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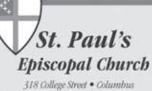
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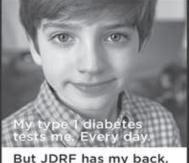
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SILVERIWINGS

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Vol. 40, Issue 30 July 29, 2016

Weather





Monday







Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Fligh

News Briefs

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Aug. 9 at the Columbus Club for newly arrived active duty and civilian

Senior NCO Induction Ceremony

The Senior NCO Induction Ceremony starts 6 p.m. Aug. 12 at the Columbus Club.

School is starting

The school year is about to begin. Please be aware of school bus stops, children crossing roads and increased traffic during transition times.

Inside



Feature 8

and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.

SUPT Class 16-12 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kave Auditorium.



A toppled vehicle lays on its side on Land Road after the driver and two children passengers were saved by Senior Airman Ramon Curtis, 14th Operations Support Squadron weather forecaster, and 2nd Lt. Christopher Kowalski, 14th Student Squadron student pilot, July 24 in Lowndes County, Mississippi.

Airmen help save family in car wreck

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

What does a typical Sunday hold for an Airman? Wake-up, eat breakfast, drive to a friend's house, and save a family of three from a vehicle wreck? This is not TV, that's how two Team BLAZE Airmen spent their Sunday evening.

Senior Airman Ramon Curtis, 14th Operations Support Squadron weather forecaster wasn't expecting much to happen that July 24, but potentially fatal incident changed that.

"I was on my motorcycle heading toward the gate and I saw a

slowed down," Curtis said. "As I passed by I saw his vehicle flip over. So I turned around. As soon as I got there, the car was smoking and laying on its side." As he got closer despite both his bike running and his helmet

car coming out of Land Road probably pushing excess speed so l

on he could hear the man screaming.

"I could hear him yelling for help so I jumped off my bike and ran up to pull him out," Curtis said. "He was bloody. I pulled him out of his car and laid him down."

As Curtis was removing the man from the vehicle, 2nd Lt.

See AIRMEN, Page 2

TIMELINE COLUMBUS

IFF PHASE II PHASE III Track Select Overall Graduation -1.61 days -0.02 days 49th (16-KBC) 1.00 days 1.98 days * Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling The graduation speaker is Brig. Gen. Andrew Croft, Director of Plans, Programs, Requirements and Assessments, Headquarters Air Education

Wing Sortie Board Graduation

25,572 8,253 8,722

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING **DEPLOYED**

49 TÉAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are

Deployment number rrovided by the Installation Readines Personnel

<u>Tue</u>

Wing

Newcomers

Orientation,

8 a.m. @ Club

<u>Mon</u>

Airman

8

Leadership

School starts

Club member

free breakfast,

:30 a.m. @ Clu

AIRMEN

(Continued from page 1)

Christopher Kowalski, 14th Student Squadron student pilot, was exiting the main gate.

"I was leaving base on my way to a buddy's house, and I looked to the right [down Land Road] and I saw there was a car perpendicular to the road on its side," Kowalski said. "I pulled off the road and that is when up." I saw Airman Curtis already in the process of helping

During the incident, Curtis recalled thinking about the safety of the individual and his daughters who were in the back seat of the toppled vehicle.

"I got to get this dude out, that's all I could think of was I got to get him out. I just kept telling him, everything is going to be alright, it's going to be ok," Curtis said. "I just wanted to make sure everybody was ok. I can't let anything bad happen to these kids. I have kids of my own so I think my fatherly instincts took over. I'm going to do whatever I can to get these

Kowalski helped the daughters after pulling over to the side of the road noting the vehicle was also

"I heard the two little girls. I ran over there and started helping one of them out," Kowalski said.

After the eldest daughter was helped the youngest was still in trouble stuck in the car seat. The Airmen decided to go through the trunk space.

"At that point in time we got the trunk open," Kowalski said. "I went into the trunk and pulled everything out and unbuckled the second daughter from typical Sunday.

<u>Thur</u>

Columbus City

School starts

16-13 Assign-

Tax Holiday

Senior NCO

mony, 6 p.m.

Induction Cere-

:30 p.m. @ Club

<u>Wed</u>

Lowndes County

School starts

the car seat and handed her up through the passenger side window to Airman Curtis."

Curtis credited his Air Force training for allowing him the knowledge of what to do.

"All my deployment training like Self Aid and Buddy Care stuff and proper carries; it all definitely paid off," Curtis said. "We attempted to put a tourniquet on his arm because his hand was pretty messed

Curtis and Kowalski's instincts kicked in to help the injured as best as possible before EMS showed up

"You see someone in trouble, you go help them. You don't just drive by; try and help out and do the best you can," Kowalski said. "Airman Curtis was definitely on his game, he was a good guy to work with. He was the first one there. He stayed calm and collected and did a great job. We were on the same wavelength, we had the same priorities and we got everything accomplished in a safe and effective manner."

Both Airmen worked together to accomplish this feat but to them it felt unreal.

"I couldn't believe what I just did. It's still kind of surreal, I actually helped save somebody's life," Curtis said. "I honestly don't know where all the strength came from to curl a grown man out of a SUV. It doesn't seem real to me almost like an outer body experience. I wasn't doing it to be a hero I was doing what I thought was right.'

The efforts of upholding their core values turned them into model citizens for the Columbus community. For Curtis and Kowalski, it was not just another

Sat/Sun **Long Range** <u>Fri</u> **Events** 6/7

13/14

Aug. 18: Enlisted Dorm Aug. 19: SUPT Class 16-13 Graduation

Aug. 20-21: Autocross Aug. 30: Wing Newcomers

Orientation Aug. 31: Enlisted Promotion

Ceremony Sept. 2: AETC Family Day

Sept. 12-13: AETC/CC visit

Sept. 17: Air Force Birthday

Sept. 30: SUPT Class 16-15

Graduation

Sept. 15: 49th FS reunion

Sept. 5: Labor Day Holiday Sept. 9: SUPT Class 16-14 Graduation

Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2424.

Silver Wings

How to reach us

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

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Mr. Sonic Johnson Chief of Public Affairs

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay Editor

Airman 1st Class John Day Staff Writer

> Mrs. Tina Perry Layout Designer

Submission Deadline

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

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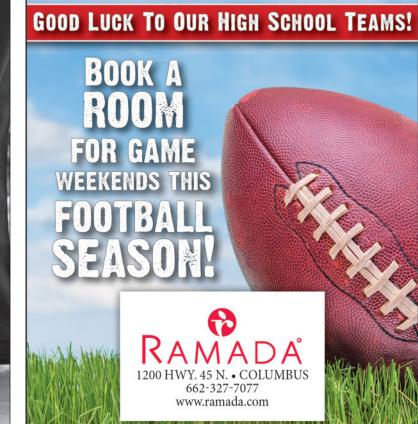
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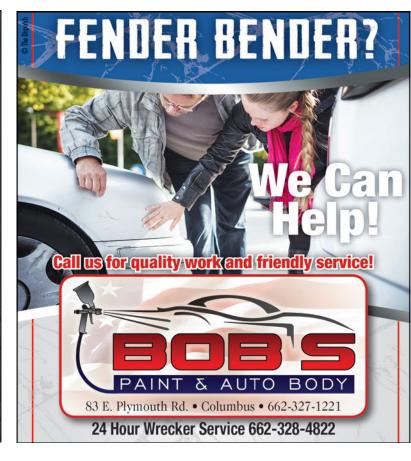
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Upcoming

CPR Classes are offered at Baptist Golden Triangle, 6 p.m., in the Patient Tower Pre-registration is required. August classes will be held on the 8th and 22nd. Call the Education Department at (662) 244-2498 or 800-544-8762, ext. 2498.

Baptist Cancer Center offers **free prostate PSA screenings** for men over 40. PSA screenings will be held in Columbus on Friday, August 26, from 8am-11:30 am. Make an appointment by calling at 244-4673 or 800-544-8767, ext. 4673.

Baptist Cancer Center will hold a support group for cancer survivors and their families the third Friday of every month from noon-1pm. The August 19th meeting will take place in room 6 PT, just past the Gift Shop. Topic will be on Hospice and the Five Wishes. For information call 244-2923 or 800-544-8767, ext. 2923.

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

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

BMH-GT Diabetes Support Group - classes are the 3rd Wed. each month, 10-11 am, room 6 PT. For more information call Lacy Smith at 662-244-1392 or 800-544-8767, ext. 1392.

Baptist Golden Triangle is seeking caring, compassionate people to join an elite group of volunteers to help in a variety of hospital settings. For more information, call 662-244-1165.

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





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Equal Opportunity Office Closure The Equal Opportunity Office will be closed Aug. 1-5 due to all EO personnel being on TDY. If you have a complaint or concern, please contact 2nd Lt. Jason Lapre at 662-434-3752 or jason.lapre.1@us.af.mil to schedule an appointment with the EO office upon their return. Contact with Lapre will count as the date of initial contact

Birthday Airman wins \$5000 at Birthday Ball Drawdown

Airman 1st Class John Day 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Birthday Ball Drawdown is an annual event put on to raise money for the upcoming Birthday Ball. Among the many prizes available to participants to win are a TV, door prizes, gift cards and the grand prize of \$5,000.

This year's grand prize was taken by Senior Airman Nick Candiano, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Emergency Management Journeyman, July 22 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Even more of a pleasant surprise than winning the prize was the fact that it came on his 25th birthday.

"I knew the drawdown would be on my birthday, but I already had plans to watch a new movie," Candiano said. "Airman Ew-

ing asked me to buy a ticket and to support the Birthday Ball Committee, so I bought one. She told me that I did not need to be at the drawdown to win the prize, I thought might as well; it definitely gave me more incentive to buy a ticket.

Never did he think that he would actually win a prize, even less the grand prize of

"After the movie, my phone started blowing up with messages," Candiano said. "At first I didn't believe that I won."

By the luck of the draw, not only did he win, but he did so on his 25th birthday, on a day benefiting the Air Force's birthday.

"I bought myself a nice TV, something I have been wanting for a while," Candiano said. "The remainder of the money I will put into savings and investing."

Compulsory School Attendance: Home School

The School Liaison Office would like to remind parents of the State of Mississip pi law governing school attendance particularly as it pertains to families who Home

Under the Mississippi Compulsory School Attendance Law, parents and guardians are required to enroll their children in a public, private or home school. This law applies to children who have reached the age of six and have not exceeded the age of 17 b

Children who have attained or will attain the age of five years on or before Sept. and have enrolled in a full-day public kindergarten will also be under the Compulsory School Attendance Law.

Any parent or guardian who fails to comply with the Mississippi compulsory school attendance law may be punished in a court of law.

Parents who are teaching their children at home school are required to complete certificate of enrollment card each school year. You can complete this card at the Co lumbus Air Force Base School Liaison Office, located in Building 730, Suite 215.

Mississippi law requires registration be completed prior to Sept. 15. Please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at slo@columbus.af.mil for an appointment to complete your registration.

Gosney takes command of 14th Flying Training Wing



Maj. Gen. James Hecker, 19th Air Force Commander, hands the 14th Flying Training Wing guidon to Col. Douglas Gosney, the new 14th FTW Commander, at a change of command ceremony July 22 at the McAllister Fire Station on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Gosney was formerly the Commander of the 2nd Operations Group at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana. He is a Command Pilot with over 3,300 flight hours (includ ing 212 combat hours) and has flown in the B-52H, T-38C, T-38A, T-37B, and T-3A

Track Select

T-1

T-1

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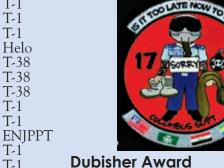
T-38

T-38

ENJPP7

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MIS

CAP cadets participate in SUPTFC

Airman 1st Class John Day

14th Flyina Trainina Wina Public Affairs

Civil Air Patrol cadets from around the nation traveled to Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi July 23-29 to attend Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Familiarization Course.

"CAP cadets have three primary missions," retired Maj. Rich Auger said. "The cadet program, which is what we are doing at Columbus AFB, emergency services, where they assist the Air Force with search and rescue and disaster relief, and aerospace education, where they spread knowledge of the

The Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Familiarization Course is held at Columbus AFB every year to expose cadets to Air Force life and the SUPT environment.

For one week, cadets live the life of a student pilot in SUPT, giving them a taste of what it is like to be a pilot. They visit many of the places that students visit for training and other experience."

"We try to simulate pilot training for them in a week," Auger said. "We get them learning boldface and operating limitashow them the procedures of flying. Then they go to the actual Center. simulators where they can actually perform the motions and

terial studied by student pilots and even use the same pilot training pipeline syllabus to determine their activities.

"Our goal by the end of the week is to let them see a realistic view of what pilot training is like," Auger said. "We want them to eventually become officers and pilots."

Cadets are evaluated by all the same criteria that student pilots are scored on and the best few receive a T-1 incentive ride with the 48th Flying Training Squadron. The week culminates in a mock assignment night and graduation from the program, similar to an actual pilot.

"We want them to leave here so excited that they will want to put forth all the work to commission and become pilots," Auger said. "I have seen many who attend this course follow through and become pilots flying all over the world for our military. We love the support we get from the base to be able to come here and put these young people through an awesome

Civil Air Patrol is the only official auxiliary of the Air Force and is a nonprofit organization with 59,000 members nationwide. CAP performs a large percent of inland search and restions. We teach them basic systems classes and chair flying to cue missions assigned by the Air Force Rescue Coordination agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace educa-

> They also perform homeland security, disaster relief and counterdrug missions at the request of federal, state and local



Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Civil Air Patrol cadets are instructed on how to chair fly July 26 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Familiarization Course is held at Columbus AFB every year to expose cadets to Air Force life and the SUPT environment.

tion and serve as mentors to the more than 24,000 young people currently participating in CAP cadet programs. The CAP

Brig. Gen. Andrew Croft to speak at SUPT 16-12 graduation

welcomes Brig. Gen. Andrew Croft as the guest speaker for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training class 16-12 graduation ceremony.

Croft is the Director of Plans, Programs, Requirements and Assessments Headquarters Air Ed-

the AETC Commander in planning and the U.S. Air Force and our international partners. He develops the Education and Training Core Function Support Plan and AETC's inputs to the Program Objective Memorandum, leads AETC Strategic Planning, manages flying training and technical training operational capability requirements dergraduate Pilot Training, Columbus AFB, and oversees the Air Force's only studies and Miss. analysis squadron.

Croft received his commission through Lead-In Fighter Training, Holloman AFB, the ROTC program at the University of California, Los Angeles in 1988. Following pilot training at Columbus AFB, Mississippi, he dent, F-15C Replacement Training Unit, served in six flying assignments in the F-15C Tyndall AFB, Fla. and flew in support of operations Southern Watch and Northern Watch. He is a grad-structor Pilot/Mission Commander, Langley uate of the U.S. Air Force Weapons School AFB, Va. and served as commander of the 12th Operations Group at Randolph AFB, Texas and Instructor Pilot/Academic Instructor, Tyn-49th Wing, Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

Prior to his current position, Croft was the Vice Director of Operations, Headquarters ucation and Training Command, Joint Base North American Aerospace Defense Com-San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. He assists mand, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. He was responsible to the Director of Operprogramming \$6.9 billion annually supportations for safeguarding the air sovereignty of ing 62,000 personnel across 22 bases charged North America including Canada, Alaska, with recruiting, training, and educating for and the continental United States. He is a AFB, Nev. command pilot with more than 3,100 flying hours in the MQ-1B, T-6A, F-15C, F-22, T-37B and T-38A.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. May 1989 - May 1990, Student, Un- Ala.

2. June 1990 - September 1990, Student, AFB, Fla.

N.M.

4. March 1991 - March 1995, F-15C In-

3. September 1990 - February 1991, Stu-

5. March 1995 - December 1997, F-15C dall AFB, Fla.

6. January 1997 - June 1997, Student, U.S. Air Force Weapons Instructor Course, D.C. Nellis AFB, Nev.

ficer, Kadena AB, Japan

8. July 2000 - July 2001, Advanced Programs Manager, Air Warfare Center, Nellis

9. July 2001 - July 2003, Instructor and Operations Officer, F-15C Division, USAF Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.

10. July 2003 - July 2004, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB,

11. August 2004 - June 2005, Chief, Eglin Command Post and F-15C instructor, Eglin

12. July 2005 - July 2007, Commander, 433rd Weapons Squadron, U.S. Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.

13. July 2007 - June 2008, Student, Naval War College, Newport, R.I.

14. July 2008 - July 2009, Executive Officer, Allied Air Component Command Headquarters, Izmir, Turkey

15. July 2009 - July 2010, Strategic Planner, Directorate for Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Washington,

16. July 2010 - June 2012, Commander, 7. January 1998 - July 2000, Weapons Of- 12th Operations Group, Randolph AFB,

> 17. June 2012 - June 2014, Commander, 49th Wing, Holloman AFB, N.M.

18. June 2014 - June 2015, Vice Director of Operations, Headquarters North American Aerospace Defense Command, Peterson AFB, Colo

19. June 2015 - present, Director, Plans, Programs, Requirements and Assessments, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas

News Around Town

July 29

The town of Artesia is set to kick off Artesia Days annual family fun event from noon-4 p.m. in downtown Artesia. Enjoy the game truck, water slide and free school supplies and food for the children. For more Aug. 20 information go online at www.visitcolumbusms.org.

Aug. 19

See Will Kimbrough live in concert 7:30 p.m. at the Rosenzweig Arts Center in Columbus. Tickets avail-

able at the Columbus Arts Council for \$10 in advance /\$12 at the door. Visit columbus-arts.org for more in-

Possum Town Triathletes will take on the challenge to SWIM 600 yards, BIKE 17 miles and RUN 3.3 miles during this annual race event starting 7 a.m. Registration and information is available at possumtowntriathlon.com.

BARGAIN LINE

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@ us.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Free: Healthy male tabby kitten with white socks to loving home. Kitten was found abandoned in a parking lot and was taken in and cared for. He is very loving and playful. For more information, please contact 435-3626. Miscellaneous For Sale: Pro Form whirlwind dual ac-

tion stationary bike, \$150; Health rid-

er total aerobic fitness, \$200; EZ Bole

Regal three-wheel adult bike, hand

brakes, three-speed with large basket

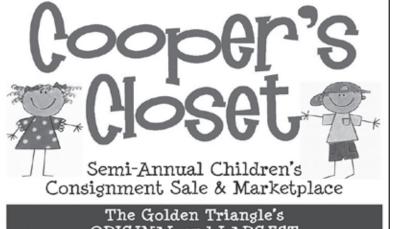
and flag, \$250; Six-shelf VHS holder,

\$15; Shark floor cleaner with two pads,

\$15; Evenflo high chair in very good

condition, \$10. For more information

For Sale: Canon 600D/T3i DSLR Camera for sale, comes with 70-300 AF Lens, 18-55 STM Lens, vertical battery grip, 160LED video light, charger, boxes, and documents all in excellent condition; asking \$475. Toshiba ExciteGo 7 inch Android Tablet with case. 4.4Kitkat, MicroSD Port, Front Camera in excellent condition; asking \$60. Brand new photography studio lighting set, three lights with stands, three Umbrellas with stands, three (10x10) backdrops with stand; asking \$150. Casio Wk-3800 Musical Keyboard, 76 full keys, 800 tones, auto rhythms, on-board sequencer, and more; asking \$285. For more information contact 386-6981.



ORIGINAL and LARGEST Children's Consignment Event

August 18th - 20th

Gateway Shopping Center (former Dirt Cheap building) 201 V Alabama Street - Columbus, MS

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12 SILVER WINGS July 29, 2016

Amputee regains wings

Senior Airman Ceaira Youna 23rd Wing Public Affairs

MOODY AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — An HC-130J Combat King II pilot here became the sixth amputee and the first female amputee to return to the cockpit.

After an above-the-knee amputation and nearly 15 months of rehabilitation learning to walk, run and fly again — Air Force Capt. Christy Wise, a 71st Rescue Squadron HC-130J pilot, was medically cleared to retake to the skies on July 22.

"In this day in age it's nice to be able to show girls out there everywhere that you're capable of anything if you put your mind to it," Wise said. "I am the first female, which is funny because I don't ever think of myself as a female pilot, but as a pilot. I'm not the first in any way, but I'm the sixth.

"For me, I never even considered not getting back to flying," Wise added. "I was going to do whatever it took to get back to flying because this is my job and this is what I love."

Last year, what started out as a weekend of fun with friends turned into a moment in time that would take Wise out of the cockpit. On April 11, 2015, Wise was paddle boarding in a cove behind a friend's house when a boat swerved into her path.

While the events that followed appeared to move in slow motion, within three minutes Wise was rescued by nearby boaters and rushed to a hospital. That same night, Wise was given the prognosis that she was about to become an abovethe-knee amputee.

Wise mentally prepared herself for the amputee is so difficult." demands of the road ahead, but also laud-

ed other amputees and fellow Airmen for their continuous support.

"I've had amazing support from the base, Air Force and then also other amputees," Wise said. "They were always supporting me and talking to me all along, and that made everything so much easier.

"Everything is different now," Wise added. "Even just walking around the squadron, practice egressing, running and returning to full duty days as an amputee, everything is more exhausting. But I learned to walk, then run, (and now) fly, and all of that was a part of the process."

The Air Force's physical requirements coupled with Wise's new limited mobility didn't change her commitment and determination. Rescue leadership says it's this resilient attitude that made it possible.

"Wise's positive attitude and drive never ceases to amaze me," said Col. Thomas Dorl, the 347th Rescue Group commander. "It is no surprise that she is back in the cockpit. Her ability to overcome anything in the face of adversity, stay positive and motivated, all the while continuing to get back in the cockpit, is a true testament to her resiliency."

The road back to the pilot seat was filled with bumps and hurdles, but Wise proclaimed she knew it would pay off in

"I knew this day was going to come, I just didn't know when or how soon," Wise said. "One of the biggest hurdles to getting back here was passing my physical fitness test. That was the hardest thing I've done yet because running as an above-the-knee for who you were, but recklessly pursue

In February, Wise scored an excellent from the past but we can't get it back."



Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Capt. Christy Wise, a 71st Rescue Squadron pilot, checks the wing of an HC-130J Combat King II during preflight checks, July 22, 2016, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. Wise is the sixth Air Force pilot to return to the cockpit after becoming an amputee.

"I am incredibly proud of Christy and am honored to call her a member of the rescue group," Dorl said. "Captain Wise's drive and determination is an inspiration and an encouragement to others to never give up, no matter what life throws your

Wise wants people to know that when faced with adversity, being surrounded by supportive people is the key to overcoming

"One amputee in my rehab center said something to me I'll never forget," Wise said. "He said, 'Don't for one second long who you can become.' ... We can learn



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Ryan Callaghan Capt. Christy Wise, a 71st Rescue Squadron HC-130J Combat Kina II pilot, talks with co-pilots prior to her first flight back in the cockpit, July 22, 2016, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. Wise is the sixth above-the-knee amputee pilot to return

AF releases 2016 supplier performance ratings

Staff Sgt. Alyssa C. Gibson

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Command Information

WASHINGTON — The Air Force, Army and Navy si multaneously released their respective 2016 Superior Supplier Incentive Program ratings July 25.

This is the third year the Air Force has provided these ratings alongside those of its sister services. The SSIP's publication is intended to incentivize suppliers to improve performance. This year, the Air Force rated 43 business segments representing more than 20 suppliers.

Historically, supplier assessments have been accomplished

formance Assessment Reporting System. Contractor Performance Assessment Reports are created by Airmen at the base level who acquire the materiel and services provided by rated companies; their reports represent the voice of the customer and presenting it as a metric to senior leadership within the on the contracts they oversee. SSIP creates a "roll-up" assessment based upon CPAR data.

Companies are evaluated using three years of CPARs and ment baseline." then are categorized as a Tier I, Tier II or Tier III supplier. Tier I-rated business segments are awarded the Air Force Superior performance relative to their peers. Supplier status for one year.

Suppliers indicate that SSIP creates a view of the raters' feedback at a higher level than an individual contract.

"This is a way for the Air Force to consolidate the conviding goods and services to the Air Force and the DOD," on a contract-by-contract basis through the Contractor Per-tract performance assessments provided by our Airmen and Weber said.

make it visible at the CEO level within our rated suppliers, said Dave Weber, the former chief of the Air Force Industrial Liaison Office. "It's taking the accumulation of their voices suppliers, the Air Force and the (Defense Department) and making it available as a higher-level performance measure-

SSIP also provides suppliers a different lens to look at their

"CEOs are essentially competing with other CEOs – senior vice presidents competing with other senior vice presidents – to be the 'best of the best' of the major suppliers pro-

feds **feed** families

01 June 2016 through 31 August 2016

www.usda.gov/fedsfeedfamilies

MOST WANTED ITEMS

(High Fiber, Low Sugar, Low Sodium)

- Canned Tuna, Salmon, orCanned Vegetables Chicken
- Canned Fruits (In light syrup or its own juices)
- Hot & Cold Cereal (Oatmeal, cheerios, corn-flakes, raisin bran)
- Grains (Brown & white rice, pasta, macaroni & cheese)

Healthy Snacks (Applesauce cups, raisins, granola bars)

(Low sodium, no salt added)

- Peanut Butter
- 100% Juice (All sizes, including juice boxes)
- Canned or Dry Beans
- Canned Soups

Please bring non-perishable food items to the labeled red bins in these locations:

- Bowling Alley
- CDC
- Chapel

- Commissarv
- Your Squadron

For more information, contact your base POC's:

Capt. Marrero 2nd Lt. Monio



Commercial 662-434-2120 DSN 742-2120



Ostler takes 14th MDOS reigns



Col. Imelda Reedy, 14th Medical Group Commander, passes the 14th Medical Operations Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Matthew Ostler, the new 14th MDOS Com mander, during a change of command ceremony July 21 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi,

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-

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.



Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

BLAZE Hangar Tails: MC-12

The MC-12W is a medium- to low-altitude, twin-engine **Background** turboprop aircraft. The primary mission is providing intelcommander.

Features

lection, processing, analysis and dissemination system. The approval to delivery in the theater. aircraft are military versions of the Hawker Beechcraft Super King Air 350 and Super King 350ER. A fully operational Irregular Warfare mission (counter insurgency, foreign intersystem consists of a modified aircraft with sensors, a ground and defense and building partnership capacity). Medium- to exploitation cell, line-of-sight and satellite communications low-altitude ISR is a core mission for the Air Force. datalinks, along with a robust voice communications suite.

The aircraft is equipped with an electro-optical infrared sippi, April 28, 2009. The first MC-12W flew its first combat sensor and other sensors as the mission requires. The EO/IR sensor also includes a laser illuminator and designator in a single sensor package. The MC-12 system is capable of world- General Characteristics wide operations.

The "M" is the Department of Defense designation for ligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, or ISR, support a multi-role version of the well-known C-12 series. In April directly to ground forces. The MC-12W is a joint forces air 2008, the Secretary of Defense established a DOD-wide ISR component commander asset in support of the joint force Task Force to identify and recommend solutions for increased ISR in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. On July 1, 2008, the Secretary of Defense tasked the Air Force to acquire 37 "C-12" class aircraft to augment unmanned sys-The MC-12W is not just an aircraft, but a complete coltems. Of note, it was less than eight months from funding

The MC-12 capability supports all aspects of the Air Force

The first MC-12 arrived at Key Field in Meridian, Mississupport sortie on June 12, 2009.

Primary function: Intelligence, surveillance and recon-

Contractor: L-3 Communications

Power plant: Pratt & Whitney PT6A-60A

Wingspan: 57 feet, 11 inches (17.65 meters)

Length: 46 feet, 8 inches (14.22 meters)

Height: 14 feet, 4 inches (4.37 meters)

Weight: 12,500 pounds empty (5,669 kilograms)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 350, 15,000 pounds; 350ER, 16,500 pounds

Fuel capacity: 350, 3,611 pounds (1,638 kilograms); **350ER**, 5,192 pounds (2,355 kilograms)

Speed: 312 knots

Range: 350, 1,500 nautical miles; 350ER, approximately 2,400 nautical miles

Ceiling: 35,000 feet (10,668 meters)

Armament: none

Crew: Two pilots and two sensor operators

Initial operating capability: June 2009

Unit cost: \$17 million (aircraft and all communications equipment modifications)

Inventory: Active force, 42; Reserve, 0; ANG, 0



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Elizabeth Rissmiller

The first MC-12 aircraft in theater flies its first combat sortie June 10 from Joint Base Balad, Irag. A new Air Force medium-altitude, manned, special-mission turboprop aircraft, the MC-12 provides real-time intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability and supports coalition and joint ground forces.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Tiffany Trojca

The first MC-12 aircraft in theater lands after its first combat sortie June 10 at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. The Air Force's newest intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platform, the MC-12, is a medium-altitude, manned, special-mission turbo prop aircraft that supports coalition and joint ground forces.

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

New commander takes charge of AFCENT

Senior Airman Monica Ricci

U.S. Air Forces Central Command **Public Affairs**

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. — Lt. Gen. Jeffrey L. Harrigian assumed command of U.S. Air Forces Central Command from Lt. Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr. during a ceremony here July 22.

U.S. Army Gen. Joseph L. Votel, the commander of U.S. Central Command, officiated the ceremony.

Votel expressed his trust and confidence in Harrigian and his gratitude toward Brown for the leadership he displayed during his tenure as AFCENT commander.

"(Gen. Brown), you leave this outstanding team in great shape and in great hands,"

Votel described Harrigian as an incredibly smart and capable officer, one who was recognized as the top fighter pilot in the U.S. early in his career.

Harrigian returns to AFCENT after formerly serving the command as assistant deputy commander from 2011-2013.

"It's great to be in AFCENT again and to be back in the fight," Harrigian said. "I'm humbled and honored to be provided the chance to lead our Airmen in today's fight – not a fight in the future, but a fight that we are in today to defend America."



Army Gen. Joseph L. Votel, the U.S. Central Command commander, stands with Air Force Lt. Gen. Jeffrey L. Harrigian, the U.S. Air Forces Central Command commander, and Air Force Lt. Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr., the AFCENT outgoing commander, during a change of command ceremony at Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, July 22, 2016. Outgoing and incoming commanders exchange a unit's guidon to symbolize relinguishment and assumption of command.

tenant general a day prior to the ceremo- Asia to ensure stability and defense of the ny, takes command of an organization that region. In addition to serving as AFCENT

Harrigian, who was promoted to lieu- works closely with its partners in Southwest

commander, Harrigian is also the Combined Force Air Component commander for the

"There is nothing more motivating than leading in combat," Harrigian said. "Having an opportunity to work with our Airmen Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, civilians and our coalition teammates to deliver airpower to the joint coalition fight is a rare opportunity

A fighter pilot with more than 4,100 flight hours, Harrigian has flown combat missions in support of Operations Just Cause and Desert Storm. He has previously commanded at the flight, squadron and wing levels. Harrigian also previously served as CENTCOM's deputy director of operations and the Air Force's assistant deputy chief of staff of operations. Most recently, Harrigian served as the service's director of the F-35 Integration Office at the Pentagon.

The general commissioned in 1985 after graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy. He thanked his family for their support throughout his career and Brown for setting such a high standard.

"You've left me with an AFCENT machine that is delivering today," Harrigian said of his predecessor.

Brown will move to CENTCOM headquarters in Tampa, Florida, where he will serve as deputy commander.

DOD awards TRICARE-managed care support contracts

Military Health System Communications Office Defense Health Agency

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — The Defense Department announced on July 22 that the next generation of TRI-CARE-managed care support contracts were awarded.

The new contracts, which go into effect nine months after the award, establish two TRICARE regions in the United States: East and West, instead of the current three. The East Region contract will go to Humana Government Business Inc., in Louisville, Kentucky. In the West Region, the new managed care contractor will be Health Net Federal Services LLC, in Rancho Cordova, California. These contracts are replacing current arrangements under which health care is provided to eligible members of the uniformed services, retirees and their families.

"I am pleased that our new TRICARE contracts are focused on enhancing the experience of care for our service members, retirees and their families," said Karen S. Guice, the acting assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

The new contracts will continue to provide for the deliv-

other administrative services to the estimated 9.4 million TRICARE beneficiaries. The new contracts do not change the TRICARE benefit and offer all the same TRICARE op-

"TRICARE is moving into a new era, making use of the lessons learned in the first three contract phases," said Vice Admiral Raquel C. Bono, the director of the Defense Health Agency. "Defense Department leadership and the incumbent managed care support contractors are dedicated to managing a smooth transition to the new managed care support contractors, with minimum disruption to our beneficiaries."

The new contracts include a requirement to improve integration between military hospitals and the civilian components of TRICARE. They also call for an upgraded electronic referral process to reduce wait times for beneficiaries who

After the nine-month transition period from the current contracts to the new ones, military hospitals and clinics will have real-time access to medical management data. This increased ability to share data will improve both patient care coordination and access to care. Through improved visibility riod. Those interested in the progress can visit the TRICARE ery of health care, customer service, claims processing and of data, the Military Health System will be able to standardize website for more details.

"I am pleased that our new TRICARE contracts are focused on enhancing the experience of care for our service members, retirees and their families," said Karen S. Guice, the acting assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

care between civilian and military facilities, which promises both better care and greater patient safety.

The Defense Health Agency will keep TRICARE beneficiaries informed of coming changes during the transition pe-

Free Pool Passes and FootGolf

Independence Pool Passes and FootGolf is included with Whispering Pines Golf Membership. If you have an individual golf membership, you receive an individual pool pass and Foot-Golf membership and if you have a family golf membership, you receive a family pool pass and FootGolf membership. Visit Outdoor Recreation for your free pool pass today. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Summer Reading Program

Kick off the summer with the Base Library's Summer Reading Program. Win prizes and enjoy weekly activities. Closing ceremony will be held at 1 p.m. July 28. For more information, contact

Red, White and Blue Tournament

The Golf Course is offering a two-person, 27-hole golf scramble at 8 a.m. July 30. The cost is only \$20 per person and includes green fees, cart rental, prizes and lunch. For more information or to sign up, contact 434-7932.

Pearl River Resort Casino Trip

Outdoor Recreation is offering a monthly casino trip to Pearl River Resort. Upcoming dates are 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

Fitness Time-Out Child Care

The Child Development Center is offering child care from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Aug. 9. The cost is only \$4 per hour. Sign up one week in advance at the CDC or contact 434-2479 for more information.

Free Healthy Child Informational Fair

The Child Development Center is hosting the Healthy Child Informational Fair from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Aug. 17. Information on child nutrition, sports for young children, immunizations, safety plans, and more information pertaining to a healthy child pro- both days. For more information, contact 434-7932. vided. Event held at the CDC. For more information, contact

Labor Day Getaway

Outdoor Recreation is offering a Labor Day Getaway Sept. 3 – 5 to Tullahoma, Tennessee. This getaway includes: Jack Daniels Distillery tour, Lynchburg tour, hiking in the Short Springs Natural Area, and additional recreational activities. The cost is only \$150 per person. For information or to sign up, contact 434-2505.

Family Dining Buffet

The Columbus Club is offering all you can eat Southern buffe from 5 – 8 p.m. Aug. 4. The cost is only \$12 for members; \$14 Columbus Club Lunch Buffet Specials non-members; \$5 ages 5 - 11; 4 and under free. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Free Family Movie

Independence Pool is offering a free family movie, "Ratchet bar will be available. For more information, contact 434-2505.



Free Breakfast for Club Members

The Columbus Club is offering free breakfast for club members from 6:30 – 8 a.m. Aug. 1. Non-members pay \$8 per person. Become a Club member and eat for free plus enjoy all the benefits of Play Paintball being a member. For more information, contact 434-2489.

For More Information Call

Dog Days of Summer 5K Run/Walk

ing at the Fitness Center. Commander's trophy points are to be 434-2505. awarded. Pets are welcome to join. For more information, contact

Whispering Pines Club Championship

The Golf Course is offering their annual club championship at 8 a.m. Aug. 27 and 28. The cost is only \$40 for members and \$75 for non-members. Entry includes green fees, prize fund, and lunch

The Overrun 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

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.

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 and Clank" (PG) at 8:30 p.m. Aug. 6. Doors open at 8 p.m. Snack \$7.95 for club members and \$8.95 for non-members. For more in-

Story Time and Circle Time at the Library

The Base Library is offering Story Time every Friday at 11 a.m. for all ages. Circle Time is offered each Wednesday at 11 a.m. for ages up to 4 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. Self-help bicycle repair is also available. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

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

Referees Needed

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

Book your next paintball event at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$15 per person for a party of 10 or more; \$20 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Rec-The Fitness Center is offering a 5K at 7 a.m. Aug. 19 start- reation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, contact

Make Your Shopping Easier

Force Support Squadron gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most Force Support Squadron facilities at Air Force installations worldwide and they never go out of style. Purchase your gift card at one of the following locations: Bowling Center, Golf Course or Youth Center. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Class

Free classes are scheduled every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 p.m. The benefits include huge gains in confidence, functional strength, flexibility, discipline, and overall physical conditioning. Mandatory equipment: BJJ Kimono (Gi); for ages 13 and up. For more information, contact 434-2772.

RV Storage Lot

Don't clutter your home space, park with us. Outdoor Recreation offers a great place to store your RV year around. You will have 24-hour access and can pay monthly or yearly. For more information, call 434-2505.

Green Plate Special

Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a special for lunch Monday through Friday. For more information, call 434-7932 or check us out on Facebook at Columbus AFB Living or Twitter

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.)

Resume and Cover Letter

This workshop, 9 - 10:30 a.m. Aug. 3, gives you preparation for writing effective civilian resumes and cover letters. To sign up call 434-2839/2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Aug. 9 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 or to register call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop from 1-2 p.m. Aug. 9 allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Heart Link

This event is 8:30 a.m. - noon Aug. 10. It is for spouses new to CAFB or the military lifestyle. The event is held at Columbus Club. I is a fun-filled spouse orientation program with info on protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. It is a great way to meet others new to Columbus AFB. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

Troops To Teachers

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

Hearts Apart

The Hearts Apart Social program from 5- 7 p.m. Aug. 25 is a monthly event to provide community bonding, fun and appreciation for the families of active duty personnel who are deployed, remote, or on an extended TDY. Food more information. and activities are provided. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop from 1-2 p.m. Aug. 30 allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services — a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling the VA offers and what they are able to provide you they can offer you a better deal. Always get throughout the member's military career and the true facts about the SBP before making up ter. We have volunteer opportunities located or to register call 434-2790.

Team BLAZE celebrates retired chief Conti's 96th birthday



Retired Chief Master Sgt. Ginio Conti, local veteran, celebrates his 96th birthday with Team BLAZE members and the local Knights of Columbus July 24 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Conti was also recognized for his outstanding service to the community.

Wing Newcomers Orientation This brief is 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Aug. 30 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 or to register call Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deploy-

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

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 calling (662) 434-2720.

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. ment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

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 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. cope with stressful situations created by deploy-Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for ments, 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 Cenevents, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are 6 p.m. – Youth Group

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

SILVER WINGS July 29, 2016 7

Air Force Recovery Coordination

The Recovery Coordination Program streamlines and improves the way care and support are delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmer 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 AFE 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 Delores Sherman, Personal Financial Counselor for an appointment at 426-2527, or 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) p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)

p.m. – Mass w/Children's Church Tuesdays:

11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass Wednesdays:

11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

Protestant Community

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

6 p.m. – AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade how to apply for benefits. For more information your mind. Additional details are available by throughout the base for a one-time event, special 6 p.m. – Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John



SUPT Class 16-12 earns silver wings





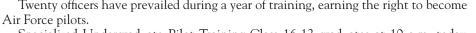
Baghdad, Iraq F-16, Iraq



1st Lt. Byron Barfuss KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



1st Lt. Sarah Collins Swansea, III. EC-130H, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-12 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Brig. Gen. Andrew Croft, Di-

rector of Plans, Programs, Requirements and Assessments, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, is the graduation guest speaker.

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

2nd Lt. Justin Sato, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Christopher Kowalski, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented

to 2nd Lt. Justin Sato, T-38, and 2nd Lt. David Hall, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national

2nd Lt. Justin Sato, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Christopher Kowalski, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 16-

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

Twenty officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to become emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

> Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft. After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in

the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the

T-38C aircraft. The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military

version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument

training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 53.6 hours in the flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year

of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus AFB. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. SUPT Class 16-12 pilot partners are Hughes Management.



2nd Lt. Kelsey Emig

CV-22, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Glenmoore, Pa.

1st Lt. Derek Demyanek C-17A, Hickam AFB, Hawaii



1st Lt. Takafumi Hara Ebina, Japan UH-60J, Japan



1st Lt. Barry James Pollock, La. T-1A, Columbus AFB, Miss.



1st Lt. Yu Kisaki Chikushiono, Japan C-130H, Japan



1st Lt. Kyle Laprade AC-130U, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



1st Lt. John Lu Novi, Mich. C-17A, McChord AFB, N.Y



2nd Lt. Shannon Flynn Sarasota, Fla. F-16, Tucson ANG, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Matthew Frasse Pensacola, Fla. T-6A, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. David Hall Kansas Citv. Mo. C-130H, Rosecrans ANG, Mo.



2nd Lt. Byron Hernandez C-130H, Niagara Falls ARB, N.Y.



2nd Lt. Christopher Kowalski Strongsville, Ohio C-17A, Stewart ANG, N.Y.



2nd Lt. Jeffrey Lewoczko C-130J, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. Justin Sato Waipahu, Hawaii C-17A, Hickam AFB, Hawaii



1st Lt. Michael McKone

F-15C, Kingsley Field ANG, Ore.

2nd Lt. Emily Thompson Coeur D'Alene, Idaho F-16, Holloman AFB, N.M.



C-130H, Niagara Falls ARB, N.Y.