SILVER WINGS

"Back to the basics"

Vol. 33, Issue 31 | Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. | October 2, 2009

Weather

Today
High: 76, Low: 50
Scattered T-storms

Saturday
High: 75, Low: 50
Mostly Sunny

Sunday
High: 74, Low: 55
Partly Cloudy

Monday
High: 74, Low: 62
Mostly Cloudy

News Briefs

Retreat & Reveille

Reveille is played at 7 a.m. followed by "To the Colors". Retreat followed by the National Anthem is played at 5 p.m., and Taps will be played nightly at 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. If you're outside, face the flag or the direction of the music. Military in uniform should stand at parade rest during the playing of Reveille and "To the Colors." In addition, military in uniform should stand at parade rest during the sounding of Retreat then come to attention and salute during the national anthem. Others should stand at attention during the playing of To the Colors and the national anthem and place their right hand over their heart. If not in uniform, men should hold their hats over their hearts. Men without hats and women should hold their hands over their hearts. People driving must stop, and everyone in the vehicle should sit quietly until the music ends.

Hispanic Heritage Food Tasting

There will be a free Hispanic Heritage Month Food Tasting event from 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. September 25 at the Chapel Annex. Following the food tasting, there will be a showing of "Under the same moon," till 7 p.m.

Inside

Feature 10

SUPT Class 09-15 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.

U.S. Air Force photo

This year's Fire Prevention Week kicks off with a parade beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday. Other events a free cookout at 11 a.m., station tours starting at 10:30 a.m., car extrication at 12:15 p.m. and a live aircraft fire demonstration at 1 p.m. There will also be activities the whole family will enjoy such as Fire Prevention Trailer tours, bouncy games face painting, prizes for kids and special guest Sparky the Fire Dog.

Columbus AFB set to take part in Fire Prevention Week

Senior Airman Nathan Milan
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Starting tomorrow Columbus Air Force Base will take part in National Fire Prevention Week and will hold numerous activities as part of the event.

National Fire Prevention Week was conceptualized when President Calvin Coolidge recognized a need for change in 1925 when some 15,000 lives were lost the previous year due to fire. He consequently set aside the first Sunday in October as the start of National Fire Prevention Week to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871.

This week is a conscious effort to focus on taking fire safety seriously, preventing accidents and educating public opinions on safe practices. The devastating Chicago

See **FIRE**, Page 2

Columbus AFB Training Timeline

Phase II

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select
37th (10-09)	-0.78 days	-6.31 days	Oct. 21
41st (10-10)	-3.93 days	-2.26 days	Nov. 17

Phase III

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
48th (09-15)	0.00 days	-0.37 days	Oct. 2
50th (10-01)	1.08 days	0.62 days	Oct. 23

IFF

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
49th (10-AB)	-2.79 days	-0.09 days	Oct. 15

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Maurice Forsyth, commander, Spaatz Center for Education, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Wing Sortie Board

Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
T-6	3,524	2,556	32,083
T-1	947	912	11,990
T-38	1,043	916	9,169
IFF	252	176	2,859

SUPT Class 09-15 earns silver wings

T-1A Jayhawk

T-38C Talon

Capt. David Nolan
Biloxi, Miss.
C-21, Ramstein AB, Germany

1st Lt. Seth Ratner
Benicia, Calif.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 09-15 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker for the class will be Maj. Gen. Maurice Forsyth, commander, Spaatz Center for Officer Education, and Commandant, Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. The Spaatz Center directs, integrates, synchronizes and supports a continuum of officer professional education, research and outreach that produces leaders for joint and multinational environments.

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

Second Lt. Christopher Rodway, T-1, 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. Davis Ulm, T-1.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. David Nolan and Lieutenant Rodway, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of Class 09-15.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight 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 two 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 partners. Class 09-15's pilot partner is Mr. John Bean, representing the Harvey's, Grill and Sweet Peppers family of restaurants.

1st Lt. Erik Rogers
Salina, Kansas
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kansas

1st Lt. Naomichi Shimamura
Sette, Saitama, Japan
C-1/C-130, Japan

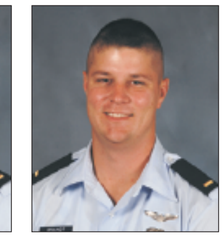
1st Lt. Skyler Smith
Sloan, Iowa
KC-135, Kadena AB, Japan

1st Lt. Kazushi Sugawara
Tsuruoka, Yamagata, Japan
C-1/C-130, Japan

1st Lt. Matthew Zacharias
Houston, Texas
UAS, Cannon AFB, N.M.

2nd Lt. David Agee
Navarre, Fla.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.

2nd Lt. Jacques Boulier
Fort Fairfield, Maine
KC-135R, Bangor IAP, Maine

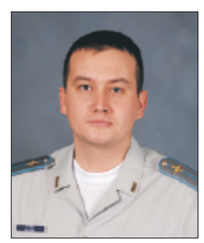


2nd Lt. Jensen Brandt
Antioch, Calif.
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.

2nd Lt. Daniel Gagnon
Doylestown, Penn.
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.

2nd Lt. T. Daniel Hixon
Clemson, S.C.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kansas

2nd Lt. Bradley Jordan
Madison, Wisc.
C-130H, Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP, Minn.



1st Lt. Stoian Petkov
Sofia, Bulgaria
MiG-29, Graf Ignatievo AFB, Plovdiv

2nd Lt. Jason Riggs
Gardner, Kansas
C-130H3, Greater Peoria Airport, Ill.

2nd Lt. Christopher Rodway
Brewer, Maine
KC-135R. Bangor IAP, Maine

2nd Lt. Davis Ulm
Navarre Beach, Florida
MC-12W/U-28A, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

2nd Lt. Anthony Ziegler
Detroit, Mich.
UAS, Creech AFB, Nev.

Base families offered a variety of activities

Bowling Center Daily Specials

Monday – chicken marinara sandwich with choice of fries and medium drink - $6; Tuesday – 2 dozen popcorn shrimp, choice of fries and medium drink for $5.25; Wednesday – 4 chicken tenders smothered with cheese and gravy with a side of green beans and medium drink for $5.25; Thursday – popcorn chicken, choice of fries and medium drink for $5.25; Friday – pulled pork sandwich with red slaw, baked beans or fries and medium drink for $5.75. Call 434-3526 to place an order to go.

Golf Course Lunch Bar Closure

The Golf Course will not be able to serve lunch/burritos on October 7 due to some electrical upgrades; however, the course will be open.

Horror Movie Night

The Columbus Club offers a Horror Movie Night every Tuesday in October from 6 to 10 p.m. Enjoy free popcorn, special bar menu and ghoulish drink specials. Come dressed as your favorite zombie and vote for the next horror movie night theme. For more information, call 434-2490.

Game nights

The Columbus Club is offering game nights from 5 to 10 p.m. Oct. 16 and Oct. 30. Invite your friends and join the club for some games and food and drink specials. For more information, call 434-2490.

Youth Center's Torch and Keystone Club Garage Sale

From 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 3. For more information, call 434-2490.

Family trip to Mississippi State Fair

The youth center offers this trip Oct. 17. Cost is $10 per family and includes transportation only. Admission tickets may be purchased upon arrival. Register no later than Oct. 8 at the youth center.

Lights On After School

Parents and children are invited to attend Lights On After School from 4 to 5:15 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Youth Center. Learn about after school care, safety and meet our special guest for the program Local teachers are also invited from the community. For more information, call 434-2504.

Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive

The youth center is hosting this worth cause from until Oct. 16. Drop off your canned foods at the youth center. For more information, call Terry at 434-2504.

Veterinary Clinic new hours of operation

Effective immediately, the new hours of the Vet Clinic will be open Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Clinics will be twice a month, please call for appointments. October clinics are Oct. 6-7 and Oct. 13-14. For more information, call 434-2281.

Youth and Adult crafts classes

The Arts and Crafts Center offers classes for youth and adult every Thursday at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. All youth classes are $5 each. Take Home Crafts kits are $3 each. A display of the upcoming projects are in the lobby of the arts and crafts center. For more information, call 434-7836.

Horseback riding lessons

Outdoor Recreation is offering riding lessons and special occasion rides. For more information, call 434-2505 or 7861.

Youth Employment Skills (YES) Program

The YES Program is an on-base volunteer program for high school students that pays $4 per hour through the AF Aid Society. YES allows high school students to "bank" $4 in grant funding for every hour volunteered in an on-base function. Students may accumulate as much as 250 hours over all 4 years of high school. Teens must be dependents of active duty air force to be eligible and must be at least a freshmen in high school. For more information, contact Mr. Hamilton at 434-2504.

Parents time out

The child development center offers a parents time out every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for children, ages 1-3 years of age. Cost is $20 for the day. For more information, call Martha Mann at 434-2479.

Tickets available

The information, ticket and travel office has discounted tickets for Disney World, Universal Studios, Dollywood, Sea World, Busch Gardens, Six Flags Over Georgia, the Memphis Zoo, Alabama Adventure, the Dixie Stampede, Geyser Falls, and more. Call 434-2507 for more information.

Web site offers help for military families in transition

Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Sixteen-year-old Robyn Lutzkanin loves the military.

As a military child, she said she has moved often and enjoys seeing new places and meeting new people.

"It really opens your eyes up to the world," Robyn added.

But she admited to dreading the transition of moving to that new place and having to make new friends.

"Moving is a really big stress, especially on teenagers. Because when you move to a new school, it's like all of these kids, (and you) don't know them," Robyn said.

Three national associations joined forces Sept. 30 to publish a Web site that offers help to military families going through those transitions.

The site, http://www.TimeToTalk.org/military is a joint effort by the National Military Family Association, the Partnership for a Drug Free America, and the National Association of School Nurses. Among other tools, the site offers a guide for military parents on how to talk to their children during transitions such as a move or a deployment of a parent.

Talking during that time is critical, Robyn said, addressing a crowd gathered at the U.S. Capitol Sept. 30 to announce the site's launch.

"The only way to solve a problem is to talk about it. If you let it sit there in the back of your mind, it's going to start festering in your brain and be like all on you," she said. "You've just got to let it out."

Parents are ideal for the children to talk to, she said, because they are sharing the transition.

"(Parents are) there with you all the time. They can talk to you about anything. You can trust them. Kids at school don't understand you. Your teachers sometimes don't understand you," Robyn said.

Joyce Wessel Raezer, the executive director of the National Military Family Association, said she hears from families that they need resources to help them deal with the issues surrounding moves and deployments.

"Our military life is full of transitions. That's one of those trigger points where military families are looking for resources when they are preparing to move," she said. "Even the brightest and the best ... walk into that new school, walk into that new town, and think, 'Am I going to fit in? How am I going to find friends?'"

The site also contains information for parents on talking about substance abuse with the children. And it has information on how to educate members of the civilian sector, such as teachers, who are not used to dealing with problems unique to military families.

But mostly, the site simply helps to initiate conversations that can help parents address difficult topics during difficult times.

"The premise is, 'Let's start that conversation between parent and child, and here are ways to help that parent start that conversation,'" she said.

UAS mission enters new chapter with graduation

Ryan Mattox
Defense Media Activity--San Antonio

LAS VEGAS — Ten pilots and nine sensor operators graduated Sept. 25 from initial qualification training at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., where they learned to operate the MQ-1 Predator.

Among the graduates were eight pilot candidates from nonpilot career fields.

The group was part of a Beta-test class to train pilots who have not attended undergraduate pilot training. Service officials are currently refining aeronautical training programs for operation of these remotely-flown vehicles. A second Beta class is currently underway.

During the ceremony, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz congratulated all of the students and emphasized the importance of their mission, stressing the role they will play in the evolution of unmanned aircraft systems.

"You are in the front row of history with the game-changing capabilities you provide," General Schwartz said. "The success of our Air Force and the joint team depends on your professional and personal excellence."

Air Force officials have been working hard to increase UAS availability to meet the "insatiable demand" for the capabilities these Air Force aircraft provide. There are currently 37 UAS combat air patrols supporting ongoing operations, and the service is working to achieve 50 combat air patrols over the next two years. Because the systems are unmanned in name only, central to the goal is how to best develop manning of the UAS force.

"You are part of the major Air Force development of the decade," General Schwartz said. "The culture change for our Air Force has to do with the future of UAS and how we see ourselves as Airmen."

Air Force leaders said there are still fundamental questions to be answered including career field title, aeronautical rating, active-duty service commitment, and Air Force specialty code designation. Additionally, there are significant professional development issues to be addressed with regard to the high-operations tempo the UAS force maintains.

The intent is to develop a professional, sustainable population of UAS and sensor operators with includes equitable opportunities for promotion, developmental education, leadership and command.

"Secretary (of the Air Force Michael B.) Donley and I recognize that our Airmen are the linchpin in this system and we are giving it our personal attention," General Schwartz said. "As we grow technical expertise from within the community, we will also focus on developing future UAS leaders," the general pledged.

During training, the students used their time at Creech AFB to perform 16 simulator events and nine Predator flights. Within those simulator events and flights, they performed joint, ISR and close-air-support missions.

The course brought individuals from varying backgrounds together to work as a team, operating an asset that is high demand in overseas contingency operations. For most, entry into the UAS program was an opportunity to join the cutting edge of technology in today's Air Force.

Capt. Rob McGowan, a former security forces officer, always wanted to be a pilot. However, it wasn't until the creation of this program that he got the chance to make his dream a reality.

"I had been deployed several times overseas and saw the impact the Predators were making on the ground and I wanted to be a part of that," Captain McGowan said.

Working alongside the pilot, one Airman saw this course as an opportunity to be more involved in supporting the on-going efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I wanted to make a greater impact on the war on terrorism," said Staff Sgt. Laura Hernandez, a 15th Reconnaissance Squadron sensor operator. "I just felt I could do more."

The team works together to make that mission succeed, with the pilot flying the aircraft, and the sensor operator using the camera and associated sensors to gather data.

"We are an extra set of eyes and ears for the pilot," Sergeant Hernandez said. "I am tasked to operate the camera and help monitor the system. We can request airspace and help the pilot find clear paths to fly the aircraft."

Together the pilot and sensor operator provide information to commanders in the field, strike targets not easily accessible by ground forces, and protect troops on the ground.

For both officer and enlisted, the selection process was competitive. It would be just the first hurdle the students had to clear.

For the officers, their qualification training spanned many months and several locations. The eight officers without a flying background initially spent about two weeks in Pueblo, Colo., getting flight experience, to include a solo flight. Then it was on to Randolph AFB, Texas, for instrument training, and finally arriving at Creech AFB, where they actually flew the unmanned aircraft and worked alongside their enlisted counterparts.

U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Brett Clashman

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and Col. Peter Gersten give a special presentation to Capt. Jack Rhodes and Tech. Sgt. Alyson Hathaway as top graduates during the initial qualification training graduation at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., Sept. 25, 2009. General Schwartz attended the ceremony as the presiding officer for the first UAS graduation. Colonel Gersten is the 432nd Wing commander at Creech AFB.

U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Brett Clashman

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz presents Capt. Steve Petrizzo, 432nd Wing, his wings during the graduation from initial qualification training at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., Sept. 25, 2009. General Schwartz attended the ceremony as the presiding officer for the first UAS graduation.

For the enlisted Airmen, the path to graduation took a slightly different route. Initial career field training at Randolph AFB was the first step, followed by 45 more days of training at Creech AFB prior to graduation.

After the graduation Sergeant Hernandez said the program, while tough, was the most fun she ever had and that it was an honor to be in this position.

"The training was fast and furious they threw a lot at us," Sergeant Hernandez said. "It is a great responsibility to take all that information and go out and perform."

Iraqi, U.S. Air Force work hand in hand to support drawdown

1st Lt. Korry Leverett
407th Air Expeditionary Group

ALI BASE, Iraq — The Iraqi air force commander and the director of the Iraqi Training and Advisory Mission-Air Force visited the 407th Air Expeditionary Group Sept. 24 at Ali Base to conduct a site survey of the airfield and facilities, and to speak with members of the media from the local city of An Nasiriyah about the future of the base.

This was the first joint visit by Staff Lt. Gen. Anwar Hamad Amen Ahmed, the Iraqi air force commander, and Maj. Gen. Robert C. Kane, the ITAM-AF director, and marked a significant step in providing the Iraqi air force with a better understanding of what assets will be available to support them here during the transition and drawdown of forces.

Though the exact mission set at Ali Base for Iraqi and coalition forces after the transition is undecided, General Anwar pointed out that the effort wouldn't take place single-handedly.

"We are working together to ensure the base is transferred smoothly to the Iraqi air force according to the security agreement," he said. "We have tremendous support from the (Iraqi) prime minister, the minister of defense, and the U.S. Air Force."

The responsibility of advising and supporting the Iraqi Air Force during this pivotal transition is the mission of the Iraq Training and Advisory Mission-Air Force, which is a part of Multinational Security Transition Command-Iraq.

"Our job is to develop the foundational capability of a credible and enduring air force for the Iraqi people," General Kane said. "It really is the whole spectrum of Air Force capabilities. We provide our expertise to the Iraqi air force as they try to implement their plans in building the Air Force they want."

The ITAM-AF includes Airmen from a variety of career fields that work hand in hand with members of the Iraqi air force on flightlines, in back shops and in classrooms to advise their counterparts on air operations.

Additionally, the generals were provided an overview of local airfield operations and given the opportunity to see firsthand many of the ongoing construction projects across the base.

The first of several stops on the tour was at a new air traffic control tower facility being constructed adjacent to the old tower. When completed, the new tower will be roughly eight stories high and boast improved technology, which will only add to the safety and operability of the airfield. The project is estimated to be completed in January 2010 and will be the tallest structure in the surrounding Dhi Qar province.

Other major stops during the visit included a series of ramp expansion projects, which allow for the bed down of a variety of airframes on the airfield, and a walk around of preexisting hardened aircraft shelters which were constructed prior to 1985.

During interviews with media, General Anwar praised the U.S. Air Force for its efforts to upgrade and maintain the airfield. He especially thanked General Kane and Col. Glen Apgar, the 407th AEG commander, for allowing him the opportunity to see the facilities and construction projects on the base.

"I had visited the base before, but today we saw many new construction projects," General Anwar said. "I want to send my thanks to the U.S. Air Force for their current and future support."

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Tony R. Ritter

An Iraqi interpreter (left to right), Maj. Gen. Robert C. Kane, Iraqi air force Commander Staff Lt. Gen. Anwar Hamad Amen Ahmed and Col. Glen Apgar conduct a question and answer session with Iraqi media Sept. 24, 2009, at Ali Base, Iraq. General Kane is the director, Iraq Training and Advisory Mission-Air Force, and Colonel Apgar is the 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander.

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Tony R. Ritter

Iraqi air force Commander Staff Lt. Gen. Anwar Hamad Amen Ahmed surveys an aircraft hangar that is in need of repair during his visit Sept. 24, 2009, at Ali Base, Iraq. The visit by General Anwar to Ali Base marked a significant step in providing the Iraqi air force with a better understanding of what assets will be available to support them here when the base is transitioned to government of Iraq.

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Tony R. Ritter

Maj. Gen. Robert C. Kane (left), Iraqi air force Staff Brig. Gen. Wamidh and Iraqi air force Commander Staff Lt. Gen. Anwar Hamad Amen Ahmed discuss the on-going construction of the new air traffic control tower Sept. 24, 2009, at Ali Base, Iraq. General Kane is the director, Iraq Training and Advisory Mission-Air Force, and General Wamidh is the Iraqi air force operations commander.

Class 09-15, gear down, full stop

Lt. Col. Alexander Walford
14th Operations Support Squadron commander

The desire to fly is an idea handed down to us by our ancestors who, in their grueling travels across trackless lands in prehistoric times, looked enviously on the birds soaring freely through the air, at full speed and above all obstacles.

To the graduates of Class 09-15, you no longer have to wonder what its like as you look skyward, congratulations on your recent success. Congratulations on becoming the newest members of an aviation fraternity; a fraternity whose members include the likes of Billy Mitchell, Hap Arnold and Chuck Yeager. Although these heroes were successful aviators, they were accomplished officers first and foremost.

As Class 09-15 leaves Columbus AFB to begin their Air Force adventures, they leave here as some of the best trained aviators in the world. However, success will require more than unsurpassed flying skills.

Uncertainty in today's military environment and nontraditional or unique assignment opportunities will require these new graduates to blaze trails diverse from traditional Airmen Development Plans. So before Class 09-15 passes through the front gate of Columbus AFB for the last time, I would like to offer a few last bits of mentorship. I call them the five D's for success.

Don't limit your potential. Know your limits but never stop trying to exceed them. When I was a young Cub Scout, we played a game whenever a new scout joined the pack. All scouts would line up chairs in a pattern, creating an obstacle course through which the new scout was supposed to navigate blindfolded. The scout would have a few minutes to study the pattern before putting the blindfold on and begin to maneuver. But as soon as the blindfold covered the new scout's eyes, the rest of us would quietly remove all the chairs. The blindfolded scout would then comically maneuver around obstacles that existed only in his mind. The Bottom Line: Many of life's toughest obstacles are only in our mind.

Don't be afraid of taking the stairs. Everyone has heard the cliché "climbing the ladder of success". On this metaphorical ladder, each rung is not meant to rest upon, but only to hold your foot long enough to enable you to put the other somewhat higher. The top of one rung is always the starting point of another. However, the ladder may not be the only way to the top. As the combat environment changes, so does the solution set. Nontraditional assignments, such as unmanned aerospace vehicles and expeditionary MC-12 tours accompanied with fewer rated staff opportunities, mean conventional career paths may require detours along the way. In this case, leave the traditional ladder and take the stairs; just keep climbing. The Bottom Line: Success is not only measured by the rank or position you attain, but by the obstacles which must be overcome along the way.

Don't emulate imperfection. Mentorship provides leadership pearls of wisdom. But not all attributes of your mentor need to be emulated. You need to pick and choose those characteristics that work for you and stand the test of time. Some of the pearls given to me as a young CGO have lost some luster, lacking the flexibility and adaptability to account for rapid changes in technology and unique opportunities in today's Air Force. The Bottom Line: Always be a first rate version of you, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else.

Don't rest in the shade. Each mentor you choose plants leadership seeds inside each of you. What blossoms will depend on what you do when confronted with growth opportunities or challenges. As your list of accomplishments grows, so will the shadow you cast—also called your reputation. Never rest in your own shadow; you need to continue to challenge yourself or, in keeping with this metaphor, seeking the sunlight to grow. Most important is that as you grow into future leaders always take time to nurture, equip and develop the next generation of Airmen and don't be surprised if you find them waiting in your shadow. The Bottom Line: Don't rest on past victories—you will only be as good as your last landing.

Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to our previously mentioned aviation heroes: Billy Mitchell, Hap Arnold and Chuck Yeager. The difference is how you spend your time. First, be a Warrior. Take the time to learn your discipline. Know your job better than your enemy. Second, as I mentioned in my Commander's call, continue the Upward Focus. Make good use of your free time promoting personal and professional growth. Pilot training may be over but your education must continue. The Bottom Line: To earn more, you have to learn more so don't waste time trying to define success before you achieve it.

Good Luck and Godspeed Class 09-15!

Another flu shot? Why it's important

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Brad S. Winterton
1st Air Force Epidemiologist

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Two hundred years ago, the average life expectancy was about 40 years. Today, it is nearly 80 years. That doubling of life expectancy can be attributed almost entirely to just two things: improved sanitation and immunizations. All other medical advances combined don't even begin to come close to the effects of those two.

Is immunization 100 percent effective? No. A few people can receive multiple doses of a vaccine and never develop immunity to that disease. Are vaccines 100 percent safe? No. No medical procedure is 100 percent safe. A few people have negative reactions to vaccines that cause serious illness or even death. However, given the choice of having a quarter to half of all children die before reaching adolescence (as still happens today in countries where sanitation is poor and vaccines are not available) versus having one child in a million suffer a serious negative effect of a vaccine, the choice is pretty obvious. It is a genuine tragedy for that one; it is literally lifesaving for the other hundreds of thousands.

Immunization is largely an individual choice. Those who do not wish to be immunized can refuse based on religious or philosophical objections. However, such individuals are still protected by the very vaccines they refuse by being surrounded with people who are immunized; it's called "population immunity." Once a certain percentage of the population is immune, diseases no longer can circulate because they can't find enough susceptible individuals to propagate effectively.

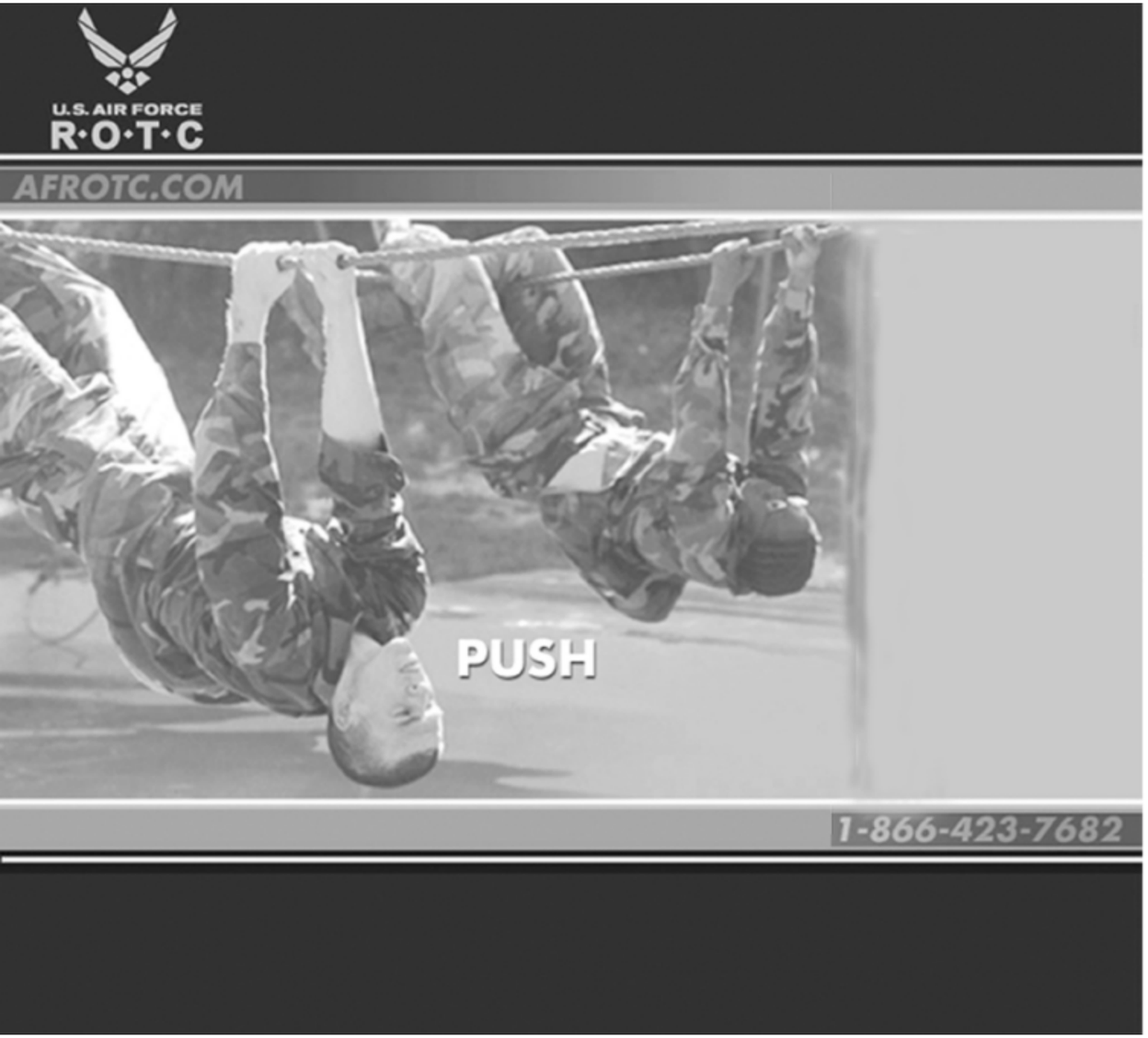
For most diseases, population immunity is achieved when about 80 percent of the population is immune. If the level dips below that, the disease has enough susceptible hosts to circulate again. But even when population immunity is reached, unimmunized individuals are still at risk and can (and often do) contract the disease when exposed to an active case.

This year, we face a new influenza virus circulating across the globe. We know it as H1N1, novel, or "swine" flu. It spreads easily from person to person but, gratefully, causes mostly nonlife-threatening illness, similar to seasonal flu. Still, seasonal flu sickens about 10 percent of the population and causes an estimated 36,000 deaths in the U.S. every year. The H1N1 virus is expected to sicken more than 100 million Americans over the next two years, and could take the lives of 100,000. In addition, there is always a chance H1N1 could mutate to cause much more serious illness and much greater loss of life.

In response to this new flu, government agencies and vaccine manufacturers have partnered to prepare a vaccine against it. U.S. and European companies have been manufacturing seasonal flu vaccines for many years. The process is well developed and well understood, and generally takes about six months from beginning to end.

Seasonal flu vaccine is available now across most of the U.S. and there is plenty for everyone who wants it. The H1N1 flu vaccine should begin to be available by mid-October; however, because there may not be enough for everyone, health officials have identified those groups who should receive first priority for the vaccine.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention officials strongly recommend the H1N1 vaccine for pregnant women, parents of infants less than 6 months old, children and young adults 6 months to 24 years, and adults under 65 with underlying illness that places them at higher risk for complications from flu. These CDC recommendations are based entirely on what has been observed with this virus so far.



Reserve, retired rated officers given active-duty opportunity

Daniel Elkins
Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The secretary of the Air Force has initiated two voluntary recall to active duty programs and expanded the number of eligible Air Force specialties for an existing one to help minimize the service's critical shortage of rated officers.

"The rapid expansion of unmanned aircraft systems as well as other emerging missions and rated requirements that directly support contingency operations created a demand for experienced, rated officers that exceeds current Air Force levels," said Col. William Foote, the Air Force Personnel Center director of personnel services.

The Voluntary Retired Rated Officer Recall Program allows the secretary of the Air Force to order retired Air Force rated officers to active duty. The Voluntary Limited Period Recall Program and Voluntary Permanent Rated Officer Recall Program allow Reserve officers the opportunity to apply for recall to extended active duty. Rated officers include pilots, combat systems officers and air battle managers.

Adriana Bazan, the chief of voluntary officer recall operations, said these programs are designed to put experienced and motivated officers back into the Air Force ranks.

"There has been a tremendous response to these programs with more than 500 rated officers selected for recall to active duty," Ms. Bazan said. "Applications remain steady, averaging 70 per month."

The success of these programs was lauded by Maj. Gen. Marke Gibson during a recent visit to AFPC. General Gibson, the Air Force director of operations, praised the results of the programs and underscored the operational impact of these critical positions in today's fight.

"These officers possess the knowledge and training to effectively contribute to our success in the joint fight," General Gibson said. "Their role is crucial as the Air Force boosts its unmanned (aircraft) systems capabilities and leverage our latest technologies across all warfighting domains."

Lt. Col. Deborah Landry, AFPC operations staff assignments branch chief, said officers returning thus far have been assigned to the full spectrum of the Air Force's rated billets and come from backgrounds as diverse as those retiring later this year to F-111 Aardvark pilots who last flew in Desert Storm.

"Each officer brings unique expertise and wisdom to the Air Force mission," said Colonel Landry.

In the fall 2009 assignment cycle, 149 recalled officers were matched to rated staffs, filling critical billets that would have otherwise remained vacant due to the shortage of active-duty officers available to move out of operational flying assignments. In addition, many of those recalled officers who are current and qualified in an Air Force aircraft or are eligible for local training are being utilized in flying assignments.

"Unfortunately, there is not enough training available to return every rated officer to an active flying assignment," she said. "But, every qualified applicant is being offered an assignment and will be a valuable asset to the rated force."

More than 225 officers have already received orders and are returning to active duty.

Information about the rated recall programs, to include detailed eligibility criteria and application requirements, can be found on the Air Force Personnel Center's "ASK" Web site. Click on "Voluntary Officer Return to Active Duty" under the Military Quick Links section to learn more. Interested officers may also call the Total Force Service Center at (800) 525-0102.

VA to provide emergency checks to students awaiting benefits

WASHINGTON — Checks for up to $3,000 will be available soon to students who have applied for Veterans Affairs educational benefits and who have not yet received their government payment.

The checks will be distributed to eligible students at VA regional benefits offices across the country starting Oct. 2, said VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki Sept. 25.

"Students should be focusing on their studies, not worrying about financial difficulties," Secretary Shinseki said. "Education creates life-expanding opportunities for our veterans."

Starting Oct. 2, students can go to one of VA's 57 regional benefit offices with photo identification, a course schedule and an eligibility certificate to request advance payment of their housing and book allowance.

Because some students don't live near one of those offices, VA officials expect to send representatives to schools with large veteran-student bodies to work with veteran service groups in helping students with transportation needs, officials said.

A list of VA regional offices is available at http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/benefits/offices.asp.

"I'm asking our people to get out their road maps and determine how we can reach the largest number of college students who can't reach us," said Patrick Dunne, the VA's undersecretary for benefits. "Not everyone has a car. Not everyone can walk to a VA benefits office."

Although VA officials said they don't know how many students will request emergency funds, about 25,000 claims are pending that may result in payments to students.

The funds VA will give to students now are advance payments of the earned benefits for housing and books, and will be deducted from future education payments. VA officials said students should know that after this special payment, they can expect to receive education payments on the normal schedule, the beginning of the month following the period for which they are reimbursed.

"This is an extraordinary action we're taking," Secretary Shinseki said. "But it's necessary, because we recognize the hardships some of our veterans face."

More than 27,500 students already have received benefits for housing or books under the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, or their schools have received their tuition payments, officials said.

(*Courtesy of the Department of Veterans Affairs.*)

Tricare inpatient costs increase for fiscal 2010

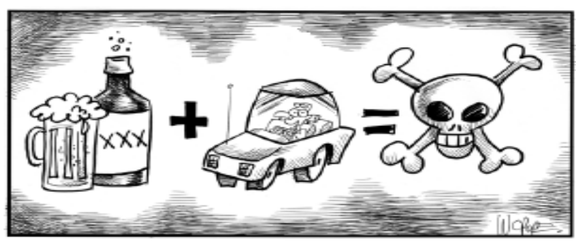
FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Every year the costs for Tricare-covered inpatient services are reviewed and are subject to change. For the coming fiscal 2010, which runs Oct. 1 to Sept. 30, 2010, there is an increase for some out-of-pocket costs paid by Tricare Standard beneficiaries at civilian hospitals for inpatient care and inpatient behavioral health services.

The daily cost share for retirees, their families and other eligible beneficiaries using Tricare Standard for inpatient admissions at civilian hospitals has increased from $535 to $645 per day or 25 percent of the total charge, whichever is less. Additionally, these beneficiaries pay 25 percent of the Tricare-allowable charge for separately billed professional services.

The out-of-pocket costs for retirees, their families and other eligible beneficiaries for inpatient behavioral health services at low-volume civilian hospitals has increased from $193 to $197 per day or 25 percent of the billed charge, whichever is less.

For additional information about copayments and cost-shares for Tricare-covered services, visit the Tricare Web site at www.tricare.mil/costs.

(*Courtesy of Tricare*)



48th FTS holds annual reunion

1st Lt. Chad Foreman
48th Flying Training Squadron

Heritage spanning greater than 90 years was revitalized a few weeks ago as several members of the 48th Flying Training Squadron traveled to Mather Field in Sacramento, CA to take part in the 48th Squadron Association's annual reunion. While there, the nine instructor pilots from Columbus AFB enjoyed the national championship Reno Air Races, organized tours, great food and, of course, a rich array of war stories from former members of the 48th FTS.

The roots of the 48th reach as far back as WWI. First organized on August 4, 1917 at Kelly Field, Texas, the 48th Aero Squadron served throughout WWI until it was demobilized at Mitchell Field, New York in 1919. The squadron was reactivated in 1941 in support of WWII. The 48th Fighter Squadron, flying the P-38 Lightning, deployed to the European theatre in August 1942 flying fighter sweep, bomber escort, and close air support missions. The unit was decommissioned shortly after the war, and then reactivated a few years later as the 48th Fighter Interceptor Squadron. For the next forty years, the 48th FIS flew a variety of aircraft out of Langley AFB, Virginia, from the F-94C Starfire to the F-15A Eagle. During that period, the squadron also had the distinction of hosting the original Mercury 7 astronauts as they trained for their space missions in the F-106 Delta Dart. After being deactivated in 1991, the squadron was finally reborn in its current form, training the Air Force's newest pilots in the T-1A Jayhawk.

Nearly twenty Airmen representing over six decades of the squadron's history welcomed the three T-1s as they landed and taxied onto the ramp at Mather Field to kickoff the weekend. Members of the 48th FTS took the opportunity to commune with their predecessors throughout the weekend, learning about their squadron's heritage while updating former squadron members on the capabilities of the modern Air Force. The weekend culminated with a formal squadron dinner. After-dinner discussions centered around personal recollections from each of the surviving P-38 pilots and their heroic tales of battles hard fought. The evening closed with the 48th FTS members conducting a POW/MIA ceremony, a somber tribute to the sacrifices made by many of the men in the room that night and their mates who have passed.

The weekend proved to be both educational and entertaining for all involved.

U.S. Air Force photo

Members of the 48th FTS and the 48th Squadron Association stand together, (Left to right back row): Earl Mealer, 1st Lt. Matt Jasinski, Burt Stokes, Ed Benson, Ira Latour, Joe Onesty, Capt. Ishan Avila, 1st Lt. T Allen, Capt. Roger Smith (Left to right front) 1st Lt. Dominique Haig, 1st Lt. Ian Haig, 1st Lt. Chad Foreman, Lt. Col. Sean Schoolcraft, 1st Lt. Robyn Meinhard.

This was an excellent opportunity to see and hear not just part of our squadron's heritage, but that of the Air Force as a whole," Lt. Col. Sean Schoolcraft, 48th FTS Operations Officer, said. "That much of this heritage is dying off, not to be replaced or retold, carries an additional sense of value for us all. It's been an extraordinary, memorable trip."

The gathering also introduced several of the Air Force's newest instructors to a fraternity of aviators. By the time the wheels were up, this newest crop of 48th FTS pilots were already looking forward to reuniting next year with their squadron mates, past and present.

Civilian employees to receive equal base salary increases

Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Department employees paid under the National Security Personnel System will receive the same base salary increases this year as their General Schedule counterparts, a Defense Department official said Sept. 29.

The move comes as senior Defense Department, Office of Personnel Management and White House officials work to determine the future of the troubled pay-for-performance system.

Most civilians under the NSPS last year actually received about the same pay increases as they would have under the general schedule, said Brad Bunn, the Defense Department's executive officer for NSPS. But a report this summer by Defense Business Board officials found the system's "pay pool" process complicated and confusing for most employees.

Employees questioned the assessment and evaluation process and didn't understand the pay pool process, Mr. Bunn said.

Last year, a portion of the money allotted for base-salary increases was placed into the overall pay pool, which is then divided among those in the pool based on performance ratings. This year, no money allotted for base-salary increases will go into the pool, Mr. Bunn said.

Employees under the NSPS system who receive a satisfactory performance rating of 2 or higher will receive a salary increase equal to their GS counterparts. Those who receive an unsatisfactory rating of 1 will not receive a base salary increase.

Defense officials felt this was the most "prudent course of action," given the problems reported with the NSPS, he said.

Because most in NSPS received about the same raise as they would have otherwise, this move will not significantly reduce the amount of funds used to reward performance, Mr. Bunn said.

"Most employees were getting (an equal pay increase), so paying it out as an across-the-board increase would not have a huge impact on our ability to still recognize and reward those high performers," he said.

Those funds come from pots that were used for step increases, promotions between grades and cash bonuses under the general schedule. No changes are planned this year in how performance-based awards are paid.

Future changes to the NSPS need to tie an employee's performance rating more clearly to any subsequent salary increase, Mr. Bunn said.

"It's about making the system better, making it more credible for the employees," he said.

About 205,000 of the 865,000 Defense Department civilians are in NSPS. The department stopped the conversion of GS employees to NSPS in March.

The amount of the base salary increase will not be known until the president signs an executive order implementing the 2010 pay adjustment.

Base News

Airman's Attic hours change

The Airman's Attic will be changing their hours as of yesterday. The Attic will be open every Tuesday from noon to 6 p.m. and the first and third Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon. The attic will no longer be open on Thursdays. Donations will only be taken on Tuesdays during regular operating hours from noon to 6 p.m. We ask that you please do not leave donated items at the door. Individuals in need of items or wanting to drop off items during non operating hours can contact their First Sergeant through the command post at 434-7020.

Pioneer Club

The CAFB Chapel has begun registration for the children's program Pioneer Club. The program will be held each Wednesday evening 6 p.m. to 7:3 0p.m. This program is open to children ages three years thru seventh grade. This is an ecumenical religious program geared to teach children about Christ in every aspect of life. A pot luck dinner will be served each week at 5 p.m. parents must join their children at dinner.

Airman's Activity Council Meeting

The Airman's Advisory Council will be holding a meeting on Thursday, Oct. 8 at 4 p.m. located at the Services Complex Building. All airmen grades E-1 to E-4 are encouraged to attend.

Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study

The CAFB Chapel will be holding a variety of Adult Bible Studies from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. A Pot Luck dinner will be served at 5 p.m., please bring a side dish or dessert to share if you are able. Please call the Chapel at 434-2500 for a list of studies.

Donate dresses

This program is collecting prom dresses/ballgowns/formal gowns to give to girls in the area who are unable to afford a beautiful dress. Donations can be dropped off to her in person at the Rob Naugher State Farm Office on Hwy 45.

RefresHer

Time to get together with the girls for fun and fellowship at the CAFB Chapel! Join us once a month for a different kind of ladies ministry. We start at 6 p.m.

October 22 - We'll watch Hope Floats, bring a favorite stew or soup, and for dessert we'll have Coke floats. A short Bible Study relating to the movie will end the evening.

November 12 - Time to dust off the cook books and cook up your favorite holiday recipe, don't forget to bring a few copies of the recipe to share. We'll fellowship, swap recipes and stories.

Library Story Time

The base library will hold Story Time on Thursday from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Story Time will continue to be held each week.

Saint Leo U. Military Spouse Discount

Military spouses seeking a degree at Saint Leo U. can enroll in two classes and take a third class for FREE. Contact Dew White at 434-8844 or stop by the Saint Leo U. office in the Personnel Bldg., Room 120.

AETC Civilian Tuition Assistance is still available for FY09

To be eligible for Civ TA, the civilian employee must be an appropriated fund, permanent AETC employee or in a term position with more than one year before the "not to exceed" date. Temporary employees will be considered on a case-by-case basis. AETC civilians can use up to $4500 per fiscal year. Civilians are restricted to ONE course per TERM, and the per semester hour tuition cap is $250. Courses must be Air Force mission-related. Call the Education Center at 434-2562/2563 or send an email to edward.hodge@columbus.af.mil for more information.

Education Counseling Hours

Education counseling (CCAF, Bachelor's/Master's programs, Tuition Assistance, etc.) is now available Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Please contact Edward Hodge at 434-2562 to schedule.

Attention All Deployers

The 14th Communications Squadron has a new system which allows you to place "free" telephone calls back home from your deployed location via DSN. You can call every day or once a week; whichever you prefer (allotted time is 3.5 hours a week). Pin numbers are required and can be picked up along with instructions from the Telephone Systems office located in Building 900, Room 9. Please call 434-2020 for additional information.

DRMO as a source of supply

Authorized personnel may retrieve property that is marked for DRMO Facilities only if they are still physically located in Base Supply. For more information, call the Inspection Section at extension 434-7233 to review the property, Stock Control at 434-7198 to check for authorization and Customer Support at 434-7178 to order the property. All other DRMO processing is done via the Web at: www.drms.dla.mil.

Do you have a supply problem?

Do you need status on an item you ordered? Did you receive the wrong part? The Customer Support section is the single point of contact when requiring assistance on supply related matters. For assistance, you may contact Customer Support at 434-7178.

Zero overpricing program-incentive awards

Overpricing is an issue everyone should be working. All personnel are encouraged to participate, and will be rewarded for any tangible savings resulting from their price challenge. Monetary awards will be given in accordance with AFI 38-401, The Air Force Innovative Development Employee Awareness (IDEA) Program. Advice and guidance are available by calling the Customer Support section of Base Supply, located in Building 158, at 434-7178.

Attention supply customer

If you are looking for that special piece of equipment or furniture for your office, your point of contact is the Inspection Section of Base Supply. Inspection maintains the Last Look Area, which has used equipment and furniture turned in from other organizations that no longer have a need for the items. All items in the Last Look Area are available without charge to your organization. For more information, you can contact the Inspection Section at extension 7233 or 7234.

School Liaison Officer

The Columbus Air Force Base School Liaison Officer works with local school districts, schools, parents and students on issues related to elementary and secondary education for the children of ALL personnel (civilian, military and contractor) assigned to the installation. As parents of school age children are aware, there are many unique issues our children face as they transition to new schools. The role of the School Liaison Officer is to assist families ensure their children receive the best possible education regardless of where they attend school. For assistance, please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at slo@columbus.af.mil.

CAC Card Replacement

Members can replace their Common Access Card within 60 days of it expiring. All personnel will need to provide the following at the time of replacement: two forms of identification, government ("dot" mil or gov) email address, a six to eight digit personal identification number and an application for a CAC, the appropriate application will be provided to appointment is made. Call 434-2626 or 434-2624 to schedule an appointment.

Testing Hours

The Education Office conducts CLEP/DANTES, CDC, PME, etc. testing on Tuesdays and Thursdays promptly at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Students arriving late will be rescheduled. Testing will be conducted outside of this schedule only when verifiable extreme circumstances exist. Please call 434-2562 or 434-2561 to schedule an exam.

Legal Hours

The legal office offers legal assistance on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. by appointment only. Notary and/or power-of-attorney are done as a walk-in during normal business days from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., arriving no later than 3:45p.m. Participants must be eligible for assistance to receive service. For more information, call the base legal office at 434-7030.

Military Personnel

Closure Notice

The Military Personnel Section, Customer Support, will be closed October 15-16 for RAPIDS hardware replacement. We will be unable to make any CAC or ID cards during this time. For questions or to make appointments please call 434-2624/2626.

See **BRIEFS**, Page 17

Chapel Schedule

Protestant

Sunday: 9 a.m. — Adult Sunday School
10:45 a.m. — Traditional Worship Service (Children's Church)

All are invited to a fellowship luncheon following the 10:45 a.m. service the fourth Sunday of each month

Catholic

Thursday:
5 p.m. — Choir Practice

Sunday:
3:45 p.m. — Choir Practice
4:30 p.m. — Confession
5:00 p.m. — Mass

Deer Hunting Season Opens

14th Civil Engineer Squadron

The 2009-2010 deer hunting season began October 1. All hunters are required to have a Sportsman Safety Brief prior to hunting on Columbus AFB. Safety briefs are provided Monday-Friday, during normal duty hours. To schedule a Sportsman Safety Brief, contact any of the game wardens for an appointment. Please have your Mississippi Hunting License and base permit receipt at the time of your brief.

During the 2008-09 hunting season thirty-five hunters from Columbus AFB participated in the 42-day hunting season. Eighteen deer were harvested on Columbus AFB: (2)- eight points (1) – six point, (5) – 4 points; (1) – spike, and (9) does. Five deer were harvested on Shuqualak Auxiliary Airfield: (1) – four point and (4) does. Hunters aren't the only ones who benefited from this year's harvest. Controlling the deer population on-base significantly reduced the probability of deer entering the airfield area where they could endanger our pilots and aircraft. The latest deer survey conducted by the USDA indicated between 30 and 50 deer remain on-base and deer are continually entering from off-base property. For more information, please contact Mr. Frank Lockhart at 434-7958.

Game Wardens:

Frank Lockhart
(14th CES) 434-7958

Mike Blythe
(14th CES) 434-7353

Master Sgt. Brian Bailey
(14th FSS) 434-2217

Senior Airman Dustin Weeks
(14th SFS) 434-7148

Tech. Sgt. Jason Pringle
(14th SFS) 434-7116

David (Buck) Jolly
(14th FTW/SE) 434-2027

Hunting Season Dates & Information

Hunters born after Jan 1, 1972 must complete the Hunter Education course offered by Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks. Call MDWFP district office 662-840-5172 to register. Courses are being offered at the American Legion building, 248 Chubby Dr., Columbus MS on 24 Oct and 5 Dec. Part of the course may be taken on line at www.mdwfp.com with three hours completed in the classroom.

For more information about a hunter education class or to replace a hunter education card contact:
MDWFP, Hunter Education Division
P. O. Box 451
Jackson, MS 39205

1-800-354-5033 or call your local District Office

2009-2010 Hunting Seasons

ANIMAL		DATES
Deer	Archery	1 Oct – 20 Nov
	Primitive Weapons/Youth Gun	14 Nov – 20 Nov
	Primitive Weapons/ Youth Gun	21 Jan – 31 Jan, 2010
	Gun (with dogs)	22 Nov – 1 Dec
	Primitive Weapons	2 Dec – 15 Dec 22 Jan – 31 Jan, 2010
	Gun (without dogs)	16 Dec – 18 Dec 19 Dec – 20 Dec 21 Dec – 23 Jan, 2010
	Gun (with dogs)	24 Dec – 20 Jan, 2010
Rabbit		17 Oct – 28 Feb, 2010
Squirrel		3 Oct – 28 Feb, 2010
Turkey		13 Mar –2 May, 2010
Youth Turkey		6 Mar – 12 Mar, 2010

Legal Buck 10" spread or one beam 13"

AROUND TOWN

Volunteer Opportunity of the Week

CONTACT Helpline Volunteer Training will be held Saturdays, October 3, 10 and17 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CONTACT Helpline is a volunteer driven, confidential, telephone listening helpline. CONTACT is a nonprofit Christian based organization that serves an 8-county area 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition to the helpline, the organization provides information and referral to community resources for those who have basic and emotional needs. CONTACT also calls elderly and disabled persons living alone on a daily basis through their Reassurance Program. You must reserve a seat by calling 327-2968.

Cinderella Project Fundraiser

The Cinderella Project of Lowndes County is in full swing and we have over 100 gowns donated to date! I am so excited to report that Taggart's Auctions here in Columbus sold a wholesale lot of over 1,500 dresses to Hudson Salvage LLC. Hudson's picked the dresses up 30 minutes before The Cinderella Project was able to submit a bid. Fortunately, Hudson Salvage is an extraordinary company and is allowing a shopping committee from the project to "shop the warehouse" before the dresses are distributed to the stores. We have partnered with Papa John's in Columbus. They have provided us with Community Fundraiser Cards to raise as much money as we can before Oct 2! $10 "Gowns a Gal" and gets you 20 FREE pizzas! We have a goal of 100 new dresses! Help us meet our goal! Your contribution goes straight to our community! No money? No Problem! Donate your dress. Donations can be made and dropped off at Rob Naugher State Farm Agency at 202 Hospital Drive, Columbus, Ms 39705. (662) 327-1671.

Disney Animator Display at Columbus Library

An exhibit titled Josh Meador: Animator and Artist of Disney's Golden Age will explore the life and work of artist Josh Meador (1911-1965). Meador worked for Walt Disney Productions from 1936 to 1965 and was considered one of its most talented special effects artists. He was born in Greenwood, but grew up in Columbus. The exhibit will highlight his work on such movies as Snow White, Fantasia, Bambi, Dumbo, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty and many more. The exhibit will run through the month of October and will be free and open to the public.

Columbus Day Celebration - SPECIAL EVENT!

Celebrate Columbus Day Mississippi style and volunteer during the Columbus Day Celebration set for October 10! Have a knack for something sweet? Hand out Columbus Day cupcakes and refreshments. Are you strong and active? Set up chairs and tables for the event. Are you Earth-friendly? Help clean up when the event is over. Do you love animals? Assist with the Pet Parade and show off adoptable dogs. Call Meagan at 327.0807 to sign up today!

- Three volunteers to set up for the event from 8:45 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.
- Two volunteers to hand out Columbus Day Cupcakes from 10 to 11 a.m.
- One volunteer to provide drinks and refreshments from 10 to 11 a.m.
- Three volunteers to clean up after the event from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.
- Five volunteers to help contain and direct the Pet Parade from 9:30 to 10 a.m.
- Four volunteers to handle the Pet Parade Registration from 8:45 to 9:30 a.m.
- Twenty volunteers to walk the "adoptable" dogs from the Humane Society.

The set up and clean up will be a very simple with chairs, tables, a tent and garbage.

Track Select

2nd Lt. Nathan Babbit	T-38
2nd Lt. Matthew Goering	T-38
2nd Lt. Nathan Haney	T-38
2nd Lt. Daniel Hay	T-38
2nd Lt. Abdullah Bin Al Saud	T-38
2nd Lt. Saud Faisal Al Tamimi	T-38
2nd Lt. Zachary Minner	Helo
2nd Lt. Chay Derbigny	T-44
2nd Lt. Jeffery Weger	T-44
2nd Lt. Kellen Brede	T-1
2nd Lt. Matthew Burnham	T-1
2nd Lt. Jonathan Butcher	T-1
2nd Lt. Jon Cael	T-1
2nd Lt. Joe Cross	T-1
2nd Lt. Christophe Dercks	T-1
2nd Lt. Daniel Feldman	T-1
2nd Lt. John Hardy	T-1
2nd Lt. Ryan King.	T-1
2nd Lt. Tyler Lawhorn	T-1
2nd Lt. Ashley Lehman-Bush	T-1
2nd Lt. Marlo Peloquin	T-1
2nd Lt. Jason Rachels	T-1
2nd Lt. Megan Scott	T-1
2nd Lt. Natasha Sergi	T-1
2nd Lt. Benjamin Strader	T-1

Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. Nathan Babbit
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Daniel Hay
Formation: 2nd Lt. Daniel Hay

#1 Overall (Dubisher Award
2nd Lt. Nathan Babbit

10-08

14th SFS Airman, MWD support vice presidential visit

U.S. Air Force photo

Senior Airman Dustin Weeks, 14th Security Force Squadron, and Military Working Dog Nicol went to Philadelphia in support of Vice President Joe Biden. The VP was giving a speech to the local community at a firehouse, and otherwise visiting for PR during the Labor Day Weekend. Airman Weeks conducted sweeps with the U.S. Secret Service prior to the VP arriving on scene to ensure a safe environment. After sweeping, Weeks was posted with the U.S. SS Counter Assault Team until the VP was clear of the location. From there he was available for any needed quick reaction or explosive sweeps.

14th FTW/CC holds commander's call

Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Col. Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, hosted a commander's call for the men and women of the BLAZE Team this week.

Topics for the call ranged from upcoming events, such as Fire Prevention Week (editor's note: see the front page story for more information), and the Year of the Air Force Family, to Operations Security, and health and safety.

Safety

"We cannot afford to lose Airmen that we can never replace," Colonel Watkins said. "Nothing we do here is so important that we can't take the time to do things correctly and safely."

Colonel Watkins referenced the fatalities for the 101 Critical Days of Summer this year for the Air Force. Which were higher than the last two years with a total of 22 lost Airmen, to include one of the BLAZE Team's own, Airman 1st Class Mark Wheeler, 14th Security Forces Squadron.

Operations Security

"Here at Columbus AFB we don't deal with much classified information," Colonel Watkins said. "However, the practices of protecting information are still important."

Colonel Watkins said information such as the arrival times of distinguished visitors, aircraft mishap information or details about the death of Airmen are all types of sensitive information that should be guarded.

Customs and Courtesies

During his part of the commander's call, 14th FTW Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard Brackett detailed what to do during reveille, retreat and taps. For more detailed information, see last week's Silver Wings.

The colonel asked that all BLAZE Team members not only practice correct customs and courtesies themselves, but to pass on the military protocol to visiting friends and family.

"We do not lower and raise our flag everyday as a symbol that our countries men and women are serving in harm's way," Colonel Watkins said. "We are a country at war."

Year of the Air Force Family

Colonel Watkins also talked about the fact that July 2009 to July 2010 is the Year of the Air Force Family.

"The Year of the Air Force Family is dedicated to improving the lives of the people that support us," he said. "We cannot do what we do without the support of our families."

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

Homes

FSBO: 78 Lori Lane, in Caledonia School District, 3BR, 2BA, brick home on 1+acre, over 1850 sq ft, h/a, some hardwood & ceramic tile, 2-car g/r, large fenced backyard w/covered patio and multiple storage bldgs, $139,900. FMI call 662-356-6243.

Transportation

For sale: (Motorcycle) 2005 Honda 600RR, 6700mi, Devil exhaust, lots of extras - $5450 o.b.o. FMI call 808-221-2005.

For sale: (Motorcycle) 2007 Honda 230CRF, 15+ hours, very little use, excellent condition. - $2500 o.b.o. FMI call 808-221-2005.

For sale: 1995 Nissan Altima SE, runs very good, good heat & A/C, sunroof, paint faded on top, Asking $1800 o.b.o. FMI call (662) 386-6981.

For sale: 1981 Chevy Camero, needs work, $2,500; FMI call 850-217-7128.

For sale: 2002 Hyundai Elantra, 65,000 miles, $4,000, automatic. Call (480) 570-8031.

Miscellaneous

For sale: 36 12.9 oz cans Lactofree Lipil powder $180 o.b.o. 3 8 oz cans Gentlease Lipil $15 o.b.o. 52" Mitsubishi projection TV $250 o.b.o. queen cherry sleigh bed w/mattress $200 o.b.o. Ashley Queen Anne sofa and loveseat $450 o.b.o. 27" Sharp TV $75 o.b.o. FMI call 662-295-6634.

For sale: Dell Dimension 8400 desktop PC, Pent.4-3.0Ghz, 1.2gb RAM, 80ghd, 1-DVDROM, 1-DVDRW, 1-Floppy Drive, 12-USB ports, wireless adapter installed, ethernet & 56K modem connection, upgraded 256k Geforce video card for gaming, Dell flat screen monitor with integrated stereo speaker system, will also include a Lexmark color printer; all in excellent condition, asking $350. FMI call (662) 386-6981.

For sale: Large oak roll top desk, used very little $500; American Touristor luggage $10; like new Two old rotary black phones, (2) still work $20 each; two pair of roller blades $10; pocket knife collection, will sell individually $5 to $20 price range; seven shot .357 Mag. Taurus stainless steel revolver with holster $400; Black and Decker toaster oven $15; large stereo cabinet has two glass doors $20; Dell PC monitor 16" $20; Accent amplified speaker system for PC, still in box, $12. FMI Call 328-4374.

For sale: Krups MODEL: XP4030 espresso machine, retail $139, sale $115; Burr MODEL GVX2-14 coffee grinder retail $54.99 sale $45, both like new. Starbucks vanilla syrup w/ pump & mocha powder included. FMI call Lindsey at 570-1587.

For sale: LazBoy plaid sectional couch with queen sleeper; paid over $2K with custom print and fabric protection $600. LazBoy maroon leather recliner $400. Both furniture items for $900. FMI call 662-352-9567.

For sale: Craftsman 11hp. chipper/mulcher. Bought new in 2008 used once pd. $750 asking $500; comes with extra hardware. Call 662-328-4799.

For sale: Two 12" Pioneer premier championship series pro 3000 watts a piece subwoofers $350; Planet Audio 1400d amp $350; Lightning capacitor 1 farad $75; batcap $150; farenheit cd/dvd player 5.2 touch screen $300. Call 549-3094

Saturday Yard Sales

179 Oakdale Drive, Saturday, October 3, 7 a.m. to 12, noon: dark oak wood dining room set w/4 chairs; baby high chair, stroller, basinet and play pin w/bed and changing table all-in-one; other misc items.

Saturday – 3 Oct – 7am-12pm. 1st Annual Humphries Cove neighborhood garage sale. Take 50 west towards West Point, go over Bigbee River bridge, take second left into Humphries Cove.

BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 16)

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.)

Pre-separation counseling

Mandatory briefings for personnel separating or retiring need to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. Members may complete up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. Counseling held daily at 8:30 p.m. Takes approximately 30 minutes. Please call 434-2839 or 434-2790 for more information.

Pre and post deployment tour brief

Mandatory briefings for active duty personnel who are either 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 1330. POC AFRC, 434-2790.

Budgeting Basics

This event is held every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to noon at Airman & Family Readiness Center. Learn practical ways to tell your money where to go rather than wonder where it went. For more information, call 434-2790.

AFAS...Air Force People Helping Each Other

Sudden emergency and no cash? It can happen to anyone. Your Air Force Aid Society has assisted Air Force people for 66 years and is there to help you. Call 434-2855 for more information.

Employment Workshop

There is an employment workshop every Wednesday at 1 p.m. Airman and Family Readiness Center. Participants will learn about local and base employment opportunities. For more information, call 434-2790.

Spouse Welcome

A special welcome for new personnel assigned to Columbus AFB is held each Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Magnolia Inn Lobby. For more information, call 434-2790.

AFRC Calendar

Would you like to receive e-mails in your home of up-to-date information on events being held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center? Sign up for Airman and Family Readiness Center electronic calendar. To sign up, send an e-mail to HAFRC@columbus.af.mil and ask to be added to the list. This calendar provides great information on things happening at your Airman & Family Readiness Center. For more information, call 434-2631.

Columbus AFB honors retirees

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin

Local military retirees meet and enjoy the day at the Columbus AFB Retiree Appreciation Day. Over 180 retirees attended the annual event which featured informational booths from base services and a lunch for the guests.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, **51 BLAZE TEAM members are de-ployed** worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

FIRE

(Continued from Page 1)

fire caused 2,000 acres of real estate to be lost along with 200-300 casualties and is remembered as the worst disaster in Chicago's history.

"This waste results from the conditions which justify a sense of shame and horror; for the greater part of it could and ought to be prevented," President Coolidge announced to the public. "It is highly desirable that every effort be made to reform the conditions which have made possible so vast a destruction of the national wealth".

Although we can look at past events, present day statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show one fire related death occurs every 163 minutes along with injuries occurring every 32 minutes. As a community we still have room for improvement.

Columbus AFB Fire and Emergency Service carries a tradition of honor and their finest have experience serving all over the world. They bring an exceptional level of public service and patient care to members of the public. Being members of the same community, we must all focus on our part in order to fulfill a commitment towards a safer home and workplace. Fire Prevention Week is the perfect opportunity to focus on your part by refreshing fire safety practices and learning new ones.

Columbus AFB Fire and Emergency Services is inviting the men and women of the BLAZE Team to join in the cause and help lower the frequency of fire related incidents by attending a open house October 3.

This year's Fire Prevention Week is going to be the largest held on CAFB to date. All ages are encouraged to attend. Activities include a morning parade beginning at 9 a.m., a free cookout at 11 a.m., station tours starting at 10:30 a.m., car extrication at 12:15 p.m. and a live aircraft fire demonstration at 1 p.m. There will also be activities the whole family will enjoy such as Fire Prevention Trailer tours, bouncy games face painting, prizes for kids and special guest Sparky the Fire Dog.

During an emergency seconds separate victims from survivors. As BLAZE Team members take time to focus on summer's end and the beginning of school, hunting season or whatever activity grasps their attention this fall, they are encouraged to remember to take extra time to focus on fire prevention.

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.

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.

Contents of the SILVER WINGS are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or Service Publications, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

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.

Air Force teams earn gold medals at armed forces softball championships

Staff Sgt. Steve Grever
Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force men's and women's softball teams earned gold medals at the Armed Forces Slow-Pitch Softball Championships Sept. 25 at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla.

The Air Force women's team went 6-3 during the tournament and won their third armed forces title in three years. During the men's tourney, the Air Force squad went 7-2 and won their tournament outright after a decisive 26-12 win over Army. The women's finished the tourney with the same records as their Army and Navy counterparts, but Air Force took first place after officials calculated head-to-head wins and run differentials.

On the women's side, the top Air Force hitters were Kathy Braun, who batted .500 with four RBIs, and Lindsay Ciullo, who hit .448 with two RBIs. Coach Cheryl Trapnell said the real key to her team's wins in the tournament was their outstanding play on defense.

"Our outfield that featured Candace Dugo, Karrie Warren, Schameka White and Jeana Whiteman was rock solid on defense," Coach Trapnell said. "Braun also stopped everything and had an error-free tournament."

Coach Trapnell said several inexperienced players pitched in to contribute to the team's success, that needed to overcome scoring slumps during the tournament.

"We struggled offensively throughout the tourney except for the two games where we hit double digits," she said. "We had young players in key positions and they stepped up and did a great job too."

The men's squad started off the tourney with a 1-2 record, but finished strong with six consecutive wins.

Coach Steve Shortland said his team was determined not to give up after they lost two games early in the competition.

"We won our first game, and then we lost two in a row," Coach Shortland said. "We controlled our own destiny after that and we got it done. We didn't need any other team's help to win."

Coach Shortland emphasized that the Air Force players put together a great team effort and hung tough after losing their focus a bit early in the tournament.

"It's really hard to single anybody out," he said. "We had six players on armed forces all-star team and five on the all-tournament team."

The Air Force team had five players selected to the all-tournament team, including Michael Melton, Kevin Basinger, Leonard Myers, Joshua Wiggs and William Mamourieh. Zachariah Turissini along with the other five all-tournament selectees from the Air Force team was also chosen for the Armed Forces Softball All-Star team.

Air Force players selected to the 2009 Armed Forces Softball All-Star team will remain at Naval Air Station Pensacola to participate in the Armed Forces Team Training Camp this week. They will represent the armed forces at the 2009 Amateur Softball Association of America's National Championship Oct. 1 in Oklahoma City.

October

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
5	6	7	8	9	10/11
Fire Prevention Week Night Flying Week				**Hispanic Heritage Luncheon,** 11:30 a.m. **Annual Princess Open Golf Tournament,** 1 p.m. @ Whispering Pines **10-01 Assignment Night**	**49th FTS Reunion Banquet,** 6 p.m. @ Club
12	13	14	15	16	17/18
Columbus Day	**Hearts Apart,** 4:30 p.m. @ Coalson Pumpkin Patch		**10-AB IFF Graduation,** 4:45 p.m. @ 49 FTS Heritage Room	**National Boss Day** **Fun Run,** 7 a.m.	

Long Term Events

Oct. 19 - Bench Press Competition
Oct. 20 - Base Newcomers
Oct. 20 - OSC Social
Oct. 21 - Commander's Welcome
Oct. 21 - 10-09 Track Select
Oct. 22 - Quarterly Award Luncheon
Oct. 23 - 10-01 Graduation Ceremony
Oct. 26 - Night Flying Week
Oct. 29 - Pumpkin Carving Contest
Oct. 29 - Youth Center Fall Festival
Oct. 19 - Bench Press Competition
Oct. 30 - Amazing Race Award Ceremony
Oct. 30 - Enlisted Promotions

Tuesday Intramural Football Scores

Game 1: 14th CES 21 W Rapcon 20 L

Game 2: 14th MDG 13 W 14th OSS 6 L

Don't Drink and Drive

Sports Shorts

Biker Night: The bowling center offers a free cheeseburger from 5 to 9 p.m. every Monday night during the months of September and October. Bring in your helmet and receive one free burger. For more information, call 434-3577.

Winter bowling leagues: Sign up now – leagues available for the Thursday night intramural league, the Tuesday night mixed league and the youth league on Saturday mornings. If you would like to start a league, contact the bowling center for more information. Call 434-3577.