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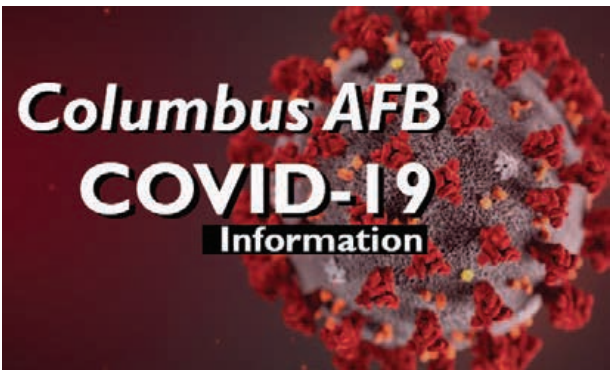
SILVER WINGS

“Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots, CONNECT”

Vol. 44, Issue 8

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

April 24, 2020



COVID-19 General Info

Stop Movement Order Extended

There has been an extension to the stop move order through June 30 to aid in the prevention of COVID-19.

Columbus AFB Mask Guidance

To the extent practical, all individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities will wear cloth face coverings when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public areas or work center. (This does not include in a service member's or Service family member's personal residence on a military installation)

PREVENTION:

- Wash your hands and use hand sanitizer
- Don't touch your face
- Cover your cough with a tissue or your elbow
- Stay home if you are sick

SYMPTOMS:

- Fever >100.4F
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

If you experience these symptoms, DO NOT COME TO THE CLINIC. Call the Nurse Advice Line immediately at 1-800-TRICARE (1-800-874-2273), option 1.

For more Information on COVID-19 please see pg. 2



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

Senior Airman Jonathan Coffee, 14th Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, organizes and keeps track of aircraft in the Radar Approach Control room April 22, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The RAPCON is responsible for controlling both military and civilian traffic in the Columbus assigned airspace, which serves 13 civilian and two military airfields.

Best in the Air Force: Columbus AFB Airfield Ops hard work recognized

Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 14th Operations Support Squadron's Airfield Operations Flight at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, was selected as the best in the Air Force for 2019 following their accomplishments and support of the base's mission to Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots and Connect.

The 14th OSS AOF is responsible for the daily care and feeding of the both Columbus AFB owned airfields as well as the control of all 234 14th FTW aircraft and civilian aircraft

utilizing the surrounding airspace. The team monitors and manages all airfield construction projects and supports the wing's 76,000 flight hour program to help produce pilots for the U.S. and its allies.

"Every member of our AOF understands how critical the 14th FTW mission is, but just as important they understand how they fit into it," said Lt. Col. Dustin Mowrey, 14th OSS commander. "They earned this award because their work ethic is unmatched and they're excellent at what they do."

See AOF, Page 3

Columbus AFB Training Timeline						SUPT CLASS 20-12/13 GRADUATION
PHASE II		PHASE III		IFF		SUPT Class 20-12/13 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium. Thank you retired Maj. Gen. Brian Bishop for sending the graduates a motivational video speech.
Squadron	Track Select	Squadron	Graduation	Squadron	Graduation	
37th (20-25)	Apr. 21	48th (20-12)	Apr. 24	49th (20-GBC)	Apr. 30	
41st (21-01)	Apr. 30	50th (20-15)	May 15			

COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019

Air Force Global Strike Command surgeon team leading fight against COVID-19

Carla Pampe

Air Force Global Strike Command Public Affairs

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. — When most Americans think of the Air Force and warfighting, they probably picture fighter jets engaged in dogfights in the skies above a hostile country, or in the case of Air Force Global Strike Command — bombers and intercontinental ballistic missiles wreaking havoc on the enemy.

However, in the current battle America is fighting — one against COVID-19, an upper respiratory coronavirus — it is the Air Force's medical personnel who are fighting on the front lines.

Col. Virginia Garner, AFGSC command surgeon, leads a team of 21 medical professionals in a battle unlike the world has seen in more than 100 years.

For Garner, a board certified nurse practitioner, this fight is something she has long trained for.

"I've been fortunate to serve as an exercise planner at few assignments and then a commander five times in a medical group, so planning for disasters or contingencies is not new," Garner said. "Disease containment plans are part of the wing emergency plan, so pandemic prep is required, but oftentimes hard to fully exercise due to the immense impact an event of this magnitude would have."

"We are seeing and living the reality of global impact now," she continued. "History would teach us that something like the 1918 pandemic would happen again and we can try to plan for it, but living through it really put things into perspective and we've learned a lot."

Garner said the number one priority in the fight against COVID-19 is to protect the Airmen, their families and the base population that execute the global-strike mission while decreasing the transmission of this disease.

Keeping Airmen in the command safe and COVID-free is critical to protect the AFGSC mission.

"The leadership team and the entire staff at Headquarters

"The leadership team and the entire staff at Headquarters Global Strike Command have done an outstanding job taking strategic and tactical proactive measures to protect our Airmen and their families and preserve long-range strike capability," Garner said. "Let there be no doubt, we are mission ready!"

Global Strike Command have done an outstanding job taking strategic and tactical proactive measures to protect our Airmen and their families and preserve long-range strike capability," Garner said. "Let there be no doubt, we are mission ready!"

Part of that readiness is being prepared for any contingency. From the very beginning of the pandemic in the U.S., Garner said the entire surgeon general directorate, with its sole public health officer, Lt. Col. Derec Hudson at the point, engaged to communicate facts, develop tools and advise on risk mitigation strategies. In addition, the surgeon general team partnered with the studies, assessments and lessons-learned and chief scientist directorates on predictive modeling and facilitated medical contingency response plans.

"Many of the products developed were shared with other MAJCOMs as benchmarks," she said. "I'm so proud of the team!"

Garner said unlike more traditional wars that only the military can fight, everyone has a role to play in this battle.

"This pandemic has brought to light that everyone has a role in preventing the spread of disease, and simple things such as washing your hands, cough etiquette and staying home when you are sick makes a difference," she said. "COVID-19 kills, especially some of the most vulnerable in our society, and we can defeat this enemy if everyone does their part."

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 35 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Deployment numbers provided by the Installation Personnel Readiness Office.



Silver Wings

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14 FTW Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. 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.

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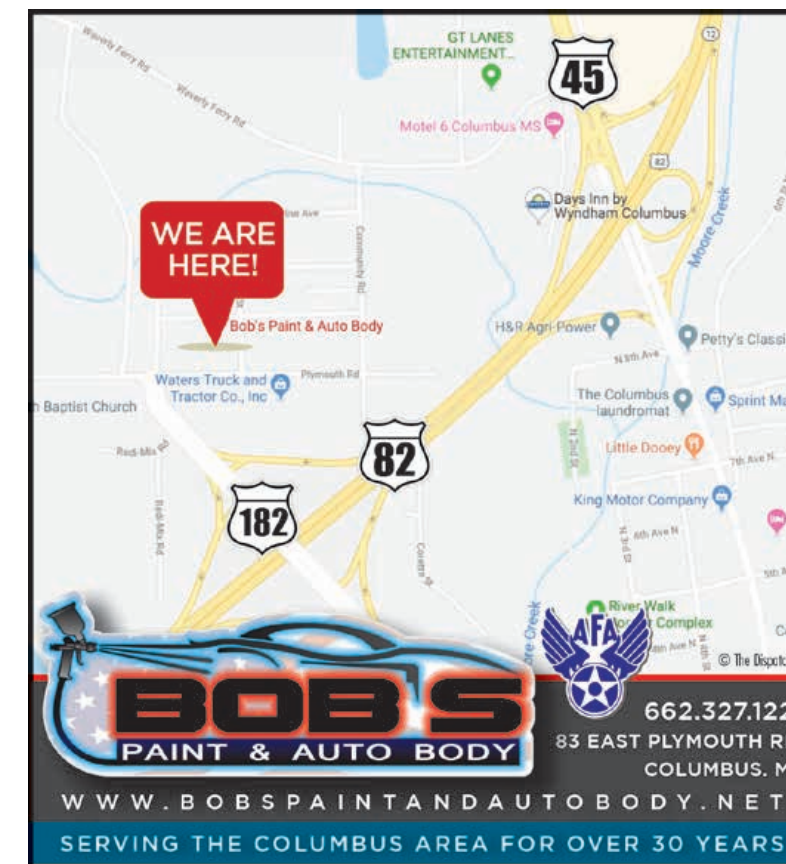
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The Nurse Manager will be responsible for supervising a rapidly expanding Critical Care Step-down unit that is currently transitioning from a 24 bed unit to a 36 bed unit with plans to eventually expand to 48 beds.

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COMMUNITY

(Continued from page 13)

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. The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Pre-deployment is

at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2794/2790 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. Counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m., and it takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 for more information.

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 Person-

al 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) 998-0411/434-2790 or e-mail PFC.Columbus. USAF@zeiders.com, located in the A&FRC.

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/refresher KS training and continuing education. For more information, please call (662) 434-3323.

Recognizing Columbus AFB major select!

Team Blaze is proud to announce the newest major select Capt. Dennis Early from the 14th Medical Group here at Columbus Air Force Base. Congratulations on the accomplishment and continue to lead the next generation of Airmen.



The Holocaust Days of Remembrance are observed from April 19-26 this year.

Congress established Days of Remembrance as the nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust. The dates vary each year according to the Hebrew calendar. To learn more, go to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum web page www.ushmm.org.

Visit us online!
www.columbus.af.mil

AOF

(Continued from page 1)

According to Maj. Jaye Smith, 14th OSS AOF commander, he said his team is well deserving of the recognition. They not only accomplish the mission but continue to "raise the next generation of air traffic controllers and airfield management personnel for the Air Force."

"But they don't stop there," Smith continued. "They continue to offer their service and expertise to additional projects and programs that impact the entire command and force."

The AOF at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, is comprised of four sections with their own mission area while each interacting with one another.

In the air traffic control tower, the personnel are responsible for ensuring the safe and orderly control of aircraft on the airfield and in the immediate surrounding airspace. The Radar Approach Control is responsible for controlling both military and civilian traffic in the Columbus assigned airspace, which serves 13 civilian and two military airfields. Airfield management oversees the airfield environment and helps manage airfield construction projects and criteria to ensure a safe operating environment.

The fourth section, airfield operations, is responsible for air traffic control training, ATC evaluations, ATC systems software maintenance and contract oversight.

"We have an amazing team of Airmen, NCOs, SNCOs and civilians that



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

Staff Sgt. Dylan Fivecoate, 14th Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, sits at his desk monitoring aircraft in the Radar Approach Control room April 22, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The RAPCON, Tower, and Airfield Management sections work closely with base aircraft and coordinate with other base agencies to keep the airfield at a high level of readiness.

perform well beyond the minimum requirements," Smith said. "For instance, our Airmen and civilians collectively controlled over 290,000 operations in 2019, and our training team volunteered to be the testbed for a new training records system that will be used Air Force-wide."

Other projects the AOF are working on is providing ATC via virtual reality to the student pilots and overhauling how to conduct training to the new 3-level controllers. Additionally, the civilians

in AOF took on the task of testing new equipment configurations for efforts that will be utilized both by the Air Force and the Federal Aviation Administration group.

"Columbus AFB presents one of the most challenging and controlling airfield environments in our Air Force," Mowrey said. "Seeing their work day in and day out and how they handle their business with class and professionalism makes it easy to see they are a focused, unified team."



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

Staff Sgt. Glen Simmons, 14th Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, keeps track of aircraft in and out of the airspace April 22, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Tower personnel are responsible for ensuring the safe and orderly control of aircraft on the airfield and in the immediate surrounding airspace.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

Senior Airman James McMillan, 14th Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, watches a T-6 Texan II taxi out from the Control tower April 22, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Columbus AFB is one of the busiest bases for air traffic controllers with the average upgrade training time for tower trainees being ten months and for RAPCON trainees is one year.

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Columbus AFB Fire Department continues to advance Airmen through training during pandemic

Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

While the nation navigates its way through the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic, Columbus Air Force Base Fire and Emergency Services (FES) is focused on maintaining readiness and protecting the members of Columbus AFB in support of the 14th Flying training Wing's mission.

To carry on servicing the base and its community, the Columbus FES has continued the training of its Airmen for peak performance as training is a key departmental function that ensures the ability to provide effective emergency response.

As the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron gains additional Airmen in the Fire Department, senior leaders continue to push the current apprentice level Airmen to get their 5-level journeymen training completed.

"We have to make room for the new Airmen joining us in the department and fill different positions in the fire truck, said Tech Sgt. Michael Mucha, 14th CES station captain. "Our current 3-levels can't stay at the bottom of the totem pole so we need to train them to be able to step into the next role."

The Driver Operator Aircraft Rescue Firefighting practical skill evaluations is a

"These vehicles and the Airmen that operate them are what provide us the ability to fight aircraft fires and are essential to our support of flying operations," said Master Sgt. Jeffrey Ball, Deputy Fire Chief, 14th CES/CEF.

part of their initial 5-level upgrade training where Airmen complete a drivers course and conduct vehicle modulating operations. The driver's course evaluates a candidate's ability to safety drive a fire vehicle through a series of graded obstacles and scenarios. Upon successful completion of evaluations the members will be capable of operating an ARFF apparatus.

"These vehicles and the Airmen that operate them are what provide us the ability to fight aircraft fires and are essential to our support of flying operations," said Master Sgt. Jeffrey Ball, Deputy Fire Chief, 14th CES/CEF. "The scenarios are designed to test

See FIRE DEPARTMENT, Page 5



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

Airman 1st Class Khalil Jeter (foreground), 14th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, and Tech Sgt. Michael Mucha, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron station captain, operate a Striker 1500 April 10, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The 14th CES firefighters respond to aircraft and facility emergencies within minutes and have the ability to control, contain and stop numerous types of emergencies from escalation.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

A Striker 1500 shoots out water during a training exercise April 10, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Training is a key departmental function that ensures the ability to provide effective emergency response for Columbus AFB Fire and Emergency Services.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

Airman 1st Class Khalil Jeter (right), 14th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, and Tech Sgt. Michael Mucha, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron station captain, operate a Striker 1500 April 10, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The driver's course evaluates a candidate's ability to safety drive a fire apparatus through a series of graded obstacles and scenarios.

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"

Transition Assistance Program Workshop

The next Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. May 4-6 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.

Department of Labor Employment Transition Track

The next DoL Employment Transition Track is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. May 7-8. This workshop assists transitioning military members with career exploring, job search, resume writing, federal job applications, interviewing, evaluating job offers and closing the deal.

Federal USA Jobs Workshop

The next Federal USA Jobs workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. May 13. 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.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

A Recovery Care Coordinator (RCC) will be providing assistance from noon-5 p.m. May 13; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. May 14; and 8 a.m.-noon May 15 at the A&FRC. The Recovery Coordination Program (RCP) streamlines and improves the way care and support is delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and their families. The RCP provides the support of a RCC who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill and injured Airmen who: (1) have a serious illness or injury, (2) are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time, (3) may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Columbus AFB A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Department of Labor Transition Vocational Track Workshop

The next DoL Transition Vocational Track

Columbus AFB highlights Month of the Military Child



U.S. Air force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Bean

Staff members and children of the Child Development Center pose in front of the CDC building April 17, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base Miss. One major theme for the month of April is "Purple Up", which is used as a way to show support and thank military youth for their strength and spirit.

Workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. May 18-19 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 is from 8 a.m.-noon May 19. This event is mandatory for all newly arrived military and DoD civilian personnel. This base-wide CONNECTION event begins at the Kaye Auditorium and consists of a guided base tour. The event's foundation is a mobile App, so if you plan to attend, please locate and download the Columbus Air Force Base App from the App Store prior to attending. To register, please contact your unit CSS, or 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 21 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 bring and ask any relocating questions you may have during this event.

Bundles for Babies

The next Bundles for Babies workshop is from 1-3:30 p.m. May 28 in the A&FRC. 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.

Hearts Apart

The next Hearts Apart is from 5-7 p.m. May 28. This monthly 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 is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. June 4-5. 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 Heart Link / Spouse Welcome is from 8:30 a.m.-noon July 23 in the A&FRC. 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.

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 op-

portunities 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.

See COMMUNITY, Page 14

Chapel Schedule

Whether you are new to Columbus Air Force Base or have been around for a while, our parish communities welcome you to join us as we worship, fellowship, and encourage one another. For more information, please call 434-2500.

All in-person religious services have been suspended until further notice. Check out the Columbus Air Force Base Facebook page for information about virtual services.

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbliving, Instagram at columbus_afb_living, or visit our website at www.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 New 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'.

FSS Base Events

All of the Force Support Squadron Events have been cancelled until further notice. We apologize for any inconvenience. This is a preventative measure to help minimize the COVID-19 spread. For continuous updates, please follow our Facebook, Columbus Air Force Base Living.

Virtual Fun on Columbus Air Force Base Living Facebook

Tune in on the Columbus Air Force Base's Facebook for games and challenges. Every Thursday at noon there is a Facebook Live game. Live games such as Pictionary, Trivia, and Charades. Show off your quick thinking from the comfort of your own home.

Virtual Bingo Wednesdays

Join Columbus Air Force Base Living on Facebook for their Bingo Wednesdays! Themes so far have been: Columbus Air Force Base and Traveling inside the United States. Will you get a Bingo?

Bowling Snack Bar

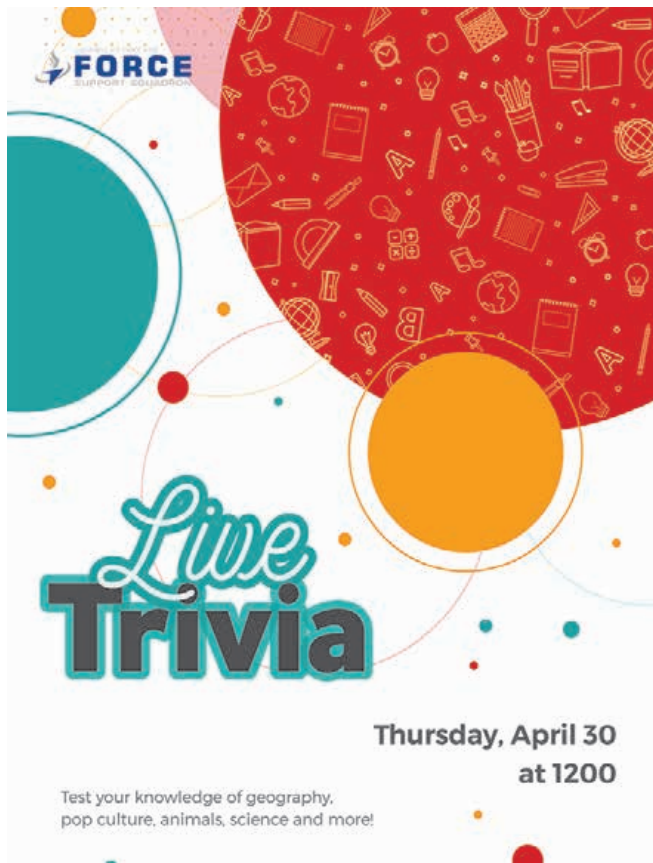
The Bowling Snack Bar is open and available for carry out. The hours have changed temporarily to: Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat & Sun: Closed. Breakfast is offered until 10:30 a.m. Menus are located online at columbusafbliving.com/strike-zone-grill/ or located on the base app under Services > Dining > On-base menus > Strike Zone Grill. Please call and order ahead at (662) 434- 3426.

Wellbeats: Fitness Online

Air Force Services has offered free temporary access to their online fitness program, Wellbeats. Get started in three easy steps: First, download the "Wellbeats" app or visit the website portal at portal.wellbeats.com. Second, select 'Register Via Code,' the code is 57a4df63. Step three, find a fitness class! Please note, this free access ends on April 30, 2020.

Shark Tooth Creek

Spend a day at Shark Tooth Creek hunting for shark teeth and fossils. On August 8, ITT is providing transportation out to a popular attraction that's fun for the entire family. The



cost is \$30 per person. Call ITT for more information at (662) 434-7861.

Assignment Night Transportation

Book Assignment Night transportation with ITT! Reserve the bus, the van or both! The cost is \$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 434-7861.

Exclusive Military Vacation Packages

Did you know that you can book exclusive military vacation packages at ITT? Packages include Universal Studios and Disney destinations. To book your vacation at www.america-forcestravel.com or visit your ITT office at (662) 434-7861.

Storytime Schedule

The Base Library is offering virtual story time on Facebook. 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 Force Support Squadron Gift Card at the following locations: Arts and Crafts, Bowling Center, Café at Whispering Pines, 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 Columbus AFB Riding Stables usually has stall space available. For pricing and more information, contact Outdoor Recreation at 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 self-help bicycle repair. For more information, contact 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 434-7836.

Wood Shop is temporarily closed.

The Wood Shop is closed. Sorry for any inconvenience, please call 434-7836 for any questions.

Referees Needed

Referees needed for various sports at the Fitness Center. For more information or to sign up, contact 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 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.

Fitness on Request

The Fitness Center offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with 119 different classes on the Fitness on Request system. For more information, call 434-2772.

Space A Lodging

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

Ride in Style

Information Tickets and Travel offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. For more information, contact 434-7861.

Using gasoline and propane safely

Darren Amos

14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Gasoline safety tips

- Keep gasoline out of children's sight and reach. Children should never handle gasoline.
- Do not use or store gasoline near possible ignition sources. (i.e., electrical devices, oil- or gas-fired appliances, or any other device that contains a pilot flame or a spark)
- Store gasoline outside the home (i.e., in a garage or lawn shed) in a tightly closed metal or plastic container. Never store gasoline in glass containers or non-reusable plastic containers. (i.e., milk jugs)
- Store only enough gasoline necessary to power equipment and let machinery cool before refueling it.



• Never use gasoline inside the home or as a cleaning agent.

• Clean up spills promptly and discard clean-up materials properly.

- Do not smoke when handling gasoline.
- Never use gasoline in place of kerosene.
- Use caution when fueling automobiles. Do not get in and out of the automobile when fueling. Although rare, an electrical charge on your body could spark a fire, especially during the dry winter months.

• Only fill portable gasoline containers outdoors. Place the container on the ground before filling and never fill containers inside a vehicle or in the bed of a pick-up truck.

• Follow all manufacturer's instructions when using electronic devices (those with batteries or connected to an electrical outlet) near gasoline.

Propane home safety tips

- Handle any propane-powered equipment cautiously and always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

• Cylinder tanks for equipment such as stoves and ovens must be located outside of the home.

• Never store or use propane gas cylinders larger than one pound inside the home.

• Never operate a propane-powered gas grill inside the home.

• Have propane gas equipment inspected periodically by a professional for possible leaks or malfunctioning parts.

• Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions when lighting a pilot.

• If you smell a strong odor of gas, leave the area immediately and call the fire department from outside the home.

Data from National Fire Protection Association



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jake Jacobsen

Airman 1st Class Khalil Jeter, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, releases water from a fire hydrant April 10, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. A Striker 1500 can hold up to 1,500 gallons of water in them to ensure readiness and the protection of the community in emergency situations.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Continued from page 4)

the Airman's knowledge, skills and abilities to the fullest extent possible. Successful completion shows that they are capable of safely mitigating the hazards associated with driving a fire apparatus during an emergency response."

Ball is also responsible for ensuring Columbus AFB FES has implemented safety procedures in compliance with all applicable Defense Department, Air Force, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and 14th FTW guidance regarding COVID-19 include maximizing physical distancing to the best possible extent. When physical distancing cannot be maintained, members are utilizing cloth face coverings that meet Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and DoD protective guidelines.

"With the mission critical nature of our profession, physical distancing and proper hygiene is critical," Ball said. "We will continue to apply operational principles and risk management in order to meet the 14th FTW commander's Priority 1: Ensure safe and compliant operations. This is paramount to everything we do as a Wing to meet the Air Force's goal to fly, fight and win in air, space, and cyberspace. Our people are our unique advantage and anything less than safe and compliant operations puts their lives at risk. This is also in-line with 19th Air Force's first principle of "professional, disciplined and effective training".

Ball said through positive professionalism, competence, character and core values, the Columbus AFB FES delivers full spectrum fire and emergency services to Team Blaze, its partners and the community.



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Columbus AFB mechanics go full throttle ahead in light of COVID-19

Airman 1st Class Davis Donaldson
14th Flying Training Wing

Propulsion mechanics at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, responsible for keeping engines designed for the T-38 Talon in pristine condition, are being counted on to ensure the Air Forces's pilot training pipeline requirements continue in light of the COVID-19 virus.

Rodney Williams, M1 Support Services lead propulsion mechanic, said propulsion is a supporting factor of pilot training and his team is essential in making sure the 14th Flying Training Wing continues its primary mission.

"It's important for us to keep working because they're still training pilots," Williams said. "Since the training is still going on, they still need airplanes to fly, so they still need engines in good condition for the airplanes."

The shop is responsible for helping maintain the nearly 90 T-38s in the wing's inventory, used for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training and Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals.

The T-38 is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer which utilizes the General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet engine.

Williams said they are continuing to maintain engines by following the guidelines



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Davis Donaldson
Willy Latham, M1 Support Services propulsion mechanic, gathers tools in order to perform maintenance on a General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet engine April 17, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The T-38 Talon is equipped with two General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet engines.

of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and 14th FTW base leadership.

According to the CDC, individuals should practice social distancing by maintaining a 6-foot distance from one another and telework as much as possible. They also

say workers should wear face masks and spray disinfectant on surfaces daily.

"With COVID-19, we are spraying things with bleach water, Lysol and changing our gloves more often," Williams said. "We're also distancing ourselves more by using

phone calls, not letting people be in the same place at the same time. It's not really slowing us down it's just another step in the process."

Christopher Story, M1 Support Services senior propulsion mechanic, said because there are less mechanics than a typical-sized shop, distancing themselves is not difficult.

"There's only (a few) of us, basically, here at the engine shop, so it's easier," Story said. "We're doing our part to distance ourselves from one another while we're working. Not much has changed, we're just trying to keep clean and keep away from people."

Story said the shop is still able get the job done and being the senior engine mechanic allows him to supervise and make sure work is done in a timely manner.

"The work I do these days require me to oversee in the shop, complete all the paper work for maintenance performed on the engine and make sure the parts are ordered and ready for replacement," he said. "I also see that the job is being done properly and in a timely manner by my crew."

Story said the propulsion shop must stay clean because he says their job is significant in spite of the pandemic.

"We have to keep planes flying," he said. "We have to keep engines going, so they can keep jets going and then the Air Force can keep flying them. We have to be full throttle ahead."



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Davis Donaldson
Frank Hall, M1 Support Services propulsion mechanic, performs maintenance on a General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet engine April 17, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Propulsion means to push or drive an object forward, and these engines help power the wing's T-38 Talons.

Commander's Action Line 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.



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.

Medical Corner



Effects of alcohol on fitness



There is a strong relationship between alcohol use and fitness. Alcohol use decreases overall physical fitness, but improved physical fitness can significantly improve alcohol use disorders and their negative effects.

Drinking alcohol as a regular pattern can negatively affect your performance in the gym, when you play sports, and in everyday life. Alcohol is a sedative that slows down functioning. It weakens hand-eye coordination, impairs judgement, and slows down reaction time. When you are active, no matter what you are doing, all of these functions are imperative to keep up the pace and efficiently be aware of your surroundings.

Effect of alcohol and fitness on weight-loss goals

Alcohol is known for containing empty calories. Drinking right after a workout could set you back from your weight loss goals. A study was done to show how drinking affects working out. A group of men performed an intense workout then drank a couple of drinks. The results showed muscle building and recovery, also known as protein synthesis, decreased by 37%.

Effect of alcohol and fitness on soreness and muscle repair

Every time you work out, you tear your muscles. These muscle tears are part of what causes the soreness you feel until they heal with the use of a human growth hormone. Drinking alcohol after a workout prevents efficient healing of the muscles by decreasing the secretion of the hormone. As a result, you will feel sore longer and have to wait a longer time period for your muscles to fully heal.

Effects of fitness on alcohol

Although alcohol is bad for fitness, fitness is great for alcoholism. Studies show the more you exercise and are physically active, the less you tend to drink. Exercising pumps up your blood, and good blood circulation brings about good feelings. The natural release of dopamine that you get from working out helps prevent you from turning to the unnatural release of dopamine from alcohol to cope with bad feelings. Making the good choice to workout instead of drink also promotes the continuous good choices in your life, leading to smarter actions and happier occurrences.

Working out is also a great stress reliever to take advantage of, instead of drinking to feel the sedative effects of alcohol. Try going for a run to relieve your stress instead of reaching for a glass. Your mind and body will thank you later on.

Alcohol and Fitness. Retrieved from <https://www.alcoholrehabguide.org/treatment/alcohol-and-fitness/>

Alcohol and arthritis

If you enjoy a glass of wine or pint of beer with dinner, you might wonder whether alcohol is a friend or foe to arthritis. The answer is, it's a bit of both. While moderate drinking may reduce some risks of developing arthritis, if you already suffer from arthritis, it may do more harm than good.

Anti-inflammatory benefits

Enjoying a drink with some regularity might reduce your risk of developing rheumatoid arthritis (RA), according to a few studies. Alcohol's anti-inflammatory effects are also thought to be one of the reasons it appears to lower cardiovascular disease risk in moderate drinkers. The key word is moderate, which most people overestimate when it comes to alcohol.

Medication interactions

Once you already have arthritis, drinking may have more downsides than pluses. Many of the medicines your doctor prescribes to relieve sore joints don't mix well with alcohol – including non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen (Motrin) or naproxen (Aleve), which carry a greater risk for stomach bleeding and ulcers when you drink. Taken with acetaminophen, methotrexate or leflunomide (Arava), alcohol can make you more susceptible to liver damage.

Additional risks

If you have arthritis and want to drink, talk to your doctor. Even with a doctor's ok, limit yourself to one drink a day. That's about 12 ounces of regular beer, 5 ounces of wine or 1.5 ounces of spirits.

Alcohol and Arthritis. Retrieved from <https://arthritis.org/health-wellness/healthy-living/nutrition/foods-to-limit/alcohol>

BLAZE Hangar Tails: RC-135V/W Rivet Joint

Mission

The RC-135V/W Rivet Joint reconnaissance aircraft supports theater and national level consumers with near real time on-scene intelligence collection, analysis and dissemination capabilities.

Features

The aircraft is an extensively modified C-135. The Rivet Joint's modifications are primarily related to its on-board sensor suite, which allows the mission crew to detect, identify and geolocate signals throughout the electromagnetic spectrum. The mission crew can then forward gathered information in a variety of formats to a wide range of consumers via Rivet Joint's extensive communications suite.

The interior seats more than 30 people, including the cockpit crew, electronic warfare officers, intelligence operators and in-flight maintenance technicians.

All Rivet Joint airframe and mission systems modifications are overseen by L-3 Communications (previously Raytheon), under the oversight of Air Force Materiel Command.

Background

The current RC-135 fleet is the latest iteration of

modifications to this pool of -135 aircraft going back to 1962. Initially employed by Strategic Air Command to satisfy nationally tasked intelligence collection requirements, the RC-135 fleet has also participated in every sizable armed conflict involving U.S. assets during its tenure.

RC-135s were present supporting operations in Vietnam, the Mediterranean for Operation El Dorado Canyon, Grenada for Operation Urgent Fury, Panama for Operation Just Cause, and Southwest Asia for operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. RC-135s have maintained a constant presence in Southwest Asia since the early 1990s.

All RC-135s are assigned to Air Combat Command. The RC-135 is permanently based at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., and operated by the 55th Wing, using various forward deployment locations worldwide. More recently, RC-135s have also supported Operation Allied Force in Kosovo, and Operation Odyssey Dawn/Unified Protector in Libya

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Reconnaissance

Contractor: L-3 Communications

Power Plant: Four CFM International F108-CF-201 high bypass turbofan engines

Thrust: 21,600 pounds each engine

Wingspan: 131 feet (39.9 meters)

Length: 135 feet (41.1 meters)

Height: 42 feet (12.8 meters)

Weight: 173,000 pounds (78,743 kilograms)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 297,000 pounds (133,633 kilograms)

Fuel Capacity: 130,000 pounds (58,967 kilograms)

Speed: 500+ miles per hour (Mach.66)

Range: 3,900 miles (6,500 kilometers)

Ceiling: 50,000 feet (15,240 meters)

Crew: (flight crew) five (augmented) - three pilots, two navigators; (mission flight crew) 21-27, depending on mission requirements, minimum consisting of three electronic warfare officers, 14 intelligence operators and four inflight/airborne maintenance technicians

Unit Cost: unavailable

Initial operating capability: January 1964

Inventory: Active force, 17; Reserve, 0; Guard, 0



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Drew Nyström
An Offutt-based RC-135V/W Rivet Joint takes flight Aug. 5, 2018 at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. The aircraft was flown during a unique training sortie with a flight and mission crew comprised almost exclusively of reserve component Airmen. The aircraft is an extensively modified C-135. The Rivet Joint's modifications are primarily related to its on-board sensor suite, which allows the mission-crew to detect, identify and geolocate signals throughout the electromagnetic spectrum. The mission-crew can then forward gathered information in a variety of formats to a wide range of consumers via Rivet Joint's extensive communications suite.



Photo by Jeff Gates
An RC-135V/W Rivet Joint sits on display outside the Bennie Davis Maintenance Facility as the new flagship aircraft of the 55th Wing at Offutt Air Force Base. The jet recently returned from being upgraded and was freshly painted with the new wing designator. The flagship aircraft stands as a symbol for every member of the 55th WG.

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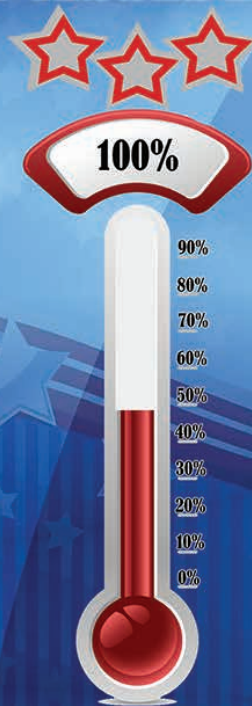
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**MILITARY SPOUSE
APPRECIATION DAY
MAY 8, 2020**



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FOR THE
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AND
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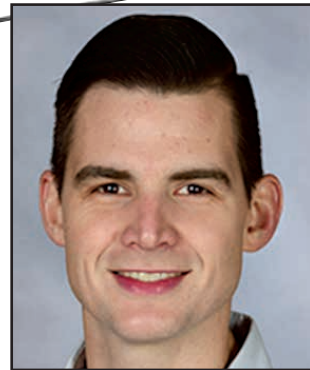


T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 20-12/13 earns silver wings



Capt. David Mutolo
Tampa, Florida
F-15E



Capt. Joshua Roberts
Fresno, California
F-16



2nd Lt. Jonathan Harrison
Owatonna, Minnesota
KC-135

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 20-12/13 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Thank you retired Maj. Gen. Brian Bishop for sending the graduates a motivational video speech.

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

Capt. David Mutolo and 2nd Lt. Tyler Stein received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Amanda Cannon and Stein who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

The distinguished graduates of Class 20-12/13 recognized were Mutolo and Stein 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, turbo-prop 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.

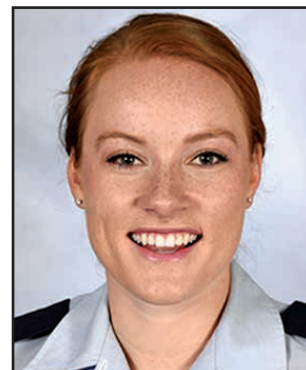
After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

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

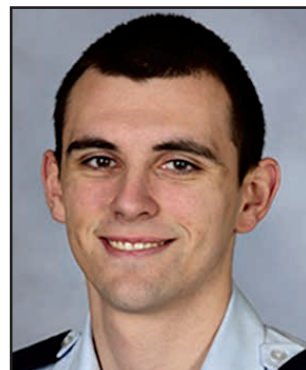
Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and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

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus AFB. 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. SUPT Class 20-12/13's pilot partners are Saint Leo University, Steel Dynamics and Dutch Group.



2nd Lt. Amanda Marcell
Palm City, Florida
F-35



2nd Lt. Jacob McCubbins
Albany, Georgia
T-38



2nd Lt. Tyler Stein
Independence, Kansas
KC-135R



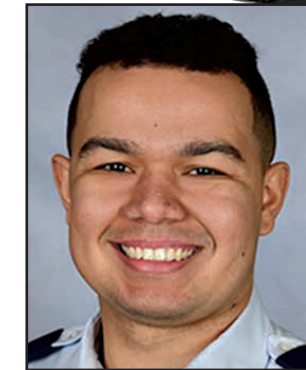
2nd Lt. Jared Turnage
Marietta, Georgia
T-6



2nd Lt. Trent Wiltshire
Manteno, Illinois
U-28



1st Lt. Madeleine Girardot
Atlanta
KC-135



2nd Lt. Dominic Clark
Las Vegas
C-17



2nd Lt. William Hubert
Elmhurst, Illinois
F-16

