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SILVER WINGS

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 41, Issue 1Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. January 13, 2017

Weather

Friday

Rain

High 72°F Low 52°F

Saturday

Partly Cloudy

High 72°F Low 53°F

Sunday

Partly Cloudy

High 72°F Low 56°F

Monday

Thunderstorms

High 70°F Low 56°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Martin Luther King Jr. holiday

Most base organizations are closed Jan. 16 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Jan. 17 at the Columbus Club for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

SUPT Class 17-04 Graduation

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-04 graduates at 10 a.m. Jan. 20 at Kaye Auditorium.

Exchange closed for inventory

The Columbus Air Force base Exchange will be closed Jan. 14 for inventory and will reopen with normal business hours the following day.

Inside

Feature 8

The 14th Flying Training Wing Year in Review 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 (17-12)	1.85 days	-1.12 days	Jan. 18	48th (17-04)	78.48 days	14.39 days	Jan. 20	49th (17-DBC)	-3.45 days	-2.33 days	Feb. 1	T-6	842	802	8,410
41st (17-13)	3.61 days	2.74 days	Feb. 9	50th (17-04)	1.63 days	-5.77 days	Jan. 20					T-1	266	262	2,163
* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.												T-38	289	315	2,707
												IFF	116	124	1,196

The graduation speaker is Col. Franz Plescha, U.S. Air Force retired.

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- AAFES Closed, Saturday 14 Jan

Saturday, 14 Jan. main BX closed for inventory

Shoppette, Optical, Subway, & Taco Bell will be open for normal Saturday business hours

- MLK Jr. Day Breakfast & Service Project

Monday, 16 Jan. Trotter Convention Center. Breakfast 0800 (RSVP req'd). Service Project 0900

[Click here for more information](#)

- Wing Newcomer's Brief

Tuesday, 17 Jan. Club, 0800

- Club Member Appreciation Breakfast

Thursday, 19 Jan. Club, 0630-0800. Free for members, \$8 for non-members

- 17-04 Graduation

Friday, 20 Jan. Kaye, 1000

FSS Info & Lunch Specials: [Click Here](#)

Wing launches information-sharing BLAZE Bulletin

2nd Lt. Hannah Zarsky

14th Student Squadron

Want to have a better way of knowing what's going on around base than having a bunch of individual emails filling up your inbox?

The 14th Flying Training Wing is set to unveil a new information sharing tool, the BLAZE Bulletin.

The BLAZE Bulletin is a tool Team BLAZE will use to disseminate relevant information with wing-level impact to all base personnel. It will include the week's pertinent happenings in one location, including the 14th Force Support Squadron

See BULLETIN, Page 3

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 37 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.

2017 Tax Center volunteers needed

The Columbus Air Force Base legal office is currently seeking tax center volunteers for the upcoming tax season. No prior tax experience is necessary, as all required training will be provided to qualify volunteers for tax preparation. The tax center will open Feb. 6, 2017, and trained volunteers will prepare tax returns through April 7, 2017. If you are interested in this opportunity to be involved in our Tax Center please contact the legal office at 434-7030.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
16 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday MLK Jr. Breakfast/Day of giving, 8 a.m. @ Trotter Convention Center downtown	17 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club	18	19 Medical clinic and visitor center closed, noon	20 SUPT Class 17-04 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	21/22	Jan. 31: Enlisted Promotions/Fourth Quarterly Award Ceremony Feb. 5: Columbus Club Super Bowl Party Feb. 7: Wing Newcomers Orientation Feb. 9: Annual Awards Banquet Feb. 10: SUPT Class 17-05 Graduation Feb. 13-15: Military Archbishop base visit Feb. 14: St. Valentine's Day lunch Feb. 28: Enlisted Promotions Mar. 7: Wing Newcomers Orientation Mar. 10: SUPT Class 17-06 Graduation Mar. 13-17: Local School Spring Break Mar. 24: Happy Irby Golf Tournament Mar. 27 - May 5: AFAF Mar. 28: Wing Newcomers
23 UEI	24	25	26	27 17-05 Assignment night, 5:30 p.m. @ Club	28/29	

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday hours

Airman & Family Readiness Center	Closed Jan. 16
Arts & Crafts	Closed Jan. 16
Back Gate	Closed Jan. 16
Bowling Center	Closed Jan. 16
Child Development Center	Closed Jan. 16
Columbus Club	Closed Jan. 16
Commissary	Closed Jan. 16 - 17
Exchange	Open 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Jan. 16
Fitness Center	Open 24/7 (register at front desk)
Golf Course	Closed Jan. 16
Medical Group	Closed Jan. 16
Military Personnel and Finance	Closed Jan. 16
Multimedia	Closed Jan. 16
Outdoor Recreation	Closed Jan. 16
Shoppette	Open 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Jan. 16
Visitor's Center	Closed Jan. 16
Youth Center	Closed Jan. 16

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
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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.

Published by the Commercial Dispatch Publishing Company, Inc., a or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or Service Publications, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

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

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

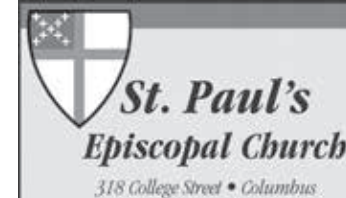
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Sunday School (all ages) - 9:15 am

SUNDAY EVENING

Youth Drama & AWANA - 4pm
Discipleship Training - 5pm
Evening Worship - 6pm

WEDNESDAY

Kid's Drama - 6 pm
Adult/Youth Bible Study, RAs, Gas
& Mission Friends - 6:30 pm
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BULLETIN
(Continued from page 1)

events and lunch specials. A link to the week's 14th FSS information is located in the bottom left corner.

Other examples of what will be on the BLAZE Bulletin include, but are not limited to, closures, volunteer events, graduation announcements, construction and more, which will be in line with the 14th FTW communications policy. Each bullet, along with the event title, will include location, date and time, and may also include additional information through a link to a flyer with more details.

The BLAZE Bulletin will appear every time someone logs into their computer and

will be gone after they exit out of it. Users are asked to please close out of, instead of minimize, the BLAZE Bulletin after reading it. To read the message again, wing members can log off and back on or click the button found on the top right of the base's official website, columbus.af.mil.

The background color of the week's BLAZE Bulletin will vary if a change has been made. The first BLAZE Bulletin of the week will be blue, and if any changes are made the slide will become brown, green, orange or yellow, respectively.

To add information to the BLAZE Bulletin, email 14ftw.pa@us.af.mil. All information is required to be edited by the 14th FTW Public Affairs office, which may include changes to style, content and brevity.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra
Nine of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotions ceremony Dec. 30, 2016, at the Columbus Club on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Nine enlisted Airmen promoted at ceremony

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Nine of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotion ceremony Dec. 30, 2016 at the Columbus Club.

Promoted during the month of December were:

- Airman 1st Class Gabrielle Achuff, 14th Medical Operation Squadron
- Airman 1st Class Spencer Hurlburt, 14th Operations Support Squadron
- Senior Airman John Day, 14th Wing Staff Agencies
- Senior Airman Jonathan Rosales, 14th MDOS
- Senior Airman Kyle Beath, 14th Force Support Squadron
- Senior Airman Rolando Chavez, 14th MDOS
- Staff Sgt. Michael Beck, 14th Security Forces Squadron
- Staff Sgt. Brandis Dixon, 14th MDOS
- Master Sgt. Danielle Luedtka-Shearer, 14th WSA

Hunt Housing tip of the week



During freezing temperatures, please leave heaters on, open cabinet doors under the sink, and keep cold water dripping from all faucets.

MLK Breakfast & a DAY of GIVING

Join the movement & give back

January 16, 2017

8:00 a.m.
at the Trotter Convention Center

Complimentary breakfast (while space lasts)

Remarks by Judge Carlton Reeves of the Southern District of Mississippi


Service project follows to benefit Helping Hands

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Retired colonel to speak at next graduation

Team BLAZE welcomes retired Col. Franz Plescha as the guest speaker for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-04's graduation ceremony Jan. 20 at Kaye Auditorium.

Plescha currently works for Booz Allen Hamilton and resides in Orlando, Florida. He received his commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1987 and attended pilot training at Laughlin AFB, Texas.

During his career he had five overseas assignments with multiple flying tours. His first assignment was as a T-38 instructor pilot prior to flying the F-16. He served as F-16 flight examiner, flight commander, and assistant operations officer. He has 61 total combat missions over Bosnia and Northern Iraq to include several multinational combat missions as the mission commander. He also served as a Commander of the 35th Operations Support Squadron, the Warrior Preparation Center and the Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulation.

Plescha is a command pilot with over 3,400 flying hours and 2,200 combat hours. He is a graduate of Air Command and Staff College and Air War College in residence. He speaks fluent German.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Sep 1987 - Sep 1988, Undergraduate Pilot Training student, Laughlin AFB, Texas
2. Mar 1988-Oct 1993, T-38 Instructor pilot, Assistant Flight



Commander, 86th Flying Training Squadron, Laughlin AFB, Texas

3. Jan 1994 - Sep 1994, F-16 FTU, Luke AFB, Arizona
4. Oct 1994 - Dec 1997, F-16 Instructor Pilot, Flight Commander, 23rd Fighter Squadron, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany
5. Jan 1998 - Jun 2001, F-16 RTU Instructor Pilot, Flight Examiner, Assistant Operations Officer, 63rd Fighter Squadron, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona
6. Aug 2001 - Jun 2002, Air Command Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
7. Jul 2002 - Feb 2004, Operations Officer, 607th Combat Plans Squadron, Osan AB, Republic of Korea
8. May 2004 - Jun 2005, Chief of Safety, 35th Fighter Wing, Misawa AB, Japan
9. Jun 2006 - Jun 2007, Commander, 35th Operations Support Squadron, Misawa AB, Japan
10. Sep 2007 - Jul 2008, Chief, Security Cooperation Programs Branch, European Command Joint Headquarters, Stuttgart, Germany
10. Jul 2008 - 2009, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
11. Jul 2009 - Jul 2010, Deputy Foreign Policy Advisor, US European Command and Joint HQ, Stuttgart, Germany
12. Jul 2010 - Jul 2013, Commander, Warrior Preparation Center, Einsiedlerhof, Germany
13. Jul 2013 - Jul 2014, Commander, Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulation (HAF), Orlando, Florida



Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, left, announces the Fireworks on the Water 2017 during a community reception alongside Columbus community partners Jan. 7, in the Columbus Club at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Fireworks on the Water will occur on July 1 and be hosted once again by the East Bank of the John Stennis Lock and Dam facility.

14 FTW Commander Hosts New Year Community Reception

2nd Lt. Hannah Zarsky
14th Student Squadron

Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, kicked 2017 off with a community reception for his Wingman, Honorary Commanders, Military Affairs Committee members and key government and civic leaders Jan. 7 at the Columbus Club. In addition, he invited all the 14th FTW group and squadron commanders to the reception.

"Thank you for the fantastic support for the men, women and mission of Columbus AFB in 2016," Gosney stated.

In 2016, the 14th FTW plan, briefed and flew 56,642 sorties with 81,010 flight hours. This effort resulted in 309 graduated pilots and Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals wingmen, Gosney said. In addition, our Medical enterprises went through a Joint Commission inspection and received its medical accreditation for another three years. Our medical staff was lauded by the inspection team as the fewest discrepancy ever seen on an inspection. The Fire and Emergency Services also earned its accreditation, one of only two in the state of Mississippi and the fourth in Air Education and Training Command.

Looking ahead to 2017, the Command has asked us to fly more sorties, given us more flying hours with

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NEWS AROUND TOWN

Jan. 16

Join the movement and give back, participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast and Day of Giving in the Trotter Convention Center. With pre-registration, a complimentary breakfast begins at 8 a.m. and continues while space lasts, with remarks to be given by Judge Carlton Reeves of the Southern District of Mississippi. A service project to benefit Helping Hands follows the breakfast. All events free with registration. For more information, visit muw.edu/MLK and register today.

Jan. 29

A homecoming tribute concert honoring the legacy of gospel music featuring Dorothy McClung Lewis, Nationally Renowned Gospel Recording Artist, Sing-

er, Songwriter. Guest performances by The Friendly Brothers in Christ, Canaan MB Choir, The Voices of Zion and The Golden Gates. Event starts 3 p.m. at the Trotter Convention Center. Advanced admission is \$15 or \$20 at the door. Tickets available at dorothymcclunglewis.com. and eventbrite.com.

Feb. 3

Cary Hudson in Concert begins 7:30 p.m. at Omnova Theatre in Rosenzweig Arts Center, 501 Main Street in Columbus, Mississippi. This Mississippi-born singer/songwriter's colorful music career in alt country, folk and Southern rock has earned him a reputation for delivering "roots music at its best." Tickets are \$10 advance or \$12 at the door. Visit columbus-arts.org/events or call 328-2787 for more information.

BARGAIN LINE

Transportation

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.

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Retruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one)

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(in case we need more information)

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AF evolves policies to access more talent, maintain high standards

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The Air Force announced new policies on dress and appearance with regard to tattoos, as well as changes to service medical accession policy Jan. 9.

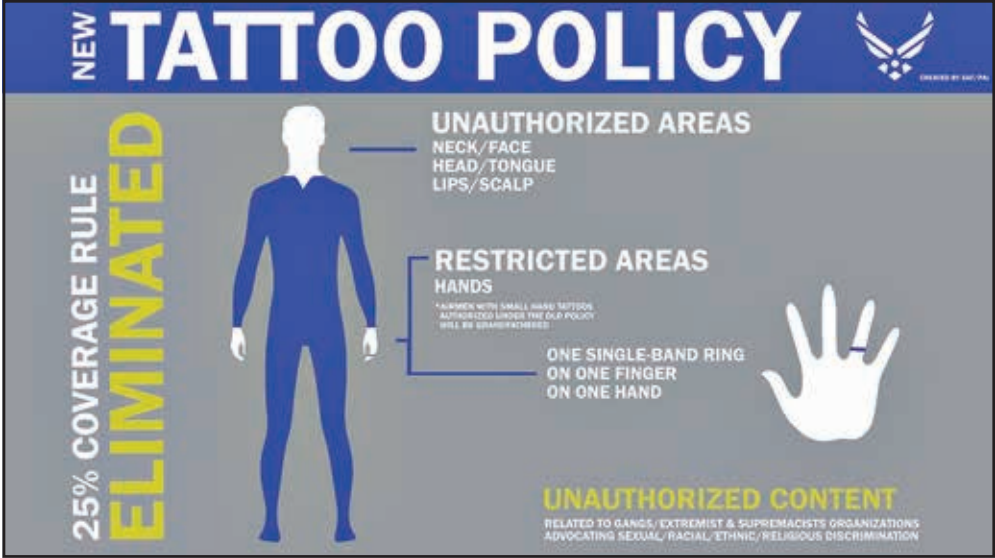
These changes result from a review of Air Force accessions policies directed by Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James in 2016.

“As part of our effort to attract and retain as many qualified Airmen as possible we periodically review our accessions policies,” she said. “In this instance, we identified specific changes we can make to allow more members of our nation to serve without compromising quality. As a next step in this evolution, we are opening the aperture on certain medical accession criteria and tattoos while taking into account our needs for worldwide deployability and our commitment to the profession of arms.”

Authorized tattoos on the chest, back, arms and legs will no longer be restricted by the “25 percent” rule, while tattoos, brands or body markings on the head, neck, face, tongue, lips and/or scalp remain prohibited. Hand tattoos will be limited to one single-band ring tattoo, on one finger, on one hand. The hand tattoo change ensures the ability to present a more formal military image when required at certain events and/or with dress uniforms. Current Airmen with existing hand tattoos that were authorized under the previous policy will be grandfathered in under the old policy standards.

A recent review of Air Force field recruiters revealed almost half of contacts, applicants and recruits had tattoos. Of these, one of every five were found to have tattoos requiring review or that may be considered disqualifying; the top disqualifier was the 25 percent rule on “excessive” tattoos. The new policy lifts the 25 percent restriction on authorized tattoos to the chest, back, arms and legs, opening up this population for recruitment into the Air Force.

Tattoos, brands and body markings any-



where on the body that are obscene, commonly associated with gangs, extremist and/or supremacist organizations, or that advocate sexual, racial, ethnic or religious discrimination remain prohibited in and out of uniform. To maintain uniformity and good order and consistent with Air Force Instruction 36-2903, “Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel,” commanders will retain the authority to be more restrictive for tattoos, body ornaments and/or personal grooming based on legal, moral, safety, sanitary, and/or foreign country cultural reasons.

The new tattoo policy is effective Feb. 1, 2017. Further implementation guidance will be released in an addendum to the policy guidance.

The Air Force’s periodic review of medical accession standards and advancement of medical capabilities prompted policy changes with respect to waivers concerning common conditions that have routinely disqualified prospective Airmen from service: eczema, asthma and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Waivers for eczema, asthma and ADHD currently constitute the highest volume of requests from Air Force recruiters. Additionally, current Air Force accession policy with respect to pre-service marijuana use is

not reflective of the continuing legalization of marijuana in numerous states throughout the nation.

“We are always looking at our policies and, when appropriate, adjusting them to ensure a broad scope of individuals are eligible to serve. These changes allow the Air Force to aggressively recruit talented and capable Americans who until now might not have been able to serve our country in uniform,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody.

While medical accession standards are standardized across the Services, the Air Force has modified some of its more restrictive service policy, or established specific criteria to streamline and standardize waiver processes to increase the number of qualified candidates entering service. These changes include:

- **Eczema:** Select candidates medically classified as having mild forms of eczema will be processed for a waiver. Certain occupational restrictions may be applied to secure personal and mission safety.

- **ADHD:** Candidates who do not meet the standard of never having taken more than a single daily dosage of medication or not having been prescribed medication for

their condition for more than 24 cumulative months after the age of 14 will be processed for a waiver if they have demonstrated at least 15 months of performance stability (academic or vocational) off medication immediately preceding enlistment or enrollment and they continue to meet remaining criteria as outlined in Defense Department Instruction 6130.03.

- **Asthma:** The Air Force will use the Methacholine Challenge Test to provide an objective measure of candidates with an ambiguous or uncertain history of asthma. Candidates who successfully pass this test will be processed for a waiver.

- **Pre-accession marijuana usage:** The revised policy will remove the service prescribed numerical limitations on prior use of marijuana when determining accession qualifications. In accordance with DOD standards, a medical diagnosis of substance-related disorders or addiction remains medically disqualifying for service. Additionally, any legal proceedings associated with pre-service use will continue to be reviewed and adjudicated separately and may be disqualifying depending on the nature of the offense(s). The Air Force will maintain a strict “no use” policy. An applicant or enlistee will be disqualified for service if they use drugs after the initial entrance interview.

The waiver process changes are effective immediately. The Air Force continues to work with the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the other services to review existing medical accession standards to allow the highest number of qualified individuals possible to serve.

“Among the fundamental qualities required of our Airmen is being ready to fight and win our nation’s wars. These accession standards ensure we maintain our high standards while bringing more consistency to our policies,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. “As medical capabilities have improved and laws have changed, the Air Force is evolving so we are able to access more worldwide deployable Airmen to conduct the business of our nation.”

81st FS maintenance advisors recognized during deployment

Congratulations to the 81st Fighter Squadron maintenance advisors for their part in instrumental support of training, advice and assistance of foreign security forces and being recognized by the 2016 Secretary of Defense Maintenance Award.

14th CES achieves AETC awards

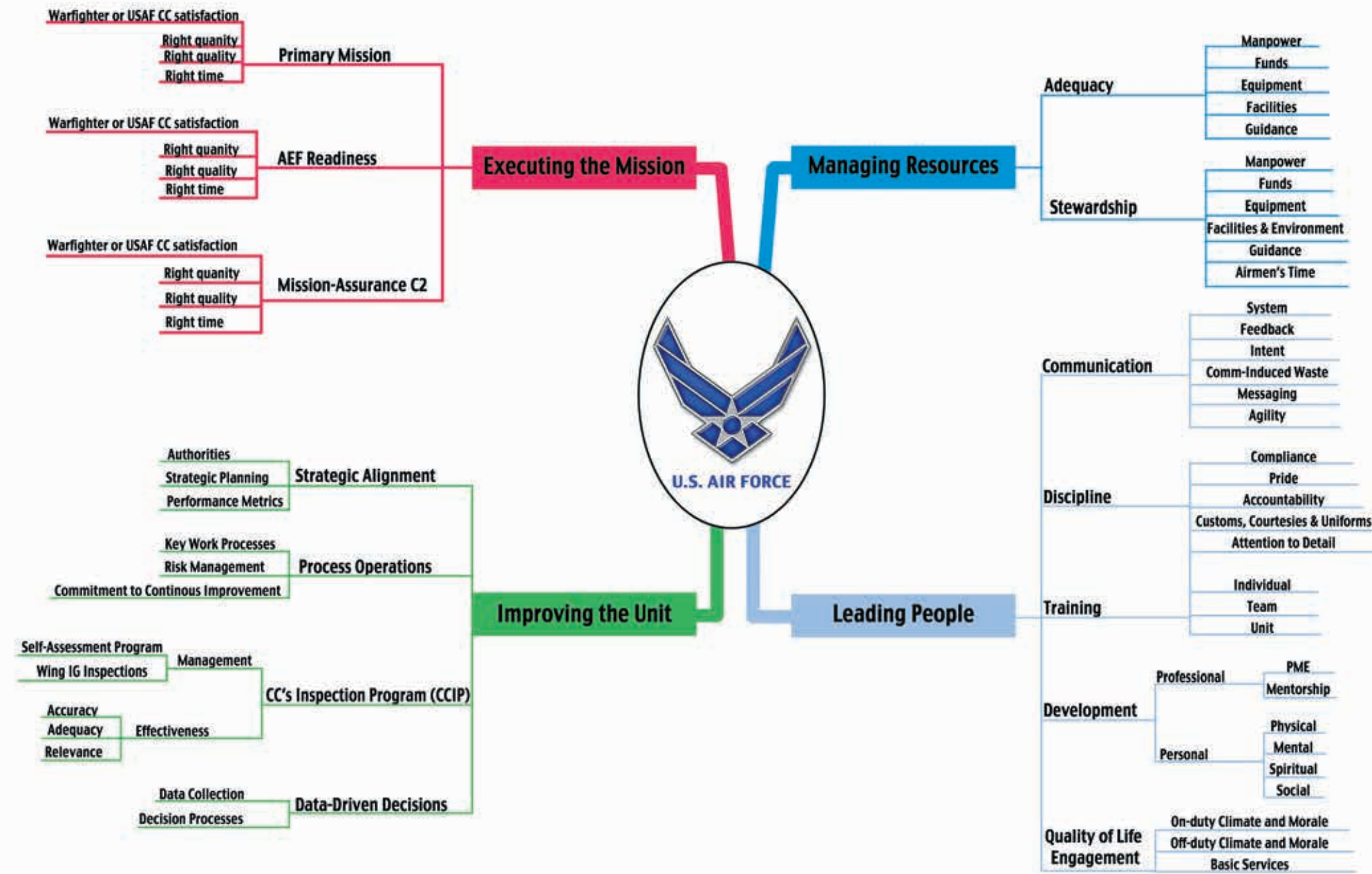
Congratulations to the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron for achieving the Air Education and Training Command Brigadier General Archie S. Mayes Award (Outstanding Engineering Flt).

the Air Education and Training Command Outstanding Civil Engineer Manager of the Year, Civilian Technician award.

Congratulations to Mr. Earnest Ross for achieving the Air Education and Training Command Outstanding Civil Engineer Manager of the Year, Civilian Technician award.

We wish them good luck and continued success in higher level competition.

Unit Effectiveness Inspection Major Graded Area’s January 23 - 30, 2017



Trusted Care is AFMS focus on ‘Zero Harm’ patient outcome

Master Sgt. Carolyn Stewart
14th Medical Group

The 14th Medical Group has rolled out the Air Force Medical Service’s Trusted Care concept.

Trusted Care is based upon healthcare organizations functioning as High Reliability Organizations.

HROs were conceived from the nuclear power and aviation industries, who consistently achieve better-than-expected outcomes in complex and high-risk environments. Healthcare HROs demonstrate significantly reduced rates of patient harm and higher quality care, by using a systematic process improvement approach which sets them apart from their peers.

Members of the 14th Medical Group take this commitment seriously and use HRO concepts to create a foundation of Trusted Care. Trusted Care embodies the vision of high reliability healthcare in providing safe, world-class care in-garrison, enroute and in deployed settings

One example of this is a technician notices a medication on the shelf has expired, so he immediately removes it to prevent a patient from consuming an out-of-date drug. Second, a unit notices three patients have



fallen outside their clinic in the past two months. Upon inspection, it is discovered the sidewalk is cracked and is the reason for the three falls; this is immediately fixed. Fi-

nally, a provider adds five minutes to each appointment to allow more dialogue with the patients; this improves patient care and customer satisfaction. These are just three of

many examples of how healthcare organizations can become highly reliable and trusted organizations.

Our Air Force core values are the foundation of our culture. We use them to guide our performance within our mission. The Trusted Care principles apply the Air Force core values into our practices, producing highly reliable medical care and mission support. As we lean forward into Trusted Care, our organizational culture will change. That culture change will shape the behaviors of leaders and staff, which will, in turn, positively impact our patients’ outcomes.

What does this mean for the patients of the 14th Medical Group? First, by engaging patients and viewing them as partners of the healthcare team, there will be an increase in patients’ knowledge and involvement in their own healthcare. The central focus will be on patient-centeredness. This means the delivery of healthcare will be focused on the patients’ safety.

Trusted care will also allow providers and staff to work more efficiently, so they can spend their time on what they love most; helping others and providing top quality and safe healthcare for all of our Team BLAZE members. So the next time you visit the 14th MDG, ask us about Trusted Care.

Columbus AFB Top 3 spotlight



Date: Dec. 28, 2016
Category: Airman/noncommissioned officer
Nominee Name/Grade: Senior Airman Jonathan Rosales
Unit: 14th Medical Operations Squadron/SGOR

Information:

- Home Town:** Carbon Hill, Alabama
- Time in the Air Force:** Two and a half years
- Time at Columbus AFB:** Two years
- Career Short Term Goals:** Finishing up my CCAF/Healthcare Management degree program
- Career Long Term Goals:** Become a

Chief Master Sargent of the Air Force

6. Nominated by: Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Hoffman

7. Nomination reason: Senior Airman Jonathan Rosales has a habit of excelling at any challenge thrown his way. Whether it’s briefing the 19th Air Force Command Chief, serving as Base Honor Guard, or as a college student about to receive his CCAF degree with a 4.0 GPA, he is consistently performing at a high level. What really highlighted this for me was when the CPR Program Director called Rosales a “Tremendous asset” due to the fact he taught 10x more classes than any other instructor on base. That is dedication to the mission far above and beyond expectations and it’s clear to me and those who work with Rosales say he is a superior performer.



U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens
Master Sgt. Carmina Beedle, Columbus Air Force Base Top 3 member, presents Senior Airman Jonathan Rosales, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, with the Top 3 Spotlight award Jan. 4, 2016, at Columbus AFB, Mississippi. Rosales was accompanied by Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Hoffman, 14th MDOS, who nominated him for the award.

Upgrade advances A-10s search capability

Airman 1st Class Mya M. Crosby
355th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. — A-10C Thunderbolt IIs assigned to active duty fighter squadrons at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base are in the process of having new lightweight airborne recovery systems installed.

The LARS V-12 is designed to allow A-10 pilots to communicate more effectively with individuals on the ground such as downed pilots, pararescuemen and joint terminal attack controllers.

The LARS system provides A-10 pilots with GPS coordinates of ground personnel and enables them to communicate via voice or text, according to Staff Sgt. Andre Gonzalez, 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron avionics technician.

The systems upgrades are being installed by the 309th Aircraft Maintenance and Regeneration Group.

“This urgent operational need arose in August (2016),” said Timothy Gray, the 309th AMARG acting director. “Air Combat Command and the A-10 Program Office asked me if AMARG could complete 16 aircraft by (Dec. 16). I said, ‘Absolutely!’ It was awesome to see Team AMARG take on this massive logistical challenge, build a production machine, find facilities, manpower, equipment, tools, and make material kits (to) execute the requirement.”

In the last three months, technicians have completed LARS installations on 19 aircraft from Davis-Monthan AFB and Moody AFB, Georgia, which will ultimately provide pilots and ground personnel downrange with a valuable search capability.

“A-10 pilots take the Combat Search and Rescue role very seriously,” said Lt. Col. Ryan Hayde, the 354th Fighter Squadron commander and A-10 pilot. “While this is just one tool, it can assist us in bringing them back to U.S. soil safely.”



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Mya M. Crosby
An A-10C Thunderbolt II, upgraded with a new lightweight airborne recovery system V-12, rests on the flight line at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, Dec. 21, 2016. The LARS V-12 is designed to allow A-10 pilots a more effective means of communication with individuals on the ground such as downed pilots, pararescuemen and joint terminal attack controllers.

AF announces Defense Digital Service partnership

Capt. Hope Cronin
Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James announced the launch of a new partnership between the Air Force and the Defense Digital Service Jan. 6 at an Air Force Association breakfast.

“We’re bringing the best innovators, thinkers and problem-solvers from across the country and presenting them with both technology and organizational challenges they’ve never seen before,” James said. “The impact of their solutions are both immediate and far-reaching.”

The competition for technical talent across both the public and private sectors is fiercer than it has ever been. The Air Force must compete with companies like Facebook and Google for the best and brightest, particularly in the science, technology, engineering and math fields.

The Air Force Digital Service team, partnered with the DDS at the Pentagon, affords a creative solution that turns that competition for talent into a partnership. The AFDS is focused on driving a leap forward in the way the DOD builds and deploys technology and digital services.

“National problems require us to partner with our national experts – in both the public and private sectors – to find solutions that have a national impact now,” said Michelle LoweSolis, the assistant deputy under secretary for management. “AFDS affords an opportunity for talented individuals to support national defense projects and challenges, to access technologies and issues they will never see in the private sector, and then return to their careers.”

The AFDS, like the DDS, is a unique team of industry experts – a “SWAT team of nerds” according to Chris Lynch, the DDS team lead – who have signed up for brief “tours of duty” lasting six to 12 months. The diverse pool of professionals apply their industry experiences to improve in-progress strategic or challenged projects. Members currently supporting DDS previously worked for a variety of technology-driven organizations, including Google, Shopify, Capital One and Amazon.

The team has already partnered with the Air Force in reviewing several programs. The group launched the “Hack the Pentagon” bug-bounty program, the first in the history of the federal government. The team also modernized the pipeline to process service treatment records for veterans to ensure they receive benefits timely and correctly.

The team’s agenda will be established over the next several months. Additionally, the team is actively filling its roster through the U.S. Digital Service hiring process. The USDS and its more than 200 members serve across the Departments of Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs, Defense, Education, State and Treasury, Health and Human Services, and the Small Business Administration.

“Being efficient is not just about making every dollar count or finding the best price tag for the taxpayer; it also means leveraging new ideas to be more effective, minimize redundancy, and protect our limited resources,” James said. “Our partners at the DDS have already proved indispensable in this effort, and I can’t wait to see the difference they will make in their expanded role as full mission partners.”

Visit dds.mil for more information or to apply to the Air Force Digital Service program.

AF announces NAS JRB Fort Worth as the preferred location for next F-35A base

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials announced Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, as the preferred location for the first Air Force Reserve-led F-35 base, which is expected to begin receiving its first F-35As in the mid-2020s.

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona; Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida; and Whiteman AFB, Missouri, will be considered as reasonable alternatives during the environmental analysis process which must be completed before the Air Force makes a final basing decision.

“We selected the Air Force Reserve unit in Fort Worth because it is the location that meets all of the necessary training requirements at the lowest cost,” said Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James. “Additionally, the location will provide mission synergy and access to an experienced workforce for recruiting as a result of its proximity to the F-35 manufacturing plant.”

According to the Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein, the F-35 is even better than advertised.

“In the hands of our Airmen, the F-35 will be the most lethal, survivable and adaptable aircraft in our inventory for decades to come,”

Goldfein said. “No matter how you slice it, the F-35’s stealth characteristics, maneuverability, interoperability and its ability to make other aircraft better through sensor fusion make it unmatched by any adversary.”

In December 2016, the Air Force released the candidate bases for the next two Air National Guard-led F-35 bases. The candidate bases included Dannelly Field Air Guard Station, Alabama; Gowen Field AGS, Idaho; Jacksonville AGS, Florida; Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan; and Truax AGS, Wisconsin.

The Air Force will be conducting on-the-ground site surveys at each candidate location assessing each location against operational requirements, potential impacts to existing missions, infrastructure and manpower, and then develop cost estimates to bed down the F-35A.

The preferred and reasonable alternatives for the ANG bases are expected to be selected in the summer of 2017.

The F-35As are expected to begin arriving at the second and third ANG locations in the early to mid-2020s.

Currently, three active-duty operational locations—Hill AFB, Utah; Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom; and Eielson AFB, Alaska— and one ANG location – Burlington AGS, Vermont – have been identified for F-35A basing.

AF selects Shaw AFB as the preferred location to host a new RPA unit

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The Air Force has selected Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, as the preferred location to base a new MQ-9 Reaper group, including mission control elements.

Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona; Moody AFB, Georgia; Mountain Home AFB, Idaho; and Offutt AFB, Nebraska, were named as reasonable alternatives and will be considered as part of the environmental impact analysis process.

“Intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance continues to be the number one most requested capability of combatant commanders and I believe adding additional RPA locations will help our efforts to retain experienced RPA operators that contribute to this vital mission,” said Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James.

The desire for additional locations for MQ-9 assignments was identified during surveys of officers and enlisted Airmen as part of Air Combat Command’s Culture and Process Improvement Program. CPIP is a series of initiatives designed to address challenges and stressors affecting the MQ-1B Predator and MQ-9 communities.

“Shaw AFB was selected because it was the best option to help us diversify assignment opportunities for personnel within the MQ-9 enterprise, provide increased opportunities for leadership from within the community, and provide flexibility to enhance integration with other organizations and capabilities,” James added.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein echoed those sentiments, noting “remotely piloted aircraft and associated intelligence operations are and will remain a vital component for the national security of the United States and our allies. Providing additional RPA basing locations can provide greater development and quality of life opportunities so we can provide combatant commanders with the best trained operators to perform this critical mission.”

The first Airmen assigned to the new group are expected to begin arriving there in fiscal year 2018 although no RPAs will be based at the location as a result of this action.

In addition to this action, the Air Force is also considering another location to host an MQ-9 wing that includes up to 24 MQ-9s, launch and recovery elements, a mission control element, a maintenance group and support personnel.

Natural gas public awareness program

Darrell Petters

14th Civil Engineer Squadron
Natural Gas Operator

Everyone in our community should be familiar with natural gas, but some may not realize natural gas utilities receive from natural gas pipeline systems.

The purpose for these underground energy portals is to safely transport this vital fuel to heat homes and power businesses and service institutions. The transportation of natural gas through these pipelines is one of the safest methods for transporting energy, although accidents can occur.

One of the ways accidents occur is when someone digs in the vicinity of a gas pipe and cuts the line. The Mississippi 811 One-Call system is an organization to prevent these types of accidents. Dialing 811 and providing information to the operator will ensure local utilities, including gas utilities, will mark their lines.

Another way accidents occur is when there are leaks from pipelines, appliances or other gas-related equipment. Natural gas is a colorless, odorless fuel that is lighter than air. Because it is odorless, a harmless odorant usually smelling like rotten eggs, is added to the gas so the presence of gas may be detected.

Leaks may be detected by noticing the following:

- 1) Smelling gas (odorant) near a meter or pipeline, sometimes after excavation work
- 2) A hissing or roaring sound caused by escaping gas
- 3) Dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green environment
- 4) Blowing dirt, grass or leaves
- 5) Steady bubbling in a wet, flooded areas or other water environment
- 6) A fire in or near an appliance or gas pipe
- 7) Unusual noise at an appliance
- 8) Unusual behavior of the flame at an appliance burner

pliance burner

In the event of a detected gas leak, the following should take place:

- 1) Leave the vicinity immediately without making calls or operating light switches
- 2) Evacuate others in the vicinity
- 3) Turn off and abandon cars or equipment in the vicinity
- 4) Do not start a car or other equipment in the vicinity
- 5) Do not operate any electrical or electronic equipment in the vicinity
- 6) Do not light a match or use another source of ignition
- 7) Do not smoke
- 8) Warn others to stay away from the area
- 9) Stay away from open flames
- 10) Wait for maintenance, emergency or utility personnel to put out flames

To report a leak, call 911. In order to keep the public safe from the potential hazards of

natural gas, such as fire or explosion caused by leaks, Columbus Air Force Base is required to perform a quarterly patrolling of the pipeline.

The distribution piping is made of plastic and requires a survey to ensure the pipe is not leaking or damaged. A leak survey is also performed annually to find leaks in piping and related gas equipment. Additionally, the maintenance staff performs periodic tests to ensure odorant can be detected in the gas. The maintenance staff also makes periodic checks for gas leaks and monitors each gas meter.

The agency who oversees all natural gas safety related activity for our distribution piping is the Columbus Air Force Base Natural Gas System. They can be reached at 434-7341, 434-7383 or 434-2262. To obtain further information about natural gas you may contact Darrell Petters, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Natural Gas Operator.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: Local brothers part of modern air refueling, aviation revolution birth

2nd Lt. Cameron Lindsey
14th Student Squadron

With over 1,200 officers and Airmen, the 186th Air Refueling Wing in Meridian, Mississippi, is made of mostly traditional guardsmen who live and work throughout Mississippi and surrounding states.

The 186th’s unique story began with two brothers from Meridian, Mississippi, in the midst of the great depression, who set out to achieve what aviation experts at the time deemed impossible.

Al and Fred Key planned the unimaginable: a 27-day continuous endurance flight in their new Curtis-Robbin monoplane nicknamed the “Ole Miss.” Desperate to save the new Meridian Municipal Airport they managed, they planned an historic flight that would break the current endurance record, save their struggling air field, and promote the aviation community they loved so much.

Before they could embark on their ground-breaking flight, they had several obstacles to overcome, with the most pertinent being air-to-air refueling. While there was already a method in place to refuel in the air, there was an issue with the nozzle disengaging from the aircraft. This often led to fuel spraying into the engine causing fires and several pilot deaths. Fortunately for the Key brothers and their upcoming

The Key Brothers took off in the “Ole Miss” June 4, 1935, and stayed in the air for 27 consecutive days, breaking the previous record by four days. The brothers’ wives and families stayed at the Meridian Airport during the flight to monitor their progress. Every day they would cook the brothers’ meals and have them taken up via the refueling plane.

ing record-breaking flight, local engineer and Meridian resident A.D. Hunter had invented the automatic shutoff valve which would prevent unintended fuel spillage, and asked the brothers to test his prototype during their mission.

Another obstacle the Keys faced was maintaining the aircraft’s engine for continuous use. They solved this problem by constructing a metal catwalk along the side of the

plane, which allowed the pilot to step out and service the engine while the plane was flying. These catwalks were so handy that thousands of planes followed suit and had them installed, including some future World War II aircraft.

The Key Brothers took off in the “Ole Miss” June 4, 1935, and stayed in the air for 27 consecutive days, breaking the previous record by four days. The brothers’ wives and families stayed at the Meridian Airport during the flight to monitor their progress. Every day they would cook the brothers’ meals and have them taken up via the refueling plane.

When they finally landed July 1, enormous crowds greeted them, including press from all over the nation. Their flight made them local heroes. Estimates showed the plane flew 52,320 miles; a distance that would have circled the Earth twice. The Meridian Municipal Airport was later renamed Key Field in their honor. Al and Fred are credited with not only the longest-ever continuous flight, a record that still stands to this day, but also the first-ever flight with an automatic shutoff valve, leading to the revolution of modern aerial refueling.

Today, Key Field is the headquarters of the Mississippi Air National Guard, 186th ARW. The Wing has been dedicated to refueling aircraft during flight for over 20 years, a duty made possible by a pair of outstanding aviators and their innovative engineer partner from Meridian over 76 years ago.

JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Travis AFB named next KC-46A locations

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials selected Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst, New Jersey, and Travis Air Force Base, California, as the preferred locations for the next two active-duty-led KC-46A Pegasus bases.

Twenty-four KC-46A aircraft will replace the legacy aircraft currently at each of those bases.

“Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst and Travis AFB were chosen as the next two active-duty-led KC-46A bases because they meet all operational mission requirements at the best value for the Air Force and the American taxpayer and support our tanker recapitalization strategy,” said Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James. “It is absolutely essential that we continue investing in the next generation of tanker aircraft so we have the aircraft necessary to maintain the nation’s global reach for years to come.”

Fairchild AFB, Washington, and Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota, will be considered as reasonable alternatives during the environmental impact analysis process which is required before a final basing decision is made.

At this time, the Air Force is planning to divest the legacy tankers after growing the tanker fleet to meet its 479 tanker requirement. The timeline is dependent on the KC-46A delivery schedule, but it is not anticipated to reach sufficient KC-46A fleet size and begin legacy divestment at the first location until 2019.

“The KC-46 will afford combatant commanders extended refueling capabilities, improved global reach, and enable timely joint-service response to humanitarian crises and contingency operations around the world,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. “In fact in the fight against (the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant), the Air Force and joint and coalition partners depend on gas from our tankers.

In 2016, the coalition flew over 13,600 tanker sorties, fueling aircraft nearly 80,000 times, delivering about 800-million pounds of fuel.”

Altus AFB, Oklahoma; McConnell AFB, Kansas; Pease Air National Guard Station, New Hampshire; and Seymour Johnson AFB, North Carolina; have already been selected as future KC-46 basing locations. The first KC-46As are expected to begin arriving at McConnell and Altus AFBs in fall of 2017.

The KC-46A will provide improved capability, including boom and drogue refueling on the same sortie, worldwide navigation and communication, airlift capability on the entire main deck floor, receiver air refueling, improved force protection and survivability and multi-point air refueling capability.

Travis AFB and JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst currently host the McDonnell Douglas KC-10 Extender.

Air Force
Readiness Programs

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

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is from 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Jan. 17 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. Jan. 17 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.

Smooth Move

The Smooth Move class is from 10-11:30 a.m. Jan. 24. The class provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

Marketing Yourself for A Second Career

This workshop is from 8 - 10:30 a.m., Jan. 26. Register for this workshop to learn how to market yourself for a second career and is conducted by MOAA. Workbook includes resume information, interviewing preparation, networking tips and negotiation strategies. For more information call 434-2790.

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is held 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jan. 30 - Feb. 3. 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. Preseparation 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.

Pre-separation Counseling

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



Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

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

Survivor-Benefit Plan

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

Saint Leo University

SLU offers on-base classes in psychology, criminal justice, and business administration. Online and CD-ROM classes are also available. Call Saint Leo at 434-8844 (dial 99 on-base) or stop by room 120 in building 926 (old Personnel building).

IDEA Program

The Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness is looking for submissions of individual, group, or team ideas about how the Air Force can accomplish something more efficiently. Cash rewards for ideas are possible. Visit <https://ipds.randolph.af.mil> or call 434-2388.

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 Fellowship Dinner after Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month
Tuesdays:
11:30 a.m. - Daily Mass
Wednesdays:
11:30-12:30 p.m. - Adoration

Protestant Community

Sundays:
9 a.m. - Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship Service
Tuesdays:
5 p.m. - Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)
Wednesdays:
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Ecumenical services

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

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

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

Battle of the Bulge

The Fitness Center is running the Battle of the Bulge from Jan. 9 - March 3. Contact Health and Promotion for more information and to sign-up 434-1688.

Youth Spring Soccer

Sign-up for youth spring soccer at the Youth Center from Jan. 9 - Feb. 10. Call 434-2504 for more information.

Breakfast Club

The Columbus Club monthly Breakfast Club is 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. Jan. 19. Free breakfast for Club members, \$8 for non-members.

Bingo at the Library

The Library is offering Bingo every second Wednesday of each month at 4:15 p.m. For more information call 434-2934.

\$.25 Cent Bowling

The Bowling Center is offering \$.25 cent bowling on Mondays in January. Upcoming dates are Jan. 16, 23 and 30 from noon - 5 p.m., shoe rental not included. For more information call 434-3426.

Kids Movie & Bowling

Enjoy unlimited bowling, shoe rental, along with a slice of pizza and a drink for \$5 and Watch Ice Age Collision Course at 5 p.m. Jan. 20. For more information call 434-3426.

Fitness/Time Out Child Care

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

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 434-2419.

Story Time and Circle Time

The Base Library offers Story Time every Friday at 11 a.m. for all ages. Circle Time is offered each Wednesday at 3 p.m. for ages up to 4 years old. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Cosmic Bowling Special

The Bowling Center offers 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.

Free Wood at the Golf Course

Wood is available at the Golf Course on Sundays from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Contact the Golf Course Monday-Friday to arrange pick-up. Call 434-7932 for more information.

Lawn Mower and Bicycle 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.

Play Paintball

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 9 or less. You must purchase paint at Out-

door Recreation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, contact 434-2505.

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.

Take & Bake Pizzas at the Bowling Center

Grab-and-go ready pizzas for you to take home and bake yourself are available at the bowling center. Save \$2 per pizza. Large and medium pizzas only.

Interested in Sponsoring with Columbus AFB?

Want your business to reach the 18,000 active duty military, family members, civilian employees and retirees living and working at Columbus AFB? If you are interested in event sponsorship or donations, please contact our sponsorship coordinator at 434-2337.

Free Fitness Classes

Free classes are available at the fitness center. Classes range from P90X, Hot Fusion, Jiu Jitsu and Floor Core & More. For more information on class schedules, contact the Fitness Center at 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.

Instructional Classes at Youth Center

Youth Programs is offering piano lessons, guitar lessons, tumbling classes, dance classes, and martial arts instruction. Times and ages vary for all classes. Call 434-2504 or stop by the Youth Center for more information.

Fitness on Request

CAFB Fitness and Sports offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with over 30 different classes on the Fitness on Request system. For more information, call 434-2772.

Space A Lodging

The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at 434-2548.

Ride in Style

If you don't want to leave your car at the airport over a vacation, we can help you out. Outdoor Recreation offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. Call 434-2505 for more information.

REVIEW

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area. Wingmen and Airmen watched a Columbus AFB Heritage video and afterward, Col. John Nichols, then 14th FTW Commander, gave a short brief which highlighted the current and future events planned for the wing. Later, on March 24, Airman Leadership School held a graduation ceremony at the Columbus Club for 16 enlisted Airmen, Class 16-3 graduates.

In April, Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, then 14th FTW Command Chief, spoke with retired and active-duty chief master sergeants during a Chief Luncheon at the Columbus Club. The monthly luncheon provided an opportunity for present and share ideals, life lessons and experiences conducive to enhancing the careers of active duty chiefs.

On May 13, Community College of the Air Force graduated 31 Airmen during a ceremony at Kaye Auditorium. The following month, Nichols gave his final “All Call” as commander on June 21.

As part of an Independence Day celebration on July 1, Columbus AFB joined the Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Army Corps of Engineers, Lowndes County, the Air Force Association and the City of Columbus to create a most memorable community fireworks event. The fireworks on the Water took place at the Stennis Lock and Dam in Columbus. Later that month, on July 22, Team BLAZE welcomed Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th FTW Commander.

During the month of August, the Columbus AFB Chapel sponsored a three-day weekend ‘get away’ to the Central Hill Baptist Retreat Center for 15 single airmen. The retreat, designed to address spiritual resiliency, also presented a training module titled, “How Not To Marry A Jerk (ette).” On Aug. 12, Team BLAZE recognized 12 senior enlisted noncommissioned officers during an induction ceremony held at the Columbus Club. On Aug. 17, a team of senior leaders from Mercedes-Benz of Tuscaloosa visited the 14th FTW to conduct their offsite training program, designed to learn more about leadership.

On Sept. 12, Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, AETC commander, and Chief Master Sgt. David Staton, AETC Command Chief, spoke to Team BLAZE members regarding future changes for the training command as well as his perspective regarding airpower and the importance of becoming great Airmen. Three days later, on Sept. 15-18, the 49th Fighter Squadron Association held their annual base reunion of past and present unit members. Retired Lt. Col. Jack Lenox, a World War II pilot who was credited with five confirmed kills was among the visitors. American Idol seventh season winner, singer and songwriter, David Cook, performed for Airmen and family members at Columbus AFB during a free outdoor concert held Sept. 25.

On Oct. 8, Fire Prevention Week began with a parade through the base housing areas and later an Open House which allowed visitors to understand and appreciate the importance of fire prevention education and awareness. On Oct. 29, the 48th Flying Training Squadron held its 20-year reunion. The heritage celebration honored those brave men and women who paved the way for those who followed in successfully accomplishing their flying mission.

After the welcoming extra hour of sleep from Daylight Savings Time on Nov. 2, The Columbus Community celebrated the Veterans Day Holiday with a parade and ceremony

2017 Columbus AFB events

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast and Day of Giving
Jan. 16, Trotter Convention Center
Breakfast starts 8 a.m. (RSVP required), Service Project starts 9 a.m.

Unit Effectiveness Inspection
Jan. 23 – 30

14th FTW Annual Awards Banquet
Feb. 9, Columbus Club
Social starts 6 p.m., Dinner starts 6:30 p.m.

Happy Irby Christmas Fund Golf Tournament
March 24, Whispering Pines Golf Course

AFAF
March 27 – May 5

Columbus Spring Pilgrimage
March 30 – April 8

Memorial Day Retreat
May 25, Gene Smith Plaza

Fireworks on the Water
July 1, East Stennis Lock and Dam

Patriot Day, Day of Service
Sept. 11

Air Force Birthday Ball
Sept. 15, Trotter Convention Center

Veteran’s Day Parade and Ceremony
Nov. 11, Downtown Columbus

held Nov. 11 in downtown Columbus.

On Dec. 13, the tree-lighting ceremony marked the end-days to a long productive year. Meanwhile, other personnel attended Christmas parties and luncheons, finished admin-

istrative requirements and made plans to share their much needed time-off with family and friends.

As we move forward into the year 2017, here’s wishing our BLAZE Team a most fulfilling and prosperous New Year.

2016: A Year in Review

Dr. Doris Crusoe

14th Flying Training Wing Historian

Once again, a 12-month period has come and gone as Team BLAZE members briefly pause to recount the 14th Flying Training Wing’s numerous accomplishments experienced throughout 2016.

During the course of the year, the base not only gained new wing, group and squadron level senior leadership, resulting from changes of command, but Columbus lost senior leadership, at all levels, due to numerous retirements. Nonetheless, the 14th FTW successfully met its primary mission requirement to produce military pilots, subsequently training and graduating over 300 new Air Force pilots as well as 41 international partners, resulting in 56,642 sorties and 77,299 flying training hours.

Moreover, in 2016, Team BLAZE frequently advanced airmen, made evident through the numerous promotion and award ceremonies, to include recipients of both individual and unit level awards. The wing continued to “Feed the Fight” as Airmen deployed to support contingency locations overseas and stateside.

In January, Maj Gen James Hecker, 19th Air Force Commander, and Chief Master Sergeant Robert Boyer, then 19th Air Force Command Chief, visited the base to speak with Airmen and Community Leaders. Their visit provided the wing’s higher headquarters leadership an opportunity to experience firsthand, the diverse and far reaching aspects related to successfully accomplishing the 14th FTW’s primary mission of producing military pilots.

The following month, on Feb. 1, the Columbus AFB Community Club reopened after the completion of a nine-month, 1.3 million maintenance and renovation project. During that same month, the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Emergency Services Flight won the Air Education and Training Command Department of Defense Fire Department of the Year (Medium Category) Award. The most Reverend Neal Buckon, Auxiliary Bishop from the Roman Catholic archdiocese for the military services, arrived on base on Feb. 13 for his annual visit. During a service, he anointed several Team BLAZE members.

During a “free to public” seminar held on Feb. 18, Capt. Jason Greer, 14th FTW Safety Officer, teamed with Columbus Golden Triangle Airport, Mississippi State University’s Flight Research Laboratory and Aurora Flight Sciences to discuss, with local community members, the threat of drone to manned aircraft operations. On Feb. 25, Scott Colon, Mississippi District 16, District Attorney and guest speaker for the Black History Luncheon, held at Columbus Air Force Base, addressed his concern of African American History being is an integral part of American history, but is often an underrepresented portion.

Columbus AFB leadership partnered with the local community, on March 10, during a reception held in the wing headquarters newly upscale-interior-designed lobby

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14TH Flying Training Wing 2016 First Quarter Events



Col. Matthew Baugh, 14th Operations Support Squadron Commander, talks with Maj. Gen. James Hecker, 19th Air Force Commander, Jan. 20 during Hecker's visit to Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Jan. 20-21. Chief Master Sgt. Robert Boyer, 19th AF Command Chief, accompanied Hecker. (U.S. Air Force photo/Richard Johnson)



Capt. Dwayne Booker, former 14th Student Squadron Class Commander, Lt. Col. Charles Gilliam, 14th STUS Director of Operations, 1st Lt. Timothy Jefferson Jr., 14th Operations Support Squadron Chief of Wing Airspace, and Maj. Brandon Jones, 14th STUS Class Commander, pause for a photo Feb. 1 before their flight honoring Black History Month at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. (U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens)



The winners of the Team BLAZE 2015 Annual Awards pause for a photo Feb. 5 at the Columbus Club on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The 14 Annual Award winners are Columbus AFB's "best of the best" for the past calendar year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Stephanie Englar)



Robert "Bunky" Goza, Monroe County Emergency Operations Director, speaks with William O'Meara, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Inspector, during the Regional Fire Chief Meeting March 17 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Attendees came from several locations to meet. While they were on base they were able to view the fire station, various static displays of aircraft and emergency vehicles, and they received a mission brief before going to a luncheon. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day)



Senior Airman Nickolas Candiano, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Emergency Management, pours a sample from a beaker while demonstrating the unit's capabilities Jan. 27 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Readiness and Emergency Management flight's primary focus is preparing the wing for natural disasters and CBRNE incidents, providing command and control for emergency operations and preparing Airmen to Feed the Fight downrange. (U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Stephanie Englar)



An A-10 Static Display is set up on the flightline Feb. 19 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Two A-10 aircraft were flown in for the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-05 Graduation. (U.S. Air Force photo/Sharon Ybarra)



Airman Leadership School class 16-3 members challenge members of the Top 3 to a volleyball game March 22 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. In the end the Top 3 members and first sergeants came out victorious. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay)

14TH Flying Training Wing 2016 Second Quarter Events



An F-22 Raptor sits on the SAC ramp April 20 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Twelve F-22s from the 94th Fighter Squadron at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, visited the 14th Flying Training Wing to generate interest in students to fly this airframe. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class John Day)



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



Columbus Air Force Base Airmen salute alongside Mississippi State University players during the playing of the National Anthem March 20 at an MSU softball game in Starkville, Mississippi. 'Salute Those Who Serve' was the game's theme honoring service members past, present and future. (Photo courtesy of Kelly Price/MSU Media Relations)



Spouses, Airmen, and other dependents volunteer their Saturday morning to clean up the Lil-Blazer Park located across the street from the Bowling Alley April 30 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Several Team BLAZE members brought buckets, sponges and soap while the Fire Station provided the water to help power clean the playground. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay)



Team BLAZE Airmen and civilians render their respect to fallen warriors while the U.S. flag is lowered during the Memorial Day Retreat Ceremony May 26 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. On Memorial Day the flag is displayed at half-staff until noon and at full staff from noon to sunset. This unique custom honors the war dead for the morning, and living veterans for the rest of the day. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kaleb Snay)



Lt. Col. Kirby Ensser, 41st Flying Training Squadron Commander, places a name tape on Andrew McCall, Pilot for a Day program participant, before his exciting day in the life of a pilot March 28 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. McCall and his family learned about the base's mission, visited static aircraft displays, toured various units and ended the day 'flying' in a T-6 Texan II simulator. (U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Dublin)



Senior Airman Eyan Narred, 14th Security Forces Squadron, places a beret on a memorial during the Fallen Defenders Presentation May 18 in the Kaye Auditorium on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. During National Police Week, security forces defenders and local law enforcement officers demonstrated their capabilities and daily responsibilities to the base and the public as well as honored fallen defenders. (U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens)



Heidi Grant, Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs, Washington, D.C., gathers with Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training students participating in international flying training programs after a luncheon April 23 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Grant came to see the robust international training program of Columbus AFB currently hosting 58 students from 24 different countries. During her visit, Grant also met with downtown partners in the International Spouses' Group, which supports internationally-born spouses of Columbus AFB personnel. (U.S. Air Force photo/Sharon Ybarra)

14TH Flying Training Wing 2016 Third Quarter Events



Col. James Boster, 14th Operations Group Commander, passes the 81st Fighter Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Ryan Hill, the new 81st FS Commander, during a change of command ceremony July 7, 2016, at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. This marks the first change of command for the 81st FS since being reactivated Jan. 15, 2015. The 81st FS is a geographically separated unit of the 14th Flying Training Wing, and tenant unit on Moody AFB. The 81st FS is responsible for the training of Afghan pilots and maintainers and A-29 aircraft. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ceaira Tinsley)



Participants in the fourth annual Color Run celebrate the completion of the race by throwing the remaining chalk colors into the air June 25, 2016, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Over 240 participants from the base and local community participated in the Color Run 5k or two-mile run where they ran through colored chalk thrown in their path. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class John Day)



Airman Leadership School class 16-5 lowers the flag for retreat Aug. 18, 2016, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. ALES is a five-week-long mandatory program designed to develop Airmen into effective front-line supervisors. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class John Day)



Danika Portz, pop and country music singer, performs at the 2016 Fireworks on the Water July 1, 2016, at the Stennis Lock and Dam in Columbus, Mississippi. Portz performance lasted until the fireworks show started after dusk. The event included food vendors, live music and an 18-minute fireworks display choreographed to music. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class John Day)



More than 20 Columbus community members and base personnel work together to clean up the landscape around the T-37 static display on Highway 45 Aug. 20, 2016, in front of Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. (Courtesy photo)



Gilbert Montoya, Air Education and Training Command Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, pauses for a photo with Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and other base leaders during his tour Aug. 31, 2016, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. 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. (U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens)



Lt. Gen. Daryl Roberson, commander of Air Education and Training Command, speaks to members of Team BLAZE during an all-call Sept. 12, 2016, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Roberson highlighted future changes for AETC Airmen and shared his thoughts on airpower and airmanship, as well as gave attendees background information about himself as a commander and his family. (U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens)



David Cook, American Idol season seven winner, right, and band members perform Sept. 25, 2016, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The evening began at 4 p.m. with a pool party at Independence Pool where guests were able to swim, play on bouncy castles, and enjoy hamburgers until 7 p.m. when Cook took to the stage. (U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Lauren Woods)

14TH Flying Training Wing 2016 Fourth Quarter Events



The 48th Squadron Association's 2016 reunion culminated in a banquet Oct. 29, 2016, at the Columbus Club on Columbus Air Force Base. Seventy-six members and guests gathered to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the 48th Flying Training Squadron here. The 48th Squadron lineage goes back 99 years and several members representing the 48th Fighter Interceptor Squadron were in attendance. (Courtesy photo)



Service members from active duty, guard, reserve and ROTC units around Mississippi wave a large American flag at the Mississippi State University football game Nov. 5, 2016. Nov. 5 is Military Appreciation Day and many service members came to watch the game free of charge. Among the events for Military Appreciation Day were a flyover from two T-38C Talon, a jersey presentation to the commander and vice commander of the 14th Flying



Team BLAZE members volunteer to wrap presents at the Happy Irby Fund Shop and Wrap Dec. 8, 2016, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Happy Irby Shop and Wrap provides underprivileged children with wrapped presents containing clothing, school supplies, outfits and other basic necessities. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman John Day)



Senior Airman Nickolas Candiano, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, shows students their common equipment during the Create Foundation career expo Oct. 6, 2016, at the BancorpSouth Arena and Conference Center in Tupelo, Mississippi. Students from seventeen northeast Mississippi counties attended the event giving them the opportunity to take the first look at their future. (U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens)



14th Medical Group Airmen participate in a wing-wide Active Shooter and CBRNE exercise Nov. 2, 2016, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. There were 120 objectives evaluated with a satisfactory grade overall. It's imperative for personnel to be aware of immediate actions to preserve life and neutralize the threats in these situations according to Lt. Col. Stephen Duran, Chief of Wing Exercises. (Courtesy Photo)



Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, speaks at the 2016 Columbus Veterans Day Wreath-Laying Ceremony Nov. 12, 2016, at the Lowndes County Court House in Columbus, Mississippi. Gosney spoke about what it truly means to be a veteran, the sacrifices they make and highlighted a few veterans from Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class John Day)



Representing the 2,479 men and women of Columbus Air Force Base, Col. Doug Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and his wife, Beth, led the Columbus Christmas Parade in a horse drawn carriage piloted by Willie Shumpert and Becky Laughlin Dec. 6, 2016, at Main Street, Columbus Air Force Base was honored to be selected as the Grand Marshal of the 2016 annual Columbus Christmas Parade. (U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Hannah Zarsky)



Sparky the Firedog gives a high five to a child Oct. 10, 2016, during Fire Prevention Week at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The children in attendance celebrated Sparky's 94th birthday at the party with games and more. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class John Day)