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SILVER WINGS

“Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots, CONNECT”

Vol. 44, Issue 16

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

August 21, 2020

Columbus AFB COVID-19 Information

COVID-19 General Info

The base is executing a measured approach to reopening in order to protect our people and our mission.

Permitted areas:

- Military personnel may travel two and a half hours outside of Columbus Air Force Base to obtain necessary goods and services and/or to engage in outdoor recreation.
- Salons, barber shops and other personal care/grooming establishments.
- State and local parks are allowed.
- Freedom park access from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. You must wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before and after playing at the park. 50 people maximum in line with Governor's outdoor guidance.
- The base pool is open under limitations.
- Overnight lodging facilities.
- Arts and Crafts, and bowling center with limitations.

Off-limits:

- No dining-in at restaurants, bars, casinos or breweries or similar establishments. Take out, drive-thru and outdoor seating at restaurants is authorized.
- Gyms, bowling centers, theaters, auditoriums and events off base are prohibited.

Gathering limitations:

- 20 people indoors and 50 people outdoors
- 6' physical distancing
- Personal hygiene is key
- Cloth face covering if physical distance can't be maintained



Photo courtesy of The Commercial Dispatch
 Columbus Police Chief Fred Shelton, left, discusses police brutality at the Municipal Complex Tuesday night as Columbus Air Force Base Commander Col. Seth Graham, right, listens. Shelton criticized law enforcement's use of excessive force that killed Minnesota man George Floyd in May. “We as law enforcement officers, we’ve got to do better,” he said.

Community leaders encourage talks to mend race relations

By Yue Stella Yu
 The Commercial Dispatch

Following months of national and local protests against racial inequality, a cadre of community leaders in the city of Columbus and Lowndes County gathered Tuesday night at the Municipal Complex for a discussion about the racial dynamics in the nation and, in response, how to improve race relations within the community moving forward.

The event — titled “Let’s Talk, Columbus” — featured sev-

eral public officials, including Columbus Mayor Robert Smith, Police Chief Fred Shelton and District 4 Supervisor Jeff Smith. Other community leaders — including Columbus Municipal School District Superintendent Cherie Labat, Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science Executive Director Germain McConnell, Columbus Air Force Base Commander Col. Seth Graham, Allegro Family Clinics President Amy Bogue, Bishop Scott Volland with The Bridge and Main Street Colum-

See COMMUNITY, Page 3

CHECK OUT COLUMBUS AFB ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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columbus_afb



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Columbus AFB Website

COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019

Youth Center actively maintains safety, creativity during COVID-19

Airman 1st Class Hannah Bean
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The coronavirus pandemic has presented new challenges for parents and families at Columbus Air Force Base, compelling more innovation on new ways of learning and caretaking.

The Columbus AFB Youth Center has taken a look at how to help families while maintaining safety and creativity.

"Keeping the kids safe is the main concern, we don't want any kids to get sick," said Latasha Jones-Swoope, Youth Center director. "We just have to be flexible and make sure we're here to meet the needs of the parents that need our care."

The Youth Center provides a safe and engaging environment supervised by caring and trained staff with programs offering a wide range of educationally enhanced programs, instructional classes, field trips and events for youths and teens 9-18 years of age on Columbus AFB.

Although a majority of events and/or projects were postponed, canceled or turned virtual, the staff at the Youth Center have been an essential aid with creating new projects that allow the children to stay active and engaged.

"We've got a great staff here that come up with a lot of activities," said Terri Graves, Youth Center School Age Program coordinator. "They're always good at coming up with so many activities and plans. Many of the ideas are just a spur of the moment activity, coming up with things to do and keeping the children active, excited, and happy."

Along with an active process of new projects and activities, the staff have also shifted their procedures to aid in maintaining safety. Additional protective measures are now in place include increased sanitation and personal hygiene requirements for everyone in the facility. New entry procedures are now in place to limit



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Bean
Children watch Lori Amos, Child & Youth Program assistant, work on a duct tape flower project at the Youth Center Aug. 4, 2020, on Columbus AFB, Miss. Along with an active process of new projects and activities, the staff continue to maintain safety with increased sanitation and personal hygiene habits.

"Keeping the kids safe is the main concern, we don't want any kids to get sick," said Latasha Jones-Swoope, Youth Center director. "We just have to be flexible and make sure we're here to meet the needs of the parents that need our care."

foot traffic in and out of the facility, thus limiting the exposure risks to the clean environment.

"We now do screenings and temperature checks of the youth as they come in," Jones-Swoope said. "We make sure that they don't have any signs or symptoms as we are very open with the parents to let us know if the kids have any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or if they've been around anybody who has been tested positive."

Though stressful, Jones-Swoope notes that the children and staff have been a major aid in understanding and flexibility during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I think the kids have taken it absolutely wonderfully," Jones-Swoope said. "They have been really good and just go with it. Some understand what's going on and they have questions, but they know to wash their hands, the staff have masks on, we have our sanitizer, we do temperature and more."

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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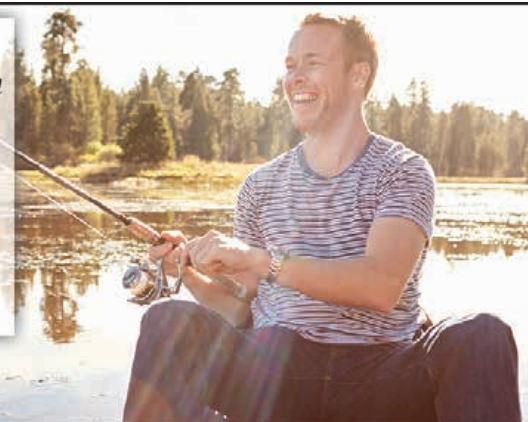


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COMMUNITY

(Continued from page 1)

bus Executive Board member C.J. Andrews — also served as panelists.

The event was livestreamed on the mayor's Facebook page. Aundrea Self, news anchor for WCBI, hosted the event and took live questions from the online audience.

Mayor Smith told The Dispatch he hopes to hold the event at least once a month. The discussion was born from a conversation he had with CAFB spokesperson Rita Felton months ago, he told the panelists Tuesday night. Felton asked him to form a panel to talk about race relations, he said, and to encourage the public to join the conversation.

“We see unrest, we see pain, we see neighbors and fellow citizens angry at one another. Much of these actions are rooted in racial inequality,” Smith said at the beginning of the discussion. “We are not here to challenge (each other) or debate, but to understand each other and have a conversation.”

Several panelists said they felt the need for such discussion to take place following George Floyd's death in May. Floyd, a Black man, died after white Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin knelt on his neck for almost nine minutes. His death has sparked national unrest, calling for racial justice and the end of police brutality.

The movement for racial equality gained momentum after Floyd's death, Shelton said, largely because the death was documented on video. The video reached a wider audience than it normally would have, he said, because people consumed more content from social media and news outlets during the pandemic.

“Unfortunately, it happened, but it brought about purpose. And that purpose is that we as law enforcement officers, we’ve got to do better,” he said. “The other officers stood there, and they did nothing. They did nothing.”

Volland said the video offered live proof of a murder, which the audience cannot deny or look away from.



Photo courtesy of The Commercial Dispatch

Dr. Germain McConnell, executive director of the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science, talks about the necessity of talks about race relations at the "Let's Talk, Columbus" forum Tuesday night. McConnell is a 14th Flying Training Wing honorary commander working in close ties with Col. Seth Graham, 14th FTW commander.

“You see another human being mistreated and ultimately lynched in the middle of a street,” Volland said. “It really was like a perfect storm to when (people) were vulnerable and emotionally raw, and it just resonated with people of all different culture bases.”

Bogue said she is not easily bothered by gory scenes as a health care professional. However, witnessing Floyd's death on tape had an impact on her, she said.

"That video bothered me to my core," she said. "I've seen a lot of deaths in my career, but that's the first time that I saw a murder."

Within the local community, the movement against racial injustice — especially following District 1 Supervisor Harry Sanders' remarks that African Americans have remained “dependent” since slavery ended — needs to continue, panelists agreed Tuesday night. Sanders made the comments to The Dispatch on the record in June following his vote against the relocation of the Con-

federate monument outside the courthouse. Protesters from the community, as well as business leaders and most of his fellow supervisors, have since called for his resignation from the board.

Supervisor Smith said the movement carries on because the community is still hurting because of the comments.

"They can't be swept away in a corner somewhere," he said. "I realize that we have to grow, we have to heal, but ... we got to address the issue."

Addressing racial inequality, white privilege

Hoping to move toward racial equality, panelists said the first thing one can do to change the dynamics is to acknowledge the problem.

Bogue said she felt embarrassed that she had not acknowledged the difference between her and her Black friends. For her,

she said, she had always assumed that “color-blind” was the solution.

"For me, being a Caucasian female, it was very nerve-racking to even acknowledge this. I've had several African American and friends of color throughout my life, but I've never acknowledged that we were different," she said. "I did not understand the bias that was against them."

Andrews said she realizes her privilege as a white woman.

"My son doesn't cause people to clench their purses because of the color of his skin," she said. "That reality ... sometimes, as a white person, we forget that."

Acknowledging the problem is a step toward having a candid discussion about race, which many panelists agree is necessary. McConnell said he used to have open discussions with his friends of different racial backgrounds. Creating a safe environment for people to step out of their comfort zone, he said, is an important step.

As an educator, Labat said teachers should set an example for their students in these race relations discussions. The district should offer a “culture diversity curriculum” — much like the 1619 Project by the New York Times, which aims to reset the beginning of American history to 1619 when the first Black slaves were shipped to Jamestown, Virginia — that teaches “truth” to students, she said.

“(It) is a moral imperative,” Labat said of the teaching of diversity. “If we can’t teach our kids the truth, then we are in a facade that this democracy is who we are as a nation.”

Church leaders should also help promote racial equality, Volland said. Some churches, however, have “perpetuated” the problem, he said.

“The church, in most cases, is playing catch-up right now,” he said. “Specifically the white evangelical church in America has been guilty of not simply condoning but even perpetuating racism and slavery. . . . The church needs to be a thermostat that sets the atmosphere in the culture.”



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WHEN: 28 August 2020
WHERE: Fitness Center
TIME: 0830 ShowTime/0900 Start
WHO: Anyone and everyone!



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Housing Announcement

BASE HOUSING RESIDENTS:

The Privatized Housing Resident Advocate is seeking volunteers to join the Resident Council. Being a member of the council will provide an avenue to raise housing concerns that will be heard by installation leadership, the Project Owner (PO) and the Military Housing Office (MHO). There will be five resident councils; these five would be as follows: Junior Enlisted (E1 – E4), Junior NCO (E5 – E6), Senior NCO (E7 – E9), CGOs (O1 – O3) and lastly FGOs

(O4 –O5). These partitioned counsels will allow specific neighborhood concerns and allow candid conversations amongst peer groups and provides an opportunity work closely with the Housing Resident Advocate to resolve issues affecting living conditions in Privatized Housing. The Installation Commander will chair the meetings.

If you are interested in becoming a council member, please contact me 662-434-7276 or email Tina.Durrah@us.af.mil



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

Col. Seth Graham, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, speaks to Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 20-20/21 at their graduation ceremony on August 7, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Thirty-four officers were awarded their silver wings at the ceremony and gained the title of "Air Force Pilot".



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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training graduates bow their heads in prayer at a graduation ceremony on August 7, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Students in the graduating classes maintained their six feet distance in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

14 FTW CC congratulates SUPT Class 20-20/21

Airman 1st Class Davis Donaldson
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Col. Seth Graham, 14th Flying Training Wing commander congratulated Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 20-20/21 at their graduation ceremony August 7, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Graham began the speech by thanking the families and friends watching virtually. He then expressed his gratitude for the graduates' relentlessness because of how they continued to train in the midst of a global pandemic.

"The graduates in this room are in fact

unique," Graham said. "You have continued to stand up and meet our nation's call. Although our world has changed greatly over the past several of months, you have come to discover just how important you are."

Thirty-four officers were awarded their silver wings at the ceremony and gained the title of "Air Force Pilot".

Graham said it was essential for the graduates' training to continue because of how important they are to the United States' national defense.

"In a few short months, you will be defending our borders, projecting power, engaging in combat or transporting vital personnel and equipment to the next fight," Graham said.

Graham, a command pilot with more than 2,600 flying hours, says he remembers his pilot training days. One of the biggest takeaways from his experience was the relationships he said.

He said multiple classmates from pilot training accompanied him, as well as one of his instructor pilots. After his training, Graham said he was sent overseas to fly the B-1B Lancer after the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

"A year later (after being sent overseas), I found myself in a B-1 over the skies of Iraq," Graham said. "The coolest part of that mission was that next to me, the other pilot, was my assigned IP (instructor pilot), a T-37 Tweet FAIP (first assignment instructor pi-

lot). He had helped shaped me into the combat-aviator that I was."

Graham said although the pilots will go their separate ways, after graduation, the Air Force community is small and he believes their bonds will bring them back together again.

Graham gave one last motivating remark and thanked the graduates again for their commitment.

"You've dawned the uniform of our nation and stepped up to a greater calling," he said. "I'm excited for the amazing things you will do, as you will literally will be creating history. Congratulations to Class 20-20/21 on earning your wings, thank you."

McAfee antivirus home use program

14th Communication Squadron
Base Software License Manager

Antivirus Home Use Program (AV HUP):
The DoD Antivirus Software License Agreement from McAfee allows active DoD employees and authorized government contractors to utilize the antivirus software for personal device protection. Home use of the antivirus products will not only protect personal PCs, but will also potentially lessen the likelihood of malicious threats being introduced to the workplace and compromising DoD networks.

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For instructions on how to download your copy of McAfee Internet Security, please contact the Base Software License Manager at 434-2064 or 434 3194.

BRIEFS

(Continued from page 12)

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 print-

er 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 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) 998-0411/434-2790 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) 434-2839.

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://militarylearning.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.

FSS

(Continued from page 11)

Wood Shop is temporarily closed.

The Wood Shop is closed. Sorry for any inconvenience, 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

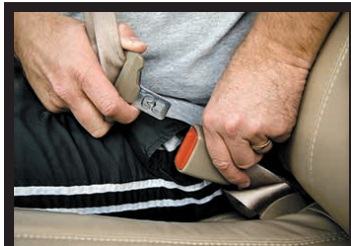
The Youth Center is seeking instructors for tumbling classes, dance classes, piano and guitar lessons. For more information, contact the Youth Center.

Space A Lodging

The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at (662) 434-2548.

Ride in Style

Information Tickets and Travel offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. For more information, contact (662) 434-7861.



Buckle up! It's the law.

Commander's Action Line
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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.

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"

Wing Newcomers Orientation

The next Wing Newcomers Orientation will be held on Aug. 25 from 8-9:15 a.m. in the Kaye Auditorium. 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.

Bundles for Babies

The next Bundles for Babies workshop is from 1-3:30 p.m. Aug. 27. 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 will be on Zoom and is from noon-1:30 p.m. Aug. 27. 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.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

Recovery Care Coordinator (RCC) will be providing assistance from noon-5 p.m. Sept. 9 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 10; and 8 a.m.-noon Sept. 11 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.

Transition Assistance Program Workshop

The next Transition Assistance Program

F-35A Lightning II fly-in



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Davis Donaldson

Columbus Air Force Base hosts a static display for Columbus AFB Airmen and their families August 7, 2020, on Columbus AFB, Miss. The F-35A Lightning II is designed to provide the pilot with unsurpassed situational awareness, positive target identification and precision strike in all weather conditions.

(TAP) workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 14-16 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 8:00 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 17-18. This workshop assists transitioning military members with career exploring, job search, resume writing, federal job applications, interviewing, evaluating job offers and closing the deal.

Smooth Move Relocation Workshop

The next Smooth Move is from 10-11 a.m. Sept. 22 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-registration is required, so call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 to register or for more information.

Federal USA Jobs Workshop

The next Federal USA Jobs workshop is

from 9-10:30 a.m. Sept. 23. 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.

Department of Labor Transition Vocational Track Workshop

The next DoL Transition Vocational Track Workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 28-29 and will be held online. 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.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

The next Entrepreneurship Track Transition workshop will be held on Oct. 1-2 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 Heart Link / Spouse Welcome is from 8:30-11:15 a.m. Oct. 22. 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.

See BRIEFS, Page 13

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!

Chapel CTOF Account Manager

The Columbus Air Force Base Chapel is soliciting applicants to fill the Chapel Tithes and Offerings (CTOF) Account Manager position. Applicants must have at least one year's experience developing financial budgets for an organization. Please stop by the chapel (464 Harpe Blvd, Columbus MS, Building 712) to obtain a copy of the bid documents. Bids must be submitted to the chapel no later than 12:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time) on September 21, 2020. The Contract Officer for this contract is Chaplain, Captain Paul Walker (Contact info: (662)434-2500 or (paul.walker.17@us.af.mil). Basis of Award by which the individual is selected is Lowest Bid. NOTE: Specific details on the selection process is in the Basis of Award document. Per DoDI 1402.5, the applicant that is awarded the contract is required to have a background check(s) because these positions involve contact with children below 18 years of age. Demonstration of skills is not required to be performed by applicants.

Catholic Parish Coordinator

The Columbus Air Force Base Chapel is soliciting applicants to fill the Catholic Parish Coordinator position. Applicants must have experience working with Catholic programs, events, and administrative functions and have at least one year's experience developing financial budgets for an organization. Please stop by the chapel (464 Harpe Blvd, Columbus MS, Building 712) to obtain a copy of the bid documents. Bids must be submitted to the chapel no later than 12:00 PM (Central Standard Time) on September 21, 2020. The Contract Officer for this contract is Chaplain, Captain Paul Walker (Contact info: (662)434-2500 or (paul.walker.17@us.af.mil). Basis of Award by which the individual is selected is Lowest Bid. NOTE: Specific details on the selection process is in the Basis of Award document. Per DoDI 1402.5, the applicant that is awarded the contract is required to have a background check(s) because these positions involve contact with children below 18 years of age. Demonstration of skills is not required to be performed by applicants.

SLOs: Helping any, every school issue

Airman 1st Class Davis Donaldson

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

School liaison officers (SLO) have the job of making sure Airmen and their families have the best experience possible when dealing with their child's education.

The SLOs have various responsibilities including school transition support, deployment support, home school support, community connections, volunteer opportunities, post-secondary separation and special needs system navigation.

Leslie Flynn, Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi's SLO, said the primary goal of an SLO is to help with any problem a child might be having with their schooling.

"The school liaison serves as the subject-matter expert for Pre-K through 12th grade school-related issues," Flynn said. "It is a total force program serving all branches, active-duty, National Guard and reservists, civilians, wounded warriors, Gold Star families and retirees."

Flynn mentioned an SLO's job is to provide information to families and in turn it gives assurance and confidence that the child's academics are the main priority. SLOs can be especially helpful after a Permanent Change of Station move.

According to tpcjournal.nbcc.org, the average military child will change schools up to nine times. Flynn says the process can be difficult and has experienced it herself when she was a child.

"Growing up in a military family, having to relocate

and change schools frequently, is never easy," she said. "I know because I did it. I am here to help you; to support and defend."

After relocation, SLOs also assist the schools in responding to the complexities of relocation. Flynn says they do so by providing families with information about academic options and requirements for their given locality.

When asked the biggest problem Flynn sees families face as an SLO, she replied with it being when families go into a new school system not knowing what to expect.

"If I had to sum it up in one phrase, it would just be 'the unknown'," she said. "Local school personnel can be unfamiliar with modern military life, such as the obligations and challenges faced by service members. In turn, base leaders at times can be unfamiliar with the resources that are available."

To solve the problem, Flynn suggested if a family is relocating, they should contact their new SLO as soon as possible.

"It may sound a bit cliché but know your SLO before you go," she said. "Military life doesn't always give us our preferred amount of lead time and reaching out to your SLO as early as possible, will give your family the most options. If you run into some school-related turbulence, remember you don't have to go at it alone."

For more information, join the School Liaison Group on the Columbus AFB app or contact Leslie Flynn directly.

14th CS Contractor Customer Complaint process

Joel Obman

Base Network & Telephone System coordinator 14th Communication Squadron

The 14th Communications Squadron manages three separate contracts in support of Columbus Air Force Base.

The three contracts are, Base Network & Telephone System (BNTS), Local Telecommunications Services (LTS) and the SparkLight cable TV contract (nothing to do with residential cable).

BNTS is the contract that delivers enterprise network and voice core services, Communications (COMSEC) and Emissions Security (EMSEC) programs as well as managing the Wing's Information Assurance operations.

The LTS contract, has been with AT&T to date, is the service that delivers our local trunks (99), commercial phone numbers, hotlines and any data circuit services, if required.

The SparkLight CATV contract provides the Wing a cost effective vehicle for official cable TV drops for specific locations such as waiting rooms and operations centers. SparkLight CATV drops are tightly con-

trolled and are closely scrutinized for mission needs.

If at any time a customer of one of the services feels that the level of service provided by one of these contract is not on par with the expected level of professionalism or the contractor has not provided service to the expectation of the customer, an official complaint can be submitted. The process for submitting an official complaint is the same for all three contracts and is described below.

1. Draft an email giving the date/time of the incident resulting in the complaint, your organization, office symbol, building number, full name, phone number, nature of the complaint. Also, include specific pieces of information such as who, what, when, where and how to the complaint.

2. Email this information to the 14 CS/CCE (14cs.workflow@columbus.af.mil).

Necessary actions will be documented by the Contractor Officer Representative and a response to the submission will be returned to the customer.

If you have any specific questions with regards to 14 CS contract operations please contact the 14th Communications Squadron Operations Flight Chief at 14cs.sco@columbus.af.mil.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra

Col. Justin Spears, 14th Operations Group commander, hands Lt. Col. Jennifer Prouty, 14th Operations Support Squadron commander, the 14th OSS guidon at the 14th OSS change of command ceremony on Aug. 3, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The 14th OSS is responsible for producing over 426 new pilots and WSOs annually.

14th OSS welcomes new commander

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Jennifer Prouty, 14th Operations Support Squadron commander, took command of the 14th OSS at a change of command ceremony on Aug. 3, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

The 14th OSS is responsible for producing over 426 new pilots and WSOs annually. 170+ member squadron spanning 10 separate facilities and supports five flying squadrons, executing over 81,000 hrs and 58,000 sorties per year. Responsible for operations support in all phases of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, to include air traffic control, flight records management, weather support, aircrew flight equipment, and airfield and airspace management.

During a speech given at the ceremony, Prouty expressed her excitement about joining her new team.

"To the Screaming Eagles of the 14th Operations Support Squadron, thank you for choosing to serve this great nation," Spears said. "I look forward to all we will accomplish together."

The last combat mission of World War II

Rufus Ward
Local historian

Seventy-five years ago, the 43rd Bombardment Squadron was part of the last combat mission of World War II. Today, the 43rd is a flying training squadron at Columbus Air Force Base.

The 43rd had its origins 80 years ago on Dec. 22, 1939, as the 29th Bombardment Squadron, which was then re-designated the 43rd Bombardment Squadron on March 13, 1940, at Langley Field, Virginia.

When Pearl Harbor was bombed and the United States entered WWII, the 43rd was stationed at Pope Field, North Carolina as a squadron of the 29th Bomb Group flying B-18s and B-17s. January 1942 found the 43rd based at MacDill Field, Florida. From December 1941 to June 1942 the squadron flew anti-submarine patrols along the Atlantic and Gulf Coast and in the Caribbean.

One of the little-told stories of WWII was the extensive German U-Boat activity along the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf coasts during 1942. Many cargo ships, and especially oil tankers, were sunk by U-Boats along the US coast. Some ships were even sunk at the mouth of the Mississippi River and along the Louisiana coast.

In June 1942 the squadron moved to Gowen Field, Idaho where it became an operational training unit. In late 1942 several Bomb Groups were formed at Gowen where the 43rd was providing training. They included the 96th, 381th, 384th and 388th Bomb Groups. By early 1943, the 43rd had become a replacement training squadron training B-24 crews before deployment to England and combat.

On April 1, 1944, the 29th BG, of which the 43rd was a squadron, was inactivated at Gowen but on the same day reactivated as a B-29 bomber unit at Pratt Army Airfield, Kansas. After completing training, the 29th Bomb Group was deployed overseas to North Field, Gaum, where the 29th became part of the 314th Bombardment Wing. The 43rd's first combat mission was on Feb. 25, 1945, to Tokyo.



Courtesy photo of USAF, National Archives

B-29s of the 29th Bomb Group on a bombing mission over Japan in 1945. In 1945 the 43rd Bomb Squadron (now the 43rd FTS at CAFB) was a part of the 29th Bomb Group stationed on Guam.

During its first several weeks of combat the 43rd went after strategic targets in daylight attacks from high altitude. By the end of March, the squadron was flying nighttime low-level bombing missions. With the U.S. assault on Okinawa and the sudden extensive Japanese use of kamikaze suicide attacks, the 43rd began bombing airfields from which the kamikaze pilots were operating.

In early August 19 45, rumors were circulating that Japan was about to surrender. On the morning of Aug. 14 there was uncertainty as to whether bombing missions scheduled for that day and night would even be flown with peace appearing eminent. One of the reasons that the missions were not called off was fear of Soviet intent to invade Japan if there was a break in American bombing before a surrender was signed.

On the night of Aug. 14-15, 1945, 132 B-29s of the 315th Bomb Wing from Northwest Field, Guam bombed the Nippon Oil Company refinery at Tsuchizakiminato. The 77 B-29s, of the 314th Bomb Wing, which included the 43rd Bomb Squadron, of the 29th Bomb Group, took off from North Field, Guam, and bombed the city of Kumagaya northwest of Tokyo with incendiaries. Also, about 120 B-29s of the 313th Bomb Wing on Tinian and the 73rd Bomb Wing on Saipan dropped incendiaries on Isezaki or dropped mines along the coast. Before the last bomber had returned to its base, President Truman had announced the unconditional surrender of Japan.

The multi-target mission of four B-29



Courtesy photo of USAF, National Archives

The 43rd FTS heritage T-1 Jayhawk bearing the insignias and color scheme of a World War II 43rd Bomb Squadron B-29 Bomber. The 43rd Flying Training Squadron at Columbus Air Force Base was a heavy Bombing squadron during WWII.

bombardment wings, including the 43rd's 314th Bomb Wing, on the night of Aug. 14-15 was the last combat mission of World War II. The refinery targeted by the 315th Bomb Wing was the last target to be reached that night, and so to the 315th BW goes the distinction of completing the last combat mission of World War II.

"The Last Mission," a book by Jim Smith and Malcolm McConnel, adds a little-known but significant story to that last mission. A possible coup on the night of Aug. 14-15 had been planned by the Japanese Army to prevent the Emperor from surrendering. However, all the B-29s flying over Tokyo that night brought fear of another atomic bomb being dropped and resulted in a complete blackout and disrupted any attempt at a coup.

At the conclusion of the war, the 29th BG, including the 43rd, flew mercy missions dropping food and supplies to liberated allied POWs, flew reconnaissance missions and was part of show-of-force missions. The 29th BG returned to the United States at the end of

1945 having received two Distinguished Unit Citations during the war.

On June 25, 1990, the 43rd Squadron was reactivated as a flying training squadron at Columbus AFB but was deactivated in 1992. In 1997 the unit was again activated at Columbus but as the 43rd Flying Training Flight. It was then reactivated as a squadron on June 5, 1998, to provide associate reserve pilots to support the mission of the 14th Flying Training Wing at Columbus.

According to Lt. Col Jason "JB" Barlow, commander of the 43rd FTS, its mission at Columbus consists of "providing unrivaled instructor pilots to AETC in a total force integration effort to cultivate airman and create pilots ... the world's best pilots."

The heritage of the squadron is evidenced by it having earned three campaign streamers, Distinguished Unit Citations and numerous other awards. It is a grand and continuing heritage. It is a heritage that 75 years ago this weekend included flying in the last combat mission of World War II.

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 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 FSS 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 AFB Living.

Live Games on Columbus Air Force Base Living Facebook

Tune in on the Columbus Air Force Base Living's Facebook for a live game every 2nd and 4th Thursday at noon. Live games such as Pictionary, Trivia, and Charades. Show off your quick thinking from the comfort of your own home and win a prize!

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation's hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday/Sunday, 9-10 a.m. ODR offers all sorts of rental for the water, camping, and much more! Don't miss the Shooting Tournament scheduled for 12 September. For more information, call ODR at (662) 434-2505. Please note, all events can be cancelled or rescheduled due to COVID-19.

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.

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.-2 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.

Bowling Center

The Bowling Center lanes are back open! Hours are Tuesday-Friday: 3-9 p.m., Saturday: noon-6 p.m. Sign-up via the Bowling Center's Facebook page. Limited to 4 persons per lane. Maximum of 20 people in the facility. Only beverages and packaged snacks will be available during bowling hours. For more information, call (662) 434-3426.

Library Curbside Delivery

The library is offering curbside delivery. Find your book at www.columbusafb.milasolutions.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 the number provided 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

Arts and crafts is open and offers custom engravings, framing, and much more! For more information, call arts and crafts at (662) 434-7856.

Fitness Center

The Fitness Center is open and back to normal hours of operations – Monday-Friday: 5 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday & Sunday: 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Holidays: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Currently serving Active Duty only during this initial phase. Space is limited! Patrons must sign up via SignUpGenius to secure a spot/access. The link is: <https://www.signugenius.com/go/904054CAAAB2AABFF2-august>. There will be no 24/7 access. Please note some important things: 100% ID Card Check. Bathrooms only available. No showers or lockers for use. Bring gym necessities only. No rental equipment. For more information, call the Fitness Center at (662) 434-2772.

Independence Pool

The Independence Pool season has been extended through September 27th! It is open every week from Thursday-Monday. Lap swim is from 0600-0900. Lap swim is from 6-9 a.m. Open swim is available during these blocks of time: 10 a.m.-noon, 1-3 p.m., and 4-6 p.m. Diving is available Monday and Thursday only. Please note, after every swim block the pool will be closed completely to be sanitized prior to the next swim block. The maximum amount of people allowed in the pool is 50. In front of the pool there is a sign out front with green on one side and red on the other. Green signifies the pool can accept more people and red signifies they are at capacity. Daily "per visit" passes can be purchased at the pool, however, summer passes need to be purchased at Outdoor Recreation during their business hours. For more information, please call the Independence Pool at (662) 434-2491 or Outdoor Recreation at (662) 434-2507. Please note, any hours can be changed without notice due to COVID-19.

chased at the pool, however, summer passes need to be purchased at Outdoor Recreation during their business hours. For more information, please call the Independence Pool at (662) 434-2491 or Outdoor Recreation at (662) 434-2507. Please note, any hours can be changed without notice due to COVID-19.

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.

Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT)

Information, Tickets & Travel is back open! Hours are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Come by and check out their new location right by the Coffee House on 5th. For more information, call (662) 434-7861.

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? Packages include Universal Studios and Disney destinations. To book your vacation at www.americaforcestravel.com or visit your ITT office at (662) 434-7861.

CAFB Library

The Base Library is offering virtual story time, live craft demonstrations, book clubs and other activities on their Facebook page: @columbusairforcebaselibrary. 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, 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 CAFB Riding Stables usually has stall space available. For pricing and more information, contact Outdoor 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 self-help bicycle repair. 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.

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

Medical Corner



Keep the kids moving all summer long

The benefits of being physically active for children and adolescents include improved cardiovascular fitness, muscular fitness, bone health and cognition along with an increased likelihood of being healthy as an adult. To achieve these health benefits, children and adolescents should participate in a minimum of 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity per day, with a focus on participating in vigorous activities at least three days per week. In addition, resistance-training and bone-strengthening activities should be incorporated into the daily 60 minutes three days per week.

Here are a few tips for encouraging your kids to be active all summer long:

Maintain a structured routine: Develop a daily schedule that includes time allotted for movement-related activities to ensure your kids meet the minimum physical activity recommendations. These can be scheduled in small intervals throughout the day or in larger blocks. By making physical activity a priority and encouraging your children to participate in activities they enjoy, you can help them develop lifelong healthy habits.

Set goals: Take the time to talk with your children so that the goals are relevant to them and relate to something they specifically want to achieve. These can include completing a certain number of movement-related tasks each week, achieving a time for completing an activity such as a race or obstacle course, or developing a specific skill such as catching a baseball, dribbling a basketball or doing a cartwheel. You can also set small rewards for the achievement of each goal to help keep your child motivated.

Make it a family affair: Plan activities that get the whole family moving together. These can include bike rides, hikes and backyard games such as water balloon fights, scavenger hunts, obstacle courses, relay races, and kickball.

Find structured activities: If possible, enroll your kids in structured programs that incorporate physical activity such as sports and summer camps. Also, take advantage of the variety of virtual programs that are offered to kids such as online dance classes, martial arts lessons and creative fitness programing designed specifically for kids.



Regardless of which strategies you use to encourage your kids to be active throughout the summer, the most important thing is to make it fun. Find activities that your children enjoy, which will help motivate them to stick with it, and do not be afraid to challenge them to try something new.

How to Get Your Kids Moving Throughout Summer 2020. Retrieved from <https://www.acefitness.org/education-and-resources/lifestyle/blog/7571/how-to-get-your-kids-moving-throughout-summer-2020/>

Know the warning signs: Heat exhaustion and heat stroke

Dehydration is a serious medical condition. Exercising in hot, humid weather can rapidly raise your body's core temperature, putting you at risk of heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

Heat exhaustion is a milder form of heat-related illness that can develop after several days of exposure to high temperatures, and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids.

Signs of heat exhaustion include:

- Heavy sweating
- Muscle cramps
- Fatigue
- Weakness
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Fainting
- Nausea or vomiting
- Dark urine
- Cool, moist skin

The pulse rate may be slow and weak. If heat exhaustion is untreated, it may progress to heat stroke.

Heat stroke is the most serious heat-related illness. Body temperature may rise to 103°F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes.

With heat stroke victims, look for the following symptoms:

- Dry, hot skin (no sweating)
- Rapid, weak pulse
- Confusion
- A body temperature of above 103°F
- Seizures
- Unconsciousness

If you see someone with any warning signs of heat stroke, call 911 immediately, then cool the victim however you can (for example, move him/her to a shady spot or an air-conditioned location, or wet his/her skin with a sponge or hose).

Exercise Safely in Hot Weather. Retrieved from <https://www.eatright.org/fitness/sports-andperformance/hydrate-right/exercise-safely-in-hotweather>

BLAZE Hangar Tails: T-38C Talon II

Mission

The T-38 Talon II is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer used in a variety of roles because of its design, economy of operations, ease of maintenance, high performance and exceptional safety record. Air Education and Training Command is the primary user of the T-38 for joint specialized undergraduate pilot training. Air Combat Command, Air Force Materiel Command and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration also use the T-38A in various roles.

Features

The T-38 has swept wings, a streamlined fuselage and tricycle landing gear with a steerable nose wheel. Two independent hydraulic systems power the ailerons, rudder and other flight control surfaces. Critical aircraft components are waist high and can be easily reached by maintenance crews.

The T-38C incorporates a "glass cockpit" with integrated avionics displays, head-up display and an electronic "no drop bomb" scoring system. The AT-38B has a gun sight and practice bomb dispenser. The T-38 needs as little as 2,300 feet (695.2 meters) of runway to take off and can climb from sea level to nearly 30,000 feet (9,068 meters) in one minute. T-38s modified by the propulsion modernization program have approximately 19 percent more thrust, reducing takeoff distance by 9 percent.

Background

Air Education and Training Command uses the T-38C to prepare pilots for front-line fighter and bomber aircraft such as the F-15E Strike Eagle, F-15C Eagle, F-16 Fighting Falcon, B-1B Lancer, A-10 Thunderbolt and F-22 Raptor.

The Talon first flew in 1959. More than 1,100 were delivered to the Air Force between 1961 and 1972 when production ended. As the T-38 fleet has aged, specific airframe, engine and system components have been modified or replaced. Pacer Classic is the name given to a sustainment program that integrates essential modifications, and includes major structural replacements into one process.

AETC began receiving T-38C models in 2001 as part of the Avionics Upgrade

Program. T-38C models will also undergo a propulsion modernization program which replaces major engine components to enhance reliability and maintainability, and an engine inlet/injector modification to increase available takeoff thrust. These upgrades and modifications, with the Pacer Classic program, should extend the service life of T-38s to 2020.

Advanced JSUPT students fly the T-38C in aerobatics, formation, night, instrument and cross-country navigation training.

Test pilots and flight test engineers are trained in T-38s at the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. Air Force Materiel Command uses the T-38 to test experimental equipment such as electrical and weapon systems.

Pilots from most North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries train in the T-38 at Sheppard AFB, Texas, through the Euro-NA-TO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration uses T-38 aircraft as trainers for astronauts and as observers and chase planes on programs such as the space shuttle.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Advanced jet pilot trainer

Builder: Northrop Corp.

Power Plant: Two General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet engines with afterburners

Thrust: 2,050 pounds dry thrust; 2,900 with afterburners

Thrust (with PMP): 2,200 pounds dry thrust; 3,300 with afterburners

Length: 46 feet, 4 inches (14 meters)

Height: 12 feet, 10 inches (3.8 meters)

Wingspan: 25 feet, 3 inches (7.6 meters)

Speed: 812 mph (Mach 1.08 at sea level)

Ceiling: Above 55,000 feet (16,764 meters)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 12,093 pounds (5,485 kilograms)

Range: 1,093 miles

Armament: T-38A/C: none; AT-38B: provisions for practice bomb dispenser

Unit Cost: \$756,000 (1961 constant dollars)

Crew: Two, student and instructor

Date Deployed: March 1961

Inventory: Active force, 546; ANG, 0; Reserve 0



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Keith Holcomb
A T-38 Talon flies in a dissimilar formation of aircraft from Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., over Mississippi, May 9, 2020. The flyover was an opportunity to honor the men and women on the front lines in the fight against COVID-19 during the Defense Department's #AmericaStrong salute. The flyover consisted of the T-6A Texan II, T-1A Jayhawk and the T-38 Talon.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
A T-38 Talon taxis for takeoff Dec. 19, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Talons are the oldest training aircraft on Columbus AFB, some of them being from the late 1960's.

CMSgt Bass installed as the Air Force's 19th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

Charles Pope

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

JOINT BASE ANDREWS, Md. — Chief Master Sgt. JoAnne S. Bass formally took the reins Aug. 14 as the Air Force's 19th Chief Master Sergeant, in the process becoming the first woman and the first person of Asian American descent to be elevated to the service's highest-ranking enlisted officer.

In remarks after the formal "Change of Responsibility" ceremony in which she assumed the job from retiring Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright, Bass marveled at the arc of her career and the moment in history.

"Twenty-seven years ago, I joined our United States Air Force with the plan of doing four quick years and figuring out what I wanted to do in life," she said. "Never would I have imagined I would be standing before you today as your 19th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force."

Bass's claim to history followed by one week another major milestone, when Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr., her new boss, was formally installed as the 22nd Air Force Chief of Staff. That act made Brown the first African-American in history to become the highest-ranking officer of a U.S. military service. Brown acknowledged the significance by noting the path created by "Tuskegee Airmen, Benjamin O. Davis Jr., Chappie James and African American leaders across our Air Force and military."

"The same holds true today," Bass said. "It is a moment that could not have taken place without the efforts of many women who have gone before me."

"Our Air Force today is on the right side of history. We are creating not only historic moments with the first African American service chief and the first female and Asian American Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, but we are focused on setting a foundation for all Americans to see themselves in this great institution," she said.

"To anyone who never thought they could be a Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, a Chief of Staff, or a Secretary of the Air Force, or a commander or a first sergeant, this historic moment is for you," she said.

Bass also paid tribute to Wright and to Gen. David L. Goldfein, the 21st Air Force Chief of Staff.

Wright and Goldfein, she said, "had a monumental impact on each of us. It's been a true honor to watch and serve under you both."



Chief Master Sgt. JoAnne S. Bass salutes during the national anthem at the beginning of a chief master sergeant of the Air Force change of responsibility ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Aug. 14, 2020. Bass succeeded Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright as the 19th chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

U.S. Air Force photo by Eric Dietrich



U.S. Air Force photo by Andy Morataya

LEFT: Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr. congratulates Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass during the change of responsibility ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Aug. 14, 2020.



U.S. Air Force photo by Eric Dietrich

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass salutes the Air Force honor guard during the change of responsibility ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Aug. 14, 2020. Bass succeeded Wright as the 19th chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

As for what comes next and how she plans to lead, Bass was direct, "We have much to get after."

Bass said she would continue to adhere to leadership principles gleaned from her parents and from her husband, Rahn, a retired Army First Sergeant.

"What my parents did instill in me is the value of hard work and treating people well. That is something that I will continue on as your Chief – hard work and treating people well," she said.

Her husband, Bass said, "taught me to always take the 'hard right' versus the 'easy wrong.' And my word to all Airmen is that we will always take the hard right; meaning, we will always do the right thing even when it's not comfortable."

Similar to the previous week when Brown became Chief of Staff and Goldfein officially retired, Friday's ceremony took place in the same hangar at Joint Base Andrews and was equal parts a celebration of Bass and a heartfelt tribute to Wright's service.

"Chief Wright epitomizes servant leadership. He's a mentor, an inspiration and a leader," said Department of the Air Force Secretary Barbara Barrett.

"Chief Wright offered sage advice on issues

ranging from welfare and morale to readiness and the resiliency of his more than 410,000 enlisted Airmen. His influence on Airmen will endure," she said.

Then turning to Bass, Barrett said, "Today, the 19th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, JoAnne Bass, becomes a worthy successor to Chief Wright."

"Chief Bass, your extraordinary record of service has prepared you well to serve as the 19th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. I look forward to working with you as we lead the Air Force toward the future," Barrett said.

Barrett also announced a new Air Force award, the "Goldfein-Wright Inclusive Leadership Award" that recognizes the legacy of both previous leaders on questions of diversity and inclusion across the Air Force.

"Recognizing the colossal impact of Gen. Goldfein and Chief Wright together on Department of the Air Force diversity and inclusion, today we are unveiling a new award – the Goldfein-Wright Inclusive Leadership Award," she said.

The award, she said, will "recognize the command team that best fosters inclusion to achieve mission success."

In his remarks, Brown honored both Bass and Wright. "It is a privilege to be part of this special ceremony marking the historic transfer of responsibility to honor two tremendous enlisted leaders and to give thanks to two phenomenal Air Force families," he said.

As for Bass, Brown said after listing her career highlights, "What is more important to know about Chief Master Sergeant Bass is that she is ready and she is willing to serve. She has the passion, the skills and the strength of character we need to lead us, to face head on the demanding challenges of today and of the future."

In the global search for the 19th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Bass emerged as the consensus choice from a group of more than a dozen finalists from across the Air Force, officials said. The finalists were selected based on breadth of experience, recommendations from senior commanders and performance across each candidate's Air Force career.

Prior to becoming Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Bass served as command chief master sergeant, Second Air Force, at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi. In that assignment, Bass was the senior enlisted leader and advisor to the

commander on all matters relating to the professional development, proper utilization, and the readiness of the enlisted corps.

In his farewell remarks, Wright thanked a long list of people who guided him throughout his career, including his wife Tonya, his family and a broad array of Air Force colleagues. Chief among them was Goldfein.

"The one thing I can say is, you always, always, always stood by me.... I cannot tell you how much I appreciate you as a boss and maybe more importantly, as a friend and as a brother," Wright said of Goldfein, who attended the ceremony with his wife, Dawn.

Goldfein reciprocated earlier in the ceremony when he served to formally retire Wright.

"Ladies and gentlemen, Chief Kaleth Wright is an inspirational leader of Airmen and servant of Airman, and together with Tonya, a voice for their families," Goldfein said.

"You have well and faithfully – well, and faithfully – discharged the duties of the office of the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. Dawn and I and the rest of the Air Force family wish you and Tonya clear skies and fair winds as we start our next chapters."



U.S. Air Force photo by Andy Morataya

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass and her husband, Rahn Bass, walk arm in arm as they leave the change of responsibility ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Aug. 14, 2020.