

Return Service:
The Commercial
Dispatch
P.O. Box 511
Columbus, MS
39703

SILVER WINGS

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

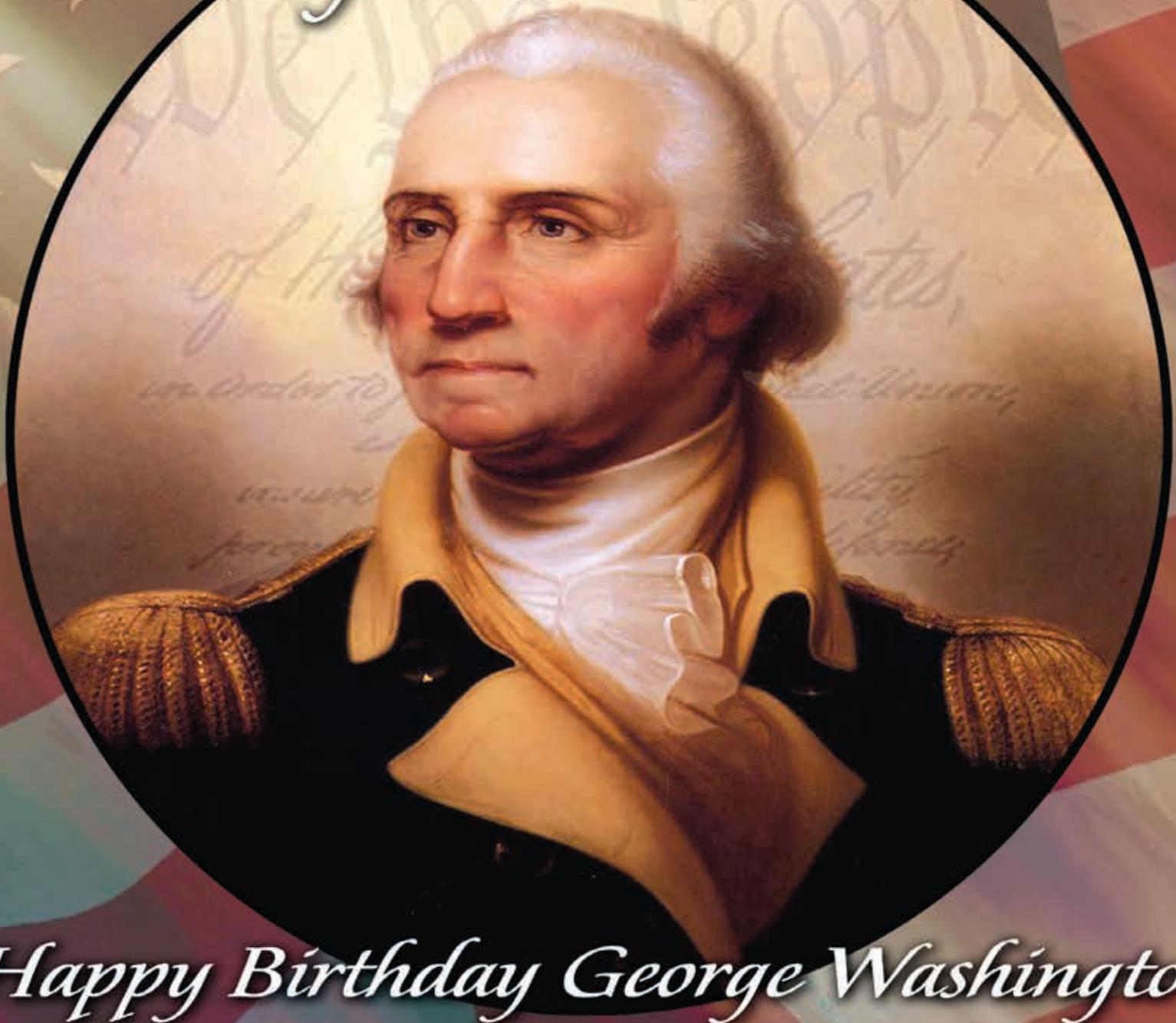
Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

STANDARD MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAILED FROM
ZIP CODE 39705
PERMIT NO. 98
RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Vol. 40, Issue 7

February 19, 2016

Celebrating our Nation's Leaders



Happy Birthday George Washington

Weather

Thursday  Sunny High 67°F Low 32°F	Friday  Partly Cloudy High 74°F Low 52°F
Saturday  Cloudy High 72°F Low 54°F	Sunday  Rain High 71°F Low 53°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Enlisted Promotion Ceremony

The next Columbus Air Force Base Enlisted Promotions ceremony is at 3 p.m. Feb. 29 at the Columbus Club.

Air Force Assistance Fund begins

The Air Force Assistance Fund at Columbus Air Force Base is set to begin Feb. 29. For more information contact your unit POC.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. March 8 at the Columbus Club for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 16-05 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.

Base Chapel requests participation with Spiritual Needs Assessment

The Base Chapel would like Team BLAZE members to participate in the Spiritual Needs Assessment to help gather information to determine the needs of the community and improve services. The survey is 10 questions and the link will be open until 5 p.m. March 1. For more information, please call the Chapel at 434-2500.



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 50 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Deployment numbers provided by the Installation Personnel Readiness Office.

Silver Wings

How to reach us

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
555 Seventh Street, Suite 210,
Columbus AFB, MS, 39710
Commercial: (662) 434-7068
DSN: 742-7068
Fax: (662) 434-7009
E-mail: silverwings@us.af.mil

Editorial Staff

Col. John Nichols
14th Flying Training Wing
Commander

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief of Public Affairs

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Editor

Airman 1st Class John Day
Staff Writer

Mrs. Tina Perry
Layout Designer

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.

Published by the Commercial Dispatch Publishing Company, Inc., a or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or Service Publications, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

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

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

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
22 Feb. 22-Mar. 24: Airman Leadership School @ CAFB	23 Japanese Air Self Defense Force Visit	24	25 Black History Month Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. @ Club	26	27/28
29 Enlisted Promotion Ceremony, 3 p.m. @ Club Air Force Assistance Fund begins	1	2	3 IFF Graduation, 4:49 p.m. @ 49th FTS	4	5/6

Long Range Events

- Mar. 8: Wing Newcomers Orientation
- Mar. 11: SUPT Class 16-06 Graduation
- Mar. 25: 16-07 Assignment Night
- Mar. 25: Air Force Assistance Fund ends
- Mar. 25: Happy Irby Golf Tournament
- Mar. 29: Wing Newcomers Orientation
- Mar. 29: Women's History Lunch
- Mar. 31: 14th STUS Change of Command
- Mar. 31: Enlisted Promotion Ceremony
- Apr. 1: IFF Graduation
- Apr. 8: SUPT Class 16-07 Graduation
- Apr. 15: 16-08 Assignment Night
- Apr. 19: Wing Newcomers Orientation
- Apr. 29: First Quarterly Awards Ceremony

Feb. 19

The 32nd Annual Columbus Arts Council Auction and Gala "Art in Wonderland" is from 6 p.m. until midnight. Live and silent auctions, food, and live music are features of this fundraising event. For more information contact the Columbus Arts Council at 328-2787.

Feb. 24

The Columbus-Lowndes Public Library presents a movie showing of "Lady Sings the Blues" (1972), 4:30-6:30 p.m., in

the library Meeting Room. The free screening is open to the public and sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council and the Friends of the Columbus-Lowndes Public Library. For more information, please call 329-5300.

March 3 - 5

Enjoy three days of hot Mississippi Blues in honor of Blues legend Willie King! Live performances at the Rosenzweig Arts Center start at 7 p.m. on Thursday and feature The Bill Abel Band, The Nellie Mack Project and Big Joe and the

Black Prairie Blues Band. For more information on Blues for Willie Festival 2016, visit columbus-arts.org or call 328-2787.

March 5

White House Champion of Change honoree and award-winning author, Tracey D. Syphax, will be the featured guest at a Book Signing Gala and Dinner 5:30 - 9 p.m., at Lion Hills Golf Club, 2331 Military Rd. Musical guest Shar J will perform, and refreshments will be served. Visit eventbrite.com for more information.

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@us.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. Ad-

vertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Transportation

For Sale: Bedroom dresser with seven drawers, mirror, two lamps and a two-drawer file cabinet, all for \$150. For more information, call 574-9414.



Let us Make Your Smaller Meeting **GRAND**

- Free Wifi
- Outdoor Pool & Picnic Area with Grill
- Fitness Center
- Business Center
- Large Jacuzzi Suites Available
- Breakfast From our Menu
- Lobby Bar, Sports Bar on Premises
- Banquets and Meeting Rooms Available
- Catering



Ramada Columbus
Deborah Stevenson
1200 Hwy. 45 N., Columbus, MS 39705
662-327-7077
d.stevenson@ramadacolumbus.com

NOW OPEN!

NEW OWNER NEW MANAGEMENT

The UPS Store
1835 Highway 45 North
(In the Kroger shopping center)
Columbus - 662.243.2496

ALL UPS SHIPPING \$3 OFF ALL PACKAGES
No Limit w/ coupon
Valid Through 4/2/16

Single Sided 28lb Paper COLOR COPIES 33¢ EA
No Limit w/ coupon
Valid Through 4/2/16

DUCKS UNLIMITED
ducks.org
800-45-DUCKS

JOIN TODAY!

Continental Conservation: You Make it Happen

A CFC participant - provided as a public service

Our Magnificent Journey For Second Sight



Since 1946, the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind has been providing guide dogs free of charge to blind people seeking increased mobility, independence and the companionship a guide dog provides.



371 E. Jericho Turnpike
Smithtown, NY 11787
1-800-548-4337
www.guidedog.org

A CFC participant. Provided as a public service.

Track Select

- 2nd Lt. Jeffrey Brunner T-1
- 2nd Lt. Christopher Burgess T-1
- 2nd Lt. Stephen Carey T-38
- 2nd Lt. Joshua Durbin T-1
- 2nd Lt. Nicholas Easter T-1
- 2nd Lt. Thomas Griffin T-1
- 2nd Lt. Alexander Hoffman T-1
- 2nd Lt. Cameron Igawa T-1
- 2nd Lt. Ryan Jan T-1
- 2nd Lt. Paul Johnson T-38
- 2nd Lt. Andrew Kueffler T-1
- 2nd Lt. Christian Lindberg T-38
- 2nd Lt. Matthew Malek TH-1
- 2nd Lt. Austin Morris T-38
- 2nd Lt. Timothy Oswald T-1
- 2nd Lt. David Polzin T-38
- 2nd Lt. Robert Reay T-1
- 2nd Lt. Dominick Ricci T-1
- 2nd Lt. Ali Rizvi T-1
- 2nd Lt. Harumi Otsu T-1
- 2nd Lt. Ryosuke Sawasaka T-1
- 2nd Lt. Richard Scheff T-38



Leverette Award

2nd Lt. Alexander Hoffman

Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. Ryosuke Sawasaka
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Austin Morris
Formation: 2nd Lt. Ryan Jan

16-13

Most Reverend Neal Buckon visits Team BLAZE for annual Confirmation



U.S. Air Force photo/Richard Johnson

Most Reverend Neal Buckon, Auxillary Bishop from the Roman Catholic archdiocese for the military service, anoints Team BLAZE members during the Confirmation Mass Feb. 13 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Buckon was on base for his annual visit.

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 (16-13)	2.82 days	3.38 days	Apr. 1	48th (16-06)	-0.19 days	2.12 days	Feb. 26	49th (16-EBC)	-1.83 days	-1.33 days	Mar. 3	T-6	1,367	1,641	10,789
41st (16-14)	3.07 days	4.10 days	Mar. 10	50th (16-06)	1.20 days	3.26 days	Feb. 26					T-1	533	524	3,602
												T-38	460	566	3,596
												IFF	218	238	1,542

The graduation speaker is Col. Timothy G. Sumja, 23rd Fighter Group Commander, Moody Air Force Base, Georgia.

Columbus Fire Emergency Services Flight wins AETC Award



Congratulations to the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Emergency Services Flight for achieving the Air Education and Training Command DoD Fire Department of the Year (Medium Category) award.

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.

Base Chapel Senior NCO wins AETC Award



Congratulations to Master Sgt. Christopher Thompson for achieving the Air Education and Training Command Outstanding Chaplain Assistant Senior NCO award.

JASDF head of education to visit Columbus AFB

Team BLAZE welcomes Japanese Air Self Defense Force Col. Takayuki Terasaki, Head of Education Div., Personnel and Education Department, and Air Staff Office, to Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Feb. 23-25.



During his visit, Terasaki will visit the training squadrons on base to see the Japanese students as well as visit with base leadership.

Service Career :

- Mar 1992, Student, Air Officer Candidates School, Nara Air Base
- Sep 1992, Student, Flight Training School
- Jun 1995, F-4 Pilot, 6th Wing, Komatsu Air Base
- Mar 1997, F-4 Pilot, 3rd Wing, Misawa Air Base
- Mar 2002, Student, Air Staff College (Jun 2002- Jun 2003, ACSC)
- Jul 2003, Operations Division Div., ASO
- Aug 2005, F-4 Pilot, 83rd Air Wing, Naha Air Base
- Jul 2006, Defense Plans/Policies and Programs Div., ASO
- Feb 2008, Air Central Base Command
- Aug 2010, Defense Plans/Policies and Programs Div., ASO
- Aug 2011, Air Staff College
- Dec 2011, Chief, 1st Programs Section, Weapon Systems Programs Div., Defense Planning and Policy Dep., ASO
- Aug 2013, Chief, Foreign Liaison Section, General Affairs Dept.(J-1), Joint Staff
- Aug 2014, Flight Group Commander, 6th Air Wing, Komatsu Air Base
- Aug 2015, Present Position

Voting via absentee ballots

Voting Assistance Office

All military service members and their families are encouraged to complete election forms in early 2016.

The Federal Post Card Application ensures you are registered to vote, and requests an absentee ballot for all federal elections in 2016.

FVAP.gov offers an online assistant to walk through completion of the form, and provides a blank fillable form. Once completed, do not forget to print and sign the form before submitting it to your local election office. Don't forget to follow up with election officials to ensure registration was received.

Voting is a personal choice. Voting assistance is available to help provide the tools and resources needed to successfully vote absentee.

For additional assistance, contact the Unit Voting Assistance Officer or the Installation Voting Assistance Officer at 434-3680 or via email at vote4@us.af.mil.

2016 Tax Center hours

The Columbus AFB Tax Center is located on the first floor of the Personnel Center, bldg. 926, room 105.

If you are an active duty member, retiree, or dependent with a combined family income under \$58,000, then you may qualify for this free tax preparation service.

- The hours of operation are:
 - 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday by Appointment only (Friday afternoon scheduling varies upon volunteer availability)
 - Walk-in hours are from 8 a.m. - noon on Mondays for simple 1040 returns.
- Dorm residents may also contact Master Sgt. Jeffrey Randolph at 434-2392 to schedule on-site tax preparation with him.
- The scope of our tax preparation is limited. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, please call the updated Tax Center number at 434-7030.

The Airman's Creed

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

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

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

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

AF officials announce FY 2017 budget force structure changes

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials released force structure changes resulting from the president's fiscal year 2017 budget Feb. 12.

This year's budget request continues the momentum gained from the recovery provided by the 2015 Bipartisan Budget Act, but still reflects the tough choices the Air Force was forced to make as the demand for Air Force capability continues to increase as the Budget Control Act looms in fiscal 2018.

The fiscal 2017 budget leverages the total force — active duty, Guard and Reserve — to maintain the service's ability to support ongoing operations while ensuring the service is ready to face future threats. The budget keeps the active-duty force at 317,000 while posturing the force for future growth. Guard and Reserve manning will remain constant, but the Air Force will continue plans to transfer aircraft and flying missions to Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve locations that would otherwise have no mission due to fleet divestments.

"We are using the strengths of our total force team while we continue to balance readiness today and tomorrow," said Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James. "In this budget, we will transfer some strategic airlift capability from active-du-

"We are using the strengths of our total force team while we continue to balance readiness today and tomorrow," said Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James.

ty to Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve locations, maintaining critical surge capability in the Reserve component."

The budget rephases divestment of the A-10 Thunderbolt II to coincide with fielding of follow-on capabilities and will delay retirement of the first A-10s until fiscal 2018 to align with F-35 Lightning II bed down, keeping the A-10 in the inventory until fiscal 2022.

"Rephasing the retirement of the weapons system until later in the Future Years Defense Program ensures critical capability is retained in the near term to support ongoing operations, as well as any potential changes in the geopolitical environment," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. "This plan will allow us to maintain vital fighter capacity as we transition to the F-35 and deal with

a resurgent Russia and a protracted counterterrorism war in Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria."

The Air Force also plans to grow the tanker force over the next several years to the required 479 tanker aircraft before it considers divesting tankers as it receives KC-46A Pegasus aircraft to replace them.

The fiscal 2017 plan also maintains all 14 of the current EC-130H Compass Call fleet through fiscal 2018, while retiring 28 C-130H Hercules aircraft between fiscal 2017 and fiscal 2019 to reduce excess capacity and free up resources to invest in enterprise requirements. Additionally, a small number of F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft will be transferred to formal training units to help increase the rate of pilot production to help fill critical fighter pilot shortages.

"The actions in this budget represent our best plan to balance readiness for the warfighter today and into the future, but we need to ensure our Air Force stands ready for any unseen challenge of tomorrow," James said. "Our (fiscal 2017) budget continues the recovery and gives us a larger and better equipped force. However, we still had to make tough choices in modernization, infrastructure and people to live within Bipartisan Budget Act limits. We need to continue the recovery, repeal sequestration in FY18, and give America the Air Force it deserves ... now and in the future."

Alexandra Brown receives 2016 Youth of the Year award



U.S. Air Force photo/Sharon Ybarra

Col. Kurt Kayser, 14th Mission Support Group Commander, presents the 2016 Youth of the Year award to Alexandra Brown Feb. 16 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Youth of the Year award is the Boys and Girls Club highest honor, recognizing teens that work hard, invest time in the community, and demonstrate leadership at school.

Christian Service Charities

Christian charities you know and trust.

"...security comes from within...and the security of all men is founded upon the security of the individual." -M. Hall

888-728-2762

www.christianservicecharities.org

a CFC participant | Provided as a public service.

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

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

Also Open for Active Duty Personnel, Veterans & Retired Military

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

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

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

Karaoke with Eddie Hall
Every Saturday Night at 8pm

Fashion Apparel Boutique Outlet
We only carry **NEW** first quality clothing and shoes.

RESTOCKING DAILY!

Save 60% Off Retail
CHILDREN'S SPRING & SUMMER CLOTHING & SHOES!
HUGE SHIPMENT LADIES' SHOES
NEW ARRIVAL MEN'S CLOTHING

Save 70% Off Retail
LADIES' SPRING & SUMMER CLOTHING & SHOES!

★★★NEW LOCATION★★★
513 18th Ave. N. | Columbus | 327-3146

Thursday 6-8pm | Friday 10am-6pm
Saturday 10am-4pm | Sunday 1-5pm

AF culture, standards now in the palm of your hand thanks to 367 TRSS

George Woodward

SHEPPARD AIR FORCE BASE, Texas -- A series of mobile applications developed by the 367th Training Support Squadron at Hill AFB, Utah, is giving Airmen ready access to Air Force standards, culture and basic doctrine.

While the unit – part of the 82nd Training Wing’s 782nd Training Group at Sheppard AFB, Texas – typically focuses on computer-based training in support of aircraft maintenance, its unique skill set proved a perfect match when the Air Force was looking for a way to put “The Little Blue Book” and other core Air Force documents literally into the hands of Airmen.

“Our focus is mainly on developing computer-based training or videos for maintainers on the flightline,” said designer Tech. Sgt. Kaimi Pacheco. “So developing mobile apps is a little out of the norm for us, which is challenging. The other products we create are mostly linear, or step-by-step, in nature, but when you’re developing apps you have to include functionality that lets the user go in many different directions.”

Still, the team was confident it could not only get the job done, but get it done quickly and exceed expectations. “The Little Blue Book” was the first project, which they completed on a tight timeline to coincide with the book’s release.

“It was definitely a challenge,” said Android developer Tech. Sgt. Zach Davis. “But with our strong, cohesive teams and individual commitment to the project, we were confident we could satisfy all the requirements, and even exceed a few.”

One way they exceeded expectations was by adding audio narration for all the text included in the app.

“That’s not something we routinely incorporate into our products,” said project manager Master Sgt. Kasey Lynch, “and it did prove challenging. Once we started producing audio assets we realized how much work goes into producing a perfect vocal narration – varying vocal inflections, correct enunciation of words, consistent volume and even consistent pauses.”

The most critical audio decision was choosing the voice actor.

“We needed someone with a pleasing sound, but who had a neutral accent that would appeal to the widest audience,” Lynch said. “Now we jokingly refer to our voice actor – Staff Sgt. Scott Summers – as ‘The Voice of the Air Force.’”

The variety of devices and screen sizes was another issue the team had to consider.

“Developing mobile apps requires a lot more graphics support than a computer-based product, because we have to produce multiple versions of the same image to ensure the app looks good and works correctly for every potential device,” said Tech. Sgt. Rudy Gonzalez, a graphic designer.

Despite the challenges, the team completed the application on time and ensured it was available for Apple and Android devices when the book was released to the Air Force.

“The team truly came together to deliver an excellent product for our Air Force and Airmen,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody, who worked with the team to finalize the app. “Thanks to their hard work, our Airmen



U.S. Air Force photo by Johnny Saldivar/Released
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James A. Cody congratulates an Airman attending Airmen’s Week Aug. 27, 2015, at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland’s Pflugston Reception Center. The Airmen received a copy of “America’s Air Force: A Profession of Arms,” the next evolution of the “Little Blue Book” previously released in 1997. The new book gives Airmen instant access to the core values, codes and creeds that guide Airmen as they serve in the Profession of Arms. The book will be distributed to all new Airmen before transitioning to technical training and available online through Air Force e-publishing.

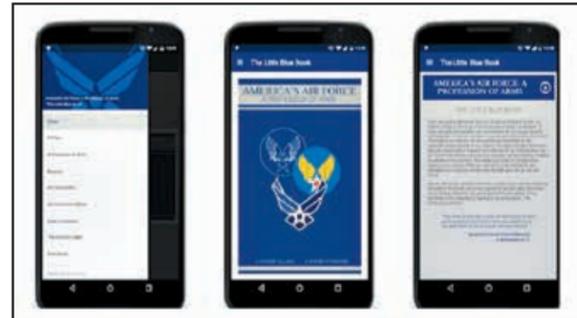
now have access to the Little Blue Book in a format they often prefer.”

The success of the “Little Blue Book” app led to three additional projects for the 367th:

- Air Force Instruction 1-1 Air Force Culture: Air Force Standards, which is complete and available on Apple and Android markets (search for AFI 1-1)
- Air Force Instruction 1-2, Air Force Culture: Commander’s Responsibilities, also complete and available for Apple and Android (search for – you guessed it – AFI 1-2)
- The Professional Airman’s Development Guide, which is given to new recruits in delayed enlistment status to help them prepare for Basic Military Training, 80 percent complete and in validation by Air Force Recruiting Service.

“This has really been a team effort,” Lynch said. “Though there were six of us on the core team, everyone in the unit contributed in some way.

“The 367th’s efforts provided Airmen the opportunity to use their mobile devices to access Air Force principles of professionalism, dignity and respect. The mobile app ensures instant delivery of concepts foundational to our Profession of Arms. Master Sgt. Lynch’s team is highly committed to supporting the e-pamphlet app design to carry the Air Force



Courtesy graphic
82nd Training Wing’s 782nd Training Group at Sheppard AFB, Texas, developed a series of mobile applications for the “Little Blue Book,” giving Airmen ready access to Air Force standards, culture and basic doctrine.

legacy of military professionalism to current and future generations of Airmen,” said 367th Commander Lt. Col. Claudio Covacci.

To download these apps, go to the Google Play Store on Android devices or the App Store on Apple iOS devices.

Mississippi District Attorney to speak at Black History Month Luncheon

Team BLAZE welcomes Scott Colom, Mississippi Judicial District 16 District Attorney, as this year’s Black History Month Luncheon guest speaker.

Colom is a native of Columbus, Mississippi, and a 2001 graduate of Columbus High school.

Colom received a Bachelor of Arts in English

and History from Millsaps College in 2005. After college, he spent a summer teaching in Guyana, South America with World Teach, a non-profit, non-governmental organization run out of Harvard University.

Colom is also a 2009 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, where he graduated cum laude. While in law school, Scott interned with the chief prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania, and was a summer honors intern with the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice. He was also a member of the UW’s Mock Trial and Moot Court team.

After law school, Colom was one of 28 young legal professionals nationwide to be awarded a prestigious Legal Fellowship to work with the Mississippi Center for Justice.

At the end of his fellowship, he joined the Colom Law Firm and was appointed interim Justice Court Judge for Lowndes County. He was later appointed municipal court judge in Aberdeen and municipal prosecutor in Columbus. In 2015, he was elected District Attorney for Judicial District 16 in Mississippi.



Scott Colom, Mississippi Judicial District 16 District Attorney

Cycle safe, wear a helmet

Mississippi K-9 units perform joint explosives detection training

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

Military Working Dog teams from Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, as well as K-9 units from throughout the state, met with the Federal Bureau of Investigations Feb. 16 to perform joint explosives detection training at Mississippi State University in Starkville.

According to Special Agent Brandon Grant, bomb technician for the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the training was held to improve the canines’ detection of improvised and commercial explosives.

Units in attendance included the Lowndes County Sheriff’s Department, Mississippi Highway Patrol, Mississippi Fire Marshal, South Haven Police Department, and Mississippi State University campus police.

“This is the second time we have done this [joint training], and by far the largest turnout we have had,” Grant said. “This is very important training primarily because the dogs can sweep a large venue – a school, a stadium, a mall – in a rapid fashion. Humans can use equipment that can also detect explosives, but the dogs can find things quicker.”

Throughout the morning K-9 teams took turns sweeping the stadium for training devices set out in advance by the FBI, practicing detecting a variety of improvised and commercial explosives. According to Grant, improvised explosives are manufactured at home and are often associated with international and domestic terrorism, while commercial explosives are products purchased in their explosives state.

In addition to reinforcing training for the dogs, a major focus of the event was improving relationships between the various units.

“This is a collaboration between the FBI, the military, and state and local law enforcement who run K-9s,” Grant said. “Without that collaboration, the ability to detect explosives at venues like this would be greatly diminished.”

Many of the handlers agreed on the importance of joint work.

“The biggest benefit of coming out here today is getting your face out there, working with these agencies,” said Senior Airman Valentino Blank, 14th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog handler. “We respond to a lot of off-base incidents, so the face time with the people outside of the military is beneficial.”

According to Staff Sgt. Karl Stefanowicz, Kennel Master at Columbus AFB, the reason Columbus AFB’s MWD unit responds off-base is a bilateral agreement with Lowndes County to provide humanitarian support for bomb threats.

The camaraderie between the various organizations was clear as they compared their canines and swapped stories.

“For a campus, they want it to be a highly sociable dog,” said Officer Patrick Jenkins from Mississippi State University Police Department, as his canine partner, a three-year-old Belgian Malinois named Migel, trotted over for a pat on the head. “At the same time, if it’s needed for a patrol, the bite work, the guard work, they can still do those aspects of the job when they’re needed.”

By contrast, Military Working Dog Nnora bore a nametag say-



U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Lauren Woods
Staff Sgt. Karl Stefanowicz, 14th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog handler, and MWD Nnora hunt for improvised explosive training devices around Wade Stadium Feb. 16 at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi. Working dogs are able to detect the scent of explosives, allowing large venues to be swept in a rapid fashion.

ing, “Do not pet.” Stefanowicz, her handler, explained MWDs are equipment, not pets.

“The reason we don’t allow people to pet our MWDs is due to safety and liability issues,” Stefanowicz said. While the dogs are trained to obey their handlers, their aggressive nature makes it safer to have strangers not approach.

One thing the K-9 handlers shared, though, was an appreciation for the job.

“MWD is a great career field, one of the best changes I ever did,” Blank said. “I went from regular law enforcement with the cops and it’s been absolutely great.”

BLAZE Hangar Tails: RC-135V/W Rivet Joint

Mission

The RC-135V/W Rivet Joint reconnaissance aircraft supports theater and national level consumers with near real time on-scene intelligence collection, analysis and dissemination capabilities.

Features

The aircraft is an extensively modified C-135. The Rivet Joint's modifications are primarily related to its on-board sensor suite, which allows the mission crew to detect, identify and geolocate signals throughout the electromagnetic spectrum. The mission crew can then forward gathered information in a variety of formats to a wide range of consumers via Rivet Joint's extensive communications suite.

The interior seats more than 30 people, including the cockpit crew, electronic warfare officers, intelligence operators and in-flight maintenance technicians.

All Rivet Joint airframe and mission systems modifications are overseen by L-3 Communications

(previously Raytheon), under the oversight of Air Force Materiel Command.

Background

The current RC-135 fleet is the latest iteration of modifications to this pool of -135 aircraft going back to 1962. Initially employed by Strategic Air Command to satisfy nationally tasked intelligence collection requirements, the RC-135 fleet has also participated in every sizable armed conflict involving U.S. assets during its tenure.

RC-135s were present supporting operations in Vietnam, the Mediterranean for Operation El Dorado Canyon, Grenada for Operation Urgent Fury, Panama for Operation Just Cause, and Southwest Asia for operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. RC-135s have maintained a constant presence in Southwest Asia since the early 1990s.

All RC-135s are assigned to Air Combat Command. The RC-135



U.S. Air Force photo

The RC-135V/W Rivet Joint reconnaissance aircraft supports theater and national level consumers with near real time on-scene intelligence collection, analysis and dissemination capabilities. The current RC-135 fleet is the latest iteration of modifications to this pool of -135 aircraft going back to 1962.

is permanently based at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., and operated by the 55th Wing, using various forward deployment locations worldwide. More recently, RC-135s have also supported Operation Allied Force in Kosovo, and Operation Odyssey Dawn/Unified Protector in Libya

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Reconnaissance

Contractor: L-3 Communications

Power Plant: Four CFM International F108-CF-201 high bypass turbofan engines

Thrust: 21,600 pounds each engine

Wingspan: 131 feet (39.9 meters)

Length: 135 feet (41.1 meters)

Height: 42 feet (12.8 meters)

Weight: 173,000 pounds (78,743 kilograms)

kilograms)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 297,000 pounds (133,633 kilograms)

Fuel Capacity: 130,000 pounds (58,967 kilograms)

Speed: 500+ miles per hour (Mach.66)

Range: 3,900 miles (6,500 kilometers)

Ceiling: 50,000 feet (15,240 meters)

Crew: (flight crew) five (augmented) - three pilots, two navigators; (mission flight crew) 21-27, depending on mission requirements, minimum consisting of three electronic warfare officers, 14 intelligence operators and four inflight/airborne maintenance technicians

Unit Cost: unavailable

Initial operating capability: January 1964

Inventory: Active force, 17; Reserve, 0; Guard, 0

Fishing after December base flood

Frank Lockhart
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

During late December 2015, the SAC Lake area was flooded from the Buttahatchie River following heavy rain.

The inflow from the flooded river completely covered SAC Lake and gave unknown results of future fishing for the lake.

Past experience would indicate anglers will now find some river species along with some remaining bass and turtles. Before the flood, the lake was fished regularly; what the results are after the flooding, no one knows. Until the water level is back to normal and cleared up, Team BLAZE members will have to wait.

The flooding also covered the fish feeder, which is at the lake to feed bream species. The bream species are the major food source for the bass.

Fishing on base requires following Mississippi fish and game rules. For kids under 16, it is free and the base fee is waived. Everyone else pays an annual fishing fee of \$8 at Outdoor Recreation. Fees cover the cost of restocking and fish feed. The lake will be restocked through the Conservation Program in March-April with bass and bream, depending on funding and fish supply.

Also, a note to SAC Lake visitors: the turtle trap is to control the abundant turtle population. They are relocated to a nearby stream, so please do not tamper with the trap.

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.)

Military Saves Week 2016

The 2016 Military Saves Week is Feb. 22-27. Its slogan is "Start Small, Think Big" and the theme for 2016 is "Make Saving Automatic." The goals of Military Saves Week are to increase participation, foster partnerships, and increase financial readiness and stability. For more information call 434-2790.

Military Saves – Thrift Savings Plan

A Military Saves Thrift Savings Workshop is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Feb. 22. It encourages the military community to Build Wealth, Not Debt. Learn how to start saving for retirement early, call 434-2790 for more information and to register.

Bundles of Joy

This workshop is held 1 – 3:30 p.m. Feb. 24 and is for active-duty families assigned to Columbus AFB who are expecting or have a child up to 4 months of age. It is an Air Force Aid Society program with presentations about topics such as Tricare, child care, breastfeeding, car seat safety, labor and delivery and more. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Career Technical Training

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. March 7-8. 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 on 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. March 8 and is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Kaye Auditorium, or Columbus Club, for more information call 434-2839.

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 9 - 10 a.m. March 8. Call 434-2790 to sign up.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop, 1 - 2 p.m. March 8, 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

Team BLAZE gets taste of 'soul food'



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

Team BLAZE members choose from a variety of "soul foods" during the Black History Month Food Tasting Feb. 11 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. A BHM luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Feb. 25 in the Columbus Club.

for benefits. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

Federal USAJobs Workshop

This workshop is 9 - 10:30 a.m. March 9. 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 March 9. 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.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

This workshop will be held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. March 10-11. 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.

Smooth Move

This class 10 - 11:30 a.m. March 15, 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

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 (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, 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

Sundays:
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
Tuesdays:
11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass
Wednesdays:
11:30-12:30 p.m. – Holy Hour

Protestant Community

Sundays:
9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service
Tuesdays:
5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)
Wednesdays:
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Ecumenical services

Wednesdays:
6 p.m. – AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade
6 p.m. – Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John
6 p.m. – Youth Group



U.S. Air Force photo

The RC-135V/W Rivet Joint aircraft is an extensively modified C-135. The Rivet Joint's modifications are primarily related to its on-board sensor suite, which allows the mission crew to detect, identify and geolocate signals throughout the electromagnetic spectrum.

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.

Spring Break Camp

The Youth Center is offering Spring Break Camp registration Feb. 22 – March 7. Cost is based on total family income. Space is limited. For more information, contact 434-2504.

The Comics on Duty Winter Tour

The Columbus Club presents a winter comedy show at 8 p.m. Feb. 26. This is a free event for ages 18 and older; contains adult situational comedy. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Glo ball Tournament

The Golf Course is offering a glo ball tournament at 6 p.m. March 4. The cost is only \$35 plus cart per member, \$45 plus cart per non-member, and includes 18 holes of glo ball golf and chili dinner prior to play. Must have 24 participants paid by noon Feb. 29 to offer. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Wee Babies

The Base Library is offering Wee Babies at 11 a.m. March 15. This program is for 0 – 4 years old and promotes rhythm, kinesthetic and body awareness using song, dance and activities. For more information, contact 434-2936.

Kick Butts Day

The Youth Center is offering Kick Butts Day from 3:45 – 5 p.m. March 16. Learn how to stand up, speak out, and seize control against tobacco. All ages welcome for this free event. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Spring Open House

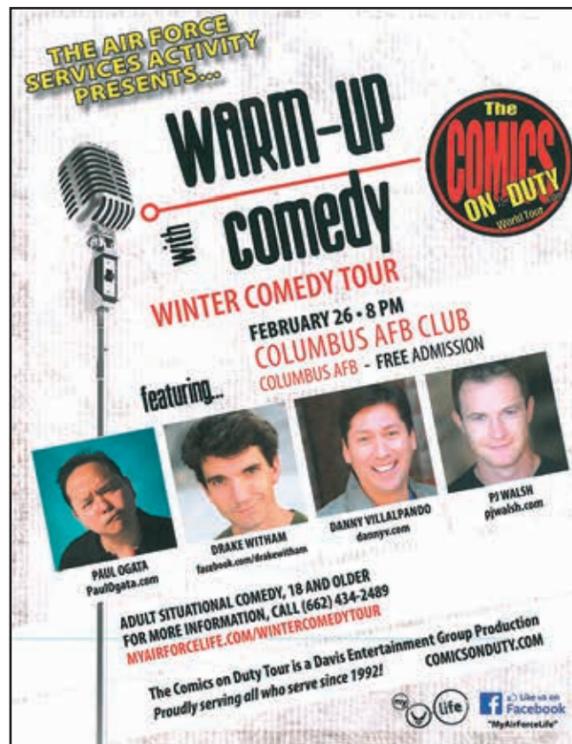
Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a Spring Open House from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. March 20. Specials include free green fees for golf and footgolf, half off golf cart rental, and 50 cent hot dog, chips or drink. Sign up for the annual green fee program by March 31 and receive a 10 percent discount on annual green fees. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Easter Brunch

The Columbus Club is offering Easter Brunch from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. March 27. Reservations are required; seating is in 30-minute increments during the brunch hours. Brunch prices are: adult Club members, \$17; non-members, \$20; children (5 – 11), \$8; under 5, free. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Supply Drive for St. Jude and Baptist Hospitals

The Youth Center is collecting donations for St. Jude Children's Hospital and Baptist Memorial Hospital. Drop off school supplies at the Youth Center from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.



Monday – Friday April 1 – 30. For more information and a complete list of items needed, please contact 434-2504.

Monte Carlo Cosmic Bowling

The Bowling Center is offering Monte Carlo Cosmic Bowling the first and third Saturday of each month. Bowl for a chance to win \$200. The cost is only \$20; early bird, \$17. Bowling starts promptly at 6 p.m. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Columbus Club Reopens

We are excited to announce that your Columbus Club is open. Lunch is available Monday - Friday 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; Monday – Mexican Buffet, Tuesday- Italian Buffet, Wednesday – Pizza and Wings Buffet, Thursday- Southern Buffet, Friday – Catfish and Spaghetti Buffet. Price of buffet is only \$7.95 for club members and \$8.95 for non-members. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Base Library Relocation

The Base Library has relocated to the Education Center, building 916. Hours of operation are as follows: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., and Sundays from 1 – 5 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Story Time at the Library

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

Bowling Center Party Specials

The Bowling Center is offering two options for all your par-

ty needs. Option 1 includes two hours of unlimited bowling and shoe rental for only \$8.50 per person. Option 2 includes two hours of unlimited bowling, shoe rental, and a child meal for only \$11.50 per person. Choice of meal includes chicken tenders, hot dog, corn dog, or grilled cheese served with fries and drink. You may bring in a cake, cupcakes, and ice cream. No other outside food and drinks allowed. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Cosmic Bowling Special

The Bowling Center is offering Cosmic Bowling for only \$12 per person every Friday and Saturday night from 5 – 8 p.m. You also may purchase individual games for \$3 per game with purchase of \$1.50 shoe rental. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Lawn Mower Repair

Lawn mower repair is now available at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is only \$40 per hour plus parts; pickup and delivery available. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Gymnastics Instructor Needed

Gymnastics Instructors needed at the Youth Center. For more information, contact Kayline Hamilton at 434-2503.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, contact 434-7836.

Volleyball Open Play

The Fitness Center offers volleyball open play every Sunday from 1 – 3 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2772.

Referees Needed

Referees needed for various sports at the Fitness Center. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-2772.

GoPro Rental

Capture the moment by renting a GoPro Hero 3 from Outdoor Recreation. Cost is only \$10 for a two-day rental. Single Airmen may receive a two-day rental at no charge during Single Airman programming events. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Make Your Shopping Easier

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. Purchase your gift card at one of the following locations: Bowling Center, Golf Course or Youth Center. For more information, contact 434-3426.

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.

14th MDG corner: Sugar Wars

Senior Airman Brandis Dixon

14th Medical Operations Squadron Dental Flight

National Children's Dental Health Month is an annual month long national observance held during the month of February.

During this time, many dental professionals such as dentists, hygienists, dental technicians, other healthcare specialists, and educators take time to inform the youth and promote proper dental hygiene.

This year's NCDHM campaign slogan, by the American Dental Association, is "Sugar Wars." We will fight as scholastic warriors in the battle against sugary foods or drinks, candy bars, and any other sugar bugs considered harmful to maintaining peak oral hygiene.

In February, members of the Dental Flight will visit the Child Development Center and Youth Center. We will stress the importance of proper brushing and flossing techniques, nutrition habits, and use of fluoridated mouth rinses during these visits. Now more than ever, kids are faced with

an array of food choices from fresh produce to sugar-laden processed meals and snack foods. What children eat and when they eat it may affect not only their general health but also their oral health.

Americans are consuming foods and drinks high in sugar and starches more often and in larger portions than ever before. For example, the average teenage boy in the U.S. consumes 81 gallons of soft drinks each year. Alarmingly, a steady diet of sugary foods and drinks can ruin teeth, especially among those who snack throughout the day.

When sugar is consumed over and over again in large amounts, the harmful effect on teeth can be dramatic. Sugar on teeth provides food for bacteria, which produce acid. The acid in turn can eat away the enamel on teeth.

Almost all foods have some type of sugar and there is a risk for tooth decay from a diet high in sugars and starches. Starches can be found in everything from bread to pretzels to salad dressing, so read labels and plan carefully for a balanced, nutritious diet for you and your kids.

Here are some ways to reduce your children's risk of

tooth decay:

- If consumed, sugary foods and drinks should be consumed with meals. Saliva production increases during meals and helps neutralize acid production and rinse food particles from the mouth.

- Monitor beverage consumption. Instead of soft drinks all day, children should also choose water and low-fat milk.

- Limit between-meal snacks. If kids crave a snack, offer them nutritious foods instead.

- If your kids chew gum, make it sugarless. Chewing sugarless gum after eating can increase saliva flow and help wash out food and decay-producing acid.

- Help your children develop good brushing and flossing habits.

- Schedule regular dental visits.

Remember, don't take your teeth for granted. Eat nutritiously, brush and floss daily and have regular dental checkups. Together we can fight against and win the "Sugar Wars."

VIEWPOINT

What will your impact be?

Lt. Col. Michael Watson

14th Operations Group Deputy Commander

The month of February marks many historically significant milestones in both our military and aviation history.

These events began like all others: with Airmen doing their individual jobs to the best of their ability.

One such example, Lucky Lady II, a modified Boeing B-50A Superfortress from the 338th Bomb Squadron, departed Carswell Air Force Base, Texas, on the afternoon of Feb. 26, 1949, completing a journey that laid the foundation for America's Global Reach.

Aided by four air refueling aircraft, the crew successfully completed the first non-stop, round-the-world flight in just

94 hours, validating the Air Force's capability of reaching any target, anywhere. The Airmen that made this happen were not super heroes; they were men and women like you and I, performing our duties as we've been trained to do.

It's very easy at times to lose sight of how our individual efforts impact the overall mission, but it should be apparent we are all critical to its accomplishment. I once heard a squadron commander say, "If you don't have a swagger in your walk, you should get one." What he meant is we should all be extremely proud of what we do every day for our country and its allied partners, even if we can't always see the end result.

Each of us, regardless of Air Force Specialty Code, should be able to draw the line between our actions and the end result on the battlefield. From training the next generation

It's very easy at times to lose sight of how our individual efforts impact the overall mission, but it should be apparent we are all critical to its accomplishment. I once heard a squadron commander say, "If you don't have a swagger in your walk, you should get one."

of combat pilots to the contracting officer who buys the equipment that enables bombs on target, we all play a vital role and our performance each day impacts mission success. What will your impact be?

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



T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 16-05 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



Capt. Samer Aqlan
Yemen
C-130 Hercules



Capt. Jennifer Walters
Indian Harbour Beach, Fla.
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



1st Lt. Conrad Katungisa
Entebbe, Uganda
L-39 Albatros

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-05 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Col. Timothy Sumja, 23rd Fighter Group Commander, is the graduation guest speaker.

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

2nd Lt. Damien Ashley, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Matthew Chupp, 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. Rex Anderson, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Jason Douglas, 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. Damien Ashley, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Matthew Chupp, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 16-05.

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, Mississippi. 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 16-05 pilot partners are Malco Theaters and WCBI-TV.



2nd Lt. Paul Buchanan
Potsdam, N.Y.
C-130J, Ramstein AB, Germany



2nd Lt. Matthew Chupp
Hampton, Ga.
C-130H, Savannah ANG, Ga.



2nd Lt. Garrett Dean
Lexington, Mass.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Taylor Johnson
Woodstock, Ga.
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Jonathan Jordan
Longmeadow, Mass.
C-5, Westover ARB, Mass.



2nd Lt. Nathaniel
MQ-1 Predator



2nd Lt. Devin Longo
Chicago, Ill.
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Jeffrey MacNeill
Clovis, Calif.
MC-130P, Moffett ANG, Calif.



2nd Lt. Mark Richardson
Cochabamba, Bolivia
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Richard Yount
Cary, N.C.
U-28, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Andrew Zaldivar
Hockessin, Del.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Rex Anderson
San Dimas, Calif.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Charles Armstrong
Reston, Va.
C-17A, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Damien Ashley
Fairfax, Va.
F-15E, Seymour Johnson, N.C.



2nd Lt. Adrianna
MQ-1 Predator



2nd Lt. Jason Douglas
Temecula, Calif.
KC-135, RAF Mildenhall, England



2nd Lt. Joshua Johnson
Knoxville, Tenn.
KC-135, McGhee Tyson ANG, Tenn.