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SILVER WINGS

"Train World Class Pilots"

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Vol. 45, Issue 9

May 7, 2021

Columbus AFB COVID-19 Information

COVID-19 General Info

The base is focusing on early, prudent steps to slow the spread of COVID-19 and safety of Airmen, families and communities.

Off-limit areas include any business or establishment that does not comply with Federal, State, and local COVID requirements.

Social Gathering Limitations

- Kaye – 92 person limit
- Event Center/Club – 145 person limit
- Phillips Auditorium – 22 person limit
- Walker Center – 112 person limit



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen

Col. Justin Spears, 14th Operations Group commander, hands Lt. Col. Paul Anderson, 50th Flying Training Squadron commander, the 50th FTS guidon at the 50th FTS change of command ceremony, April 30, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The advanced phase of undergraduate pilot training is conducted by the 50th FTS where students fly the T-38C Talon trainer aircraft.

New 50th FTS commander steps up

Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Nathaniel Wilds relinquished command to the new incoming 50th Flying Training Squadron commander, Lt. Col. Paul Anderson during a change of command ceremony April 30, 2021.

Anderson is an experienced fighter pilot flying jets such as the F-16 Fighting Falcon, F-5 and T-38C Talon. He was also the previous director of operations at the 50th FTS.

"The snakes have me for two years, so let's make it something we are proud of," said Anderson. Let's mold something

See 50TH FTS, Page 3

CHECK OUT COLUMBUS AFB ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Columbus AFB YouTube page



columbus_afb



Columbus AFB Facebook page



www.columbus.af.mil

COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019

US sends medical supplies to India to help in COVID-19 fight

C. Todd Lopez
DoD News

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — A lot of progress has been made against COVID-19, but it's still a pandemic. As part of a whole-of-government effort to slow and eventually end the pandemic, the United States sent medical supplies and equipment to India April 28 as that country battles the most recent outbreak.

A C-5M Super Galaxy and C-17 Globemaster III loaded with oxygen cylinders and regulators, N95 masks and COVID-19 rapid diagnostic kits left Travis Air Force Base bound for India. The shipment is just the first. In all, the United States expects to deliver more than \$100 million in medical supplies to the U.S. partner nation.

The medical supplies were donated to India by the U.S. government though the U.S. Agency for International Development. Airmen with the 60th Air Mobility Wing are responsible for delivering those supplies.

In the coming week, more oxygen cylinders will be sent, as will oxygen concentrators, oxygen generation units, additional personnel protective equipment, rapid diagnostic tests and therapeutics. The U.S. is also providing vaccine manufacturing supplies. In fact, the U.S. has redirected its own order of AstraZeneca manufacturing supplies to India, which will enable the country to make more than 20 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

India is a major defense partner to the U.S. and providing assistance is just something partners do, said John F. Kirby, Pentagon press secretary, during a press briefing earlier this week.

"The United States deeply values our partnership with India," Kirby said. "We are determined to help the people in India as they bravely combat this outbreak."

See COVID, Page 7



U.S. Air Force photo by Nicholas Pilch

Airmen from the 22nd Airlift Squadron prepare a C-5M Super Galaxy to take life-saving COVID-19 supplies to India, April 28, 2021, at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. The United States government, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, donated medical supplies to assist the country of India in its ongoing fight against COVID-19. The aid includes 440 oxygen cylinders and regulators, 1 million N95 masks and 1 million COVID-19 rapid diagnostic kits.



U.S. Air Force photo by Nicholas Pilch

LEFT: Airman 1st Class Sarah Cramer, 60th Aerial Port Squadron passenger services technician, secures a U.S. Agency for International Development sign to a pallet holding lifesaving oxygen equipment April 28, 2021, in the APS Warehouse at Travis Air Force Base, California. The United States government, through the USAID, donated medical supplies to assist the country of India in its ongoing fight against COVID-19. The donation of 440 oxygen cylinders and regulators, one million N95 masks and one million COVID-19 rapid diagnostic kits, will be transported to India aboard a U.S. Air Force C-5M Super Galaxy.

Silver Wings

How to reach us

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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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COMMUNITY

(Continued from page 13)

Employment Workshop

An employment workshop on local and base employment opportunities is held every Wednesday, 1 - 2 p.m. This program provides military families and DoD civilian members individual assessment and career counseling to assist with local employment, preparation for future endeavors via education, job search, or self-owned business objectives in the local area. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Survivor Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision. Always get the true facts about SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Mary Chambers at (662) 434-2720/2790.

Personal Financial Readiness

Need help with financial matters? Want to make the most of your money? The Personal Financial Counselor (PFC) can help you and your family: manage finances, resolve financial problems and reach long-term goals such as education, buying a home and planning for retirement. PFC services are at no cost, private and confidential. Please contact the PFC at (662) 998-0411.

Key Spouse Program (KSP)

The mission of KSP is to provide information and

resources to military spouses, supporting families in successfully navigating through the military life cycle. The KSP is a CC's program. The CC establishes and maintains the program within the unit, to include choosing team members. Once selected as a KS in writing, you will need to attend initial/refresh KS training and continuing education. For more information, please call (662) 434-2839.

Military and Family Life Counselor Program

Military and Family Life Counselors (MFLCs) provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (single and married), spouses and other family members cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration and life challenges such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All counselors are licensed mental health providers, and they can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services, and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC, please call (662) 435-1110.

Sponsorship Training

An electronic version of sponsorship training called eSponsorship Application & Training (eSAT) is the required training course to become a sponsor. It can be found in Military One Source's MilLife Learning training Course Catalog at this link <https://millifelearning.militaryonesource.mil/MOS/f?p=SIS:2:0:> More online resources are available on Columbus AFB Living at <https://www.columbusafbliving.com/airmen-family-readiness-center/relocation-assistance/electronic-sponsor-resources/>. For additional information, please contact the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

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FSS
(Continued from page 12)

Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT)
Local ITT Customer Service will be temporarily handle by Keesler AFB. Please call Holly or Trish at (228) 377-3818 Tuesday – Friday from 10 a.m.–5 p.m..
Local Shuttle Service will be handled by ODR on Monday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. This includes shuttle service to the airport of your choice. Stop by ODR or call (662) 434-2505 for more information.

Assignment Night Transportation
Book Assignment Night transportation with ITT! Reserve the bus, the van or both! The cost is only \$30 per hour for Columbus and local areas; a \$30 deposit is required and applied to the total cost of reservation. Reservation must be a minimum of four hours and reserved in person. For more information, contact (662) 434-7861.

Exclusive Military Vacation Packages
Did you know that you can book exclusive military vacation packages at ITT and save up to 60%? American Forces Travel is now serving APF and NAF civilians. Packages include Universal Studios and Disney destinations. To book your vacation at www.americaforcetravel.com

CAFB Library
The Base Library is offering virtual board games, live craft demonstrations, STEM activities, book clubs and much more on their Facebook page: @columbusairforce-baselibrary. For more information, contact (662) 434-2934 or send them a direct message on their Facebook page, Columbus Air Force Library.

FSS Gift Cards
Make your shopping easier! Purchase or redeem your FSS Gift Card at the following locations: Arts and Crafts, Bowling Center, Child Development Center, Columbus Club, Information Tickets and Travel, Outdoor Recreation or the Youth Center. For more information, stop by any of these locations.

Horse Boarding Available
The CAFB Riding Stables usually has stall space available. For pricing and more information, contact Outdoor



Share the road.
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Recreation at (662) 434-2505.

Free Mango Languages
Learn a new language today! Free Mango Languages available at the Base Library; real-life conversations in over 70 languages. For more information, contact (662) 434-2934.

Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair
Outdoor Recreation is now offering lawn mower repair and a self-help bicycle repair station that patrons can use for free. For more information, contact (662) 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed
Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? Arts & Crafts is looking for craft instructors. For more information, contact (662) 434-7836.

Wood Shop Has Reopened!
The Wood Shop is now open Tuesday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. The cost is \$5 for first hour and \$3 for every hour after the first. Please call (662) 434-7836 for any questions.

Referees Needed
Referees needed for various sports at the Fitness Center. For more information or to sign up, contact (662) 434-2772.

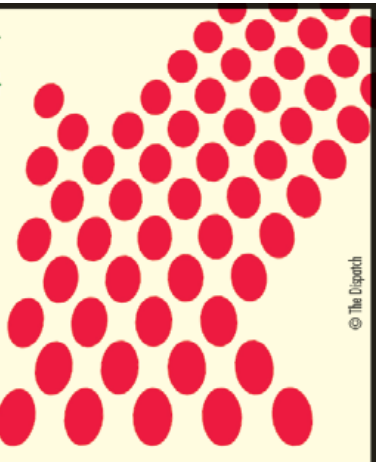
RV Storage Lot
Don't clutter your home space, park with us. Outdoor Recreation offers a great place to store your RV year around. You will have 24-hour access and can pay monthly or yearly. For more information, call (662) 434-2505.

Instructors Needed
The Youth Center is seeking instructors for tumbling classes, dance classes, piano and guitar lessons. For more information, contact the Youth Center.

Space A Lodging
The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at (662) 434-2548. Guest Services staff is on duty from 6 a.m.–10 p.m. daily. For reservations 24/7, visit <https://af.dodlodge.net/property/Columbus-AFB>. After hours services call (662) 251-2931.

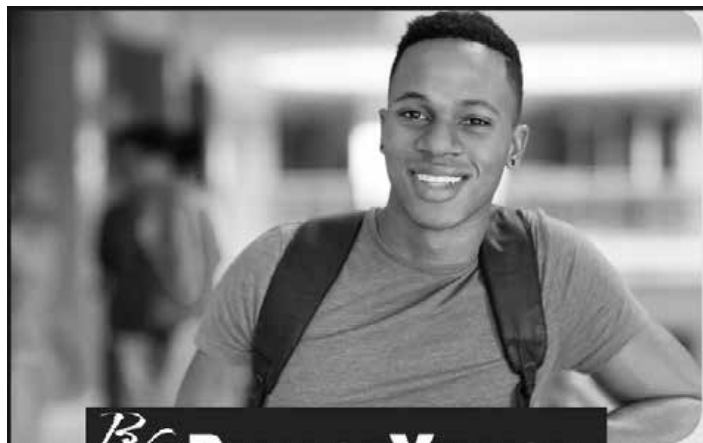


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50TH FTS
(Continued from page 1)

that is based on a culture of excellence, service blessed by God, with the honor to shape the next generation of combat aviators.”

The 50th FTS, otherwise known as the striking snakes, is the initial gateway to combat aviation for student pilots going through the advanced phase of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training.

This phase of training consists of 110 hours of flight instruction in the T-38C Talon where students learn advanced aircraft handling, tactical navigation, fluid maneuvering and an increased emphasis in two- and four-ship formation. Students graduating from this track of training will go on to fly America's fighter and bomber aircraft.

In his time as commander, Lt. Col. Nathaniel Wilds led the squadron to fly over 20,000 sorties, graduated over 200 combat pilots, and navigated through the challenges of COVID-19.

“I couldn't be more excited for the future of the world famous striking snakes, it has truly been an honor to be the commander here,” said Wilds. “This is an amazing and resilient squadron dedicated to the mission, each other, service, heritage and to honoring the fallen.”



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen
Lt. Col. Paul Anderson, 50th Flying Training Squadron commander, gives a speech at the 50th FTS change of command ceremony, April 30, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Anderson is an experienced fighter pilot with hours flown in the F-16 Fighting Falcon, F-5 and T-38C Talon.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen
Col. Justin Spears, 14th Operations Group commander, pins on the meritorious service medal, 3rd oak leaf cluster, on Lt. Col. Nathaniel Wilds, former 50th Flying Training Squadron commander, for his service, April 30, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Wilds served as commander of the 50th FTS from April 2019-April 2021.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen
Lt. Col. Paul Anderson, 50th Flying Training Squadron commander, brings out a gift for the former 50th FTS commander at the 50th FTS change of command ceremony, April 30, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Anderson assumed command of the 50th FTS from Lt. Col. Nathaniel Wilds.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen
Members of Team BLAZE stand during the commencement of the 50th Flying Training Squadron change of command ceremony, April 30, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The mission of the 50th FTS is to train combat pilots for America and partner nations.

Col. Simmons, guest speaker at SUPT Class 21-09 graduation

Col. Corey A. Simmons is the Commander, 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base, Calif. As Commander, he is responsible for the combined efforts of all wing operations and support activities associated with the worldwide air mobility mission. The C-5M Super Galaxy, KC-10 Extender and C-17 Globemaster III aircraft assigned to Travis AFB participate in airlift and aerial refueling taskings, responding to Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed combat operations and supporting U.S. State Department-sponsored humanitarian relief efforts worldwide. He is also responsible for ensuring the readiness and well-being of more than 26,100 active duty, Reserve, civilian personnel and their families.



Col. Simmons commissioned into the Air Force in 1998 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Louisville, Kentucky, and earned a master's degree in 2005 from The George Washington University. He is a graduate of Air Command and Staff College and the Secretary of Defense Executive Leadership Development Program. Col. Simmons is also a Harvard University National Defense Fellow. Prior to his current position, he served as the Commander, 71st Flying Training Wing, Vance AFB, Okla.

Col. Simmons previously served in Air Mobility Command as a Vice Wing Commander, Squadron Commander, Operations Officer, C-17A Instructor Pilot, and Aircraft Commander. He is a command pilot with more than 3,200 hours in airlift and trainer aircraft.

EDUCATION

- 1998 Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics, Bellarmine University, Louisville, Ky.
- 2003 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
- 2005 Master of Arts, Organizational Management, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
- 2008 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2009 SECDEF Executive Leadership Development Program, Washington D.C.
- 2012 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2017 National Defense Fellow, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. July 1998 – June 1999, Assistant Regional Director of Admissions, AFOTC Northeast Region Detachment 750, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, Pa.
2. June 1999 – July 2000, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, 37th and 48th Training Squadrons, Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.
3. August 2000 – December 2000, Pilot Instructor School, 99th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas
4. January 2001 – June 2003, T-1A Jayhawk Instructor Pilot, Executive Officer, Standardization and Evaluation Pilot, 48th Flying Training Squadron, Columbus AFB, Miss.
5. July 2003 – May 2005, Student, Air Force Intern Program, The Pentagon, Washington D.C. Assignments included JCS/J6, HAF/A5, and OSD P&R Military Personnel Policy
6. June 2005 – September 2005, C-17 Aircraft Commander Course, Altus AFB, Okla.
7. October 2005 – June 2009, Assistant Operations Officer for Airlift, Director of Current Operations; C-17A Evaluator Aircraft Commander, 10th Airlift Squadron and 62nd Airlift Wing, McChord AFB, Wash. (July 2006 – November 2006, Assistant Operations Officer, 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey; November 2007 – January 2008, Operations Officer, 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, Manas AB, Kyrgyzstan; January 2007 – September 2008, C-17 DEEP FREEZE Instructor Aircraft Commander, Christchurch, New Zealand and McMurdo Station, Antarctica)
8. July 2009 – April 2010, Chief, Deployment-Distribution/Command and Control Branch, United States Transportation Command, Operations Directorate, Scott AFB, Ill.
- April 2010 – June 2011, Aide de Camp to the Deputy Commander, USTRANSCOM, Scott AFB, Ill.
9. July 2011 – January 2012, Operations Officer, 10th Airlift Squadron, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.
10. January 2012 – July 2013, Commander, 62d Operations Support Squadron, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. (March 2013 – June 2013, Commander, 817 Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, Manas AB, Kyrgyzstan)
11. July 2013 – April 2014, Chief, Strategic Airlift Programs, Headquarters Air Force, Directorate of Programs, Rapid Global Mobility Panel (HAF/A8PM), Pentagon, Washington D.C.
12. April 2014 – May 2015, Chief, Air Force Program Objective Memorandum Development, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Programs, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller (SAF/FMPE) The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
13. May 2015 – December 2015, Senior Military Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller (SAF/FM), The Pentagon,

Washington, D.C.

14. December 2015 – June 2016, Senior Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Air Force, Pentagon, Washington D.C.
15. July 2016 – June 2017, National Defense Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center, Cambridge, Mass.
16. June 2017 – July 2018, Vice Commander, 436th Airlift Wing, Dover AFB, Del.
17. July 2018 – July 2020, Commander, 71st Flying Training Wing, Vance AFB, Okla.
18. July 2020 – present, Commander, 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: command pilot
Flight Hours: more than 3,200
Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38, T-1A, C-17A

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit
Defense Meritorious Service Medal
Meritorious Service Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters
Air Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters
Joint Service Commendation Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters
Antarctic Service Medal

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2000 Distinguished Graduate (DG), Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training
- 2000 AETC/CC's Commanders Trophy Winner
- 2000 Distinguished Graduate (DG), Pilot Instructor School
- 2002 Graduate, AETC TORCH LOOK
- 2002 14th Flying Training Wing Company Grade Officer of the Year
- 2003 Distinguished Graduate (DG), Squadron Officer School
- 2005 Graduate, Air Force Intern Program
- 2006 62d Operations Group Company Grade Officer of the Year
- 2006/2007/2009 62d Airlift Wing Lance P. Sijan Award
- 2007 USAF Chief of Staff Team Excellence Award

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant June 14, 1998
First Lieutenant June 14, 2000
Captain June 14, 2002
Major April 1, 2008
Lieutenant Colonel December 1, 2011
Colonel May 1, 2017

(Current as of July 2020)

Air Force Readiness Programs

(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.)

“Please note events are subject to change due to COVID-19, so please contact A&FRC to confirm all events”

Federal USA Jobs Workshop

The next Federal USA Jobs workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. May 12. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications, and job search using the USAJobs website. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Bundles for Babies

The next “Zoom” Bundles for Babies workshop is from 1-3:30 p.m. May 13. This program is designed for active duty AF members and/or their spouses who are pregnant or have a child 4 months old or less. Attendees will learn about finances, labor and delivery, and infant care. A \$50 gift card sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society will be provided for each qualifying child. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Department of Labor Transition Vocational Track Workshop

The next DoL Transition Vocational Track Workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. May 17-18 and will be held in the A&FRC. This workshop helps members identify skills, increase awareness of training and credentialing programs, and develop an action plan to achieve career goals. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

The next Wing Newcomers Orientation will be held on May 25 from 8- noon in the Columbus Club. This event is mandatory for all newly arrived military and DoD civilian personnel. The event's foundation is the base's mobile App, so if you are registered, please locate and download the Columbus Air Force Base App from the App Store prior to attending. Pre-registration is required, so please contact your unit CSS to be registered. For more information, please call the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

Smooth Move Relocation Workshop

The next Smooth Move is from 10-11 a.m. May 27 in the A&FRC. This workshop is highly recommended for first-time and over-seas relocating members. Get the very latest moving information straight from base-wide relocation assistance agencies. Learn what to expect before you move with information from Tri-Care, Housing, Military Pay, TMO, Medical Records and A&FRC. Be sure to ask any relocating questions you may have during this event. Pre-reg-

Military members assemble for MSU baseball game



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen

Military members carry the American Flag and other armed forces flags for a baseball game at Mississippi State's Dudy Nobel Field stadium, May 1, 2021, in Starkville, Mississippi. The singing of the national anthem and a flyover occurred to give thanks to our nation and the people who serve to defend it.

istration is required, so call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 to register or for more information.

Hearts Apart

The next Hearts Apart will be June 11, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This quarterly social event is for family members whose sponsor is deployed, on a remote tour or TDY for more than 30 days. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

The next Entrepreneurship Track Transition workshop will be held on June 17-18 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. This workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Heart Link

The next “Zoom” Heart Link / Spouse Welcome is from 8:30 a.m.-noon July 8. This half-day program is open to all spouses of active duty military members assigned to Columbus AFB. Attendees will receive information about life in the Air Force, in the local area and at Columbus AFB from local subject matter experts including spouse leaders. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Transition Assistance Program Workshop

The next Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Jul 19-23 and includes seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Department of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP and Department of Labor. Preseparation counseling is required before attending, and recommended attendance is 12-24 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register or for more information, please call the TAP Manager at (662) 434-2631/2790.

EFMP-FS

Exceptional Family Members Program-Family Support, EFMP-FS, establishes, implements and maintains the FS (community support) entity of the Air Force EFMP in coordination with the Medical & Assignments components by enhancing the quality of life of special needs family members. Feel free to contact (662) 434-3323/2790 for any questions related to EFMP or for one-on-one assistance. We can assess your needs and make the proper community referral for you and your family!

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the A&FRC. We have volunteer opportunities located across the base for one-time events, special events or on a continual basis.

Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman's Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities Office and many other locations. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Installation Voting Assistance Office

A&FRC houses the Voting Assistance Office (VAO) which is open Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and closed weekends/holidays. The VAO offers voting assistance including voter registration, absentee ballot requests and voting, change of address, and provides answers for other general voting questions to uniformed service members, their family members and civilians with access to A&FRC. Assistance includes but is not limited to aid in preparing and submitting Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) SF-76, Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) SF-186 and National Mail Voter Registration Form (NVRF). The VAO also leads and trains all installation unit voting assistance officers. For more information, please contact the Installation VAO at (662) 434-2701/2790 or e-mail: vote.columbus@us.af.mil.

Discovery Resource Center

The Columbus A&FRC has computers with internet access available for job searches, assessments, resumes, cover letters, state and federal applications and companies' employment information. A printer and fax machine is available. A lending library of books, DVDs and periodicals on transition and EFMP topics are available for check out. These resources are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Pre- and Post-Deployment Tour Briefing

These briefings are mandatory for active duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2794/2790 to schedule a briefing and/or for more information.

Pre-Separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, and is to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or 24 months prior to retirement. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 to schedule a counseling session and/or for more information.

See COMMUNITY, Page 15

Chapel Schedule

Chapel services are now available.

Catholic Services: 5 p.m. on Sun

Protestant Services: 10:45 a.m. on Sun

Daily Mass: 10 a.m. on Tues and Wed

As we gather for services there is a 50 person limit inside the chapel. Thank you all for your help during this time and we are looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Instagram at columbus_afb_living, or visit our website at ColumbusAFBLiving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact 434-2337.

Get Connected with Your Base App!

As a way to connect people together, Columbus Air Force Base launched a new app to connect Airmen and families to the mission and community! The app is available on all app stores and can be found by searching 'Columbus Air Force Base'.

Back to School Planning

During these times of uncertainty, we want you to be certain of one thing... Columbus AFB School Age Care (SAC) is here to support your needs. During the 2020-2021 School Year, SAC will be offering both after school and full day care services daily. Register today! Please call the Youth Center at 662-434-2504.

Youth Center Upcoming Events

The Youth Center has a full slate of activities scheduled throughout the month of May including a bike day, Asian American & Pacific Islander heritage celebration, homemade slushes for National Juice Slush day, burger day, and much more! See more activities at ColumbusAFBLiving.com and the 14 FTW app.

School Age Care Summer Camp

It's gonna be a knockout summer at the Youth Center! Registration is open for SAC Summer Camp which will feature sports activities, field trips, arts & crafts, STEM, and much more. Step one in the process is to go to MilitaryChildCare.com and request care. Then, registration packets can be picked-up at the Youth Center. Families may sign up for individual weeks or all weeks. Call the Youth Center at (662) 434-2504 for more information and requirements.

Columbus Club & The Overrun Bar

The Columbus Club and the Overrun Bar are now open Wednesday – Friday from 4-8 p.m. for dinner and drinks. Quick bites done just right featuring favorites such as Wings, Chicken Tenders, Pulled Pork Sandwich, Mozzarella Sticks, Shrimp & Grits, and much more!

Also, don't forget the Club offers Catering services. Call (662) 434-2490 for more information.

Let's Connect! Boss & Buddy Night at the Club Wednesdays from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. and enjoy a few brews with your boss and buddies.

Strike Zone Grill at the Bowling Center!

The Strike Zone Grill (also known as the



Snack Bar) has moved back to the Bowling Center with DINE-IN and TAKE-OUT service. The expanded eating area will allow for social distancing. Grab'n go products will be available including during bowling. The hours are Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., Sat & Sun: Closed. Breakfast is offered until 10:30 a.m. For take-out orders, call (662) 434- 3426.

Library

Exciting news! The Library is now open for in-house customers! It is open Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.-noon. In case you didn't know, the Library is located in the Commons building next to the base chapel. For everyone's safety, masks are required for patrons ages 3 and up and parents must remain with their children at all times. Curb-side service will continue Tuesday-Friday.

The Library is hosting Story Time at the Park every Tuesday in May at 10 a.m. at Freedom Park. Social distancing will be observed.

See all of the Library's activities on their Facebook page: @ColumbusAirForceBaseLibrary.

The library will continue to offer curbside delivery. Find your book at www.columbusafb.mil.asolutions.com. Email your order to the library at 14.fss.fsd.library@us.af.mil. A confirmation email will be sent when your order is ready! Orders received before 11 a.m. will be ready during 1-4 p.m. that same day. Before picking up, please make sure you get a confirmation email stating your book is ready for pickup. When you park in the back parking lot, please give the library a call at (662) 434-2934 so the library knows you are there. When returning books, you can drop them off anytime at the book drop off located in the back parking lot of the library. To return

DVDs and audiobooks, please call us at (662) 434-2934 on Monday-Friday from 1-4 p.m. for an employee to meet you at the back parking lot to pick it up from your car. Please note, all rentals are first come, first serve.

Arts and Crafts and Woodshop

Stop by Arts & Crafts for all you Framing and Engraving needs! They are open Monday – Friday from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. The Woodshop is also available Tuesday – Friday from 9a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m.- 3 p.m.. The cost is \$5 for the first hour and \$3 for every additional hour. Call A&C at (662) 434-7856 if you have any questions or visit ColumbusAFBLiving.com/arts-crafts/.

Auto Skills Center & Hobby Shop is Now Open!

For all you shade tree mechanics, the Auto Skills Center is now open and features lifts, air hoses, equipment for self-serve oil and filter changes, tire balance and rotation, and tools for repair and maintenance. Open Friday 3-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Intramural Softball

Intramural Softball sign-up will open on 17 May with a deadline of 3 June! Put a team together within your squadron or unit and sign-up at the Fitness Center. There will be a coaches meeting at 2:30 p.m. on 3 June. You must sign up prior to the coaches meeting. Call 434-2772 if you have any questions.

Are you up for a little endurance and fitness competition? The Nationwide Murph Challenge is part of a Nationwide CrossFit competition that takes place on Memorial Day weekend in honor of Lt. Michael P. Murphy. The competition will

take place at the Alpha Warrior tent on 28 May at 8:14 a.m. Visit ColumbusAFBLiving.com for more information.

Fitness Center

The Fitness Center is now serving all DoD cardholders and eligible contractors during normal hours of operation.

Beginning 17 May, 24/7 access will be available to not only Active Duty patrons, but also any DoD cardholder such as dependents, retirees, and civilian employees.

CAC must be registered at the front desk.

Also, the locker rooms and showers are once again available.

The Columbus AFB Fitness Center no longer requires you to sign-up for fitness sessions! Swing by anytime during normal operating hours to get your workout in! Hours of operation are Monday-Friday: 5 a.m.- 9 p.m., Saturday & Sunday: 8 a.m.- 6 p.m. Now serving all eligible DoD cardholders!

Please note there will 100% ID card check, limited rental equipment available, and other risk mitigation plans still apply. For more information, call the Fitness Center at (662) 434-2772.

Also, the basketball and racquetball courts are now available! Check-in at the front desk required.

The Alpha Warrior Tent at the Fitness Center is open Friday 5 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sign-ups no longer required! Open to all eligible DoD Cardholders. 10 customers per session. 100% ID Check. Check in at the Fitness Center. Mask required to enter and exit. For more information call (662) 434-2772.

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation's (ODR) hours are Monday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (-closed Tuesday and Wednesday) and Saturday/Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. ODR offers all sorts of rental for the water, camping, and much more! Call ODR at (662) 434-2505 for all of your outdoor activities.

Independence Pool

Are you ready to splash into summer? Independence Pool is set for its grand re-opening on Memorial Day weekend, 28-31 May! Visit ColumbusAFBLiving.com for updates on swim times and activities.

Coffee House on 5th

Coffee House on 5th, located in the Blaze Commons, is back open to 50% capacity inside. Drive through or come in to enjoy a cup of coffee or a tasty treat. Their hours are Monday-Friday, 6 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m.- noon. Call for more information at (662) 434-2233.

See FSS, Page 14

Propane & natural gas safety: Be safe this summer

14th CES Fire & Emergency Services Flight

Safety tips

Tips for safely using propane and natural gas

With summer just around the corner, the men and women of Columbus AFB's Fire & Emergency Services Flight remind you to be safe around gasoline and propane. Over 3,000 propane explosions and fires are reported annually, and 10 percent of these fires result in serious injury. In America over 75 percent of households own a grill, with 60 percent of those being propane fueled. With so many people utilizing propane for cooking, what are some warning signs that could spell trouble? "If you smell rotten eggs that's an indicator you might have a leak," states Terence Sinner, 14th CES FES Fire Inspector. If you notice that odor around your grill or stove, do not use the appliance. Leave the area and Dial 911. Do not return to the area until it is deemed safe by responders. Sinner also went on to say that July is the peak month for fires involving propane and natural gas. "Most fires around this time occur from not giving the grill enough space. You should really ensure there is a

- Propane & natural gas smells like rotten eggs
- Always cook in a well ventilated area
- Always use and store cylinders in an upright vertical position
- Never store containers or cylinders in a vehicle or indoors
- July is the peak month for propane and gas fires
- Most fires occur by items too close to the cooking area
- Keep an area 10ft clear around the grill when cooking
- Never leave a lit grill unattended
- Keep a small fire extinguisher nearby

clear area roughly 10 feet around the grill whenever cooking, and always ensure the grill is properly cooled down before safely storing it," Sinner says. Other concerns are never leaving a lit grill or stove unattended, and always having a small portable fire extinguisher nearby in case of emergency. By following these simple tips, the 14th CES FES hopes you have

Commander's Action Line 662-434-1414

In an effort to stay Connected, the Commander's Action Line is your direct link to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better.

Although the Commander's Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command. The Commander's Action Line can be reached at 434-1414. Leave your name and phone number or email if you would like to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential.

If you would like to remain anonymous, please submit your inquiries through our base application in the 'Our Wing' then 'Contact the CC' tab or you can submit through the webpage at www.columbus.af.mil. Click "Contact Us" at the top left of the page and select "Commander's Action Line" in the Recipient drop down menu.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie
U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Trevor James, 14th Flying Training Wing command chief, talks to attendees at the First Sergeant symposium, Apr. 29, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. According to AFI36-2113, First sergeants are a dedicated focal point for all readiness, health, morale, welfare and quality of life issues within their organizations.

First Sergeant Symposium

Airman 1st Class Jessica Haynie

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The First Sergeants of Columbus Air Force Base, held a First Sergeant Symposium to provide insight to a select group of Non-commissioned officers on the role of the First Sergeant duty position, Apr. 26-29, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

"The goal from the symposium is to better prepare Tech. Sergeants and Master Sergeants on how to respond with appropriate resources when helping Airmen and how to be better equipped when advising the Commander," said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Kelly Barczykowski, 14th Security Forces Squadron First Sergeant.

Throughout the week, attendees participated in scenarios to learn how to utilize and employ resources dealing with topics such as, domestic violence, Maintenance of Discipline, and Counseling and Confrontation.

"It is a very rewarding job being an additional duty First Sergeant," said Barczykowski. "The opportunity to help people and their families, whether it is personal or professional, is very rewarding."

The First Sergeant symposium included an Airman Panel that was used as a tool as a communication link between Airmen and First Sergeants. Airmen in attendance relayed what the junior enlisted needs and expects from their unit First Sergeants.

U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Trevor James,

"The goal from the symposium is to better prepare Tech. Sergeants and Master Sergeants on how to respond with appropriate resources when helping Airmen and how to be better equipped when advising the Commander," said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Kelly Barczykowski, 14th Security Forces Squadron First Sergeant.

14th Flying Training Wing command chief, shared his experience and advice from his time as a First Sergeant.

"It is an interesting dynamic between the Superintendent and the First Sergeant," said James. "Both of you need to have your voice and you both need to be heard. Your voice counts."

According to AFI36-2113, the professional relationship between a first sergeant and commander is often unique and very close. The first sergeant serves as a key advisor to the commander on matters relating to health, morale, welfare, safety, legal, personnel, administrative issues and a variety of other items that affect the unit.

A harrowing night in Afghanistan

Airman 1st Class Brooke Moeder
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — He sat back in his chair, recalling the tragic events that took place one night the explosion, the fire, the confusion.

“The first thing that comes to mind is fire,” said Staff Sgt. Michael Rogers, 57th Rescue Squadron pararescueman, or PJ. “There were so many things covered in fuel and burning. It looked apocalyptic.”

Thinking back to a time before this life-altering event, Rogers explained he worked as a mountain guide and paramedic in Wyoming before he felt the call to join the U.S. Air Force in October 2014.

“I was reaching a place in my previous career where I wanted to take the next step forward, with medicine in particular,” Rogers said. “I started looking into flight-medicine and stumbled across the pararescue career field. On my honeymoon almost a year later, I got a text saying I was leaving for basic training in a couple weeks.”

After basic training, Rogers completed PJ training in just a year and a half, even though the average training time is more than three years. Remaining mentally resilient was essential to finish the training, Rogers said.

“It was a grind to see if you’re willing to commit to waking up, knowing what’s going to happen the next day, and just continue to do it over and over,” he said. “It involved lots of swimming and rucking. It was pretty brutal, but it’s awesome.”

Rogers deployed to Afghanistan in 2017 and again at the end of 2019. During his second deployment as a technical rescue specialist, Rogers was tasked to recover endangered personnel while attached to a U.S. Army Special Forces unit that supported Afghanistan army units against the Taliban.

The missions were designed to help the Afghanistan army get the assistance and training they needed to defend themselves, Rogers said.

“The area we were in was experiencing a full surge by the Taliban, with them trying to take and retake several districts and key cities attached to those districts,” he said. “We were just trying to focus on a few districts that were holes for drugs and equipment, and prevent that from continuing to worsen.”

Sixteen-hour days on foot or in a vehicle was an average day for Rogers and his team. Missions were completed at night to specific locations of interest.

Although, one of those night missions wasn’t like the others.

“Right toward the end of our time there, we had a village that previously received a really bad ambush,” Rogers said. “We counted over 20 rocket-propelled grenades that were fired at our convoy, and two RPGs went right across the hood of our vehicle as we were trying to return fire.”

Locals in the village told the convoy about a compound listed as a Taliban headquarters building, located in a school. In this building they found a large stockpile of artillery.

“There were piles and piles of radio equipment and different kinds of electronics, Taliban propaganda and about 50 to 60 pounds of homemade explosives,” he said. “Ammunition for all different kinds of weapons, mortars and stacks of rocket boosters were also found there.”

Rogers and an SF communications specialist started sifting through the equipment, but two of his teammates asked them to leave the area a request that saved Rogers’ life.

Other individuals, who Rogers knew and recognized, stayed behind to sort through the pile to identify artillery, including an SF intelligence sergeant, SF communications sergeant and an SF engineer.

“I was looking at one of the guys organizing the pile through my night vision goggles when all of a sudden we saw a flash and heard two bangs,” Rogers said. “We then felt the concussive force from the explosion and immediately thought we were under attack, so we prepared to fire back.”

After the initial confusion and chaos of the moment, Rogers composed himself, realized they weren’t under attack, and jumped into action to assist individuals injured in the blast.

“The SF medic and I started going through the mass-casualty procedures because we knew there had been a bunch of guys near the blast,” Rogers explained. “The engineer was blown over and down into a ditch, and appeared to be unconscious. The communications sergeant was set on fire with RPG fuel after it exploded near him.”

Rogers couldn’t locate the intelligence sergeant at first, but found him on the other side of the stockpile, two meters away from the initial explosion. Rogers assessed his condition and found him in bad shape. To Rogers’ surprise, the communications sergeant had smothered the fire on himself and helped drag the intelligence sergeant out of the stockpile to safety.

“We were able to get a few steps before the kit that the intelligence sergeant was wearing ignited, as it was filled with ammo, grenades and a radio,” Rogers said. “They started going off in his kit and were burning through the material, cooking off the rounds in the bottom of his magazine.”

Before he had time to react, the communications sergeant ripped the burning radio off the intelligence sergeant, in turn reigniting himself. Rogers then had to rip the kit and burning grenades free and throw it away from the intelligence sergeant.

“A TACP (Tactical Air Control Party) arrived and started to help,” he said. “I directed him to start applying tourniquets to three different limbs of the intelligence sergeant that were bleeding heavily. He had a lot of blast injuries throughout his whole body.”

The group didn’t have the opportunity to leave the edge of the stockpile until they could treat the intelligence sergeant’s wounds. They instead positioned themselves between the intelligence sergeant and the ongoing explosions to keep treating. Three different medical bags were exhausted to treat the wounds, but it wasn’t enough.

Rogers helped treat six other of his teammates on the scene. While treating the intelligence sergeant’s wounds, he coordinated a medical evacuation, or MEDEVAC, with the ground force commander. More than an hour later, the MEDEVAC airlifted them to a German surgical center.

“We kept trying to resuscitate the intelligence sergeant as best we could on the way to the hospital,” Rogers said. “After about 30 minutes at the hospital, (the medical staff) assessed his condition and determined he just wasn’t sustainable.”

The intelligence operator passed away later that night, and Rogers stayed with him the rest of the night as his team came



U.S. Air Force courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Michael Rogers, 57th Rescue Squadron pararescueman, poses for a photo while deployed to an undisclosed location in Afghanistan in the winter of 2019. While deployed, he was a technical rescue specialist and was tasked to recover personnel when required. Rogers was awarded the 2021 U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa Sergeants Association Pitsenbarger Award for his efforts in treating seven individuals after an explosion.

to pay their respects.

“The intelligence sergeant was an ultimate professional,” Rogers said. “He’s definitely the best intel operator I’ve ever known. He was key to ours and the Afghan’s success that winter. Being able to hold that region ... a large portion of it was due to his efforts. He really cared and believed in his mission.”

Rogers was awarded the 2021 U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa Sergeants Association Pitsenbarger Award for his efforts that night in Afghanistan. While Rogers expressed it’s extremely humbling to receive the award, he gave credit to the men he was with that night.

“It’s an honor to receive (this award), but I don’t think anyone else in that same circumstance would have done anything different,” Rogers said.

The reason for the detonation was ruled as an accidental discharge into the RPG stockpile by partner forces.

Rogers says the experience has changed him but he’s gained an appreciation for the sacrifices that are made for our country.

“The men I was with didn’t have to work as much as they did,” Rogers said. “Everybody that was there was passionate about their job and doing it right. This loss wrecked our team. Losing families, losing a brother. Those men I was with are our absolute heroes, and I would fight alongside them any day, anywhere.”

The Airman’s Creed

I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior.
I have answered my nation’s call.
I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage.
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman.
Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation’s sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman.
Wingman, leader, warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind.
I will never falter,
And I will not fail.



Buckle up! It’s the law.

Medical Corner



Anxiety, Stress, and Vaping

Stress is a normal part of life—everyday worries, responsibilities, and hassles all contribute to your overall stress level. Too much stress can make you feel overwhelmed and affect your mood. If you automatically reach for your vape when you are stressed out, you will need to have a plan for handling stress when you quit.

Even if you rarely felt stressed or anxious before quitting vaping, you may feel increased stress, irritability or anxiety after quitting. The good news is that these mood changes are usually temporary while your body adjusts to being without nicotine. When you’re having a rough day, remember why quitting vaping will be better for you in the long run.



Tips for Managing Stress and Anxiety

You can manage feelings of stress and anxiety without reaching for your vape. Try these ideas – some may work better than others, so find the ones that work for you.

Stop and Breathe: Pause what you are doing, and take a deep breath in through your nose and out through your mouth. Concentrate on the inhale and the exhale of your breath. Interrupting the anxious feeling with conscious breathing can help you calm down and think clearly.

Learn Your Anxiety Triggers: Anxiety can happen without being triggered. But, certain people, places, and situations can also trigger anxiety. Identify what makes you feel anxious or panicked and record it on your phone or in a journal. Do you see a pattern?

Move Your Body: Getting your body moving is a great way to reduce stress and anxiety. When you exercise, your brain releases chemicals that make you feel good. Take a walk, hit the gym, or do some yoga.

Care for Yourself: Eating a balanced diet, drinking lots of water, and getting enough sleep will help your body keep your stress level down. Keep healthy snacks on hand, and don’t skip meals.

Reach Out to Loved Ones: You don’t have to deal with stress alone. Talk to your friends, family, teachers, school counselors, and other important people in your life who support you and your decision to stop vaping.

Text the Crisis Text Line to talk with a trained crisis counselor via text message at any time of day or night by texting TALK to 741741. Counselors are trained to address any serious problem you may be having.

Anxiety, Stress, and Vaping. Retrieved from <https://teen.smokefree.gov/quit-vaping/anxiety-stress-vaping>

Smoking and Addiction

The biological factors involved in smoking relate to how the brain responds to nicotine. When a person smokes, a dose of nicotine reaches the brain within about ten seconds. At first, nicotine improves mood and concentration, decreases anger and stress, relaxes muscles and reduces appetite.

Regular doses of nicotine lead to changes in the brain, which then lead to nicotine withdrawal symptoms when the supply of nicotine decreases. Smoking temporarily reduces these withdrawal symptoms and can therefore reinforce the habit.

This cycle is how most smokers become nicotine dependent.

Social and psychological factors also play a part in keeping smokers smoking. Although many young people experiment with cigarettes, other factors influence whether someone will go on to become a regular smoker.

These include having friends or relatives who smoke and their parents’ attitude to smoking. As young people become adults, they are more likely to smoke if they misuse alcohol or drugs or live in poverty. These factors make it more likely that someone will encounter stress. Most adults say that they smoke because of habit or routine and/or because it helps them relax and cope with stress.

Smoking and mental health. Retrieved from <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/a-to-z/smoking-and-mental-health>

BLAZE Hangar Tails: C-17 Globemaster

Mission

The C-17 Globemaster III is the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force. The C-17 is capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward bases in the deployment area. The aircraft can perform tactical airlift and airdrop missions and can transport litters and ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations when required. The inherent flexibility and performance of the C-17 force improve the ability of the total airlift system to fulfill the worldwide air mobility requirements of the United States.

Background

The C-17 made its maiden flight on Sept. 15, 1991, and the first production model was delivered to Charleston Air Force Base, now known as Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, on June 14, 1993. The first squadron of C-17s, the 17th Airlift Squadron, was declared operationally ready Jan. 17, 1995. The Air Force originally programmed to buy 120 C-17s. Current budget plans increased the total number to 223 aircraft.

The C-17 is operated by Air Mobility Command at Tra-

vis AFB, California; Dover AFB, Delaware; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington; Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey.

The Air National Guard flies C-17s from the 172d Airlift Wing, Jackson, Mississippi, and the 105th Airlift Wing, Stewart ANGB, New York. Additionally, Air Force Materiel Command operates two C-17s at Edwards AFB, California, and Pacific Air Forces operates aircraft at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

The Air Force Reserve Command operates aircraft at March Air Reserve Base, California, and Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. Air Education and Training Command has 17 aircraft at Altus AFB, Oklahoma.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Cargo and troop transport

Prime Contractor: Boeing Company

Power Plant: Four Pratt & Whitney F117-PW-100 turbofan engines

Thrust: 40,440 pounds, each engine

Wingspan: 169 feet 10 inches (to winglet tips) (51.75 meters)

Length: 174 feet (53 meters)

Height: 55 feet 1 inch (16.79 meters)

Cargo Compartment: length, 88 feet (26.82 meters); width, 18 feet (5.48 meters); height, 12 feet 4 inches (3.76 meters)

Speed: 450 knots at 28,000 feet (8,534 meters) (Mach .74)

Service Ceiling: 45,000 feet at cruising speed (13,716 meters)

Range: Global with in-flight refueling

Crew: Three (two pilots and one loadmaster)

Aeromedical Evacuation Crew: A basic crew of five (two flight nurses and three medical technicians) is added for aeromedical evacuation missions. Medical crew may be altered as required by the needs of patients

Maximum Peacetime Takeoff Weight: 585,000 pounds (265,352 kilograms)

Load: 102 troops/paratroops; 36 litter and 54 ambulatory patients and attendants; 170,900 pounds (77,519 kilograms) of cargo (18 pallet positions)

Unit Cost: \$202.3 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars)

Date Deployed: June 1993

Inventory: Active duty, 187; Air National Guard, 12; Air Force Reserve, 14



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jonathon Carnell

Oxygen tanks and other COVID-19 supplies sit in a C-5M Super Galaxy at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., April 28, 2021. The United States government, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, donated medical supplies to assist the country of India in its ongoing fight against COVID-19. The aid includes 440 oxygen cylinders and regulators, 1 million N95 masks and 1 million COVID-19 rapid diagnostic kits.

COVID

(Continued from page 2)

During a visit to India last month, Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III said India is a major partner in the effort to keep a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

“As the world faces a pandemic and growing challenges to an open and stable international system, the U.S.-India relationship is a stronghold of a free and open Indo-Pacific region,” Austin said. “And it’s clear that the importance of this partnership, and its impact (on) the international, rules-based order will only grow in the years ahead.”



Be safe on the water, wear a life preserver



Visit us online!

Web page: www.columbus.af.mil

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB

Twitter: www.twitter.com/Columbus_AFB



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Amber Carter

A C-17 Globemaster III gets an early mearning start on the flightline Oct. 24, 2018, at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. A C-17 has a maximum takeoff weight of 585,000 pounds and a wingspan of more than 169 feet.



US Air Force photo by Airman First Class Daniel A. Hernandez

A C-17 Globemaster III from Travis Air Force Base, California, takes off Oct. 31, 2018, from Ft. Knox, Kentucky. The C-17 Globemaster III is providing transportation of Soldiers, equipment and resources to assist Department of Homeland Security along the southwest border.

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



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 21-09 earns silver wings



Capt. Zachary Cox
Hewett, West Virginia
C-130J



Capt. Juliana Nine
Rifle, Colorado
E-3



Capt. William Wake
Richmond, Virginia
RC-135

Eighteen officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to become Air Force pilots.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 21-09 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

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

2nd Lt. Samuel Rexroad and 2nd Lt. William Talbott 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. John Bacon who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

The distinguished graduates of Class 21-09 recognized were Rexroad and Talbott for outstanding performance in academics, officer qualities and flying abilities.

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 Air Force Base, Mississippi. 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,

53.6 hours in the flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A.



2nd Lt. Cullen Anderson
Luray, Virginia
C-17



2nd Lt. John Bacon
Melbourne, Florida
KC-135



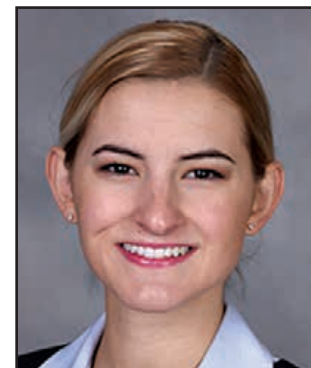
2nd Lt. Sean Fitzgerald
Albuquerque, New Mexico
MC-130J



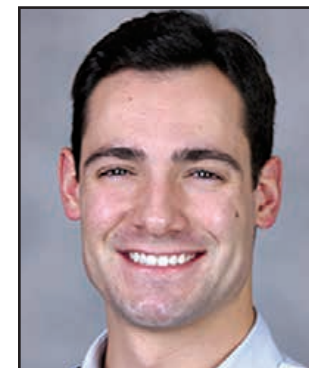
2nd Lt. William Talbott
Lockhart, Texas
C-5



2nd Lt. Ethan Talley
Wichita Falls, Texas
U-28



2nd Lt. Meriah Valk
Orlando, Florida
HC-130J



2nd Lt. Skylar Van Rensselaer
Carson City, Nevada
TBD



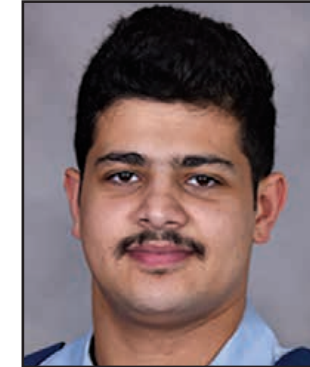
2nd Lt. Daniel Weiner
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
C-5



2nd Lt. Adam Wohlsein
Bainbridge Island, Washington
T-1A



1st Lt. Michael Johnson
Pensacola, Florida
KC-135



2nd Lt. Faisal Alahmad
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Typhoon



2nd Lt. Dominick Amari
Dickson, Tennessee
KC-135



2nd Lt. Austin Holbrook
Huntsville, Alabama
KC-135



2nd Lt. Jonathan Kincade
Columbus, Ohio
KC-135



2nd Lt. Samuel Rexroad
Leesburg, Virginia
T-1A