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Vol. 39, Issue 26

July 1, 2015

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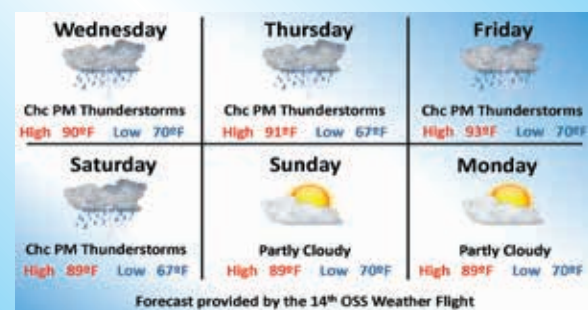
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## Weather



## Inside



### Feature 8

SUPT Class 15-11 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



## McArthur starts next chapter in life



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

Col. Howard McArthur, former 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, stands with his wife and kids after his retirement ceremony June 26 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

## 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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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
6	7	8	9	10	11/12	July 24: SUPT Class 15-12 Graduation July 28: Quarterly Awards Ceremony July 31: Enlisted Promotions July 31: 14th MDG Change of Command Aug. 4: Wing Newcomers Orientation Aug. 14: SUPT Class 15-13 Graduation Aug. 31: Enlisted Promotions
13	14	15	16	17	18/19	Sept. 1: Wing Newcomers Orientation Sept. 3: ALS graduation Sept. 4: AETC Family Day Sept. 7: Labor Day Sept. 11: SUPT Class 15-14 Graduation Sept. 18: Air Force Ball Sept. 22: Wing Newcomers Orientation Sept. 26: Retiree Appreciation Day Sept. 30: Enlisted Promotions
Last SAPR Large Group Training, 1 p.m. @ Kaye	Gen. Carlisle → Moody AFB visit Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Kaye		EES Roadshow with Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Tapia, 10:30 a.m. @ Kaye Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m. @ Chapel Annex	Air Force Ball Drawdown, 5 p.m. @ TBD		
				Firecr5Ker Run, 7 a.m. @ Fitness Center SUPT Class 15-12 Assignment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Kaye	11th-Color Run, 10 a.m. @ Lil Blazer Park	



# AF selects 49 for enlisted commissioning program

**Shelly Petruska**  
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Forty nine active-duty Airmen were selected June 25 for the 2015 Nurse Enlisted Commissioning Program beginning in August.

The Nurse Enlisted Commissioning Program selection board meets annually to review records and identify the top applicants for a commissioning opportunity in this critical career field, said Sandra Bruce, the AFPC nurse education program manager.

“Qualified, dedicated nurses are critical to the military and civilian communities, and candidates go through rigorous screening to identify those who are ready for the responsibility and highly likely to succeed in the school and career field,” Bruce said.

Airmen selected will complete their bachelor's degrees at a college or university with an Air Force ROTC detachment, or a college or university with a cross-town agreement. As full-time students they will

be able to focus entirely on education.

Nurse Enlisted Commissioning Program students attend school year-round for up to 24 consecutive months to finish their degrees, and while they're in school, they receive all pay and allowances. In addition, senior airmen selected are promoted to staff sergeant prior to starting the program, Bruce said.

After graduating with their bachelor's degrees and passing the Nursing National Council Licensure Examination, they will be commissioned as second lieutenants.

The next Nurse Enlisted Commissioning Program selection board will convene in April 2016. Information for this board will be available on the myPers website in October.

To view the list of selectees, or for more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to the myPers website. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following these instructions on the Air Force Retirees Services website.



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## NEWS AROUND TOWN

**July 9 and 23**  
The Sounds of Summer Concert Series continues. Come to the free concert series at the Riverwalk 7 - 9 p.m. through July. Coolers and pets not welcome, please bring lawn chairs for comfort seating.

## 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.*

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Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

# 14th Medical Group Corner: Fuel yourself for peak performance

**Capt. Sharon Elliott**  
14th Medical Operations Squadron Aerospace & Operational Physiologist

We're halfway through 2015 and the majority of our nation's warfighters are quickly being exposed to emerging humidity-filled, hot summer temperatures, all the while fearlessly striving to balance the many responsibilities they've been entrusted.

Night and day, operations ensue on-schedule and without fail, positioned across a wide mission spectrum, regardless of location or base station. The unanimous charge is to excel, both in combat and on the home front.

These warfighters hold multiple fronts as parents, instructors, students, teammates, colleagues and wingmen executing our various airborne missions across state lines and into foreign lands. This resiliency defines today's warfighter and is the solitary key to unlocking potential. The perpetual fire we must continue to stoke in order to perform well, best attend to those we love, and execute the job we're called to do.

According to the U.S. National Park Service, three foundational ingredients hold the flame in creating fire: heat, oxygen and fuel. With the delicate balance of each, a formidable output can be attained.

Likewise, in ourselves, the force behind our 'why we do

what we do,' must remain lit. We can think of our metabolism as this "fire," the positive justification to why we must eat early and often throughout the day to keep it burning. If not, the potential we have in producing an ongoing fire of ferocious intensity throughout the entire work day downgrades to a mere flicker of light. Not enough heat, and no fire will ever sustain our body's inner drive to operate on all cylinders.

Just as heat keeps our internal systems at a steady temperature, oxygen infuses the fire within us to keep us primed for a prolonged period of time. For many warfighters, this time is double to triple the average duration of a civilian work day.

So what's the relation between oxygen and a long work shift? Taking time away from your perpetually filled inbox and "chair-saturated" tasks will give you a chance to expose your lungs and body systems to something they innately crave: oxygen to fuel you. Although our atmosphere is comprised of 21 percent oxygen, a sustainable fire requires only 16 percent to maintain its flames.

How often are you getting fresh air in your day? Do you find yourself breathing recycled air while being stuffed in your office cubicle, or running countless errands in vehicle air conditioning rather than getting it fresh by planning an early morning workout before sunrise or an outdoor lunch break?

Fuel for our bodies comes in many forms: outdoor, early morning PT sessions; nutritious and well-prepared food; filtered water; repetitive and peaceful, uninterrupted nights of sleep; personalized workout plans; and quality social interaction, among others. Although this is true, arguably warfighters, more than any other population, fight the daily challenge of frequently-missed meals; poor nutritional options; mission-induced insomnia; separation from family; high-stress tasks and the list continues. How is it possible to take care of such serious business, if running on nothing more than smoke and fumes?

The answer is simple. Just as we prime our muscles for movement prior to exercise, undergo centrifuge training or G-exercise maneuvers prior to high G-loads in the aircraft, and, during the summer, don sunblock to deter sunburn before enjoying outdoor activities, there are protective measures we must deploy in order to effectively fuel ourselves for peak performance and perpetually stoke the fire within us as warfighters.

Be intentional in your daily tasks. Remember the basics: fuel your mind and body with quality food and plenty of water (early and often, at least every two or three hours); plan your day ahead of time; and, be positive with those whom you encounter. Challenge yourself to gear up and be fit rather than fragile. Invest in your future: take the next step to spark the fire within.

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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.

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.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of June 26, 32 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE											
PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
37th (16-05)	1.40 days	2.82 days	July 22	48th (15-12)	2.26 days	1.60 days	July 24	49th (15-JBC)	-6.58 days	-2.45 days	July 27
41st (16-06)	3.90 days	7.23 days	Aug. 12	50th (15-12)	-7.32 days	-1.81 days	July 10				
The graduation speaker is retired Col. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris, a former F-105 pilot who was shot down and taken in as a POW for nearly eight years in North Vietnam.											
WING SORTIE BOARD											
Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
T-6	2,715	2,646	21,263	T-6	2,715	2,646	21,263	T-6	2,715	2,646	21,263
T-1	1,034	1,067	7,941	T-1	1,034	1,067	7,941	T-1	1,034	1,067	7,941
T-38	687	838	6,455	T-38	687	838	6,455	T-38	687	838	6,455
IFF	466	428	3,031	IFF	466	428	3,031	IFF	466	428	3,031



Three Airmen receive BTZ



U.S. Air Force photos/Sharon Ybarra

**Airman 1st Class Jason Dasch, 14th Operations Support Squadron, is presented Senior Airman Below the Zone by Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, June 26 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.**

U.S. Air Force photos/Sharon Ybarra

**Airman 1st Class Nabila Ivaldi, 14th Contracting Squadron, is presented Senior Airman Below the Zone by Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, June 26 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.**

U.S. Air Force photos/Sharon Ybarra

**Airman 1st Class Nadia Armstrong, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, is presented Senior Airman Below the Zone by Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, June 26 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.**



Independence Day Weekend  
Holiday hours

Airman & Family Readiness Center ...	Closed July 2 - 5
Arts & Crafts, Wood Shop .....	Closed July 2 - 5
Back Gate.....	Closed July 2 - 5
Bowling Center .....	Closed July 2 - 5
Child Development Center .....	Closed July 2 - 5
Columbus Club .....	Closed for renovations
Commissary .....	Closed July 4
Exchange .....	Open July 3-4, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Fitness Center .....	Open 24/7 (register at front desk)
Golf Course. ....	Open July 2 - 5
Medical Group.....	Closed July 2 - 5
Military Personnel and Finance.....	Closed July 2 - 5
Multimedia .....	Closed July 2 - 5
Outdoor Recreation.....	Closed July 4
Shoppette .....	Open July 3-4, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Visitor's Center .....	Closed July 2 - 5
Youth Center.....	Closed July 2 - 5

Who is Harris?



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

There are many named buildings, parks and streets throughout Columbus Air Force Base. Most of them have an important history tied to a significant individual with a special tie to Columbus.

D Street was renamed to Carlyle Harris Street after Colonel Carlyle “Smitty” Harris. Harris is the guest speaker for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-11’s graduation July 1.

Carlyle “Smitty” Harris was born April 11, 1929, in Parkersburg, West Virginia, and grew up in Maryland. He entered the Air Force in 1951 and achieved the rank of sergeant before commissioning as a second lieutenant. In 1953, he earned his pilot wings and trained with the T-33 Shooting Star and F-84 Thunderjet.

His first operational assignment was as an F-86F Sabre pilot with the 45th Day Fighter Squadron at Sidi Slimane Air Base, French Morocco. Afterward he became an instructor pilot at Greenville AFB, Mississippi, and Bainbridge AFB, Georgia.

At the rank of captain, Harris flew F-100 Super Sabres and F-105 Thunderchiefs at McConnell AFB, Kansas. He also served as Chief of the Promotions and Flying Status Branch at Headquarters Air Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

Harris began flying combat missions in Southeast Asia while with the 67th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa. On April 3, 1965, he flew out on a mission to attempt to destroy the Ham Rong. The Ham Rong, also known as the Dragon’s Jaw, was an important bridge that served as a strategic passage for supplies and reinforcements sent to the Viet Cong who were fighting in South Vietnam.

He flew out again the very next day for another attempt, but was shot down. Other members of his team observed his aircraft catch fire and descend into the smoke as his radio became too unclear to hear.

Harris ejected from his aircraft before impact, but was captured by a local village. He was held in solitary confinement where he was interrogated, threatened and tortured every day.

While in captivity, he created a code consisting of a series of taps on the wall to relay messages to other prisoners. One common message was the letters “GBU,” or “God Bless U.” This inspiring message was sent to others after they got back to their cell from an interrogation session to remind them that they were not alone.

Harris and the 590 other prisoners of war were freed as part of Operation Homecoming 2,871 days later. Even more amazing than his survival in captivity of nearly eight years, was the fact that he continued to serve after a few short months of hospitalization.

He went on to serve for six years after being rescued. During that time, he attended the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and attained the rank of colonel. By the end of his Air Force career, Harris had earned two Silver Star medals, three Legion of Merits, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars for valor, two Air Medals and two Purple Hearts.

After Harris retired, he entered directly into the University of Mississippi law school, joining the Mississippi Bar in December 1981. His post-Air Force employment included banking, law and marketing. Since retiring, Harris has kept busy with volunteer work, flying, travel, golf, reading and other pursuits.

# Personnel teams conducting enlisted evaluations, promotions town hall briefings at bases AF-wide

**Debbie Gildea**  
Air Force Personnel Center  
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas – Personnel from Headquarters Air Force and the Air Force Personnel Center are visiting Air Force bases worldwide to conduct town halls including leadership briefings and question and answer sessions on enlisted evaluation and promotion system changes.

The briefing is scheduled for July 16 at Columbus Air Force Base, hosted by Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Tapia, Command Chief of Air Education and Training Command.

During the town hall sessions, personnel teams are explaining changes already implemented, those slated for implementation in the coming months and the reasons for the various changes. In addition, Airmen who attend the briefings are able to ask questions and share their observations with senior leaders.

“This is one of the most significant changes to the enlisted evaluation and promotion system in a generation. So, we feel it’s important to bring this information directly to commanders and Airmen and allow them to ask questions and get immediate answers from the experts,” said Maj. Gen. Peggy Poore, AFPC commander.

The teams are walking Airmen through the new evaluation system basic pillars - meaningful feedback, a cumulative record of performance and promotion potential – all of which are founded on duty performance. Airmen are also getting a look at the new enlisted performance report forms and learning about forced distribution and senior rater endorsement under the new system.

An important aspect of taking the briefing on the road is to provide consistent information Air Force wide and to allow Airmen the opportunity to ask questions or provide feedback to those who shaped the new system.

“We want to leave Airmen with a clear understanding of the paradigm shift and the changes that will be implemented in stages over the coming months,” said Poore. “We’ll also provide tools to unit leaders and local personnelist so that they can continue the conversation on EES/WAPS changes with their Airmen.”

A schedule of location and dates is available on myPers; search for “EES/WAPS.” Airmen can check with their installation leadership and personnel representatives for specific briefing time and location information.

Additional opportunities to participate in the town halls virtually, such as during Facebook live chat sessions, will be announced. Town hall materials will also be available on myPers.

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

# OPM computer attack highlights bigger issue

**Jim Garamone**  
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — The attack on the Office of Personnel Management’s computer system illuminates a larger issue of deterrence, said the Director of National Intelligence James R. Clapper June 25.

Clapper, speaking at the annual GEOINT Symposium, said of the challenge such a hack presents, “until such time as we can create both the substance and psychology of deterrence, this is going to go on.”

As director of national intelligence, Clapper leads the 17 agencies of the intelligence community — including seven Defense Department intelligence-gathering entities.

**Millions of records**

He said China is the “leading suspect” in the hack that compromised millions of government records.

The director said the question of a possible response is a struggle for the U.S. government because of the concerns about unintended consequences.

But such hacking attacks will likely continue until there is some sort of penalty for practitioners of such acts, he said.

“What we must do in the meantime is pay more attention to defense,” Clapper added.

Generating deterrence in the cyber world is a problem, Clapper said. Deterrence means essentially that performing an action would mean sure and swift punishment for doing the deed. Nuclear deterrence and the principle of mutually assured destruction is the most famous manifestation of this. This is not happening in the cyber domain, yet.

“Until such time as we can figure out a way to generate that deterrence we are left with paying a lot more attention to defense,” Clapper said. “I feel really bad for OPM, but there (but) for the grace of God go a lot of us.”

# Patriot Warrior provides realism for Reserve EOD techs

**Senior Airman Daniel Liddicoet**  
446th Airlift Wing  
Public Affairs

FORT MCCOY, Wis. — The hazardous nature of a career as an explosive ordnance disposal technician requires continuous training to maintain the mental acuity required to shoulder a daunting and hazardous mission.

During the Patriot Warrior exercise here, Reserve technicians from the 446th Civil Engineer Squadron EOD flight from McChord Field, Washington, recently undertook an exclusive brand of instruction to keep them on their toes in preparation for challenges they could face while serving downrange.

Patriot Warrior is the Air Force Reserve Command portion of an immense joint field exercise involving nearly 6,000 Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers, and multinational forces. Formerly known as Global Medic, the exercise still focuses primarily on aeromedical evacuation training and readiness, but has evolved to become more multi-faceted.

Four of McChord’s EOD technicians traveled to Wisconsin in order to capitalize on the specialized training offered by Fort McCoy’s state-of-the-art facilities.

“I’ve never participated in a training exercise that goes through all the iterations of an actual deployment like we have here,” said Tech. Sgt. Michael Blanch, a 446th EOD technician. “We rarely have to simulate at all. All the distances are actual correct distances we would use in the real world. There’s nothing you could do at home station that would prepare them as well as this for a deployment.”

Blanch, also a designated observer, controller, and trainer for the exercise, was selected to help prepare mounted-dismounted field scenarios for multiple teams of EOD technicians from across the command.

“We’re designing problems and implementing them based on scenarios we expect (them to) encounter in places like Afghanistan,” he said. “It’s about taking the skills they learn in the classroom and finding a way for them to apply critical thinking and threat analysis. All of their knowledge serves as tools they can use out here.”

The tailored exercises at Patriot Warrior served to foster a mental state that can allow the participants to completely immerse themselves into the scenarios.

“We had an opportunity to exercise in small towns designed with desert-like appearances made to feel like the Middle East,” said Staff Sgt. Stewart Knight, a 446th EOD technician. “It really helped instill a deeper mindset. It let us set aside trying to game the situation, and put more effort in.”

For the technicians, Patriot Warrior was less about learning, but more about discovering how to think.

“There is a certain methodology and understanding of how ordnance functions and how terrorists plan to kill us,” Knight said. “Once we get that methodology down, it helps us better attack the problem and make a hostile situation safe. There (is) hundreds of years’ worth of weapons designed by hundreds of authors. Their functioning can be similar, but it all depends on how it was made. Once you understand the general methodology, you can learn how to approach an improvised (explosive) device and understand how its components function, and how they work together. That’s the kind of thinking that helps us accomplish our mission.”

The ability to work with service members outside their close-knit circle served to elevate their experience.

“We’ve gotten different skills and tips from around the Air Force working here,” Knight explained. “They might have a different type of robot, different tactics or experiences; they might have a way to deal with landmines that we hadn’t thought of before. You get used to their rhythm and pattern, and it adds more depth to your understanding of how to deal with these situations.”



## 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, 10-11:30 a.m. July 1, is a class that provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

### Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is held 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. July 6-10. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop has seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, MS Dept. of Employment Security, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Dept. of Labor TAP portion. Preseparation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance 8 - 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register call 434-2839.

### Career Technical Training

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. July 13-14. The Workshop explores technical careers for post military personnel using VA Educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, private company contracted by DVA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of 8 participants to make, to register and more information call 434-2790.

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief will be 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. July 14. 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. July 14, allows the VA contractors to explain to service members; whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

### Federal USAJobs Workshop

This workshop is 9 - 10:30 a.m. July 15. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications, and job search, using USAJobs, Call 434-2790 to register.

### Troops To Teachers

This workshop is 10:30 a.m. - noon July 15. It is an informational workshop for members pursuing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

## U-28 visits Team BLAZE



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile

**A U-28 visited Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, June 29 for a capabilities briefing and a static display for student pilots and other Team BLAZE members. The U-28 is a tactical intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft.**

### Grants, Scholarships & Financial Aid

This work shop is 2 - 3 p.m. July 16. It informs you how to pay for college and is open to everyone. Call 434-2790 to register.

### Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

This workshop will be held 8 - 3 p.m. July 20 - 21. The Entrepreneurship workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business, to register and more information call 434-2790.

### TAP Education Track

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. July 21 - 22. Held at the Education Center, the workshop prepares individuals for the college application process. It addresses topics as identifying educational goals, funding, and researching and comparing institutions. Upon completing the Educational track, members will be prepared to submit an application to institution, schedule session with a counselor and connect with a Student Vet Org on campus. Members will be able to meet with educational

### First Term Officer's PFR

The First Term Officers' Personal Financial Readiness Workshop is required by AFI for all newly assignment personnel to their first station. The event will be 9-10 a.m. July 21. Call 434-2790 to sign up.

### Capstone

This class is scheduled for 8 a.m. - noon July 23. 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.

### Pre-separation Counseling

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

### Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings for active-duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

### Survivor-Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan. As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Jamey Coleman at (662) 434-2720.

### Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (both single and married), their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health providers. Counselors can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC, call 662-364-0504.

### Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Airman & Family Readiness 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.

## 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

**Wishing Everyone  
A Happy & Safe  
4th of JULY**

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Across from Mossy Oak 662-494-GARY (4279)



Photo courtesy of Saint Leo University

**Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, speaks to attendees of Saint Leo University's Columbus Education Center commencement ceremony June 20 at the Rosenzweig Arts Center in Columbus, Mississippi. Seven local students received their diplomas during the ceremony and Christopher Craig, who earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration: management, was the student speaker as he had the highest grade point average in the class.**

# Saint Leo Columbus Education Center Commencement Celebrated

## Saint Leo Columbus Education Center

Seven local students received their diplomas during Saint Leo University's Columbus Education Center commencement ceremony June 20 at the Rosenzweig Arts Center.

The guest speaker was Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief. Christopher Craig, who earned his Bachelor of

Arts degree in business administration: management, was the student speaker as he had the highest grade point average in the class.

Saint Leo University's Columbus Education Center is located on Columbus Air Force Base. Saint Leo operates the center on the base for base members who wish to further their education. For information about the Columbus Education Center, call 434-8844.

## 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.



# Fireworks on the Water event map



## 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.

## Youth Flag Football Registration

The Youth Center is offering youth flag football for ages 3 – 18. Register July 6 – 31. The cost is \$40 per youth. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

## Firecracker 5K Run/Walk

The Fitness Center is offering a 5K run/walk at 7 a.m. July 10. Bikes and strollers welcome. Commander's trophy points awarded. For more information, contact 434-2772.

## Third Annual Color Run

Join the Youth Center for the Third Annual Color Run at Lil Blazer Park at 8 a.m. July 11. Free for Base ID card holders; \$10 per person without base access. Registration required by July 6. For more information, contact 434-2504.

## Fight Night Frenzy

The Columbus Club presents Fight Night Frenzy July 11. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Pre-fight at 7 p.m. and featured fight at 9 p.m. Club members receive free admission, preferred seating, and food discounts; non-members admission \$5 per person. This adult themed entertainment is being held at the Bowling Center on the big screens; bowling will not be available. For more information, contact 434-2310.

## 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.

## Skydive Alabama Trip

The Force Support Squadron is offering a Skydive Alabama Trip Aug. 8. The cost is \$20 per person which includes transportation, snacks, lunch, and skydive jump. Single Airmen may sign up July 1 – 10; open sign up July 11 – 24. For more information and to sign up, contact 2nd Lt. John Russo at john.russo.7@us.af.mil.

## Belgium Beer Pairing

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a Belgium Beer Pairing at 6 p.m. Aug. 20. The cost is only \$30 per person.

Presented by the Columbus Club at the Bowling Center during Club renovations...

**ALDO VS MCGREGOR**  
**Saturday, July 11**  
ENTER TO WIN A TRIP TO WATCH UFC LIVE IN VEGAS!

**Doors Open at 1830** Pre-Fight at 1900  
Featured Fight at 2100

**Free admission to Club Members**  
& to those who sign up for Club Membership  
**Non-Member Admission \$5**  
Club Members receive: Preferred Seating & Food Discounts

**Food & Beverages** **Adult Themed Entertainment** **Door Prizes**

**Event Held @ The Bowling Center**  
(bowling will not be available)

**For more information**  
**662-434-2310**

The menu includes chargrilled peaches with Honey-Glazed Chicken paired with Ranger, Leafy Green Salad with goat cheese, orange wedges, and beer vinaigrette paired with Snapshot, Flank Steak served with stir fried peppers and onions on a bed of fragrant rice paired with Fat Tire, and Salted Caramel Apple Pie paired with 1554 Black Lager. Space limited to 40 participants. For more information, contact 434-7932.

## Free Pool Passes and FootGolf

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

## 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.

## Story Time

The Base Library is offering Story Time each Friday at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. For more information, contact 434-2934.

## 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.

**Be safe on the water,  
wear a life preserver**

**Arrive alive,  
Don't drink and drive.**



# What is AFSA, why should you join?

**Master Sgt. Richard Neal**  
43rd Flying Training Squadron

The Air Force Sergeants Association is a federally chartered non-profit organization representing the professional and personal interests of active-duty, guard, reserve, retired and veteran Total Air Force and their families.

There are more than 246,000 active-duty enlisted members in the Air Force, and with the help of AFSA, Airmen's voices are consistently heard on Capitol Hill. It promotes enlisted concerns to enhance quality of life and assures the preservation of entitlements earned through service and sacrifice.

AFSA is always seeking new members to amplify their voice in the legislative scene and also support the local community through their volunteer efforts. We have several private organizations on base here at Columbus Air Force Base, but AFSA allows us all to get together, regardless of rank or position, to make a difference beyond the gates.

AFSA members combine their voices with thousands of others to influence daily decisions the government makes affecting active and retired personnel. You get to be part of an organization that represents us and looks out for our best interest while we're active and after we retire. You may not see the immediate need now, but you do not want to wait

until you need it.

In 2012, there were discussions of a three-year pay freeze. Educational benefits were being examined, with tuition assistance being a target. There were also discussions of drastic changes to healthcare. With AFSA giving its insight, there was a 1.7 percent pay raise, retirement and educational benefits remained unchanged and TRICARE rates had just a small increase by the end of 2012.

When you come in as an Airman, you don't have as many commitments, so you don't have that initial interest, but as we are seeing things are affecting Airmen now as well. There are other benefits of being an AFSA member, including educational scholarship and grant opportunities; life and health insurance; and shopping and travel discounts.

AFSA is the only association solely dedicated to representing enlisted men and women and their families. When AFSA speaks, they listen. It's more than just maintaining your existing allowances; it's also about contributing to the discussion in a way that lawmakers better understand our needs. In fact, because of our reputation, AFSA has a by-name seat at the influential tables in both the Congress and the Pentagon to help shape the tough policy decisions affecting the enlisted corps today.

Some of the key issues that AFSA continuously fights to help out our active-duty enlisted are: higher military pay,

education benefits, higher household goods weights when you permanently change station, combat rehabilitation pay, adjust house hold goods based on family size and oppose pay/retirement reductions. Some of the key issues AFSA continuously fights to help out our spouses are: to permit full DIC & SBP without offset, allow post 9/11 G.I. Bill to OIF/OEF veteran's survivors, provide in-state tuition rates at federal supported state universities/colleges, provide a tax exclusion for childcare expenses, and provide funding for DANTES exams as well as spousal educational support, and survivor programs.

Many of the current benefits military members enjoy today may not have been available without someone lobbying on Capitol Hill for them. The majority of folks currently in Congress don't know what it's like to be in the military. For just \$25, members receive a 5-year membership, one meeting a month, for an hour, to have a legitimate voice fighting for your rights in Washington, DC. Spouses can join as auxiliary members and officers can join as associate members to become a part of this international organization.

Don't be silent any longer; let your voice be heard. Feel free to visit AFSA's website at [hqafsa.org](http://hqafsa.org) or call 434-3576 for more information. Meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of the month at noon.

## VIEWPOINT

# The Wingman concept

**Col. James Boster**

14th Operations Group Commander

I know you are looking forward to the upcoming 4th of July weekend as much as I am.

Your supervisor or commander should give you some type of safety pitch before you depart that will cover safety topics, emphasize staying out of trouble and likely mention something about being a good wingman.

What exactly is a good wingman? All too often, I leave wingman day feeling like my



elementary school teacher just briefed us to hold hands and make sure to look both ways before crossing the street. As a tactical aviator, I view being a wingman completely different. The wingman concept comes from the tactical aviation community.

The smallest fighting element used in the fighter community is a formation of two aircraft, or a two-ship. The primary reason for this is mutual support, which has many considerations, but the two main ones are to have an extra set of eyeballs to watch each other's back, and to have an additional jet airborne in case something goes wrong.

When you have an engine that catches on fire, it is your wingman that pulls up next to you and surveys the damage while reading the steps in the checklist to get you home safely. When all of your instruments fail and the weather is bad, it is your wingman who leads you home through the weather with

you tucked in on his wing. Your wingman is the guy who shoots the bandit that rolled in behind you into your six o'clock that you didn't see. It is the strongest form of teamwork to ensure everyone makes it back to base to fight another day.

One of my favorite wingman stories is known as Pardo's Push. After attacking the steel mills in North Vietnam, both F-4s in the flight received significant battle damage. As the flight lead, Captain Bob Pardo noticed that his wingman, Captain Aman, was leaking fuel. As the flight climbed to preserve fuel, it quickly became apparent that his wingman did not have enough gas to get out of North Vietnam.

They both knew if he ejected over North Vietnam his chances for rescue were minimal, but the likelihood of being a Prisoner of War was high. Captain Pardo had enough fuel remaining in his F-4 to make it to the tanker, but refused to leave his wingman behind. Instead, he had Capt Aman lower his tailhook and Captain Pardo proceeded to push him with the nose of his F-4 until both aircraft

were over Thailand and clear of North Vietnam. Both crews ejected over Thailand, were rescued, and both lived to fight another day.

These are the stories I think of when I think of being a good wingman, and I would offer that the concept applies to every Airman. Watch each other's back and use teamwork to ensure everyone makes it to work the following day. Captain Pardo more than likely could have safely recovered his airplane, but his wingman would have been a loss. In our business, winning 100-1 isn't good enough. The goal will always be 100-0 as the one loss is someone's son or daughter and part of our team. We lose more Airmen on and off duty in non-combat situations than we do in actual combat.

This is where you can help. Be a good wingman. It is not elementary school teacher talk; it is the ultimate form of teamwork Airmen use to take care of each other on and off the battlefield, in both peace and war. Be an American Airman. Be a wingman, leader, warrior ... and never leave an Airman behind.



### Schedule of events

- Children's activities begin at 5 p.m.including an inflatable obstacle course, face painting, and Didi the Clown...all free.
- Local DJ Mike Chain will provide music beginning at 5 p.m.
- Live music will begin around 6:30 p.m., featuring local artists Johnny Coleman and Swing Shift
- Vendors will be selling a variety of fare starting at 5 p.m.
- The evening will conclude with an 18-minute professional fireworks show choreographed to music

*Johnny Coleman and Swing Shift*

*Fireworks brought to you by the community support of 14th Force Support Squadron, Golden Triangle Regional Airport and Airbus Helicopters.*

# Please join us!

- Event will be held on Saturday, July 4th beginning at 5 p.m.
- FREE and open to the public
- Stennis Lock and Dam, East Bank (Columbus side)
- There will be food, dessert and soft drink/water vendors on site
- Bring your blankets and lawn chairs out early for a great site for the concert
- Do not bring canopies, pets or personal fireworks
- Live music from local band Johnny Coleman and Swing Shift
- After the fireworks, both lanes of Wilkins-Wise road will be used to exit the park to aid in leaving the show.

*The Columbus-Lowndes Convention and Visitors Bureau is the Presenting Sponsor*

*Event sponsors are Columbus Air Force Base, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, City of Columbus, Airbus Helicopters and Golden Triangle Regional Airport*

*This program is free and funded by the community*

## Feeling hungry? Here's a list of vendors setting up shop throughout the day:

Buffalo Wild Wings  
Chik Fil' A  
Funnel Cakes & Lemonade  
Maw Betty's Fried Pies  
Mugshots  
T&G Catering  
Woodard's Shaved Ice





T-1A Jayhawk

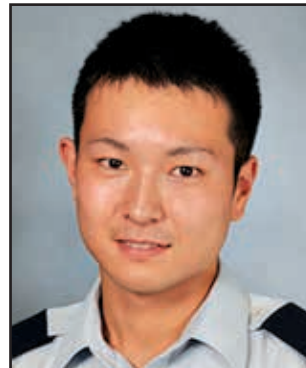
# SUPT Class 15-11 earns silver wings



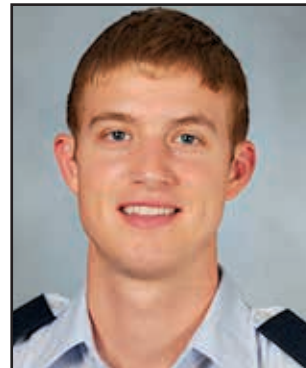
T-38C Talon



**1st Lt. Masumi Arafune**  
Tokyo, Japan  
F-15, Japan



**1st Lt. Tatsuya Sasaki**  
Aomori, Japan  
F-2, Japan



**2nd Lt. Andrew Bowman**  
Indianapolis, Ind.  
C-17, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-11 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Retired Carlyle "Smitty" Harris, former F-105 pilot who was shot down and taken in as a POW for nearly eight years in North Vietnam, is the graduation guest speaker.

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

2nd Lt. Matthew Kamp, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Eric Willuweit, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Matthew Kamp, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Stephen Tice, 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.

2nd Lt. Matthew Kamp, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Eric Willuweit, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 15-11.

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

formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

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

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

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

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

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

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus AFB. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. SUPT Class 15-11 pilot partners are GNC and Columbus Roll Shop.



**2nd Lt. Ian Chase**  
Bangor, Maine  
KC-135, Bangor ANG, Maine



**2nd Lt. Kevin Huff**  
Louisville, Ky.  
AC-130U, Hurlburt AFB, Fla.



**2nd Lt. Matthew Kamp**  
Santa Claus, Ind.  
F-15E, Seymour-Johnson, N.C.



**2nd Lt. Djordon-Lee Porter**  
Hilo, Hawaii  
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



**2nd Lt. Zachary Taylor**  
Casselberry, Fla.  
F-15C, Kingsley Field, Ore.



**2nd Lt. Stephen Tice**  
Waynesburg, Ohio  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



**2nd Lt. Doug Tiffany**  
Johnstown, Pa.  
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



**2nd Lt. Jaymes Trimble**  
San Angelo, Texas  
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



**2nd Lt. Michael Viator**  
New Iberia, La.  
C-17, Jackson ANG, Miss.



**2nd Lt. Eric Willuweit**  
Sioux Falls, S.D.  
C-17, Travis AFB, Calif.



**2nd Lt. Derek Brockmann**  
Pawtucket, R.I.  
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



**2nd Lt. Stewart Calder**  
New Canaan, Conn.  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



**2nd Lt. Kenneth Carr**  
Kansas City, Mo.  
C-130, St. Joseph ANG, Mo.



**2nd Lt. Christopher Nelis**  
Reading, Pa.  
C-17, Dover AFB, Del.



**2nd Lt. Ryan Opat**  
Phoenix, Ariz.  
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



**2nd Lt. Varun Pande**  
Bristow, Va.  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.