

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 36, Issue 50

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

December 14, 2012

Upcoming Inspection



51

3 Excellents
3 Zeros
100%
Accountability

Days until the CUI

News Briefs

Happy Wrap

The 2012 Happy Wrap to provide gifts to underprivileged children in the local area will be held on Dec. 20. Wrapping begins at 9 a.m. at the Columbus Club. To volunteer contact the Columbus Air Force Base Happy Wrap Chairperson at (314) 307-8333.

Upcoming Holidays and Family Days

Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 are Federal holidays and Dec. 24 and 31 are AETC Family Days; most base offices will be closed. The Exchange and the Commissary will be open Dec. 24, 31 and Jan. 1.

Enlisted Promotions

The Enlisted Promotions ceremony will be held Jan. 3 at 9:30 a.m. in the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 13-03 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
Chris Bowers, 14th Force Support Squadron Arts and Crafts Director speaks to Services Transformation Initiative team members Angela Scotty-Weber and Rick Gates about the Arts and Crafts operation here on Columbus Air Force Base Dec. 5. The Services Transformation Initiative is working to move base services from a 'one size fits all' approach to services tailored to meet the needs and wants of the base's population.

Columbus AFB Services to see change

Senior Airman Chase Hedrick
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The 14th Flying Training Wing is on the way to revisiting how it provides services to Columbus Air Force Base Airmen and their families after a visit from the Services Transformation Initiative team from Dec. 3 to 7.

According to the Air Force Personnel Center the Services Transformation Initiative is working to move base services from a 'one size fits all' approach to services tailored to meet the needs and wants of the base's population.

To get an initial understanding of those needs, the team studied the base's demographics, including the local retiree population, nearby National Guard units, and

Reservists attached to the base.

“With the on-base population there is a very large number of personnel who are new to the Air Force, and of those people a lot of them are highly transient too,” said Rick Gates, a member of the Services Transformation Team. “We consider that when we're looking at what services they're looking for and how they're going

See CHANGE, Page 2

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)	4.27 days	0.47 days	Jan. 16	48th (13-04)	1.40 days	0.80 days	Jan. 25	49th (13-CB)	-0.60 days	0.15 days	Dec. 19	T-6	1,005	768	5,183
41st (13-13)	2.33 days	-0.11 days	Feb. 12	50th (13-04)	2.96 days	0.91 days	Jan. 25					T-1	334	363	2,258
												T-38	378	328	2,690
												IFF	145	73	812

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

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.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 58 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

14th MDG, CONS garner AETC awards

Congratulations to the following Air Education and Training Command award winners in the 14th Medical Group and 14th Contracting Squadron, wish them luck at the Air Force level competitions!

- **AETC's Outstanding Contracting Unit (Small):** 14th CONS
- **AETC's Outstanding Contingency Contracting Officer (Enlisted) (Staff Sgt. Ronald L. King Award):** Master Sgt. Daniel Morphew, Contingency Contracting Officer, 14th CONS
- **AETC's USAF Biomedical Specialist Category I Officer of the Year - CGO Category:** 1st Lt. Rebekha Collins, 14th Medical Operations Squadron
- **AETC's Outstanding Medical Material Airman of the Year:** Airman 1st Class Thomas Lavigne, 14th Medical Support Squadron
- **AETC's Outstanding Base Bioenvironmental Engineering NCO of the Year Award:** Tech Sgt. Maria Rodriguez, 14th MDOS

CHANGE

(Continued from Page 1)

to use those services.”

The team also looked outside the gate for what services are available off-base to avoid overlap of what is already provided so the transformation could deliver what Airmen want.

One project the team recommended to wing leadership was the addition of a community commons, a central location for Columbus AFB residents to use for meeting up, hanging out or the like. Suggestions for available services in the commons include a gaming room, casual comfortable seating, study rooms, free wifi and more. Additionally the team proposed adding a kiosk to the commons to create a central location to rent items from Outdoor Recreation, purchase trips or tickets from Tours and Travel or get custom items made by Arts and Crafts.

“We also think this is going

to be flexible in terms of who can use it and which user groups are using it during which times of the day,” said Gates. “You might have teenagers after school in here, during the evening after the teens have gone home and young Airmen are off of work maybe they'll come over. Some student pilots might come over to spread their charts out in the study room. It's intended to be a flexible facility.”

The team's recommendations to wing leadership is the starting point for Columbus AFB's participation in Round II of the Services Transformation Initiative. The recommendations and changes will be shaped further with focus surveys. In the meantime, Airmen can continue to vote for services they enjoy with their dollars, and leave comments about current services with the Interactive Customer Evaluation on <http://www.cafbfsrocks.com>.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
17 CUI ADVON Team	18	19 Wing Staff Meeting, 11 ⁰⁰ a.m. @ WCR	20 Happy Wrap, 9 a.m. @ Club	21 14th FSS Change of Leadership Ceremony, 9 a.m. @ Club	22/23
24 AETC Family Day	25 Christmas Day Holiday Break for SUPT Flying (25th - 1st)	26	27 Fly Day	28	29/30

Long Range Events

- Dec. 31: AETC Family Day
- Jan. 3: Enlisted Promotions
- Jan. 4: Class 13-04 Assignment Night
- Jan. 8: Hearts Apart
- Jan. 8: Enlisted Call
- Jan. 10: Civilian Call
- Jan. 11: Officer Call
- Jan. 15: Newcomer's Orientation
- Jan. 16: Class 13-12 Track Select
- Jan. 17: Dorm Dinner
- Jan. 21: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan. 25: Class 13-04 Graduation
- Jan. 30: Enlisted Promotions
- Feb. 1: Class 13-05 Assignment Night
- Feb. 4-8: Night Flying Week
- Feb. 12: Newcomer's Orientation
- Feb. 21: Annual Awards Ceremony

Track Select

Capt. Sean Griffin	T-38
Capt. Daniel Larsen	T-1
Capt. Tyler Sandberg	T-1
2nd Lt. Nicholas Cooley	T-1
2nd Lt. Kyle Curry	T-1
2nd Lt. Andrea Garbuggio	T-38
2nd Lt. Olivia Gass	T-1
2nd Lt. Mitchell Green	T-1
2nd Lt. Daniel Harrison	T-38
2nd Lt. Kyle Haydel	T-1
2nd Lt. Lee Hendrickson	T-1
2nd Lt. Thomas Humphrey	T-1
2nd Lt. Benjamin Johnson	T-1
2nd Lt. Brian Kinner	T-1
2nd Lt. Aaron Kronick	Helo
2nd Lt. Ryan Magner	T-38
2nd Lt. Aidan Marrero	T-1
2nd Lt. Cody May	T-38
2nd Lt. Brian McBrearty	T-1
2nd Lt. Bradley McElvain	T-1
2nd Lt. Nicolo Redivo	T-38
2nd Lt. James Richardson	Helo
2nd Lt. Jessica Streiler	T-1
2nd Lt. Dario Valmori	T-38



Dubisher Award

2nd Lt. Bradley McElvain

Top Guns

Contact: Capt. Sean Griffin

Instrument: 2nd Lt. Lee Hendrickson

Formation: 2nd Lt. Cody May

13-11

November C3 Airman of the Month: Hladik

One first lieutenant in the 50th Flying Training Squadron recently found a way to reduce the amount of time students and instructor pilots will spend filling out forms before cross-country flights.

1st Lt. Bryan Hladik, a T-38 Instructor Pilot said the idea, which will save between 50 and 75 percent of man-hours spent adding cross-country flying information into trackers, came to him after a frustrating moment with the old system.

"It actually started when I was going cross-country and was entering all the information into the old tracker and it dumped everything." "So I dug a little deeper into our scheduling program and found we could do everything we were doing in the other program plus a little bit more with less amount of work."

The updated system has also consolidated three separate tracking systems into



1st Lt. Bryan Hladik, 50th Flying Training Squadron.

a single one for the entire wing, enabling more efficient and effective tracking of planes off station.

The C3 Airmen Award recognizes an individual or team who contributes to the Air Education and Training Command strategic objectives and has demonstrated key principals of developing Columbus Air Force Bases' Cost Conscious Culture. This award acknowledges the long-term, continuing

efforts that have significantly and positively enhanced unit behavior, thereby helping their unit, AETC, and the Air Force accomplish its mission. The award is given on a monthly, quarterly, and yearly basis. To submit for this award, simply fill out an AF 1206 with the categories of "C3 LEADERSHIP" and "C3 IN ACTION" and email to 14FTW.cvo@columbus.af.mil.

Heartlink welcomes new spouses

Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Military spouses aren't required to attend formal training before becoming a member of the Air Force family and often are not fully prepared for the new cultures and other daunting tasks involved with military life.

For that reason, the Airman and Family Readiness Center at Columbus Air Force Base has recently begun hosting a program to help spouses learn more about the Air Force or Columbus AFB and get a better understanding of the service. This program combines three previous spouse-welcoming programs into one that is hosted every six weeks on the Wednesday following Newcomer's Orientation.

"Heartlink is a welcoming activity for both spouses that are new to the Air Force and spouses that are new to the base," said Laura Clagg, Airman and Family Readiness Director. "They get a head start by getting help understanding the language that we speak every

"Let's face it, your first base is always the hardest because everything is new," said Clagg. "You will get to know what the local community is like and what we offer here in Columbus."

day, introducing them to all of the different base services, the functions of the base and what they can tap into as a spouse."

The Heartlink program, sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society, also helps spouses to understand common traditions, customs and courtesies, the different ceremonies held and many other Air Force activities.

"Let's face it, your first base is always the hardest because everything is new," said Clagg. "You will get to know what the local community is like and what we offer here in Columbus."



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Members of organizations around Columbus Air Force Base come together to meet with spouses of Columbus AFB members during Heartlink Dec. 12 at the Columbus Club. Heartlink welcomes spouses of new Air Force and Columbus AFB members and informs them of the organizations and other opportunities available to them on-base and in the local community.

Airmen exercise deployment skills



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Master Sgt. Jason Amos, 14th Medical Group First Sergeant peruses deployment reading material with the help of **Jeff Ellis, Airman and Family Readiness Center Community Readiness Technician** during a deployment exercise Dec. 7 at the Walker Center. This short-notice contingency-response exercise was the first time in more than two years that a full mobility line stood up.

MUW awards top non-degree honor to base



MUW Office of Public Affairs photo/Chris Jenkins
Columbus Air Force Base representatives Master Sgt. Daniel McCleskey, Shorty Yearby, Tonya Noble and Col. Matt Isler receive Mississippi University for Women's Medals of Excellence on behalf of the base from MUW President Jim Borsig. The December 2012 awards are made in recognition of exemplary service to MUW following the disastrous 2002 F-3 tornado that struck campus, damaging many historic buildings and destroying others. Awarded since 1979, the Medal of Excellence is the university's highest non-degree honor.

'Tis the season to quit tobacco!

Tech Sgt. Ryan Caviness
14th Medical Operations Squadron

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, tobacco is responsible for approximately 440,000 deaths in the United States and more than 5 million worldwide every year. Those who use tobacco are not the only ones who suffer. Over 10 percent of annual deaths in the United States are caused by secondhand smoke. This holiday season you can give yourself and your family a gift that keeps on giving; freedom from tobacco!

Because the nicotine in tobacco products is an addictive drug, most people find quitting extremely difficult. In fact, approximately 70 percent of tobacco users wanting to quit are still using tobacco products.

However, being surrounded by loved ones this time of year can provide tobacco users with an extra spark of motivation to finally quit for good. Whether this is your first or fourth attempt to quit, the Health and Wellness Center offers a variety of tobacco cessation programs to help!

- Our Freshstart program is focused on behavioral modification and long-term success. This four-part class starts on the first Tuesday of each month. Classes are held at the HAWC from 3-4 p.m. Prescription medication is made available through this program.

- An online tobacco cessation program is also available for those who are not able to attend the Freshstart program. Participants complete a series of online modules and are given a certificate upon finishing the course. To obtain access to the website, contact the Health and Wellness Center. Prescription medication is also available through this program.

- There are also "quitlines" for tobacco users to take advantage of 24/7. The Mississippi quitline can be reached by dialing 1-800-QUIT-NOW. TRICARE also offers a tobacco quitline that all non-Medicare eligible TRICARE beneficiaries can reach by calling 1-(877) 414-9949. Nicotine patches and gum are available through these programs.

- Quit Kits are also available at the Health and Wellness Center. This free kit is an alternative for those who wish to attempt tobacco cessation without formal counseling or classes. It contains stress balls, chewing gum, pen and pad for setting goals, etc.

You don't have to wait until the New Year to make a resolution to quit! If you would like more information concerning these tobacco cessation programs, contact the Health and Wellness Center at 434-2477.

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 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.

PEARL HARBOR

(Continued from Page 12)

In a few hellacious hours, a formidable foe demonstrated in a most personal way what happens in combat when you're not ready and taught the U.S. an important lesson about how vital air dominance is to the fight.

In Stephan L. McFarland's book "A Concise History of the U.S. Air Force" he begins with the affirmation that, except in a few instances since World War II, no American soldier or sailor has been attacked by enemy air power and that, conversely, no enemy soldier or sailor has acted in combat without being attacked or at least threatened by American air power.

Today the nation recognizes the annual call to 'Remember Pearl Harbor' and with respect to all the civilian and military personnel lost or who endured that day it's possible to reflect on the lessons learned by and the heroic acts of Airmen that are an enduring part of the Air Force story.

Santa's climate survey

Gene Kamena and Navy Captain Scott Askins
Air War College faculty

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, AL — Is Santa holding on too tight? Has he created a hostile workplace environment?

I'm not saying the big guy is a toxic leader, but he likes being the center of attention, he certainly lacks self-awareness and self-control (just look at him), he always barks orders, he is operationally rigid, and by all accounts, he is in an abusive leader-follower relationship with his own elves.

OK, he might be toxic. The use of command climate surveys in large organizations, such as the military and Santa's workshop, has been an enduring and effective tool for leaders to garner insights into the health of the organization, as well as indicators on the climate of things such as leadership, cohesion, equal opportunity and morale.

The use of climate surveys is identified as a "best practice" in many successful organizations. The results provide an essential look into the organization, allowing leaders to gain insights and understanding into the organization's environment, as well as to help identify potential challenges.

Below are some redacted highlights from the most recent survey of Santa's workshop:

Self-absorbed: Santa likes power, particularly the power he holds over children and his workers. Santa is clearly an autocrat who leads with an iron

fist. He uses fear and intimidation as a tool to affect good behavior over those not directly under his control. There is no place for initiative in Santa's workshop or anywhere else; it is either Santa's way or the "skyway." He even forces his helpers to dress and speak like him.

Entitled: Does not share the profits. He demands sustained superior performance from his organization, yet unethically reaps the fringe benefits (milk and cookies) without even as much as a thought of sharing with his subordinates.

Treats small people (Elves) as a means to an end: PERSTEMPO is off the chart! He demands the elves work 365 days without a break and has mastered the "divide and conquer" tactic.

Reindeer abuse: Santa apparently really does not like animals. Word around the North Pole is that the white fur on his Santa suit is actually from an Arctic rabbit, an endangered species. He only speaks to the reindeer on Christmas Eve and then only to order them around with terse orders such as, "Dash away, dash away, dash away all." Never a "please" or even a "How are you doing?"

The poor reindeer are bred for one purpose and one purpose only: to carry Santa's excessive mass around the world in one night. It's just not right. Then, when he arrives at his destination, he goes in for milk and cookies, only to leave the reindeer to fend for themselves out in the cold. To make matters worse, he put Rudolph at the head of the team, and everyone knows what a suck-up Rudolph is — morale is indeed low in the reindeer barn.

Has isolated himself from others: Why the North Pole? Santa wants a free hand to drive the elves without any oversight or outside interference. Furthermore, his expectations are unrealistic, but he will not take input, and people are afraid to tell him "no." Ultimately, he has set them up for failure by establishing an unrealistic expectation that even he knows is not feasible.

Maintains a double-standard: Although Santa enforces harsh fitness and appearance standards on the elves, he grants himself lax grooming standards, and he hasn't been seen doing physical training for centuries.

Forces his morality on others: Who is Santa to decide who is naughty or nice? Santa either likes you or he doesn't. With no published standards as to what accounts for being naughty or nice, Santa is free to impose his will and morals as he sees fit. He is out of control.

When Santa finds this climate survey in his stocking, he will merely let out a loud "Ho, Ho Ho!" and laugh that haunting laugh of his. Santa sees himself as driven and passionate; others see him as arrogant and over-bearing. Even those closest to him (elves, reindeer and helpers) are afraid to tell him the truth. Things might change if Santa had to address the findings of this climate survey with his boss. The problem is, however, Santa is not accountable to anyone.

Yes, even Santa must be held accountable for his actions; doing a good job is not good enough. Santa must learn to lead, not drive his reindeer, encourage his elves through personal example, and he must adapt and embrace the tenets of mission command. Let us hope that Santa finds some emotional intelligence neatly wrapped under his tree this year, for he is indeed holding on too tight.

BARGAIN LINE

Miscellaneous

For sale: Extra 330L 27 percent remote-controlled airplane, highly aerobic, all servos are high-tech and Spektrum high torque servos, engine is a RCGF 55cc two-stroke engine, approximately 5.5 to 6 horsepower, wing span is 81 inches and length is 75 inches. The engine has not been completely broken in and still needs around 10 minutes of run time to be fully broken in. This is a beautiful aircraft and has never been off the ground. Asking \$2,000 for the plane with remote, chargers, tool bag, fuel pumps, spare parts, etc. or \$1,800 for everything except the remote. For pictures or more information on the plane please call or text 889-1753.

For sale: Entertainment center, cherry Oak wood, good condition, two pillars with two bridges, \$300 or best offer; black television stand, \$25 or best offer; three-piece black leather living room set with recliner, good condition, \$500 or best offer; 40 gallon saltwater fish tank with accessories, two clown fish, purple fire fish, coral beauty angelfish, live rocks with coral and secondary filtration tank, \$650 or best offer; baby clothes and pack-n-play, high chair varieties, call for more information. 605-3472.

For sale: 2.1 acres of land on Wood Rd. in Caledonia, lot is clear and ready

to build, price reduced. Call 356-6844.
For sale: Epson PowerLite 1700c multimedia LCD projector, super lightweight, 2,200 lumens, indoor/outdoor presentation, low usage and in great condition, \$215; IBM Thinkpad R51 business/school laptop, 14-inch display, 1.7 GHz processor, 1 gb RAM, 40 gb hard drive, CD-RW/DVD drive, USB, wi-fi, Linux Ubuntu 12.04 operating system, fantastic condition, asking \$135; IBM Thinkpad R52 business/school laptop, 14.6-inch display, 1.8 GHz processor, 1 gb RAM, 80 gb hard drive, CD-RW/DVD drive, USB, wi-fi, Windows XP operating system, Microsoft Office Suite, fantastic condition, asking \$145; VITO ALTO saxophone, good playing condition, asking \$165. Call 386-6981.

Transportation

They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line.

For sale: 1998 Honda Valkyrie motorcycle. Beautifully maintained in classic black/chrome, 1,500 cc six-cylinder engine with straight-pipes. Includes Corbin ostrich-leather "Stinger" seat, chrome studded two-person leather seat with backrest, hard saddle bags, windshield, cruise control, cigarette lighter, cruising foot peg and tank bib with pouch. \$6,000, call 434-8544.

For sale: 2003 Honda Shadow, 600cc, black with saddle bags and windshield. \$1,900 or best offer. Call (931) 206-7922.

Pearl Harbor: Air Force legacy on day that would 'live in infamy'

Tom Budzyna
Air Force News Service

FORT MEADE, Md. — "It was the first time I had ever seen a plunging dive bomber and it was an awesome sight. Nothing in warfare is more frightening," said Pvt. Wilfred D. Burke, 72d Pursuit Squadron, Wheeler Field, whose experience in the attacks on Pearl Harbor are recorded in "7 December 1941: The Air Force Story" compiled by the Pacific Air Forces Office of History.

"Hurling down on us was a dive bomber being followed by another, while six or seven more in echelon awaited their turn. The leader pulled out right over us in a spectacular climbing bank. We could clearly see the rising sun of Japan on his wings and fuselage," Burke said.

Burke's first-hand account of that fateful day 71 years ago provides a close-up glimpse of how U.S. air forces were affected by the surprise attack by the Japanese during the early morning hours of Dec. 7, 1941. The attack propelled the U.S. into World War II and hindsight confirms that the Empire of Japan executed a bold plan, achieved perfect tactical surprise and found U.S. forces on the island of Oahu easy, unprepared targets.

Burke gives us a personal look at what Airmen experienced on what started out to be a quiet, lazy Sunday morning in paradise.

My boss, Sgt. Forest Wills woke me up around 7 a.m. This was the one morning of the week I could sleep late and I wanted to stay in bed, but I did tell Wills that I would go to church with him.

Wills had become a good friend of mine and was concerned with my spiritual welfare, having observed that I was a worthless fellow given to drinking beer.

We ate breakfast in an unusually empty mess hall then, since we had time before church started, joined a group of men in the middle of the tent area to shoot the bull for a while.

We watched a flight of planes pass to the west of Wheeler heading towards Pearl Harbor. Someone said that it was the Navy, but then we were surprised as black puffs of anti-aircraft fire filled the sky.

Our surprise turned into terror when a Japanese aircraft from overhead began diving directly towards us. The diving planes released their bombs from one end of the hangar line to the other. No one was in sight at first except weary guards who had maintained an all-night vigil against possible sabotage, but others quickly began arriving on the scene.

Officers and enlisted alike were battling fires, tending to the wounded and dying, dragging equipment and supplies from burning hangers, and pushing or towing undamaged aircraft toward dispersal bunkers. Even Gen. Davidson was in the midst of his Airmen pushing planes around.

We fled from the strafing attack on the flight line area, scattering in all directions. I fled toward a housing area thinking it was a safer place when a bomb struck the pavement behind me and killed several fleeing Airmen.

When I found a place to rest against a building wall, I looked back on the carnage and devastation. The dive bombers had dropped all their bombs and had regrouped and were



U.S. Air Force graphic/Luke Borland
"7 December 1941: The Air Force Story" presents the 'day of infamy' from an Air Force perspective. Compiled by the Pacific Air Forces Office of History, it provides Airmen a complete understanding of that fateful day when air power crushed U.S. military forces stationed in the Pacific in just a few short hours. It would also become the last day U.S. forces would experience such horror from above. Enjoy the story and the links below!

methodically strafing planes lined-up by squadron, wingtip to wingtip, in precise rows. The thick black smoke from the exploding planes served as a screen for a row of P-36 planes on the west end of Wheeler's flight line.

After the firing ceased I went back to my tent, horrified to find dead bodies lying around. I picked-up my helmet as did others and we all had to stop and lace together the helmet linings of the old-fashioned World War I tin hats. That's how unprepared we were.

I was helping casualties when I heard the alarm that the Japanese were attacking again. I ran to the housing area again and got a clear view of the enemy planes firing their machine guns at aircraft on the ramp. I couldn't help from being impressed with their skill. They had been portrayed as little near-sighted men wearing glasses and this arrogance led to this debacle. The enemy was not to be considered lightly.

The attack that crippled the U.S. Pacific Naval Fleet also left approximately 700 U.S. Airmen killed or wounded and 66 percent of U.S. air forces assets in Hawaii decimated. The Japanese lost only 29 pilots from more than 350 planes launched from aircraft carriers north of Hawaii.

The Japanese knew their attack on the Pacific Fleet would be imperiled if they didn't cripple the air forces. Historical records describe the U.S. response as mostly uncoordinated and stunned by the surprise.

What Airmen saw on the ground didn't match what the newspapers said 71 years ago, either.

"All the publicity is 'Remember Pearl Harbor.' They should take a look at Hickam Field or what was Hickam Field," said Army Air Force Maj. Charles P. Eckhart, Dec. 10, 1941. "They dropped about 100 bombs on Hickam, practically all hits. The papers say they are poor bombardiers! They were perfect on nearly all their releases."

But the accounts of aircraft destroyed and numbers of Airmen killed tell only a small part of the Pearl Harbor story.

It's the individual heroism of countless and sometimes forgotten Airmen that paint the true picture of the attack, and "7 December 1941 - The Air Force Story" reveals these lesser known accounts.

The Air Force story explains as the flight lines were engulfed in flames that the order to disperse the planes inspired scores of men to rush around the Hickam flight line heedless of the rain of bullets and goes on to detail how a general's aide was trying to taxi one of the B-18s when strafers put an engine out of commission.

It was no easy job to taxi such a heavy plane with only one engine, but the aide raced the one engine until it pulled its side of the plane forward, then slammed that brake on hard, which forced the other wing up. By waddling along this way, all the time under enemy fire, he finally brought the plane across the landing mat to comparative safety. While fire department personnel fought flames at the tail end of some of the planes, daring crew members jumped upon the wings, disconnected the engines, and pulled their 800- or 900-pound weight to the edge of the apron. Their quick thinking and action saved the expensive engines.

Hickam and Wheeler Air Force Base, and Bellows Air Force Station were priority targets for the Japanese bombers and U.S. assumptions, attitudes and maintenance routines of the day made it difficult, if not impossible, to react to the pounding they delivered.

"We're going to be all right even though we took a beating," Gen. Howard C. Davidson, 14th Pursuit Wing commander said to Airmen at Bellows Air Field following the attack.

Davidson was visiting airfields to calm the nerves of Airmen, many of whom were in shock following the attack. Three pilots accompanied him to answer questions about how they were able to get off the ground to attempt a courageous counterattack and the telling of their stories seemed to calm them.

The three pilots were Lts. Kenneth M. Taylor, George S. Welch and Philip Rasmussen. Welch and Taylor would later receive Distinguished Service Crosses; Welch a Silver Star. All owed much to ground crews who managed to prepare their aircraft while fire, bombs and strafing saturated the air fields. Other pilots were killed trying to take off, but the Japanese onslaught denied most U.S. forces the opportunity to wage any sort of counter attack.

Other acts of courage that day were rarely, if ever, made public.

Airmen at Hickam Airfield during the attack recall an orderly room clerk described as a mild-mannered private first class who climbed into a B-18 and mounted a .30-caliber machine gun in the nose. It was unstable, because the mount was made for an aerial gun; but he braced it against his shoulder and kept up a steady stream of fire. An enemy plane flew low, strafed the B-18 with incendiary bullets, and set it on fire. There was no way for him to escape and spectators nearby said he did not even seem to try but kept on firing. Long after the leaping flames had enveloped the nose of the plane, they heard his screams and saw the tracer bullets from his machine gun mounting skyward.

See PEARL HARBOR, Page 13

Columbus AFB starts holiday season



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Santa Claus passes out candy to children of Columbus Air Force Base during the base Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony Dec. 6. During this annual ceremony the children are met by Santa who brings candy and opportunities for families to take photos of their child with Santa.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
The family of deployed Columbus Air Force Base member Maj. Bryan Ferrari, 14th Flying Training Wing participates in the base Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony Dec. 6 by lighting the tree for the first time this season. The tree accommodates 52 ornaments that represent the number of deployed Airmen at the time.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Santa Claus awaits the next child to tell him what they want for Christmas during a reception Dec. 6 at the Chapel Annex following the base Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. This reception allowed families to enjoy a snack and hot beverage while they waited for an opportunity to take a photo of their child with Santa.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
Members of Columbus Air Force Base sing Christmas carols during the base Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony Dec. 6. The lighting of the Christmas Tree is an annual ceremony that celebrates the holiday season and remembrance of those that could not be in the area for the holidays.

Welcome to a home of teamwork

Chief Master Sgt. Terri Hartmann
14th Operations Support Squadron Chief,
Radar Approach Control

Some of you know that this is my second assignment to Columbus. There are many pilots who have been here more than once so it may not seem too unusual but for enlisted personnel getting the same assignment twice is rare. So when Columbus came up on my list, I went home and talked to the family about volunteering to come back. We had a great tour here the last time and our family has many fond memories of being here so Columbus went to the top of our list.

For me, Columbus Air Force Base is the place where I really felt like I was part of a team. I mean a real team. This was my first real radar facility and I had some great trainers; people who took the time to teach a tower controller how to work radar. There were times when I really felt I was in over my head but that group took my under their wing and made sure I was successful. I look back on my days here and am grateful for the faith my team had in me and I know that experience shaped me into the person I am today. I can tell you many stories of how we worked as a team to get the wing mission done every day. Even better, I can tell you how much fun we had getting it all done.

So today I am back and part of the Columbus team again, it is familiar and even though there are days where I feel like I am drinking from a fire hose, I work with a great team. There are times when I still think I am in over my head but that team I talked about before is still here and they still have my back. Most of the faces have changed, and some of us are a tad older than we were before but what I find remarkable is the team is still here, doing what the team does each and every day. We still do our part to make the wing mission happen every day, we still look out for each other and we still have fun doing it.

Being part of a team is important to me, it is one of the main reasons I came back to Columbus. My hope for everyone at Columbus is to feel a part of the team and to see how their contribution to the mission helps make us a success. Sense of team is important especially as we approach our inspection because this one thing ensures our success. Team Blaze is our moniker but Team Columbus is what we are...Producing Pilots, Advancing Airmen and Feeding the Fight!

‘Sir, tell the TACP thanks’

Brig. Gen. Jack L. Briggs II
Headquarters, Air Combat
Command

JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va. — On 13 May 2010, an Airman First Class taught me some lessons I'll never forget. I think of Airman 1st Class Corey Hughes almost every week. His actions on that particular day in May remind me to focus on others first, that heroic leaders exist among us all the time, and doing the right thing takes courage but is worth it.

When troops on the ground in Afghanistan run into trouble, our asymmetric advantage is our ability to bring airpower to bear quickly and accurately. It was no different on 13 May. A patrol of soldiers ran into an ambush in eastern Afghanistan, receiving large volumes of enemy mortar, heavy machine gun, rocket propelled grenades and small arms fire. My formation of two F-15E Strike Eagles was called to support the "Troops in Contact" situation or "TIC." As we arrived on scene, there were already American wounded.

For the aircraft overhead, our contacts on the ground are young, well trained, and brave Airmen embedded with each Army unit; they are called Tactical Air Control Parties (TACP). They are the node between the Army ground commanders and the Airmen providing support overhead. They translate the situation from the ground commander's perspective, integrate airpower into the plan of maneuver or fires, and guide our attacks with amazing precision. That can sound antiseptic and simple on paper but in the thick of the battle it is 100 percent adrenaline, noise, and concentration as bullets fly.

The fight on the ground was very violent by the time my flight arrived. Our initial contact was with Airman 1st Class Hughes who was yelling into the radio. He had to be loud as he keyed the mic because his voice was drowned out by the sound of gunfire in the background. His calls were quick and broken as he stopped to fire his own weapon in between radio calls. At one point he said, "Stand by" and the radio went silent. For the next few minutes we orbited overhead and waited. Where was he? We called but no answer. Finally his voice came back. He was out of breath and huffing into his mic, but he calmly gave us the plan to provide a show of force and

I often consider the lessons Airman 1st Class Corey Hughes taught that day. His actions inspire us to put others first, understanding there can be a cost. His example affirms that there are brave leaders all around us willing to step forward when it counts, despite the risks.

cover the ingress of helicopters to evacuate the patrol, first the wounded and then the rest of the team. The show of force bought them time and space and eventually all were extracted safely from a tough situation.

After we landed and debriefed our mission, I headed to the Bagram Craig Joint Theater Hospital. Craig Hospital is one of the advanced coalition hospitals in Afghanistan that receives wounded from the battlefield and stabilizes them prior to their onward movement to more medical care in the US.

I visited regularly to talk with our medical warriors and see how the wounded were doing. On that day I had a chance to check up on several of the wounded from the very firefight we'd supported only hours before. I spoke to a few of the Soldiers from that fight, told them they were getting the best care in the world and turned to leave, when a shout of "Sir! Sir!" made me stop. I turned to see a shirtless wounded Soldier who was shot in the legs, calling out for my attention. He motioned me back. His eyes reflected his urgency to tell me something. I walked back, closed the curtain behind me, and crouched to get to his level on the bed.

"Sir, tell the TACP thanks," he urgently requested. I asked what happened. His story explained the mystery from earlier in the day when A1C Hughes went silent on the radio. This Soldier was moving from one position to another during the firefight and was hit in the legs. Unable to move, he took what cover he could. While performing his primary duty of directing air support, Airman 1st Class Hughes noticed that this Soldier could not move on his own, told us to "stand by", and ran toward him. He picked the Soldier up and fireman-carried him to a covered position. The Soldier said the one thing he would never forget was that while he was being carried several hundred meters through deadly fire was staring at a patch on the

shoulder of his rescuer. The patch read "TACP." The Soldier didn't know the Airman's name nor did he see him again. He just asked that I pass along the thanks somehow.

I spent the next few days tracking the TACP down and that's when I met Airman 1st Class Hughes and heard his story first hand. I told him when our F-15E formation checked in we heard the shooting in the background of every radio call. I described how we listened to his clipped calls to us, his calm call to us to "stand by" and then how there were minutes of silence, leaving us concerned as to what was happening. I told him we then heard him breathlessly get back on the radio as he called for our show of force.

"What was going on down there?" I asked. He told me how some of the wounded were near his position and he was going back and forth, under heavy fire, to check on them, give them water and help them out the best he could until MEDEVAC arrived. Corey said he saw a Soldier who could not move on his own and immediately went to pick him up and carry him to safety. Airman 1st Class Hughes then retraced his steps through the enemy fire to get back to his position and continue to call in our effects. What immediately caught my attention was Airman 1st Class Hughes' tone of voice. He clearly believed his actions weren't anything special and others would do the same if in that situation.

I often consider the lessons Airman 1st Class Corey Hughes taught that day. His actions inspire us to put others first, understanding there can be a cost. His example affirms that there are brave leaders all around us willing to step forward when it counts, despite the risks. He reminds me that both success and courage are defined by doing what is right, even as the bullets fly. Like the wounded Soldier, I also want to tell the TACP, A1C Hughes, "thanks."

DOD prepares for potential sequestration

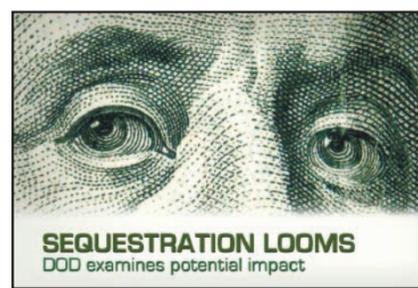
Senior Master Sgt. David Byron
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON — The Office of Management and Budget has instructed the Department of Defense to pursue internal planning to meet required budget cuts if sequestration goes into effect Jan. 3.

"We are at the very start of this process," said Dr. George Little, acting assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, during a Pentagon press availability here, Dec. 5. "We don't have all the details firmed up. Naturally, we hope very much that sequestration will be avoided and we don't enter that phase."

Sequestration is a mechanism enacted by Congress that will initiate severe across-the-government budget cuts if Congress and the president are unable to pass a budget that meets the requirements of the Budget Control Act of 2011.

For the DOD, sequestration would cut the



U.S. Air Force Graphic/Corey Parrish

defense budget by \$500 billion over the next 10 years. These cuts would be in addition to the nearly \$500 billion in cuts, during the same time frame, already directed by the 2011 BCA.

DOD officials have already been considering possible effects of sequestration, including communicating impacts to the DOD workforce.

"Our focus has been on examining the potential impacts of sequestration," Little said. "We know what the potential impacts might be, and that helps us create a baseline for what we need to plan against."

He explained that although the core of the effort this month is planning against the possible cuts, officials still hold hope that Congress and the administration can come to a resolution avoiding sequestration.

If the cuts do go into effect Jan. 3, Little said the DOD should still have the first couple of months in 2013 to determine the best way to handle the effects.

"Not every consequence of sequestration would occur on Jan. 3," he said. "People will still come to work, we think, at this stage. This will be a phased-in approach to dealing with sequestration, if it were to take place."

Whatever the effect, he said DOD officials are committed to communicating the issues to the internal DOD community as soon as they

are clear.

"We have a lot of internal constituencies to reach out to — service members, their families and the civilian employees of the Department of Defense — and we're talking active, Guard and Reserve," said Little. "Three million people work inside this department. One out of 100 Americans work for the secretary of defense. That is a big number and it's a big communication challenge should sequestration take effect."

Little said he has stood up a communication task force to take part in the planning process.

"We expect, through our planning efforts, to identify not just numbers, but also how we communicate it to our three million-person workforce, and prepare them for what may come down the pike," he said. "We're going to try to do what we can, as quickly as possible, to define precisely who we need to talk to and when."

New process improves household goods shipments

Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

COTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — A system being implemented at U.S. Transportation Command is making permanent-change-of-station moves more convenient, while reducing lost and damaged shipments and saving the government money.

The Defense Personal Property System, introduced in 2009 as a pilot program at 17 installations, now supports 90 percent of all military moves, said Jill Smith, personal property division chief at Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command.

The web-based system automates many of the steps involved in military moves: pre-move counseling, scheduling, tracking, invoicing and claims filing for household goods shipments.

"The beauty of DPS is that customers can do all this from the comfort of their own homes. They can do it early in the morning or at 11 o'clock at night, whatever works best for them," Smith said. "Plus, all the information they might want; whether it's about gypsy moths or weight allowances, or just tips about how they can have a smoother move; is right at their fingertips, a click away, and available 24/7."

DPS also gives customers the opportunity to track their shipments online. If their shipment is lost or damaged, they can file a claim online and settle directly with the moving company.

Moves not yet covered by DPS, generally those involving long-term storage or moves within an overseas theater, will be included as new features are added to make the system fully operational by September 2017, Smith said.

Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Transcom's Army component, processes about 600,000 personal property moves each year for Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen,

Marines, Coast Guardsmen, Defense Department civilian employees and their families, Smith reported. About one-third of these moves take place during the summer, and almost 70,000 include privately-owned vehicle shipments.

Collectively, they cost the Defense Department about \$2.2 billion a year, Smith said. But with DPS, she projects between \$117 million and \$136 million in annual savings —while providing customers with better service.

That's because rather than relying on "low-bid" transportation providers to conduct military moves, DPS provides "best value" services. This, Smith explained, factors in not just cost, but also variables such as timeliness, reliability, the incidence of lost or damaged shipments and ease in providing reimbursement for claims.

"We want to provide carriers that are not only qualified, but fully capable of making sure that they protect the members' household goods, provide a great quality move and communicate with that customer," she said. "The bottom line for us is that we want to do business with carriers that pick up the household goods on time and deliver them on time, with no or the least amount of damage — whether (that carrier) happens to be cheaper or a little bit more expensive."

Those determinations are based directly on customer satisfaction surveys that help ensure the best movers get singled out for DOD business. "We rely on these surveys because (customers) get to evaluate the (transportation service provider's) performance, and that ties directly into the best-value score," Smith said. "The higher the customer satisfaction, the higher the score and the more opportunity that (carrier) gets to participate in future traffic."

As an additional incentive for moving companies to apply extra care while handling DOD shipments, carriers are now required to pay full replacement value for anything lost or broken. Before that change was introduced about five years ago, transportation carriers paid a depreciated value on all claims.



Courtesy photo

The Defense Personal Property System is making permanent-change-of-station moves more convenient, reducing lost and damaged shipments and saving the government money. Here, a moving truck is unloaded as a military family moves into a new home at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The result has been a dramatic reduction in claims.

"If they break your \$500 china, that means they have to replace or repair it. So carriers have a tendency to be more careful," Smith said. "That is a good thing, because it helps make service members feel a little bit more comfortable about turning over their prized possessions, knowing that the carriers are going to be held responsible for it."

Smith said she's looking forward to the complete rollout of DPS and the convenience it will provide DOD customers throughout the move process.

"This will be a brand new era," she said. "Customers will have a centralized one-stop shop that gives them all the tools they need to plan and manage their moves, that provides them best-value service and uses their feedback to ensure other service members will, too."

Base families are offered a wide variety of fun activities

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!

Christmas Bazaar

Join in on fun shopping and enjoy great discounts at the Exchange Mall on Dec. 15 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Vendors will all be present selling items such as Christmas crafts, candles, and much more! The Express will also be offering wine tasting between 1-3 p.m.

Certified Aerobics Instructor

The fitness center is in need for a certified aerobics instructor. If that describes you make sure to call the Fitness for more information at 434-2773.

AIR'-OBICS Step Class

Take a step into fitness with the Air'-Obics step class. It will be held every Monday and Wednesday at 4:45 p.m. starting Dec. 10. For more information call 434-2772.

Columbus Club Hours

The Columbus Club is open Tuesday – Friday for lunch from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. They offer a full menu and daily buffets. Save \$1 on meals by becoming a member!

New Year's Eve Casino Trip

Join the fun, and bring in the New Year at the Casino! The bust will be departing the Exchange/Shoppette parking lot by 5 p.m. There must be at least 20 participants with a maximum of 30. The cost is \$25, but the casino will put \$25 on your player's card. Give your email to Outdoor Rec to get an additional \$5. RSVP today by calling ODR at 434-2505!

Prove Yourself!

Do you have what it takes to be a racquetball champion? Sign up for the racquetball tournament by Jan. 13th. The tournament takes place on Jan. 14th. For more information call 434-2772.

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.

New Years 5k Run

Start preparing for the New Years 5k. This run will take place on Jan. 11 at 6 and 7 a.m. Commander's trophy points are awarded. For more information call 434-2772.

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.

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 children 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.

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, Miss. Join the fun for only \$25 which includes transportation and receive \$25 in bonus bets! Contact 434-2505 for more information.

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

Hooded sweatshirts for injured servicemembers

The Knights of Columbus are collecting hooded sweatshirts to be sent to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan. As the temperature drops in Afghanistan, the local Knights of Columbus council at Bagram provides warm clothing for injured personnel being airlifted to Germany. All sizes of hooded sweatshirts are needed, but sizes L to 2XL are especially needed. A box will be located in front of the BX and at the Fitness Center for drop-off Dec. 15-16. The planned shipment date is Dec. 17. Call 243-7633 with any questions.

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. 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.

LGR Mobility Individual Protective Equipment Element closed for Training

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

Airman and Family Readiness Center

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790 or email afrc@columbus.af.mil.)

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 appoint-

ments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC call 364-0504.

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

Chapel Schedule

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.
Tuesday, Dec. 25:
10 a.m. – Christmas Mass

who are deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. Briefings are held daily at the AFRC; Pre-deployment at 9:30 a.m. and post-deployment at 1:30 p.m.

Computer workshops

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

Volunteer Opportunities

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

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.

Volunteer Orientation/Training

Jan. 2, 10-11 a.m. Discuss volunteer job description, brief overview of the base volunteer program. Training to include confidentiality, ethics and avoidance of conflict of interest. Call 434-2790 to register.

Tap Workshop

Jan. 7-11, 7:30 a.m. Mandatory for all personnel separating, pre-separation counseling is required before attending. Seminars on: transition, military occupational code crosswalk, financial planning, health benefits, Miss. Department of Employment Security, Department of Veterans Affairs, disabled TAP, Department of Labor TAP portion. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register call 434-2790.

SUPT Class 13-03 earns silver wings



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon



Capt. Gregory Hafley
Smithville, Mo.
C-130, Rosecrans ANGB, Mo.



2nd Lt. Christopher Adamo
Port Charlotte, Fla.
Do-328, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Kevin Allum
Murrieta, Calif.
C-130, Little Rock AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Jason Bireley
Cedar Lake, Ind.
KC-135R, Grissom ARB, Ind.

Thirty officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 13-03 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker for the class is retired Lt. Gen. Glen "Wally" Moorhead III who last served as the Commander, NATO Allied Air Component Command Izmir, Turkey; and Commander, 16th Air Force, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. In both roles, the general was responsible for the planning and execution of U.S. and NATO air operations throughout Europe and Africa. He also served as the air component commander for NATO and European Union air operations in the Balkans.

Students will receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

2nd Lt. Steven Turner, T-1, and 2nd Lt. Andrew Taylor, T-38, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Amanda Robillard, T-1, and 2nd Lt. Jared Tew, T-38. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Capt. Gregory Hafley, T-1, Lieutenant Turner and Lieutenant Taylor were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 13-03.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week pre-flight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures,

takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus Air Force Base. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partner. SUPT Class 13-03's pilot partner is The Eat With Us Group.



2nd Lt. Jessica Charney
Canyon, Texas
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. David Cotter
Sacramento, Calif.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Benjamin DeLaCruz
Portage, Ind.
C-130J, Keesler AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Paul Driggers
San Luis Obispo, Calif.
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



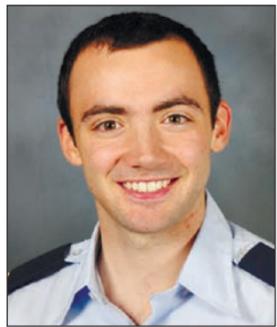
2nd Lt. Brian Dunlap
Enterprise, Ala.
C-17, JB McChord, Wash.



2nd Lt. Erick Estevez
Toa Baja, Puerto Rico
C-130, Muñiz, Wash.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Gunn
Gainesville, Ga.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Peter Komar
Danville, Pa.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Wesley Ladd
Anchorage, Alaska
HC-130, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska



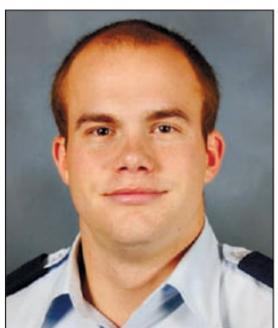
2nd Lt. Andrew Lee
Nashville, Tennessee
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Caitlin Miller
Wadsworth, Ohio
C-130J, Little Rock AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Cody Moorhead
Colorado Springs, Colo.
CV-22, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Michael Morrison
Loveland, Ohio
C-130, Little Rock AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Brijen Patel
Old Orchard Beach, Maine
MC-12, Beale AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Amanda Robillard
Bristol, Conn.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Joshua Rosecrans
El Paso, Texas
F-16, Tuscon ANG, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Thomas Sinclair
Menifee, Calif.
MQ-1, March ARB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Phanat Senesourihn
Fayetteville, N.C.
C-130, Charlotte ANG, NC



2nd Lt. James Spidel
Chambersburg, Penn.
C-130J, Dyess AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Andrew Taylor
Newtown, Conn.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Jared Tew
Park City, Utah
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Gray Thompson
Knoxville, Tenn.
MC-12, Beale AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Steven Turner
Wilmington, Del.
HC-130, Westhampton Beach ANG, N.Y.



2nd Lt. Charles Wasson
Conneautville, Penn.
C-130, Little Rock AFB, Ariz.