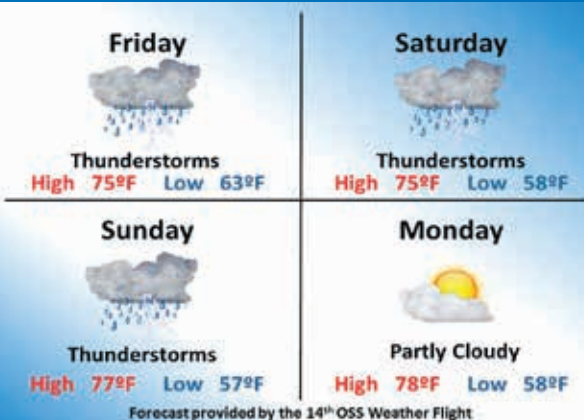


Weather



News Briefs

ALS Graduation

Airman Leadership School Class 16-3 will graduate at 7 p.m. March 24 at the Columbus Club. Social hour will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the prices for buffet will be \$26 for Club members and \$28 for nonmembers.

WHM movie night

To observe the great success of female writers, during Women's History Month, J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone will be shown in addition to a short presentation of Rowling's accomplishments at 6 p.m. March 25 in the Kaye Auditorium.

Easter egg hunt

The Youth Center will host their annual Egg Hunt from 9 -11:30 a.m. March 19 at Freedom Park.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 16-06 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.

No family but my Air Force family

(Editor's Note: Below is a story as told by Mrs. Lillian Hansen, who was personally impacted by the Air Force Assistance Fund.)

It is a miracle of God that I am here. I was taking care of my mother, who was blind, and my father, who was deaf. They both died, and then I suddenly fell ill. I was diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus. The doctors couldn't operate, so they decided to treat it with chemotherapy and radiation. I was on a feeding tube for months afterwards, and lost a lot of weight.

When I was discharged from the hospital, I was sent to a rehab facility. I couldn't even do the most basic things for myself, like take a bath. I also have diabetes and heart problems, and had no idea how I was going to care for myself after I was released. I was really worried. I couldn't afford an assisted living facility. I don't really have any family and I had nowhere to go.

While I was in the hospital and rehab facility, the Air Force Enlisted Village chaplain visited me by chance. When I told the chaplain I was a widow of an Air Force man, he told me all about AFEV, but I didn't have a military ID card.

The chaplain and another AFEV employee drove me to Hurlburt Field and got me an ID card. They worked very hard to make this happen. Now I could move to the Hawthorn House, but I was still too sick to even pack up the things in my house.

My friends at the AFEV were little angels again. They unpacked my few possessions when I arrived, and helped me settle in. That was a tremendous blessing, because I still can't walk without my walker, and even then it's a struggle.



Living here is the absolute blessing of my life. Everyone here takes such good care of me.

(Editor's note: Below is local information about the AFAF as told by 1st Lt. Amber Evans, Installation Project Officer for AFAF 2016.)

In 2015, Columbus Air Force Base Airmen received \$25,993 in loans, grants, and other programs that started with donations for the Air Force Assis-

tance Fund.

Through the AFAF four foundations are able to provide for Air Force families, both current and past. The Air Force Aid Society, the Lemay Foundation, Air Force Villages Charitable Foundation, and Air Force Enlisted Village ensure that when a fellow Airman needs help, they have a place to go.

The \$25,993 donated last year was able to provide for Bundles for Babies,

See AFAF, 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 (16-15)	2.85 days	2.76 days	Apr. 1	48th (16-07)	0.13 days	1.25 days	Mar. 25	49th (16-FBC)	3.05 days	0.48 days	Apr. 1	T-6	872	882	12,758
41st (17-01)	4.90 days	3.74 days	Apr. 25	50th (16-07)	1.55 days	0.82 days	Mar. 25					T-1	301	283	4,290
												T-38	294	328	4,175
												IFF	132	62	1,715

The graduation speaker is Col. Uriel Bruce Strickland, retired Mississippi Air National Guard, former 286th Air Operations Group Commander.



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.

AFAF

(Continued from page 1)

Give Parents a Break Program, Heart Link Support, and Y.E.S. for your fellow Airmen here. Of those donations, \$10,182 directly supported Airmen who were in dire need of assistance. These Airmen were faced with unfortunate situations where they needed money to put food on their table, provide

shelter for their families, repair vehicles and for emergency travel. This year the AFAF hopes to raise money so if you find yourself in those same situations you have a place to go.

For the next two weeks representatives from your squadron will be available for donations to the AFAF. Remember your donations will directly support fellow Wingmen. No one hopes for a disaster to happen, but when it does what will you do?

New Columbus AFB Single Parents Group

All single parents (military or civilian) are invited to meet every third Tuesday of the month at the Columbus Club Happy Irby Room. Each meeting local community guests will inform the single parents of events or services available. This is also a support group for single parents to voice their concerns. The next meeting is a potluck Meet and Greet for parents and children. Food Theme is "Quick and Easy."

14th FSS offers FAA testing

The 14th Force Support Squadron offers Federal Aviation Administration testing, or FAA testing, conducted at the Education Office Mondays at 8 a.m. or Thursdays at 1 p.m. To schedule an FAA Exam, please e-mail europonda.stone@us.af.mil.

Silver Wings

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Submission Deadline

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

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

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
14	15	16	17 Regional Fire Chiefs conference, 11:30 a.m. @ Fire Station	18	19/20 AFA/Military Affairs ALS bar-becue, @ Lock and Dam	Mar. 29: Wing Newcomers Orientation Mar. 30: Women's History Lunch Mar. 31: 14th STUS Change of Command Mar. 31: Enlisted Promotion Ceremony Apr. 1: IFF Graduation Apr. 5: Retired Chiefs Luncheon
21	22	23	24 ALS Graduation, 6:30 p.m. @ Club	25 16-07 Assignment Night Air Force Assistance Fund ends Happy Irby Golf Tournament	26/27 27th - Easter Brunch	Apr. 8: SUPT Class 16-07 Graduation Apr. 15: 16-08 Assignment Night Apr. 19: Wing Newcomers Orientation Apr. 29: First Quarterly Awards Ceremony May 6: 16-09 Assignment Night May 13: CCAF Graduation

March 10 - 12

The Columbus Arts Council presents “Left Hand Singing,” a play by Barbara LeBow, set in Mississippi beginning amidst the idealism and violence of Freedom Summer, 1964, and traveling across the next three decades. Directed by Melanie Hintz, performances will be 7 p.m. nightly with an additional 2 p.m. Saturday matinee. For more information, call 328-2787 or visit columbus-arts.org for more information.

March 14 - 18

The Columbus Arts Council will host Spring Theater Camp for grades 3 - 8. Contact the CAC at 662-

328-2787 or visit columbus-arts.org to learn more.

March 24

The Columbus Arts Council will host Hinamatsuri & Chado - Japanese Doll Festival and Tea Ceremony, 5:30-7 p.m. This will showcase a mini-exhibit of Japanese and international dolls to celebrate this Japanese doll festival. Japanese artist and instructor Chieko Iwata will decorate dolls and discuss their cultural significance; MSU's Japanese Club will perform traditional dances, and a Japanese tea ceremony will follow. Visit columbus-arts.org or call 662-328-2787 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. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Transportation

For Sale: Sharp AQUOS TV, 52-inch

1080P HD, \$195. For more information call 356-4511.

Transportation

House for rent: Three bedroom, two full baths, full kitchen, electric washer/dryer included, two car garage, large yard, quiet neighborhood in Ridgeland Estates, less than 10-minute drive from base, any inquires please call 889-1814.



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

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.

14th CS contract complaint system

Clark Houston

14th Communications Squadron Operations Flight Chief

The 14th Communications Squadron manages three separate contracts in support of Columbus Air Force Base. The three contracts are the Base Information Transfer Center, Base Network & Telephone System and the Cable One cable TV contract. The BITC contract is the vehicle that supports the base's official mail and inter-base transfer of documents requirements. The BNTS is the contract that delivers enterprise core services, Communications and Emissions Security programs as well as managing the Wing's Informa-

tion Assurance operations. The Cable One cable TV contract provides the Wing a cost effective vehicle for official Cable One cable TV drops in identified locations such as waiting rooms and operations centers. Cable One cable TV drops are tightly controlled and are closely scrutinized for mission needs. If at any time a customer of one of the services feels the level of service is not on par with the expected level of professionalism or the contractor has not delivered to the expectation of the customer, an official complaint can be submitted. The process for submitting an official complaint is the same for all three contracts and is described below.

1. Draft an email giving the date and

time of the incident resulting in the complaint, your organization, office symbol, building number, full name, phone number, nature of the complaint. Also, include the who, what, when, where and how specifics relating to the complaint. 2. Email this information to 14cs.workflow@columbus.af.mil. Necessary actions will be documented by the Contractor Officer Representative and a response will be returned to the customer. If you have any specific questions with regards to 14th Communications Squadron contract operations please contact the 14th CS Operations Flight Chief at 14cs.sco@columbus.af.mil.

SOAR offers active-duty education opportunity

Laurence Brooks

14th Force Support Squadron Education and Training Chief

The Scholarships For Outstanding Airmen program offers active-duty enlisted personnel the opportunity to earn a commission. The program is for junior Airmen who can complete all bachelor degree and commissioning requirements in two to four years as an Air Force ROTC cadet.

SOAR packages should be sent electronically to the major command functional management no later than Sept. 15. Packages that are incomplete or ineligible will be rejected. Applicants are ultimately responsible for the completeness and accuracy of their package. The Base Education Center may assist the members in an advisory capacity. For program information, applicant requirements, selection process, eligibility, and the application process, visit the Air Force ROTC website au.af.mil/au/holmcenter/AFROTC/Enlisted-Comm/SOAR.asp.

SUPT class interacts with children at UMMC children's hospital



Courtesy Photo

Twenty-four members and spouses of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training class 16-13 spent time with children and their families Feb. 27 at the University of Mississippi Medical Center's children's hospital. The class came together to donate and buy toys for five different age groups. They also played games, built paper airplanes, and brought gear for the children to try on.

Warning Signs

Warning signs of T1D may occur suddenly and include:

- Extreme thirst
- Frequent urination
- Drowsiness or lethargy
- Increased appetite
- Sudden weight loss
- Sudden vision changes
- Sugar in the urine
- Fruity odor on the breath
- Heavy or labored breathing
- Stupor or unconsciousness

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LENDER

MARRIAGE STRONG WORKSHOP

"Building healthy marriages skillfully, strategically & successfully"

3 - 4:30 p.m. March 24 at the A&FRC

Register early; limited seating for 17 couples

Call 434-2790 for questions or to register

The importance of posture, work place ergonomics: Making your work space work for you

Staff Sgt. Misty Smiley

14th Medical Operations Squadron
Physical Therapy NCO in charge

We all have undoubtedly heard the phrase “do more with less” or “make what you have work for you.”

I know personally from working in Physical Therapy for nearly nine years, applying these principles into my daily routine helps to limit mental and physical stress.

Limiting unnecessary stressors can be as simple as watching sitting posture while working on the computer, or changing the ergonomics of a work station. It’s the small things that can make a big difference. After all, working with improved focus, efficiency and consistency is the key to achieving our mission of Producing Pilots, Advancing Airmen and Feeding the Fight. We can break down the key points of effective workstation ergonomics and proper sitting postures in three easy steps.

First, make adjustments and alignments to your work space. Making adjustments to a computer chair before working long hours typing performance reports will sure make the task a little more productive. To improve this simple

Limiting unnecessary stressors can be as simple as watching sitting posture while working on the computer, or changing the ergonomics of a work station. It’s the small things that can make a big difference.

part of your work center and decrease the strain on muscles, you need to adjust the height of your chair, backrest and arm support, so elbows, hips, and knees are at a 90 degree angle and forearms and thighs are parallel to the ground.

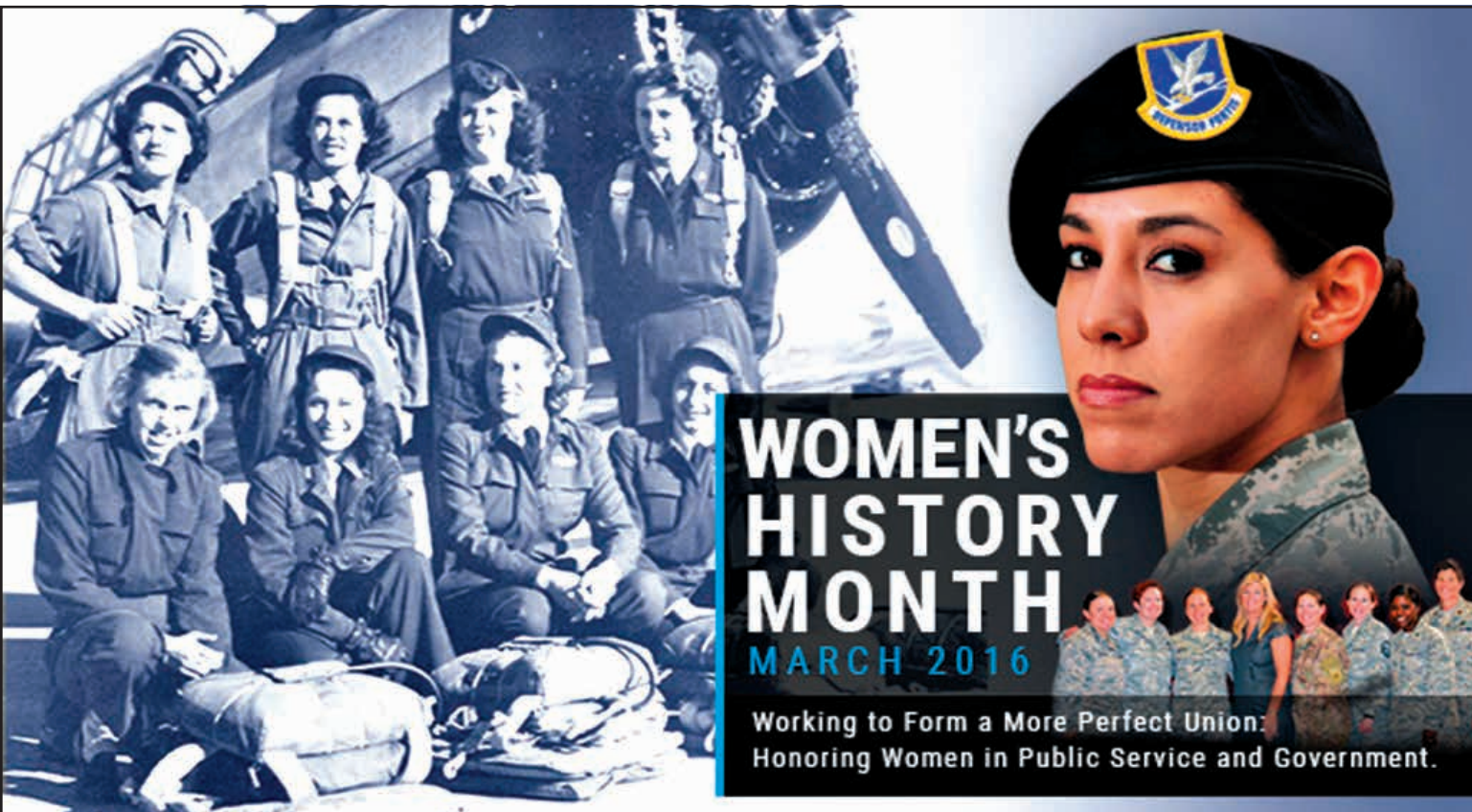
Second, set up your equipment to include but not limited to the monitor and desk keyboard to suit you. Simply adjusting the monitor places less strain on the neck and mid-back muscles needed to support posture. One of the biggest

modifications you can make to your work center in regards to equipment is to ensure your monitor is slightly below eye level. This modification along with proper keyboard height and keeping your wrist straight when you type decreases a lot of unneeded muscle strain or work.

Lastly, however arguably the most important part of work place ergonomics and what we at Physical Therapy stress is to have a good sitting or standing posture as well as getting up and taking breaks. Good sitting posture means rolling shoulders back while maintaining a 90-degree elbow flex to decrease muscle work.

Taking breaks is beneficial to not only your mind but your body as well. Think of a few tips to help beat discomfort from sitting too long and it might also boost work place morale. Getting up to visit a co-worker you might have been preparing to type a long email to or walking around the workplace will not only benefit you but also the morale of your unit.

So remember, make as many adjustments as needed to include but not limited to your chair, desk, all surface equipment, and most importantly, take breaks and watch your posture.



**Don't text
while
driving**

F-35 to touch down at air shows around the world

Staff Sgt. Staci Miller

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. — Aviation and F-35A Lightning II fanatics have something special to look forward to this 2016 air show season.

The Lightning II qualified March 6 at the Heritage Flight Conference at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, to take part in the Air Combat Command Air Force Heritage Flight program.

The program features modern Air Force fighter aircraft flying alongside World War II, Korean and Vietnam-era aircraft in a dynamic display of our nation’s airpower history.

“Being a part of these heritage flights allows the world to learn more about the F-35 and at the same time see just how far airpower has come over the years,” said Brig. Gen. Scott Pleus, the 56th Fighter Wing commander. “The F-35 will be the backbone of the Air Force fighter fleet and represent the future for the U.S., our partners and allies. This will be a great opportunity for everyone to see how amazing the F-35 is.”

The F-35 heritage flight team includes one pilot and 10 maintainers, all selected from the 61st Fighter Squadron at Luke AFB.

“My team and I are very excited for this year,” said Maj. William Andreotta, an F-35 heritage flight team pilot. “We’re so honored to be the first ever F-35 heritage flight team. We are really laying the foundation for years to come. We know it’s going to be a great season and we’re ecstatic about talking with different communities and showcasing the F-35.”

The team practiced their entire routine at the conference. The maintainers were able to show off their coordinated take-off and landing procedures while Andreotta practiced and perfected flying in formation with heritage aircraft. In the backseat of one of those heritage aircraft held a very interested passenger.

“I got to jump into the back of a P-51 Mustang and view an F-35 off the wing,” said Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, Air Education and Training Command commander. “Our F-35 team is ready to hit the road for the show season. It was awesome to see it up close and personal. I feel very confident in what the Luke team is doing here, and I’m excited for them to show this aircraft off to the world.”

From the opposite perspective, Andreotta experienced flying in formation with heritage aircraft for the first time during the conference.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Staci Miller

Members of the first ever F-35 Lightning II heritage flight team from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., participate in the Heritage Flight Conference at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., March 4-6, 2016. The Heritage Flight Program features modern Air Force fighter aircraft flying alongside World War II, Korean and Vietnam-era aircraft in a dynamic display of the nation's airpower history.

“It’s surreal to be flying the latest and greatest fighter aircraft in the world and look over to see fighter aircraft from World War II, Vietnam and Korea right next to you that were at one point the greatest fighters of their generation,” Andreotta said. “It’s like passing the torch in the lineage.”

Heritage flights are just as incredible on the ground as they are from the air.

“Viewers are going to get to see a remarkable show,” said Master Sgt. Ed DeLeon, F-35 heritage flight team superintendent. “They will see America’s newest technology and compare the advances first hand. We’re going to showcase the past, present and future of the Air Force.”

The team will travel to 16 air shows around the U.S. and abroad.

“We’re very excited about demonstrating this capability to the world,” Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III said in January when the service first announced the F-35’s participation in the Royal International Air Tattoo this summer at Royal Air Force Fairford, England. “The F-35 represents a new way of thinking about data integration, weapons and tactics. We’re thrilled to highlight the program and the amazing Airmen who support this cutting-edge fighter.”

The F-35 heritage flight team gets to officially start their historic first season at home.

“Our first show is at Luke,” DeLeon said. “It’s nice to be able to start at home and showcase what we’re all about in front of our friends and families. After that, I’m so excited to get on the road and show the world

what we’re all about.”

Luke AFB will present the “75 Years of Airpower” air show to the Arizona community April 2-3.

The F-35 Heritage Flight Team schedule:

- April 2-3: Luke AFB
- April 22-24: Langley AFB, Virginia
- May 7-8: Ft Lauderdale, Florida
- May 28-29: Jones Beach, New York
- June 18-19: Ocean City, Maryland
- June 25-26: Hill AFB, Utah
- July 8-17: RIAT/Farnborough, England
- Aug. 19-21: Chicago, Illinois
- Sept. 3-5: Cleveland, Ohio
- Sept. 14-18: Reno, Nevada
- Oct. 14-16: Baltimore, Maryland
- Nov. 12-13: Nellis, AFB, Nevada

Army Rangers exercise close air support with F-35s

Senior Airman Andrea Posey
33rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Although the Air Force separated from the Army in 1947, the two forces have a long history of working together to dominate the sky and ground in combat.

This tradition continues today with the 3rd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment's recent visit to Eglin Air Force Base to conduct close air support exercises with a pair of F-35A Lightning II fighter jets. Soldiers of the ranger battalion are fire support specialists responsible for intelligence activities of the Army's field artillery team.

Two F-35As teamed up with the battalion to provide air support against simulated hostile targets in close proximity to the rangers. One of the capabilities of the F-35 is to provide support to ground forces, to include joint terminal attack controllers and joint fire observers.

"(This) was the first time these guys have worked with the F-35A," said Air Force Maj. Christopher Collins, a pilot in the 33rd Operations Support Squadron. "It was a great opportunity to share tactics and showcase some of the unique capabilities we have with this jet."



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Andrea Posey
An Army Ranger from the 75th Ranger Regiment, 3rd Ranger Battalion, signals an aircraft to his team's position at Hurlburt Field, Fla., Feb. 11, 2016. During this exercise, Rangers radioed coordinates to F-35A Lightning II pilots to simulate close air support.

In a CAS mission, rangers are responsible for setting up and operating communications systems to encode and decode messages, assist in the preparation of fire support plans with target coordinates, operate laser range finders and target devices, and determine target

locations using computers or manual calculations.

For the rangers, this exercise allowed them to familiarize themselves with the F-35A and how it can support ground troops in a future deployed environment.

After the exercise, Collins reiterated the importance of training in a joint environment to maximize the capabilities of the joint force.

"It really shouldn't matter which aircraft (or) branch of service is acting as the controlling party," Collins said. "The common guidelines of the joint doctrine allow us to operate seamlessly across a broad spectrum of different scenarios in the safest, most efficient manner."

The Soldiers said the exercise was successful because it allowed them to test the capabilities and limitations of the jet as a part of their mission set.

"The F-35 was designed to fight in a different environment, specifically an environment we could face if hostilities broke out in another portion of the world. Assuming we would be among the first there, this would be critical information," one of the rangers said. "Along with that, we learned what other assets and capabilities we would need to augment the F-35 on our current missions to meet our commander's intent."

As the F-35 progresses to initial operational capabilities, the aircraft and its Airmen continue train to execute suppression and destruction of enemy air defenses, air interdiction missions and basic close air support.

DOD-wide Windows 10 rapid deployment to boost cybersecurity

Cheryl Pellerin
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department will deploy Windows 10 departmentwide by January to strengthen cybersecurity and streamline the information technology operating environment, according to a Feb. 26 memo by Deputy Defense Secretary Bob Work.

Work addressed the memo to secretaries of the military departments, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, defense under secretaries, defense agency directors, DOD field activity directors and other senior leaders.

"After consultation with department leadership and through discussions with the DOD chief information officer, I am directing the department to complete a rapid deployment and transition to Microsoft Windows 10 Secure Host Baseline," Work wrote.

"This decision," he added, "is based on the need to strengthen our cybersecurity posture while concurrently streamlining the IT operating environment."

Strengthening cybersecurity

The secure host baseline approach to the transition was developed in partnership with the military departments and other DOD components, including the DOD Chief Informa-

tion Office, National Security Agency and Defense Information Systems Agency.

The deputy secretary directed U.S. Cyber Command, through U.S. Strategic Command, and in consultation with the CJCS and DOD CIO Terry Halvorsen, to lead the directive's implementation.

Halvorsen said the DOD-wide shift to a single operating system is unprecedented and offers several benefits.

"Transitioning to a single operating system across the department will improve our cybersecurity posture by establishing a common baseline," the CIO said, adding that deploying Windows 10 also will help lower the cost of DOD information technology.

Pass the hash

DOD will transition more than 3 million Windows-based desktops, laptops and tablets to Windows 10, a cross-platform release that does not include mobile phones, said David Cotton, the deputy CIO for information enterprise.

New security features in Windows 10 will help the department enable faster software patching, he said, and counter a major cyber-intrusion technique called "pass the hash."

In this hack, an attacker accesses a remote server by using a stored hash, or a one-way transformation, of a user's pass-

word rather than the standard plain-text password.

The operating system also will increase accountability and transparency across DOD networks, allowing cyber defenders to better detect malicious activity, Cotton said.

Critical implementation

Work said in his memo that he expects the full cooperation of all critical implementation components, including DISA and NSA.

"DOD components are responsible for planning, resourcing and executing the Microsoft Windows 10 SHB deployment consistent with this memorandum," he said, noting that the DOD CIO may update and refine the deputy secretary's direction as needed during the implementation.

From his perspective as STRATCOM commander, Navy Adm. Cecil D. Haney said that cyberspace underpins all his mission areas and has become a critical facet of national power.

"This transition is another step toward ensuring we strengthen our cybersecurity posture," he said. "It is also another example of a number of partners, including the DOD Chief Information Office, NSA, DISA, Cybercom, and DOD components, successfully working together to ensure our networks are resilient and secure."

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Track Select

2nd Lt. Jordan Ah Loy

2nd Lt. Ian Flynn

2nd Lt. Shane Tapay

2nd Lt. Jacob Theander

2nd Lt. Thomas Yoder

2nd Lt. Yusuke Nakamura

2nd Lt. John D'Onofrio

2nd Lt. Eric DuPre

2nd Lt. Ross Carli

2nd Lt. Maxwell Adler

Capt. Johnathan Ostwalt

2nd Lt. Robert Werner

2nd Lt. James O'Connor

2nd Lt. Robert Havens

2nd Lt. Christopher Elliot

2nd Lt. Robert Russel

1st Lt. Eric Dahlin

2nd Lt. David Baker

2nd Lt. Takehito Futaba

2nd Lt. Nicholas Birbils

2nd Lt. James Holland

2nd Lt. Melinda Coel

2nd Lt. Riley Martin

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Dubisher Award

2nd Lt. Jordan Ah Loy

Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. Jacob Theander

Instrument: 2nd Lt. Thomas Yoder

Formation: 2nd Lt. Ian Flynn

16-14

2016 Tax Center Hours

The Columbus AFB Tax Center is located on the first floor of the old 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.

Buckle up!
It's the law.

Columbus AFB Congratulates senior master sergeant selects

U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin
Col. James Fisher, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Tammy Kinder-Tims, 14th Operations Support Squadron Chief Controller, congratulate Master Sgts. Angel Alvarado Rivera, 14th OSS, and Samuel Gutierrez, 14th OSS, on being selected to become senior master sergeants who, along with chief master sergeants, make up three percent of the entire Air Force enlisted force.

Newcomers Orientation is back in the club

U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day
Sonic Johnson, 14th Flying Training Wing Chief of Public Affairs, briefs the Public Affairs portion of Newcomers Orientation March 8 at the Columbus Club. Newcomers Orientation takes officer, enlisted, civilian Airmen and spouses new to the base and gives them a basic understanding of the various base organizations and how they can help.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: B-52 Stratofortress

Mission
The B-52 is a long-range, heavy bomber that can perform a variety of missions. The bomber is capable of flying at high subsonic speeds at altitudes up to 50,000 feet (15,166.6 meters). It can carry nuclear or precision guided conventional ordnance with world-wide precision navigation capability.

Features
In a conventional conflict, the B-52 can perform strategic attack, close-air support, air interdiction, offensive counter-air and maritime operations. During Desert Storm, B-52s delivered 40 percent of all the weapons dropped by coalition forces. It is highly effective when used for ocean surveillance, and can assist the U.S. Navy in anti-ship and mine-laying operations. Two B-52s, in two hours, can monitor 140,000 square miles (364,000 square kilometers) of ocean surface. All B-52s can be equipped with two electro-optical viewing sensors, a forward-looking infrared and advanced targeting pods to augment targeting, battle assessment and flight safety, thus further improving its combat ability.

Pilots wear night vision goggles to enhance their vision during night operations. Night vision goggles provide greater safety during night operations by increasing the pilot's ability to visually clear terrain, to increase the peacetime and combat situational awareness of the aircrew and visually acquire other aircraft.

B-52s are currently upgrading from the Litening Advanced Targeting Pod to the Sniper Advanced Targeting Pod. Sniper pods provide improved long-range target detection/identification and continuous stabilization of surveillance for all missions, including close air support of ground forces. The pod's advanced targeting and image processing technology significantly increases the combat effectiveness of the B-52 during day, night and under-the-weather conditions in the attack of ground targets with a variety of standoff weapons (i.e., laser-guided bombs, conventional bombs and GPS-guided weapons).

The use of aerial refueling gives the B-52 a range limited only by crew endurance. It has an unrefueled combat range in excess of 8,800 miles (14,080 kilometers).

Background
For more than 40 years, B-52 Strato-

fortresses have been the backbone of the manned strategic bomber force for the United States. The B-52 is capable of dropping or launching the widest array of weapons in the U.S. inventory. This includes gravity bombs, cluster bombs, precision guided missiles and joint direct attack munitions. Updated with modern technology, the B-52 will be capable of delivering the full complement of joint developed weapons and will continue into the 21st century as an important element of our nation's defenses. Current engineering analyses show the B-52's life span to extend beyond the year 2040.

The B-52A first flew in 1954, and the B model entered service in 1955. A total of 744 B-52s were built with the last, a B-52H, delivered in October 1962. The first of 102 B-52H's was delivered to Strategic Air Command in May 1961. The H model can carry up to 20 air launched cruise missiles. In addition, it can carry the conventional cruise missile that was launched in several contingencies during the 1990s, starting with Operation Desert Storm and culminating with Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The aircraft's flexibility was evident in Operation Desert Storm and again during Operation Allied Force. B-52s struck wide-area troop concentrations, fixed installations and bunkers, and decimated the morale of Iraq's Republican Guard. On Sept. 2 to 3, 1996, two B-52Hs struck Baghdad power stations and communications facilities with 13 AGM-86C conventional air launched cruise missiles, or CALCMs, as part of Operation Desert Strike. At that time, this was the longest distance flown for a combat mission involving a 34-hour, 16,000 statute mile round trip from Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana.

In 2001, the B-52 contributed to the success in Operation Enduring Freedom, providing the ability to loiter high above the battlefield and provide close air support through the use of precision guided munitions.

The B-52 also played a role in Operation Iraqi Freedom. On March 21, 2003, B-52Hs launched approximately 100 CALCMs during a night mission.

Only the H model is still in the Air Force inventory and is assigned to the 5th Bomb Wing at Minot AFB, North Dakota, and the 2nd Bomb Wing at Barksdale AFB, which fall under Air Force Global Strike Command. The aircraft is also assigned to the Air Force Reserve Command's 307th Bomb Wing at Barksdale AFB.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Joseph A. Pagán Jr.
A B-52 Stratofortress takes off from Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, Feb. 26, 2016, headed to Moron Air Base, Spain. During the short-term deployment, three of the multi-role heavy bombers and more than 200 Airmen assigned to the 2nd Bomb Wing will integrate and train with U.S. European Command components and regional partners by participating in Exercise Cold Response 16. U.S. Strategic Command and Air Force Global Strike Command routinely and visibly demonstrate U.S. commitment to allies, as well as global security, through joint and international training exercises such as these.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Arielle Vasquez

General characteristics
Primary function: heavy bomber
Contractor: Boeing Military Airplane Co.
Power plant: eight Pratt & Whitney engines TF33-P-3/103 turbofan
Thrust: each engine up to 17,000 pounds
Wingspan: 185 feet (56.4 meters)
Length: 159 feet, 4 inches (48.5 meters)
Height: 40 feet, 8 inches (12.4 meters)
Weight: Approximately 185,000 pounds (83,250 kilograms)
Maximum takeoff weight: 488,000 pounds (219,600 kilograms)
Fuel capacity: 312,197 pounds (141,610 kilograms)

LEFT: A B-52 Stratofortress from the 69th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, deployed from Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, lands March 2, 2016, at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. A new rotation of aircrews, maintenance personnel and aircraft assigned to the 69th EBS arrived on Guam to replace the 23rd EBS in support of the U.S. Pacific Command's continuous bomber presence mission.

Payload: 70,000 pounds (31,500 kilograms)
Speed: 650 miles per hour (Mach 0.84)
Range: 8,800 miles (7,652 nautical miles)
Ceiling: 50,000 feet (15,151.5 meters)
Armament: approximately 70,000 pounds (31,500 kilograms) mixed ordnance: bombs, mines and missiles. (Modified to carry air-launched cruise missiles)
Crew: five (aircraft commander, pilot, radar navigator, navigator and electronic warfare officer)
Unit cost: \$84 million (fiscal 2012 constant dollars)
Initial operating capability: April 1952
Inventory: active force, 58; ANG, 0; Reserve, 18

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.)

Capstone
This class is scheduled 8 a.m. – noon March 17. The Capstone is required for all separating/retiring personnel and should occur no later than 90 days prior to anticipated separation/retirement; however, if a member has less than 90 days left in the military, the member should attend as soon as possible within their remaining period of service. It verifies if service members have or have not met their Career Readiness Standards/Individual Transition Plan Checklist, DD Form 2958. The checklist, in conjunction with the ITP, will be used by the A&FRC to verify status of CRS completion. Call 434-2790 for more information.

Wing Newcomers Orientation
This brief will be from 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. March 29 and is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the 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 29. Call 434-2790 to sign up.

Military Life Cycle
The Military Life Cycle workshop, 1 - 2 p.m. March 29, allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

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

Hearts Apart
The Hearts Apart Social program 5- 7 p.m. March 24, is a monthly event to provide community bonding, fun and appreciation for the families of active duty personnel who are deployed, remote, or on an extended TDY. Food and activities are provided. Call 434-2790 to register.

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop
This workshop is held 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. April 4 - 8. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop For Senior Leadership is for entrance at the corporate level based on education and/or experience. It is reserved for officers and senior NCOs. It has seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, MS Dept of Employment Security, Dept of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Dept of Labor TAP portion. Pre-separation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance 8 – 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register call 434-2839.

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.

Team BLAZE vice commander pitches for MSU game



U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Lauren Woods
Col. James Fisher, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander, shakes hands with Gavin Collins, Mississippi State University baseball player, before throwing the first pitch during a home game against South Alabama March 8 at Dudy Noble Field on Mississippi State University. The first pitch is a baseball tradition in which a ball is thrown by the guest of honor to mark the start of the game.

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.

Personal Financial Readiness
Make the most of your money. Contact Ms. Delores Sherman, Personal Financial Counseling, for appointment, 426-2527, or 434-2790, ColumbusAFB-PFC@MFLC.Zeiders.com. She can help manage finances, resolve financial problems, and reach long-term goals such as getting an education, buying a home and planning for retirement.

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:
3:45 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. – Adoration
Friday:
5 p.m. – Lenten Stations of the Cross

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



T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 16-06 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



Capt. Melissa Kalas
Pittsburg, Pa.
HC-130, Patrick AFB, Fla.



Capt. Mark Puffenbarger
Fairfax Station, Va.
KC-135 Stratotanker, McDill AFB, Fla.



1st Lt. Aritouch Chaiwatpongsakorn
Bangkok, Thailand
L-39 Albatross

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-06 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Retired Col. Bruce Strickland, 286th Air Operations Group, Key Field, Meridian, Mississippi Air National Guard, Jackson, Mississippi, 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. Fahad Al Anazi, T-38, and Capt. Melissa Kalas, 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. Tyler Heck, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Nicholas Gibson, 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. Tyler Heck, T-38, 2nd Lt. Max Jones, T-1, and 2nd Lt. Jacob Schomaker, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 16-06.

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

ment 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 16-06 pilot partners are Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau and the City of Columbus.



2nd Lt. Anthony Ciccio
Flower Mound, Texas
C-130J, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. Ethan Curry
Clay, W.Va.
C-130H, 130th Airlift Wing, W.Va.



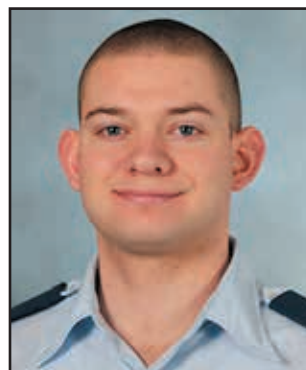
2nd Lt. Nicholas Gibson
Louisville, Ky.
C-130J, Ramstein AB, Germany



2nd Lt. Brian Hinckley
Thomaston, Con.
C-130H, Bradley ANGB, Con.



2nd Lt. Maxwell Jones
Tallahassee, Ala.
T-6 Texan II, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. William Loving
Yacolt, Wash.
E-3 Sentry, Tinker AFB, Utah



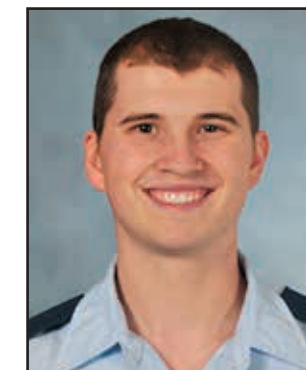
2nd Lt. Garrett Manley
Holland, Ohio
C-17 Globemaster III, McChord AFB, Wash.



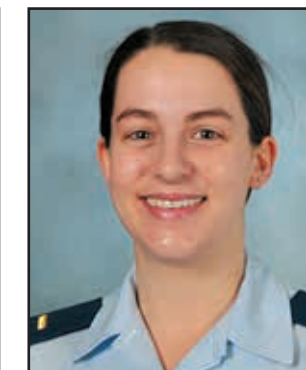
2nd Lt. Ryan Manning
Kennebunkport, Maine
C-5, Westover ARB, Md.



2nd Lt. Jacob Schomaker
Cincinnati, Ohio
C-17 Globemaster III, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Jody Sullins
Memphis, Tenn.
C-17 Globemaster III, 164th Memphis Guard, Tenn.



2nd Lt. Lindsey
MQ-9 Reaper, Creech AFB, Nev.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Volk
Pittsburgh, Pa.
F-16 Fighting Falcon, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Ben Wild
Henniker, N.H.
C-17 Globemaster III, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Zaiser
Pittsburgh, Pa.
T-6 Texan II, Columbus AFB, Miss.



1st Lt. Samuel De Moya
Mao, Dominican Republic
A-29B Super Tucano, San Isidro AFB, Dominican Republic



2nd Lt. Robert Bland
Atlanta, Ga.
E-8 JSTARS



2nd Lt. Brian Brookover
Toledo, Ohio
KC-135 Stratotanker, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Jessica
MQ-9 Reaper, Creech AFB, Nev.



2nd Lt. Korey Harris
Collinsville, Miss.
C-17 Jackson ANGB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Tyler Heck
Warner Robins, Ga.
F-15E Strike Eagle, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.