







Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Thunderstorms
High 88°F Low 68°F	High 89°F Low 68°F	High 90°F Low 70°F
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		
Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms
High 91°F Low 70°F	High 88°F Low 70°F	High 87°F Low 68°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

SUPT Class 15-10 Graduation

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-10 is graduating at 10 a.m. June 12 in the Kaye Auditorium. The graduation speaker is retired Lt. Gen. Michael Gould, former Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

CGOC Mentoring Luncheon

A Company Grade Officer Council mentoring luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. June 15 in the Chapel Annex. The guest speaker is Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander. Reservations are required, call 434-2163.

Tops in Blue

Tops in Blue is scheduled to perform at 5 p.m. June 20 at MSU's Rent Auditorium in Columbus, Mississippi. Admission is free but is on a first come, first serve basis. Doors open at 4:15 p.m. for military ID holders and 4:30 p.m. for the general public.

Inside



Feature 8

Safety's Quest for Zero is highlighted in this week's feature.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Amanda Savannah

Columbus Air Force Base Autocross participants wait for the first 2015 event to begin May 30 on the SAC Ramp of Columbus AFB, Mississippi. The Mississippi Region of the Sports Car Club of America holds the event on base several times a year.

Autocross drivers 'BLAZE' across Columbus AFB ramp

Tech. Sgt. Amanda Savannah

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The Mississippi Region of the Sports Car Club of America held the first 2015 Columbus Air Force Base two-day Autocross event May 30-31 on the SAC ramp.

The event occurs on base several times a year and allows drivers to race their personal vehicles around a track, competing against others for the best time.

Autocross is one of several programs the Sports Car Club

See AUTOCROSS, 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 (16-03)	2.93 days	3.19 days	June 8	48th (15-10)	-2.54 days	-1.63 days	June 12	49th (15-IBC)	-6.36 days	-2.37 days	June 29	T-6	381	367	18,983
41st (16-04)	8.52 days	5.96 days	June 30	50th (15-10)	-3.31 days	-2.59 days	June 12					T-1	150	157	7,028
												T-38	90	97	5,644
												IFF	63	63	2,666

The graduation speaker is Retired Lt. Gen. Michael Gould, former Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 30 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



Retiree Affairs Did you know...?

Retirees, did you know the Columbus Air Force Base Fitness & Sports Center is open for 24-hour operations? However, the overnight hours will be unstaffed. All facilities except the main lobby, sauna and offices will be available to you. You will need to register and sign a waiver. You will also need a Common Access Card or Fitness Access Card for your dependents and some retirees. For more information contact the Fitness Center at 434-2772 or the Retiree Affairs Office at 434-3120.



AUTOCROSS

(Continued from page 1)

of America offers, said Skip Brunson, MRSCCA secretary and event facilitator. It is a one-car-at-a-time, against-the-clock event on a coned course.

"The idea is to achieve the quickest time, and at the same time not hit any cones," he said. "Cones have a two-second penalty. They get six opportunities and the best time counts."

Anyone with a valid driver's license and a vehicle that passes the club's safety inspection can participate. Between 20 and 40 people participate in each event, Brunson said.

"This is something for people to do, enjoy their automobile, and not get tickets doing it," he said.

2nd Lt. Bill Adams, 14th Student Squadron student and event coordinator, has been involved with the base Autocross events for about a year and a half.

"It's just a lot of fun," Adams said. "There's definitely things you can do out here, where it's completely safe. You do this kind of stuff on the road and you'd find yourself in trouble."

"Trouble" had more than one

"The idea is to achieve the quickest time, and at the same time not hit any cones," he said. "Cones have a two-second penalty. They get six opportunities and the best time counts."

definition for Adams, and Autocross events can help with both.

"You can learn driving techniques," he said. "It will help you if you're ever in a bind where you've got to kind of swerve around. There are definitely skills you can learn here to avoid an accident."

The next Columbus Air Force Base Autocross event is scheduled for June 13-14. Spectators are also welcome. For more information, visit msscca.org.

Silver Wings

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Submission Deadline

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

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

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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.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
8	9 AETC/SG visit SAPR training, 8 a.m. @ Kaye	10	11	12 State MOAA Conference SUPT Class 15-10 graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	13/14 13th - Col. McArthur fare- well block party, 4 p.m. 13th & 14th - Autocross, @ SAC ramp	June 23: Wing Newcomers Orientation June 25: 14th SFS Change of Command June 26: Col. McArthur, 14 FTW/CV retirement June 30: Enlisted Promo- tions July 1: SUPT Class 15-11 Graduation July 2: AETC Family Day July 3: Independence Day Federal Holiday July 4: Independence Day July 4: Fireworks on the Water July 24: SUPT Class 15-12 Graduation July 28: Quarterly Awards Ceremony July 31: Enlisted Promotions
15 LGBT Informa- tion Fair, 11 a.m. @ Exchange CGOC Mentor- ship Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. @ Chapel Annex	16 50th FTS Change of Com- mand, 8:50 a.m. @ Fire Station	17	18	19 49th FTS Change of Command, 8:49 a.m. @ Fire Station Enlisted Combat Dining, 6 p.m @ Freedom Park	20/21 20th - Tops in Blue, 5 p.m. @ Rent Auditorium	

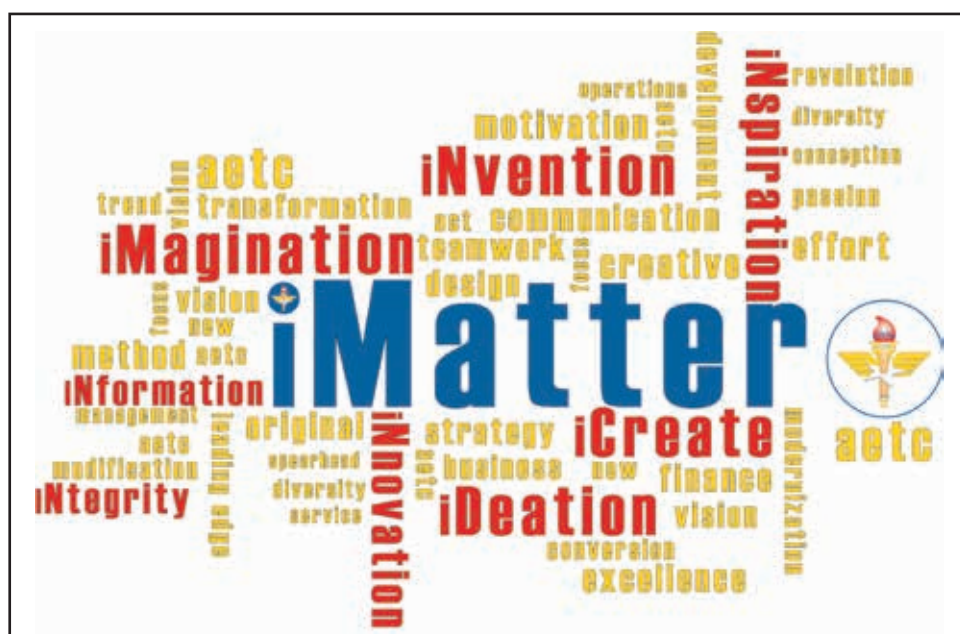
A photograph of two Air Force officers in blue uniforms. They are both smiling and holding a flag with a blue field and a yellow lightning bolt. The officer on the left is wearing a blue cap with a gold band. The officer on the right is wearing a blue cap with a silver band. They are standing in front of a large American flag.

Col. James Boster, 14th Operations Group Commander hands the 37th Flying Training Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Jason Loe during a change of command ceremony June 4 at Columbus Air Force Base.



Six of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotions ceremony May 29 at the Columbus Club.

Senior Airman Jeremiah Necaise, 14th
OSS



Air Education and Training Command launched the iMatter website March 23, giving all command Total Force Airmen access to an AETC-specific tool for sharing innovations and improvement ideas. To start using iMatter, Airmen can visit the site, <https://app10-eis.aetf.af.mil/imatter/SitePages/home.aspx>, and access a variety of resources, including an iMatter User's Guide and instructional videos. Each iMatter site visitor must use his/her Common Access Card and select the non-email CAC certificate in order to access the site. For non-CAC users or to find out more, contact the AETC Innovation and Transformation Office at AETC.AFSO21.Workflow@us.af.mil

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.



Gould to speak at SUPT Class 15-10 graduation

Team BLAZE welcomes back retired Lt. Gen. Michael Gould, former Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado, who will speak at the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class graduation June 12 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Gould is no stranger to speaking to Team BLAZE, as he was also the Air Force Birthday Ball guest speaker in 2008.

He directed a highly structured four-year regimen of military training, academics, athletic and character development programs leading to a Bachelor of Science degree and commissioned as a second lieutenant.

Gould earned his commission and a bachelor's degree in behavioral science from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1976. He has commanded an operations group, an air refueling wing, an air mobility wing and the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. He has also commanded the 3rd Air Force, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England, and the 2nd Air Force, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.

His operational and staff assignments include three tours at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, along with duty as the Air Force aide to the President and senior military assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force. He served as the Director of Mobility Forces for Operation Joint Endeavor and as USEU-COM's Air Expeditionary Task Force commander for the deployment of African Union troops into the Darfur region of Sudan.

Prior to assuming his current position, he was Director of Operations and Plans, U.S. Transportation Command,



Scott AFB, Illinois. Gould is a command pilot with more than 3,000 hours in a variety of aircraft.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1976 - January 1977, graduate assistant football coach, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado
2. January 1977 - December 1977, student, undergraduate pilot training, Vance AFB, Oklahoma
3. December 1977 - August 1981, T-38 instructor pilot, flight scheduler, safety officer and runway supervisor unit controller, 97th Flying Training Squadron, Williams AFB, Arizona
4. August 1981 - June 1985, physical education instructor; assistant men's golf coach; head prep-school football coach; and T-41 instructor pilot, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado
5. June 1985 - July 1986, T-38 pilot training instructor, flight commander and standardization pilot, 12th Flying Training Wing, Randolph AFB, Texas
6. July 1986 - August 1988, executive officer to the Vice Commander, Air Training Command, and standardization pilot, Headquarters ATC, Randolph AFB, Texas
7. August 1988 - July 1989, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
8. July 1989 - June 1990, Chief, Officer Professional Military Education, Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel Programs, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
9. June 1990 - July 1992, Air Force aide to the President, the White House, Washington, D.C.
10. July 1992 - June 1993, student, National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
11. June 1993 - September 1994, KC-10 aircraft commander and assistant operations officer, 6th Air Refueling Squadron, and special assistant to the Commander, 722nd Operations Group, March AFB, California
12. September 1994 - February 1995, Deputy Commander, 438th Operations Group, McGuire AFB, New Jersey

13. February 1995 - June 1996, Commander, 305th Operations Group, McGuire AFB, New Jersey
14. July 1996 - December 1996, Chief, Mobility Forces Division, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
15. December 1996 - April 1998, senior military assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
16. April 1998 - January 1999, Commander, 22nd Air Refueling Wing, McConnell AFB, Kansas
17. January 1999 - August 2000, Commander, 97th Air Mobility Wing, Altus AFB, Oklahoma
18. September 2000 - May 2002, Commander, Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center, Cheyenne Mountain AFS, Colorado
19. May 2002 - July 2004, Director of Operational Plans and Joint Matters, Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
20. July 2004 - November 2005, Commander, 3rd Air Force, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England
21. November 2005 - May 2008, Commander, 2nd Air Force, Keesler AFB, Mississippi
22. June 2008 - May 2009, Director, Operations and Plans, U.S. Transportation Command, Scott AFB, Illinois
23. June 2009 - October 2013, Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1990 - July 1992, senior Air Force aide to the President, the White House, Washington, D.C., as a lieutenant colonel
2. September 2000 - May 2002, Commander, Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center, Cheyenne Mountain AFS, Colo., as a brigadier general
3. June 2008 - May 2009, Director, Operations and Plans, U.S. Transportation Command, Scott AFB, Ill., as a major general

RECOVERY
(Continued from page 12)

his recliner. When bedtime came, Jeff drunkenly coaxed the defenseless eighth-grader to his room and overpowered him with his massive frame.

"I wasn't big enough to do anything to stop it," Davenport said, stone-faced. "I froze. You know when they talk about people freezing during a rape? That happens."

When he came to his senses he stumbled to the bathroom, slammed the door, crumpled to the ground and cried. Only a two-inch

thick door separated him from his surrounding hell. He never told anyone about that night; like much of his life, he had no one to turn to.

Shortly after, his interest in life began to rapidly dissipate. The weight of what felt like a shameful secret weighed heavy on his mind and pushed him to a place he'd never been before.

"That's when I got a hold of a rifle and said 'I've had enough of this'" Davenport said. He waited for a weekend when everyone was away from the home where he'd access the gun. He loaded it, flipped off the "safe" switch, bit down on the barrel and rested his thumb on the trigger.

"I don't know why I didn't do it," he said, shaking his head. "I had every intention to. I just never pulled the trigger."

He had hit rock bottom. Thankfully, the pick-me-up he needed was unexpectedly right around the corner.

That month, his middle school hosted a function featuring a motivational speaker. Davenport sat off to the side, detached and trapped in his own world. He remembers the days blending together in a fog, but in a single sentence, the speaker's words might've saved his life.

"He said 'Suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem'" Davenport remembers. "He talked

about how someone always has it worse. I remember thinking 'I don't know if anyone's got it worse', but I decided to take those words to heart and hold onto them."

Davenport found a way to push through. When life took its swings, he always swung back.

"You endure," Davenport said. "Even at your lowest of lows — when you're under the rock — you have to keep trudging along."

He pressed on through high school as a multiple sport letterman and worked his tail off in the classroom, earning all As on every report card. The little things still stung, like watching his buddies hop in cars with their families while he wheeled his bicycle to the street. But by now, he'd learned how to survive on his own. His arduous past conditioned him to face anything with stoicism, and his grandfather's discipline never left his side.

Before his junior year, he set his sights on the U.S. Air Force. He'd seen a video on medics, and it was all he wanted to do.

"If I didn't join the military, I was going to run away," Davenport said. "There was no plan B."

Following graduation, his recruiter informed him he'd landed his dream job. He hopped in the car with him for the two hour drive to Oklahoma City and took his first airplane ride to San Antonio

where he attended Basic Military Training. In many ways, he was finally free.

Sixteen years later he bounced around in his office with the enthusiasm of a lotto winner. As much as some might have tried to take it away, there's still a ton of kid left in him. He's now the first sergeant for the 35th Communications Squadron, a job specifically designed to help others.

He spent 14 years as a medic, where the service to others was similar at its core — even in the most grisly of situations.

"When you do eight deployments as a medic, you see a lot of nasty, horrible stuff," Davenport said. "It makes urgent care centers in the states look like a walk-in sick call. It's the most horrific thing you've ever seen in your life and you're helping these guys fight to survive. You can't describe it."

He said these grueling experiences have helped put his life and past in perspective. He's kept quiet about his past for nearly two decades; he didn't want pity for being dealt a bad hand in his childhood.

It wasn't until watching a video of an Air Force Academy appearance when the words of U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh III reached him on a personal level. Welsh talked about how every Airman mattered; how each member was a person rather

than a number and how every Airman has a story to tell. The message convinced Davenport that his story might help encourage others who have also reached dark, lonely places.

"I don't want people to treat me differently because of my past -- you love people for who they are, not what they've been through," he said. "I just hope my example can help that one person that's struggling to get through something."

Now, he lives the role. His existence revolves around selflessness.

"Sometimes I forget I'm the first sergeant with rank and I end up being the guy that's just there for someone," Davenport said. "I need to personalize with my people; I need to get down and get in the trenches with them. I owe them my sincerity."

Through all the years of rejection and trying to fit in where he wasn't wanted, he's finally found his home. The Air Force let him be himself. He admits the recovery process is constant and he's accepted the fact that some things will never make sense to him. But he feels whole — something he never thought possible for so many years.

"It's made me a stronger person," he said. "Sure it sucked and I wish it could have been different, but there's no reason to dwell on it. It's all made me who I am today."

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Technical sergeant promotion results scheduled for June 9

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Technical sergeant promotion selection results will be released at 8 a.m. Central Daylight Time June 9, Air Force officials said.

The technical sergeant promotion is the first to incorporate changes including revised points for time in service and time in grade, EPR point value of 250 points and the inclusion of up to the last three enlisted performance reports of personnel with weighted factors since becoming TIS/TIG eligible for promotion.

The Air Force Personnel Center will release an article with total numbers selected and selection statistics following the official release June 9.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one on the website.

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.



Visit us online!
www.columbus.af.mil

NEWS AROUND TOWN

June 18

The Sounds of Summer Concert Series is scheduled from 7 – 9 p.m. Enjoy local musical entertainment at Riverwalk Park. Food and beverages are available for purchase.

June 27-28

The Tennessee Williams Tribute Committee will have auditions for the play "Summer and Smoke" at 2 p.m. June 27 at the Rosenzweig Arts Center Omnova Theater and at 2 p.m. June 28

in St Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall. The play will be presented at the Whitfield Building in the Rent Auditorium on the Mississippi University for Women campus in September. For more information call 328-5413.

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.

Transportation

For Sale: 2004 tan Nissan Frontier XE, 6 cylinder, 4-door, 141,700 miles, \$6,900. For more information call 574-3312.

Diamond in the rough: Airman's recovery from a haunted past

Staff Sgt. Derek VanHorn
35th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Growing up, many of his childhood nights were spent staring through a gaping hole in his bedroom ceiling. He didn't know how it got there, but sometimes it served as a pleasant escape from the surrounding chaos. It gave access to the wide open Oklahoma sky and he positioned his mattress in the corner of the room to watch the stars crawl across it like snails.

He knew at some point the peacefulness would end. As darkness approached, the cockroaches would be out soon and the all-too-familiar sounds of their chomping jaws would be the ubiquitous chorus of the night. But even that was better than the worst nights.

"I was always more worried about getting wailed on for no reason at three or four o'clock in the morning," said Master Sgt. Vernon Davenport. "It happened once or twice a week."

There were too many of those nights, and the days weren't much different. He tried spending most of them doing normal kid things like hitting homemade ramps on his bicycle and laying pennies on the backyard railroad tracks. He learned quickly that if he slipped into the house unnoticed, he'd have a better chance of being left alone through the night.

He picked up a few other things along the way too, like how to roll a joint at four years old, how to chew tobacco, and that the burnt, bent spoons weren't to be used for eating.

Davenport describes his childhood candidly and without pause: "Lonely."

His mother, Martha, was a drug addict and was constantly loaded on whatever she could get her hands on. Men came and went with regularity, and the same went for houses. Moving from home to home was standard, and by ninth grade, Davenport switched schools six times.

He found normalcy only during summers, where he'd spend the few months with his grandparents, J.D. and Marie. It wasn't the ideal setting for a boy trying to find his way

in life - his grandma had double knee replacements that required almost constant assistance and J.D. battled failing health from emphysema — but Davenport made due. He pumped gas for minimum wage and any time away from home was time well spent, even with J.D.'s militant, no-nonsense attitude groomed from his days fighting in World War II and Korea.

J.D. taught Davenport the tough way, but always made room for justice. If Davenport didn't know what a word meant, J.D. pointed him to a dictionary. If something broke, they'd head outside and get their knuckles dirty fixing it. He was a true guardian to Davenport, and when his grandpa succumbed to his smoking habit in 1995, Davenport was crushed. He'll never forget what those summers meant to him and the dread that followed with each of them ending.

The end of summer marked the beginning of school, which meant moving back in with Martha.

While his awkward, adolescent frame made him an easy target for bullies, school was an escape for Davenport. It offered a sense of belonging, and he played the drums in band and stayed busy with sports to help stay hidden from home.

Martha was usually "zonked out on something" Davenport said, but she still always found ways to carry out her hidden aggressions on him. He was the oldest child of three and the only boy, which is why he assumes he took the brunt of the malice.

"Sometimes the school would call home about the bruises and burns on the backs of my legs," Davenport said. "But she always had an excuse. She'd use hangers, plastic combs, extension cords, cigarettes - anything she could reach."

There was never any method to the madness; the severity just depended on the day. Davenport was treated more like a servant than a son, and on top of senseless beatings, Martha assigned him far from regular household chores.

If she wanted to bathe, it was his job to boil water on the stove and make trip after trip to fill the tub with warm water. When the 8-year-old's hands slipped one day, the



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Derek VanHorn/Released

Master Sgt. Vernon Davenport, 35th Communications Squadron first sergeant, was neglected, molested and abused as a child growing up in backcountry Oklahoma. He kept quiet about his story for decades but decided to open up with the hope that it might help other Airmen through tough times in their lives.

results were scars that were more than just emotional. The searing water tore through his shoe and skin, causing second degree burns that left his foot permanently marred.

After he healed up, he was right back at it. Baths were only allowed every other day, and everyone had to share the same water. When the bathtub was finally full after Davenport's labors, he was last in the pecking order to use it. At fifth in line, he refused to do anything but stand in the cold, filthy tub. As much as he wanted to change things, he knew it might come at the cost of harming his two sisters. It was better that he just take the pain and punishment.

"My grandparents remember me trying to climb on my parents' laps and them just pushing me away," he said. "I was the ostracized child, for whatever reason. I guess I didn't fit in with them."

Over time, he adapted. He found a way to make it a game.

"All I could do was learn how not to cry in front of her so I could win the internal battle," he said. "It really pissed her off when I wouldn't cry."

He stopped calling her "Mom" along the way and only refers to her by first name.

While winning against Martha felt good, it was only half the battle.

The man he called his father was a drunk. Jeff stood around six feet tall and pushed 400 pounds. Davenport dreaded hearing his footsteps coming down the hallway. He married Martha while she was pregnant with Davenport, and while he wasn't his biological father, he played the part in sparse attempts.

He was overly imposing and eventually became the reason Davenport found himself buried alone in the corner of his room, staring down the barrel of a loaded rifle.

Martha had run off with another man, and Jeff felt just enough responsibility to drag Davenport along as he fired up a relationship with a woman named Colleen. She served a handful of years as a pseudo-mother to Davenport but never really showed much interest; she had her own kids from a previous marriage, leaving him once again unclaimed and to the wayside.

One night while Colleen was away, Davenport was home alone with Jeff. He'd been obedient in relaying beer after beer to him as he barked commands while slouched in

Natural resources: Bats

Mike Jago
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Each Spring, bats migrate to Columbus and find quiet places to roost in attics, walls and hopefully dead trees.

The old parachute shop at Building 862 is a perfect bat habitat. It is dry, quiet and easy to get into -- if you are a bat, that is.

The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron was notified by the parachute shop contractors of a strong ammonia odor in the old drying tower room -- an infrequently used room. The ammonia smell was bat urine in the ceiling tiles. The presence of these bats presented several issues.

The first problem was to identify the bats. To do that, CE hired an expert, Dr. Scott Rush, Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, & Aquaculture at Mississippi State University. He looked at the bats and identified them as the common brown bat, not the Indiana Bat, an endangered species known to be in the area. The next phase of his work was the removal and exclusion of any further bats roosting in the building.

Bats like to return to their favorite roosts. They have long memories and surprisingly long life spans, 34 years is the known record so far. Keeping bats out was a much more difficult proposition than originally assumed. Not only is it necessary to keep the bat-proofing in good condition for a few years, but for a generation or they will remember and come back.

Having bats around an airfield is a problem for aircraft and the bats. Collisions cause damage to the aircraft and will usually kill the bats. Even near misses will injure or kill the bats as they get tossed by the turbulence.

Bats can be attracted to the area due to airfield lighting attracting insects. A single bat will eat half its weight in insects each night, so any concentration of flying insects will attract bats. The trick then is to make sure the airfield is not a great place to dine and hang out for bats.

The strategy adopted for control of birds applies to bats as well. By altering the positive attributes of the base that attract birds to negative attributes, the birds simply avoid the area and it reduces collisions with aircraft. Bats don't like the activity of an airfield, the noise and motion of aircraft and traffic are problems for them. Food is an attractant, so keeping the airfield mowed and applying pesticide, especially for mosquitoes, discourages bats. Maintaining buildings to keep bats out is important too.

If you have or suspect you have bats in your building, please call entomology at 434-7392. They will make sure it isn't something else first like squirrels or rats. If it is bats, the naturalist gets called in to identify species to ensure there is no threatened or endangered species so we can safely remove them and keep them from returning by repairing and maintaining holes. We rely on building residents to be observant of conditions and report them for repair when animals can get in.

Bats are an essential part of a healthy forest, so we want them living there. You may notice dying and decaying trees left in place in the base forest. These "snags" are left to feed woodpeckers and offer habitat for bats and other species that need the dead trees to survive. Bats help to control the mosquito population, and their general health reflects the health of the forest.

Nationally, bats are in decline. Several factors are affecting their health and some are believed to be directly caused by man. The harvest of commercial forests that never get old enough to develop snags is a problem for bats. The exploration and commercialization of caves disturbs hibernation which kills the bat population. Over application of pesticides poisons their food sources and weakens or kills the bats or their young.

Bats are also suffering from white nose syndrome, a fungus that has killed millions of bats in the hibernating state. No known cause has been identified, however warmer winters, pesticides weakening immune systems and stress from habitat loss may be to blame.

Up to 80 percent of bats in the northeastern U.S. have already perished with unknown consequences. The lack of this insect-eating mammal may have strong side effects if the insect populations bloom unchecked. The good news is, in Europe, bat populations are up 40 percent. This is attributed to tighter pesticide controls, the decline in pollution in former Soviet Bloc nations, and forest management practices allowing for natural shelter and forage.

Bats are part of the balance we maintain at Columbus Air Force Base so we can operate and show the public we are responsible with their natural resources. The Air Force will have been around for 70 years in 2017. It will be to our credit military reservations are also islands of species protection.

For more information, visit batcon.org/pdfs/ForestMgmtandBats.pdf or nwbc.usgs.gov/disease_information/white-nose-syndrome/.

Team BLAZE supports local community with Feds Feed Families campaign

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

then distribute it out to smaller local organizations such as the Salvation Army who will then distribute it to the local community."

Preferred food donations include canned tuna, salmon, chicken, soup, vegetables, beans or fruit; hot and cold cereals; peanut butter; healthy snacks like granola bars and applesauce cups; and 100 percent juices. Signs with the accepted foods will be posted on the bins where members can donate.

"Red bins will be set up all around the base that we'll collect on a weekly basis and deliver the goods to United Way. You can donate at your unit, the bowling alley, wing buildings, and even the Exchange who has partnered with us and will have certain food bundled up that you can purchase and donate," Willis said. "This is a DoD supported program and anyone part of the DoD can participate by donating non-perishable food items like canned fruits and vegetables, boxed pasta, and even 100 percent juice."

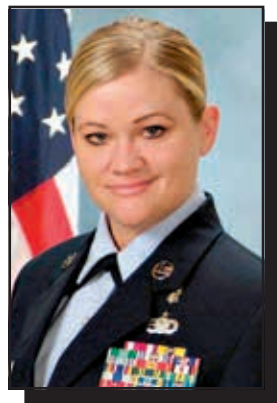
The goal for 2015 is to reach 15,000 pounds of donated food so participation from everyone on base is key, Willis said. In 2013, Columbus AFB collected about 13,000 pounds of food and the county was able to feed families for almost a year from those donations. Last year the DoD as a whole collected about 3.2 million pounds of food.

"I think it's important that our local communities see that we do care about them and we do more than just train pilots and deploy overseas," Willis said. "We want to show that we support our country not just on foreign soil but also at home. Feds Feed Families has recognized that there are several working class families that struggle and need the support and being able to help provide that care is our priority."

For more information on what to donate contact your Feds Feed Families group POC or go to usda.gov/fedsfeedfamilies.

Dare to C-A-R-E

Chief Master Sgt. Brandi M. Thomas
14th Medical Group Superintendent



Since I became a non-commissioned officer, charged with the careers and well-being of subordinates, my leadership philosophy has revolved around taking care of people so they can focus on the mission.

I CARE. I learned this early on as a senior airman from one of my very favorite supervisors.

He took an interest in me, my family and my goals. He supported me when I made mistakes, showed me the right way to do things and didn't write me off or make me feel unworthy for making some.

I remember the day I learned just how valuable a supervisor who takes the time to CARE can be. My son, who was a baby at the time, became very ill. I was a new mom and distraught at my baby being so sick. I was trying to take him to be seen, and in the craziness of cleaning up after him and trying to get an appointment I had forgotten to call my supervisor.

By the time I realized I was supposed to be at work, my phone was ringing. I felt horrible. I couldn't believe I didn't make that call in time. He didn't yell or tell me to get my butt in right then, he simply asked if everything was ok. I remember that my anxiety faded away as he listened to my hysterics and calmly said, "Take care of what you need to do with your son and if there is anything we can do to help you, please don't hesitate to ask."

Not only did he not yell at me, like I had expected, but he showed that he genuinely cared about what I was going through and gave me the time I needed to take care of my child. This was only one instance, but it's the little things he did that made me so dedicated to our mission and to him. Dedicated to the point that if he called me at 3 a.m. and said I needed to go in and complete something, I would have been the first person there no questions asked because of the support he always gave me.

He showed me how to be a good supervisor and to CARE, C-A-R-E.

C is for Concern. Show your subordinates that you are concerned about their well-being, their situations, their stressors, and their lives. It's easy to get wrapped up in your own issues, we all have them. Taking the time to show concern for subordinates will pay big dividends in their allegiance to

you and to the mission. Taking a few minutes just to ask how their class is going, how their spouse is doing, how the kids are will go a long way in establishing a relationship.

A - Ask about goals. Remember that every Airman, big "A," has a story. Perhaps it's a unique reason they joined the Air Force, or why they decided to stay after their commitment was up. It's important to spend a few moments understanding their motivations and goals. Whether they be career related or personal goals, communicating with subordinates about where they want to go, things they want to accomplish and your role in helping them achieve it shows you have an understanding of who they are as people.

R - Reward/recognize positive behavior and correct negative ones. Remember to tell people "thank you" or "you did a great job today" or "I noticed when you accomplished this you did it this way ... have you considered doing it like this?" or "That isn't the right way, let me show you." Give constant praise and corrections when needed. It doesn't always have to be documented in a Letter Of Counseling; too often I see supervisors jump to use this valuable tool, but don't actually take the time to show the offender how to get back on track. It's more important someone recognizes they did something wrong, and then you show them the correct way to move forward, then to hold them accountable using formal paperwork right off the bat. Also, don't forget about recognition programs and doing your part to groom your subordinate to be competitive and putting together the product. In today's competitive force, awards are important. Even if you don't necessarily need them to feel good about yourself, they set people apart from the pack.

E - Empathize. Empathy is the ability to feel with a person. It's accomplished when you put yourself in that person's shoes and feel with them. It's easier to do when you too have experienced something similar to what they are experiencing, but even if you haven't, trying to imagine the way you would feel if you were going through the situation or hardship can be very useful in getting there. This is helpful because it shows people they are not alone, that you are there to help them through whatever it is and that they can trust you to have some understanding of the situation they are in, leaving them feeling supported and not judged.

Although very simple, the road to taking care of people so they can take care of the mission all begins with the word CARE. Showing Concern, Asking about goals, Rewarding positive behavior and correcting negative ones and Empathizing with your subordinate's specific situation are the tools you need to be an effective leader in today's Air Force.

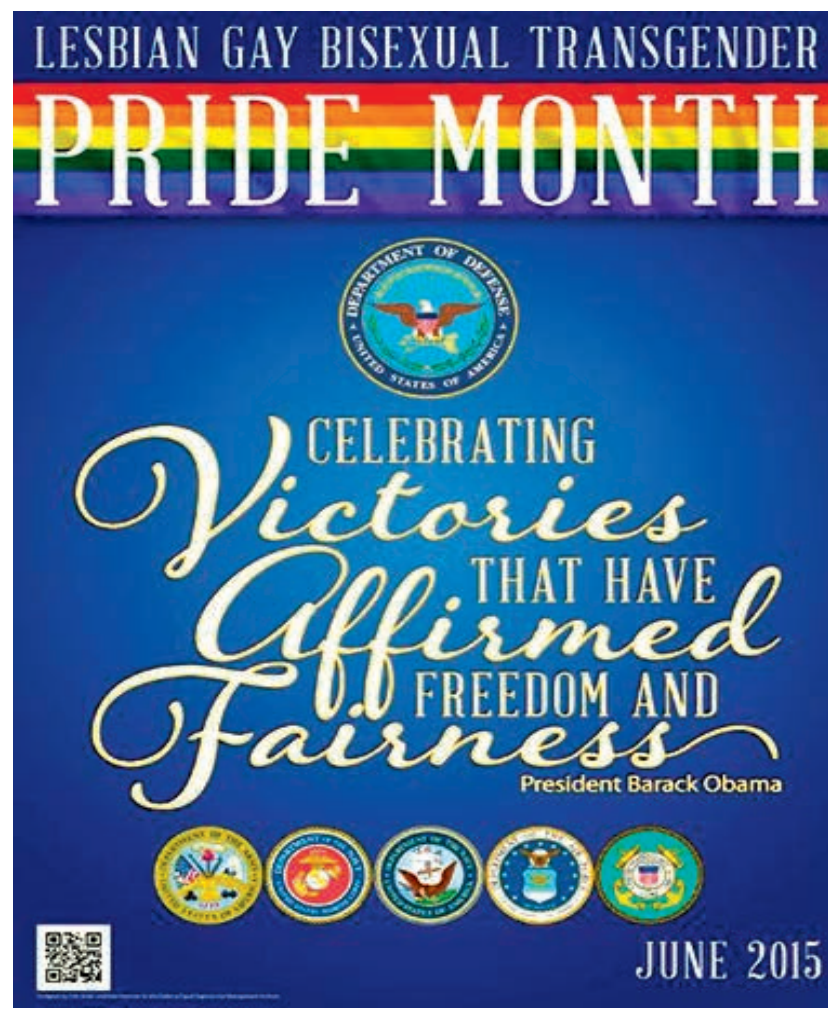
The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior.
I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage.
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.

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

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



Women's AF history expands with new four-star

Staff Sgt. Carlin Leslie
Secretary of the Air Force Public
Affairs Command Information

WASHINGTON — In Air Force history a legacy has been written, by women, for women. The walls of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial are filled with stories of historic and iconic women from all U.S. military services that have served the nation.

History has once again been written. Those halls now hold a new story as Lt. Gen. Ellen Pawlikowski, the assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition, military deputy, was promoted to the rank of general, effective June 8. She is now the third female four-star general in Air Force history, following in the footsteps of remarkable women who paved the way.

"This is a great day for Ellen and (her) family (and) from my perspective it is a great day for the United States Air Force," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. "(Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James) and I expect an awful lot out of our four-star generals in the Air Force. We expect that they be able to defend the nation. We expect them to protect the institution and we expect them to lead, inspire and nurture the Airmen and families who give our institution life. We are extremely confident that Pawlikowski will do all those things."

Pawlikowski entered the Air Force in 1978



U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash
Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III congratulates newly promoted Gen. Ellen M. Pawlikowski during her promotion ceremony June 1, 2015, at the Women's Memorial for Military Service in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia. Pawlikowski is slated to become the commander of Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

through the ROTC program at the New Jersey Institute of Technology and became the first female officer to receive a commission

from that program. She went on to attend the University of California at Berkeley, and received a doctorate in chemical engineering in

December 1981, and entered the active-duty Air Force in April 1982.

Through the guidance and honorable love of her mother, late husband, family, friends and Airmen she has led, Pawlikowski said there are three statements that define her.

"In the words of my mother, 'Just do the best no matter how hard it is, no matter how menial you think it is, just do the best that you can; and never quit,'" Pawlikowski said. "And from my late husband, the message of 'Do the right thing even when it's hard' resonates within me.

"Madam secretary, (Gen. Welsh,) you know you have my commitment and promise that I guarantee you that I will do the best that I can," Pawlikowski continued. "I will never, ever quit and I will do the right thing even when it's hard, because that's who I am."

The career of Pawlikowski has ranged from a variety of technical management, leadership and staff positions including command at the wing and center levels.

Continuing her career as a leader, Pawlikowski will assume command this summer as the head of Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

As she stood on the stage of the Woman's Memorial, in the presence of so many men and women who have defined history, Pawlikowski said she truly felt like she was standing on the shoulders of giants.

Airmen learn from US military's top leaders

Airman 1st Class Luke Hill
2nd Bomb Wing Public Affairs

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. — Air Force Global Strike Command hosted the annual Striker Stripe, a leadership development conference on Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, May 27-29.

During the conference some of the best and brightest technical and staff sergeants from across AFGSC had the opportunity to develop personal leadership skills and hear from some of the military's top leaders like Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody, AFGSC Vice Commander Maj. Gen. Michael Fortney, and Command Sgt. Maj. Patrick Alston, the senior enlisted leader for U.S. Strategic Command.

"This conference gives us the big picture of the military," said Tech Sgt. Vernon Russell, a 5th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief from Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota. "The conference has shown me how all the pieces fit together in our armed forces and how everyone's job is important."

A major theme throughout the conference was to voice things that need to be heard and to play an active role in making the military better.

"Don't stand on the sidelines, get in the game and make your voices heard," Alston said. "Every time you walk by a disciplinary issue or an injustice, you have just established a new standard. Be the example every day. When you open your mouth, have something profound come out. When you're having a bad day, pretend you're having a good day. When you're by yourself without supervision, do what's right and set the example."

Senior leadership stressed the value of communication between NCOs and their Airmen.

"We can change the military, not with more money, technology or education, but by getting involved with service members on a more personal level," Alston said.

Russell said he plans on improving his leadership skills by getting more involved with his Airmen at Minot.

"I have learned that everybody is different and I have to approach everybody differently. I need to lead them in the

way that is effective for them, not necessarily what is effective for me," Russell said.

In addition, senior leadership touched on how important integrity and trust is to all service members, no matter what their rank is.

"Trust is the foundation for whether we do what is ordered of us or not," Cody said. "We have to believe in our leadership and what we are doing is right and important. Always remember when you go home and take off your uniform, and you go to your normal places, do not forget that you're still an Airman. You're a United States Airman until the last day you put on that uniform, and you represent every single one of us."

While Striker Stripe is a useful and unique opportunity for NCOs to learn new leadership skills and ways to accomplish the mission more effectively, the principles and values presented at the conference are things that would benefit all AFGSC Airmen.

Fortney summed up what is expected of all Airmen that are part of AFGSC, "Don't take no and don't let the status quo slow you down."

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.

Free Pool Passes and FootGolf

Independence Pool Passes are included with Whispering Pines Golf Membership. FootGolf is coming July 1 and is also included with membership. If you have an individual golf membership, you receive an individual pool pass and if you have a family golf membership, you receive a family pool pass. Visit Outdoor Recreation for your free pool pass today. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Youth Golf Registration

The Youth Center is offering Youth Golf. Open to ages 6 – 18. Cost is \$40 per youth; register at the Youth Center by June 19. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Summer Reading Program

The Base Library is offering a summer reading program for all ages. Program kick off will be held at 11 a.m. June 2. Register at the library and enjoy a summer of stories, activities, crafts and tons of fun. The program will run until July 23 with a Summer Reading Awards Ceremony at 1 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Missoula Children's Theater "Sleeping Beauty"

Missoula Children's Theater presents "Sleeping Beauty" June 13 at the Youth Center. All youth in grades 1 – 12 are welcome. The first meeting will be at 10 a.m. June 8 at the Youth Center. For more information, contact 434-2504.

British Soccer Camp

The Youth Center is offering British soccer camp June 8 – 12 for ages 3 – 18. The cost varies according to age. Stop by the Youth Center or call 434-2504 for more information or register online at challengersports.com.

Disc Golf Tournament

The Fitness Center is offering a single round 18-hole disc golf tournament at 5 p.m. June 8. Commander's trophy points awarded. All equipment provided. Sign up at the Fitness Center. For more information, contact 434-2772.

Super Sweet Scramble

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a 4-person, 18-hole golf scramble June 13 - 14. Cost is \$40 per person and includes cart, green fees, prize fund, and lunch both days; sponsored in part by Sweet Peppers Deli. Mulligans may be purchased for \$40 per team (one mulligan per person per day). Win prizes for longest drive, closest to pin, or hole-in-one. Register no later than June 6 by contacting the Pro Shop at 434-7932.

Bridgestone Golf Ball Fitting Challenge

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a golf ball fit-

Missoula Children's Theater presents....

Sleeping Beauty

First Meeting for all participants
June 8
10 am
Youth Center

All youth 1-12 grades are welcome

Practice Daily
June 8-12
10 am-2:30 pm

Rehearsals will run anytime between 10am-2:30pm daily depending on the part the child is selected for

Performance
June 13
3 pm

FMI contact the Youth Center
434-2504

ting challenge. Choosing the right golf ball for your game can make a dramatic difference in your performance on the golf course. Stop by between 1 – 6 p.m. June 17 and find the right ball for you. All Bridgestone golf balls are 15 percent off. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Youth Golf Clinic

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a Youth Golf Clinic June 17, 18, 22, 24 and 25; 4:30 p.m. ages 6 – 9; 5:15 p.m. ages 10 and up. Clinic includes course etiquette and basics of golf. The cost is \$25 per person (with own clubs) or \$125 per person (receive golf clubs to keep). You must register by June 9. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Celebrate International Picnic Day

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a Picnic Buffet on the Patio from 5:30 – 7 p.m. June 18. The cost is \$8.95 per person; \$4.75 ages 5 – 9; free ages 4 and under. Buffet includes hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, coleslaw, chips, cookies, and drinks. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Father's Day 5K Run/Walk

The Fitness Center is hosting a Father's Day 5K Run/Walk at 7 a.m. June 19. Commander's Trophy Points awarded. For more information, contact 434-2772.

Tops In Blue

A free Tops in Blue performance, "Freedom's Song," takes place at 5 p.m. June 20 at Rent Auditorium on the campus of Mississippi University for Women. Doors will open at 4:15 p.m. for military ID holders; 4:30 p.m. for the general

public. For more information, contact 434-2504

FootGolf Grand Opening

Join Whispering Pines Golf Course for FootGolf Grand Opening July 1; ribbon cutting is at 9:14 a.m. Enjoy free FootGolf all day with food and drink specials. Door prizes to be given away. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Class

Free classes are scheduled every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 p.m. The benefits include huge gains in confidence, functional strength, flexibility, discipline, and overall physical conditioning. Mandatory equipment: BJJ Kimono (Gi); for ages 13 and up. For more information, contact 434-2772.

Wood Shop Self Help

Do you need to complete a wood project? The base wood shop is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. for only \$4 per hour. For more information, contact 434-7836.

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.

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.

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.)

Smooth Move

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

Troops To Teachers

This workshop is 10:30 a.m. - noon June 10. It 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.

Spouse Deployment Class

The class, 5:30 - 7 p.m. June 11, is for spouses to learn what is involved in a deployment. Several other agencies will give a short description of how their office can offer support to a spouse and family. Call 434-2790 to sign up.

First Term Officer's PFR

The First Term Officers' Personal Financial Readiness Workshop, 9 - 10 a.m. June 16, is required by AFI for all newly assigned personnel to their first station. Call 434-2790 to sign up.

Capstone

This class is scheduled for 8 a.m. – noon June 18. The Capstone 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. 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.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief will be from 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. June 23. It is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Kaye Auditorium. For more information call 434-2839.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop, 1 - 2 p.m. June 23, 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

14th FTW recognizes Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month



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

Hula dancers perform a traditional dance at the Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month luau May 30 at Montgomery Village on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The event featured traditional music and dance, information boards and food samples. On Oct. 23, 1992, Congress officially designated May of each year as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month to recognize the achievements and contributions of Americans of Asian or Pacific Islander ancestry to the rich heritage and cultural fabric of the U.S. The theme for 2015 is "Many Cultures, One Voice: Promote Equality and Inclusion."

more information please call 434-2790.

Heart Link For Spouses

This event is 8:30 a.m. - noon June 24 and is for dependents new to Columbus AFB or the military lifestyle. The event is held at the Golf Course. It is a fun-filled spouse orientation program with info on protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. It is a great way to meet others new to Columbus AFB. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

Hearts Apart Social

The Hearts Apart Social program is a monthly event to provide community bonding, fun and appreciation for the families of active duty personnel who are deployed, remote, or on an extended TDY. Food and activities are provided. This month the social will be 5-7 p.m. June 25. Please call 434-2790 in advance to register.

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 pro-

viders. 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 Center. 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

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



Airman 1st Class John Day
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The Air Force Ground Safety has implemented a new campaign called the Quest for Zero.

This program focuses on operational risk management and both on and off-duty safety. The purpose for Quest for Zero is for Airmen to recognize the hazards they face every day at work and home.

“Readiness is paramount to the mission and the safety of every Airman is critical to ensuring that readiness,” said Maj. Gen. Kurt Neubauer, the Air Force Chief of Safety.

Quest for Zero began at the start of fiscal year 2015 and each month since then focuses on a particular set of similar career fields. Tips specific to each highlighted career field are released each month that help improve the safety of Airmen and those around them. The program has already covered several organizations since October 2014 such as maintenance, civil engineering, force support, security forces, logistics, operations and medical. The schedule of remaining highlighted months is as follows:

June - Office Environment

July - Intel

August - Command & Control Systems and Aircrew Operations

September - Weather, Safety and Aircrew Protection

This month’s category of office environment has valuable safety tips to avoid mishaps in the workplace.

Office environments can lead to vision problems. Listed are a few of the symptoms you may experience.

- Eyestrain and irritation.
- Double vision.
- Watery eyes and red, swollen eyelids.
- Headaches from straining to see clearly.
- Decrease in the ability to focus the eyes and see clearly.
- Moving from a well-lighted area to a dark area.
- Accidents due to poor lighting, glare, shadows from lighting.
- Neck/back pains due to hunching over to see small items.

You can reduce your risk of vision problems from improper lighting with:

- Full-spectrum lights, which may help reduce eyestrain.
- Task lighting, such as lights above your workstation or on your desk, which can increase the level of light in your office and allow you the flexibility to position the light where it is needed most.
- Monitor screens that reduce glare, such as plasma screens or removable glare guards.
- Proper placement of computer

screens. Do not place a computer screen in front of or next to a window. This creates a contrast problem and visual stress. If you do sit next to a window, the best placement for your monitor is at a right (90-degree) angle to the window.

- Window blinds or tinted glass, to reduce sun glare while still allowing filtered light into your office.

Three of the most common mishaps in the past year include sprains/strains, fractures and open wounds.

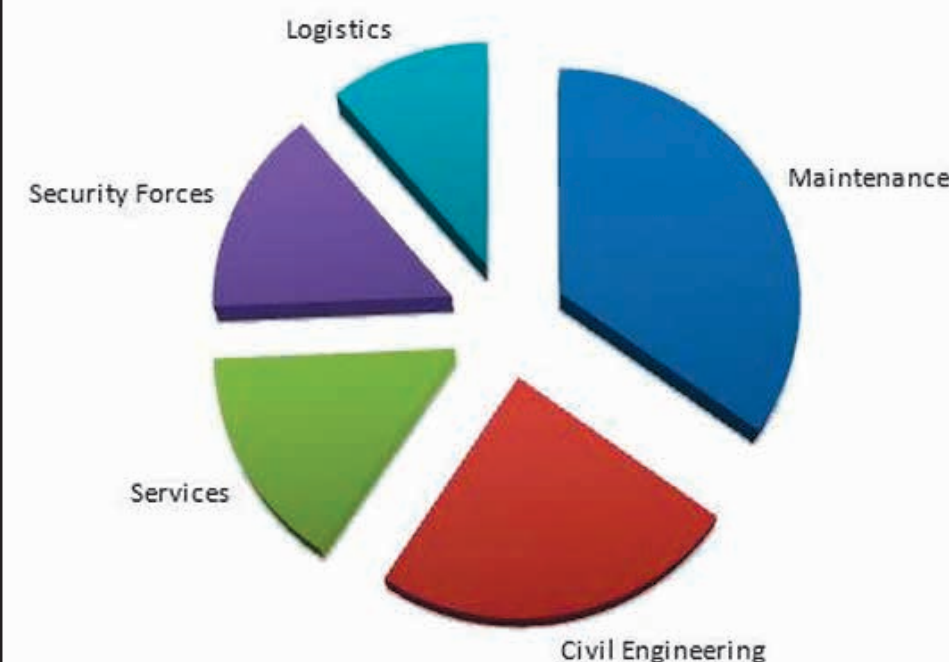
The program’s goal is to recognize these commonly recurring mishaps and encourage use of operational risk management and mitigation techniques to avoid them. Some general tips to accomplish this include:

- Wearing the appropriate personal protection equipment
- Ensure work areas are clear of obstructions and hazards
- Make work platforms available when possible
- Use safety pins and devices that secure hoods, hatches, doors, and ramps
- Be mindful of situational awareness and communicate with your coworkers
- Follow procedures outlined in Air Force Instructions and technical orders

“Every Airman can make a difference in their and the safety of their Wingman. When Airmen embrace the Quest for Zero motto — my job, my life, my choice — they are, in a real way, fulfilling their commitment to mission success,” said Bill Parsons, Air Force Chief of Ground Safety.

Zero preventable mishaps and zero preventable fatalities: this is the true message behind the Quest for Zero.

Top 5 On-Duty Industrial Mishap Functional Areas FY 13



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman Daniel Life

Remember to always use proper safety equipment and procedures. These safety measures are in place to prevent avoidable injuries and minimize risks both on-and-off-duty.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day

Senior Airman Nathan Fancher, 14th Operation Support Squadron Aircrew Flight Equipment Journeyman, uses personal protective equipment while cleaning and inspecting a mask on Columbus Air Force Base June 4. Wearing PPE is just one step to utilizing operational risk management and avoiding mishaps.