law enforcement officer. "It's been wonderful, seeing the turnout with the stops we've been making."

"I wanted my daughter to be able to see the tree that is going to be displayed in front of the Capitol," said Staff Sgt. Megan Hay, 22nd Medical Operations Squadron medical technician. "I didn't realize how big it was, it's really neat to be able to see it like this."

While the tree was on base, Airmen and visitors had the opportunity to sign the banner surrounding the trailer that will then be hung on display with the tree.

"I wanted my daughter to be able to see the tree that is going to be displayed in front of the Capitol," said Staff Sgt. Megan Hay, 22nd Medical Operations Squadron medical technician. "I didn't realize how big it was, it's really neat to be able to see it like this."

After the night stay at McConnell, the



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Jose L. Leon
The U.S. Capitol Christmas tree makes a pit stop at McConnell Air Force Base, Kan., Nov. 17, 2012 on its way from Colorado to Washington D.C., where it will be on display in the U.S. Capitol lawn. Speaker of the House John Boehner will officially light the more than 70-foot tall tree during the Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 4, when the tree will be lit from dusk to 11 p.m. each evening through Dec. 26.

crew and tree continued on their eastbound journey to the Capitol arriving at Andrews AFB, Md. Sunday.

Speaker of the House John Boehner will officially light the more than 70-foot tall tree during the tree lighting ceremony Dec. 4.

Following the ceremony, the tree will be lit from dusk to 11 p.m. each evening through Dec. 26.

Editors note: Air Mobility Command Public Affairs contributed to this article.

AF Honor Guard, Band debut talents at historical Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Senior Airman Steele C. G. Britton
Air Force District of Washington Public Affairs

NEW YORK — The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard and Band made history when they set foot in New York City for the largest deployment of 11th Operations Group assets as part of the 2012 Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The 200-person formation marched in front of a live audience of more than three million and a televised audience of 55 million viewers for the 86th annual event.

"The experience was very exciting with so many people who came out to watch an important part of Americana here in New York," said Master Sgt. Jake McKay, Air Force Band saxophonist. "It's important that the military is represented at this event and I'm very thankful to do so for all Airmen serving in the U.S. and at deployed locations around the world."

Following a 2.65-mile march through the city streets, the honor guard and band performers showcased a patriotic tribute titled "This is My Country," conducted by Air Force Band Commander Col. Larry Lang, on the NBC main stage in Herald Square.

The Air Force song bounced between the skyscrapers of New York City as the Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team demonstrated precision through weapon drills followed by the sleek stature of the colors team presenting the U.S. flag. A formation of armed honor guardsmen, led by Lt. Col. Kenneth Marentette, Air Force Honor Guard commander, marched



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Perry Aston
The U.S. Air Force Band performs during the 86th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Nov. 22, 2012, in New York City. Two hundred Airmen from the U.S. Air Force Band and Honor Guard marched in the parade with a televised audience of 55 million viewers and a live audience of more than three million spectators.

seamlessly for all to see.

"Marching in the parade and being part of the first team from the 11th OG was a great experience," said Airman 1st Class Kamiron Smith, Honor Guard ceremonial guardsman. "I'm the first of my family to join the military and it's a great opportunity to represent them as well as the U.S. Air Force."

The Air Force Band and Honor Guard regularly perform for officials at the highest levels of government and military. Almost daily, the units serve in Arlington National Cemetery, rendering funeral honors to our nation's fallen heroes. Through public appearances, the two units inspire patriotism and foster a positive image of the Air Force.

11th Operations Group Commander Col. Gina Humble shared how proud she was of the Airmen serving in the Honor Guard and Band.

"You all played a vital role in making this happen; over the past year and through the finish today," said Humble. "We are one team — one fight."

The 86th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade brought many spectators' cheers and applause as each honor guard and band member marched by.

"We all had a blast and are proud to serve our country," said Smith. "We came out and accomplished exactly what we set out to do, we looked sharp and I hope we can come back and do this again in the future."

Visit us online!
Web page: www.columbus.af.mil
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB
Twitter: www.twitter.com/Columbus_AFB

A wide variety of fun activities are offered to base families

Columbus Air Force Base FSS Rocks

Make sure to join our Facebook page at CAFB FSS Rocks, Twitter at CAFBFSS, or our website at www.cafbssrocks.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base!

Columbus Club New Hours

In order to provide improved service while maintaining a budget, the Columbus Club will be closed on Mondays beginning Nov. 5. Indy's at the club will feature a revamped menu, and will be featuring a daily buffet starting Nov. 6 so come on out for some lunch.

Horseback Riding Lessons

Learn how to ride the mode of transportation of the past, horses! Lessons are available for ages 6 and up in the ways of English and Western Riding. Lessons are ongoing through the winter months! Sign up at Outdoor Recreation or for more information call (972) 822-7585.

Cookie Baking Contest

Do you hold grandma's special recipe? If so, please share those awesome cookies (not the recipe of course) on Dec. 11 at the Library. Entries need to be entered by 1 p.m. with the judging at 2 p.m. For more information call 434-2934.

Jingle Jog

Start preparing for the monthly 5k on base called the Jingle Jog. This run will take place on Dec. 7 at 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. Don't forget to bring (and ring) your jingle bells for this festive run! Commander's trophy points are awarded. For more information call 434-2772.

Youth Basketball

Registration for the youth basketball season starts November 7 and goes through December 4. The costs are \$35 for ages 3-4, and \$40 for ages 5-18. Register between Nov. 7 and Nov.14 to save \$5. All games are played on base. For more information call 434-2504.

Wee Babies!

It's baby fun time! Bring your kid(s) ages 0-4 to the Library for rhythm, kinesthetic, body awareness, and song and dance activities! This event occurs on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. For more information call 434-2936.

Christmas Holiday Camps

Get your kids involved with the youth program and come out to the Christmas Holiday Camps. Week 1 is from Dec. 19-21, and Week 2 is from Dec. 26-28 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily! Registration must be completed by Dec. 11. There is a \$10 non-refundable deposit with the cost of the program based on family income. For more information call 434-2504.

Child Care for Holiday Shopping

Let the CDC provide care for your children while you get your shopping done for the holidays! Get three or four others together to plan an outing then call the CDC at 434-2479 to keep your chil-

Jingle Jog
December 7
First Race: 6am
Second Race: 7am
Commanders Trophy Points Awarded
FMI Contact the Fitness Center
434-2772
DON'T FORGET TO BRING (AND RING) YOUR JINGLE BELLS FOR THIS FESTIVE RUN!

dren happy and entertained while you shop!

Mothers Happy Time!

The Child Development Center presents Mothers Happy Time! Let the CDC provide care for your children while you enjoy some "Happy Time" with friends. Get three or four mothers together and plan an outing. Available Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information call 434-2479.

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.

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.

Green Plate Special

The Pro shop at Whispering Pines offers a special for lunch Tuesday through Friday. The price is \$6.95 which includes a side of chips and a drink.

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. Come check out Zumba every Tues. at 6 p.m. and Sat. at 10 a.m., circuit training classes on Tues. and Thurs., 5:30 a.m., spin class on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 5 p.m., and stroller fitness class on Tuesdays at 9 a.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.

Get off the Couch and Play!

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

It's Like FREE Money!

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

Space A Lodging

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

Base News

Motorcycle Mentorship Meeting

Open to all. The First Monthly Motorcycle Mentorship Meeting will take place Dec. 4 in the Kaye Auditorium. The meeting will be led by Lt. Col. Doug Jantzen, 14th Flying Training Wing Quality Assurance Evaluation Functional Commander and experienced motorcycle rider.

2012 Columbus AFB Holiday Cookie Drive

The Columbus AFB annual Holiday Cookie Drive will take place on Monday, December 3, 2012. As the holidays approach, let's provide our single and unaccompanied personnel with home-baked goodies. Cookie donations will be accepted beginning at 6:30 a.m. the morning of Dec. 3 at the Columbus Club. There will also be collection boxes in squadrons around the base. For more information, please contact Mai Lan Isler at 434-0288, or Dawn Westphal at 434-6003.

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

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 364-0504.

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. For any questions, please call 434-1614.

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

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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

Catholic Community

Sunday:
 3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9, Chapel Annex
 4 p.m. – Choir Practice, Sanctuary
 4 p.m. – Confession
 5 p.m. – Mass
Thursday:
 4:15 p.m. – Choir Practice
Saturday:
 Theology on Tap meets monthly. Please call 434-2500 For More Information.

AFRC; Pre-deployment at 9:30 a.m. and post-deployment at 1:30 p.m.

Computer workshops

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

Volunteer Opportunities

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

Air Force Aid Society's Gen. H.H. Arnold Education Grant

Online applications for the 2013-2014 academic year will be available from the Society's website, www.afas.org, after Nov. 1. Please visit their website for details on eligibility and requirements.

Resume Writing Workshop

Dec. 5, 10-11 a.m. Find the way to write an effective resume and prepare for the Golden Triangle Employment Expo. To register call 434-2790.

Smooth Move

Dec. 6, 10-11:30 a.m. A class that provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. Learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and AFRC.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

Dec. 11, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. For newly arrived Active Duty and Civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Held at the Columbus Club, for more information call 434-2839.

Chapel Schedule

Protestant Community

Sunday:
 9 a.m. – Sunday School for Adults, Chapel Library
 10:45 a.m. – Traditional Service
Tuesday:
 5 p.m. – Officer Christian Fellowship Bible Study, Chapel Library
Wednesday:
 4:30 p.m. – Choir Practice, Sanctuary
 5 p.m. – Potluck Dinner
 6 p.m. – Pioneer Clubs
 6 p.m. – Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary
 6 p.m. – Adult Bible Study, Chapel Library

Columbus AFB Services provides opportunities for airmen and families

Auto Hobby Shop

The Auto Hobby shop provides a place for Airmen and their families to get their vehicles repaired in a convenient and low-cost manner.

An enthusiastic staff of three at the shop provide service members any type of preventive maintenance such as oil changes, brakes and tire rotations as well as replacing clutches, timing belts and tunes ups. Enhanced services they provide to increase fuel efficiencies and remove build up in cooling systems are transmission, fuel and coolant flushes with a top of the line BG fluid transfer machines. The facility's services average 60 percent less than what it would cost at a local dealer to make these repairs, not even including taxes.

For the more do it yourself types the shop provides a more hands on approach with tool check out, saving Airmen the cost of buying the tools themselves. Unique to this base DIY'ers who get over their heads with a project can get advice from the Auto Hobby Shop Manager Judy McGuff.

The staff are also quick to help the families of deployed members when they can, riding out to help with flat tires and other automobile problems when possible.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
Retired Air Force Maj. Stacy Cooke, a former maintenance officer balances his tires using the tire mounting and balancing machine at the Auto Hobby Shop. The Auto Hobby shop provides Airmen and the families with huge savings on maintenance as well as do-it-yourself options.

Arts and crafts

"If you can dream it, we can make it even better!"

The Arts and Crafts Center is not a simple sticks and finger-painting kind of place. With their state of the art laser engraver the dedicated staff of retired service members and spouses offer custom engraving on everything from wood and metal to delicate glass, acrylic and more. The center also provides custom framing, build customized plaques, shadowboxes and many more types of memorabilia. A fully equipped woodworking shop run by a volunteer with over 50 years of experience helps Airmen build anything they need; desks, tables, patio furniture, cabinet doors with custom designs book case to even entertainment centers.

The shop typically saves Airmen around 30 percent over comparable shops in the area and with no sales tax!

When not serving Airmen directly, the shop contributes to the mission by saving organizations money on the production of items such as all Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training graduation shadowboxes, breaking wings and aeronautical ratings as well as desk name plates for quarterly and annual award trophies.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
Roberta Brock, 14th Force Support Squadron framer and graduation specialist builds a custom frame for an Airman on Nov. 28 at the Arts and Crafts Center. The Arts and Crafts Center helps Airmen make custom products while saving them money.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Bryan Franks

Columbus AFB Library

Japan Air Self-Defense Force 2nd Lt. Ryohei Ono, an international student here at Columbus Air Force Base writes home using a computer at the Columbus Air Force Base Library. The library provides services to Columbus AFB personnel and their families including access to books, movies and avenues to education and learning.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
The Tuesday morning bowling league enjoys the lanes at the Columbus Air Force Base Bowling Center. The bowling center also provides a large selection of food including a vegan menu.

Bowling Alley

The Bowling Alley on Columbus Air Force Base features 10 bowling lanes for Airmen to enjoy some indoor recreational entertainment. The center hosts bowling leagues and competitions as well as open bowling and lessons. Bowling events such as Extreme Cosmic Bowling brings out all the stops and lights for an exciting experience.

The popular snack bar serves breakfast, lunch and dinner all day long for whatever customers would like! A menu is also available for vegans.

The bowling alley also offers monthly bowling specials to include Lunch and Bowl: Two free games of bowling with any combo purchase from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. along with group and party rates.

One unique program here is the DUI FREE party! If any squadron goes one quarter without a DUI we provide them with two hours of free bowling.

For those looking for bowling supplies or just want to bowling balls refinish the Pro Shop can take care of it. The shop can order just about anything and have it within three business days.

Look out for the new breakfast and lunch specials that are being rolled out in December.

Outdoor Recreation

The outdoor recreation program offers exciting year-round high-adventure programming for Columbus Air Force Base personnel and their families. Equipment is available for various indoor and outdoor activities to include birthday parties, hiking, camping, fishing, cycling, lawn and garden sports. Items range from boats, motors, utility trailers, campers, camping gear, tents, lawn equipment and trailers. Some of the most popular items are the carnival games and big blow-ups that provide hours of entertainment at birthday parties and family get-togethers.

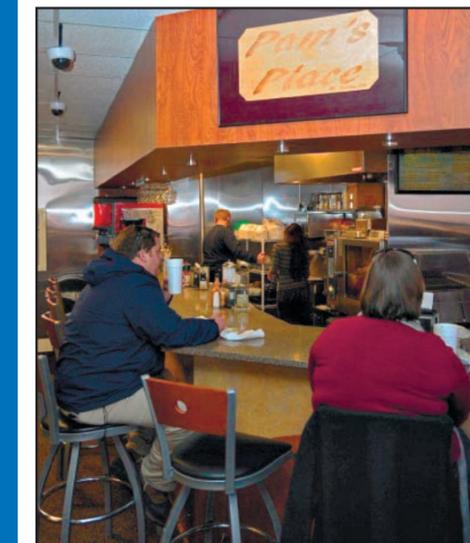
The facility also provides one stop shopping for Freedom Park facility reservations, recreational vehicle storage, season swimming pool passes and swimming lesson registration. Airmen can also reserve time at the Columbus AFB outdoor paintball facility located near the riding stables on Perimeter Road.

For those who need tickets for amusement parks, cruises or airline travels Columbus' Information, Tickets and Travel office has discounted tickets for the locations such as Memphis Zoo, Dollywood, Six Flags Over Georgia and Disneyworld in Orlando.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
Equipment for both indoor and outdoor activities can be rented by Columbus Air Force Base personnel at Outdoor Recreation. Outdoor Recreation also provides discounted trips for Airmen and their families.

Whispering Pines Golf Course



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
"Pam's Place" is a favorite lunching location for some Airmen on Columbus Air Force Base, with a large enough location for gatherings as well as a conference room in the back for working meetings.

The Whispering Pines Golf Course is not only provides Airmen and the families with a recreation outlet but is also home to some of the largest fundraisers on Columbus Air Force Base.

The nine-hole course hones the skills of both the novice and the more experienced golfer. Golf lessons for those interested in learning or improving in the sport are available, as well as an inventory of equipment for golfers who like to keep their own set of gear.

The course is home to the annual "Happy Tournament" in honor of the legacy of original Columbus AFB Wingman George "Happy" Irby, who used tips he received at the Columbus AFB Officers Club to provide gifts to children in the nearby community. The tournament's proceeds now go to benefit over 400 children during the Christmas season.

The newly renovated snack bar, also known as "Pam's Place" offers Airmen a healthy venue with no fried items features sandwiches and home cooking daily lunch specials. Visitors can eat inside or enjoy the outdoor patio and watch golfers finish their rounds.