

Weather

Friday Thunderstorms High 88°F Low 70°F	Saturday Thunderstorms High 88°F Low 70°F	Sunday Thunderstorms High 90°F Low 71°F
Monday Partly Cloudy High 91°F Low 71°F	Tuesday Partly Cloudy High 92°F Low 71°F	Wednesday Partly Cloudy High 94°F Low 71°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

50th FTS Change of Command

The 50th Flying Training Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 8:50 a.m. June 16 at the Fire Station.

49th FTS Change of Command

The 49th Fighter Training Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 8:49 a.m. June 19 at the Fire Station.

Enlisted Combat Dining In

An Enlisted Combat Dining In is scheduled for 6 p.m. June 19 at Freedom Park. Tickets can be purchased from first sergeants and Group POCs and are \$10 for junior Airmen, \$15 for NCOs, and \$20 for senior NCOs.

Inside



Feature 8

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



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman Daniel Lile

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Maj. Brenton Pickrell, 14th Security Forces Squadron Commander, lead a line of 14 shooters to officially open the Columbus Lowndes County Small Arms Range May 8 in Lowndes County, Mississippi. Distinguished shooters included Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant and other local community members who contributed to the planning and construction of the \$1.9 million facility.

Community opens joint small arms range

Sonic Johnson

14th Flying Training Wing Chief of Public Affairs

It became a historic day on May 8, 2015, when Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant came to Lowndes County, Mississippi, to officially open a new small arms range.

The range will be used jointly by Columbus Air Force Base Airmen, Lowndes County, city of Columbus and other local law enforcement departments for weapons qualification and training.

The new range is a 26-minute drive from Columbus AFB in East Columbus, just off Mississippi Highway 69.

Columbus AFB currently uses the Columbus Police Department/Lowndes County Sheriff's Office range. Located in downtown Columbus near the Detention Center, it suffers from residential encroachment which now limits night operations. In addition, a new Lowndes County Justice Court was built ad-

jacent to the old shooting range, prohibiting operations when court is in session.

Columbus AFB also uses Camp McCain in Grenada, Mississippi, for additional training, costing \$160,000 annually and removing Airmen from duty for a minimum of eight hours.

The new range is designed to solve all these operational restrictions. The 14-lane outdoor range has covered shooting stations and was designed by the Columbus AFB Combat Arms Training Manager.

There are several small differences between military and civilian ranges. For example, military ranges require wider shooting lanes than civilian ranges. Local officials designed this range to meet our military specifications.

The \$1.9 million range has 14 shooting lanes, 50 meters long, and four additional lanes with 100-meter targets for sniper qual-

See RANGE, 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 (16-04)	22.86 days	4.82 days	June 30	48th (15-10)	-5.21 days	-0.74 days	June 12	49th (15-IBC)	-3.76 days	-0.89 days	June 29	T-6	1,016	998	19,615
41st (16-04)	6.61 days	5.18 days	June 30	50th (15-10)	-0.90 days	-1.44 days	June 12					T-1	393	434	7,314
The graduation speaker is retired Lt. Gen. Michael Gould, former Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado.												T-38	256	303	5,920
												IFF	165	178	2,781

RANGE

(Continued from page 1)

ification. The 50-meter lanes have an automated bullet trap for lead containment and recovery for recycling. The training building is a 4,662 square-foot heated and cooled facility for classroom training and weapons cleaning.

This range will also allow an increased opportunity for night shooting and will reduce the number of trips to Camp McCain for defenders doing weapons training. Utilizing the new Columbus shooting range, Columbus AFB will realize an annual savings of \$128,000.

The Mississippi Development Authority solicited applications from the military communities represented by the Mississippi Military Communities Council for the purpose of making upgrades to facilities improving the military value of the bases. The Link submitted the proposal to MDA and was approved for \$1.2 million in state of Mississippi funding. Lowndes County contributed \$322,000 in cash and nearly \$106,000 in-kind services. The city of Columbus invested \$203,000 in cash and nearly \$74,000 in-kind services.

"The significant relationship between the local community and Team BLAZE has garnered many things essential to our success," said Maj. Brenton Pickrell, 14th Security Forces Squadron Commander. "In this case our ability to train our Airmen on a fundamental tool of our trade, our small arms."

This partnership is a concrete testimony to the community support for the men, women and mission of the 14th Flying Training Wing.

"The continuous and robust support we receive from the local community continues to awe me personally," Pickrell said.

Air National Guard In-Service Recruiter

Master Sgt. Marcus Rawls



Stay an American Airman but serve on your terms and take the chance to be back at your home state or the state of your choice.

Columbus AFB briefings are scheduled for 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. June 16 at Phillips Auditorium.

Schedule a Face-to-face meeting by e-mail or contacting the Career Assistance Advisor at 434-7004.

Contact Information:
Office Hours:
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Commercial: (501) 987-6767
DSN: 731-6767
Cell: (501) 231-5308
E-mail:
marcus.rawls.1@us.af.mil

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
15 LGBT Information Fair, 11 a.m. @ Exchange CGOC Mentorship Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. @ Chapel Annex	16 50th FTS Change of Command, 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, 4:15 p.m. @ Rent Auditorium	June 30: Enlisted Promotions July 1: SUPT Class 15-11 Graduation July 1: Footgolf Ribbon Cutting July 2: AETC Family Day July 3: Independence Day Federal Holiday July 4: Independence Day July 4: Fireworks on the Water July 14: Wing Newcomers Orientation July 24: SUPT Class 15-12 Graduation July 28: Quarterly Awards Ceremony July 31: Enlisted Promotions July 31: 14th MDG Change of Command
22 CAP SUPT Familiarization Course	23 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Kaye	24	25 14th SFS Change of Command, 10:14 a.m. @ Kaye	26 Col. McArthur, 14 FTW/CV, retirement, 2:14 @ Phillips	27/28	

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

U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet 3rd Class Turner Crews speaks to Air Force Academy appointees from the state of Mississippi and their families at a hail and farewell June 5 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Among those selected to attend the Air Force Academy were Airman 1st Class Alexander Colon, 14th Contracting Squadron Specialist, and Airman 1st Class Shanasty Mahi-Lyons, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Specialist, both Columbus AFB Airmen. After the tour, appointees and their families ate dinner, during which officers who had attended the Air Force Academy spoke to the appointees about the challenges they would face during the next four years of their lives.

Airman celebrates acceptance to Academy

2nd Lt. Lauren Woods
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

The Mississippi U.S. Air Force Academy Parents' Club hosted a reception on Columbus Air Force Base June 5 honoring recent Air Force Academy appointees from the state, including an Airman from Columbus AFB.

Airman 1st Class Alexander Colon applied for the Leaders Encouraging Airman Development program and found out in April he had been accepted.

"I had thoughts of attending the Academy when I was in eighth grade, but it was something I thought was unachievable," Colon said. "I have had a desire to lead and take the responsibility of commanding so that one day I can be an impactful role model for the next generation of Airmen. When I found out I was accepted, I was ecstatic! I honestly couldn't stop smiling. I was in awe of this literal dream come true."

Colon was invited to the reception along with eight other appointees from Mississippi. The reception began with a tour, in which friends and families of the appointees learned about the Columbus AFB mission and spoke with Air Force Academy alumni stationed here. Afterwards they met at the fire station

for a burger burn, where alumni cooked and served food for the future cadets.

Allison Crews, head of the Mississippi USAFA Parents' Club, had nothing but compliments for the evening.

"The event was outstanding," she said. "Appointees were able not only to see a real air base, but also to speak to recent academy graduates and learn where all their hard work can take them if they persevere."

The Air Force Academy is one of only three commissioning sources for the United States Air Force.

"Attending the Air Force Academy is not like attending a civilian college or university," Crews said. "It is an honor and a privilege, but it is also extremely challenging both academically and physically. Succeeding can be difficult without support from family and friends who have experienced it."

To other Airmen looking to follow in his footsteps, Colon had this advice: "Keep chipping away at your package each and every day, know why you're applying, and don't be discouraged if the first application is not successful. It may sound comical, but considering age requirements it truly is a limited time offer."

One other Airman from Columbus AFB, Airman 1st Class Shanasty Mahi-Lyons, was also accepted to the Air Force Academy.

Celebrating the red, white, blue

Senior Airman Stephanie Englar
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Every year, Flag Day is celebrated across the United States on June 14. For many, the United States flag is a symbol of freedom, a symbol of honor, and a symbol of courage.

What is the reason behind Flag Day and how did it begin? It all started a few hundred years ago, following America's victory in achieving independence from Britain.

Following the American Independence from Britain in 1776, President George Washington sought to have a flag created that was different than the Grand Union Flag that was flown earlier that year. Betsy Ross suggested a flag design with five-pointed stars while many others had their own designs.

The following year, June 14, 1777, was when the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act declaring "that the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

The declaration resulted in the creation of the new flag, however it would take many years before an official day was established to honor the flag.

Flag Day first started unofficially back in 1885 when Bernard Cigrand, a teacher in Waubeka, Wisconsin, placed an American flag on his desk and asked his students to write an essay about the flag's importance. By doing this he wanted to inspire his students, as well as all Americans, to learn about the real meaning of the flag.

Cigrand worked diligently to establish a national Flag Day and is known for holding the first recognized Flag Day. Cigrand continued to enthusiastically advocate the observance of June 14 as 'Flag Birthday', or 'Flag Day' in numerous magazines, newspaper articles and public addresses over the following years. Today, he is known as the "father of Flag Day."

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings. With BJ Cigrand and Leroy Van Horn as the moving spirits, the Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized for the purpose of promoting the holding of Flag Day exercises.

On June 14, 1894, under the auspices of this association, the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day

in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating. By the early 1900s many groups celebrated Flag Day unofficially on June 14.

Inspired by over three decades of state and local celebrations, its status changed in 1916 when it was officially established by a proclamation by President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916.

In 1949, President Harry Truman established June 14 of each year as the National Flag Day. However, although June 14 is a national holiday, it is not a federal holiday. The only state that recognizes it as an official holiday is the state where the flag was officially created: Pennsylvania.

The American flag has been through many changes since it was originally created by Betsy Ross. Driving along Harpe Blvd. one can observe the United States flag as it has changed throughout the years.

The flag Betsy Ross created is located right next to the flight line and is characterized by its 13 five-point stars in a circular pattern. There were several different flags during that year, but the Betsy Ross flag is the most recognizable.

Heading toward the Wing Headquarters building, the second flag on Harpe, with the 13 stars in the now familiar rectangular pattern, was the first officially designated U.S. flag by the 1777 resolution, often referred to as the Francis Hopkinson flag. Francis Hopkinson was a popular patriot, a lawyer, a Congressman from New Jersey, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, poet, artist, and distinguished civil servant. This flag flew over our nation for 18 years.

The next flag in our nation's history is the Star Spangled Banner flag which became official on May 1, 1795. With the addition of Vermont and Kentucky, the new flag had 15 stars and stripes. This is the only flag in our history to have other than 13 stripes and would fly over our country for 23 years. This flag would be immortalized by Francis Scott Key as it was the one flying over Ft. McHenry when he wrote the Star Spangled Banner.

The nation's current flag flies over the Gene Smith Plaza in front of the Wing Headquarters building has been doing so since July 4, 1960, marking the admittance of Hawaii into the union.

Take a bit of time this Sunday, June 14, to remember the history and meaning behind our "Grand Old Flag" as we all celebrate National Flag Day.

Air Force elevates discharge authority for transgender-related Airmen separations

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force leaders announced June 4 a change to the decision authority for involuntary separations for enlisted Airmen diagnosed with gender dysphoria or who identify themselves as transgender.

"Though the Air Force policy regarding involuntary separation of gender dysphoric Airmen has not changed, the elevation of decision authority to the director, Air Force Review Boards Agency, ensures the ability to consistently apply the existing policy," said Daniel Sitterly, the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

This change follows a similar one instituted by the Army in March of this year.

Neither gender dysphoria nor self-identification as transgender is an automatic circumstance that generates involuntary separation. A recommendation for discharge because of gender dysphoria must be supported by a report of evaluation by a psychiatrist or Ph.D.-level clinical psychologist. In addition, after consultation with medical professionals, there must be a commander determination that the condition interferes with duty requirements — including potential deployment — or duty performance. Identification as transgender, absent a record of poor duty performance, misconduct, or a medically disqualifying condition, is not a basis for involuntary separation.

If command recommends involuntary separation of an enlisted Airman for gender dysphoria or for another reason and the enlisted Airman has self-identified as transgender, separation action will be reviewed by the Secretary of the Air Force Personnel Council for recommendation, and then to the AFRBA director, for decision.

Officer involuntary administrative separation decision authority remains with the AFRBA director.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Malia Jenkins

A B-52 Stratofortress assigned to the 5th Bomb Wing at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., arrives at Royal Air Force Fairford, England, June 5, 2015. During the short-term deployment, three Minot-based B-52 bombers, supported by more than 330 Air Force Global Strike Command Airmen, conducted training flights with ground and naval forces around the region and participated in multinational exercises Baltops 2015 and Saber Strike 2015, over international waters in the Baltic Sea and the territory of the Baltic states and Poland.

Minot B-52s participate, train with allies in Baltops, Saber Strike exercises

Senior Airman Malia Jenkins
Minot Air Force Base Public Affairs

ROYAL AIR FORCE FAIRFORD, England — Air, maintenance and support crews from bases around Air Force Global Strike Command forward deployed to Royal Air Force Fairford, June 5, to participate in the multinational Baltops 2015 and Saber Strike exercises.

During the exercises, B-52H Stratofortresses from Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, demonstrated the ability of AFGSC assets to project conventional air power anywhere, anytime, by conducting flying missions with European nations. This is the second year AFGSC has deployed assets to the European area of responsibility (AOR).

"We are here as an asset of U.S. Strategic Command in order to participate in Baltops and Saber Strike and the associated countries that participate in both these exercises," said Lt. Col. Bradley Dyer, the 23rd Expeditionary Bomb Squadron commander. "Our partnership with the countries out here in U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa is significant. We need their support, and we want to assure them they have our support as well for any kind of conflicts

that may arise in the future — our relationship with them is key."

Baltops was designed to improve maritime security in the Baltic Sea through increased interoperability and cooperation among regional allies.

Saber Strike is a long-standing, U.S. Army Europe-led cooperative training exercise conducted annually, which aims to improve cooperation and capabilities of participating nations for future contingency operations and train participants on command and control, as well as interoperability with regional partners.

"The significance of us participating with our (allies) and the importance of why we participate with them is to show them we can project bomber capability into the European theater at any time," Dyer said.

Dyer added that participating in these multinational exercises also reflects the importance of RAF Fairford and keeping the capabilities necessary to support any exercise or mission of AFGSC assets here. Ensuring the capabilities to deploy are here and the base can be used at a moment's notice, demonstrating to our allies and partners we're here and committed to assurance and deterrence within the European AOR, he said.

OPM to Notify Employees of Cybersecurity Incident

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has identified a cybersecurity incident potentially affecting personnel data for current and former federal employees, including personally identifiable information (PII).

Within the last year, the OPM has undertaken an aggressive effort to update its cybersecurity posture, adding numerous tools and capabilities to its networks. As a result, in April 2015, OPM detected a cyber-intrusion affecting its information technology (IT) systems and data. The intrusion predated the adoption of the tougher security controls.

OPM has partnered with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to determine the full impact to Federal personnel. OPM continues to improve security for the sensitive information it manages and evaluates its IT security protocols on a continuous basis to protect sensitive data to the greatest extent possible. Since the intrusion, OPM has instituted additional network security precautions, including: restricting remote access for network administrators and restricting network administration functions remotely; a review of all connections to ensure that only legitimate business connections have access to the internet; and deploying anti-malware software across the environment to protect and prevent the deployment or execution of tools that could compromise the network.

As a result of the incident, OPM will send notifications to approximately 4 million individuals whose PII may have been compromised. Since the investigation is on-going, additional PII exposures may come to light; in that case, OPM will conduct additional notifications as necessary. In order to mitigate the risk of fraud and identity theft, OPM is offering credit report access, credit monitoring and identify theft insurance and recovery services to potentially affected individuals through CSID®, a company that specializes in these services. This comprehensive, 18-month membership includes credit monitoring and \$1 million in identity theft protection services at no cost to enrollees.

“Protecting our Federal employee data from malicious cyber incidents is of the highest priority at OPM,” said OPM Director Katherine Archuleta. “We take very seriously our responsibility to secure the information stored in our systems, and in coordination with our partners, our experienced team is constantly identifying opportunities to further protect the data with which we are entrusted.”

OPM has issued the following guidance to affected individuals:

- Monitor financial account statements and immediately report any suspicious or unusual activity to financial institutions.
- Request a free credit report at www.AnnualCreditReport.com or by calling 1-877-322-8228. Consumers are

entitled by law to one free credit report per year from each of the three major credit bureaus – Equifax®, Experian®, and TransUnion® – for a total of three reports every year. Contact information for the credit bureaus can be found on the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) website, www.ftc.gov.

- Review resources provided on the FTC identity theft website, www.identitytheft.gov. The FTC maintains a variety of consumer publications providing comprehensive information on computer intrusions and identity theft.

- You may place a fraud alert on your credit file to let creditors know to contact you before opening a new account in your name. Simply call TransUnion® at 1-800-680-7289 to place this alert. TransUnion® will then notify the other two credit bureaus on your behalf.

How to avoid being a victim:

- Be suspicious of unsolicited phone calls, visits, or email messages from individuals asking about employees or other internal information. If an unknown individual claims to be from a legitimate organization, try to verify his or her identity directly with the company.

- Do not provide personal information or information about your organization, including its structure or networks, unless you are certain of a person's authority to have the information.

- Do not reveal personal or financial information in email, and do not respond to email solicitations for this information. This includes following links sent in email.

- Do not send sensitive information over the Internet before checking a website's security (for more information, see Protecting Your Privacy, <http://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST04-013>).

- Pay attention to the URL of a website. Malicious websites may look identical to a legitimate site, but the URL may use a variation in spelling or a different domain (e.g., .com vs. .net).

- If you are unsure whether an email request is legitimate, try to verify it by contacting the company directly. Do not use contact information provided on a website connected to the request; instead, check previous statements for contact information. Information about known phishing attacks is also available online from groups such as the Anti-Phishing Working Group (<http://www.antiphishing.org>).

- Install and maintain anti-virus software, firewalls, and email filters to reduce some of this traffic (for more information, see Understanding Firewalls, <http://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST04-004>; Understanding Anti-Virus Software, <http://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST04-005>; and Reducing Spam, <http://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST04-007>).

- Take advantage of any anti-phishing features offered by your email client and web browser.

- Employees should take steps to monitor their personally identifiable information and report any suspected instances of

To file a complaint:

For California Residents:
Visit the California Office of Privacy Protection (www.privacy.ca.gov) for additional information on protection against identity theft

For Kentucky Residents:
Office of the Attorney General of Kentucky
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
www.ag.ky.gov
Telephone: 1-502-696-5300

For Maryland Residents:
Office of the Attorney General of Maryland
Consumer Protection Division
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer
Telephone: 1-888-743-0023

For North Carolina Residents:
Office of the Attorney General of North Carolina
9001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-9001
www.ncdoj.com/
Telephone: 1-919-716-6400

For all other US Residents:
Identity Theft Clearinghouse
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20580
www.identitytheft.gov
1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)
TDD: 1-202-326-2502

identity theft to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

Potentially affected individuals can obtain additional information about the steps they can take to avoid identity theft from the following agencies. The FTC also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them.

Our mission is to Recruit, Retain and Honor a World-Class Workforce to Serve the American People. OPM supports U.S. agencies with personnel services and policy leadership including staffing tools, guidance on labor-management relations and programs to improve work force performance.

Top 10 recycling facts with Mike and Mike

Mike Blythe and Mike Jago

14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Many people know recycling is good to do, but do you know why?

The main reasons are for resource conservation and avoiding disposal costs, however there are many more reasons to recycle specific to Columbus Air Force Base.

A list of the top ten reasons to recycle at Columbus AFB are listed below and some may be surprising:

10. Do the math. Over one ton of resources are conserved for every ton recycled. Columbus AFB recycled nine tons of glass over the past year, 68 tons of paper products and 69 tons of metals. We also reuse or repurpose the gravel, concrete and asphalt from construction projects, sell used oil, mulch, and other material, saving another 464.44 tons last year alone.

9. Back in the “bad” old days, paper had to be sorted over 16 grades. Office white letter paper and other white paper were separated, colored paper and magazines were a real problem, and news print and envelopes could not be mixed. Not so anymore. We do separate cardboard from the rest. But paper is paper and we take it all.

8. It takes nearly 1,000 years for plastic to biodegrade, less if it has sunlight, more if it is in a dry landfill like in Arizona. Considering each one of us uses and throws away about 200 pounds of plastic per year, there will be quite a bit of plastic garbage left for future generations if it is not recycled. Columbus AFB recycles as much plastic as possible, but it is the responsibility of each person to put their used plastics in the recycle bin. Just remember; if you drank from it, recycle it. Look for #1 & #2 plastic recycle symbols on the bottle to see if it is accepted.

7. Recycling toner cartridges conserves aluminum, plastic, and rare earth metals. Toner cartridges should be sent back to the manufacturer or to a recycling company via the base Recycle Center.

6. Over two billion wood pallets are in circulation in the U.S. today, half of which will only be used once. Pallets in good condition are sold to be reused, but damaged pallets stack up. Columbus AFB provides a solution, using the pallet wood for fuel instead of throwing it in the landfill. Wooden pallets should be taken to the recycle center. Damaged pallets are shredded to a product called mulch and sold for boiler fuel to nearby factories.

5. Batteries contribute to high levels of toxicity in the en-



Photo courtesy of Mike Blythe

Baled plastics from Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, are ready to be sent to a recycler. For more information or questions about what exactly may be recycled, please call the Environmental Element at 434-7353/7974.

vironment, due to the heavy metals that leak from them in landfills. Columbus AFB recycles lead acid, non-aircraft batteries via the recycle center and many other batteries using the Call-to-Recycle boxes. To minimize the number of alkaline batteries in landfills, purchase and recycle rechargeable

batteries, some of which can be recharged 1,000 times.

4. Mercury is essential to compact fluorescent light bulbs' operation. Manufacturers have reduced the amount in the bulbs to as little as .004 grams in the green tip bulbs but the mercury is still present. Compact CFL bulbs can have as much as 0.1 gram per bulb. Mercury is easily boiled to a gas at 140 degrees Fahrenheit and helps the conductivity of the gas in the bulb. Each bulb only contains a small amount of the substance, but if disposed of improperly the thousands of drops of mercury easily bioaccumulate and can affect the immune and central nervous system of humans, fish and mammals. Last year we recycled over 4,000 bulbs from military buildings. Unfortunately Columbus AFB Recycling Center cannot accept bulbs at this time.

3. Fuel and oil are expensive, so used oil and contaminated fuel still have some value. Still, thousands of gallons are leaked on the ground, out of boats, dripped from lawn mowers, small equipment, cars and more. Spills from accidents and neglect add millions more gallons of petroleum products into our soil and water. Do your part and take the time to take back used oil to the point of purchase, many of which have used oil collection. Used oil can be taken to the recycling center on Columbus AFB during regular business hours. Please be neat and follow the directions to minimize the chance of drips and spills.

2. Nearly everything can be recycled back to some beneficial use. The problem is it is all mixed up with other stuff. Over 70 percent of garbage is single-ingredient items such as paper, plastic, glass, metal, or organics. By sorting those five categories into piles it suddenly changes from trash to product. The U.S. Air Force's goal is 65 percent recycling by 2020. Columbus has achieved 55 percent last year and we are on track for 46 percent this year, when lots of other bases are still struggling to break 35 percent. Our success is directly attributable to the base community and lots of contractors taking the time to place some of their trash in the right recycle bin.

1. Recycling is easy, the recycle center does most of the work and all that is required is to remember to place recyclable items in a recycle bin, and it goes to a better place than a landfill. The Air Force's 65 percent goal requires recycling correctly 95 percent of the time. This means everyone, all the time, or it just will not work. Please use the recycle bins.

For more information or questions about what exactly may be recycled, please call the Environmental Element at 434-7353/7974.

Retiree Affairs Did you know...?

Retirees, did you know you can get current and up-to-date information about any and all retiree activities, services and facilities sent directly to your e-mail address or sent bi-weekly upon request? Just call the

Retiree Activities office at 434-3120 and leave your e-mail address on the recording or pass it on to the director. E-mail is the quickest and most effective means of keeping our retirees informed, sign up via phone or e-mail.



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.

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

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

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.

Summer Reading Program

The Base Library is offering a summer reading program for all ages. 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. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Bridgestone Golf Ball Fitting Challenge

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a golf ball fitting challenge. Choosing the right golf ball for your game can make a dramatic difference in your performance on the golf course. Stop by June 17 between 1 – 6 p.m. and find the right ball for you. All Bridgestone golf balls 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). For more information, contact 434-7932.

Celebrate International Picnic Day

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering 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, cole slaw, chips, cookies, and drinks. For more information, contact 434-7932.

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.

NAF Sale

Stop by and shop the NAF Sale from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. June 19. For more information, contact 434-2310.

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.

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.

Tops In Blue

A free Tops in Blue performance, “Freedom’s Song,” begins 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 the FootGolf Grand Opening July 1; ribbon cutting 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.

Every day is an air show at Columbus

Lt. Col. Jeff Yost
50th Flying Training Squadron
Assistant Director of Operations

Do you remember your first air show? I was 10 years old when my family took me to the Toronto Lakefront Air Show. I was not a military brat and didn’t grow up near Air Force bases, so this was a big deal to me. I remember seeing fast jets like the F-14 and vividly watching a fire fighting plane scoop and drop water from Lake Ontario. I had the ratty old program until just recently. That air show was 31 years ago, but it inspired a passion for aviation and set me on a vector for the rest of my life. So, after flying the A-10 and supporting Air Force missions around the globe, here I am a few years later at Columbus Air Force Base with all of you. I’m still living my dream every day; teaching and training students who will be the next generation of military aviators.

As one of the experienced crowd it’s now my responsibility to mentor and inspire others and share my passion for avia-

tion and the U.S. Air Force. It requires a positive attitude and a sense of enthusiasm. It’s easy to maintain a positive attitude at Columbus when all you have to do is open your ears or look up; every day is an air show at Columbus.

One of the things I enjoy about Columbus is the continuous cycle of track selects, assignment nights and graduations. If you find yourself worn down by the daily grind and in need of some motivation yourself, go to one of these events. What an awesome sight to see the students’ pure excitement and emotion on assignment night and their sense of accomplishment at graduation.

If you’ve never been before — go. If it’s been a while since you’ve been — go. While you’re at it, why not invite friends from the off-base community to witness the results of what it means to “produce pilots.”

I’ve had an amazing flying career full of unique opportunities. One of those opportunities was flying the A-10 in air shows myself. I was blessed and fortunate enough to be the awestruck kid one day, and actually flying in air shows a few years later.

AF NEWS

Don’t get hooked by phishers

Tech. Sgt. Dan DeCook
Secretary of the Air Force Public
Affairs Command Information

WASHINGTON — Fast cash promises on popular social media sites like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter are causing major problems for service members.

Phishing scams have continued to evolve in an attempt to keep up with progressing technology. Today, some phishing scams have been using social media outlets to fool users into revealing sensitive and personal information at an alarming rate.

Phishers typically send a short message targeting young adults and, recently, more service members, asking if they would like to make quick cash. Preying on those in need of money, phishers entice victims with the idea of an easy payday. Many service members are sending debit card personal identification numbers or online credentials, only to be left holding a large bill.

One popular scheme involves a phisher depositing a fake check into a willing member’s account and then using the personal information obtained to withdraw funds from that account. For example, an Instagram post with the hashtag #USAA offers a \$5,000 deposit to establish dialogue with a potential victim. The victim then provides account information, allowing the phisher to upload

a phony check into their account. Since many banks offer immediate withdrawals, the phisher can take the money and run. In some cases, the victim agrees to the scheme and deposits the fake checks themselves with the intention of claiming no knowledge later on. Either way it’s done, the account holder is responsible for the funds.

Recently, a 20-year-old Sailor had a checking account balance of \$25 with USAA. After he engaged with a phisher and provided account information, several fraudulent checks were deposited into his account, totaling \$17,453. The fraudster withdrew his fee and left the Sailor liable for \$6,500. Phishers often deposit large amounts because only a portion of a deposited check is available right away.

While many service members are falling for these fake check phishing attempts, banks aren’t. They also aren’t paying the bills left in the wake.

“USAA is not going to post something like that on social media,” said Brent Moshier, the USAA executive director of financial crimes, investigations and recovery. “Fraudsters ask for things we would never ask for — personal identifiers, debit card information, account numbers — we already have all that.”

A financial woe isn’t the only thing that



Courtesy photo

comes with being a willing, or unwilling, victim. Security clearances, which take financial standing in account, can also be affected. Depending on their level of involvement in the schemes, service members may face legal action and possible discharge.

Phishers aren’t content with just social media sites. They are also crafting emails with company logos from official looking addresses. Phishers send emails from what appear to be trusted establishments.

According to the Cyber Security Division within the office of Headquarters Air Force

As we enter the summer months here in the deep south, most of the air shows have moved North or West, so a week-end road trip might be tough. However, if you are already traveling the country, check out the calendar on the International Council of Air Shows website at airshows.aero/Page/ASCalendar to see if something might fit into your plans.

If you need something to get you through the hot summer days besides dreaming of SEC football, mark these dates on your calendars for easy weekend trips in the fall: Sept. 26 and 27— Memphis Air Show (Thunderbirds performing); and Oct. 30 and Nov. 1 — The Great Georgia Air Show in Peachtree City, Georgia (Blue Angels performing).

Air shows have been a driving factor in my life since I was a child. Now I’ve been given the opportunity to help host the next Columbus AFB Open House. Though the date is to be determined, what a great opportunity to share our passion for aviation and the Air Force with the local community, people of the Golden Triangle, and aviation enthusiasts from the southeast. I’m looking forward to working with you all because this will truly be a complete Team BLAZE effort.



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 15-10 earns silver wings



Capt. Ben Bilbrey
Dayton, Ohio
C-130, Pope Field, N.C.



Capt. Bob Guerriere
Hackettstown, N.J.
KC-135, Pittsburgh IAP, Pa.



1st Lt. Jeremy Fabling
Castle Rock, Colo.
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-10 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Retired Lt. Gen. Michael Gould, former Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 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.

1st Lt. Kyle Nazarek, T-38, and 1st Lt. Benjamin Kram, 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 1st Lt. Kyle Nazarek, T-38, and 1st Lt. Pia Goodman, 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.

1st Lt. Kyle Nazarek, T-38, 1st Lt. Benjamin Kram, T-1, and 2nd Lt. Noah England, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 15-10.

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 proce-

dures, 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.

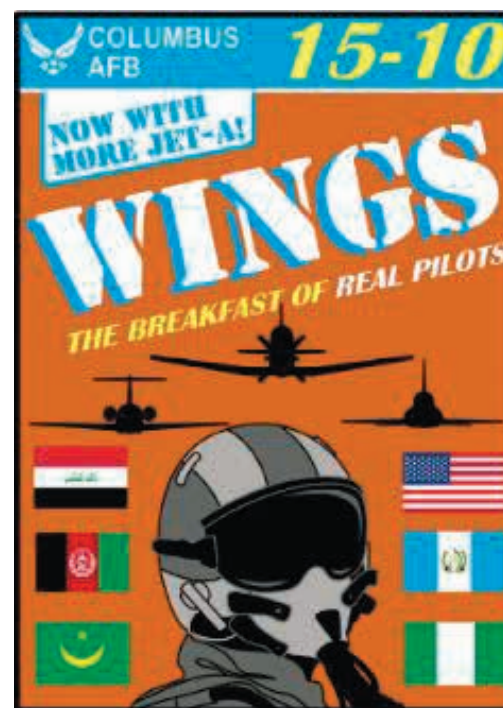
After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

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 15-10 pilot partner is PACCAR.



1st Lt. Justen Fazekas
Verona, N.Y.
C-17, Travis AFB, Calif.



1st Lt. Pia Goodman
Chatham, Ill.
MC-130J, Cannon AFB, N.M.



1st Lt. Christopher Kirk
Burlington, Ill.
F-16, Tucson ANG, Ariz.



1st Lt. Benjamin Kram
Gloucester, Va.
C-21, Ramstein AB, Germany



1st Lt. Anthony Navaroli
Skaneateles, N.Y.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



1st Lt. Kyle Nazarek
Hollywood, Md.
F-22, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



1st Lt. Lauren Sako
Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.
C-21, Ramstein AB, Germany



1st Lt. Nicholas Wawrzyniak
Toledo, Ohio
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Saud Al Saud
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
Eurofighter Typhoon, Saudi Arabia



2nd Lt. Taylin Eckols
Kosse, Texas
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Noah England
Ponca City, Okla.
C-17, Martinsburg ANG, W.Va.



2nd Lt. Mike Farinas
Atlanta, Ga.
C-130, Dobbins AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Arturas Kucharevas
Vilnius, Lithuania
L-39, Lithuania



2nd Lt. Shawn Lewis
Pittsburg, Pa.
KC-135, Pittsburgh IAP, Pa.



2nd Lt. Patrik Mohr
Medford, N.J.
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Nikki York
Kennebunkport, Maine
KC-135, Maine ANG, Maine