16 SILVER WINGS
Dec. 18, 2020 Cultivate, Create, CONNECT



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SILVERIWINGS

"Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots, CONNECT

Vol. 44, Issue 24 Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. December 18,



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/groom ing 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:

- Dining indoors is prohibited.
- Bars, casinos or breweries or similar establishments re prohibited.
- 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 bintained.



J.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Willia

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen, 14th Flying Training Wing public affairs specialist, observes pilots undergoing hypobaric chamber training Dec. 7, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Jacobsen participated in a job swap program, which gives airmen from around the base a chance to see what other units do to ensure the mission runs smoothly.

Program creates new experiences for Airmen across base

Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 14th Flying Training Wing at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi seized a new opportunity allowing Airmen to further integrate and understand the mission capabilities of units across the base.

Known as the job swap program, the tool allows Airmen from different units on the base an opportunity to be worked into other Air Force jobs.

"I saw this program at Lakenheath and the perspective it gave to our junior Airmen, and I wanted to bring that here,"

See **PROGRAM**, Page 4

CHECK OUT COLUMBUS AFB ON SOCIAL MEDIA









Columbus AFB YouTube page

Columbus AFB Facebook page

www.columbus.af.mil

COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019

Operation Warp Speed official: first COVID-19 vaccines arrive Dec. 14

Terri Moon Cronk DOD News

WASHINGTON — The nation's first vaccines for the deadly COVID-19 virus that has plagued most of 2020 will be distributed Monday, following yesterday's emergency-use authorization by the Food and Drug Administration for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, Army Gen. Gustave F. Perna said in a press briefing today.

Perna is the chief operating officer for Operation Warp Speed — an effort led by several U.S. government components and public partnerships to move the development, manufacturing and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and

"Make no mistake — distribution has begun," Perna said, adding that right now, boxes are being packed and loaded with vaccines, with emphasis on quality con-

"We expect 145 sites across all the states to receive the vaccine on Monday," the general specified, "another 425 sites on Tuesday and the final 66 sites on Wednesday, which will complete the initial delivery of the Pfizer orders for the

Within the next 24 hours, vaccines will begin moving from the Pfizer manufacturing facility to the United Parcel Service and FedEx hubs and then will go out to the 636 locations nationwide. Those sites were previously identified by U.S. states

"The massive logistical planning our military has contributed to Operation Warp Speed gives me even more pride in the talent and dedication of our service members," Acting Defense Secretary Christopher C. Miller said in a statement yesterday. "They have been crucial in bringing a safe and effective vaccine to the American people and in restoring the health of our country."

The Army general said work remains to



U.S. Air Force Photo

Dr. Moncef Slaoui, left, chief advisor to Operation Warp Speed, and Army Gen. Gustave F. Perna, chief operating officer of OWS, visit a UPS freezer farm in Louisville, Ky., Dec. 3, 2020.

"The massive logistical planning our military has contributed to Operation Warp Speed gives me even more pride in the talent and dedication of our service members," Acting Defense Secretary Christopher C. Miller said in a statement yesterday. "They have been crucial in bringing a safe and effective vaccine to the American people and in restoring the health of our country."

be done to distribute the vaccine to the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-

the situation brings to us," he said. "As we work through many time zones [and] many areas of concern, we will manage lic health officers and health-care com-

the distribution on a day-to-day process." lished by the "incredible experts" of the

tion, the capability and capacity of com-"We remain agile and adaptive to what mercial industry — including Pfizer, McKesson, FedEx, UPS, Walgreens, CVS and ... most importantly, the governors' pubmunities — that this plan will be suc-It is only through the foundation estab- cessful," Perna said. "Because of the sheer

See VACCINE, Page 3

Silver Wings

How to reach us

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Submission Deadline

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

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or Kristin.Melcher@bmhcc.org

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Army Gen. Gustave F. Perna, chief operating officer of Operation Warp Speed, monitors a simulation exercise in Washington, D.C., Nov. 13, 2020. Operation Warp Speed is an effort by several U.S. government components and public partnerships to facilitate the development, manufacturing and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.

VACCINE

(Continued from page 2)

energy and the whole-of-America approach, I am absolutely 100% confident that we are going to distribute safely this precious commodity ... [which is] needed to defeat the enemy COVID."

The general emphasized nearly 100,000 Americans have already rolled up their sleeves and participated in clinical trials across Amer-

"They were the true first recipients of the vaccine," he said of the vaccine volunteers. "They deserve our utmost respect and appreciation. Without them, we could not be here today. They're true American heroes. This is a monumental week for us all, as we distribute the first millions of doses of vaccines to the American people. But each week that follows, we will have more doses ready for allocation and distribution."

Of the work that remains to be done, he noted, OWS' mission is not complete until every American

A Department of Health and Human Services employee holds a COVID-19 vaccine record card in Washington, D.C., Nov. 13, 2020. The cards will be sent out as part of vaccination kits from Operation Warp Speed, which is an effort by several U.S. government components and public partnerships to facilitate the development, manufacturing and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.

our only goal. We work every day dence that OWS will get the vacto achieve it," Perna said.

Starting Monday morning, as that it will be safe and it will be se-OWS goes through an update on cure when it arrives. "I want to say has access to the vaccine, of those where it stands operationally, the thanks to everybody for getting us who want it and receive it. "This is general says he has 100% confi- here today," he said.

cines to the American people, and



Saturday: Dec. 26 – 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

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U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams

U.S. Air Force pilots from the 37th Flying Training Squadron undergo hypobaric chamber training Dec. 7, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The training, provided by the 14th Operations Support Squadron aerospace physiology technicians, is used as a simulation for pilots to feel the effects of high altitude on the human body, such as



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams

U.S. Air Force aerospace physiology technicians with the 14th Operations Support Squadron help prepare pilots from the 37th Flying Training Squadron for hypobaric chamber training Dec. 7, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. During hypobaric chamber training, pilots go through a series of test to simulate the effects of high altitude, such as low oxygen and low ambient air pressure.

PROGRAM

(Continued from page 1)

said U.S. Air Force Maj. Joshua Mann, 14th Comptroller Squadron commander.

This program falls in line with Chief of Staff of the Air Force Brown's Accelerate, Change or Lose priorities, building a foundation for "multi-capable and adaptable team builders."

Two participants of the program, Senior Airman David Richardson, 14th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technician, and Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen, 14th Flying Training Wing public affairs specialist, experienced and obtained a new-found appreciation for other jobs.

Richardson traded in his typical duty equipment for a Nikon z7 camera and traveled around the base with other public affairs personnel to see what the job is all

"I think it is a great way to see how the base runs," said Richardson. "I would do it again tomorrow just to gain the experience."



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman David Richardson, 14th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technician, looks through his recently captured photos on Microsoft Bridge Nov. 30, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The Department of Defense uses a variety of editing software to include Microsoft Bridge, Premier, Photoshop and InDesign as an effort to ensure quality products are being produced.

Jacobsen took a break from editing, filming and writing to find out what aerospace physiology technicians do and how they play a part during flight and showing them worked as a team to provide the derstand what other career fields in the mission.

how it affects their bodies and pertraining."



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman David Richardson, 14th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment technician, practices photographing aircraft during a job swap with Public Affairs Nov. 11, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Air Force Public Affairs advances Air Force priorities and achieves mission objectives through integrated planning, execution, and assessment of communication capa-

ing before they take to the skies," information. It was interesting role to ensure the mission continsaid Jacobsen. "Teaching pilots the to see the airmen who gave them ues to run safely and effectively. warning signs for a lack of oxygen this hands on course and how they

When Airmen can see and undo and how they contribute, a new "They give pilots crucial train- formance skills is all need-to-know Each unit plays an important appreciation can be formed.

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"

Hearts Apart

The next Hearts Apart will be Dec. 18, time TBD, at the Youth Center. 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.

Smooth Move Relocation Workshop

The next Smooth Move is from 10-11 a.m. Dec. 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 ques tions you may have during this event. Pre-reg istration 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. Jan. 6 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.

Heart Link

The next "Zoom" Heart Link / Spouse Welcome is from 8:30 a.m.-noon Jan. 7. This halfday program is open to all spouses of active duty military members assigned to Columbus AFB. Attendees will receive information about life in the Air Force, in the local area and at Columbus AFB from local subject matter experts including spouse leaders. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Transition Assistance Program Workshop

The next Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 11-15 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.

The Spirit of Giving



Courtesy photo

Twenty-five members from the 14th Operations Support Squadron pose for a photo after wrapping presents and preparing nearly 750 gifts for over 30 families on Dec. 12, 2020, in Columbus, Miss. The OSS members worked with the United Way of Lowndes & Noxubee County to make the volunteer opportunity happen.

Department of Labor Transition Vo- Bundles for Babies cational Track Workshop

The next DoL Transition Vocational Track Workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Jan. 19-20 and will be held in the A&FRC. This workshop helps members identify skills, increase awareness of training and credentialing programs, and develop an action plan to achieve career goals. To register or for more information, please call A&-FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

The next Wing Newcomers Orientation will be held on Jan. 26 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.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

The next Entrepreneurship Track Transition workshop will be held on Jan. 28-29 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

The next "Zoom" Bundles for Babies workshop is from 1-3:30 p.m. Feb. 11. 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.

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 Cenoperating their own business. To register or for ter, Child Development Center, Library, Medical Retiree Activities Office and many other locators seeing you all soon!

tions. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Installation Voting Assistance Office

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

Discovery Resource Center

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

Pre- and Post-Deployment Tour

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

Pre-Separation Counseling

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

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 more information, please call A&FRC at (662) Clinic, Chapel, Airman's Attic, Thrift Store, the help during this time and we are looking forward

FSS Services 12 SILVER WINGS Dec. 18, 2020 Cultivate, Create, CONNECT

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 (662) 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!

Back to School Planning

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

Youth Center Winter Camp

Youth Center is hosting Winter Camp which offers full day care from 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. for children 5-12 during each session. Session 1: Dec. 21-23, Session 2: Dec. 29-31, and Session 3: Jan. 5-8. Participants will enjoy lots of holiday activities, a countdown to the New Year, science, games, fitness, and fun! Breakfast, lunch and a snack will be provided. Call (662) 434-2504 to register. Youth Center will be closed Dec 25-28 for the Christmas Holiday.

Strike Zone Grill at the Columbus Club/The Over-

The Strike Zone Grill (also known as the Snack Bar) has move to The Overrun at The Columbus Club and features DINE-IN and TAKE-OUT service. It's the same great food, same great staff, at a new location. The hours are Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m. - 2p.m., Sat & Sun: Closed. Breakfast is offered until 10:30 a.m. For takeout orders, call (662) 434- 3426.

Bowling Center

The Bowling Center lanes are 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 four persons per lane. Maximum of 20 people in the facility. Beverages and packaged snacks will be available during bowling hours. For more information, call (662)

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 be ready during 1 – 4 p.m. that same day. Before picking up, please information, call the Fitness Center at (662) 434-2772. make sure you get a confirmation email stating your book is ready for pickup. When you park in the back parking lot, please give on January 8th at 7 a.m. Sign-up on the Fitness Center's SignUp- 434-2507.



the library a call at (662) 434-2934 so the library knows you are there. When returning books, you can drop them off anytime at the book drop off located in the back parking lot of the library. To return DVDs and audiobooks, please call us at (662) 434-2934 on Monday-Friday from 1 – 4 p.m. for an employee to meet you at the 434-7861. back parking lot to pick it up from your car. Please note, all rentals are first come, first serve.

SERVICE CENTER

Arts and Crafts

FORCE

Stop by Arts & Crafts for all you Framing and Engraving needs! Call A&C at (662) 434-7856 to arrange for curbside pickup.

Inspiration In Motion – Virtual Skateboard Art Workshop

Arts & Crafts is hosting a virtual skateboard art workshop with artist Mark Rivard on December 21st at 4:15 p.m. Call A&C at (662) 434-7836 to arrange to pick up your supplies to create your own skateboard deck! After you receive your skateboard deck and Sharpies, A&C will email you a link to the virtual workshop.

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. Check with the Fitness Center for their holiday hours. Now serving all eligible DoD cardholders! And, you can now reserve 90 minute blocks. Space is limited! Patrons must sign up via SignUpGenius to secure a spot/access. The link is https:// www.signupgenius.com/tabs/93d7ede00a2cae5c42-fitness. There will be no 24/7 access. Please note some important things: 100% ID Card Check. Bathrooms only available. No showers or lockers sent when your order is ready! Orders received before 11 a.m. will for use. Bring gym necessities only. No rental equipment. For more Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair

Don't miss the Fresh Start 5K presented by the Fitness Center self-help bicycle repair. For more information, contact (662)

Genius page: https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/93d7ede00a-

Outdoor Recreation

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

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. - 5p.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, Thursday, and Friday from 10 a.m. - 5p.m. (closed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday). Come by and check out their new location at Outdoor Recreation building 152. For more nformation, call (662) 434-7861 or (662) 434-2507.

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)

Exclusive Military Vacation Packages

Did you know that you can book exclusive military vacation packages at ITT and save up to 60%? American Forces Travel is now serving APF and NAF civilians. Packages include Universal Studios and Disney destinations. To book your vacation at www.americaforcestravel.com or visit your ITT office at (662)

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, 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.

Outdoor Recreation is now offering lawn mower repair and

Ceremonial guardsman recognized

Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams 14th Flying Training Wing

It is tradition for senior leadership to

present airmen with a coin for exceptionally demonstrating the Air Force core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do.

One Airman in particular was recently awarded a coin by Chief Master Sgt. Trevor James, 14th Flying Training Wing command chief, for going above and beyond what was expected of him.

When asked how coining airmen made him feel, James replied with a smile.

"Oh, it's awesome," said James. "Usually they are so flabbergasted that somebody took the time in order to point them out."

Airman 1st Class Robert Duffy, lead ceremonial guardsman for the Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi Honor Guard, was recognized by his leadership for his hard work and dedication to not only the Honor Guard, but also to the base as a whole.

Due to the pandemic, many installations stopped or reduced the number of ceremonies being provided.

That is not the case for Columbus AFB.

Columbus AFB Honor Guard's congressionally-mandated mission is to provide military funeral honors for the United States' nation's business is important."

fallen service members. The area of responsi bility included 74 counties in Mississippi and

Since joining Honor Guard a year and a half ago, Duffy has led 374 Military Funeral Honors and trained 54 ceremonial guardsmen and Veterans of Foreign Wars personnel.

When asked how it felt to provide the service to military families, Duffy said it is one of the jobs where you see the impact quickly and the career is very rewarding.

Aside from leading ceremonies, Duffy also lead the refurbishment of 17 M-14 rifles, saving the Air Force \$3,000 in new purchases.

"It feels really good to be recognized," said Duffy. "I didn't do it for any type of recognition. I just happened to be here and knew what needed to be done."

The Honor Guard also supports many community and base events such as change of commands, retirement ceremonies, community parades and formal events.

Coining is a great tool used to remind Airmen that every member, no matter the rank has an impact on the mission.

"What I would love to get out of coining airmen is for them to realize what they do matters," said James "And the fact that they are hauling the mail and taking care of the



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Duncan-Doublin

Chief Master Sgt. Trevor James, 14th Flying Training Wing command chief, presents Airman 1st Class Robert Duffy, Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard lead ceremonia guardsman, with a coin, Dec. 11, 2020, on Columbus AFB, Miss. Duffy has served with the base Honor Guard for a year and a half and has since then brought many improvements, gaining recognition from leadership.



Chief Master Sqt. Trevor James (L), 14th Flying Training Wing command chief, stand along-side Airman 1st Class Robert Duffy, Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard lead ceremonial guardsman and Master Sgt. Anthony Dunn (R), non-commissioned officer in charge of. Columbus AFB Honor Guard, Dec. 11, 2020, on Columbus AFB, Miss.



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Duncan-Doublin

Chief Master Sgt. Trevor James, 14th Flying Training Wing command chief, talks with Airmen from the Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard, Dec. 11, 2020, on Columbus AFB. Miss. The Honor Guard also supports many community and base events such James recently presented Duffy with a coin for demonstrating excellence within the as change of commands, retirement ceremonies, community parades, and formal 6 SILVER WINGS Dec. 18, 2020 Cultivate, Create, CONNECT Cultivate, Create, CONNECT

49th FTS change of command



U.S. Air Force Col. Justin Spears, 14th Operations Group commander, passes a guidon to Lt. Col. Darin Elgersma, 49th Fighter Training Squadron commander, during a change of command ceremony on Dec. 10, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Members of the 49th FTS deploy to support fighter syllabus and operational training requirements for Close Air Support and Dissimilar Air Combat Training.



U.S. Air Force Col. Justin Spears, 14th Operations Group commander, speaks to the 49th Fighter Training Squadron during a change of command ceremony on Dec. 10, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The mission for the 49th Fighter Training Squadron is to develop fighter wingmen.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams

U.S. Air Force Col. Justin Spears (L), 14th Operations Group commander, stands alongside Lt. Col. Brian Benton (M), former 49th Fighter Training Squadron commander and Lt. Col. Darin Elgersma (R), 49th FTS commander, during a change of command ceremony on Dec. 10, 2020, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The 49th FTS conducts Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals flying training for over 75 U.S. Air Force pilots, international pilots and Weapon System Officers annually.



Winter fire safety

Darren Amos

Fire Inspector

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season. Dial 911 to report any emergency.

Holiday decorating



- Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from ecorations and other items that
- Some lights are only for inloor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the ords do not get damaged.
- Do not overload electrical outlet and/or daisy chain extension cords
- If using a living tree, ensure you water it daily. If the needles are falling off, this is a sign that it is too dry and could become easily combustible.

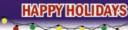
Holiday entertaining



- Test your smoke alarms and practice your home fire
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high and out of ach for children
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking. Unatended cooking is still the #1 cause of home fires!
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Provide large, leep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts ith water before discarding.
- Blow out candles before retiring for the eve-
- If using portable space heaters, insure they are JL listed and have an auto shutoff feature should the heater get tipped over.

Data extracted from National Fire Protection Asociation (NFPA) website





De-stress and stay tobacco free

Everyone feels stress sometimes. It's a natural physical or emotional response to challenging situations or even good things like being promoted, moving, starting a new relationship or getting married. When you're a tobacco user, your first reaction to stress may be to reach for a tobacco product such as a cigarette, a dip or an e-cigarette. Instead, try stress reduction tools to help you focus on staying quit.

Know Your Stressors

Knowing what makes vou feel stressed can make staying quit that much easier.

- Keep a log. Write down the situations when you feel stressed, anxious or nervous.
- Be aware of stressors that may not always be obvious. Is it traffic that gives you stress, or the fact that you wake up late and end up rushing to work? The more you learn about what makes you tick, the better prepared you will be during stressful times.

Apply the 4 A's

Once you understand what places, activities or people make you feel stressed, you can strategize how to handle it better in the future. Create a plan using the following tips:

- 1. Avoid the stressor. Nope, you can't avoid every stressful situation. But, there are some stressors you may be able to control while quitting. Maybe that means waking up 15 minutes earlier so that you don't have to rush to work.
- 2. Alter the situation. For stressors you can't get rid of try changing the situation. Relieving tension from stressful situations will make you less likely to turn to tobacco.
- 3. Accept what you can't change. It honestly takes more energy to be negative. Instead, focus on the things you can control and look at the positives when you can. You quit tobacco, and that is seriously something to be
- 4. Adapt to the situation. Look at situations from a new point of view. If you're bummed that you're not going to the hookah bar with friends so that you won't be tempted by tobacco, remind yourself that you're doing what's right

Remember, not every option is right for everyone. It is important to think about what will work for you based on what's stressful in your life, how much time you have, where you are and your personality. You might be surprised at how well you can handle life's stresses once you're armed with the right tools!

De-stress and Stay Tobacco Free. Retrieved from https://www. vcq2.org/stay-quit/stress-relief/destress-without-tobacco/

Making a Plan to Quit

You're more likely to quit tobacco for good if you prepare by creating a plan that fits your lifestyle. • Set a quit date within the next

- Choose a method: cold turkey or gradually.
- Decide if you need help from a health care provider, nicotine replacement or medicine.
- Prepare for your quit day by planning how to deal with cravings and urges.
- Quit on your quit day. Tips for Success
- 1. Deal with Urges: Whether physical or mental, learn your triggers and make a plan to address them. Avoid situations that make you want to smoke or use tobacco until you're confident that you can handle them.
- 2. Get Active: Physical activity can help you manage the stress and cravings when quitting. You'll feel better, too. heart.org/Move-
- 3. Handle Stress: Learn other healthy ways to manage the stress of quitting. heart.org/BeWell
- 4. Get Support: A buddy system or support program can help you with some of the common struggles of quitting. 1-800-QuitNow
- 5. Stick with It: Quitting tobacco takes a lot of willpower. Reward yourself when you reach milestones and forgive yourself if you take a step backward. Get back on course as soon as possible.

Life's Simple 7 Quit Smoking Infograph ic. Retrieved from https://www.heart.org/ en/healthy-living/healthy-lifestyle/my-life check--lifes-simple-7/ls7-quit-smoking-

A personal message from your health promotion Health Myth **Busting Team**



Triggers are the things that make you want to smoke. Different people have different triggers, like a stressful situation, sipping coffee, going to a party, or smelling cigarette smoke.

Emotional Triagers

An emotional trigger reminds you how you felt when you used smoking to enhance a good mood or escape a bad one, like when you were: • Stressed • Anxious • Excited • Bored • Down • Happy • Lonely • Sat-

- Try these ways to deal with emotional triggers:
- Talk about your emotions. Telling a friend or family member how you
- Take some slow, deep breaths. Deep breathing will slow down your oody, quiet your mind, and reduce cravings.
- Exercise. Physical activity is a great way to handle emotions.
- Listen to calming music. Music can relax you by slowing your heart rate and lowering blood pressure

Social Triggers

Social triggers are occasions that usually include other people who smoke: • Going to a bar • Going to a party • Going to a concert • Seeing someone else smoke • Being with friends who smoke • Celebrating a big

Once you've made the decision to quit, it is best to avoid places where people smoke and ask your friends not to smoke around you. Over time, it will get easier.

Pattern Triagers

A pattern trigger is an activity that you connect with smoking: • Talking on the phone • Drinking alcohol • Watching TV • Driving • Drinking coffee • Taking a work break

One way to beat pattern triggers is to break the association with the rigger and transfer the feeling to another activity:

- Find a replacement. Chew gum. Eat sugar-free candy. Suck on a straw.
- Try activities that keep your hands busy. Squeeze a handball. Do bead ng or needlework.
- Get moving. Go for a walk. Ride a bike. Go swimming.
- Change your routine. For example, try drinking your coffee at a different time.

Withdrawal Triggers

If you've been a long-time smoker, your body is used to getting a regular dose of nicotine. When you quit, withdrawal symptoms will produce cravings for nicotine. Withdrawal triggers include: • Craving the taste of a cigarette • Smelling cigarette smoke • Needing to do something with your hands or mouth • Feeling restless

How to deal with withdrawal triggers: Distract yourself. Find something to take your mind off the craving. See if nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) is right for you – it can reduce withdrawal symptoms.

Know Your Triggers. Retrieved from https://smokefree.gov/ challengeswhen-quitting/cravings-triggers/know-your-triggers Cultivate, Create, CONNECT Cultivate, Create, CONNECT

BLAZE Hangar Tails: HC-130P/N

The HC-130P/N is an extended-range version of the C-130 patible interior and exterior lighting. It also has forward-lookweather personnel recovery capabilities to our Combatant Commanders and Joint/Coalitions partners worldwide.

The mission of the HC-130P/N "King" is to rapidly deploy to austere airfields and denied territory in order to execute all weather personnel recovery operations anytime, anywhere. King crews routinely perform high and low altitude personnel **Background** and equipment airdrops, infiltration/exfiltration of personnel, helicopter air-to-air refueling, and forward area refueling

aviation advisory, emergency aeromedical evacuation, casualty evacuation, noncombatant evacuation operations, and, during the Space Shuttle program, space flight support for

Features

Modifications to the HC-130P/N are improved navigation, threat detection and countermeasures systems. The aircraft fleet has a fully-integrated inertial navigation and global positioning systems, and night vision goggle, or NVG, com-

Hercules transport. HC-130 crews provide expeditionary, all ing infrared, radar and missile warning receivers, chaff and flare dispensers, satellite and data-burst communications.

> The HC-130 can fly in the day; however, crews normally fly night at low to medium altitude levels in contested or sensitive environments, both over land or overwater. Crews use NVGs for tactical flight profiles to avoid detection to accomplish covert infiltration/exfiltration and transload operations.

First flown in 1964, the aircraft has served many roles and missions. It was initially modified to conduct search and rescue missions, provide a command and control platform, When tasked, the aircraft also conducts humanitarian as- in-flight-refuel helicopters and carry supplemental fuel for sistance operations, disaster response, security cooperation/ extending range and increasing loiter time during search op-

> They have been deployed to Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey in support of operations Southern and Northern Watch, Allied Force, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. HC-130s also support continuous alert commitments in Alaska and the Horn of Africa.

General Characteristics

Primary function: Rescue platform

Contractor: Lockheed Aircraft Corp.

Power Plant: Four Allison T56-A-15 turboprop engines

Thrust: 4,910 shaft horsepower, each engine Wingspan: 132 feet, 7 inches (40.4 meters) Length: 98 feet, 9 inches (30.09 meters)

Height: 38 feet, 6 inches (11.7 meters) **Weight:** 83,000 pounds (37,648 kilograms)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 155,000 pounds (69,750 ki-

Fuel Capacity: 73,000 pounds (10,724 gallons) Payload: 30,000 pounds (13,608 kilograms)

Speed: 289 miles per hour (464 kilometers per hour) at

Range: beyond 4,000 miles (3,478 nautical miles)

Ceiling: 33,000 feet (10,000 meters)

Armament: countermeasures/flares, chaff

Crew: Three officers (pilot, co-pilot, navigator) and four enlisted (flight engineer, airborne communications specialist, two loadmasters). Additional crewmembers include a Guardian Angel team consisting of one combat rescue officer and three pararescuemen

Unit Cost: \$77 million (fiscal 2008 replacement cost)

Initial operating capability: 1964

Inventory: Active force, 13; ANG, 13; Reserve, 10



U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Kevin J. Donaldson

New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing welcomes the arrival of its second new HC-130J Combat King II, May 30, 2019, at Francis S. Gabreski Air National Guard Base, Westhampton, N.Y. The new HC-130J, officially known as aircraft 17-5870, replaced the old HC-130P/Ns and will increase the 106 RQW personnel recovery capa-



Airmen of the 1st Expeditionary Rescue Group prepare to launch their HC-130J Combat King II February 24, 2020, at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. The Combat King II's mission includes recovery operations, airdrop, helicopter air-to-air refueling, and forward area ground refueling.

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

US Space Force makes history at basic military training

Annette Crawford 37th Training Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTO-NIO-LACKLAND, Texas — History was made at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Dec. 10 as the first seven people to enlist directly into the U.S. Space Force graduated from basic military training.

The five men and two women were among the 414 recruits who completed seven and a half weeks of training. Assigned to the 320th Training Squadron, their training began Oct. 20. The new Space Professionals are: Amy Biggers, Virginia Beach, Virginia; Giahna Brown, Woodbridge, Virginia; Delvano Brown, Gaithersburg, Maryland; Benjamin Nevoraski, Virginia Beach, Virginia; Shane Brown, Elijah Engelby, Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Nathan Ramage, Falcon, Colorado.

Secretary of the Air Force Barspeaker at the graduation ceremony, which was streamed live on Facebook. She spoke to the graduates about joining a heritage of month. integrity, service and excellence, and mentioned three Airmen who represent those ideals. One of those Airmen was retired Lt. Gen. Susan Helms, who flew more than 30 different types of aircraft as an Air Force test pilot and then served 12 years as an astronaut.

"General Helms was the first U.S. military woman in space. She still holds the world record for the longest spacewalk – 8 hours and 56 minutes," Barrett said. She added that Helms, in particular, represents the caliber of talent the Space Force is recruiting.

"So, it is fitting that we celebrate the historic milestone of graduating the first seven trainees to the United States Space Force." Barrett said.

The number of Space Force trainees will continue to increase over time as processes for recruitthe Space Force plans to recruit a build the Space Force as the first chief, were also at the ceremony.



Basic military training trainees take the Oath of Enlistment during their graduation ceremony, Dec. 10, 2020 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Seven members of the graduating class are the first Space Force trainees to graduate. The number of Space Force trainees will continue to increase over time as processes for recruiting and training are solidified. Approximately 312 Space Force accessions will graduate from BMT this fiscal year. Currently all Space Force accessions will become Space Systems Operations specialists.

little more than 300 enlisted mem- digital service. You will lay the bara M. Barrett was the featured bers through the end of the fiscal foundation of a service that is inyear. There are currently anoth- novative and can go fast in order er 13 trainees at BMT with seven to stay ahead of a significant and more scheduled to arrive later this growing threat, and you, if deter-

Force accessions will become Space is so vital to our nation, our allies Systems Operations specialists and and our joint and coalition forces," in February, new accessions will join for positions in additional career fields such as operations intelligence and cyber systems oper-

the Oath of Enlistment. He said seven "of our nation's finest directly

Space Force Professionals.

"I need you to be bold. You will and Training Command)." help us build this service from the ground up. You will help us define er of AETC, and Chief Master Sgt. ing and training are solidified, and our warfighting culture. You will Erik Thompson, AETC command

rence fails, will fight and win the Through January, all Space battle for space superiority which he said, adding that "the nation expects you to deliver dominant Spacepower."

"The Air Force develops the best enlisted force in history, and Chief of Space Operations Gen. we proudly and confidently secure John W. "Jay" Raymond spoke to our efforts on that foundation," the graduates before administering said Chief Master Sgt. Roger A. Towberman, U.S. Space Force that while every Basic Military senior enlisted advisor. "We are Training graduation ceremony was proud our trainees know they're important, the one on Dec. 10 was part of the Space Force from day historic as it was the first to send one, and we added a bit of Space flavor to the curriculum toward into the new United States Space that end. Over the next year, we'll continue to improve their experi-Raymond challenged the seven ence based on their feedback and in partnership with (Air Education

Lt. Gen. Brad Webb, command-



Secretary of the Air Force Barbara M. Barrett bumps elbows with U.S. Space Force Chief of Operations Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond, at the basic military training graduation, Dec. 10, 2020 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Seven members of the graduating class were the first Space Force trainees to graduate. The number of Space Force trainees will continue to increase over time as processes for recruiting and training are solidified. Approximately 312 Space Force accessions will graduate from BMT this fiscal year. Currently all Space Force accessions will become Space Systems Operations

"Today's graduation represents the great partnership we have forged while supporting the United States Space Force, and our commitment to recruit, train and educate exceptional Space Professionals," Webb said. "The cadre and staff at Basic Military Training are producing Space Professionals who have the foundational competencies to succeed in any environment, and who can adapt, decide and act at the speed needed today and for tomorrow's challenges."

"These graduates from Basic Military Training will take the foundational concepts laid here in "The First Command" and will use them to help build a bold and agile Space Force, which will ensure our nation's long-term competitive advantage in space," Thompson said.

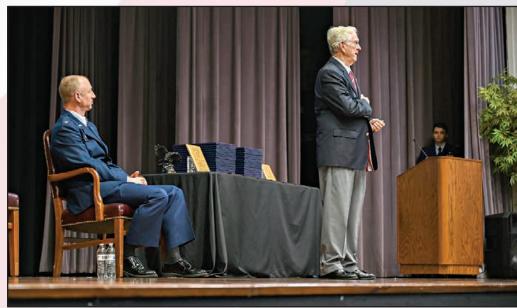
The seven Space Force Professionals will attend Space Systems Operations technical training at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. Once that training is complete, they'll perform a wide range of duties from detecting ballistic missiles and tracking satellites to assisting in rocket launches and space flight operations.



Operations Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond gives the Oath of Enlistment to basic military training araduates, Dec. 10, 2020 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Seven members of the graduating class are the first Space Force trainees to graduate. The number of Space Force trainees will continue to increase over time as processes for recruiting and training are solidified. Approximately 312 Space Force accessions will graduate from BMT this fiscal year. Currently, all Space Force accessions will become Space Systems Operations specialists.

8 SILVER WINGS Dec. 18, 2020

Columbus AFB hosts two graduations amidst COVID-19 regulations



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams

U.S. Air Force Retired Lt. Col. Richard "Gene" Smith, former Vietnam prisoner of war and former 50th Flying Training Wing commander, speaks to Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 21-03 while U.S. Air Force Col. Seth Graham, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, listens on Dec. 11, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Smith was held captive for over five years in the infamous Hoa Lo Prison, during the Vietnam War.



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

U.S. Air Force Col. Seth Graham, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, speaks to Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 21-03 and their families during a graduation ceremony on Dec. 11, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Graham has conducted more than 2,600 flight hours, including 741 combat hours.

Airman 1st Class Davis Donaldson

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Thirty-two pilots graduated from Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. on Dec. 11, 2020.

In order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the larger class was split up into two ceremonies, allowing proper social distancing among the graduates and family members attending

The guest speaker for the first ceremony was U.S. Air Force Retired Lt. Col. Richard "Gene" Smith, former Vietnam prisoner of war and former 50th Flying Training Squadron commander.

Smith offered pieces of advice to the graduates as they prepared for the next phase of their careers.

As a prisoner of war in the Vietnam War, Smith spoke about how he was shot down and held captive at the Hôa Lò Prison, otherwise known as the "Hanoi Hilton". Smith flew 33 combat missions in the F-105 Thunderchief.

Smith used his experiences from Vietnam as one of his lessons for the graduates. The lesson being how to face the enemy in today's world.

"The world that you guys are facing today is totally different than 20 years ago, 40 years and certainly 50 years ago," said Smith. "We kind of knew who the enemy was back then, even in Vietnam, but we don't know who the enemy is today. Even though the enemy may be hard to define, your job is to be so prepared that the enemy wakes up and says 'not today'."

After, Smith asked the new pilots if any of them thought that they had a bad assignment. He then proceeded to say no bad assignment exists and that the assignment is based on what the pilot makes of it. After, Smith gave closing remarks and said he was thankful for the opportunity to speak at their graduation.

For the second graduation ceremony, a guest speaker was not able to attend. Stepping up to the role was Col. Seth Graham, 14th Flying Training Wing commander.

Graham said his speech was towards the families more so than the graduates as he talked about how challenging pilot training is and how proud their families should be.

"Pilot training is one of the hardest things these young men and women will do in their career," Graham said. "It's been nearly 21 years since I graduated myself, and pilot training remains one of the most difficult challenges I have faced."

He continued by saying pilot training is hard for a reason. The U.S. Air Force cannot be the best without setting exceptional standards, he said.

"In the last year, the training has entailed countless hours in academic classrooms and learning everything from the fuel system of a T-6 to safely navigating international airspace." Graham said. "They have been tested, quizzed, questioned and evaluated relentlessly. In mere weeks, they went



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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 21-03 sit at their graduation ceremony on Dec. 11, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Students will conduct pilot training for at least a year before graduating from SUPT.

from barely being able to strap themselves into an airplane to flying solo."

After, Graham said their training was relentless because of U.S. adversaries. The U.S. Air Force must compete with adversaries at a global level through air power, he said.

Graham then congratulated SUPT Class 21-03 and began the awarding of their diplomas.

"So today we celebrate the Air Force's newest pilots," Graham said. "The road has been tough and not everyone who started this journey with you had what it takes to walk across this stage. Congratulations Class 21-03, I'm proud to call you wingmen and I look forward to watching you tackle the challenges of the future."

RIGHT: Members of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 21-03 break their "silver wings" during their graduation ceremony on Dec. 11, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. As a result of COVID-19, the SUPT Class 21-03 had to split their graduation into two separate coremonies



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Williams



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

U.S. Air Force Col. Seth Graham, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, stands with 2nd Lt. Nicole Stubbs, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training graduate, on Dec. 11, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Stubbs was assigned to fly the C-17 Globemaster III at McChord Air Force Base, Wash.



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

A graduate from Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 21-03 breaks his "silver wings" in half on Dec. 11, 2020, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. As tradition, pilots will break their first pair of wings to keep one half and give the other half to a loved one.