






Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 Partly Cloudy High 95°F Low 68°F	 Partly Cloudy High 97°F Low 67°F	 Partly Cloudy High 97°F Low 69°F
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
 Partly Cloudy High 98°F Low 70°F	 Partly Cloudy High 97°F Low 71°F	 Afternoon Thunderstorms High 95°F Low 71°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Aug. 4 in the Kaye Auditorium for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Education Center Open House

An open house is scheduled from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Aug. 6 in the 14th Mission Support Group Complex. Information and light refreshments are provided, and attendees can participate in giveaways.

Spatial Disorientation Trainer Ribbon Cutting

A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for the new Aerospace Physiology Spatial Disorientation Trainer at 9 a.m. Aug. 6 at Aerospace Physiology, located nearby the BLAZE Hangar.

Inside



Feature 8

Back to School is highlighted in this week's feature.



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

Brig. Gen. Scott Pleus, 56th Fighter Wing Commander, speaks to Columbus Air Force Base's newest pilots July 24 in the Kaye Auditorium on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Pleus returned to Columbus AFB in an F-35 after graduating from here 24 years ago, to display the new aircraft to young aviators.

Pleus inspires new aviators, displays F-35s

Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

A 1990-1991 undergraduate pilot training student returned to Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, in an F-35A Lightning II July 23, 24 years after his graduation.

Brig. Gen. Scott Pleus, 56th Fighter Wing Commander and Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-12 graduation speaker, displayed the new fighter aircraft to Team BLAZE members and the Air Force's newest aviators.

"Part of the reason I am here today, besides to be the graduation speaker Friday, is to show this aircraft off to the other lieutenants," Pleus said. "We are not too far away from lieutenants getting a chance to fly the F-35 coming right out of pilot training."

ants getting a chance to fly the F-35 coming right out of pilot training."

Pleus spoke on the F-35's capabilities and the Air Force's need for its modern technology. He said the aircraft is amazing when people realize that F-15s and F-16s were built at the time when the world had flip phones, and now it has smart phones.

"This is the kind of technology jump we have made since those fighters rolled off the assembly line 20 or 30 years ago," he said.

During his speech at graduation July 24, Pleus continued to give advice to pilots who are currently in pilot training who

See PLEUS, 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 (16-07)	2.85 days	-0.11 days	Sept. 3	48th (15-13)	0.67 days	0.71 days	Aug. 14	49th (15-JBC)	-1.60 days	-0.83 days	July 27	T-6	2,418	2,451	23,880
41st (16-06)	1.76 days	3.53 days	Aug. 12	50th (15-13)	-0.72 days	0.15 days	Aug. 14					T-1	960	831	8,906
												T-38	705	738	7,229
												IFF	405	359	3,404

The graduation speaker is Brig. Gen. Jesse Simmons, Jr. Commander of the Georgia Air National Guard.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 36 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Retiree Affairs Did you know...?



Certain retirees and veterans can obtain 100 percent disability even though the VA has not rated their service-connected disabilities at the total level? The 100 percent disability can be obtained through another program being offered by the VA. In order to take advantage of this program you must meet the following requirements:

- You must be a veteran
- You must have at least one service connected disability rated at least at 60 percent.

For more information contact your local VA Representative or call the Retiree Activities Office at 434-3120.

PLEUS

(Continued from page 1)

aspire to fly the F-35.

"What I would tell anyone getting ready to graduate pilot training right now, is to go ahead and go do whatever aircraft you are scheduled to go fly and do the best they can in it," Pleus said. "The F-35 is not going to be available for about a year and a half to lieutenants but once it is, we are going to have a lot of opportunities for people to transfer to the F-35."

Pleus urged the young new aviators to make the most of where they are right now in their careers.

"The best assignment in the entire world is the one you currently have," he said. "Don't waste your time wishing you were someplace else, because the time there and the friends you will meet will go by in an instant."

Air Force aviators are officers before they get to flight school, and Pleus continued to explain why.

"Your wings are special, but there is a reason you get the commission before you get the wings,"

he said. "It's because you're officers first, and you have a sworn duty to take care of those enlisted folks. It is your solemn job to make sure they can produce the mission."

Pleus went on to explain how well of a job the Air Force has done in maintaining air dominance.

"Since 1953, we have provided air superiority as a United States Air Force to over seven million soldiers, sailors, Airmen and Marines that have deployed to really bad places in this world," Pleus said. "Tens of thousands of them have died but not one of them has died from an enemy aircraft. We are not about to change that record of success."

Pleus concluded his graduation speech by speaking on the meaning of the Air Force silver wings.

"The ultimate responsibility of a pilot is to fulfill the dreams of those who stood on the earth and looked skyward," he said. "For those who do not fly the sky is the limit, and for those who wear the silver wings of a United States Air Force pilot, the sky is home. Welcome home graduates, we are very proud of you."

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
3	4 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Kaye Auditorium	5	6 Spatial Disorientation Trainer Ribbon Cutting, 9 a.m. @ AOP Education Center Open House, 11 a.m. @ MSG Complex	7	8/9	Aug. 21: Senior NCO Induction Dinner Aug. 31: Enlisted Promotions 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 Birthday Ball Sept. 22: Wing Newcomers Orientation Sept. 26: Retiree Appreciation Day Sept. 28-29: 14th FTW dissimilar photo Sept. 30: Enlisted Promotions Oct. 2: SUPT Class 15-15 Graduation Oct. 12: Columbus Day Holiday Oct. 20: Newcomers Orientation Brief Oct. 23: SUPT Class 16-01 graduation Oct. 27: Third Quarterly Awards Ceremony Oct. 30: Enlisted Promotions
10	11	12	13 SAPR Large Group Training, 1 p.m. @ Kaye Auditorium	14 SUPT Class 15-13 graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye Auditorium	15/16 15th & 16th - Autocross, 8 a.m. @ SAC Ramp	

STUDY
(Continued from page 13)
or to the athletic field.
Intercollegiate athletes at the Academy account for about 50 percent of concussions reported in the cadet wing, said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Brian Johnson, a behavioral science professor at the Academy.
“Regardless of participation in the national research study, all cadets are given the same level of care,” Johnson said. “We treat every cadet the same and we focus on this issue for long-term effect.”

To comply with NCAA standards, the Academy has conducted neurocognitive testing on its athletes for more than 10 years. The Academy began testing all freshmen in 2014 as part of the DOD-NCAA study to collect a larger test group.

“By using the same measures as the other sites, we can (compile) our data to paint a much clearer picture of what concussions and recovery times look like,” said Dr. Chris D’Lauro, a professor in the Academy’s Behavioral Science Department.

Steve Broglio is an associate professor in exercise science at the University of Michigan, and the lead clinical care coordinator for the universities taking part in the study. The information collected by this testing could prove beneficial years in the future, he said.

Campbell said tracking a cadet’s head injury is part of caring for Airmen.

“We want to provide the best medical care possible to our Airmen and cadets,” Campbell said. “This testing provides a foundation for our research and gives us the data needed to provide the best health care possible.”

The Academy is ahead of the other universities and other military academies involved in the study because it’s conducting this baseline testing for the entire study body, said Dr. Jerry McGinty, the director of sports medicine for the Academy’s Athletic Department.

More than 37,000 intercollegiate athletes and service members will be tested, McGinty said. All basic cadets are scheduled to be tested by July 31st.

Aug. 6-8
The Columbus Arts Council will commence their Season Kick-off event with Art Rocks! Event includes Art Gallery exhibits starting at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 6 and music from Flathead Ford starting at 8 p.m. Aug. 7. Stop by the Grazing Station for food. Finish the week off with Rock Art starting at 10 a.m. with more fun activities planned throughout the day. Friday tickets are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the door, other events are free and open to the public. For more information, call 328-2787.

Aug. 15
The Possum Town Triathlon is an

annual endurance event held in Columbus at 7 a.m. located near Stennis Lock and Dam. Go to racesonline.com/events/possum-town-triathlon to register online before Aug. 13 at 10 p.m. There will be no race day registration.
Sept. 3
Columbus Main Street and the Columbus Arts Council partner to bring Art Walk Downtown where local artists are paired with downtown merchants for an evening of shopping fun from 5:30 – 8 p.m. Stroll the streets of downtown Columbus, shop in participating stores, purchase unique art and enjoy local entertainment.

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.

Miscellaneous

For sale: Washer and dryer in good condition, asking \$150 for the set. For more information call 574-2970.

Upcoming EVENTS

CPR Classes are offered at Baptist Golden Triangle, 6 p.m., in the Patient Tower. Pre-registration is required. Classes will be held Aug. 10 and 24, call the Education Department at 662-244-2498 or 800-544-8762, ext. 2498.

Join us for a weekly education/support group meeting for people with **congestive heart failure** at Baptist Golden Triangle. Program runs on a 6-week cycle, you may begin at any time. Classes are held each Thursday, 11am-noon, Outpatient Pavilion Board Room. For information call 662-244-1953 or 244-2132.

Help for the Helpers community education luncheon at Baptist Golden Triangle for caregivers taking care of older people who need medical care. Experts will offer information about resources & options available Thursday, Aug. 6, noon-1p, Outpatient Pavilion Conference Center. Lunch provided. Call 662-244-1132 to register.

Dr. Joshua Griffin with Columbus Urology Group will discuss “**A Guide to a Healthy Bladder**” at Baptist Golden Triangle’s free community education luncheon Tuesday, Aug. 25, noon-1p, rooms 4 & 5 PT, near the Gift Shop. Lunch provided. Seating is limited; call 662-244-1132 to register by Aug. 20.

Baptist Golden Triangle will host a Baby Fair in its Maternal Child Department located on second floor of the Patient Tower Sunday, August 23, 2-4 p.m. The public is invited. Nurses will offer tours and discuss some of our signature programs including Skin to Skin and the 39 Week Initiative. Refreshments served and drawings for door prizes will be held. Call 662-244-1132 for more information.

Baptist Cancer Center offers free prostate PSA screenings for men over 40 the last Friday of each month. August PSA screenings will be held in Columbus. Make an appointment by calling at 662-244-4673 or 800-544-8767, ext. 4673.

Baptist Golden Triangle offers **childbirth classes** each month. Classes are held on each Tuesday night at 6 p.m. To pre-register call the Education Department at 662-244-2498 or 800-544-8762, ext. 2498.

Diabetes Self Management Education Class meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. Baptist Golden Triangle Outpatient Pavilion Conference Center. Physician referral is required. For information call 662-244-1596 or 800-544-8767, ext. 1596.

BMH-GT Diabetes Support Groups - day classes are the 3rd Wed. each month, 10-11 am, and evening classes are the 2nd Thurs. each month, 6-7 pm, rooms 4 & 5 PT. For information call 662-244-1596 or 800-544-8767, ext. 1596.

For more information contact the numbers listed above or email info.goldentriangle@bmhcc.org.

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GOLDEN TRIANGLE

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Quarterly awards ceremony distinguishes great performers

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 14th Flying Training Wing’s best of the best were showcased during the second quarterly awards ceremony of 2015 July 28 in the Kaye Auditorium.

The Team BLAZE second quarter award winners are:

Airman of the Quarter: Staff Sgt. Courtney Blakeney, 14th Medical Group

NCO of the Quarter: Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams, 14th Mission Support Group

SNCO of the Quarter: Master Sgt. Michael Coburn, 14th Operations Group

CGO of the Quarter: Capt.

Nicholas Ervin, 14th OG

FGO of the Quarter: Maj. Nicholas Powers, 14th OG

Honor Guard of the Quarter: Airman 1st Class Tyler Wise, 14th MSG

Flight Commander of the Quarter: Capt. Joseph Demonte, 14th OG

IP of the Quarter: 1st Lt. Brent Rist, 41st Flying Training Squadron

Cat. 1 Civilian of the Quarter: David Ross, 14th MDG

Cat. 2 Civilian of the Quarter: Daisy Jones-Brown, Wing Staff Agency

Flight Chief of the Quarter: Rowdy Smith, 14th MSG

Volunteer of the Quarter: Staff Sgt. Thai Vanover, 14th MDG



U.S. Air Force Photo/Melissa Doublin

The 2015 second quarterly awards winners or their representatives pause for a photo in the Kaye Auditorium on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, July 28. The ceremony honored the wing’s outstanding professionals for the months of April through June 2015 whose drive, determination and dedication have earned them this recognition.

Columbus AFB Top 3 spotlight



Category: NCO
Nominee: Staff Sgt. Shayna Wasden
Unit: 14th Medical Operations Squadron

Information:

1. **Home Town:** Hamilton, Alabama
2. **Time in the Air Force:** 8 years, 11 months
3. **Time at Columbus AFB:** 3 years, 7 months
4. **Career Short Term Goals:** To promote to technical sergeant
5. **Career Long Term Goals:** To be in a position to help people, enjoy the job I do, and be sure to have time to be a great mom.
6. **Nominated by:** Master Sgt. Noe Torres
7. **Nomination reason:** In the last eight weeks, Staff Sgt. Shayna Wasden was promoted to NCO in charge of the 14th Medical Group Commander Support Staff. She is entrusted with the safeguarding and updating of personnel records for 136 Airmen. As a staff sergeant she oversees 12 group level programs, and still finds time to volunteer her time to wing and group organizations. Wasden recently closed four program write-ups, processed 23 MilPDS requests, and tracked 31 OPR/EPR /decorations, and she coordinated eight executive staff meetings for one group



Courtesy photo

Master Sgts. Shannon Goodwin and Noe Torres, Top 3 representatives, present Staff Sgt. Shayna Wasden, 14th Medical Group Commander Support Staff NCO in Charge, with a Top 3 award. Wasden is entrusted with the safeguarding and updating of personnel records for 136 Airmen.

commander, two squadron commanders and three superintendents. As the treasurer of the Wing 5/6 she co-chaired the technical sergeant release party and worked the Happy Irby high way clean-up. As the 14th MDG booster club President she coordinated two morale events and a fundraiser. Wasden was also appointed as the 14th MDG 434-RIDE program manager; this quarter she recruited 21 members to volunteer their time for this wing program. Wasden consistently surpasses leadership’s expectations and visions, she is the glue and holds the 14th MDG together.

Mississippi Sales Tax Holiday

The annual Sales Tax Holiday began at 12:01 a.m. Central Standard Time July 31, and ends midnight Aug. 1. The items exempt from sales tax during the Sales Tax Holiday are identical to those items exempt in prior years. Clothing and footwear items, meant to be worn next to the body and cost less than \$100 per item, are exempt from sales tax during this period. Accessories such as jewelry, handbags, wallets, watches, backpacks, and similar items do not qualify for the Sales Tax Holiday. Cleats and items worn in conjunction with an athletic or recreational activity are other sample items not eligible. School supplies and computers are not included. For more information go to <https://www.dor.ms.gov/secondsalestaxholiday.html>.

Alabama Sales Tax Holiday

Beginning at 12:01 a.m. central standard time on Aug. 7, and ending at midnight on Aug. 9, Alabama will hold its 10th annual sales tax holiday giving shoppers the opportunity to purchase certain school supplies, computers, and clothing free of state sales or use tax. Retailers are required to participate and may not charge tax on items that are legally tax-exempt during the Sales Tax Holiday. For more information go to revenue.alabama.gov/salestax/SalesTaxHol.cfm.

MSU mascot visits Columbus AFB



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

Mississippi State University's mascot, Bully the Bulldog, poses for a photo in front of a F35-A July 24 on the Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, flightline. Bully came to Columbus AFB before MSU's college football season which starts on Sept. 5 against the University of Southern Mississippi.

Track Select



Capt. Melissa Kalas T-1
Capt. Jennifer Walters T-1
2nd Lt. Rex Anderson T-38
2nd Lt. Charles Armstrong T-38
2nd Lt. Damien Ashley T-38
2nd Lt. Tanner Bennett Helo
2nd Lt. Robert Bland T-38
2nd Lt. Paul Buchanan T-38
2nd Lt. Matthew Chupp T-1
2nd Lt. Garrett Dean T-1
2nd Lt. Adrianna Dong T-1
2nd Lt. Jason Douglas T-1
2nd Lt. Johnson Joshua T-1
2nd Lt. Taylor Johnson T-1
2nd Lt. Jonathan Jordan T-1
2nd Lt. Nathaniel Landecker T-1
2nd Lt. Devin Longo T-1
2nd Lt. Jeffrey Macneill T-1
2nd Lt. Ryan Moran Helo
2nd Lt. Mark Richardson T-1
2nd Lt. Richard Yount T-1
2nd Lt. Andrew Zaldivar T-1

Leverette Award
2nd Lt. Damien Ashley

Top Guns
Contact: 2nd Lt. Rex Anderson
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Taylor Johnson
Formation: 2nd Lt. Rex Anderson

16-05

AF Academy joins in nationwide concussion study

Ray Bowden
U.S. Air Force Academy
Public Affairs

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Hundreds of basic cadets lined up at the U.S. Air Force Academy July 13 to help experts learn more about head trauma.

Cadets are taking part in a three-year, \$30 million collaboration between the Defense Department and the NCAA to study concussions. Eighteen universities in the U.S. and the military service academies are participating in the research project.

The study coincides with the White House Summit on sports concussions, a presidential commission created in May 2014 to encourage the prevention, identification and treatment of serious head injuries.

Each cadet spent about an hour in a laboratory completing concussion history and symptom inventories, and balance, memory and cognitive tests.

“The collected results of these evaluations will be compiled into a database and form a baseline of a cadet’s complete physical assessment,” said Col. Darren Campbell, the director of the Academy’s Concussion Center.

“By having a baseline, we then have something to compare (if) they are injured,” Campbell said. “We know what their ‘norm’ should look like.”

The baseline is collected by computer-based neurocognitive assessments and one-on-one testing of brain and balance performance given when cadets are healthy, and are compared to results when a cadet returns to duty

See STUDY, Page 14



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jarad A. Denton

U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Chrissy Best

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III discusses current and future challenges with company grade officers at Royal Air Force Croughton, England, July 16, 2015. Welsh held roundtable discussions to connect directly with various groups of Airmen throughout the wing.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III speaks with 501st Combat Support Wing Airmen during an all call at Royal Air Force Croughton, England, July 16, 2015. Welsh explained the importance of reaching out and taking care of Air Force members and their families.

Losing sleep: CSAF shares what keeps him up at night

Capt. Alexis McGee
501st Combat Support Wing
Public Affairs

ROYAL AIR FORCE CROUGHTON, England — The sheer thought of disappointing his team — his wingmen, his brothers and sisters in arms — is the thought that keeps him up at night, striving to forge a better U.S. Air Force.

Driven by his determination to be the best wingman he can be, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III said it’s all about having dedication to the people who make this Air Force exceptional.

“There is never a bad day to be the chief of staff of the Air Force,” said Welsh during a roundtable discussion with company grade officers July 16 at Royal Air Force Croughton. “I get to travel the world and see you. I love you and I love everything you do.”

Welsh’s commitment to his team was a unifying thread throughout his visit, which brought him face to face with nearly 150 service members from the 501st Combat Support Wing.

“I’ve known you for about an hour now, but I’d die for you,” Welsh said, pointing to an Airman in the crowd during his all call. “And I’m

just naïve enough to believe you’d do the same for me. That’s why we wear this uniform.”

The Air Force is different than other jobs, he continued. It requires people to devote not only their time, but potentially their lives to their nation.

Welsh impressed this concept upon the members of the 501st CSW who were present during his round-table discussions and all calls.

First Lt. Sara Esau, the 422nd Air Base Group executive officer, internalized Welsh’s commitment to the Air Force people.

“Caring for your people is so important,” she said. “If a four-star general can take the time out of his schedule to get to know and genuinely care about his people, there’s no reason we can’t at a supervisor level.”

Welsh’s devotion to never disappointing his team led him to emphasize his “Three C’s”: common sense, communicate better and care more. He encouraged Airmen to use their common sense to step up, step in and forge new and innovative paths toward making the Air Force even stronger.

He also said communication is essential and Airmen at all levels

must do a better job of engaging with one another.

“Our Airmen are on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram these days,” Welsh said. “We need to find better ways to leverage these platforms so our messages are received and understood.”

His final tip was to care more. Welsh said if someone’s best friend were to walk into his office and not say anything, he would know there was something wrong. He questioned why the same expectation does not exist when it comes to supervisors and their teams. Welsh encouraged all Airmen to fiercely care for one another, like brothers and sisters of a large and diverse family.

He said it is the people who unite us together and make doing the impossible a daily reality. Welsh challenged every Airman in the room to examine not only what they do and how they do it, but, most importantly, why they do it.

With a look of dedication and seriousness in his eyes, Welsh looked at the crowd and passionately explained why he wears the uniform.

“I don’t just like being in the Air Force ... I love being in the Air Force,” he said.



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President: Erica McInnis
Treasurer: Sylvia Allen

Vice President: Lucila Sanchez
Secretary: Lakendra Huddleston

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.

Set thermostat for comfort, savings

Allen Reed
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

During these hot summer months, comfort from the heat is something we are all probably seeking.

It is very tempting to walk by your home’s thermostat and push it down in an attempt to cool off. Unfortunately, lowering the temperature in your home can become expensive.

The task we are all faced with is how to keep the air conditioning comfortable in our homes without spending a fortune on electricity.

A few years ago, the Florida Solar Energy Center monitored an unoccupied home all summer. They took measurements on multiple factors that affect energy use. During their research they found that for each degree in temperature change between the indoors and the outside, there is about a 10 percent increase in air-conditioning usage.

The difference in 78 degrees versus 74 degrees on your thermostat is about a 40 percent increase in the energy your unit is using. Being one of the larger appliances in your home, this increase can become expensive.

At Columbus Air Force Base, the temperature for each of the administrative buildings is centrally controlled in the Energy Management and Control System. Our settings are maintained at 76 degrees during the summer months.

Due to air flow and proximity to windows, this setting is not a constant throughout each building. However, this setting is intended to be within the comfort range for all employees. Our EMCS will not set the air condition setting of our administrative buildings below 73 degrees because there is the danger of creating condensation which leads to mold and mildew.

Keep in mind, the setting of 78 degrees is the temperature recommended by the Florida Solar Energy Center. Obviously, you can set your home’s thermostat at whatever temperature you like.

The best setting is as high as you can make it without getting uncomfortable. You can do this a lot easier if you have ceiling fans in rooms that are occupied, because you can raise the thermostat adjustment a little higher and not notice a drop in comfort.



Take a break, spend the weekend with us!
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Ground testing for F-35 gun conducted at Edwards AFB

Rebecca Amber
412th Test Wing

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Integrated Test Force is in the process of testing the F-35A Lightning II's newest munitions asset, a four-barrel Gatling gun that fires 25 mm rounds known as the GAU-22/A.

Unlike the Marine Corps and Navy variants, the GAU-22/A is integrated internally to the F-35A. In the other variants, the gun is mounted to the outside as a pod. A similar weapon, GAU-12, has been used on the AV-8B Harrier.

The first phase of testing started June 9, when the first shots were fired on the ground at the Edwards Gun Harmonizing Range. The test team hopes to finish ground testing sometime during August and start the airborne phase in late September. An operational gun capability will be added with a future block of software, which is in the beginning stages of testing at Edwards AFB.

The tests are done using a target practice round, the PGU-23/U, which fires from the gun but does not explode on impact.

The tricky part about this test phase is that the gun will never operationally fire on the ground. To conduct the test, they have to use software to bypass interlocks to make the aircraft think it's in the air.

"As an Air Force pilot, it's going to be one more thing that I can select to either strafe air-to-ground targets or shoot as an air-to-air weapon," said Maj. Andrew Rollins, the 461st Flight Test Squadron assistant director of operations and the test pilot on the project.

While deployed, Rollins said he "used a gun often." He also said it's particularly useful in an air-to-ground role when enemy targets are in a close proximity to friendlies and dropping a bomb is not prudent.

"The GAU-22/A uses a 25 mm shell, which is significantly more powerful than what I've been used to in legacy aircraft, (like) the F-16 (Fighting Falcon), F-15E (Strike Eagle) (and) F-15C (Eagle) — all those aircraft use a 20 mm shell," Rollins said.

Integrating a weapon into the aircraft is not in itself unique, but what does make this project special is that it's being integrated into a stealth platform. In legacy aircraft, the gun fires through a hole in the outer molding. In this case, to keep the jet hidden from radar signatures, the gun will be kept behind closed doors until the trigger is engaged.

The ground tests are designed to answer questions like: does the gun door open correctly? Does the gun spin up and down correctly? Does the air flow through the vent, and is it adequate to clear the flammable gasses?

Prior to testing the integration of the GAU-22/A into the F-35A, the gun itself was tested as a standalone. It was also flown during test points without firing to ensure that the flight envelope would not overstress the gun mounts. Preparing for the ground gun fire tests in the aircraft took



Courtesy photo/Darin Russell

An F-35A Lightning II, tail number AF-2, fires a burst of rounds down range at the Edwards Gun Harmonizing Range July 17, 2015, on Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Integrated Test Force is in the process of testing the F-35A Lightning II's newest munitions asset; a four-barrel Gatling gun that fires 25 mm rounds, known as the GAU-22/A.

roughly six months.

The testing airframe, tail number AF-2, is a highly modified flight sciences aircraft, and underwent four months of instrumentation modifications and had a line production gun installed for this project.

Tiffany Krogstad, the Lockheed Martin AF-2 flight test engineer, said that the AF-2 is normally a "scientist aircraft" executing loads and buffet testing.

"(AF-2) is the only aircraft in the world that can get us this data," Rollins said. "It's been highly instrumented in order to get us the information we need to proceed to the next test point and ultimately to get the gun to its full envelope."

As the test conductor, Krogstad and her team are monitoring the gun's performance and ensuring all the systems work as designed. She is especially concerned with making sure the jet can withstand the loads of a firing gun, and that the gun operates as expected. Since AF-2 is a flight sciences aircraft, it does not have all the missionized systems of full-line production aircraft. The gun will be further tested with a line production jet sometime next year for full integration.

"When we hand (the gun) off to the next aircraft to test full integration with the full avionics and mission systems capabilities, we'll rest easy knowing that we did what we could to make sure that their test won't have those issues," Krogstad said.

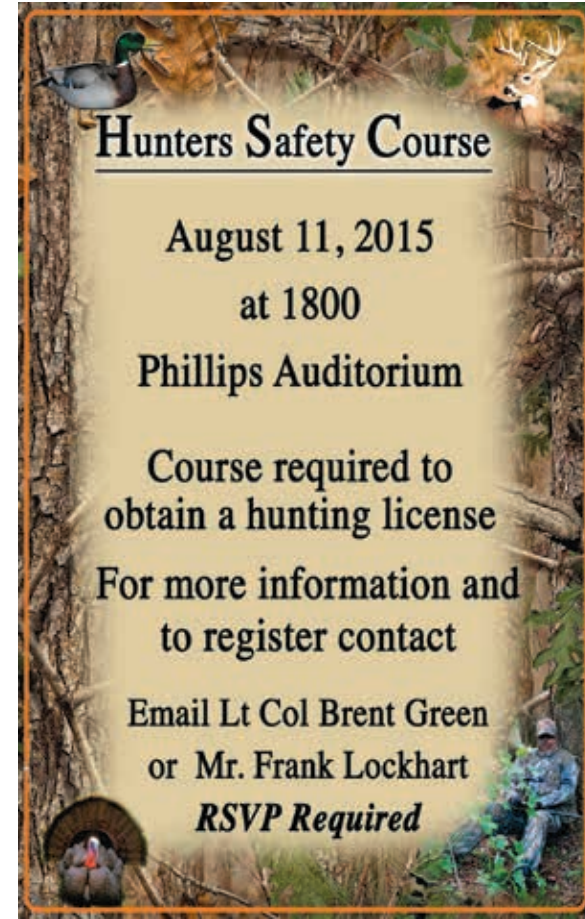
Rollins on the other hand is looking at it from a test pilot's perspective, evaluating the gun's effects on the aircraft's handling qualities.

"By the time we get airborne, we're hoping that our extensive preparation during planning, ground tests and airborne tests will eliminate every variable except for those associated with flight, since flying will be the most demanding phase of this testing," Rollins said. "While we'll be targeting very specific objectives, the pilot will also be observing more qualitative effects such as muzzle flash, human factors and flying qualities."

During the airborne tests, they will watch for the potential effects of having the gun mounted internally, like vibrations, acoustics and airflow.

To evaluate the gun's performance, the test team is made up of personnel from the Air Force, Lockheed Martin, Pratt & Whitney and Northrop Grumman.

"Like any of the testing Edwards AFB does, we are managing all of the risk involved with this test," Rollins said. "When we sign it off and go hand it to the warfighter, they can go out and pull the trigger throughout the entire gun envelope and know that the aircraft is going to function properly. It's not going to flameout, it's not going to overheat, it's not going to over G, and it's going to hit the target."



Hunters Safety Course

August 11, 2015
at 1800

Phillips Auditorium

Course required to
obtain a hunting license

For more information and
to register contact

Email Lt Col Brent Green
or Mr. Frank Lockhart


RSVP Required

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.



BLAZE Hangar Tails: C-17 Globemaster

Mission

The C-17 Globemaster III is the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force. The C-17 is capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward bases in the deployment area. The aircraft can perform tactical airlift and airdrop missions and can transport litters and ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations when required. The inherent flexibility and performance of the C-17 force improve the ability of the total airlift system to fulfill the worldwide air mobility requirements of the United States.

General Characteristics

- Primary Function:** Cargo and troop transport
- Prime Contractor:** Boeing Company
- Power Plant:** Four Pratt & Whitney F117-PW-100 turbofan engines
- Thrust:** 40,440 pounds, each engine
- Wingspan:** 169 feet 10 inches (to winglet tips) (51.75 meters)
- Length:** 174 feet (53 meters)
- Height:** 55 feet 1 inch (16.79 meters)
- Cargo Compartment:** length, 88 feet (26.82 meters); width, 18 feet (5.48 meters); height, 12 feet 4 inches (3.76 meters)
- Speed:** 450 knots at 28,000 feet (8,534 meters) (Mach .74)
- Service Ceiling:** 45,000 feet at cruising speed (13,716 meters)
- Range:** Global with in-flight refueling
- Crew:** Three (two pilots and one loadmaster)
- Aeromedical Evacuation Crew:** A basic crew of five (two flight nurses and three medical technicians) is added for aeromedical evacuation missions. Medical crew may be altered as required by the needs of patients
- Maximum Peacetime Takeoff Weight:** 585,000 pounds (265,352 kilograms)
- Load:** 102 troops/paratroops; 36 litter and 54 ambulatory patients and attendants; 170,900 pounds (77,519 kilograms) of cargo (18 pallet positions)
- Unit Cost:** \$202.3 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars)
- Date Deployed:** June 1993
- Inventory:** Active duty, 187; Air National Guard, 12; Air Force Reserve, 14

Background

The C-17 made its maiden flight on Sept. 15, 1991, and the first production model was delivered to Charleston Air Force Base, now known as Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, on June 14, 1993. The first squadron of C-17s, the 17th Airlift Squadron, was declared operationally ready Jan. 17, 1995. The Air Force originally programmed to buy 120 C-17s. Current budget plans increased the total number to 223 aircraft.

The C-17 is operated by Air Mobility Command at Travis AFB, California; Dover AFB, Delaware; Joint Base Lewis-Mc-



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Sean M. Worrell

A C-17 Globemaster III from the 437th Air Wing, Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina, flies away from a KC-10 Extender after being refueled off the coast of North Carolina. During Rodeo 2000, teams from all over the world competed in areas including airdrop, aerial refueling, aircraft navigation, special tactics, short field landings, cargo loading, engine running on/offloads, aeromedical evacuations and security forces operations.



U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Lauren Woods

A C-17 Globemaster III rests on the SAC Ramp July 24 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The C-17 came to Columbus AFB to motivate and inspire student pilots to pursue flying the C-17 or a similar airframe.

Chord, Washington; Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey.

The Air National Guard flies C-17s from the 172d Airlift Wing, Jackson, Mississippi, and the 105th Airlift Wing, Stewart ANGB, New York. Additionally, Air Force Materiel Command operates two C-17s at Edwards AFB, California, and Pacific Air Forces operates aircraft at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

The Air Force Reserve Command operates aircraft at March Air Reserve Base, California, and Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. Air Education and Training Command has 17 aircraft at Altus AFB, Oklahoma.

Columbus AFB says goodbye to Army MWD veterinarian

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

When it comes to the U.S. military, what is the first thought that comes to mind?

For many it may be the war on terrorism, protecting the country and so on, but the thought of taking care of sick animals may not be prevalent.

That is unless you are U.S. Army Capt. Teri Vaughn, the Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Services Officer in Charge, who encompasses all those ideals and more taking care of Columbus Air Force Base's Military Working Dogs for almost two years.

Vaughn has been a Veterinary Corps Officer since June 2012. Redstone Arsenal was her second Army assignment, arriving in September 2013, where she took responsibility for the medical deployment readiness of Columbus AFB's six Military Working Dogs care in January 2014. This includes both preventive medicine as well as emergency medical care. She was reassigned to a location in Italy earlier this month.

A native of Starkville, Mississippi, Vaughn made three-hour trips to Columbus AFB monthly to perform inspections of the MWD facility and check the weights and body conditions of the MWDs. She ensured they were not over or underweight and performed physical examinations on them semiannually, ensuring they were up to date on their preventive care, including vaccinations and bloodwork. She also performed both pre- and post-deployment examinations, ensuring they were fit to deploy and were healthy upon return.

"Military Working Dogs are critical to our mission success both stateside and overseas," Vaughn said. "Their abilities are unmatched and the bond formed between a MWD and his or her handler surpasses the already close bond defined through 'man's best friend.'"

"A healthy MWD saves lives over and over again down range through their detection and patrol capabilities. Just as in people, if a dog is not feeling well, it affects their performance. Keeping them healthy allows them to perform their best."

Her support did not stop there as she also supported the 14th Medical Group by providing veterinary zoonotic disease subject matter expertise and assistance in handling bite reports for rabies prevention. She also supported the base by inspecting animal facilities such as the MWD kennel, the stable, and locations with classroom pets, such as the youth center and child development centers.

Due to the relative isolation of the base from Army veterinary facilities, it was important to



Staff Sgt. Matthew Price, 14th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog Handler, holds and comforts Dito while U.S. Army Capt. Teri Vaughn, formerly the Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Services Officer in Charge, checks vitals July 10 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Vaughn took responsibility for the medical deployment readiness of Columbus AFB's six Military Working Dogs in January 2014, and was reassigned to a location in Italy in July 2015.

create a relationship with a local veterinary hospital to provide emergency support to the MWDs while they are at home, said Tech. Sgt. Dustin Weeks, 14th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog Kennel Master.

The Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine is a state-of-the-art veterinary teaching hospital in close proximity to Columbus AFB. In addition to providing support to the base, Vaughn also worked with the faculty and students at MSUCVM to create training opportunities for the K-9 handlers, future Army Veterinary Corps officers currently attending veterinary school at MSUCVM, and the expert faculty who volunteered their time and expertise to assist with these events, Weeks said. He said it almost goes without saying that Vaughn developed a bond with these animals during her time at Columbus AFB.

"All dogs are individuals and have unique personalities. Having worked so closely with

them, I know each of the dogs and they know me as well," Vaughn said. "The two I have developed the closest relationships with are two I deployed, and then medically retired, enabling them to go home to live with their handlers."

"These dogs are living incredibly happy lives, and are also receiving physical therapy at Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine, compliments of the second year class of veterinary students. This is just one great implication of the relationship we have built between the MWD kennel at CAFB, the Army Veterinary Corps, and MSUCVM."

Vaughn had made a deep impact on the MWD handlers for her commitment to not only her job but the base as a whole.

"She's going to be missed," Weeks said. "She was both highly involved and professional. Her diligence with keeping the dogs healthy brought us more support than ever. The way

"Military Working Dogs are critical to our mission success both stateside and overseas," Vaughn said. "Their abilities are unmatched and the bond formed between a MWD and his or her handler surpasses the already close bond defined through 'man's best friend.'"

she cared about her job and the MWDs kept us in high spirit. Not to mention she kept in contact with us for other than her required visits, kept us trained and proficient made us feel prepared, which is why we wanted to recognize her for all her hard work."

A couple weeks before she left, Vaughn was surprised not once but twice during her visit to the base. First she was coined by Col. John Nichols and 14th Mission Support Group leadership for her efforts, and then she was presented a plaque by the MWD handlers.

"I was not at all expecting the coins I received from the Wing Commander and the 14th MSG, as well as the large gathering that came by to see me off to my next assignment," Vaughn said. "That, in addition to the amazing plaque my K9 Handlers surprised me with really made the day special."

The plaque included fluid bags from the veterinary emergency medical training, a picture of Vaughn with all of the handlers and the MWDs, and a list of each dog Vaughn supported including those who have medically retired and transitioned from service dog to pet status.

"The plaque is incredibly special due to the thought that the guys put into it. It incorporates so many of the aspects of what we have done at the kennel," Vaughn said. "CAFB holds a special place in my heart, as I consider it to be home. Having the opportunity to use my skills to support an amazing base with phenomenal K-9 handlers and Military Working Dogs, while building relationships between the base and Mississippi State University made this an assignment of a lifetime. I will miss the people I have worked with, as well as the MWDs, though I do plan to stop by whenever I visit home."

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.)

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief will be 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Aug. 4, and 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, 1-2 p.m. Aug. 4, workshop 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. For more information or to register, please call 434-2790.

Resume and Cover Letter

This workshop, from 9 – 10:30 a.m. Aug. 5, gives you preparation for writing effective civilian resumes and Cover Letters. To sign up, call 434-2790.

Heart Link For Spouses

This event is 8:30 a.m. - noon Aug. 5 for dependents new to Columbus Air Force Base or the military lifestyle. The event is held at the Golf Course. It is a fun-filled spouse orientation program with info on protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. It is a great way to meet others new to Columbus AFB. For more information or to register, please call 434-2790.

Smooth Move

This class, 10-11:30 a.m. Aug. 12, provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. Learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

Troops To Teachers

This workshop is 10:30 a.m. - noon Aug. 12. 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.

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 is held 9-10 a.m. Aug. 18. For more information or to register, call 434-2790.

Capstone

This class is scheduled for 8 a.m. – noon Aug. 20. The Capstone is required for all separating/retiring personnel and should occur no later

Thrift Shop



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

A Thrift Shop volunteer, hands a customer their purchased items July 29 at the Thrift shop on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Base Thrift Shop is now open from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 5 – 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. The Airman's Attic is now open 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5 – 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. - noon Saturdays. The attic is open to all ranks on Wednesdays and the first Saturday each month. Donations can be dropped off on the loading dock and inside the front doors 24/7. For more information call 434-2954.

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.

Bundles of Joy

This workshop is 1 - 3:30 p.m. Aug. 25 for active-duty families assigned to Columbus Air Force Base who are expecting or have a child up to four months of age. This is an Air Force Aid Society program with informational presentations about topics such as Tri-Care, Child Care, Breastfeeding, Car Seat Safety, and Nutrition & Fitness during and after pregnancy, Labor, and Delivery. To register, please call 434-2790.

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.

Base Community

Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and is open to the public 5 – 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Consignments are welcome until noon. Donations are accepted and very much appreciated. Donations can now be dropped off on the loading dock and inside the front doors 24/7. If they are left anywhere else we do not receive them. The shop is a non-profit and all proceeds benefit Columbus Air Force Base Community. It is located in building 530. Call 434-2954.

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

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events
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.

Fight Night Frenzy
The Columbus Club presents Fight Night Frenzy Aug. 1. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Pre-fight at 7 p.m. and featured fight “Rousey vs Correia” at 9 p.m. Club members receive free admission, preferred seating, and food discounts; non-member 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.

Bowl with the King of Rock and Roll
The Bowling Center is offering an Elvis Presley Impersonator Contest Aug. 14. Judging held at 4:30 p.m. followed by cosmic bowling 5 – 8 p.m. Prize awarded for best-dressed Elvis. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Family Fun Run
The Youth Center is offering a free family fun run at 8 a.m. Aug. 15. All ages are welcome. The run begins and ends at the Youth Center parking lot. For more information, contact 434-2504.

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. 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 Snap-shot, 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.

Dog Days of Summer Fitness Run
The Fitness Center is offering a 5K run/walk at 7 a.m. Aug. 21. Bikes and strollers welcome. Commander's trophy points awarded. For more information, contact 434-2772.

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



Saturday, August 1

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



Play Paintball
Book your next paintball event at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$15 per person for a party of 10 or more; \$20 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, contact 434-2505.

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.

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.

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.

Youth Center offers many options for children

Kayline Hamilton
Youth Center Director

If you have children, you are well aware of the danger they face in today's world. Daily we see news about kids left to their own devices after school who have taken the wrong path in life.

Youth Programs at Columbus help combat potentially negative influences in children's lives by providing both educational and fun programs in a healthy environment for youth and teens.

There are many options offered through youth programs at Columbus Air Force Base that can help enhance youth development within youth and teens. The five core program areas are character and leadership; education and career development; the arts; health and life skills; sports;

and recreation and fitness.

The Youth Center offers three of the five core programs on a daily basis. As an affiliate organization of the Boys and Girls Club of America and the National 4-H programs, many of their products are offered here at Columbus AFB. Some programs of interest are the YES program where freshmen through seniors can be employed on base and earn dollars for college; Youth of the Year for Youth Center members; Teen Camps such as Aviation, Teen Leadership, Technology and Space Camp; Base Level Photography; and Fine Arts competition just to name a few.

The center also offers year-round programs bringing families together including the base Spring Fling and Egg Hunt; America's Kids Run; Base Color Run; Breakfast with Santa; and many other fun and exciting programs

that help unite families.

At Columbus AFB, our sports programs for ages 3-8 focus on helping youth develop their motor skills through a certified coach for various levels of competition. All kids deserve the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve, under the guidance of adults who care about them and believe in their potential. A key part to that development is family time, so we offer you and your family countless opportunities to not only develop as individuals, but to come together as a family, building bonds that create healthy families spirit, mind and body.

Our adult staff members work to help participants grow and develop into confident young adults, artists, athletes and leaders. For more information about the Youth Center call 434-2503.

14th Medical Group Corner: Don't be a no-show

1st Lt. Lindamira Arrey-Mbi
14th Medical Group
Group Practice Manager

Our goal at the 14th Medical Group is to meet the healthcare needs of you and your family by providing the best possible medical care and access to our services.

In order to provide the appointments needed for our enrolled patients and their families, we need your help in preventing no-shows. Last-minute cancellations and/or not showing up for your scheduled appointments have a negative impact on everyone's access to services and can adversely affect the readiness mission.

In 2015, there have been 320 missed appointments at the 14th MDG, a loss valued at more than \$103,140. This value not only represents lost productivity, but also significant wasted resources that could be better used elsewhere. We understand unforeseen circumstances may sometimes occur resulting in missed appointments, but when someone is a "no show" for an appointment it can not only negatively affect your medical readiness, but also prevents your family or colleagues from getting a needed appointment, perhaps for an urgent issue.

To decrease the amount of no-shows, the 14th MDG appointment reminder

system calls patients two days prior to their scheduled appointment. If you get this call and you no longer need the appointment, please let us know so we can make that appointment available to someone else.

Please note however, the system uses the most current phone numbers listed in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, so it is critical to update your local phone number in DEERS. You can update you information by contacting the Military Personnel Service at 434-2626.

Help us take care of you and your family by canceling at least 24 hours in advance so your appointment may possibly be offered to another patient. You can cancel by contacting the 14th MDG central appointments line at 434-CARE(2273), or if you have a TRICARE Online account you can cancel your appointment online at tricareonline.com. In addition, if you are enrolled in MiCare, you can also take advantage of emailing your provider and his/her team directly.

As we improve our processes, we welcome your feedback. Thanks for helping us take care of you and your family. To provide feedback, contact 1st Lt. Linda Arrey-Mbi, 14th MDG Group Practice Manager, at 434-2181 or by e-mail at Lindamira.arrey_mbi.1@us.af.mil.



**COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE
EDUCATION CENTER
OPEN HOUSE
AUG. 6, 11 A.M. – 1 P.M.
14TH MSG COMPLEX
BLDG. 730**

Learn about on-base options, National Testing Center, Community College of the Air Force, and more!

Information and light refreshments will be provided, attendees can also participate in giveaways!



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

COLUMBUS MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT | 2015-2016 CALENDAR

187 Day Employee Calendar - Board Approved March 16, 2015

<p>JULY 2015</p> <p>19 Teacher Work Days 18 Student Days 1 - New Year's Holiday 4 - Teachers Return 5 - Students Return 18 - MLK Holiday</p>	<p>JANUARY 2016</p> <p>19 Teacher & Student Days 15 - Presidents' Day</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2016</p> <p>20 Teacher & Student Days 15 - Presidents' Day</p>	<p>MARCH 2016</p> <p>17 Teacher & Student Days 14-18 - Spring Break 25 - Good Friday</p>	<p>APRIL 2016</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day/PT Conference</p>	<p>MAY 2016</p> <p>15 Teacher Work Days 14 Student Days 19 - Students Last Day 20 - Students Weather Day Makeup 20 - Teachers Last Day 21 - Graduation 23 - Teacher Weather Day Makeup 30 - Memorial Day</p>	<p>JUNE 2016</p> <p>14 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day 21-31 Christmas Holiday</p>
<p>AUGUST 2015</p> <p>21 Teacher Work Days 19 Student Days 5 - Students 1st Day</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2016</p> <p>20 Teacher & Student Days 15 - Presidents' Day</p>	<p>MARCH 2016</p> <p>17 Teacher & Student Days 14-18 - Spring Break 25 - Good Friday</p>	<p>APRIL 2016</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day/PT Conference</p>	<p>MAY 2016</p> <p>15 Teacher Work Days 14 Student Days 19 - Students Last Day 20 - Students Weather Day Makeup 20 - Teachers Last Day 21 - Graduation 23 - Teacher Weather Day Makeup 30 - Memorial Day</p>	<p>JUNE 2016</p> <p>14 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day 21-31 Christmas Holiday</p>	<p>JULY 2015</p> <p>19 Teacher Work Days 18 Student Days 1 - New Year's Holiday 4 - Teachers Return 5 - Students Return 18 - MLK Holiday</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 2015</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 7 - Labor Day</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2016</p> <p>20 Teacher & Student Days 15 - Presidents' Day</p>	<p>MARCH 2016</p> <p>17 Teacher & Student Days 14-18 - Spring Break 25 - Good Friday</p>	<p>APRIL 2016</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day/PT Conference</p>	<p>MAY 2016</p> <p>15 Teacher Work Days 14 Student Days 19 - Students Last Day 20 - Students Weather Day Makeup 20 - Teachers Last Day 21 - Graduation 23 - Teacher Weather Day Makeup 30 - Memorial Day</p>	<p>JUNE 2016</p> <p>14 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day 21-31 Christmas Holiday</p>	<p>AUGUST 2015</p> <p>21 Teacher Work Days 19 Student Days 5 - Students 1st Day</p>
<p>OCTOBER 2015</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 12 - Columbus Day 13 - Parent/Teacher Conference Day</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2016</p> <p>20 Teacher & Student Days 15 - Presidents' Day</p>	<p>MARCH 2016</p> <p>17 Teacher & Student Days 14-18 - Spring Break 25 - Good Friday</p>	<p>APRIL 2016</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day/PT Conference</p>	<p>MAY 2016</p> <p>15 Teacher Work Days 14 Student Days 19 - Students Last Day 20 - Students Weather Day Makeup 20 - Teachers Last Day 21 - Graduation 23 - Teacher Weather Day Makeup 30 - Memorial Day</p>	<p>JUNE 2016</p> <p>14 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day 21-31 Christmas Holiday</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 2015</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 7 - Labor Day</p>
<p>NOVEMBER 2015</p> <p>16 Teacher & Student Days 23-27 - Thanksgiving Holiday</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2016</p> <p>20 Teacher & Student Days 15 - Presidents' Day</p>	<p>MARCH 2016</p> <p>17 Teacher & Student Days 14-18 - Spring Break 25 - Good Friday</p>	<p>APRIL 2016</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day/PT Conference</p>	<p>MAY 2016</p> <p>15 Teacher Work Days 14 Student Days 19 - Students Last Day 20 - Students Weather Day Makeup 20 - Teachers Last Day 21 - Graduation 23 - Teacher Weather Day Makeup 30 - Memorial Day</p>	<p>JUNE 2016</p> <p>14 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day 21-31 Christmas Holiday</p>	<p>OCTOBER 2015</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 12 - Columbus Day 13 - Parent/Teacher Conference Day</p>
<p>DECEMBER 2015</p> <p>14 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day 21-31 Christmas Holiday</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2016</p> <p>20 Teacher & Student Days 15 - Presidents' Day</p>	<p>MARCH 2016</p> <p>17 Teacher & Student Days 14-18 - Spring Break 25 - Good Friday</p>	<p>APRIL 2016</p> <p>21 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day/PT Conference</p>	<p>MAY 2016</p> <p>15 Teacher Work Days 14 Student Days 19 - Students Last Day 20 - Students Weather Day Makeup 20 - Teachers Last Day 21 - Graduation 23 - Teacher Weather Day Makeup 30 - Memorial Day</p>	<p>JUNE 2016</p> <p>14 Teacher & Student Days 18 - 60% Student Day 21-31 Christmas Holiday</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 2015</p> <p>16 Teacher & Student Days 23-27 - Thanksgiving Holiday</p>

STUDENT DAYS	TEACHER DAYS
1st Semester: 90	95 1st Semester
2nd Semester: 90	92 2nd Semester
180	187



LOWNDES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2015-2016 ACADEMIC CALENDAR (187 DAYS)

<p>AUG</p> <p>T 21 S 19</p>	<p>SEP</p> <p>T 21 S 21</p>	<p>OCT</p> <p>T 21 S 20</p>	<p>NOV</p> <p>T 16 S 16</p>	<p>DEC</p> <p>T 14 S 14</p>	<p>JAN</p> <p>T 19 S 18</p>	<p>FEB</p> <p>T 20 S 20</p>	<p>MAR</p> <p>T 17 S 17</p>	<p>APR</p> <p>T 21 S 21</p>	<p>MAY</p> <p>T 17 S 15</p>
<p>3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>31</p>	<p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25</p> <p>28 29 30</p>	<p>5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p>2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>30</p>	<p>7 8 9 10 11</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25</p> <p>28 29 30 31</p>	<p>4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>29</p>	<p>7 8 9 10 11</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25</p> <p>28 29 30 31</p>	<p>4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29</p>	<p>2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>30 31</p>

Board Approved: 2/13/2015

Grading Periods
August 5 -- October 7 (45)
October 8 -- December 18 (45)
January 5 -- March 9 (45)
March 10 -- May 20 (46)

STUDENT DAYS:	1st Semester: 90	2nd Semester: 91	181
TEACHER DAYS:	1st Semester: 93	2nd Semester: 94	187

"Challenge all students to attain their greatest potential."

Another school year is right around the corner

E. J. Griffis, Jr.
14th Flying Training Wing
School Liaison Officer

Wow, where did the summer go? It seems like just yesterday when school ended and all our students began their summer break.

Here we are now, about to start another school year. As always, the first day of school brings with it plenty of angst and anxiety, by both parents and students alike; and the School Liaison Office is here to assist.

Whether your student attends public or private school, or is taught in a home school, the SLO provides essential information and

guidance on K-12 education issues ranging from Academics to Zoology. While the SLO may not have the answer, he knows where to go and get it. The SLO works closely with all public and private schools in the area to assist all BLAZE students.

A few points to success:

- Be familiar with the school's student handbook
- Be involved in your student's school
- Communicate early on to the schools regarding any concerns
- Speak to your student regarding proper bus/bus stop activities

On the safety front, please be extra careful

around bus stops and be alert for the buses as you travel about the local area.

As all schools face a myriad of challenges, to include budget and staffing concerns, implementing Common Core Curriculum Standards, standardized testing, and so on, rest assured they are all committed to providing the best possible education possible for our students.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your SLO by calling 434-2792, or via email at slo2@us.af.mil. In addition, you may follow the Columbus School Liaison Office on Facebook or on Twitter.

School Bus Rules of Conduct

For 23 million students nationwide, the school day begins and ends with a trip on a school bus. At Columbus Air Force Base, we have almost 200 students on any given day riding our school buses.

As the beginning of the school year approaches, please take the time to familiarize your student(s) with the Rules of Conduct for bus riders.

The Student Handbook from each of our school districts contains specific guidance and a code of conduct students are to follow. Bus transportation is a privilege extended only to students who display good conduct while preparing to ride, are riding or are leaving the bus. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a student to be denied transportation.

Improper conduct of family members which occurs off the school bus will be addressed by installation officials. Additionally, parents should exercise proper judgment when they observe or it is reported to them by their students, whenever improper behavior has occurred on the bus or at the bus stops.

Parents should contact the parents of the child or children involved, school authorities and/or the Columbus School Liaison Officer. Parents should not address grievances directly to the other children involved, unless there is an immediate, life-threatening situation.

An overview of the proper Rules of Conduct is provided below. Take a moment to review it and convey the contents to your children. Any questions, please contact the School Liaison Officer, at 434-2792 or via email at: slo2@us.af.mil.

RULES OF CONDUCT

- Be orderly, quiet and considerate of people and their property in the vicinity of bus stops.

- Be ready when the bus arrives. Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before moving toward the bus.
- Bus drivers have the authority to assign seats, give directions, and implement rules for the safe and orderly conduct of students and will report any violations.
- Acceptable public behavior will be expected of all bus riders.
- Pass in front rather than behind the bus when crossing the street to or from a bus.
- Do not enter or leave the bus when it is in motion.
- Heads or arms must not be extended from bus windows.
- Avoid eating and drinking on the bus and help keep the bus neat.
- Shouting, fighting, offensive language, or smoking will result in loss of bus privileges.
- Remain seated until the bus stops at your destination.
- Students are required to have parental permission in writing of any changes in regular transportation arrangements.
- Video technology is installed on all buses to assist with the security and safety of all.
- Students who violate the regulations can have their bus privileges revoked.
- Unauthorized persons are not permitted on the buses. This includes parents.
- Parents should develop a plan in the event your student misses the bus or the bus fails to show, especially in the case where parent(s) depart the home before the bus arrives.
- Parents who choose to wait with their children in their vehicles must park opposite of the school bus stop, in order to allow for a direct, unimpeded route to the stop.