

## Weather



## News Briefs

### B-52 and Pilot Physician Roadshow

A B-52 and Pilot Physician Roadshow is scheduled May 19 – 20. Statics are available 3 – 4 p.m. May 19 and 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. May 20 at SAC Ramp. A briefing is at 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. May 20 at Phillips Auditorium.

### SUPT Class 16-09 Graduation

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-09 graduates at 10 a.m. May 20 at Kaye Auditorium.

### BCC meeting

Members of the Base Community Council are invited to attend a meeting 11:30 a.m. May 19 at the Columbus Club.

## Inside



### Feature 8

Check inside for maps, schedules and more.

# BLAZE Fest is tomorrow!

Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Arce  
14th Operations  
Support Squadron

Everyone with base access is invited to the first ever 14th Flying Training Wing BLAZE Fest, scheduled for 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 14 at Freedom Park.

Blaze Fest will have plenty of activities for adults as well as children to include carnival rides, a petting zoo, pony rides, water slides, and so much more.

Other activities including family races like a water balloon toss, 3-legged race, and others will present AAFES gift cards to each of the winners.

Key things to remember are to bring sunscreen, swimming attire, and lawn chairs for music goes.

The food, alcohol and other beverages will have an associated cost. This will be a cash only event, but there are ATMs located outside the BX.

Please visit the Columbus Air Force Base Facebook page or Columbus Air Force Base website for parking, bus routes between the Operations Group parking lot, Capitol and Magnolia housing areas, food prices and event map which will explain where everything is located.

Finally, there will be a Family Fun Run 5K as well that will start at 8 a.m. and then at 11 a.m., Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, will give opening remarks.

Hope to see you there!



**BLAZE FEST 2016**

**FEATURING**

**DJ • LIVE BANDS • PETTING ZOO**

**FAMILY EVENTS • GAMES • RIDES •**

**PONY RIDES • KIDS WATER ACTIVITIES**

**INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITS**

**ALL EVENTS & ADMISSION ARE FREE**

**Open to those with base access**

**FREEDOM PARK**

**COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE**

**11 A.M. - 6 P.M. Saturday, May 14th, 2016**

**Bring your family and friends for a day of fun**

## 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 (17-02)	1.18 days	0.89 days	May 17	48th (16-09)	-0.56 days	1.66 days	May 20	49th (16-HBC)	3.78 days	2.82 days	June 1	T-6	955	1,019	18,601
41st (17-03)	3.76 days	3.32 days	June 8	50th (16-09)	-0.11 days	0.25 days	May 20					T-1	322	317	6,191
												T-38	336	336	6,135
												IFF	135	145	2,544

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Richard Perraut Jr., retired Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs, Washington, D.C.





## Police Week 2016

**Monday, May 16 24-Hour Flag March**

**Wing HQ, 6:50 a.m. for Reveille then volunteers will start Flag March**

**Tuesday, May 17 Demonstrations Day**

**Building 214, 10 – 11:30 a.m. for MWD, Weapons, Shoot-Move-Communicate, and Bus Assault demos**

**Wednesday, May 18 Fallen Defender's Presentation**

**Kaye Auditorium, 10 a.m.**

**Friday, May 20 Police Week 5K**

**Fitness Center, 7 a.m. and 4:50 p.m. for Retreat**

**Saturday, May 21 Parade**

**Columbus AFB housing, 10 a.m.**



## Silver Wings

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### Submission Deadline

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

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*Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2424.*

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
16	17 SUPT Class 17-02 track select, @ Phillips	18	19 B-52/Pilot Physician Roadshow Base Community Council meeting, 11:30 a.m. @ Club Enlisted Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m. @ Chapel Annex	20 SUPT Class 16-09 graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	21/22	May 30: Memorial Day May 31: Wing Newcomers Orientation May 31: Enlisted Promotions June 1: EMCC Pres. base visit June 3: Air Force Ball Dodgeball tournament June 3: LGBT 5K Fun Run June 3: Blood Drive June 7: Air Force Officer Qualification Test June 9: 41st FTS Change of Command June 10: SUPT Class 16-10 graduation June 16: 14th MSG Change of Command June 20-23: Vacation Bible School June 21: Wing Commander all call June 21: Wing Newcomers Orientation June 28: 14th CES Change of Command June 30: Enlisted Promo- tions
23 B-1 Roadshow	24 Columbus AFB new sign unveiling, 10:30 a.m. @ Hwy 45	25 SUPT Class 16-10 Assign- ment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Club	26 Safety Day briefs, 7:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. @ Kaye Memorial Day Ceremony, 10 a.m. @ Smith Plaza	27 AETC Family Day Independence Pool Opens	28/29	







# Team BLAZE celebrates 22 years with Tree City USA

**Allen Reed**  
14th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Installation Management  
Flight Chief

Columbus Air Force Base celebrated its 22nd year this year as a member of Tree City USA.

Some of the many benefits of being a Tree City include creating a framework for action and education, setting a positive public image, and having pride as a citizen.

This year a Parsley Leaf Hawthorn was planted in the nature trails area. This tree was grown from seedlings supplied by the Arbor Day Foundation. Conservation manager Frank Lockhart chose and planted this tree as it is a native of Mississippi that is becoming rare.

The Parsley Leaf Hawthorn is a small ornamental tree with spring flowers that attract humming birds and butterflies. The small size and slow growth make it an excellent ornamental but a poor hardwood so it is not a commercially harvested tree.

Arbor Day was established on April 10, 1872, in Nebraska. It was proposed as a special day dedicated to tree planting and increasing awareness of the importance of trees. As a part of Arbor Day the Tree City USA program was developed. The program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture and the National Association of State Foresters. The program provides direction, technical assistance, public



Courtesy photo  
**Frank Lockhart, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Conservation Manager, plants a Parsley Leaf Hawthorn May 4 at the Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Arboretum and Nature Trail. This also marks the 22nd year Columbus AFB has been a member of Tree City USA.**

attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs in thousands of towns and cities more than 120 million Americans call home.

Columbus Air Force Base also celebrated Arbor Day in conjunction with Earth Day on April 23.

## 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.

## New Urgent Care Pilot Program for TRICARE Prime Beneficiaries

Tricare

To increase access to care, the Department of Defense is launching an Urgent Care Pilot Program for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries. This program allows Prime enrollees two visits to a network or TRICARE authorized provider without a referral or prior authorization.

**The Urgent Care Pilot Program, scheduled to begin May 23 covers:**

- Active-duty family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote
- Retirees and their family members who are enrolled in Prime within the 50 United States or the District of Columbia
- Active-duty service members enrolled in TRICARE Prime Remote or stationed overseas but traveling stateside

Active-duty service members enrolled in TRICARE Prime are not eligible for this program as their care is managed by their service. This pilot also excludes Uniformed Services Family Health Plan enrollees. TRICARE Overseas Program enrollees can receive an unlimited number of urgent care visits, but only when they are traveling stateside and seeking care.

There are no Point of Service deductibles or cost shares for these two urgent care visits, but network co-payments still apply.

Following a visit to an urgent care facility, you must notify your PCM of that care within 24 hours or the first business day after the urgent care visit. Authorization requirements have not changed for follow up care, specialty care or inpatient care.

When you are not sure of the type of care you need, or you require care outside of standard business hours, call the Nurse Advice Line. If the NAL recommends an urgent care visit, and a referral is submitted, that visit will not count against the two visits allowed under the Urgent Care Pilot. However, if you call the NAL and get a referral to a military hospital or clinic and you go elsewhere for care, that visit will count against your two preauthorized visits.

For more information, please visit the Urgent Care Pilot Program web page at <https://www.tricareonline.com>.

## 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 48 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.



## WWII vets tour memorial, remember fallen brothers-in-arms

**Tech. Sgt. Bryan Franks**  
Secretary of the Air Force Public  
Affairs Command Information

WASHINGTON — Clouds lingered overhead, as young and old walked around the water fountain at the National World War II Memorial.

Couples took photos of one another while mothers and fathers tried to keep track of children attempting to run free.

A leather-skinned gentleman, standing upright with his shoulders back, strolled arm-in-arm with another man who walked with a slight limp. The two, both with slight smiles on their age-worn faces, reminisced about the war they survived together while touring their memorial.

More than 70 years ago, World War II ended taking with it the lives of more than 400,000 members of the U.S. armed forces. While countries signed treaties and rebuilt cities, those who survived returned home, carrying both visible and invisible wounds of the war.

Nearly 59 years passed before the memorial was dedicated to the 16 million who served in the war and the millions who supported from home.

Retired Air Force Capt. Earl Morse founded the Honor Flight Network around the time the memorial was dedicated. Thanks to Morse's efforts, there are currently 127 hubs in 41 states, and more than 100,000 veterans are able to tour the memorial annually.

On April 30, at the heart of the World War II Memorial, Lt. Gen. Arnold W. Bunch Jr., the military deputy for the Air Force's assistant secretary for acquisition, welcomed a group of 29 veterans from Honor Flight Georgia.

"Our military is the best in the world and a lot of that is based off the foundation (our veterans) set," Bunch said. "It's just an honor to see them, and give a little bit back to them in the form of respect and recognition for their contributions to our (freedom). Doing it here at the memorial just makes this a truly special event."

Paul Bowker, a 90-year-old Army veteran from Honor Flight Syracuse, was wounded during his second night on the ground in Europe, spent a month recovering and went back to war. He walked down the ramp studying each of the bronze murals while sharing the experience with his oldest granddaughter. "The memorial is not just for us (veterans)



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Bryan Franks  
**Lt. Gen. Arnold W. Bunch Jr., the military deputy for the Air Force's assistant secretary for acquisition, speaks to the Georgia Honor Flight and onlookers at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., April 30, 2016. The Georgia Honor Flight was one of many such flights to visit the nation's capital through the Honor Flight Network.**

but it's for our families," Bowker said. "They can see that there were so many people involved and it wasn't just a few kids from a city block."

At 100 years old, Army veteran Paul Merriman said he had three close encounters with the Germans.

"We slept in a snow bank one night," Merriman said. "We were surrounded by the Germans so we hid the jeep in the trees. That night more than 3 feet of snow fell to the ground."

The next day, he said, they found lifesaver flyers and boot prints in the ground from the Germans who were looking for him and his two friends. He still carries one of the flyers with him to remind him of how close he came to being captured.

This marked the first visit to the memorial for nearly all of the veterans who made the trip with the Honor Flight Network, making

the event even more special. Donald Jones, a 93-year-old Navy veteran, was one of those first-time visitors to the memorial.

In 1944, Jones landed on Omaha Beach in German-occupied France at 6 a.m. on the first day of the invasion and left that evening. He recalled the 5,000 men he and his brothers-in-arms lost on the beach that day.

"I carried the Soldiers to the beach for the invasion," Jones said. "It wasn't any fun, but we did what we had to do. We brought the bodies back from the beach to England so they could return home because they were heroes."

Some of the veterans participating in the honor flight also caught up with long-lost friends who shared the experience of the war.

Harold Bradley and Harry Miller both served in the same unit at the Battle of the Bulge. Bradley, who lives in Houston, tried three times to make the trip to visit the me-

morial he had heard so much about from Miller.

"I have seen so much on this trip," Bradley said. "It has filled my bucket real quick. The memorial is amazing. I could tell people about this place but unless they see it themselves, it is not real to them. Once you walk into this place, it's very real."

Miller, who lives in the area, has visited the memorial often and wanted to share the experience with his friend. They walked around the memorial sharing stories with people who came up to them to thank them for their service.

"I come out here all the time," Miller said. "I like it here, I feel like I'm part of it. I was here when they dedicated it. There were seats all the way up to the Washington Monument, thousands of people ... me and my wife danced all around that day ... we had a great time."



### 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.

### The Overrun Now Open Friday Nights

The Overrun is open Friday 4:30 p.m. until midnight. Bar menu includes chicken wing basket, chicken tender basket, club wrap, or buffalo chicken wrap. For more information, contact 434-2419.

### Summer Day Camp Registration

The Youth Center is now taking registration for Summer Day Camp. Registration is open until all slots are filled. Cost based on family income. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### New Library Hours of Operation

The Base Library hours of operation are Monday – Friday 11 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Sunday 1 – 5 p.m.; Saturday and holidays closed. For more information, contact 434-2934.

### Ladies Golf Lessons

The Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering ladies golf lessons each Tuesday and Thursday 4 – 5 p.m. The cost is only \$5 per person. Must sign up by the day before the lesson. For more information, contact 434-7932.

### Bowl with the Pros

The Bowling Center is offering the free bowling camp Bowl like a Pro May 13 at 6 p.m. for ages 15 and up and Youth Bowling Camp May 14 at 9 a.m. for ages 7 – 15. Pro Bowlers Parker Bohn and Sean Rash will conduct these camps. For more information, contact 434-3426.

### Fitness Mini Expo

The Fitness Center is offering a Fitness Mini Expo 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. May 13. This is a free event which includes vendor exhibits from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m., fitness activities, and health screenings. For more information, contact 434-2772.

### Community Services Open House

The Community Services Flight is hosting an open house May 14. Schedule of events include: free youth bowling camp with the professionals for ages 7-15 from 9 – 11 a.m., free golf/Footgolf and \$10 cart rental from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Golf Course, free paintball target practice from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Outdoor Recreation, free art projects for kids from 1 – 3 p.m. at Arts and Crafts, and free refreshments from 3 – 5 p.m. at SAC Lake. Stop by each facility and discover what the Community Services Flight has to offer. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Thursday Night Nine-Pin No-Tap League

The Bowling Center is offering Thursday Night Nine-Pin No-Tap League sign up. The cost is only \$10 per person per week. League begins 6 p.m. May 19. Sign up as an individual or a team. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-3426.

### NCO vs Airman Golf Scramble

The Golf Course is offering an NCO versus Airman Golf Scramble May 20 at 5 p.m. The cost is only \$5 (E1 – E4) and \$8 (E5 and above); golf cart rental \$10 per person. For more information, contact 434-7932.

### Youth Bowling League

The Bowling Center is offering Youth Bowling League sign up. The cost is only \$6 per child a week. League begins 3 p.m. June 4. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-3426.



**NCO vs AIRMAN GOLF SCRAMBLE**  
4- Person Team (2 Airmen & 2 NCOs)

**WIN Prizes**

**May 20 5 pm**

**\$5** E1-E4  
**\$8** E-5 & above  
**Golf Cart \$10 per person**

**For more information, contact 434-7932.**

### America's Kids Run

The Youth Center is offering the America's Kids Run 8 a.m. May 21 at the Youth Center parking lot. This is a free event for all ages. Register online at americaskidsrun.org. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Pearl River Resort Casino Trip

Outdoor Recreation is offering a monthly casino trip to Pearl River Resort. Upcoming dates: May 21, June 25, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, and Dec. 17. The cost is only \$25 per person; includes \$20 in play credit at casino and transportation. Outdoor Recreation bus departs Exchange/Shoppette parking lot at 1:30 p.m. Any party of 10 or more may book transportation to casino anytime for \$25 per person. For more information, contact 434-2505.

### Independence Pool Kick Off Party

Independence Pool opens May 27 for the pool season. Daily hours of operation are noon – 7 p.m. Kick off the pool season with fun, jumpers and hamburgers from noon - 4:30 p.m. Pool passes available for purchase at Outdoor Recreation. For more information, contact 434-2505.

### Movie at the Pool

Outdoor Recreation will show Disney's Zootopia movie May 29 at Independence Pool. Doors open at 8 p.m.; movie at 8:45 p.m. Snack bar will be available. Pool pass and daily fees apply. For more information, contact 434-2505.

### Swimming Lessons

Outdoor Recreation is offering swimming lessons beginning May 31. Mom and tadpoles sessions for ages three and under May 31 – June 3 and July 5 – 8. Preschool and beginner/intermediate sessions for ages 4 – 12 June 6 – 17 and June 13 – 24. Cost is \$50 for club members; \$60 non-members. For more information, contact 434-2505.

### Junior Golf Lessons

The Golf Course is offering junior golf lessons each Wednesday 10 a.m. beginning June 1. The cost is only \$5 per lesson; includes 30 minute lesson, three holes of golf, and lunch. Sign up no later than Monday of each week; ages 9 – 13. For more information, contact 434-7932.

### LGBT Observance Celebration 5K Run

The Fitness Center is offering a LGBT Observance Celebration 5K Run June 3 at 7 a.m. The run starts and ends at the Fitness Center and includes obstacles. Participants are encouraged to wear bright colors. Prizes awarded for best dressed. For more information, contact 434-2772.

### Summer Sports Camps

The Youth Center is offering Tennis Camp and Sideline Sports Camp June 6 – 10. The cost is \$10 per person per camp. Register by June 1 at the Youth Center. Tennis Camp taught by Magnolia Tennis Club for ages 7 – 18 and Sideline Sports Camp taught by Sideline Sports Club for ages 9 – 18. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Free Junior Golf Clinic

The Golf Course is offering a free Junior Golf Clinic with Mindy Moore June 10 at 9 a.m. For more information, contact 434-7932.

### Free Breakfast for Club Members

The Columbus Club is offering free breakfast for club members June 6 from 6:30 – 8 a.m. Non-members pay \$8 per person. Become a Club member and eat for free plus enjoy all the benefits of being a member. For more information, contact 434-2489.

### British Soccer Camp

The Youth Center is offering British Soccer Camp June 13 – 17. Cost varies according to age and special session. Ages 3 – 18 may register online at challengersports.com. For more information, contact 434-2504.

### Dads Bowl Free

The Bowling Center is offering free bowling for dads June 18 in honor of Father's Day. Shoe rental not included. For more information, contact 434-3426.

### Columbus Club Lunch Buffet Specials

The Columbus Club is offering a lunch buffet Tuesday - Friday 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Taco Tuesday includes tacos and nachos for only \$5 per club member and \$6 per non-member; Wednesday has pizza and wings, Thursday is southern, and Friday is catfish and spaghetti. Cost of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday buffet is only \$7.95 for club members and \$8.95 for non-members. For more information, contact 434-2419.

### Story Time and Circle Time at the Library

The Base Library is offering Story Time every Friday at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. Wee-Babies is offered each Wednesday at 11 a.m. for ages up to four years old. For more information, contact 434-2934.

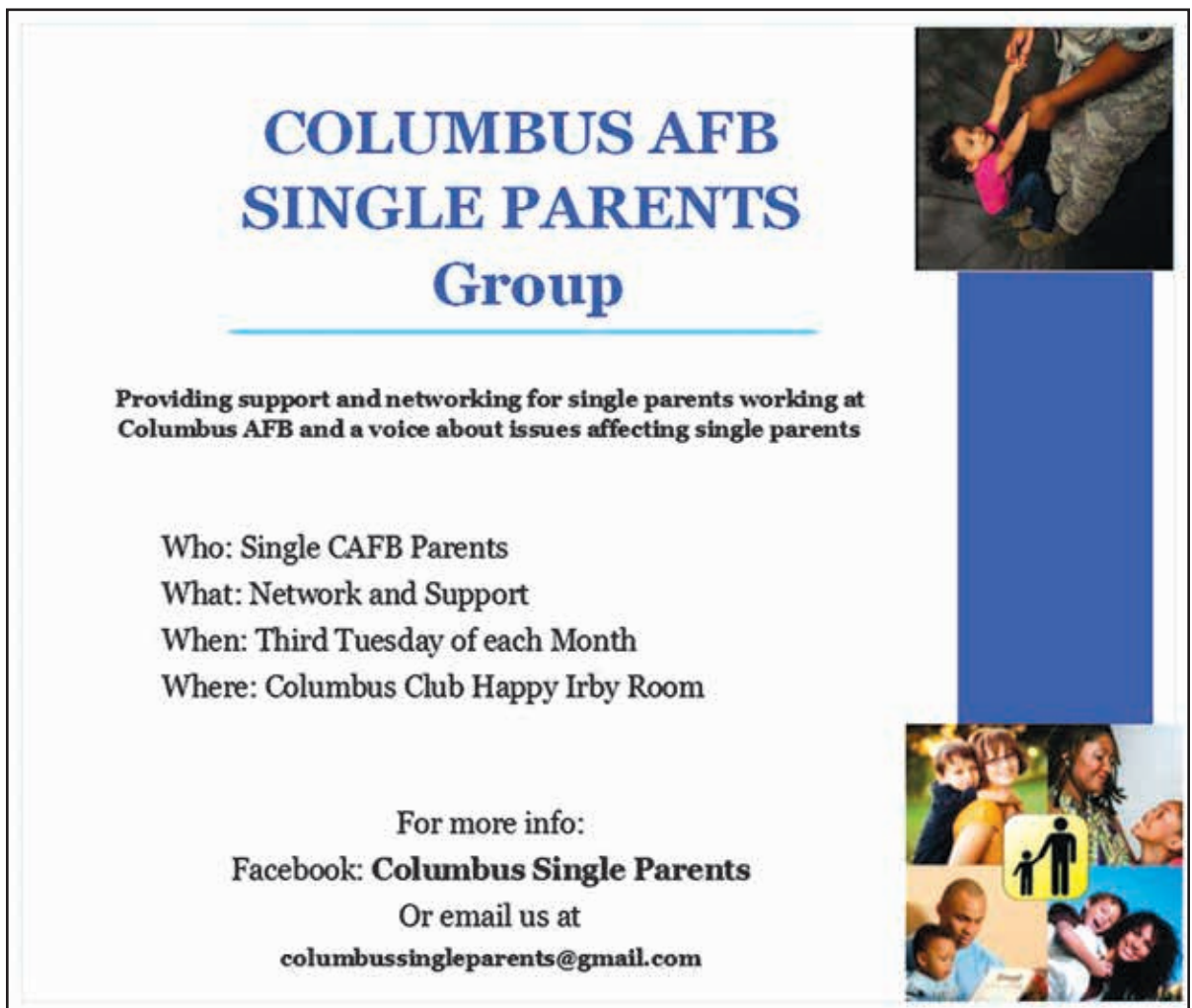
### Bowling Center Party Specials

The Bowling Center is offering two options for all your party needs. Option 1 includes 2 hours of unlimited bowling and shoe rental for only \$8.50 per person. Option 2 includes 2 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.



**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**  
**MAY 17 – 19, 2016**  
**★ THE COLUMBUS CLUB ★**  
**FREE LUNCH**  
with membership sign up  
FREE AFSA SHIRT WITH NEW MEMBER SIGN UP

**UNITED IN STRENGTH**



**COLUMBUS AFB SINGLE PARENTS Group**

**Providing support and networking for single parents working at Columbus AFB and a voice about issues affecting single parents**

**Who: Single CAFB Parents**  
**What: Network and Support**  
**When: Third Tuesday of each Month**  
**Where: Columbus Club Happy Irby Room**

**For more info:**  
**Facebook: Columbus Single Parents**  
**Or email us at**  
**columbussingleparents@gmail.com**

# 14th MDG Pharmacy serves Team BLAZE in new ways

**Capt. Jason Bingham**

14th Medical Group Pharmacy Officer

Over the last year, the 14th Medical Group has undergone many changes, and the pharmacy is no different.

From decreasing patient wait times to an average of 17 minutes, to implementing new patient safety measures, the Columbus Air Force Base Pharmacy is diligently working to take care of the active duty, dependents, and beneficiaries utilizing their services.

The pharmacy has also started a Non-formulary Medication Program for medications not currently on the base formulary. This allows patients to receive medications not on the local formulary through the base pharmacy without being charged a co-pay. All medications being considered for filling through this program are screened against criteria set by Tricare. If a patient meets the criteria for the medication, the pharmacy will order and it will be available for patient pick-up within three to five business days.

If a medication does not meet the criteria, pharmacy staff will contact the original prescribing provider to see if a covered medication can be substituted. When medications cannot be substituted, patients may take to network pharmacies or enroll in the Tricare Mail-Order pharmacy services, but co-pays for these medications average between \$20-40 per medication. Patients can call the pharmacy to ask about specific medication criteria, and see if the medication can be transferred to the base pharmacy.

In addition to the electronic prescription system, the pharmacy has begun to accept electronic prescriptions from off-base providers. This process allows for providers to send the prescription through a secure computer program, and deliver it to the pharmacy within a matter of minutes. Once the pharmacy receives the prescription, they begin processing.

By processing the prescription before patients arrive, this gives staff a chance to resolve any issues or questions regarding the prescription without the patient having to wait. Most questions or concerns can be resolved by the time a patient arrives. Prescriptions sent through the electronic prescription system are typically ready for pick up within one business day of receiving the prescription.

Currently, the pharmacy has three credentialed providers providing a host of counseling services. All patients are welcome and encouraged to ask a pharmacy member regarding any questions about their medications.

During the renovation of the 14th Medical Group, a Pharmacy Consultation room was designed directly behind the pharmacy for in-depth medication counseling sessions. This allows patients a private and quiet environment to discuss their medical questions with the pharmacist on duty.

The pharmacy also has a Cough and Cold Clinic to help those with common cold symptoms for less than seven days to receive the medications needed to help manage their symptoms. The Tobacco Cessation program works with patients to quit using all types of tobacco products by providing behavioral and medication therapy options.

If you are interested in the ways Columbus AFB Pharmacy can assist with your medical care, please give a staff member a call at 434-2168.



# Air Force report on sexual assault highlights program progress

## Air Force Public Affairs

Air Force reports of sexual assault decreased slightly in fiscal year 2015, while reporting by male victims increased according to the service's annual report on sexual assault released today.

The report highlights an increase of more than five percent for both unrestricted and restricted reports of sexual assault from male victims.

"I think we're making progress on sexual assault and heading in the right direction, but I'm certainly not satisfied that the work is done," said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James. "We have to keep up the focus and pressure to make sure we are taking care of victims. We have to make sure more Airmen, male and female, feel comfortable reporting, which enables us to follow up appropriately in the justice system."

A positive sign in the 2015 report is the increase in male reporting, which rose by 5.4 percent in unrestricted reports

and 6.3 percent in restricted reports, said James A. Cody, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force.

"Every victim of sexual assault responds differently and requires different support to become a strong survivor. We want Airmen to come forward and seek help, and it's our job as leaders to instill confidence they'll receive the care and support they need," Cody said. "We are absolutely committed to providing the best possible care and support to our Airmen, and I want our Airmen to know they can trust their leaders to support them when they file a report of sexual assault."

Unlike the previous year's report, the FY15 report is not accompanied by data from the Workplace and Gender Relations Survey, which is only conducted every other year for the active duty force. The Air Force uses the Workplace and Gender Relations Survey to measure the prevalence of sexual assault in the force.

The Air Force compares prevalence rates to reporting rates to evaluate Airmen's confidence in coming forward to report sexual assault and receive support. Ideally, the service wants to eliminate the gap between prevalence of the crime and

the number of reports received, then see both numbers come down to zero, said Col. Mark Ramsey, the Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Operations Director.

Without the survey data, it is difficult to determine if the decrease in reports this year is tied to a decrease in prevalence or another factor, so they will have to look closely at next year's report to see if they can identify a trend, said Ramsey.

According to the report, the Air Force increased its focus on prevention efforts over the past year, hosting a summit to understand Airmen's perspectives and implementing a five-year prevention strategy focused on eliminating sexual assault.

"As long as we have even one report of sexual assault in the Air Force, we have a problem," Ramsey said. "We're going to continue to draw on every resource at our disposal, and thankfully, we have the best resource in the world, American Airmen. I'm confident our Airmen will continue to drive change across our force and move us toward our goal of eliminating sexual assault."

## How do I learn more about CCAF?

### Education Center

More than 45 Team BLAZE members are receiving their Community College of the Air Force Degree May 13 at the Columbus Club.

These members accomplished this through the many education benefits available on base and through their career. Some members are even accomplishing their second or third degree.

With so many people graduating, a question may pop in your head. How can I get my CCAF degree?

Your education record and everything pertaining to education starts with the Air Force Virtual Education Center. This site can be easily accessed through the Air Force Portal. Everyone's CCAF relates to their Air Force Specialty Code.

Members must hold a skill level of five and have 64 semester hours. These hours must include technical; leadership management and military studies (Primarily met through Airman Leadership School or another PME); physical education (met through Basic Military Training); general education of English, math, speech, social science, and humanities; and program electives.

There are several way to accomplish these hours and two things that can be

the most beneficial are Tuition Assistance, and College Level Examination Program and DSST testing.

Tuition Assistance authorizes \$250 per semester hour, not to exceed \$4,500 per fiscal year. The first step in the TA process is ensuring your record in AFVEC is accurate and obtaining approval from supervisors. They must be kept current, as TA not approved by the supervisor prior to term start date is automatically disapproved. Then, make and submit a goal as you must have an approved education goal before you can apply for TA. After that has been accomplished, submit a TA funding request 7 - 45 days prior to the term's start date.

The process may seem daunting at first but the Education Center is available five days a week to assist with any confusion.

Airmen confident in their own knowledge can utilize the CLEP and DSST tests. They are college level exams for college credit and are free for military personnel. Study guides are also available on AFVEC for free, where commercial web sites will charge a fee.

This is only a taste of what benefits await members trying to further their education. For more information, contact the education center at 434-2562.

## Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Facts

The Battle of Bataan ended April 9, 1942, when U.S. Gen. Edward King surrendered to Japanese Gen. Masaharu Homma. Seventy-five thousand soldiers became prisoners of war: 12,000 Americans and 63,000 Filipinos. What followed was one of the worst atrocities in modern wartime history, the Bataan Death March. The Japanese rounded up the soldiers and began marching them north toward Camp O'Donnell, 65 miles away. The men were given little food or water for the entire length of the Bataan Death March. The Japanese guards killed between 7,000 - 10,000 men during the death march.

[army.mil/asianpacificamericans/history](http://army.mil/asianpacificamericans/history)

Born in Hawaii, Ellison Onizuka entered active duty with the U.S. Air Force in January, 1970. He was an aerospace flight test engineer before becoming a mission specialist on the Discovery and Challenger Space Shuttles. Aboard the Discovery, Onizuka and the crew

completed 48 orbits of the Earth. Onizuka died on Jan. 28, 1986, when the Challenger exploded. Sunnyvale Air Force Station was renamed to Onizuka Air Force Station on Jan. 26, 1994. The base was active from 1960-2010.

[jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/onizuka.html](http://jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/onizuka.html)

Elaine Chao is the first Asian Pacific American woman appointed to a President's cabinet in U.S. history. Her experiences and skills as an executive leader in private, public, and nonprofit sectors uniquely qualify her to lead the U.S. Department of Labor. Her experience comes from her time in roles such as a Distinguished Fellow at the Heritage Foundation, a public policy research and educational institute, as President and Chief Executive officer of United Way of America, and as Director of the Peace Corps, the world's largest international volunteer organization.

[dol.gov/general/aboutdol/history/chao](http://dol.gov/general/aboutdol/history/chao)

## Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website, with exception of Air Force publications, through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at 434-7068.

## 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.)*

### LinkedIn Workshop

The LinkedIn workshop is 2 - 5 p.m. May 23-24. You can learn how to establish and use a LinkedIn account. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

### Smooth Move

The Smooth Move class 10 - 11:30 a.m. May 24 provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. Learn what to expect from TMO, housing, military pay, legal, billeting, Tri-Care, medical records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. May 31 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 434-2790.

### Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop is 1-2 p.m. May 31 and allows 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 for more information please call 434-2839/2790.

### Pre-separation Counseling

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

### Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

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

### Survivor-Benefit Plan

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

## Team BLAZE holds Holocaust Memorial Museum



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

**Stephanie Reynard and Carmina Beedle, Holocaust Memorial volunteers, hand information to Staff Sgt. Maria Schinella, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, and other attendees during the museum event May 5 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Attendees were shown the history of events while touring around the Columbus Club and were even treated to an educational video projected in the event room.**

### 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.

covery. 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](mailto:tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil).

### Personal Financial Readiness

Make the most of your money. Contact Ms. Delores Sherman, Personal Financial Counselor, for an appointment at 426-2527, 434-2790, or by email at [ColumbusAFB-PFC@MFLC.Zeiders.com](mailto: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.

### Learn How to Read Your LES

Having a hard time understanding your Leave and Earning Statement? Need a refresher so that you can mentor your subordinates on their entitlements? Finance has you covered. If you would like for Finance to come to your next CC call or Professional Organization event, you can contact Master Sgt. Sabrina Spriggs at DSN 742-3068 or Senior Airman Julianna White at DSN 742-2715.

### DRMO

Recycle first by using the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office as your facility's source of supply. Authorized personnel may retrieve property free of charge if the property is

still physically located here in Base Supply and marked at DRMO facilities. Other DRMO processing is available via the web at [www.drmo.dla.mil](http://www.drmo.dla.mil). Cost of shipping will apply. Please call Inspection at 434-7231 to review DRMO property or Stock Control at 434-7197 with questions or concerns you may have. Parking and assistance is available in the back of building 158.

### Last Look Area

Recycling is what the Last Look Area provides! Slightly used furniture and equipment is available to all Columbus Air Force Base facilities for free. Pick-up and delivery is the customer's responsibility. There is a three-day maximum for customers who wish to reserve items. Facility hours are from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Need more information? Contact Inspections at 434-7231 or 434-7332. Parking is available at the back of building 158.

### Zero Overpricing Program

Interested in saving the Air Force money and making a little yourself? As part of the Air Force Innovative Development Employee Awareness Program there are award incentives for price challenges that result in tangible savings. In accordance with AFI 38-401, responsible personnel will receive a monetary award. Personnel are encouraged to participate on any overpricing issues daily. Please call Customer Support at 434-7178 for any advice or guidance.

## 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

### 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



# What are the keys to a successful career in the Air Force?

**Lt. Col. Antonio Salazar**  
14th Logistics Readiness  
Squadron Commander

There are many different paths to choose from, opportunities to take and obstacles to overcome. From personal experience, I have read and heard many discussions on what it takes to have a successful career in the military. I would like to present a few thoughts I developed over time from my perspective during twenty plus years as a U.S. Armed Forces service member.



I was lucky enough to have enlisted in the Air Force right after high school in 1989. The leadership opportunities I was given as an Airman and NCO gave me the confidence to complete a Bachelor's degree and earn a commission through Officer Training School in 2000. These are just a few ideas I would like to share that helped me along the way.

Take pride in having the opportunity to serve in the United States military. Most Americans will never know the feeling of being part of an organization with a vital responsibility. Always be mindful of how you play a critical role in supporting and defending the United States.

Never stop learning. The easiest way to have a stagnant career is to let yourself become comfortable and stop challenging yourself. It is essential to master your duties and responsibilities.

It is also important to learn about your supervisor's duties as well as what their bosses do for the unit. This allows you to understand the goals and priorities of your organization as well as the role it plays in supporting the bigger mission.

Of course, taking college courses and professional military education is a necessity. Having a good understanding of your leadership's responsibilities helps support them while performing your duties.

Don't wait for opportunities to be given to you, make your own. Find a mentor and don't be afraid

to ask for advice. Your supervisors will be more than willing to help you advance if you show interest and determination.

Be respectful to others. Early in our lives, we learned the importance of treating others with courtesy and respect. Unfortunately, many forgot these lessons or worse, never learned them.

Everyone deserves to be treated with respect, especially our junior ranking military members and government civilians. Many problems can be avoided if we treat each other with respect at all times. Treating someone with disrespect leads to an escalation of a bad situation and it will undermine unit cohesion over time.

Be likeable and valuable. This goes along with treating everyone with respect. It is important to maintain a good working relationship, considering most of our day is spent with coworkers.

Being a team member means striving to get along in the workplace and becoming a dependable member of the organization. Your colleagues will appreciate it and your supervisors will notice and reward your positive attitude. In time, this will provide you opportunities to excel.

Protect your career by not associating with people who could harm it. I lived in the dorms my first five years in the Air Force, at three different overseas assignments. During this time, I had a number of roommates that made bad decisions which violated the Air Force's core values.

Although they repeatedly stated how much they love being in the Air Force, their actions demonstrated otherwise. It is easy to make bad choices when peer pressure is involved, so try to remove yourself from these situations. Over time, this will influence your career one way or another.

Always remember, this is not just a job, but a way of life. America and the entire world expect the very best from members of the U.S. Armed Forces. While it is not always possible to live up to all of these demands, we must try to do our own personal best.

Although the day to day grind can be disheartening at times, keep in mind we are all working toward a greater goal. Advance your career by furthering your education and making good choices in your personal life. Be proactive in everything you do. Take pride of your role in the military and the world.

## MyMC2 app

Welcome to the My Military Communities information page. MyMC2 is the mobile application that centralizes all of your installation's community events, organizations and services right in your pocket.



### How do I get MyMC2 for my phone?

You can access this app by navigating to the native app store or market on your device and search for "MyMC2", or you can scan this QR code and it will take you directly to the download page in your phone.



iPhone  
QR code

Android  
QR code

If you have any questions or need support please visit [www.facebook.com/mymc2support](http://www.facebook.com/mymc2support).

# BLAZE Hangar Tails: A-10 Thunderbolt II

## Mission

The A-10 Thunderbolt II has excellent maneuverability at low air speeds and altitude, and is a highly accurate and survivable weapons-delivery platform. The aircraft can loiter near battle areas for extended periods of time and operate in low ceiling and visibility conditions. The wide combat radius and short takeoff and landing capability permit operations in and out of locations near front lines. Using night vision goggles, A-10 pilots can conduct their missions during darkness.

## Features

Thunderbolt IIs have Night Vision Imaging Systems, or NVIS, goggle compatible single-seat cockpits forward of their wings and a large bubble canopy which provides pilots all-around vision. The pilots are protected by titanium armor that also protects parts of the flight-control system. The redundant primary structural sections allow the aircraft to enjoy better survivability during close air support than did previous aircraft. The aircraft can survive direct hits from armor-piercing and high explosive projectiles up to 23mm. Their self-sealing fuel cells are protected by internal and external foam. Manual systems back up their redundant hydraulic flight-control systems. This permits pilots to fly and land when hydraulic power is lost.

## Background

The A-10 has received many upgrades over the years. In 1978, the aircraft received the Pave Penny laser receiver pod, which sensed reflected laser radiation from a laser designator. Pave Penney has now been discontinued in favor more capable advanced targeting pods. The A-10 began receiving an inertial navigation system in 1980. Later, the Low-Altitude Safety and Targeting Enhancement upgrade provided computerized weapon-aiming equipment, an autopilot, and a ground-collision warning system. In 1999, aircraft began to receive Global Positioning System navigation systems and a new multi-function display. In 2005, the entire A-10 fleet began receiving the Precision Engagement upgrades that include an improved fire control system, electronic countermeasures, upgraded cockpit displays, the ability to deliver smart bombs, moving map display, hands on throttle

and stick, digital stores management, LITENING and Sniper advanced targeting pod integration, situational awareness data link or SADL, variable message format, or VME, GPS-guided weapons, and upgraded DC power. The entire A-10 fleet has been Precision Engagement modified and now carries the A-10C designation.

## General Characteristics

**Primary Function:** Close air support, Airborne Forward Air Control, Combat Search and Rescue

**Contractor:** Fairchild Republic Co.

**Power Plant:** Two General Electric TF34-GE-100 turbofans

**Thrust:** 9,065 pounds each engine

**Wingspan:** 57 feet, 6 inches (17.42 meters)

**Length:** 53 feet, 4 inches (16.16 meters)

**Height:** 14 feet, 8 inches (4.42 meters)

**Weight:** 29,000 pounds (13,154 kilograms)

**Maximum Takeoff Weight:** 51,000 pounds (22,950 kilograms)

**Fuel Capacity:** 11,000 pounds (7,257 kilograms)

**Payload:** 16,000 pounds (7,257 kilograms)

**Speed:** 450 nautical miles per hour (Mach 0.75)

**Range:** 2580 miles (2240 nautical miles)

**Ceiling:** 45,000 feet (13,636 meters)

**Armament:** One 30 mm GAU-8/A seven-barrel Gatling gun; up to 16,000 pounds (7,200 kilograms) of mixed ordnance on eight under-wing and three under-fuselage pylon stations, including 500 pound (225 kilograms) Mk-82 and 2,000 pounds (900 kilograms) Mk-84 series low/high drag bombs, incendiary cluster bombs, combined effects munitions, mine dispensing munitions, AGM-65 Maverick missiles and laser-guided/electro-optically guided bombs; infrared countermeasure flares; electronic countermeasure chaff; jammer pods; 2.75-inch (6.99 centimeters) rockets; illumination flares and AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles.

**Crew:** One

**Unit Cost:** \$18.8 million

**Initial operating capability:** A-10A, 1977; A-10C, 2007

**Inventory:** Active force, 187; Reserve, 49; ANG, 107



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Melanie Norman

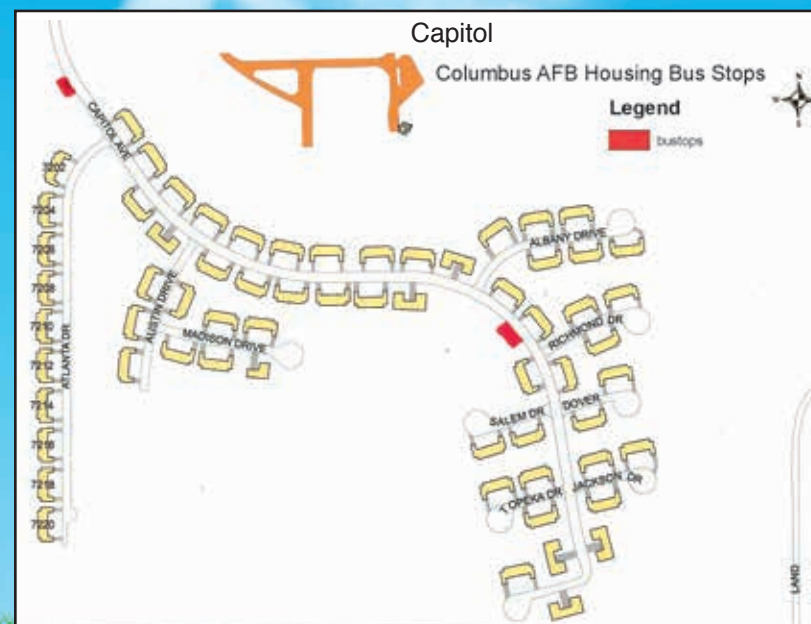
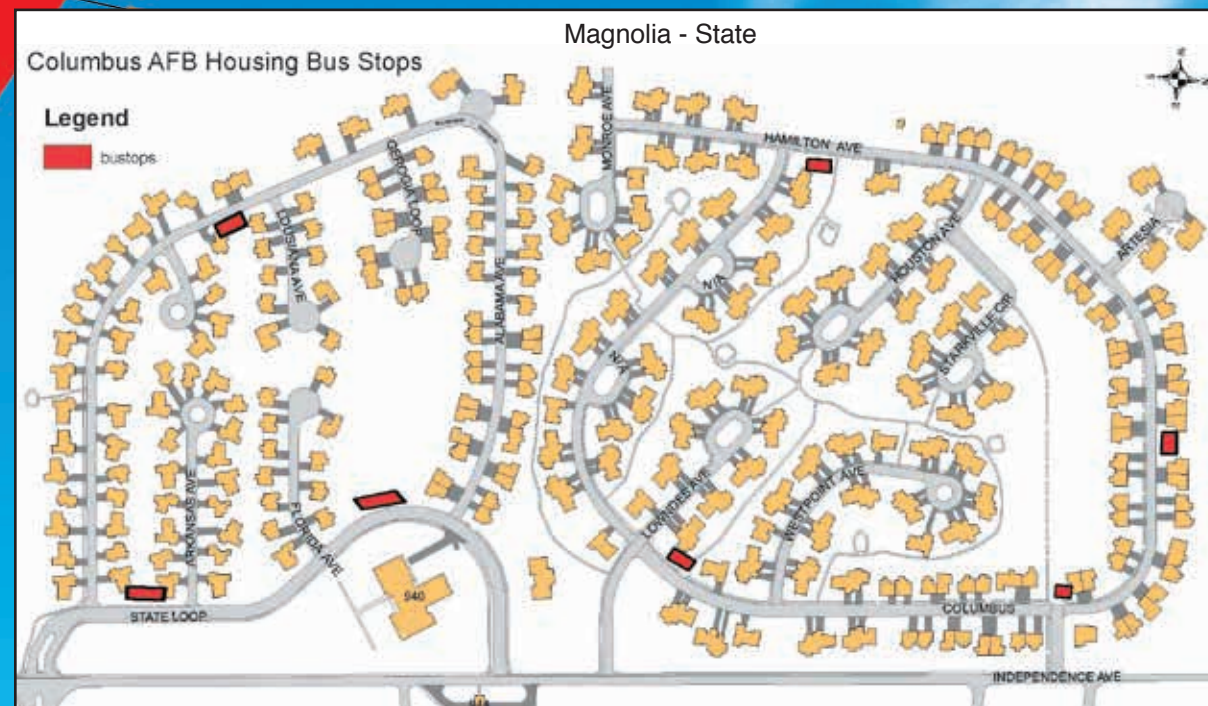
**Col. Jon Mott breaks the record for the most documented hours in an A-10 Thunderbolt II during a refueling mission March 30, 2007. Colonel Mott, with the Massachusetts Air National Guard's 104 Fighter Wing, has flown more than 4,570 hours in the A-10.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Greg L. Davis

**The A-10 Thunderbolt II is the first Air Force aircraft specially designed for close air support of ground forces. They are simple, effective and survivable twin-engine jet aircraft that can be used against all ground targets, including tanks and other armored vehicles.**





## Bus Stops

Shuttles will run from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. every 30 minutes. A shuttle is also available in the 14th Operations Group parking lot.

## Food and refreshments:

Burgers and hot dogs  
French fries  
Chicken fingers  
Funnel cakes  
Fried cookies  
Cotton candy  
Popsicles  
Soda and beer

Note: Activities and food are subject to change.

## South Gate Open

The South (hospital) Gate will be open from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. for BLAZE Fest!

# BLAZE FEST 2016

## Activities Scheduled:

Helicopter landing and static display  
Military working dog display  
Fire department displays  
Petting zoo  
Pony rides  
Water slide inflatables  
Non-water slide inflatable  
Fair type children swings  
Fair type pirate boat  
Carnival type games  
Family involved races  
AAFES gift card prizes  
Four live bands (Country and Rock)  
Arts and crafts booths



## Musical Bands:

Caledonia Marching Band - 11:15 a.m.  
Caledonia Show Choir – 12:30 p.m.  
Elana Gilbert (Solo Act) - 1 p.m.  
Caledonia Jazz Band - 1:45 p.m.  
Country Jack and  
the Silver Eagle Band - 2:30 p.m.  
Polynesian Dances - 3:30 p.m.  
Seeking 7 Band - 4:30 p.m.

## Races and Events:

Medi-Evac Helicopter Landing - 11 a.m.  
Opening Comments by Col. Nichols.  
Egg Spoon Race w/ AAFES Gift Card - 11:15 a.m.  
Fire Demos - 11:45 a.m.  
Military Working Dog Event - Noon  
3-Legged Race w/AAFES Gift Card - Noon  
Egg Toss w/AAFES Gift Card - 1 p.m.  
Water Balloon Toss w/AAFES Gift Card - 1:30 p.m.  
Sack Race w/AAFES Gift Card - 3:15 p.m.  
Corn Hole w/AAFES Gift Card - 4:15 p.m.