





Weather

Friday  Over Night Thunderstorms High 86°F Low 69°F	Saturday  Early Morning Thunderstorms High 86°F Low 69°F
Sunday  Partly Cloudy High 88°F Low 67°F	Monday  Partly Cloudy High 85°F Low 66°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. May 31 at the Columbus Club for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Enlisted Promotion Ceremony

The next Columbus Air Force Base Enlisted Promotions ceremony is 3 p.m. May 31 at the Columbus Club.

AF Birthday Ball Dodgeball Tournament

A Dodgeball Tournament is scheduled for 5 p.m. June 3 at the Fitness Center. Proceeds from the event will help fund the 2016 Columbus Air Force Birthday Ball.

Inside



Feature 8

Changes to the on-base smoking policy. See inside for details.

Romanian Air Chief tours the base



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

Maj. Gen. Laurian Anastasof, Chief of the Air Staff Romanian air force, stands with Maj. Gabriel Andrusac and Capt. Ramon Balan, Romanian Pilots, after a Course Completion Ceremony in Faulkner Auditorium during his visit May 25 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Romanian MiG-21 pilots completed the T-38C training course to prepare them for Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals. IFF is the next flying training course they will be taking as the Romanian AF prepares to begin flying the F-16 Falcon.

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 (17-04)	4.43 days	2.31 days	June 30	48th (16-10)	0.61 days	1.45 days	June 10	49th (16-HBC)	1.62 days	0.18 days	June 1	T-6	2,313	2,482	20,064
41st (17-03)	2.28 days	2.92 days	June 8	50th (16-10)	-1.47 days	-0.08 days	June 10					T-1	782	764	6,638
												T-38	801	830	6,629
												IFF	325	318	2,717

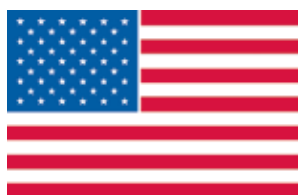
The graduation speaker is Brig. Gen. Patrick Mordente, 18th Air Force Vice Commander.



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 49 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.



Memorial Day Holiday hours

Airman & Family Readiness Center	Closed May 27 - 30
Arts & Crafts	Closed May 27 - 30
Back Gate	Closed May 27 - 30
Bowling Center	Open May 27, noon – 8 p.m., Closed May 30
Child Development Center	Closed May 27 - 30
Columbus Club	Closed May 30
Commissary	Closed May 30 - 31
Exchange	Open May 30, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Fitness Center	Open 24/7 (register at front desk)
Golf Course	Open May 27 and 30, 8 a.m. – dusk
Medical Group	Closed May 27 - 30
Military Personnel and Finance	Closed May 27 - 30
Multimedia	Closed May 27 - 30
Outdoor Recreation	Closed May 30
Shoppette	Open May 30, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Visitor's Center	Closed May 27 - 30
Youth Center	Closed May 27 - 30

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

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
30 Memorial Day	31 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club Enlisted Promotions, 3 p.m. @ Club	1 EMCC President visit	2 Heroes at Home brief, 8 a.m. @ Kaye	3 LGBT 5K Fun Run, 7 a.m. @ Fitness Center Air Force Birthday Ball Dodgeball tournament, 5:30 p.m. @ Fitness Center	4/5	June 16: 14th MSG Change of Command June 20-22: Vacation Bible School June 21: Wing Commander all call June 21: Wing Newcomers Orientation June 25: Color Run June 28: 14th CES Change of Command June 30: Enlisted Promotions July 1: 14th MDSS Change of Command July 1: Fireworks on the Water July 4: Independence Day July 7: 81st FTS Change of Command July 8: SUPT Class 16-11 graduation July 14: 14th CS Change of Command July 15: 14th OG Change of Command
6	7 Air Force Officer Qualification Test	8	9 41st FTS Change of Command, 9:41 a.m. @ Fire Station USAFA Parents Hail & Farewell, 5:30 p.m. @ Club	10 SUPT Class 16-10 graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	11/12	

AETC commander commissions ROTC cadets at country's largest senior military college

Capt. Jose R. Davis
Air Education and Training
Command Public Affairs

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, commander for Air Education and Training Command, visited Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, May 13 to speak at the Detachment 805's commissioning ceremony.

The general also had the opportunity to commission the 32 new Air Force second lieutenants.

Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets commissions more military officers through ROTC than any other institution in the country, other than the service academies.

"We're going to ask you to learn and fly airplanes and do some specific things, but the biggest thing we need from you is your leadership," Roberson said. "We are the smallest

Air Force our nation has ever had, right now. So, every single one of you is going to a position that is critical for our Air Force."

Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets is the largest of six senior military colleges in the United States. More than 14,000 Texas A&M Aggies served in World War II, more than the combined total of the United States service academies at that time.

"It was a lot of hard work," said 2nd Lt. Daniel Bosworth, who was selected for remotely piloted aircraft training. "All of us are really proud to not only graduate from this great university, but to be a member of the world's greatest Air Force."

Roberson also attended the university's graduation commissioning ceremony, congratulating all the newly commissioned Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy officers from across all of Texas A&M's ROTC programs.



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Jose R. Davis
Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, commander for Air Education and Training Command, visited Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, May 13 to speak at the Detachment 805's commissioning ceremony. The general also had the opportunity to commission the 32 new Air Force second lieutenants. Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets commissions more military officers through ROTC than any other institution in the country, other than the service academies.

RANGER

(Continued from page 13)

was mental, caused by sleep deprivation and constant hunger.

"I thought the physical piece would be the toughest, but it was more of a mental hurdle for me. The long walks, especially at nighttime, were really challenging," Speck said. "We only slept 15 to 30 minutes a night and we were starving because we were burning way more calories than we were consuming, and then having to walk 7 or 12 kilometers a night in the steep mountains of Dahlenega, Georgia, and the swamps of Florida, carrying 60 to 90 pound ruck strapped to our backs was really mentally challenging. Being tired and hungry, there were times where I really had to go to my happy place. I had to think there was an end to everything, and the only thing the RIs (Ranger instructors) couldn't stop was time."

According to Speck, the Ranger School gives participants a complete sensory overload and can really overpower them.

"If you let it, the whole course can overwhelm you. I had to approach the course one event at a time. Whether it was the Darby Obstacle Course to the land navigation course, 5-mile run or the 12-mile ruck, (my mindset was) survive today and make tomorrow," the chief said. "I had doubts everyday whether I would make it through. I had a saying, 'I'll quit tomorrow.' Everybody who goes through that course second-guesses themselves. I'm an older guy

and I was praying every day that my body would hold up."

The Ranger School is designed as a team concept where no one individual can make it through the course alone.

"They have a saying, 'You don't earn your Ranger tab; your buddies earn your Ranger tab.' That is a 100 percent truth. It's a team event. Everybody has a role, and if one person fails in their role, then the team fails," Speck said.

Speck said the most valuable lesson he learned from Ranger School was to re-examine the leader and follower roles.

"As an E-9 with 21 years of service, the leadership piece came naturally for me, but my biggest takeaway was how to be a better follower," Speck said. "As we all know, it's just as important to be a good follower as it is to be a good leader, and sometimes as senior enlisted leaders, we forget that."

Being a chief, and now wearing the Ranger tab, Speck said he wants others to learn from his experience.

"I don't want to just wear the Ranger tab, I want to give back," Speck said. "Since my return, I've had numerous Airmen, including joint service members, reach out to me to gain more insight on my experiences in the hopes of one day earning their own Ranger tab. It is my goal for those who really want it, to make their dream a reality, just like my leadership did for me."

NEWS AROUND TOWN

May 26

Columbus United Tryouts & Player Interest Sessions for the Columbus United Soccer Club. Players born between 1998 and 2004 have sessions at 6:30 p.m. A makeup session is available 2:30 p.m. June 12 for all age groups and genders. All players regardless of experience are welcome. There will be no charge by United for the sessions. For more information about locations and requirements, contact the CLRA office at 327-4935.

May 28

The fourth annual Veterans Memorial Walk/Run will be held at 8 a.m. Attendees need to arrive by 7 a.m. for registration. Celebrate heroes with activities, music, food, and fellowship. Preregistration is \$25 by noon May 20, and includes a T-shirt. On-site registration is \$25 (does not include T-shirt). All participants will receive a medal. Email

grandholmes@yahoo.com or call 662-889-0180 for more information.

June 4

The Island Paddle Fest featuring canoe, kayak and paddleboard races starts 9 a.m. June 4. The five and a half mile race course begins and ends at the Riverwalk in Downtown Columbus. Registration fee is \$40 and includes a T-shirt. Participants must bring own canoe, kayak or paddleboard; life vests required; must be 13 or older to enter. All proceeds benefit Lowndes County Imagination Library. Register online at islandpaddlefest.org.

June 9

Sounds of Summer concerts begin and continue every other Thursday during June and July from 7-9 p.m. at the Columbus Riverwalk. For more information, go online to visitcolumbus.org.

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Perraut gives five key pieces of advice to new pilots, officers

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Richard Perraut Jr., U.S. Air Force retired, was the guest speaker for the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-09 graduation ceremony here May 20.

Before highlighting in depth five pieces of advice every officer and pilot should be using, he reminisced about his career as a pilot.

"I remember when I graduated pilot training," Perraut said, "...in Class 78-06. And although it seems like just yesterday, I sometimes wonder."

Afterward he turned his attention to the graduating class.

"Air Force pilot,' sounds good doesn't it? Does it feel good? Does it feel like you've accomplished something significant," Perraut said. "Well you have, you have completed a premier pilot training course, a course that several international air chiefs even seek to send their pilots to ... because of its reputation of excellence."

Perraut gave the audience some Air Force history and spoke of the importance of perspective before delving into the five things he felt helped him grow from a second lieutenant to a major general.

1. Attitude is Important

"Put yourself in the role of a command and ask yourself who you would want working for you," Perraut said. "Your attitude is your choice. Your attitude determines how you will react to a situation with conditions around you. Most importantly, your attitude is a reflection of you."

In the Vietnam War, a common theme among Prisoners of War when many were saved was how their good attitudes kept them going day after day, month after month, year



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Maj. Gen. Richard Perraut Jr., U.S. Air Force retired, speaks at the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-09 graduation ceremony May 20 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Perraut spoke of five key advice pilots and officers should utilize through their career.

after year despite being tortured and far from home, Perraut explained. Your attitude is a direct reflection of you and Airmen will mirror the one you display.

2. Bloom where planted

"Focus on learning your job, your role as a pilot, your weapons systems, and your organization," Perraut said. "Become an expert in your field. Become the person everyone seeks out for advice. Become the one everyone seeks out when they need someone they can depend on."

Perraut mentioned the best way to achieve this is to seek out others with experience and learn from them. Making mistakes is a given just learn from them. And don't forget education is important for overall development.

He then told a summarized story of Pardo's Push stating it was their expertise that saved their lives.

3. Develop your leadership skills

"Most company grade officers think their leadership can only be developed in the unit's organizational construct or in other words, being a commander," Perraut stated. "Leadership opportunities are found where you least expect them. Volunteer to be a project officer. Get involved ... there are a thousand things you can do to help you grow and learn about our great Air Force."

He also talked about learning from leadership past and present. He used the opportunity to speak about President Abraham Lincoln and Gen. Colin Powell and how their leader-

ship affected him.

4. Treat others like you want to be treated

"Officers, enlisted, civilians, and contractors; we are all people, we all have wants, concerns, desires, needs, problems and goals," Perraut said. "Never ask anyone to do something you're not willing to do yourself. Treat everyone fairly, and with respect and dignity because you never know who that person is."

As an example, Perraut spoke of an instance when a dorm janitor one of his Airmen knew turned out to have a medal of honor.

5. Find a Senior NCO to learn about the Enlisted Corps

"When I was a cadet, I was given the same kind of advice," Perraut said. "Confide in them that you don't know everything there is about the enlisted corps. Ask if they wouldn't mind answering your questions and helping you to understand."

Perraut mentioned he remembers all the great senior NCOs that helped him along his way and even listed many by name.

"I could sit here all day and talk about leadership, teamwork, vision, and give you some war stories," Perraut said, "but I'm the only thing here standing between you and those well-deserved silver wings."

He then summarized his advice.

"In about 25 years, I hope some of you will be at this podium wearing stars and sharing your advice and insights to the future young officers who are not even born yet," Perraut said. "I'm excited for each of you and glad to have you on our Air Force and Joint Forces team. I look forward to you defending our great nation and leading our service. And as the saying goes, 'I will sleep well tonight knowing our Air Force is alert.'"

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.

Team BLAZE congratulates MSgt selects

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Seventeen 14th Flying Training Wing Airmen were selected for promotion to master sergeant May 25. The master sergeant selects are:


Sylvia Allen, 14th Operations Support Squadron
Dustin Ashmore, 14th OSS
Mickey Barton, 81st Fighter Squadron
William Calban, 81st FS
Joshua Casey, 332nd Recruiting Squadron
Gregory Gilbert, 14th OSS
Benjamin Hoffman, 14th Medical Operations Squadron
Jimmy Kitchens, 14th Flying Training Wing Staff Agencies
Danielle Lachney, 14th WSA
Jeremy Longo, 332nd RCS
Jeffrey Marino, 81st FS
Shawn Osner, 81st FS
Nicole Scharff, 14th OSS
Eric Severs, 14th Medical Support Squadron
Victoria Thornton, 14th Force Support Squadron
Jordan Watts, 332nd RCS
Christopher Williams, 14th WSA

Air Force Birthday Ball Dodgeball Tournament is June 3

Air Force Ball Committee

A Dodgeball Tournament to help fund the 2016 Air Force Birthday Ball is scheduled for 5 p.m. June 3 at the Fitness Center and tennis courts. Teams can be started from groups and squadrons to compete with others from across the base. Entry fee is \$125 per team. Team uniforms and theme songs are also required. Teams will compete for prizes and bragging rights. For more information, contact your squadron POC or email CAFBDodgeball@gmail.com.

Columbus Air Force Base Blood Drive



MISSISSIPPI BLOOD SERVICES

Friday, June 3 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. MBS Donor Coach @ Chapel Annex

Donors will receive a T-shirt. Please bring ID.

MBS suggests that all donors eat at least four hours within giving blood and drink plenty of fluids prior to and after making a donation.

(888) 90-BLOOD / msblood.com
Donors can now check their overall cholesterol on their MBSConnect Account. Also follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/give2live

Now you can download the free MBS App!

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.

AF NEWS

Flight plan outlines next 20 years for RPA

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force leaders outlined what the next 20 years will look like for remotely piloted aircraft in the Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Flight Plan published April 30.

“The Small UAS Flight Plan outlines a vision and strategy for the continued development, operation and sustainment of SUAS over the next 20 years,” said Lt. Gen. Robert Otto, the deputy chief of staff for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. “Integrating SUAS into the Air Force’s ISR portfolio enables a more agile force that will help meet future warfighter demands in both permissive and highly contested environments.”

The flight plan presents an aggressive but realistic vision on how the Air Force must take significant steps, not only in system acquisition, but also in adaptive warfighting concepts, to integrate and institutionalize an Airmen-centric family of SUAS as exponential force multipliers across all domains. The SUAS concept supports the Defense Department and Air Force’s Better Buying initiatives: reversing the cost curve by looking at lower-cost alternatives, enabling operational agility against a diverse set of adversaries and operational environments.

“RPAs have been foundational to the growth of the Air Force’s globally integrated

ISR enterprise, but as new sensors and payloads are integrated, system costs continue to rise beyond sustainability,” said Col. Brandon Baker, the director of ISR capabilities. “SUAS offer a way to provide more capability and capacity to the warfighter at equal or lower operational cost.”

The plan also gives industry partners an outlook on the capabilities the Air Force wants to have in the future, ranging from creation of new RPAs to possibilities of automated systems. Teaming with industry will enable the rapid advancement of equivalent RPA capabilities in a compact, cost benefiting and operationally successful family of SUAS focused on Air Force roles and mission.

“There is so much more that can be done with SUAS,” Baker said. “SUAS will enable new operational concepts like teaming, swarming and loyal wingman, which allow for a single operator to control large numbers of platforms.”

Additionally, with infinitely new sensors and payloads available across the globe, the incorporation of automation and novel analytical approaches will be required to efficiently and effectively manage the Air Force’s processing, exploitation and dissemination to alleviate potentially overwhelming manpower requirements.

Looking beyond the next decade, SUAS and RPA capabilities will have the potential to meet many surveillance and C4ISR roles for the Air Force. The future of the Air Force’s RPA programs will be continuously evolving to allow the Air Force to be the leader in air, space and cyberspace.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Anthony Nelson Jr.

Lt. Gen. Robert Otto, the deputy chief of staff for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, talks to media during the release of the Small Unmanned Aircraft System Flight Plan at the Pentagon Conference Center May 17, 2016, in Washington, D.C. This plan outlines the vision and strategy for continued development, operation and sustainment of SUAS to increase joint force capability from the tactical to the strategic level for the next 20 years.

Chief becomes first AF E-9 to graduate Ranger School

Michael Bottoms
U.S. Special Operations Command

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — For more than two months, Ranger students train to exhaustion. They push the limits of their bodies, minds and souls, and on average, one in three candidates makes it through the grueling course. The average U.S. Army Ranger School student is in the rank of E-4 through E-6 on the enlisted side and O-1 through O-3 for the officers. Most are between 19 and 27 years old, and only about 21 Airmen graduate each year.


Then there are candidates like 39-year-old Chief Master Sgt. William Speck, who in April, became the first Air Force chief master sergeant to graduate from Ranger School.

“I always had aspirations of attending Ranger School, back when I was a much younger security forces member in the mid-90s,” Speck said. “However, the opportunity never presented itself, that is, until about six months ago when I got the go-ahead to attend. At the age of 39, the desire was still strong, but at this stage of my career it wasn’t just for the thrill-seeking part that comes with the training, it was more to gain a better understanding of the Ranger mission set.”

The Dayton, Texas, native is currently serving as the U.S. Special Operations Command’s J6 operations superintendent where he supports the Rangers on a daily basis with their communications requirements.

“I had the privilege prior to Ranger School to fill in as the deployed regimental J6 sergeant major, where I learned and experienced a great deal, to include picking up on some of the communication challenges the Rangers are faced with on the tactical edge,” Speck said. “Although the deployment was a success, I felt it was important in my position to gain a better understanding of the dynamics and experience firsthand what it’s like to be a Ranger, so I jumped on the opportunity to go to Ranger School and make my lifelong dream a reality.”

Speck started Ranger School weighing 194 pounds; by graduation, he weighed 155. Out of 360 students, he was one of only 90 who graduated. The weight loss resulted from the daunting physical aspects of the course, but the real challenge



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Angelita Lawrence

Chief Master Sgt. William Speck graduated U.S. Army Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia, April 22, 2016. Speck is the first Air Force chief master sergeant to graduate from the Army’s premier leadership course.

See RANGER, Page 14

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbliving, MyAirForceLife App on any smart phone or visit our website at columbusafbliving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact 434-2337.

Youth Bowling League

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

Pearl River Resort Casino Trip

Outdoor Recreation is offering a monthly casino trip to Pearl River Resort. Upcoming dates are 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 is 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. Cost is \$35 for club members; \$45 non-members. Preschool and beginner/intermediate sessions for ages 4 – 12 are 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 at 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 at 7 a.m. June 3. 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 Reading Program

Kick off the summer with the Base Library's Summer Reading Program. Opening ceremony is 11:30 a.m. June 7 at the Base Library. Win prizes and enjoy weekly activities. Closing ceremony is 1 p.m. July 28. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Summer Sports Camps

The Youth Center is offering a Tennis Camp and Sideline Sports Camp June 6 – 10. The cost is \$10 per person per camp.

Swim Lessons

Independence Pool

Classes start May 31

Mom and Tadpoles Sessions
Ages 3 and under
May 31 - June 3 & July 5 - 8
Cost: Club Member \$35
Non-Member \$45



Preschool and Beginner/Intermediate Sessions
Ages 4 - 12 years
June 6 - 17 and June 13 - 24
Cost: Club Member \$50
Non-Member \$60



Call Outdoor Recreation at 434-2505.

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.

LPGA Expo

The Golf Course is offering a LPGA Expo with LPGA Pro Mindy Moore June 10 – 12. Events include: June 10 – Junior Clinic, 9 a.m., Lunch and Golf Course Etiquette, 11:30 a.m., Showtime at the Range, 1 p.m.; June 11 – Breakfast with Q&A, 7:30 a.m., Beat the Pro closest to the hole and win a \$20 gift certificate, 9 a.m., Lunch N' Learn, 11:30 a.m., Showtime at the Range, 1 p.m., Play nine holes, 3 p.m.; June 12 – Putting Clinic, 10:30 a.m., Full Swing Clinic, noon, Burger Burn, 1:30 p.m., nine-hole scramble, 3 p.m. For more information, contact 434-7932.

Missoula Children's Theater Presents Pinocchio

The Youth Center is offering Missoula Children's Theater June 13 – 18. First meeting for all participants will be held at 10 a.m. June 13 at the Youth Center. For all youth in grades 1 – 12. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Free Breakfast for Club Members

The Columbus Club is offering free breakfast for club members from 6:30 – 8 a.m. June 6. 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.

Slip 'N Slide Kickball

Outdoor Recreation is offering Slip 'N Slide Kickball 4 p.m. June 25 at the enlisted dorms field. This event is for ages 18 years and up. Sign up at Outdoor Recreation by June 22. Limited to the first six teams to sign up with nine players per team. Complete game rules available at Outdoor Recreation. For more information, contact 434-2505.

5K Color Run/Walk

The Youth Center is offering their annual color run at 8 a.m. June 25. This event is open to the public. Event is free to base identification card holders; \$10 per person of the public. Check in at 7 a.m. at Lil BLAZER Park; for ages two to adult. For more information, contact 434-2504.

The Overrun Now Open Friday Nights

The Overrun is open Fridays 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.

New Library Hours of Operation

The Base Library hours of operation are Mondays – Fridays 11 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Sundays 1 – 5 p.m.; Saturdays and holidays closed. For more information, contact 434-2934.

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 11 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.

Cosmic Bowling Special

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

Lawn Mower Repair

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

Gymnastics Instructor Needed

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

Police Week ends with retreat, parade



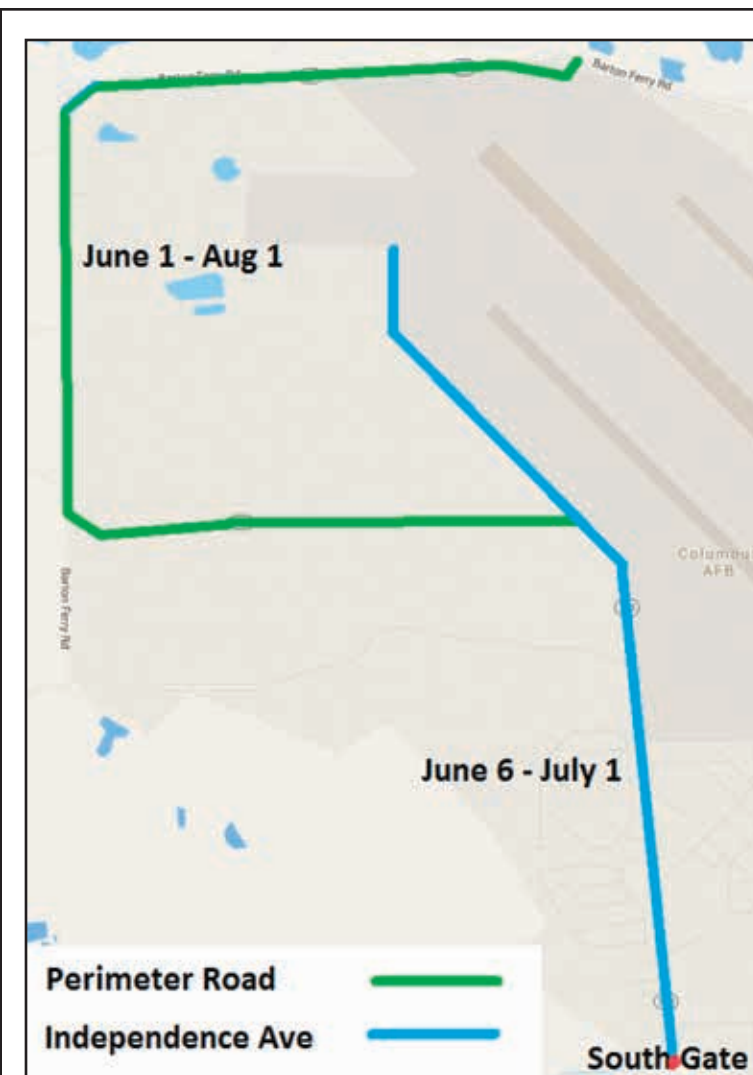
U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

14th Security Forces Squadron defenders stand in formation for a retreat ceremony in observance of the end of Police Week May 20 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The next morning the squadron concluded the event with a parade through housing on base.

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



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



Road construction starts June 1

Columbus Air Force Base is scheduled to undergo two roadway construction projects in June.

Starting June 1, perimeter road from Independence Avenue to the north gate are closed for approximately two months.

Independence Avenue construction begins June 6 for approximately three weeks. Construction will start by milling the existing surface and then placing a new asphalt surface. This will start at SAC Ramp and end at the back gate.

The contractor will implement a traffic control plan during this period. Please be alert for directions from flagmen and be mindful of the rough roads. Access will still be open to all locations on Independence Avenue during construction including munitions.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Andrew McAnally at 434-7963 or andrew.mcanally@us.af.mil.

Teamwork (still) equals success

Chief Master Sgt. Brandi Thomas
14th Medical Group Superintendent

During a recent Airman Leadership School Chief's panel, we asked the future NCO leaders of our Air Force what issues they were facing in their units at the shop level.

One Airman mentioned there seemed to be a feeling of "negative competition."

He went on to explain the Airmen he worked with were not friends nor did they help each other out in the shop like they used to. There was a general feeling Airmen were pushed to be too competitive and out for themselves and no longer concerned with the other people they worked with; others in the room nodded their heads in agreement.

This was not the first time I have heard this from our Airmen. My heart broke that day. In almost 22 years in our great Air Force, I can honestly say I haven't succeeded or accomplished any of my goals without teamwork and the support of others. This holds true in both my personal and professional life.

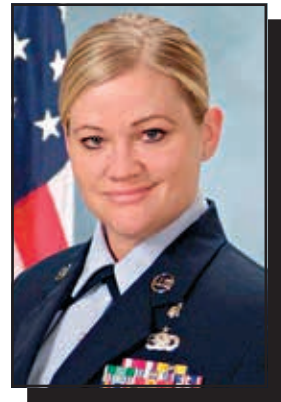
In my personal life, my family works as a team to accomplish our domestic tasks. My parents have stepped in to take care of my children when I've deployed at the same time as my spouse and gone TDY for extended training. My husband helps juggle daily parenting demands with our career schedules and is my wingman. There is absolutely no way I would be a chief today without my family and their support and teamwork.

Teamwork is even more prevalent in my work life and has been since the day I joined the Air Force.

I think back to basic training, my first test to determine if I was cut out for the unique demands a career in the Air Force places on you. I'm sure I am not unique in saying we leaned on each other to accomplish tasks such as cleaning our dorm, learning drill, studying, keeping each other awake during class, fitness and more. I know I definitely would not have completed it successfully if I hadn't learned how to function in a team.

Arriving to my unit and my first job in the Air Force, my new co-workers eagerly showed me the ropes. They corrected me when I made mistakes and patted me on the back when I did a great job. We worked tirelessly, cared about each other, and played hard together side by side as a team.

In Airman Leadership School, you rely on the assistance of your classmates to help you through. The best writers, help those who are not as good. Those who understand the material first, hold study groups to ensure others understand. The excellent speakers help those who struggle with public speaking. The goal is always to



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get everyone to graduation in six weeks. You bond quickly and function as a team.

Even today, as a Chief I am still not accomplishing anything on my own. I am proud to be the superintendent for some of the best medics I have ever had the pleasure of working with here, but we cannot provide excellent healthcare to our patients, or groom and develop each other without caring for each other and functioning as a team.

Some Airmen blame forced distribution and some of the changes to the Enlisted Evaluation System for the culture shift. However, I venture to say although there have been significant changes to the system itself, the way we evaluate and recognize performance hasn't changed.

Airmen have always been rated against peers when it comes to mission accomplishment and job performance. You have always been encouraged to embody the Whole Airman Concept. Those who found successful ways to do this and be the best at their job, have always been recognized with awards, promoted earlier and given other leadership opportunities.

However, I believe the mark of a true leader is measured by how successful their team is. A good team leaves its mark. Not only does the leader shine, but the other members of the team shine. They all know what is going on in the section, they all know where their teammate is and are loyal and support each other. Each member of that team takes ownership and pride in their team and fear doing anything subpar that would let their teammates down.

It's great if you win an award for performance, but the true leader will win awards and so will others in his or her unit. They lead the way and bring others with them.

It is and has always been ingrained in us to be good teammates. Don't let promotion desires or allocation boards change that. Stay true to your team and those things will all come. Those who have paved the way before you all have one thing in common. At every step of their career, it was always teamwork that made them and will (still) make you successful.

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.

Air Force Readiness Programs

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790.)

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief 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 from 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.

First Term Officer's PFR

The First Term Officers' Personal Financial Readiness Workshop is required by AFI for all newly assignment personnel to their first station. The event will be 9-10 a.m. June 2. For more information, call 434-2790.

Troops To Teachers

This workshop is 10:30 a.m. - noon June 8. It is an informational workshop for members pursuing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2839/2790.

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.

Community unveils new base entry sign



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and other Columbus Air Force Base Airmen stand in front of the new base sign after a Chamber of Commerce-sponsored unveiling May 24 in Columbus, Mississippi. The new sign stands on Highway 45 marking the entrance to Columbus AFB and was paid for by donations from community members to modernize the 18-year-old sign.

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 marital 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 Counselor, for an appointment at 426-2527, 434-2790. 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

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)

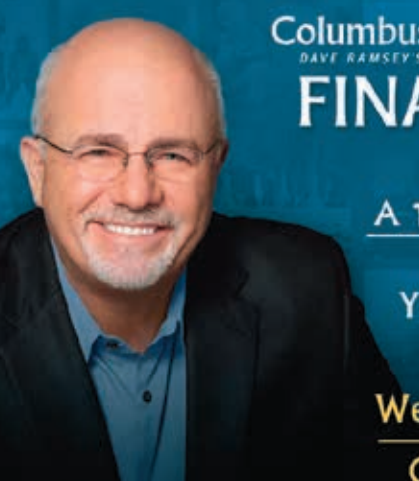
Wednesdays:

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



Columbus Air Force Base Chapel Presents

DAVE RAMSEY'S

FINANCIALPeace

UNIVERSITY

A 10-Week Religious Education Program

What does God have to say about Your Life, Your Money, Your Legacy

Wednesdays, 6-8PM Starting June 15

Call 434-2500 to Register Today!

Sponsored by the Chapel's Protestant Parish

BLAZE Hangar Tails: B-1B Lancer

Mission

Carrying the largest payload of both guided and unguided weapons in the Air Force inventory, the multi-mission B-1B Lancer is the backbone of America's long-range bomber force. It can rapidly deliver massive quantities of precision and non-precision weapons against any adversary, anywhere in the world, at any time.

Features

The B-1B's blended wing/body configuration, variable-geometry wings and turbofan afterburning engines, combine to provide long range, maneuverability and high speed while enhancing survivability. Forward wing settings are used for takeoff, landings, air refueling and in some high-altitude weapons employment scenarios. Aft wing sweep settings - the main combat configuration -- are typically used during high subsonic and supersonic flight, enhancing the B-1B's maneuverability in the low- and high-altitude regimes.

The B-1B's speed and superior handling characteristics allow it to seamlessly integrate in mixed force packages. These capabilities, when combined with its substantial payload, excellent radar targeting system, long loiter



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Richard Ebensberger/Released
A B-1B Lancer taxis down the flight line Jan. 21, 2014, at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. Carrying the largest payload of both guided and unguided weapons in the Air Force inventory, the multi-mission B-1 is the backbone of America's long-range bomber force.

time and survivability, make the B-1B a key element of any joint/composite strike force.

Background

The first production B-1 flew in October 1984, and the first B-1B was delivered to

Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, in June 1985. Initial operational capability was achieved on Oct. 1, 1986. The final B-1B was delivered May 2, 1988.

The B-1B holds almost 50 world records for speed, payload, range, and time of climb in its class. The National Aeronautic Association recognized the B-1B for completing one of the 10 most memorable record flights for 1994. The most recent records were made official in 2004.

The B-1B was first used in combat in support of operations against Iraq during Operation Desert Fox in December 1998. In 1999, six B-1s were used in Operation Allied Force, delivering more than 20 percent of the total ordnance while flying less than two percent of the combat sorties.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Long-range, multi-role, heavy bomber

Contractor: Boeing, North America (formerly Rockwell International, North American Aircraft); Offensive avionics, Boeing Military Airplane; defensive avionics, EDO Corporation

Power plant: Four General Electric F101-GE-102 turbofan engine with afterburner

Thrust: 30,000-plus pounds with afterburner, per engine

Wingspan: 137 feet (41.8 meters) extended forward, 79 feet (24.1 meters) swept aft

Length: 146 feet (44.5 meters)



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Andy Dunaway/Released
A U.S. Air Force B-1B Lancer aircraft banks away after receiving fuel from a KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft, not shown, during a mission over Afghanistan May 27, 2008. The Lancer was deployed from Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota

Height: 34 feet (10.4 meters)

Weight: approximately 190,000 pounds (86,183 kilograms)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 477,000 pounds (216,634 kilograms)

Fuel Capacity: 265,274 pounds (120,326 kilograms)

Payload: 75,000 pounds (34,019 kilograms)

Speed: 900-plus mph (Mach 1.2 at sea level)

Range: Intercontinental

Ceiling: More than 30,000 feet (9,144 meters)

Armament: 84 500-pound Mk-82 or 24 2,000-pound Mk-84 general purpose bombs; up to 84 500-pound Mk-62 or 8 2,000-pound Mk-65 Quick Strike naval mines; 30 cluster munitions (CBU-87, -89, -97) or 30 Wind-Corrected Munitions Dispensers (CBU-103, -104, -105); up to 24 2,000-pound GBU-31 or 15 500-pound GBU-38 Joint Direct Attack Munitions; up to 24 AGM-158A Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missiles; GBU-54 Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition

Crew: Four (aircraft commander, copilot, and two weapon systems officers)

Unit Cost: \$283.1 million (fiscal 98 constant dollars)

Initial operating capability: October 1986

Inventory: Active force, 66 (test, 2); ANG, 0; Reserve, 0

Reflecting on Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Staff Sgt. Tyrone Lewis

14th Operations Support Squadron

Since 1977, the month of May has been designated to recognize the achievements and contributions to the American story by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

This year's theme is "Walk together, Embrace Differences, Build Legacies." As Team Blaze celebrates Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like share my story as an Asian American airman.

I wasn't born in America. My story begins in the Philippines. There are over 7,000 islands that make up the Philippines and depending on how it's classified, has between 120 to 175 unique languages and eight major dialects with Tagalog and English as official languages.

The Philippines can be uniquely "disorienting." One minute you are watching farmers plow rice paddies with water buffalos, and the next you are in the middle of a town fiesta that could pass for Mexico. Just as America can be described as a melting pot for its ethnic diversity, the Philippines combined its blend of Austronesian, Chinese and Spanish cultures with Japanese and American influences into a rich one-of-a-kind cultural experience.

I spent my childhood at the former Clark Air Base. I could still remember watching F-4 Phantoms from the 3rd and 90th Tactical Fighter Squadrons soar the skies from our backyard. As an Asian American living overseas, my parents tried to give me the best of both worlds but when the U.S. ended their military presence in the Philippines in the early nineties, I was cut off from the American way of life and grew up Asian.

Although my father was a U.S. Navy sailor, growing up on an air base fueled my desire to join the U.S. Air Force and in 2001 I finally fulfilled my childhood dream. I left for Basic Military Training on Sept. 17, 2001. While my initial purpose for joining was the pursuit of personal gains, the events that occurred six days prior added a sense of duty into my purpose.

My first years in the Air Force were challenging. I grew up in a household that spoke four languages and because of my noticeable accent, it was difficult for me to communicate with my peers and hindered me from talking in front of an audience. One day, my co-workers started asking me about the Philippines and to my surprise, I was debunking stereotypes about my culture. Over time, I learned to appreciate the beauty of being an Asian-American; that it is a blessing to embody both worlds.

Becoming an NCO provided me the opportunity to not only lead Airmen but also face leadership challenges. While the Air Force provided me the tools I needed to lead, my Asian upbringing offered me a unique perspective when dealing with problems and difficulties. The cultural values

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Facts

Korean Americans have played a vital role in the shaping of the U.S. Senate Resolution 185 stated, "For the past century, Korean immigrants and their descendants have helped build America's prosperity, strengthened America's communities, and defended America's freedoms. Through their service in World War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam War, and other wars, Korean Americans have served our Nation with honor and courage, upholding the values that make our country strong."

cabq.gov/humanrights/public-information-and-education/diversity-booklets/asianand-pacific-island-heritage-in-new-mexico/korean-americans

"The rich heritage of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders spans the world and the depths of America's history. Generation after generation, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have forged a proud legacy that reflects the spirit of our Nation, a country that values the contributions of everyone who calls America home. During Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we honor the perseverance of those who courageously reached for their hopes and dreams in a new land, and we celebrate the important impact the AAPI community has made on our Nation's progress." —President Barack Obama.

Office of Insular Affairs. A Proclamation Declaring May 2000 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month [Press Release]. Retrieved January 25, 2001, from the World Wide Web: doi.gov/oia/press/procpr.htm

I've learned from my Filipina mother and American father has been the source of my strength and success not only in my Air Force career, but in life as well.

Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, wrote an excellent article last year regarding "A Culture of Airmanship." She wrote, "If you look at our rich heritage you will see every event has produced heroes — individuals who rise to the occasion with remarkable acts of heroism and selflessness."

In the Air Force, we celebrate our diversity along with the accomplishments of the brave men and women who defied the odds and became the heroes and trailblazers in our service. African-American Heritage Month has the famed Tuskegee Airmen. The trailblazing women of the Women Airforce Service Pilots are one of the most recognizable group honored during Women's History Month.

While the Asian American Pacific Islanders heritage does not have a lot of recognizable names, their contributions are significant in transforming our Air Force into the world's best and helped shape the U.S. into a global power. I would like to introduce some of them to you:

■ Ellison Onizuka, born in Hawaii, entered the U.S. Air Force in 1970. He was an aerospace flight test engineer before becoming a mission specialist astronaut. Onizuka completed

48 orbits aboard the space shuttle Discovery. He died Jan. 28, 1986, when the Challenger suffered a catastrophic explosion.

■ Brig. Gen. Viet Luong became the first Vietnamese-born general officer in the U.S. military on Aug. 6, 2014.

■ Pfc. Sado Munemori of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for five decades, was the only Japanese American to be awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions during World War II in Seravezza, Italy.

■ Korean-American Herbert Choy, previously a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army, became the first Asian-American federal judge in 1971.

■ Pvt. Jose Nisperos became the first Filipino and the first Asian American to be awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on Sept. 24, 1911, while fighting as a member of the 34th Company, Philippine Scouts.

■ Maggie Gee, of the trailblazing Women Airforce Service Pilots, was one of the first Chinese American woman pilots. In 2010, she and the other WASP pilots received the Congressional Gold Medal for their contributions.

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month is a celebration of diversity and cultural awareness. Every Airman has a story, and on behalf of every Asian American and Pacific Islander serving in our Air Force, we would love to share ours with you.

B-1 visits Team BLAZE for static displays, briefings



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens
Team BLAZE personnel view a B-1 static display during the B-1 roadshow May 23 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The aircraft arrived from Dyess AFB, Texas. During the roadshow, two briefings were also given on its capabilities in Phillips Auditorium.

Tobacco use limited to designated smoking areas

Senior Airman Stephanie Englar
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force has always strived to ensure its members maintain peak health and physical fitness.

A change to Air Force Instruction 40-102, "Tobacco Free Living," seeks to further reduce harmful health impacts such as smoking on installations.

The change to AFI 40-102 further clarifies tobacco-free environments by prohibiting tobacco use in "installation recreation facilities, including but not limited to athletic fields, running tracks, basketball courts, golf courses, beaches, marinas, and parks." It prohibits smoking in vehicles with children, and reinforces that medical campuses are 100-percent tobacco free. The instruction also prohibits special events in services' facilities that promote tobacco use, such as "Cigar Night," which run counter to Comprehensive Airman Fitness and an Air Force culture of health.

Columbus Air Force Base is ensuring compliance with the updated AFI and is reducing the number of Designated Tobacco Areas on the installation. These DTAs, which are marked with permanent signage, are the only on-base public areas where tobacco products may be used.

Tobacco products include but are not limited to the following: cigars, cigarettes, electronic-cigarettes, stem pipes, water pipes, hookahs, and smokeless products that are chewed, dipped, or sniffed. Public use of tobacco outside of the defined DTAs is in direct violation of the policy and is subject to corrective action.

Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in the United States – and secondhand smoke is responsible for an estimated 49,400 heart and lung cancer deaths each year nationwide. The chemicals from tobacco smoke travel from the lungs into the bloodstream. They damage an individual's heart and blood vessels to cause cardiovascular problems, such as heart disease and stroke. Cardiovascular disease kills over 800,000 people a year nationwide.

The Department of Defense spends more than \$1.6 billion each year on tobacco-related medical care, increased hospitalization and lost days of work. In 2006,

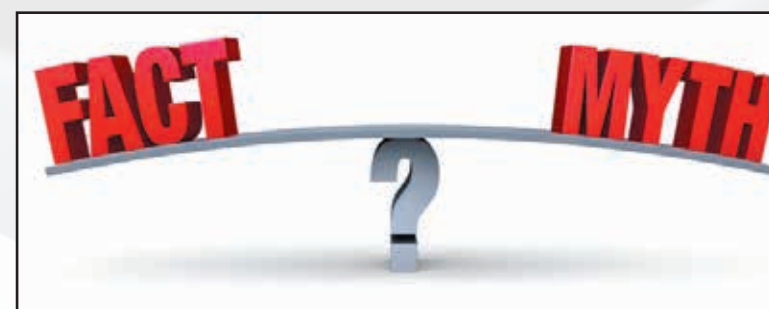


U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Amanda Savannah
The new Designated Tobacco Area for the Shoppette, Commissary and Exchange stands ready for use May 24 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. In compliance with recent changes to Air Force Instruction 40-102, the base constructed permanent DTAs and reduced the number of areas across the installation.

tobacco-related costs to the Military Health Service alone cost \$564 million.

Airmen and their family members seeking assistance in quitting tobacco use can utilize one of many

programs offered at the 14th Medical Group. The Health Promotion office, located in the Koritz Medical Clinic, offers several free tobacco cessation programs.



Myths and Facts about Tobacco Free Living

Myth: Most tobacco users don't want to quit

Fact: 69 percent of tobacco users want to quit; 52 percent made a quit attempt in the past year. Tobacco-free environments help tobacco users to quit.

Myth: Tobacco-free policies don't work

Fact: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention highly recommends tobacco-free environments as a best practice component of effective comprehensive tobacco control programs.

Myth: Air Force is implementing tobacco-free policies that are not done elsewhere

Fact: Over 1,500 college campuses have smoke-free campus policies, of which 1,000 are 100-percent tobacco-free campus policies. All Department of Health and Human Services campuses are already tobacco-free. Over 1,000 municipalities have smoke-free park laws.

Myth: Smoking is an effective way to deal with stress, anxiety, depression

Fact: Recent research shows the opposite. Smoking is a negative coping strategy that causes stress, anxiety, and depression. Nicotine addiction is responsible for mental distress. Mental health improves with smoking cessation.

Myth: Smokeless tobacco products and e-cigarettes are safe

Fact: Smokeless tobacco is associated with delayed wound healing, poor night vision, oral cancers, dental problems, decreased sperm count, and nicotine addiction. The long-term safety of e-cigarettes is unknown.

From AFI 40-102, Tobacco Free Living

Did you
know



- Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S. (480,000 a year)
- Tobacco costs \$170 billion in U.S. healthcare costs a year; 9 percent of all spending
- Secondhand smoke exposure leads to higher risk of heart attacks and cancers, and can aggravate respiratory conditions
- The Surgeon General says there is no safe level of secondhand smoke exposure
- Tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, e-cigarettes, stem pipes, water pipes, hookahs, smokeless products that are chewed, dipped, sniffed, or vaped
- 11 percent of Airmen smoke (national average is 18 percent)
- 7 percent of Airmen use smokeless tobacco (national average is two percent)

From AFI 40-102, Tobacco Free Living

Programs and Services That Can Help

- Installation Health Promotion: Tobacco cessation classes, medications
- DoD Quit Tobacco Program: ucanquit2.org
- DoD civilians and federal employees health plans have comprehensive, tobacco cessation coverage of counseling and medications, with no copays or coinsurance, not subject to deductible, annual or lifetime dollar limits

From AFI 40-102, Tobacco Free Living