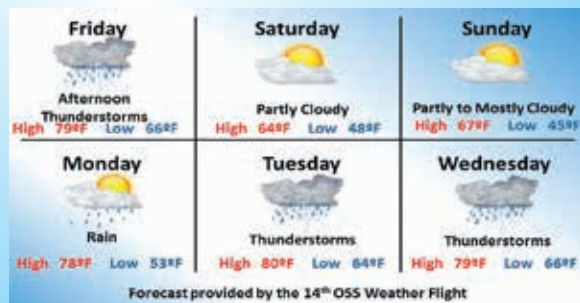


Weather



News Briefs

75th annual Spring Pilgrimage

The 75th annual Spring Pilgrimage is scheduled April 6-18. The Spring Pilgrimage is an award-winning event that has been widely recognized as one of the best and most authentic home tours in the South. For more information, go online to visitcolumbusms.org.

14th OSS Change of Command

The 14th Operations Support Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 9:14 a.m. April 9 at the Fire Station.

Holocaust Days of Remembrance museum

A Holocaust Remembrance Day museum is scheduled for 2 p.m. April 21 at the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 15-07 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

Team BLAZE members lineup for free hamburgers during the Columbus Air Force Base post-Unit Effectiveness Inspection burger burn April 1 at Freedom Park on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Members also got a chance to participate in a variety of activities such as 3-on-3 basketball, 1-pitch softball, sand volleyball and free golf.

Columbus AFB celebrates UEI rating

Senior Airman Stephanie Englar
14th Flying Training Wing

In celebration of passing the Unit Effectiveness Inspection with a rating of "Effective," Columbus Air Force Base held a burger burn April 1 in Freedom Park.

Airmen were treated to burgers and an afternoon of sports during the celebration. They participated in a variety of activ-

ities such as 3-on-3 basketball, 1-pitch softball, sand volleyball and free golf.

The UEI was held March 23-30 and evaluated Columbus Air Force Base on how well it performed in four major graded areas: executing the mission, managing resources, improving the unit and leading people.

See UEI, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (16-02)	-0.72 days	0.52 days	May 15	48th (15-07)	-2.48 days	-1.12 days	Apr. 3	49th (15-FBC)	0.46 days	1.46 days	Apr. 2	T-6	127	143	13,947
41st (16-01)	1.60 days	0.70 days	Apr. 23	50th (15-07)	-1.63 days	0.88 days	Apr. 3					T-1	46	52	4,923
												T-38	38	46	4,06
												IFF	20	21	1,876

The graduation speaker is Lt. Gen. James Kowalski, Deputy Commander of the U.S. Strategic Command.

Military Personnel Section new hours

As of March 30, the Military Personnel Section is expanding its customer service hours.

The new hours are:

7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. on Tuesdays

7:30 a.m. - noon on Thursdays

The MPS also reminds Team BLAZE that in-processing is conducted at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Appointments are also available online. For more information contact the MPS at 434-2626.

Retiree Affairs Did you know...?

Did you know that Columbus Air Force Base has appointed a new Retiree Activities Office Director? He is Mr. James Poe and can be reached at 434-3120/3121 in suite 191 of the Mission Support Group building.



UEI

(Continued from page 1)

"The feedback I received from the lead inspector was extremely positive," said Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander. "Yes, we still have challenges to work through, but our Wing is doing an exceptional job of Producing Pilots, Advancing Airmen, and Feeding the Fight."

The wing IG office demonstrated an exceptional Commander's Inspection Program and was selected as the Major General Junius W. Jones Award winner for Air Education and Training Command. Capt. Nicholas L. Powers, 14th Flying Training Wing Inspector Gen-

eral, received the Lt. Gen. Howard W. Leaf Award for AETC.

"It's important that we take time out to say thanks," Nichols said. "It's important that we take time out because I know the amount of work that has been going in to this. We need to thank all of the partners of Team BLAZE across our entire enterprise. When you go back tonight make sure you tell your families thank you because in many ways they sacrificed because you were spending long hours here, making this happen. I am so proud of the team. I am so proud of what we have done to turn some really important programs around and the fact that we are executing the mission at a very high level."

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 12 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
6 6th-18th - 75th Annual Spring Pilgrimage Apr. 6-May 1 - AFAF Campaign	7 16-08 Pilot Partner Welcome, @ Hyatt	8	9 14th OSS Change of Command, 9:14 a.m. @ Fire Station	10 King Faisal Air Academy Saudi Arabia Base visit	11/12 11th-Half marathon/5K, 7:15 a.m. @ downtown 11th-Catfish in the Alley, 10 a.m. @ downtown 11th- Mayor's Unity Picnic, 4 p.m. @ downtown (free attendance)	Apr. 20: Mentors in Violence Prevention Apr. 21: Holocaust Remembrance Day Apr. 23: Hearts Apart Apr. 28: Suicide Prevention - Mr. Kevin Hines Apr. 28: First Quarterly Awards Ceremony Apr. 30: Enlisted Promotion Ceremony
13 Lafayette High School AF JROTC visit, 10:30 a.m. Hunt Housing Town Hall Meeting, 5:30 p.m. @ Club	14	15	16	17 University of South Carolina ROTC visit SAAM run for recovery, 7 a.m. @ Fitness Center SAAM 2-person scramble golf, 2 p.m. @ Golf course	18/19 May 1: SUPT Class 15-08 Graduation May 2: Daedalians Spring Golf Tournament May 8: CCAF Graduation May 21: SUPT Class 15-09 Graduation May 21: Memorial Day Retreat May 22: AETC Family Day May 25: Memorial Day	

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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The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

Commander speaks to Base Community Council on 2015 Strategic Plan



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Stephanie Englar

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, talks about the 2015 Strategic Plan for Columbus Air Force Base at the Base Community Council luncheon March 27 at the Columbus Club. The BCC is a civilian organization that meets quarterly and allows members of the local community to stay connected to Columbus AFB and the mission of the 14th FTW.



U.S. Air Force photo/Sharon Ybarra

Six of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotions ceremony March 31 at the Columbus Club. Seven Team BLAZE Airmen were promoted during the month of March.

Seven enlisted Team BLAZE Airmen promoted

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Six Team BLAZE enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotion ceremony March 31 at the Columbus Club.

Seven Team BLAZE Airmen were promoted during the month of March.

Promoted during the month of February were:

Master Sgt. Kelly Schoerner, AFROTC

detachment 425

Tech. Sgt. Dustin Weeks, 14th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Brandon Foxx, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Staff Sgt. Janessa Ebbert, 14th SFS

Senior Airman Cody Stanley, 14th CES

Senior Airman Adrian Johnson, 14th

MDSS

Senior Airman Austin Kroeger, 14th

CES

What is the Air Force Aid Society?

Air Force Assistance Fund website

Since 1942, the Air Force Aid Society has helped Airmen and their families in times of need.

It may be for an everyday expense like a utility bill, something far more unexpected like the need to fly home for a family funeral, or a request for a special piece of medical equipment to improve the quality of life for a disabled child.

Whether your emergency is big or small, AFAS is here to help just like we did in 2014 when we provided over 18,000 emer-



gency assists totaling \$9.6 million.

In keeping with the vision of AFAS founders Gen. and Mrs. "Hap" Arnold, AFAS also offers a robust education program that helps Air Force dependent children and spouses achieve their dreams of attending college. Last year, we awarded 2,714 education grants of \$2,200 each and 15 \$5,000 merit scholarships to the children and spouses of Air Force members.

Base community programs make up the third prong of our charter. In 2014, AFAS provided \$1.6 million in childcare programs, phone cards, baby gifts, car care and spouse initiatives all designed to help alleviate some of the stresses associated with the military lifestyle.

Help us to continue the AFAS tradition of "Airman helping Airmen" with your donation to the Air Force Assistance Fund from now until May 1. You can be confident that every dollar supports a fellow Airman. Thank you for your support.

Enlisted Retirement 101 webinars

On April 7, AFPC will host two webinars about the enlisted retirement process at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Central Standard Time through Defense Connect Online. The briefing will provide valuable information to enlisted members, including various eligibility requirements and other information to consider before applying for retirement.

These webinars are intended for Airmen of the regular component, as well as representatives from the Military Personnel Sections. The webinar will open approx-

imately 30 minutes prior to the start time for attendees to log in. When logging into the webinar, please ensure attendees include their grade, name, unit, and, if applicable, number of attendees viewing from that computer. Individuals who do not provide this information, such as logging in as a "guest" without identifying data, will not be allowed to attend the webinar.

All Airmen approaching retirement eligibility, with 19 or more years of service, are invited to attend the webinar at <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/enlisted-rets-101>.



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Timothy Garcia, 14th Operations Group Superintendent, stand with fifteen senior airmen who graduated from Airman Leadership School Class 15-03 March 26 at the Columbus Club on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Garcia was guest speaker for the event and spoke of how their attitudes and motivations will not only affect them but also their Airmen.

ALS grads inspired at ceremony

Airman Daniel Lile
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Fifteen senior airmen graduated from Airman Leadership School Class 15-03 March 26 at the Columbus Club.

Chief Master Sgt. Timothy Garcia, 14th Operations Group Superintendent, was guest speaker for the event.

Garcia began his speech by speaking on the leadership examples the students have witnessed throughout their personal careers.

"In your short career, you have witnessed individuals that you looked up to, believed in, those who have inspired you, and those who have motivated you," Garcia said. "You have also witnessed individuals in your career that were negative, procrastinators, lazy, rude and unhappy."

Garcia continued to say that ALS has given them the tools to be the leaders and supervisors they want to be.

"You know what supervisors cared and what supervisors didn't care," Garcia said. "ALS provided you with tools from the profession of arms, communication, interpersonal skills and self-awareness. You now have to leverage your new skill-sets with self-awareness and be the leader you always wanted."

Garcia explained how the students' attitudes affect not only themselves but also their Airmen.

"Your attitude will affect your job perfor-

mance, your Airmen and your team," Garcia said. "Bad attitudes are like viruses. They spread quickly and can degrade organizations' effectiveness. Great leadership improves morale, it will improve your Airmen's performance and it will improve your professional relationships as a supervisor."

Garcia continued to speak about how support from others helps support Airmen's careers.

"You can do a lot alone, but you can't do it all alone," Garcia said. "Your career is molded by family, friends and the people we work for and alongside. We all have our own great leaders and mentors, and some that aren't so great, but we still learn from them all."

Garcia concluded his speech by motivating the students to strive to be the best they possibly can be.

"Class 15-03, go out there and put forth your best effort, enforce standards, adhere to our Air Force Core Values and be the supervisor you always wanted to have yourself," Garcia said. "Not because it is expected out of you, but because you want to."

Award winners for ALS Class 15-03 are:

John L. Levitow award, SrA Ariel Morgan

Commandant's award, SrA Jimmy Phillips

Academic Achievement, SrA Arron Wilson

Distinguished Graduate, SrA Ryan Malmquist

Deadline for Mississippi special general election

**14th Flying Training Wing
Voting Office**

Please be aware of the below info on the upcoming Mississippi Special General Election. Also, please let us know or come by the voting office (building 926 room 245) if you have any questions.

The State of Mississippi will conduct a special general election on May 12 for the 1st Congressional District in order to fill the vacancy created by the passing of Representative Alan Nunnelee. This district includes portions of DeSoto, Tate, Marshall, Lafayette, Calhoun, Benton, Tippah, Alcorn, Tishomingo, Prentiss, Lee, Union, Itawamba, Pontotoc, Chickasaw, Monroe, Clay, Lowndes, Webster, Choctaw, Oktibeha and Winston counties.

If you are a Mississippi resident from the 1st Congressional District and need to vote absentee, you may register and request an absentee ballot using the FPCA found at fvap.gov. Complete the form, sign and send the FPCA to your local election official who will send you a ballot once your request is received. If you are not currently registered, your form needs to be received May 2 which will also allow you to participate in the potential runoff election set for June 2.

Detailed instructions and contact information is available at fvap.gov/Mississippi. If you do not receive your requested State ballot 30 days before the election, you may use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to vote. The form and candidate names are available under "Get My Ballot."

Sexual Assault Awareness Month events

**14th Flying Training Wing
Sexual Assault Prevention
and Response Office**

To recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Columbus Air Force Base will offer several events.

The events are:

April 1 – 30: SAAM Display at Base Library

April 16: In conjunction with the Mississippi University for Women Counseling Center, "Walking a Mile in Her Shoes" – Men's March to stop Rape, Sexual Assault & Gender Violence in an effort to promote sexual assault awareness, 6 p.m. at the MUW campus. Please call Craig Watson at 329-7748 for more information.

April 17: "Run for Recovery" in con-

junction with the Fitness Center and other Helping Agencies, 7 a.m. at the base fitness center. Please call 434-2790 to sign up, strollers and walkers are welcome.

April 17: SAAM Fun Golf Outing – two person scramble, SAPR Trivia, 2 p.m. at Whispering Pines Golf Course. Please call 434-7932 to sign up.

April 20: Mentors in Violence Prevention awareness show, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at Kaye Auditorium, open to all Columbus AFB members.

If you are interested in serving in our program further please consider becoming a Victim Advocate:

May 11-15: Victim Advocate Training
For more information call Carla Neal-Bush, Sexual Assault Victim Advocate, at 434-1329 or e-mail carla.neal_bush@us.af.mil.

Commander's Action Line 434-1414

The Commander's Action Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB a better place. 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 phone number is 434-1414. Callers should leave their name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Message may be answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the PA office in the Wing Headquarters building, BLDG. 724, suite 210. Questions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.

April 2, 9, 16:

Noon Tunes

Enjoy lunch in the beautiful outdoor setting 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Trotter Courtyard in downtown Columbus; lunch available for purchase at Zachary's Restaurant, desserts available for purchase from Café on Main, complimentary soft drinks

provided by Clark Beverage, Coca-Cola.

April 10-11:

Empowered to Connect Conference

Equipping you to bring hope and healing to adopted and foster children, the live simulcast will be hosted by Bethany Christian Services at Immanuel Baptist Church featuring the trust-based parenting methods from

the TCU Institute of Child Development. \$35 per person, Located at 6342 Military Rd, Steens, Mississippi 39766. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 328-1668.

35th Annual Amory Railroad Festival

This festival is held every April in Amory's Frisco Park and surrounding areas. The festival has been cited by the Southeast Tour-

ism Society as one of the Region's Top 29 events. The festival committee features live, outdoor, and free entertainment, great food from local churches, arts and crafts booths hosted by Beta Sigma Phi XI Alpha Alpha (a local community driven sorority), Hobos from around the country, rides in the Carnival, and bouncers down Main Street Amory.

BARGAIN LINE

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings

reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Garage Sale

For Sale: Multi-family garage sale

April 3-4 at 655 Buck Egger Rd. Numerous items for sale including a bike, clothes and golf clubs.

Transportation

For Sale: 2012 Toyota Rav4 SUV. Price reduced, one owner with only 24,000 miles in excellent condition. \$18,900 or best offer. Please call 327-1205 for more information.

13 MILLION ACRES...AND COUNTING
Help us conserve another 13 Million acres.
ducks.org 800-45-DUCKS

Living Pictures
"Not Guilty"
Presented by
Fairview Baptist Church
April 3-5, 2015 • 6:30 p.m.
Free of charge
Tickets available in the Church Office
127 Airline Road • Columbus, MS
662-328-2924

FAIRVIEW
love God • love people
BAPTIST CHURCH

American Legion
308 Chubby Drive • Columbus, MS
662-329-4130

If you have served in the armed forces, you are eligible for membership!
Army • Navy • Air Force • Marines
CALL TODAY TO JOIN!

Lounge Open to the Public
Open Monday-Thursday @ 2pm. Friday-Sunday @ 1pm
Must be 21 for lounge admittance

BINGO Every Monday & Friday Night!
Sales start at 6pm. Must be 14 or older to play, minors must be accompanied by adult

VLC Machines 7 Days a Week
Drink Specials
Pool Tables
No Cover Charge

Karaoke with Eddie Hall
Every Saturday Night at 8pm

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.)

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This Transition Assistance Program Workshop For Senior Leadership, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 6-10, is for entrance at the corporate level based on education and/or experience. It is reserved for officers and senior NCOs. It has seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Dept. of Employment Security, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Dept. of Labor TAP portion. Pre-separation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance 8 – 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register for TAP, call 434-2839.

Smooth Move

This class, 10 to 11:30 a.m. April 8, is a class that provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tricare, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

Troops To Teachers

This workshop, from 10:30 a.m. to noon April 8, is an informational workshop for members pursing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief, from 8 a.m. to noon April 14, is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club, for more information call 434-2839.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle, 1-2 p.m. April 14, is a workshop that allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

Capstone

This class, scheduled for 8 a.m. – noon April 16, is required for all separating/retiring personnel and should occur no later than 90 days prior to anticipated separation/retirement; however, if a member has less than 90 days left in the military, the member should attend as soon as possible within their remaining period of service. It verifies if service members have/have not met their Career Readiness Standards/Individual Transition Plan Checklist, DD Form 2958.

World Heavyweight Boxing Champ speaks to children about reaching goals



Deontay Wilder, WBC world heavyweight boxing champion, speaks to Columbus Air Force Base youth before starting his speech to children at Columbus Middle School in Columbus, Mississippi. Wilder and other speakers took time to speak to the children about staying away from drugs and explaining how they are responsible for their life, career and reaching their goals.

The checklist, in conjunction with the ITP, will be used by the A&FRC to verify status of CRS completion. Call 434-2790 for more information.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings 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, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

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. As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Jamey Coleman at (662) 434-2720.

Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen, (both single and married) their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges, such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health providers. Counselors 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 call 662-364-0504.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Cen-

ter. We have volunteer opportunities located throughout the base for a one-time event, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, the Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

The Recovery Coordination Program streamlines and improves the way care and support are delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and their families. The RCP provides the support of a Recovery Care Coordinator 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 RCC at DSN: 493-3399, Office: 334-953-3399 or tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Temporary Jobs for the Summer

Job opportunities include: Clerical, Life-guard, Recreation Aid, Computer Clerk, General Laborer and others. Posting on USA Jobs began March 9 at usajobs.gov.

Chapel Schedule

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

Catholic Community

Fridays during Lent - Stations of the Cross, 5:30 p.m. Followed by catfish and fellowship.

Sunday:

3:15 p.m. – Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (Chapel Annex)

3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex)

4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)

4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)

5 p.m. – Mass w/Children's Church

Tuesday:

11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass

Protestant Community

Sunday:

9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)

10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service

Tuesday:

5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)

Wednesday:

4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Spring Pilgrimage returns to Columbus

2nd Lt. Lauren Woods

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The Columbus Annual Spring Pilgrimage is returning to Columbus for its 75th anniversary this year April 6 - 18.

According to the Columbus Visitor's Bureau, the Spring Pilgrimage is "one of the best and most authentic home tours in the South," drawing crowds of over 9,000 people in 2014.

This 16-day celebration features Southern history, architecture, culture, food, and fun, providing a wealth of opportunities for Columbus Air Force Base Airmen and their families to experience the local history and flavor. Tours occur daily, and a full schedule of events and brochures can be found at the Columbus Visitor's Bureau.

After experiencing the 19 homes featured in this year's Spring Pilgrimage, visitors can stop by Friendship Cemetery for an evening tour of "Tales from the Crypt," where students from the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science will re-enact the life stories of those who are buried in Columbus' graveyards. These tours occur at 9 p.m. Wednesday and Friday evenings.

Beyond the tours, one of the biggest events of Spring Pilgrimage is the April 11 "Catfish in the Alley" in downtown Columbus' historic Catfish Alley district.

"Catfish in the Alley is a way to honor the heritage of African Americans in the Catfish Alley district," said Nancy Carpenter, CEO and Executive Director of the Columbus Cultural Heritage Foundation and the Visit Columbus tourism bureau. "They would catch the fish, and cook it while listening to blues music. It is said the smell of catfish would permeate the air. Catfish in the Alley

MORE INFORMATION

■ **April 6-18:** Home tours and Tales from the Crypt

■ **April 11:** Half-marathon and 5k run, 7:15 a.m.

■ **April 11:** Catfish in the Alley, 10a.m. - 3 p.m., downtown Columbus

■ **April 11:** Mayor's Unity Picnic, 4 p.m., Columbus Riverwalk (free attendance, food and entertainment, airmen welcome)

is a wonderful way to savor the sweet sounds of world class blues as you dig into catfish, barbecue and gumbo."

Vendors represented are Hanks, Huck's Place, Table of Plenty and Southern Elite. Cold beer is also available. Catfish in the Alley begins at 10 a.m. and runs until 3 p.m.

Also on April 11 will be the Mayor's Unity Picnic, where families can enjoy free food and music. Playing at the Unity Picnic is Homemade Jamz, a jazz band out of Tupelo. The picnic begins at 4 p.m. at the Columbus Riverwalk.

For the athletically-minded, April 11 will kick off with a half-marathon and a 5k run. Participants are encouraged to sign up at www.racesonline.com. A \$1,000 grand prize awaits the top male and female half-marathon winners.

Participating in these events is not the only way to engage with Columbus' historic tradition. Members of Columbus Air Force Base have assisted with the Spring Pilgrimage for years. According to Melissa McArthur, volunteer coordinator for Columbus Air Force Base, 70 adults and 20 children from the base have signed up to host home tours this year. These volunteers are outfitted in authentic period dress and then assigned to a home to assist with welcoming guests.

As Carpenter puts it, "What better way to spend an afternoon?"

Inspiring the next generation

Master Sgt. James Branch

94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The morning was cloudy and hazy, but the sun soon set March 26 on a unique opportunity for two instructor pilots from the 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Cpts. Dwayne L. Booker II and Brandon Jones were greeted by their parents upon landing at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia, that morning, and later attended the first-ever Morehouse College Joint-Service Military Crown Forum at the college's Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel.

Four of the nation's highest ranking military officers — U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Vincent R. Stewart, Defense Intelligence Agency director; Navy Rear Admiral Sinclair M. Harris, Joint Chiefs of Staff vice director for operations; Maj. Gen. Leslie C. Smith, Army Maneuver Support of Excellence commanding general; and Maj. Gen. Stayce D. Harris, 22nd Air Force commander — discussed their lives and careers to students and guests.

Booker, a graduate of Morehouse College, said he consistently promotes the military and tries to increase awareness of its many opportunities to minority students.

"By attending this forum, my hope is to show young cadets that I was once in their shoes," he said. "It's my way of giving back and not forgetting where I came from."

The forum, a student-led event, was derived from the vision of the Morehouse ROTC Joint-Services Committee and Crown Forum committee members.

Dr. John Silvanus Wilson, Jr., president of Morehouse College, led the forum, with topics ranging from the U.S. military's role in



U.S. Air Force photo/Don Peak

Cpts. Dwayne L. Booker II and Brandon Jones, 14th Flying Training Wing instructor pilots, prepare their T-6 aircraft for takeoff from Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia, after attending the first-ever Morehouse College Joint-Service Military Crown Forum March 26 in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. John Silvanus Wilson, Jr., president of Morehouse College, led the forum, with topics ranging from the U.S. military's role in dealing with international affairs, to how the leaders' character, integrity, leadership and community service helped them advance to the highest levels of their professions.

dealing with international affairs, to how the leaders' character, integrity, leadership and community service helped them advance to the highest levels of their professions.

"To my knowledge, this is the first-ever joint service military forum of this stature to be held at a historically black college or university," Wilson said. "It is fitting that it be held at Morehouse College. These are extraordinary accomplished people"

Jones, an Air Force Academy graduate, stated that he could not pass up the opportunity to interact with general officers who have succeeded in their respective services.

"I believe part of being a military officer is to inspire the next generation to serve their country," he said. "By attending outreach events such as this, and being a role model that students can look up to,

I can be the catalyst that propels them to pursue the opportunity of becoming an Air Force pilot."

Atlanta natives, Booker and Jones' love for flying started at a young age.

"Ever since I was a young boy, I've had a passion for aviation," Booker said. "I didn't consider it as a career until meeting a minority captain, who ultimately convinced me I could do it."

"Being a pilot has been a culmination of a lifelong dream," Jones said. "I really would like to get into space. Whether that happens or not, I've had the opportunity to fly a USAF U-2 aircraft at 70,000 feet in a pressurized suit."

Immediately after the Crown Forum, both pilots also visited Air Force ROTC Detachment 165 at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website, with exception of Air Force publications, through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at 434-7068.



U.S. Air Force photos/Sharon Ybarra

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, presents Lt. Col. Douglas Jantzen, 14th Flying Training Wing Chief of Aircraft Maintenance, with his retirement certificate March 27 in Smith Plaza at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Jantzen, a prior enlisted master sergeant, retired as the Air Force's most senior lieutenant colonel with over 40 years of service to the U.S. Air Force.



Airmen line up from airman basic to lieutenant colonel March 27 in Smith Plaza at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, representing each rank. Lt. Col. Douglas Jantzen, 14th Flying Training Wing Chief of Aircraft Maintenance, wore through his more than 40 years of service to the U.S. Air Force. After retrieving the flag, it was passed to Jantzen, who started as an airman basic on Sept. 10, 1974. The lieutenant colonel is retired from active duty effective June 1, 2015.

Watch stands relieved for most senior lieutenant colonel

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

A retirement ceremony was held March 27 in the Smith Plaza at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, for a prior enlisted master sergeant and the Air Force's most senior lieutenant colonel with over 40 years of service to the U.S. Air Force.

The ceremony for Lt. Col. Douglas Jantzen, 14th Flying Training Wing Chief of Aircraft Maintenance, was presided over by Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Capt. David Jantzen, the lieutenant colonel's son.

The men and women of the 14th Flying Training Wing paid special tribute to Jantzen, along with his wife, Sherry, and several other family members in attendance.

The prior enlisted master sergeant was first recognized

for his distinguished performance of outstanding service to the United States as Aircraft Maintenance Quality Assurance. The wing commander then presented the Certificate of Retirement from the Armed Forces of the United States of America certifying that Jantzen, having served faithfully and honorably, was retired from the United States Air Force. The certificate was signed by Gen. Mark Welsh, Air Force Chief of Staff, and Nichols.

Capt. Jantzen then presented a shadow box to his father recognizing his over 40 years of service to the Air Force.

"This shadow box is a representation of your dedication, steadfast devotion and the 40 years, eight months and 21 days you have given in defense of our nation," the captain said. "Each item represents a significant accomplishment during your career and will spark memories of good assignments, bosses and subordinates. Lt. Col. Jantzen, on behalf of the 14th Flying Training Wing and the United States Air Force, thank you!"

Sherry Jantzen then proceeded to place her husband's retirement pin on his left lapel.

A retreat ceremony was then held to signify the end of the duty day and serve as a ceremony for paying respect to the flag, conducted by the Columbus Honor Guard. After retrieving the flag, it was passed to Jantzen via Airmen representing each rank he wore through his career, starting from airman basic on Sept. 10, 1974. The lieutenant colonel is retired from active duty effective June 1, 2015.

In a lighthearted manner, Retired Lt. Col. Bill Sherman assisted Jantzen in reciting the Retiree's Oath, wherein Jantzen jokingly swore an oath to hold up lines in the Base Exchange.

After the singing of the Air Force Song, the ceremony concluded and a reception was held at the Columbus Club in honor of the retiree and his family.

Airman you stand relieved, we have the watch.

Force Support Squadron Website

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

New Library Hours of Operation

Effective April 1, the new hours of operation for the Library are as follows: Monday, Wednesday, Saturday closed; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday open 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.; and Sunday open 1 – 5 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Air Force Club Scholarship

Club Membership has its rewards. Submit your essay online now – May 1 for a chance to win a \$1000 or \$500 scholarship. Open to Air Force Club members and their eligible dependents. For more information, rules and instructions, visit: MyAirForceLife.com/Clubs.

New Lower Prices at Golf Course

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering new lower prices for club memberships and golf fees. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Tales of the Crypt Family Trip

The Youth Center is offering a Month of the Military Child family trip from 7 – 10 p.m. April 3. This is a family-oriented (non-scary) historical bus trip to Friendship Cemetery to see the award winning Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science students perform as historic characters from the past. Tickets purchased at the cemetery; \$5 for adults and \$3 for students K-12. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Easter Brunch at the Columbus Club

The Columbus Club is offering an Easter Brunch April 5. Seating begins at 10:30 a.m. with additional seating times every 30 minutes until 1:30 p.m. Menu includes pork loin, roast beef, fried chicken, bacon, sausage, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, turnip greens, cabbage, macaroni and cheese, black-eyed peas, biscuits, rolls, cornbread, sausage gravy, dessert table, waffle station, omelet station, and drink station with Champagne mimosa. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Wine Pairing

The Golf Course is offering a wine pairing event at 6 p.m. April 9. The cost is only \$22.50 per person; includes a sampling of at least four wines with heavy hors d'oeuvres with each pairing. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Golf Buddy Demo Day

The Golf Course is offering Golf Buddy Demo Day from 8 a.m. – noon April 11. Golf Buddy features dynamic green view technology and verifies distances on foot for greater accuracy. For more information, contact 434-7932.

FEES & CHARGES

Daily Rates		ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (April 1 - March 31) Includes Greens Fees, Handicap System & Cart Plan when applicable	
E-4 & Below	\$5	9 Holes	\$10
E5 & Up/DOD Civilians	\$8	18 Holes	\$14
Guests	\$9		\$15
Jr. (16 & Under)	\$5		\$10

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS Rates are for 9 or 18 holes		
Club Rentals	\$8	
DV Club Rentals	\$18	
Pull Carts	\$2	
Powered Carts	9 Holes - \$10 per person/Seat 18 Holes - \$12 per person/Seat <small>Sharing of Carts is Required</small>	
Golf Lessons	\$15 per lesson or 5 for \$60	
Handicap Fee	\$25 per year	
Locker Rental	\$45 per year	

	E4 & Below*	Advanced	Monthly
Individual	\$300	\$28	(\$336)
Individuals w/Cart Plan	\$820	\$72	(\$864)
Family	\$350	\$32	(\$384)
Family w/Cart Plan	\$1010	\$87	(\$1044)

	E5 & Up*
Individual	\$400
Individual w/Cart Plan	\$920
Family	\$475
Family w/Cart Plan	\$1135

*Retiree Military Pay according to their Retired Grade

Cart plan available to LICENSED DRIVERS ONLY and entitles the member to unlimited cart usage for the year. Sharing a cart with others golfing in the same group is required

Whispering Pines
Columbus AFB

RV Storage Lot

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

Earn Free Lunch at the Columbus Club

Pick up your BLAZE lunch punch card today at the Columbus Club. Purchase just 10 lunches at the Columbus Club and receive the 11th free. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Green Plate Special

The Pro Shop at Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a special for lunch Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 434-7932 or check us out on Facebook at Columbus AFB Living or Twitter @CAFBLiving!

Instructional Classes at Youth Center

Youth Programs is offering piano lessons, guitar lessons, tumbling classes, dance classes, and martial arts instruction. Times and ages vary for all classes. Call 434-2504 or stop by the Youth Center for more information.

Fitness on Request

CAFB Fitness and Sports offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with over 30 different classes on the Fitness on Request system. For more information, call 434-2772.

Space A Lodging

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

Ride in Style

If you don't want to leave your car at the airport over a vacation, we can help you out. Outdoor Recreation offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. Transportation one way is \$175 for Birmingham and \$50 for Columbus. Call 434-2505 for more information.

Hot and Easy to Use

Force Support Squadron gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most Force Support Squadron facilities at Air Force installations worldwide and they never go out of style.

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



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Intentional teamwork with strong communication

Lt. Col. Robert Mozeleski

14th Operations Group Deputy Commander

At the 14th Flying Training Wing, we carry our Team BLAZE title with great pride.

The modified acronym represents, “Building leaders, advancing integrity, service before self, and excellence in all we do.”

We make the most of each opportunity to communicate how the BLAZE moniker binds us directly to our Air Force Core Values, and likewise permeates throughout the mission statements, vision and strategic plans of every level in our chain of command. However, we must recognize the first word of our title also bears great significance. Let’s consider who is on our team and how we can continue to attain significant successes together.

From the basic flight and squadron levels up through complex joint and coalition forces, the defined task or mission objectives steer who must work together to meet the commander’s intent. Our 2015 Strategic Plan clearly states, “The 14th FTW is an incredibly diverse organization ... The 14th FTW family includes active duty, civilian, reserve and international Airmen, contractors, and the families of our members. Due to the strong partnership with the local community, we also have a term that encompasses 14th FTW members and its community partners, Team BLAZE.”

With this in mind, even as a single-mission wing, we have an extensive band of colleagues. Team BLAZE proudly welcomes each and every contributor from inside the Columbus Air Force Base fence-line, the surrounding Golden Triangle Region and the 81st Fighter Squadron at Moody AFB, including international Airmen destined to be future military leaders in 28 allied nations.

As a team, how can we sustain and even improve our mission success? In today’s era of constrained resources, we must shrewdly prioritize our people’s time, unit finances and available equipment. We can’t afford waste from random, disorganized, “whack-a-mole” endeavors. The key to

As a team, how can we sustain and even improve our mission success? In today’s era of constrained resources, we must shrewdly prioritize our people’s time, unit finances and available equipment.

a truly cohesive team effort is to intentionally strengthen our communication. Efficient, effective top-down expectations and bottom-up feedback, as well as sound mentor, peer and cross-functional communication, is how we equip decision-makers at every level to put people, money and things in the right place at the right time for the most benefit.

During his visit to the 14th FTW last fall, Gen. Mark A. Welsh, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, emphasized communication and common sense. In addition, the CSAF’s directives highlight our need for integration, interoperability, relationships, training, making every dollar count and rapid adaptation. None of these things happen without efficient, effective communication.

The Air Force Vision clearly directs us to seek out innovation. It says “Every Airman should constantly look for smarter ways to do business. The person closest to the problem is often the one with the best solution. Leaders should empower Airmen to think creatively, find new solutions, and make decisions. Airmen at all levels must have the courage to take risks and learn from mistakes as we pursue a stronger Air Force. As we do this, all of our actions will be shaped by our warrior ethos, bounded by our core values, and underwritten by common sense.” The Air Force Strategy underscores collaborative environments, enabling faster “decisions and execution [at] the lowest informed level in the chain of command ... that minimize administrative drag and maxi-

mize combat power.”

Earlier this week, we saw an example of our chain of command making an intentional effort to strengthen communication. The Commander, Air Education and Training Command, acknowledged receipt of bottom-up feedback that Airmen are hungry for updates on top-level Air Force and Major Command issues. Gen. Robin Rand responded with an “Update to First Command Airmen” covering seven key topics. Furthermore, he concluded by communicating his daily appreciation for Airmen’s indispensable work in service to the Air Force and our nation.

Even the framework of the Commander’s Self-Inspection Program, highlighted during last week’s Unit Effective Inspection Capstone event, recognizes that we don’t have the resources to do everything. The CSIP Self-Assessment Communicators tell us where we fall short. The SACs provide the chain of command vital data in order to orchestrate resources more efficiently toward critical areas and assess where it might be acceptable for them to assume longer term risk.

While we can’t individually choose not to comply with Air Force Instructions, we can arm our chain of command to make informed decisions regarding compliance by clearly communicating the impact of risk versus rewards. In his commander’s call, Col. John Nichols, 14th FTW Commander, asked us to treat everybody like Wingmen and customers and to find a way to a “Yes,” where we work within the system to improve directives, enhance training, and improve quality of life.

This week, have you communicated with a supervisor, peer or subordinate about obstacles to the mission, wasted time, better efficiency, funding priorities or ideas for improved training? Did you arm a decision-maker with critical information or sound justification for policy updates? Let’s keep our single-mission wing focused with well-prioritized resource investments. Make an intentional effort to communicate your concerns and suggestions with our diverse, highly competent team.

April Designated As Month of Military Child

Gwendolyn Granderson-Ford
14th Force Support Squadron
Marketing

April is the Month of the Military Child, a time to recognize and appreciate our military children for their service and sacrifice.

There are over two million children with parents who are serving in our military and it is important to recognize the role our military children make.

During the month, the 14th Force Support Squadron will offer various opportunities to celebrate our military youth. Across the nation, people are also encouraged to “Purple Up! For Military Kids” by wearing purple on April 15 to show support for our military children and thank them for their strength and sacrifices.

Please see the calendar of events to see how Columbus Air Force Base is answering the call to honor the sacrifices of our young heroes.

APRIL 2015						
MONTH of the MILITARY CHILD						
CONTACT NUMBERS Bowling Center 434-3426 Child Development Center 434-2479 Golf Course 434-7932 Outdoor Recreation 434-2507 Youth Center 434-2504	Free Golf at the Golf Course all month for youth 16 and younger with a parent	25% off inflatable rental at ODR all month	1 Month of the Military Child Celebration at the CDC at 4pm YC, SAC, CDC	2	3 Egg Hunt 4pm SAC Tales from the Crypt 6-10pm YC Ages 9-up	4 Free child bike rental with the purchase of an adult rental at ODR
5 EASTER Bowling Pin Art Contest—pick up free pin from Bowling Center 6-9 April Military Poster Contest 6-23 April Drop Posters off at Youth Center	6 Free Bowling at the Bowling Center from 4-8pm Staff vs. Kids Wacky Games SAC 4pm Photos by Amber CDC	7	8	9	10 Bowling Pin Art Contest—last day to drop off decorated bowling pin to the Bowling Center	11 Free child bike rental with the purchase of an adult rental at ODR
12 NAEYC theme: Celebrating Our Youngest Learners April 12-18 CDC	13 Free Bowling at the Bowling Center from 4-8pm & bowling pin judging at 4pm Planting for Tomorrow – taking a flower to plant at home CDC	14	15 YAK Attack Kids/Staff Mtg 4pm SAC	16	17 Beautiful Sounds – Parents and friends will share musical skills and stories CDC	18 Happy Irby Parkway Clean up 0830 YC Ages 9-up Free child bike rental with the purchase of an adult rental at ODR
19 Military Essay Contest 6-23 April Drop Essays off at Youth Center	20 Free Bowling at the Bowling Center from 4-8pm	21	22 Teddy Bear/ Friend Snack – Parents will share snack with children and stuffed friends CDC	23	24 Membership Appreciation Day YC 4pm Arbor Day Guest Speaker 4pm SAC Crazy Dress Day, PJ’s, Hats, anything unusual goes CDC	25 Teen Megaphone Lock-in 8pm – 7am CAFB will travel to Keesler AFB Free child bike rental with the purchase of an adult rental at ODR
26	27 Free Bowling at the Bowling Center from 4-8pm	28 Spaghetti Family Dinner 5pm CDC	29	30 Cool down Closing Ceremony YC 4pm Family Dinner SAC 4:30 -5:30pm	Keeping Track (CDC) Creating journals/scrapbooks, stories, funny sayings the children say, and pieces of art, etc. 1-30 April	Community Service Project for St. Jude YC 1-30 April Collecting – Crayons, Paper & Markers



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A \$25.00 donation will be made to www.woundedwarrioroutdoors.com on behalf of any CAFB Personnel who rents a storage space.



Come Visit Us For Worship And A Lunch For Student Pilots On April 12!

Sunday Schedule
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10:00 – Bible Study
11:00 – Contemporary Worship

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T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 15-07 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



1st Lt. Oana Ardeleanu
Slobozia, Romania
IAR-99, Romania



2nd Lt. Timothy Banning
Atlanta, Ga.
C-130H, Yokota AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Andrew Burruss
Knoxville, Tenn.
KC-135, McGhee-Tyson ANG, Tenn.

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-07 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

Lt. Gen. James Kowalski, U.S. Strategic Command Deputy Commander, is the graduation guest speaker.

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

2nd Lt. Neil Corran, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Joel Starkey, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Carlo Mancini, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Andrew Burruss, T-1.

The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

The distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 15-07 were 2nd Lt. Neil Corran, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Joel Starkey, T-1.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country

navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

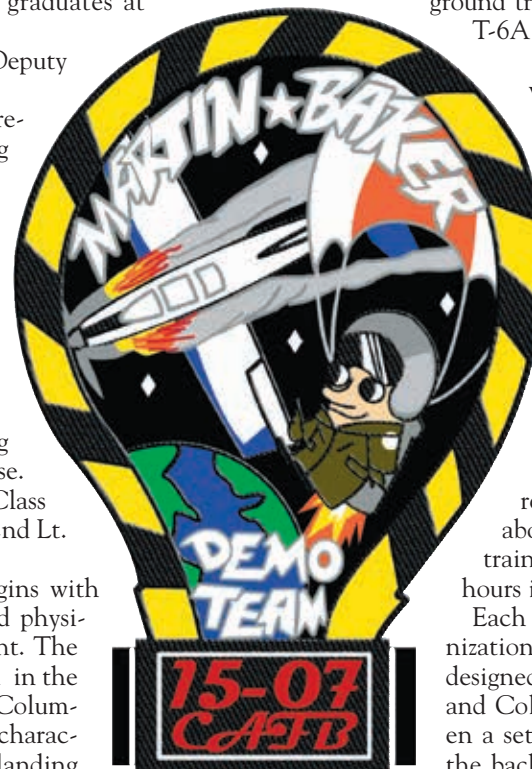
After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

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

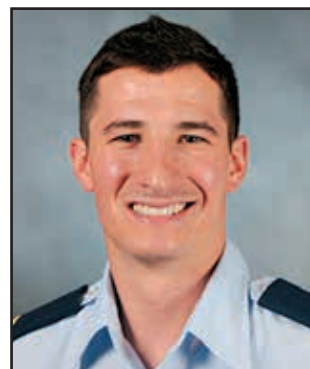
Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 53.6 hours in the flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus AFB. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. SUPT Class 15-07 pilot partners are Malco Theaters and WCBI-TV.



2nd Lt. Ryan Froerer
Huntsville, Utah
U-28, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



2nd Lt. Andrew Hart
Argyle, Texas
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Jake Jones
Virginia Beach, Va.
C-130J, Ramstein AB, Germany



2nd Lt. Kyle McCabe
Centerville, Ohio
C-146, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Nicholas McFadden
Stephens City, Va.
C-17, Shepherd Field ANG, W.V.



2nd Lt. Christian Minnick
Seattle, Wash.
EC-130H, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Alex Randall
Seattle, Wash.
C-130J, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. James Simmons
Morristown, Tenn.
KC-135, McGhee-Tyson ANG, Tenn.



2nd Lt. Joel Starkey
Atlanta, Ga.
C-17, Dover AFB, Del.



2nd Lt. Neil Corran
Silver Spring, Md.
F-16, Kelly Field, Texas



2nd Lt. Ryan DeCarlis
Niceville, Fla.
AC-130W, Cannon AFB, N.M.



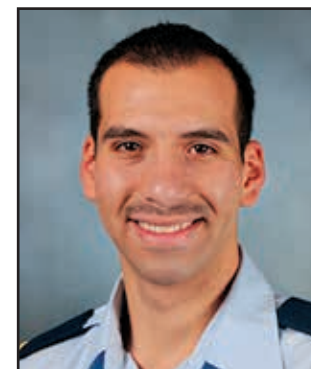
2nd Lt. John Decker
Sussex, Wis.
EC-130H, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Daniel Katz
Los Angeles, Calif.
F-16, Hollman AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Devin Keigley
Indianapolis, Ind.
C-130H, Youngstown ARS, Ohio



2nd Lt. Carlo Mancini
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.