

An advertisement for Bob's Paint & Auto Body. The top half features a photograph of a man and a young girl with pigtails, both wearing jackets, leaning over and inspecting the front fender of a white car. The background is a blurred outdoor setting. Overlaid on the right side of the photo is the text "We Can Help!" in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below the photo, a red banner contains the text "Call us for quality work and friendly service!" in white. The bottom section is a rounded rectangle with a red border. Inside, there is a logo for "BOB'S PAINT & AUTO BODY". The logo features a stylized black car silhouette with a paint spray gun icon to its left. The word "BOB'S" is in large, bold, red letters, and "PAINT & AUTO BODY" is in white letters on a dark blue background. Below the logo, the address "83 E. Plymouth Rd. • Columbus • 662-327-1221" and the phone number "24 Hour Wrecker Service 662-328-4822" are listed in black text.

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Sept. 1, 2016

Vol. 40, Issue 35

Weather



News Briefs

Labor Day Weekend Holidays

Most base organizations are closed Sept. 2 – 5 in observance of Labor Day Holiday and an Air Education and Training Command family day.

SUPT Class 16-14 Graduation

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training
Class 16-14 graduates 10 a.m., Sept. 9 at Kaye
Auditorium.

AETC Commander visit

The Commander of Air Education and Training Command is scheduled to visit Team BLAZE Sept. 12 -13.

Inside



Feature 8

The Airman Leadership School is highlighted in this week's feature.

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 (17-08)	-1.77 days	-0.71 days	Sept. 28	48th (16-14)	1.58 days	1.15 days	Aug. 26	49th (16-LBC)	-2.79 days	-0.73 days	Sept. 21	T-6	2,372	2,283	28,176
41st (17-07)	1.84 days	0.19 days	Sept. 6	50th (16-14)	-0.82 days	0.44 days	Aug. 26	<i>* Mission numbers as of Aug. 26, 2016.</i> <i>* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.</i>				T-1	792	551	8,874
												T-38	832	792	9,639
The graduation speaker is Col. Derek Routt, 1st Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff, Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida.												IFF	391	396	4,004



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 9 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.

VISIT
(Continued from page 1)

facility,” Montoya said. “We had talked about it last time and it hadn’t opened yet, but there were already discussions going on about that partnership. It’s pretty amazing to go and actually see that the city and community leaders are leaning forward to help us with a challenge we were overcoming.”

Montoya finished the day touring the other A4 areas such as the Fire Station, L-3, and the 14th Logistics Readiness Squadron. While at the fire station Montoya presented a plaque to Ricky Songer, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Chief, in honor of their newly-received accreditation.

The second day of the visit, Montoya got a chance to tour the T-38 Test Cell site and Engine Shop before departing.

During his visit, Montoya praised the updates made to the NEXRAD radar site, improvements to the LRS, and the downtown shooting range, as well as expressing excitement for upcoming projects such as the community commons.

“It was good to see the close connection between the base and the community, and the people who have grown up here,” Montoya said. “I can see why folks from Mississippi love Columbus AFB.”

“It was good to see the close connection between the base and the community, and the people who have grown up here,” Montoya said. “I can see why folks from Mississippi love Columbus AFB.”

This was Montoya’s second visit to Columbus AFB since 2014. When asked what his biggest take away from his visit was, he was impressed by the amount of work being done on Columbus AFB every day to support training.

“What a great mission Columbus is delivering for us,” Montoya said. “When Gen. Roberson talks about airpower starting here, this is a perfect example. These young students who are graduating today and in the future are going to be our frontline warfighters. I can see firsthand, airpower starts here at Columbus AFB and with Team Blaze.”

Silver Wings

How to reach us

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

Editorial Staff

Col. Douglas Gosney
14th Flying Training Wing
Commander

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief of Public Affairs

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Editor

Airman 1st Class John Day
Staff Writer

Mrs. Tina Perry
Layout Designer

Submission Deadline

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

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

News Around Town

Sept. 2
Doors open at 7 p.m. for the Love and Laughter Tour with live performances Labor Day Weekend by Avant, Lenny Williams, lyse Gibson, and comedian Chestnut in Trotter Convention Center, 402 2nd Ave. N. Show starts at 8 p.m. Hosted by WACR Radio’s Greg McMichael. For more information, call 662.891.3648. Buy tickets here on Ticketmaster.com


Black Prairie Blues Festival gates open at 6 p.m. on the Mary Holmes College campus in West Point. Tickets \$25 at the door.

Sept. 3
West Point’s 38th annual Prairie Arts Festival includes fine arts, crafts, live music, car show, Kidsville, food and more, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, call 662-494-5121 or email info@westpointms.org.

Sept. 8 – 11
The 15th annual Tennessee Williams Tribute is in Columbus, Mississippi. For event details and tickets, call 368-8591 or visit TennesseeWilliamsTribute.org.

Sept. 16
Come enjoy the Starkville/MSU Symphony at the Columbus Arts Council’s Rosenzweig Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Contact the CAC at 328-2787, or visit columbus-arts.org to learn more.

Sept. 22 - 25
5th Annual Possum Town Tales Storytelling Festival is the chance to hear both local and internationally known professional storytellers who will entertain and inspire audiences of all ages. Learn more on columbus-arts.org.



12th Annual Salute to Lowndes County’s Finest

Please help us as we honor our First Responders in Lowndes Co. Each corporate sponsorship (\$250 or more) includes an exclusive invitation for 2 people from that organization to attend the event with proceeds going towards the event and the continued endowment of the Salute to Lowndes’ Finest Recovery and Relief Fund.

For more information, please contact Mark Smith, 328-1042, ext. 105

Fri., Sept. 9, 2016 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Trotter Convention Center Lower Level

Lowndes County First Responders To Be Honored

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Baptist Memorial Hospital EMT’s
Caledonia Town Marshalls
Columbus AFB Fire Dept.
Columbus AFB Security Forces Dept.
Columbus Fire Dept.
Columbus Police Dept.
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Emergency 911
EMCC Security

Golden Triangle Regional Airport - Airport Patrol
Lowndes County Constables
Lowndes County Volunteer Fire Dept.
Lowndes County Sheriff’s Dept.
Mississippi Highway Patrol - G Troop
Miss. State Dept. of Wildlife and Parks
MUW Police Dept.
The Salvation Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Complimentary lunch for all Lowndes County First Responders Only

Anyone else who wishes to attend must be a sponsor for the event.

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.

Pets

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, playful and most importantly, house trained. For more information, please contact 435-3626.

Miscellaneous

For Sale: New Evenflo Tribute LX Convertible Car Seat, Saturn unused; \$45. InStep Jogging Stroller, 16 years old, in good condition; \$25. Lego Mindstorms, sells for \$700, asking \$150 as some pieces are missing. For more information call or text 425-1878 or email jffmllr130@gmail.com.

For Sale: Queen size head and foot board, dark wood with rails for canopy, \$50; King size sleigh style head and foot board, light wood, \$50; Self-propelled lawnmower, \$75; Sofa, love seat, recliner, brown, \$100; Love seat, green, \$40; For more information call Kathy at 549-1214 leave a message if there is no answer.

Transportation

For Sale: 1978 Triumph Spitfire with extra parts and hard top for sale, \$3000. For more information call Danny at 549-5188 or 434-7317.

Fueling the future: AF works to ‘home-grow’ biofuels for DOD, industry

Marisa Novobilski
Air Force Research Laboratory

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — A need to address increases in petroleum costs with an environmentally friendly fuel source has led to a new way of looking at production—and the Defense Production Act Title III Program Office, part of the Air Force Research Laboratory, is playing a critical role in commercializing this technology.

In simplest terms, a biofuel is a fuel produced from living matter that includes plant waste and animal fat, rather than a fuel produced through the geological process, such as coal, diesel and petroleum. Bio-fuels are environmentally friendly and form from renewable resources. Most of all, biofuels are helping to ex-pand military energy sourc-es, improving reliability while decreasing dependence on foreign fuel sources—bene-fits that Pres-ident Barack Obama and the Defense Department stress are crit-ical to nation-al security.

“The mil-itary services were directed by the presi-dent to address the production of biofuels so we could mitigate the vulner-abilities faced when the price of fuel went up,” said James Neely, a program manager in the DPA Title III Program Office. “When there is any disruption to the supply of petroleum-based fuels, the financial impact on DOD budgets is tre-mendous. A \$1 change in the price of a barrel can result in billions of dollars in expense.”

The DPA Title III Program Office carries out presidential directives focused on advancing “home-grown” domestic production capabilities for leading edge technologies for national security. Through govern-ment and industry partnerships and financial incentives, the program plays a role in assuring domestic ability to produce.

“We have unique authorities through Title III, allowing us to enter into partnerships with commercial industry to put a manufacturing capability in place in response to a specific DOD need for technology,” Neely said. “Biofuels are determined as essential to national security; we are working to move the technology into the domestic industrial

base, with the end goal of a consistent supply at a competitive cost.”

The biofuel program enables Neely and his team to work with a number of different companies to develop feedstock, acquire equip-ment and help firms develop a business strategy enabling them to sus-tain the production and distribution of biofuel for use not only by the DOD, but industry as well. Overall biofuel technology has been in development for years; the Title III office is working with industry to commercialize the technology so that it is a viable and affordable option for all, Neely said.

One recent success of the biofuel program is the Bio-Synthetic Par-affinic Kerosene (BSPK) project. The project led to the retrofiting of an idle California-based refinery, making it possible to manufacture large-scale batches of biofuel for military and industry use. This par-ticular type of biofuel is manufactured using the hydro-pro-

cessed esters and fatty acids (HEFA) process. The process blends non-edible nat-ural oils and agricultural wastes with hy-drogen and a catalyst. The re-sulting fuel is able to b l e n d with pe-troleum jet fuel in a 50-50 proportion, integrating into existing engine sys-tems, including aircraft, without modification.

The Navy integrated BSPK biofuels into the launch of the Great Green Fleet in January 2016, deploying the first carrier strike group to use alternative fuel blends and energy efficient systems to power ships for combat. The Air Force has qualified biofuels for use in almost all of their equipment and weapons systems, said Neely, and while they have purchased units for testing, fuller implementation de-pends strongly on cost and availability.

While biofuels have a strong benefit for the military, industry inter-est has helped drive these programs forward. For example, United Air-lines has purchased biofuel for use in its fleet to power regular flights between Los Angeles and San Francisco.

“The benefit to the Air Force is that we will not be dependent on a single source of supply or international supply for our military fleets in the future. We are growing the domestic base, creating jobs and building industry capability. These home-grown capabilities are help-ing America stay great,” Neely said.

PROGRAM

(Continued from page 12)

ROTC detachments, and 65 military entrance processing stations (MEPS). Airmen can contact the military per-sonnel element/flight customer sup-port section or the base education office for more information regarding AFEPQT and TBAS testing.

Airmen who’ve already amassed off-duty flying hours can apply that experience toward their score, which Pollard said is the same scoring sys-tem used to select Air Force officer pilots.

“AFEPQT and TBAS scores are combined with an applicant’s flying hours to generate a pilot candidate selection method (PCSM) score, which if high enough, enables an Airman to advance to Phase 2 of the application process,” she said.

All applicants will be considered based on their test scores. No later than Oct. 28, AFPC will announce a pool of 200-300 candidates for Phase II, which entails submitting all of the required application documents to AFPC and completing an Air Force initial flying class II physical exam-ination. Airmen will have until Jan. 27 to submit a certified flight physical to AFPC.

The results of the inaugural Air Force Enlisted RPA Pilot Selection Board, which meets Feb. 6-Feb. 9, will be released in late February 2017.

“The Air Force is a place of oppor-tunity,” said Pollard, who was once an open general enlistee. “You may not have a full road map when you’re offered these opportunities so it’s up to you to say ‘yes,’ and ask yourself ‘why not me?’”

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Dave Goldfein expressed the impor-tance of the ISR force.

“Our ISR capabilities are in de-mand by every combatant command-er in every region,” he said. “We must continue to ensure that we recruit, train and retain the very best in our RPA force. They are simply vital to the joint fight and a strategic re-source for our nation.”

Complete eligibility requirements and application procedures are avail-able on myPers. From the dropdown menu, select “Active Duty AF Enlist-ed” and search “enlisted RPA.

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Validate CCAF transcript request

Community College of the Air Force Online Transcript request experienced intermittent interference and some transcript requests were not processed. We highly recommend any student who requested a transcript within the last 30 days to log in to CCAF Student Ser-vices to verify their order was processed. If order history does not display the recent request, please place another request.

Labor Day Holiday hours

Airman & Family Readiness Center	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Arts & Crafts	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Back Gate.....	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Bowling Center	Open 6 a.m. – 1 p.m. Sept. 2; noon – 5 p.m. Sept. 5
Child Development Center	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Columbus Club	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Commissary.....	Closed Sept. 5 - 6
Exchange.....	Open Sept. 5, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Fitness Center	Open 24/7 (register at front desk)
Golf Course	Open Sept. 2 – 5, 8 a.m. – dusk
Medical Group	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Military Personnel and Finance	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Multimedia	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Outdoor Recreation	Open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sept. 2; Closed Sept. 5
Shoppette	Open Sept. 5, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Visitor’s Center	Closed Sept. 2 - 5
Youth Center.....	Closed Sept. 2 - 5



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens
Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, speaks at the Base Com-munity Council luncheon Aug. 25, in the Club at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississip-pi. Over 80 members attended the luncheon where Gosney introduced himself and shared his philosophies and ideas for the future of Columbus AFB.

Gosney speaks to BCC at luncheon

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

Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Train-ing Wing Commander, spoke at the Base Community Council luncheon Aug. 25, in the Club at Columbus Air Force Base.

The BCC is a multi-community organiza-tion that supports the common interest of the military and civilian communities. Members foster friendships between one another, ex-change business ideas and expand local busi-ness relationships with the base.

“We have one objective,” said Larry Cantrell, BCC President. “That objective is to help this base complete its mission to the best of their ability. This community stands behind the base and the things they do. Our mission is their mission.”

In his first BCC luncheon, Gosney intro-duced himself and told the members about his philosophies and plans for Columbus AFB.

“We are so happy to be here,” said Gosney. “We have gotten such a warm welcome from

“We are so happy to be here,” said Gosney. “We have gotten such a warm welcome from the base and community.”

the base and community. I look forward to getting to know all of you on a more personal level. It is evident to me already we do not do our mission without the support of our com-munity partners.”

Over 90 members attended the luncheon including both community partners and vari-ous Columbus AFB leadership.

“Thanks to all in attendance for coming out today to this luncheon to meet me,” said Gosney. “This Golden Triangle Region, I know, is going to be a huge asset to how we continue to improve and carry out our mis-sion here at Columbus.”

Gosney Speaks to Team BLAZE about self, future

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Col. Douglas Gosney held three Commander's All calls for Team BLAZE personnel Aug. 25 at Columbus Air Force Base.

Gosney used to opportunity to introduce himself and his family. He then explained what he values most in people such as Integrity, Teamwork, Respect, Discipline, attention to detail, and loyalty.

"The Air Force core values are the standard right? It's what we should all live up to every day. Those are non-negotiable," said Gosney.

Gosney then spoke of the core values being a foundation for Airmen's lives to build upon with the right mindset.

"Your character is your integrity over time. That's how we build character," Gosney said. "A simpler definition I like is doing the right thing all the time even when nobody is watching."

Gosney also spoke of his philosophy on how Airmen should direct themselves in their career such as being innovative, becoming a leader, staying positive, remaining at the ready and having a warrior mindset.

Focusing on the mission of Producing Pilots, Advancing

Airmen, and Feeding the Fight, Gosney wanted the base to know how integral is.

"Airmen and families are our most precious resources. If we're not taking care of them then none of this other stuff matters," Gosney said. "We can recruit individuals but we retain families."

Looking at the near future Gosney reminded personnel of upcoming events such as the Free David Cook Concert, the Unit Effectiveness Inspection, and the Air Force Birthday Ball. Gosney also spoke of his experience with the Base Community Council.

"I spoke with our community partners this afternoon, and they know this relationship is really important," Gosney said. "They love our Airmen. They didn't come to base to hear Doug Gosney talk, they came because they love you guys and they want to support this base."

Gosney ended his speech with a video and a statement about taking advantage of life before it's gone.

"When you're not at work, do something to better yourself," Gosney said. "Do something to better the people around you, and make good use of your time, because its short and goes away... Thank you for your service. Thank you for leading our Airmen and thank you for getting the mission done."



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Stephanie Englar
Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, speaks to Team BLAZE personnel during an all call Aug. 25 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Gosney used to opportunity to introduce himself and his family. He then explained what he values most in people such as Integrity, Teamwork, Respect, Discipline, attention to detail, and loyalty.

1st Lt. Warren Semple memorialized in France for sacrifice

Paul Scoskie

49th Fighter Squadron
Association historian

A ceremony honoring 1st Lt. Warren Semple, United States Army Air Corps pilot, was held to immortalize his sacrifice with a plaque monument in the center of a traffic roundabout Aug. 26 at the entrance to the City of Orange, France.

On June 15, 1944, Semple and the rest of the 49th FS was on a mission to strafe the Orange-Caritat Airfield in Southern France. After inflicting heavy damage on the German Air Force facility, the 49th FS formed up for the flight home. It was then they noticed Semple's P-38 was not among them. The last person to see Semple's aircraft was 2nd Lt. Donald Luttrell who stated, "It is my belief that Semple was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire."

Since September 2015, the 49th Fighter Squadron Association has been in contact with Nicolas Courtine, a historian living in southern France, who was working on a proj-



Courtesy Photo

Pilots from the 49th Fighter Squadron pause for a photo together in 1944. On June 15, 1944, the squadron was on a mission to strafe the Orange-Caritat Airfield in Southern France managing to inflict heavy damage on the German Air Force facility before 1st Lt. Warren Semple, United States Army Air Corps pilot, was brought down by enemy fire.

ect to erect the plaque in the memory of Semple.

"The location is only 300 yards from the site where Semple's P-38 crashed," Courtine said. "Every person entering or leaving the City of Orange will go by this place and see

the name and the monument."

After the Mayor of the city as well as the city council gave final approval to the project, it was recognized on "a day of liberation," as it was on Aug. 26, 1944, when American soldiers of the 3rd Infan-



Courtesy Photo

A plaque of 1st Lt. Warren Semple, United States Army Air Corps pilot, is erected in the center of a traffic roundabout Aug. 26 at the entrance of the City of Orange, France. His sacrifice was recognized on "a day of liberation," as it was on Aug. 26, 1944, when American soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division liberated the City of Orange, France, from Nazi occupation.

try Division liberated the City from Nazi occupation.

The 49th Fighter Squadron Association wrote a letter thanking the City of Orange for honoring the memory of Semple. The letter was

read during the ceremony in both English and French.

Many surviving members from the 49th FS will be visiting Team BLAZE during the 49th FS Reunion Sept. 15 and through the weekend.

F-35 surges forward with record-breaking weapons tests

Christopher Ball

412th Test Wing Public Affairs

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — The F-35 Integrated Test Force here recently completed 25 missions comprised of 12 weapons delivery accuracy and 13 weapon separation tests as part of a monthlong weapons firing test surge.

Historically, WDAs take place once a month given the myriad of coordination required. The highest number previously accomplished in a month was three in November 2014 during block 2B software testing.

Maj. Charles Trickey, interim director of operations for the 461st Flight Test Squadron, flew the final mission of the surge Aug. 17. The mission was completed at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, where F-35 Lightning IIs shot two advanced medium-range, air-to-air missiles at a QF-4 drone.

"Some of these WDAs were particularly challenging events," Trickey said. He said the final mission was actually the fourth attempt to complete this test. "It was really cool to see the satisfaction of the team, and to get that feeling of accomplishment after doing something that challenging."

All told, the F-35 ITF deployed 30 weapons in 31 days, which included 12 WDAs and 13 separations, according to Trickey.

"Thirty separations in 31 days; that's never been done before in flight test," said Capt. Brett Tillman, a flight test engineer with the 461st FTS. "The fact that we could get everything together to do that number of separations in that few days is pretty amazing."

These successful test events — performed using the F-35's newest block 3F software — demonstrated the accuracy of the aircraft. Five of the test events featured dropping multiple weapons.

The effort for this surge wasn't limited to the F-35 test team. There were a number of units outside the F-35 ITF that put in extra effort and time to make the surge successful, including Edwards AFB airfield and tanker operations, the 416th FTS and the F-35 Joint Program Office.

The F-35 weapons test team was given exclusive use of the Sea Test Range, an instrumented Pacific Ocean test area off the central coast near Point Mugu, California. Tests were also conducted at the U.S. Navy's China Lake weapons range in California and White Sands missile range.

"The amount of coordination and teamwork from the ITF and the outside organizations to enable this is unprecedented,"



Lockheed Martin photo/Darrin Russell

Maj. Douglas Rosenstock fires an AIM-120 AMRAAM from an F-35 Lightning II during a recent weapons test surge at Edwards Air Force Base, California. By the end of the surge the F-35 Integrated Test Team released 30 weapons in 31 days, a first in flight testing.

"Thirty separations in 31 days; that's never been done before in flight test," said Capt. Brett Tillman, a flight test engineer with the 461st FTS. "The fact that we could get everything together to do that number of separations in that few days is pretty amazing."

Tillman said. "The work these team members put in is amazing. It couldn't have been done without them."

During this surge period, a total of 30 weapons were dropped or fired, including the joint direct attack munition, AIM-120 advanced medium-range, air-to-air missile, GPS-guided 250-pound small diameter bomb, AIM-9X Sidewinder supersonic, heat-seeking, air-to-air missile and GPS laser-guided munition.

"The WDAs rely on the full capability of the F-35 — multiple sensors, navigation, weapons envelope, mission planning, data links and inter-agency range scheduling — all working in sequence to put steel on target," said Lt. Gen. Chris Bogdan, an F-35 program executive officer. "This was a tremendous effort by the F-35 test team. They surged and worked seven days a week for more than a month to expend 30 ordnance and advanced weapons testing. This testing has moved us

that much closer to delivering the full F-35 capability to warfighters within the next two years."

The F-35 is a multi-role, next-generation fighter that combines advanced stealth with speed, agility and a 360-degree view of the battlespace. The F-35 will form the backbone of air combat superiority for decades to come and replace legacy tactical fighter fleets with dominant air-to-air and air-to-ground capabilities to deter and defeat potential adversaries.

The Marine Corps declared the F-35B combat ready, or initial operating capability, in July 2015; the Air Force declared F-35A IOC on Aug. 2; and the Navy intends to attain F-35C IOC in 2018. More than 200 F-35s have flown in excess of 66,000 fleet-wide hours, with over 300 F-35 pilots and 3,000 maintainers trained to operate and support this next-generation aircraft.



U.S. Air Force photo/Andy Morataya

Gen. Darren W. McDew, the U.S. Transportation Command commander, watches as former Women Airforce Service Pilot Pauline Cutler-White and retired Col. Charles McGee, one of the original Tuskegee Airmen, pin new rank on Lt. Gen. Stayce D. Harris during her promotion ceremony Aug. 26, 2016, at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. Harris became the Air Force's first black female lieutenant general, and also the first reservist to fill the position of the assistant vice chief of staff and director of the air staff.

First AF reservist assumes role as AF assistant vice chief

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE ANDREWS, Md. — Lt. Gen. Stayce D. Harris received her new rank during a promotion ceremony here Aug. 26. Former Women Airforce Service Pilot Pauline Cutler-White and retired Col. Charles McGee, one of the original Tuskegee Air-

men, helped pin on the new rank.

Harris, a command pilot with more than 2,500 hours in the C-130H Hercules, KC-135R Stratotanker, C-141B/C, T-38 Talon and T-37, is the Air Force's first black female lieutenant general. She is also the first reservist to fill the position of the assistant vice chief of staff and director of the air staff.

AF opens enlisted RPA pilot program to all AFSCs

Master Sgt. Amaani Lyle
Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Using a phased-application approach, Air Force senior leaders are casting a wider net to ensure more active-duty enlisted Airmen are eligible to apply for the service's RQ-4 Global Hawk remotely piloted aircraft program, a Pentagon official said Aug. 29.

The program expands the eligibility pool from career-enlisted aviators to all Air Force specialty codes with a revised timeline in which Airmen now have from Sept. 1-Oct. 14 to take the computer-based Air Force Enlisted Pilot Qualifying Test (AFEPQT) and the Test of Basic Aviation Skills (TBAS), said Senior Master Sgt. Kimberly Pollard, an RPA enlisted specialty manager.

"The timeline has become more specific and gives Airmen more time to test, to prepare their applications, and to complete their flight physicals" Pollard said. "Now all Airmen should be able to take advantage of this program if they meet the qualifications."

Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James explained the rationale behind the expansion and timeline change in which the first board packages are due by Dec. 16.

"Expanding opportunities in the RPA program is one of many ways the Air Force is tapping into the talent of our skilled, diverse and innovative enlisted force," she said. "This gives Airmen an opportunity to excel in a new way, and we couldn't be more pleased to open the doors."

According to the Air Force Personnel Center, Airmen who meet the eligibility requirements may begin Phase 1 and signal their intent to apply by taking the AFEPQT/TBAS at the nearest testing facility, located by visiting the AFPC's website and clicking on the "PCSM," or pilot candidate selection method, link at the bottom of the page.

Additionally, interested applicants who have previously taken the pilot portion of the Air Force Officer Qualifying Training or the paper AFEPQT may request their scores be considered if they do not wish to take the new computer-based AFEPQT.

Finally, interested applicants who have

"Expanding opportunities in the RPA program is one of many ways the Air Force is tapping into the talent of our skilled, diverse and innovative enlisted force," she said. "This gives Airmen an opportunity to excel in a new way, and we couldn't be more pleased to open the doors."

taken the AFOQT or the paper AFEPQT within the past 180 days are prohibited from taking the AFEPQT again but may still send an email to confirm their intent to apply.

Applicants must hold a rank from staff sergeant through senior master sergeant and be retainable for six years from course graduation date. Airman in all AFSCs are eligible for this program; however, a career field manager release is required for Airmen receiving a critical skills retention bonus or for Airmen in the following AFSCs: aerospace maintenance (2AXXX); battlefield Airmen (1C2XX, 1C4XX, 1T2XX, 1W0X2, 3E8XX); cyber (1B4X1, 3D0X2, 3D0X3, 3D1X2); missile maintenance (2M0XX); and nuclear weapons (2W2XX). Selection opportunities may be further limited or restricted during the board for some career fields in order to maintain acceptable operational manning levels.

Pollard explained that the AFEPQT, which covers four areas to include math and aviation knowledge, takes about 85 minutes while TBAS is a 75-minute exam. Testing terminals are located at 54 Air Force and Air National Guard bases, 54

See PROGRAM, Page 14

Columbus AFB hunter education course starts Sept. 6 and 8

Frank Lockhart

14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1972, must have a Hunter Education certification to purchase a hunting license. The certification can be obtained in two parts; the first part can be online at one of the following sites approved by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, & Parks:

- Today's Hunter in Mississippi — hunter-ed.com. \$24.50 Fee — Video narrated & interactive course, pay only when you pass.

- Mississippi Hunter Ed Course — HunterEdCourse.com. \$13 Fee - Narrated & interactive, pay only if you pass.

- Be A Safe Hunter — beasafehunter.org \$9.95 Fee.

- HUNTERcourse.com Mississippi — huntercourse.com. \$24.95 Fee — interactive course, pay only when you pass.

Upon completion of the online course, print the comple-

tion certificate and present it at the classroom portion.

There will be two CAFB classroom sessions. An abbreviated one, for military members who have passed a weapons qualification course, will be from 6 – 8 p.m. Sept. 6 in Phillips Auditorium. The complete classroom session will be from 6 – 9 p.m. Sept. 8 in Phillips Auditorium.

There is no cost for either classroom session on Columbus AFB. The full class is available to anyone over 10 years of age that has base access. Each participant must be present for the entire class, have a certificate to show completion of an approved on-line course, and pass a written exam. Another option is to attend one of the classes open to the public, which can be found on the MDWFP webpage.

To register for one of the 2016 Columbus AFB Hunter Education courses, follow the directions below. Parents, please fill out a separate enrollment for each child attending.

1. Go to [https://education.mdwfp.com/Web/Event/Coun-](https://education.mdwfp.com/Web/Event/Coun-tySelection)

tySelection

2. Enter "cafb1" for the abbreviated course, or "cafb2" for the full 3-hour course, in the "Submit a Class Code" block in the upper right. This is a closed class, meaning no general public access, so it doesn't show up on the website.

3. Click "Register as a new user"

4. Fill in the information for your new account

Note: DOB format is mm/dd/yyyy.

Note: Enter N/A if individual doesn't have a Driver's License.

5. Click "Register"

You should receive an email shortly, notifying you were successfully enrolled in the class.

For more information about the Columbus AFB Hunter Education Courses, contact Lt. Col. Brent Green at 425-2538, or Frank Lockhart at 434-7958.

SUPT class 17-13 volunteers at Riverwalk



Courtesy Photo

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-13 volunteered to spend their weekend cleaning and picking up trash in downtown Columbus Aug 27 at the Riverwalk throughout and around the 4.2 mile walking trail. The class hopes to volunteer every few months with the local community.

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.



Visit us online!
www.columbus.af.mil

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

BLAZE Hangar Tails: T-33A Shooting Star

Mission

The two-place T-33A Shooting Star jet was designed for training pilots already qualified to fly propeller-driven aircraft. It was developed from the single-seat F-80 fighter by lengthening the fuselage about three feet to accommodate a second cockpit.

Background

Originally designated the TF-80C, the T-33 made its first flight in 1948. Production continued until 1959

with 5,691 T-33s built. In addition to its use as a trainer, the T-33 has been used for such tasks as drone director and target towing, and in some countries even as a combat aircraft. The RT-33A, a reconnaissance version made primarily for use by foreign countries, had a camera installed in the nose and additional equipment in the rear cockpit.

The T-33 is one of the world's best-known aircraft, having served with the air forces of more than 20 different nations over several decades. The T-33A on display was flown to the museum in 1962.

General characteristics

Armament: Two .50-cal. machine guns in nose
Maximum speed: 525 mph
Cruising speed: 455 mph
Range: 1,000 miles
Ceiling: 45,000 ft.
Span: 37 ft. 6 in.
Length: 37 ft. 8 in.
Height: 11 ft. 7 in.
Weight: 15,000 lbs. maximum
Serial number: 53-5974



U.S. Air Force photo

DAYTON, Ohio – A Lockheed T-33A Shooting Star front cockpit sits at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, Ohio. It was developed from the single-seat F-80 fighter by lengthening the fuselage about three feet to accommodate a second cockpit.



U.S. Air Force photo

DAYTON, Ohio – A Lockheed T-33A Shooting Star sits at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, Ohio. The two-place T-33 Shooting Star jet was designed for training pilots already qualified to fly propeller-driven aircraft.

Last Look Area

Recycling is what the Last Look Area provides! Slightly used furniture and equipment is available to all Columbus Air Force Base facilities for free. Pick-up and delivery is the customer's responsibility. There is a three-day maximum for customers who wish to reserve items.

**Facility hours are from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Monday through Friday.**

**Need more information?
Contact Inspections at 434-7231 or 434-7332.
Parking is available at the back of building 158.**

The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.	Guardian of freedom and justice,
I am a Warrior.	My nation's sword and shield,
I have answered my nation's call.	Its sentry and avenger.
	I defend my country with my life.
I am an American Airman.	
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.	I am an American Airman.
I am faithful to a proud heritage.	Wingman, leader, warrior.
A tradition of honor,	I will never leave an Airman behind.
And a legacy of valor.	I will never falter,
	And I will not fail.
I am an American Airman.	

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.)

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is held 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sept. 12-16. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop has seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Dept. of Employment Security, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Dept. of Labor TAP portion. Preparation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance is 8 – 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Career Technical Training

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sept. 19 - 20 and explores technical careers for post military personnel using VA Educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, a private company contracted by DVA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of eight participants. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Troops To Teachers

This workshop is 10:30 a.m. - noon Sept. 21. It is an informational workshop for members pursuing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Linked-In Workshop

The Linked-In workshop is Sept. 26-27, 2-5 p.m. You learn how to establish and use a Linked-In account. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

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

Team BLAZE members speak for Women's Equality Day



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

Master Sgt. Nesha Willis, 14th Flying Training Wing Maintenance Authority, speaks to attendees during the Women's Equality Day panel Aug. 26 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

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

Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (both single and married), their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health providers. Counselors can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC, call 662-364-0504.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center. We have volunteer opportunities located throughout the base for a one-time event, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities office and many others.

For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

The Recovery Coordination Program streamlines and improves the way care and support are delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and their families. The RCP provides the support of a Recovery Care Coordinator who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill and injured Airmen who: (1) have a serious illness or injury (2) are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time (3) may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Columbus AFB RCC at DSN: 493-3399, Office: 334-953-3399 or tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Personal Financial Readiness

Make the most of your money. Contact 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.

Learn How to Read Your LES

Having a hard time understanding your Leave and Earning Statement? Need a refresher so that you can mentor your subordinates on their entitlements? Finance has you covered.

If you would like for Finance to come to your next CC call or Professional Organization event, you can contact Master Sgt. Sabrina Spriggs at DSN 742-3068 or Senior Airman Julianna White at DSN 742-2715.

DRMO

Recycle first by using the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office as your facility's source of supply. Authorized personnel may retrieve property free of charge if the property is still physically located here in Base Supply and marked at DRMO facilities. Other DRMO processing is available via the web at www.drmo.dla.mil. Cost of shipping will apply. Please call Inspection at 434-7231 to review DRMO property or Stock Control at 434-7197 with questions or concerns you may have. Parking and assistance is available in the back of building 158.

Zero Overpricing Program

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

Chapel Schedule

Whether you are new to Columbus Air Force Base or have been around for a while, our parish communities welcome you to join us as we worship, fellowship, and encourage one another. For more information, please call 434-2500.

Catholic Community

Sundays:

3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex)
4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. – Mass w/Children's Church

Tuesdays:

11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass

Wednesdays:

11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

Protestant Community

Sundays:

9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service

Tuesdays:

5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)

Wednesdays:

4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Ecumenical services

Wednesdays:

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

For more information contact the visitor's center at 662-434-7133 or visit www.dhs.gov.

(INS Form I-776)



Airman Leadership School class 16-5 and family attend a picnic hosted by the Military Affairs Committee and local Air Force Association chapter Aug. 27 at the Stennis Lock and Dam in Columbus, Mississippi. During the picnic, they received words of wisdom from Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and many Columbus community members.

U.S. Air Force photo/1st Lt. Lauren Woods



Airman Leadership School class 16-5 face off against enlisted leadership in a classic game of "Old vs New" volleyball Aug. 26 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. After a rigorous course totaling over 190 hours, the Airmen get the chance to relax and have fun as a team.

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

Airman Leadership School builds future NCOs, thoughtful leaders

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

After years of development, enlisted Airmen enter a time of transition from junior to full-on Air Force leader. During this period, they undergo training that will open their minds to opportunities and roles that they've likely never delved into before.

This transition is known as Airman Leadership School, a five-week-long mandatory program designed to develop Airmen into effective front-line supervisors.

Students go through numerous uniform inspections, conduct drill, study leadership roles and what type of leader they are and the best way they can lead their subordinates.

"Earlier in your career you are focused on getting everything you need to take care of yourself and have someone watching over you," said Staff Sgt. Noah Wright, 42nd Force Support Squadron ALS Instructor. "ALS is the first time you have to say 'Okay, it's more than just me now I have to take care of somebody else.' We give them the tools, but having the tools and using the tools are two different things."

Airmen spend over 190 hours total in ALS learning about these tools and how to use them to better not only themselves but their soon to be troop.

"It takes a lot of skill to supervise correctly," said Master Sgt. Perry Hollenbeck, 42nd FSS ALS Commandant. "You need to have the cognitive skills to do what you need

to when you see something wrong and say 'I'm going to do something about it this time,' and people struggle with that..."

Some Airmen are unsure of what they will encounter and are pleasantly surprised.

"One thing that stood out to me is learning all the different types of leadership styles that are out there," said Senior Airman Taylor Varone, 14th Operations Support Squadron Air Traffic Controller. "Usually when you think of supervisors, you think of all the paperwork you have to go through, and you don't think of all the techniques to use with certain individuals because everyone is different. Not everyone can take leadership the same way."

As the course came to an end, Varone feels more confident in herself and is ready to take on her new role as an Air Force leader.

"I feel prepared, and I'm looking forward to it," Varone said. "I definitely have a different outlook on it than I did in the beginning. I learned that the more effort you put into an Airman, the more likely they will see the Air Force in a more positive light and will want to stay in, and not have a negative view because they had bad supervisors."

Varone, Hollenbeck and Wright all agreed that great leadership will build a better future for Airmen.

"Leadership is definitely important, they are the ones preparing you for the future," said Varone. "Having good leaders is what makes the Air Force so great."



Airman Leadership School class 16-5 pause for a group photo at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The class is set to graduate Sept. 1 which is the first step in their heightened leadership role.

Courtesy Photo



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day

Airman Leadership School Class 16-5 lowers the flag for retreat Aug. 18 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. ALS is a five-week-long mandatory program designed to develop Airmen into effective front-line supervisors.

