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Vol. 41, Issue 24

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

June 23, 2017

Weather

Friday  Thunderstorms High 85°F Low 72°F	Saturday  Thunderstorms High 86°F Low 72°F
Sunday  Thunderstorms High 85°F Low 67°F	Monday  Mostly Cloudy With Chance of Rain High 82°F Low 62°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight


News Briefs

5th Annual Color Run
The 14th Force Support Squadron is holding the 5th annual Color Run at 8:30 a.m. June 24 at the Lil BLAZEr Park.

SUPT Class 17-11 Graduation
Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-11 graduates at 10 a.m. June 30 at Kaye Auditorium.

Enlisted Promotion Ceremony
The next Columbus Air Force Base Enlisted Promotions ceremony is at 3 p.m. June 30 at the Kaye auditorium.

Inside



Feature 8

The Bioenvironmental Flight is highlighted in this week's feature.

Fireworks on the Water returns to Columbus

2nd Lt. Savannah Stephens
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

On July 1, fireworks will fly over the Stennis Lock and Dam in a patriotic salute to our nation's history.

The event, titled 'Fireworks on the Water 2017,' is a free, open-to-the-public initiative between the community and Columbus Air Force Base celebrating Independence Day.

Nancy Carpenter, CEO and Executive Director of Visit Columbus and Fireworks on the Water co-chairman, said the community is honored to co-sponsor this event in honor of the men and women of Columbus AFB.

While fireworks are in the title, the event features far more than just a fireworks display. Airmen staying in town for the holiday can bring their chairs, grab a burger or a snow-cone and listen to live music courtesy of Swing Shift and Danika Portz, while the kids enjoy bouncy castles and face painting. Then as the sun sets the night sky will become a canvas of lights, choreographed to music.

Fireworks on the Water will begin at 5 p.m. at the East Bank of the Stennis Lock and Dam. Please bring your lawn chairs and picnic blankets, but leave the personal fireworks and pets at home. Like Columbus AFB, firearms are not permitted on federal property. Be sure to arrive early to nab a prime parking spot.

Local vendors will be available to satisfy even the pickiest of palates. Vendors for the event include Mugshots and Chick-fil-A, as well as barbecue, funnel cakes, catfish and more. Children can have their faces painted, race through an inflatable obstacle course, hang out with



Columbus' own Mother Goose, or take their picture with DeeDee the Clown.


Music will begin at 5 p.m. with local band Swing Shift. Swing Shift's signature sound consists of mainly rock-and-roll hits from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s with R&B and soul classics from these eras as well. Swing Shift formed in 1985, has played hundreds of shows, and has opened for noted performers such as Lee Greenwood and Ricky Skaggs.

Following Swing Shift, Danika Portz will perform. Portz, originally from Remsen, Iowa, has a distinctive sound and

style that sets her apart from the typical pop-country act as her music has been described as a mixture of Mumford and Sons, Kacey Musgraves and Katy Perry – with a voice on par with Norah Jones.

Fireworks on the Water has been a joint effort between the base and community since 2006. Columbus AFB is proud to partner with the City of Columbus, Visit Columbus, Lowndes County, and the Army Corps of Engineers to put on such a fantastic, free family-friendly event. Those interested in volunteering to help can visit www.givegab.com.

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 (18-05)	2.29 days	0.75 days	July 21	48th (17-11)	-2.48 days	-0.79 days	June 30	49th (17-JBC)	-11.54 days	-2.90 days	July 21	T-6	2,128	1,859	22,965
41st (18-04)	1.53 days	-0.30 days	June 29	50th (17-11)	2.22 days	-4.98 days	June 30	* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.				T-1	645	552	6,050
The graduation speaker is Col. James Fisher, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander.												T-38	720	687	7,960
												IFF	309	242	3,342



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 15 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.

Airmen enjoy game of pool at recent Dorm Dinner



Col. Doug Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, center, watches as Chief Master Sgt. Johnathan Hover, 14th FTW Command Chief, right, plays pool with Airman 1st Class Wesley Roland, 14th Security Forces Squadron, left, June 16, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The First Four, an organization representing the Airman tier, hosted a Dorm Dinner where anyone living in the enlisted dorms could get a free meal, socialize with their wingmen and talk to leadership in a friendly environment.

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nabila Ivaldi

Silver Wings

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Submission Deadline

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

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

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Evening Worship - 6pm

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THE DISPATCH

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
26	27	28	29	30	1/2	July 13: 14th SFS CoC July 14: 14th CONS CoC July 14: SUPT Class 17-12 Assignment Night July 18: Wing Newcomers Orientation July 21: Air Force Birthday Ball Drawdown July 28: SUPT Class 17-12 Graduation July 31: Enlisted Promotions July 31: Quarterly Awards Aug. 4: End of Summer Bash Aug. 4: SUPT Class 17 -13 Assignment Night Aug. 7: 14th MDG CoC
			14th FSS CoC, 10:14 a.m. @ Club	SUPT Class 17-11 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye Enlisted Promotions, 3 p.m. @ Kaye	1st: Fireworks on the Water, 5 p.m. @ Lock and Dam 2nd: FWOTW Cleanup, 9 a.m.	
3 AETC Family Day and Holiday	4	5	6 Col. Fisher Fini-Flight, 3 p.m @ Base Operations	7 Col. Fisher Retirement, 2:14 p.m @ Club	8/9	

WARNING SIGNS

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- Increased Appetite
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EMCC Lion Hills ad

News Around Town

June 24

2017 is the Bicentennial of Mississippi and this summer we will celebrate the 200th birthday in West Point with Bike-Centennial. Ride your bike, or walk, along a half-mile stretch of the Kitty Dill Walking Trail as you stop along the way, learning the history of Mississippi and West Point.

June 13 – July 28

Lion Hills Center and Golf Course will host Junior Golf Camps throughout the summer. Remaining classes are June 27 - 30; July 11 - 14; July 18 - 21; and July 25 – 28. Contact Lion Hills at 662-328-4837 for more information.

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.

Miscellaneous

For Sale: Multiple items for sale including three new deer hunting caps, \$10 each; three Kentucky Wildcat

hats, \$10 each; one 9-inch fixed blade knife with gut hook, \$9; one used kerosene oil lamp with oil included, \$15; one straight back wooden chair with wicker seat and pads for seat and back, \$12. Call 244-5861 for more information.

Transportation

For Sale: White 2005 Cadillac CTS, rear wheel drive, 3.6 L, V6, \$8,400. Call 244-5861 for more information.

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

CLEARED HOT

(Continued from page 13)

Chris.

The routing chain from target identification to strike can take anywhere from a few minutes to several hours depending on the significance and situation of the strike. Any strike done with a JTAC goes through the same process regardless of what platform is employing the weapon.

“One advantage that the MQ-1 and MQ-9 has over some of our more traditional aircraft is its persistence,” said Brian. “Since our mission durations are so long, we’re able to maintain custody of that target for an extended period of time and provide an in-depth characterization of the target, ensuring the target is hostile.”

Brian added, because of their sensor capabilities and persistence over a target, MQ-1 and MQ-9 aircrews are able to integrate the entire targeting process from identification to final de-

struction and strike evaluation into a single platform versus requiring different multiple assets to accomplish the mission.

Brian went on to say that MQ-1 and MQ-9 aircrews receive special training to understand ROE as well as the commander’s guidance and intent for a particular strike; this complete understanding demonstrates a high level of proficiency in flying daily combat missions to support multiple theaters abroad.

Taking the fight to the enemy requires all aircrews to follow strict guidance in order to eliminate the enemy and safeguard friendly and coalition forces. The aircrews flying the multi-role MQ-1s and MQ-9s follow the same doctrine in support of 24/7 combat operations daily while adding an extremely professional and precise persistent attack and reconnaissance force to the Joint and coalition team engaged on the battlefield.

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight



Hunt Housing tip of the week

Columbus Family Housing is looking for volunteers to serve as tenant representatives within housing. If you would like to be part of a winning team that solves housing problems or be the first to know of any future changes happening in your neighborhood, then sign up today.

You will be the voice that represents your community. Not only will your voice be heard by leadership but you can potentially make a difference that may affect the future of your fellow service members for years to come.

While serving as a tenant representative, you will attend monthly meetings with Columbus Family Housing and the



Housing Management Office team members. You may also attend a quarterly meeting with leadership to provide input on the quality of life for you and your fellow residents.

Please contact Kessler Cowans at 662-434-8213 for more information if you are interested.

Lt. Col. Macasek takes command of 49th Fighter Training Squadron



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Doublin

Col. Stan Lawrie, 14th Operations Group Commander, passes the 49th Fighter Training Squadron Guidon to Lt. Col. John Macasek, the new 49th FTS Commander, June 16, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The passing of the guidon has been a military tradition dating back to ancient times. The troops of the old commander would assemble and salute him one last time, then the new commander would receive the guidon, symbolizing he is taking charge of the troops, and the troops would then welcome the new commander.

Commander’s Action Line

434-1414

The Commander’s Action Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB a better place. Although the Commander’s Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command.

The Commander’s Action Line phone number is 434-1414. Callers should leave their name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Message may be answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the PA office in the Wing Headquarters building, BLDG. 724, suite 210. Questions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.



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.

Reruns 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)	Home	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Yard sales	Pets
Print advertisement					
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Home Telephone # _____ Duty Telephone # _____ (in case we need more information)					
Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings: Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News <input type="checkbox"/> Sports <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@us.af.mil.					



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2016 Columbus AFB Drinking Water Quality Report

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from; what it contains; and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Is my water safe?

Yes, our drinking water is safe to drink. Drinking Water on Columbus AFB is routinely monitored for contaminants according to federal and state laws. All samples Columbus AFB are collected by the Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight and analyzed by the Mississippi State Department of Health. Additional sampling is completed by the water provider, Columbus

See **WATER REPORT**, Page 5

Unit Descriptions

Term, Definition
< — Less than or below the limit of detection for a particular analysis method
ug/L — Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm — parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb — parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
pCi/L — picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
positive samples/month — Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
N/A — not applicable
ND — Not detected

Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term, Definition
AL — Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant (lead or copper) that triggers treatment or other requirements for a water system
MCL — Maximum Contaminant Level: The maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water which is delivered to any user of a public water system.
MCLG — Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The maximum level of a contaminant in drinking water at which no known or anticipated adverse effects on the health of a person would occur, and which allows an adequate margin of safety.
MRDL — Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap without an unacceptable possibility of adverse health effects.
MRDLG — Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal. The maximum level of a disinfectant added for water treatment at which no known or anticipated adverse effects on the health of persons would occur and which allows an adequate margin of safety.
TT — Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Violation — Exceedence of an AL or MCL
Your Water — The average level recorded for a contaminant.

For more information please contact:
Contact Name: Bioenvironmental Engineering
Address: 201 Independence Drive, Building 1100
Columbus AFB, MS 39710-5300
Phone: (662) 434-2284 or (662) 434-2285
Fax: (662) 434-2515

Water Quality Data Table							
In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Unless otherwise noted, the table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. The EPA or State required monitoring frequency varies for contaminates varies based on risk to the system. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table, you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the definitions below the table.							
Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	3.25	1 -9	2016	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	N/A	80	4.44	ND -6.32	2016	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (as C12) (ppm)	4	4	1.30	0.10 - 1.96	2016	No	Additive to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.1553	N/A	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes or metal refineries
Antimony (ppm)	0.006	0.006	<0.0005	N/A	2016	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic (ppm)	0	0.01	<0.0005	N/A	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Beryllium (ppm)	0.004	0.004	<0.0005	N/A	2016	No	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppm)	0.005	0.005	<0.0005	N/A	2016	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; Runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppm)	0.1	0.1	<0.0005	N/A	2016	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury (ppm)	0.002	0.002	<0.0005	N/A	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills, Runoff from cropland
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.828	N/A	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Selenium (ppm)	0.05	0.05	<0.0025	N/A	2016	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Thallium (ppm)	0.002	0.002	<0.0005	N/A	2016	No	Leaching from ore-processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	<0.08	N/A	2016	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppm)	1	1	<0.02	N/A	2016	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate-Nitrite	10	10	<0.1	N/A	2016	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	0	0	0	2016	No	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	# Exceeded AL	Sample Date	Violations	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<1.3	0	2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	0	15	<15	0	2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

LEGACY

(Continued from page 12)

“It’s a little weird, especially with a lot of the leadership here,” said Will. “They knew him long before they knew me, so coming in, I catch a little bit of grief for being ‘Johnny’s kid.”

And in certain cases, he finds himself in the inevitable situation where he meets his father’s friends who knew him as a baby. Except in his case, they’re now flying a plane with him, a unique aspect of the Air Force Reserve where Airmen can develop deep camaraderie from spending many years, if not decades, working together.

“I was on the schedule with a navigator who’s known me since I was born, so it’s kind of weird that we’re scheduled to fly together,” Will said.

John also finds himself in surreal moments with his son. Imagine sitting across the dinner table from someone one day and then across a conference table the next.

“It’s odd when I’m chairing a meeting and seeing my kid at the end of the table,” said John. “That’s different, but I’m getting used to it.”

Strange moments aside, the two are proud of working together to achieve Will’s dream of flying, and both have vivid memories of the steps along the way.

“This has been kind of a 22-year journey to get from age three to flying a C-130 because that’s what I always wanted to do,” Will said.

John’s pride in his son extends beyond his completion of pilot training to include the discussions and plans they created together to achieve his son’s dream.

“I think every parent wants their kid to fulfill their dream,” said John. “That’s a parent’s dream to be able to do that. And going through the agony and getting all my gray hairs and making sure he goes through all these steps was a challenge, but now, when he finally got his wings and made it through pilot training, it’s a culmination of all the discussions we had over the dinner table and the decades of all the talks that we’ve had coming true. So when he got his wings, that was my proudest moment.

“He’s achieved his dream and now he’s his own person and can go out and can accomplish the things he wants to do.”

Cleared hot: When predators and reapers engage

Airman 1st Class James Thompson
432nd Wing/432nd Air Expeditionary
Wing Public Affairs

CREECH AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. — Following the mission brief and pre-flight checks, an aircrew consisting of an officer pilot in command and a career enlisted aviator sensor operator observe a target in an area of responsibility overseas from a cockpit in the U.S. and waits for the green light from a joint terminal attack controller on the ground.

Anticipation heightens as the JTAC confirms the target and gives the aircrew the clearance to attack. The aircrew then reviews checklists before engaging, adrenaline begins to seep in and the whirring from electronic components in the cockpit recedes from awareness. Their concentration sharpens and as the pilot squeezes the trigger, a laser-guided AGM-114 Hellfire missile is released. The sensor operator hones in on the objective at hand by keeping the laser designator crosshairs precisely over the target and guiding the missile.

Unbeknownst to most people, the multi-role MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper strikes are coordinated through specific routing chains well before weapons employment to ensure the fulfillment of combat directives, combatant commanders’ requirements and overall rules of engagement.

These aircrews follow the same weapons employment process as those in other traditional fighter and bomber aircraft.

“Anytime a munition is employed or dropped by any platform to include our MQ-1s and MQ-9s, those rules of engagement must be satisfied,” said Maj. Brian, the 432nd Wing/432nd Air Expeditionary Wing Weapons and Tactics assistant director of operations. “They define the specific requirements as far as who, what and when something can be targeted for the employment of a weapon.”

Brian explained that, like other aircraft, there are two different types of strikes that occur in theater. One is a deliberate strike and the other is a dynamic target situation.

“The deliberate strikes are all targets that have been nominated, gone through a vetting process and ran through the Combined Air Operations Center for validity,” said Brian. “They go through target nominations and then it’s passed off to targeteers, as well as the individual units, that will execute those strikes to conduct the weaponizing and through the CAOC, they satisfy the legal requirements in terms of ROE, weapon alignment and specific collateral damage estimation for that target.”

Upholding the laws governing the use



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class James Thompson
An MQ-9 Reaper sits on the flight line Nov. 16, 2016, at Creech Air Force Base, Nevada. The MQ-9 provides persistent attack and reconnaissance capabilities for combatant commanders and coalition forces involved in 24/7 year-round combat operations abroad.

of military force ensures that the enemy can be eliminated without harm to civilians and friendly forces while, also, strictly aligning with the Law of Armed Conflict to meet legal and moral requirements.

Brian said most of the 432nd AEW strikes are conducted in a dynamic target situation.

“Dynamic targeting is executed using close air support doctrinal procedures,” said Brian. “Within the CAS doctrinal procedures, once a target is identified on the ground, a JTAC contacts the aircrew and starts to generate a plan as far as how they’re going to conduct and execute that strike.”

A dynamic target strike is a coordinated effort between the aircrew and a ground team within a joint operations center.

“Once we’ve found valid targets, I’m going to notify the JTAC and from there he’s working on his side to get approval for the strike,” said Capt. Chris, a 42nd Attack Squadron MQ-9 pilot.

Along with communicating with the aircrew, the JTAC coordinates with his ground force commander.

“The ground force commander is working in sync with a targeteer for collateral damage estimation and a judge advocate to ensure that Law of Armed Conflict in terms of proportionality, use of force and all legal requirements are satisfied,” said Brian. “Once he confirms that we have a valid target and the proportionality

and collateral damage estimation is acceptable based on the commander’s intent and guidance, he then seeks target engagement approval authority from the first one-star in his chain of command.”

If the situation and circumstances are aligned the commander authorizes the strike and at that point the aircrew is given clearance to then engage the target using the designated weapon as decided by the aircrew, Brian said.

“When the strike is approved, he will pass me a game plan 9-line. At that time, I will brief the sensor exactly how this weapons delivery will be carried out,” said Chris.

The CAS doctrinal procedures apply to all aircrew performing close air support, regardless of the aircraft used.

“It’s [CAS procedures] the same for all U.S. military,” said Brian. “It’s a joint publication that defines those procedures and how it works.”

Certain factors determined by the CAS doctrine and the varying length of time in the confirmation of targets, emphasize the need for persistent and precise attack capabilities provided by the multi-role MQ-1s and MQ-9s.

“Personally, I’ve eliminated enemy forces that were engaging friendlies 15 meters away, so it’s extremely important to employ quickly and effectively and the MQ-9 is one of the best assets in the Air Force to accomplish this,” said



The Air Force Personnel Center is accepting applications for the 2018 Undergraduate Flying Training selection board through Nov. 17. The four flight categories available are pilot, remotely piloted aircraft pilot, combat systems officer and air battle manager.

Application window opens for Air Force undergraduate flying training

Kat Bailey
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Application packages for the next Undergraduate Flying Training selection board are due to the Rated Officer Assignments branch of the Air Force Personnel Center by Nov. 17, 2017.

The board, set for Jan. 22-25, 2018, will consider active-duty officer applicants to attend training as early as spring 2018. Those interested in becoming a pilot, combat systems officer, remotely piloted aircraft pilot or air battle manager are encouraged to apply.

“The Air Force continues to review opportunities to strengthen the force,” said Capt. Devin Stone, the UFT board administrator. “Some initiatives are force-wide; others, such as encouraging eligible active-duty officers to partake in flying training, are more targeted. All have the same objective.”

Stone said implementing these initiatives will strengthen the Air Force’s competitive position in the battle for top talent.

All UFT applicants must be certified as physically qualified by Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Office of the Surgeon General, Physical Standards.

Additional information about specific requirements, eligibility criteria, process and other details can be found on myPers. Select “Active Duty Officer” from the dropdown menu and search “UFT.”

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following the instructions.

Son continues family military legacy, works alongside father at Dobbins

Staff Sgt. Andrew Park
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

DOBBINS AIR RESERVE BASE, Ga. — A new pilot here has a particularly special memory from Father’s Day last year. While he was attending C-130 pilot training at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, his father came to visit. His father is no stranger to Little Rock AFB, he also attended training there as a young aviator and was later stationed there when his son was born. Some might call it a family reunion of sorts.

The new pilot, 1st Lt. Will Jones, began his assignment at the 700th Airlift Squadron where his father, Lt. Col. John Jones, serves as the 94th Operations Group deputy commander.

By joining the Air Force, Will continues a family legacy of military service. Will’s grandfather was an Army colonel who fought in both World War II and the Korean War, so Will’s own father had a similar childhood as he did growing up on military bases and seeing military operations.

“We were stationed at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan,” said John. “My father took me out to the flightline and we just watched airplanes take off all day long, so that’s what created my interest in flying.”

In his late teens, John decided to join the military. His love of flying drew him to the Air Force.

Almost as if a passion for flying is hereditary like eye color passed from one generation to the next, John’s son also inherited the love of flying.

Will developed his interest in flying at an early age from hearing his father talk about the C-130 and the missions he flew as a navigator. Additionally, his father would take him to air shows and down to the flightline to see the planes up close.

“Around age three was when I decided I wanted to fly,” said Will.

This passion stayed with him from high school to college, where he avoided the common crisis many students face of trying to determine their path in life. He had no doubts that he would one day become a pilot.

He chose to fly for the Air Force Reserve, although it wasn’t because his father pushed the career on him. Much like his father’s path, it was the experience growing up on military bases and hearing stories that inspired his decision to become a pilot, Will said.

John might not have pushed his son to join the military, but he did play a major role in his son’s career by providing him a route to channel that motivation. As Will put it, “I was all thrust and no vector.” In other words, Will’s motivation gave him the drive to put in the work required to become a pilot, but it was his father who provided guidance on the education and training required to become a pilot.

Will’s hard work and dedication paid off. He completed pilot training and began flying at Dobbins Air Reserve Base.

Working with a parent or another family member can



U.S. Air Force photo by Don Peek
First Lt. Will Jones, a 700th Airlift Squadron pilot (left) and Lt. Col. John Jones, the 94th Operations Group deputy commander, pose for a photo on the Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia, flightline May 25, 2017. The father and son aviators began working together at Dobbins ARB earlier this year.

often pose a number of challenges – as depicted in a variety of sitcoms and movies – but fortunately for the Joneses, they don’t face many challenges.

Although they both work in aviation, their offices are in two separate buildings. They also aren’t allowed to fly together, so they don’t interact as much as they might otherwise. They do, however, sometimes find themselves in odd situations.

For Will, this might include meeting Airmen who’ve worked with his father for many years.

“I used to take him out to the drop zone when he was younger – maybe in 6th grade – and the same guys who worked the drop zone out there are the ones working with him now,” John said.

WATER REPORT
(Continued from page 4)
Light and Water Company. All results for 2016 are summarized in the Water Quality Data Table below.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Columbus AFB water is supplied by Columbus Light and Water. The water is pumped from eight wells drawing from the massive sands of the lower Tuscaloosa Aquifer. No further treatment is performed by base personnel.

Source water assessment and its availability

A Sanitary Survey was completed for 2016 as required for compliance with the Ground Water Rule. Columbus AFB water supply received an overall capacity rating of 5.0 out of a possible 5.0 points. For more information, please contact the Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about

contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Contact Information

The Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight is the primary point of contact for drinking water information on Columbus AFB. They can be reached by phone at 434-2284 or 434-2285. Additional information can be obtained from the water provider, Columbus Light and Water, by accessing their 2016 Consumer Confidence Report or by contacting 662-328-7192.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Columbus Air Force Base is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Fluoridation

To comply with the “Regulation Governing Fluoridation of the Community Water Supplies”, Columbus Light & Water (MS0440003) is required to report certain results pertaining to the fluoridation of the water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 10. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 73%.

14th CES offers ways to improve air quality

Jamal Lewis
14th Civil Engineering Squadron

Columbus AFB has maintained a record of compliance (no violations) with the Clean Air Act. However, we can always improve.

Reducing the pollution that causes poor air quality requires effort from the entire community. This can be accomplished by making minor changes in the choices we make and things that we do on a daily basis.

Columbus AFB encourages everyone to be stewards of our air quality. Here are a few things to consider for ways you can contribute to making our air cleaner:

- Conserve energy at home, work and everywhere. Look for the “ENERGYSTAR®”

label when buying home or office equipment

- Limit vehicle idling to less than five minutes
- Switch to zero emissions lawn equipment, which uses electricity instead of gasoline
- Avoid solvent based products. Look for water based and green household products
- Carpool, use public transportation, bike, or walk whenever possible
- Keep car, boat, and other engines properly tuned
- Use gas logs instead of wood

Find some key words as reminders of methods you can implement to improve our air quality. Check next week’s Silver Wings for the answers!

Y G R E N E E V R E S N O C
E L R A N S T W S D G Y G Z
M O N N T M G E D N M K Q B
I O D K N S N O I J B Y J L
S P Q B W I Y L L M K G T B
S R T D G A D G Z S R Z R R
I A J N L I L M R E A J J T
O C E T E K Y K E E K G Y J
N R G D Y V K N T B N W G V
S T J L W L L M N Y J E N T
B W M B N N L O B T N B T X
B P D Y R P L R S B D M G X

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engines

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solvent
walk

BLAZE Hangar Tails: SR-71 Blackbird

Background

The Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird is a long-range, Mach 3+ strategic reconnaissance aircraft that was operated by the United States Air Force. It was developed as a black project from the Lockheed A-12 reconnaissance aircraft in the 1960s by Lockheed and its Skunk Works division. Renowned American aerospace engineer Clarence “Kelly” Johnson was responsible for many of the design’s innovative concepts.

During aerial reconnaissance missions, the SR-71 operated at high speeds and altitudes to allow it to outrace threats. If a surface-to-air missile launch was detected, the standard evasive action was simply to accelerate and outfly the missile. The SR-71 was designed to have basic stealth characteristics and served as a precursor to future stealth aircraft.

The SR-71 served with the U.S. Air Force from 1964 to 1998. A total of 32 aircraft were built; 12 were lost in accidents and none lost to enemy action. The SR-71 has been given several nicknames, including Blackbird and Habu. It has held the world record for the fastest air-breathing manned aircraft since 1976. This record was previously held by the related Lockheed YF-12.

Statistics

Crew: 2: Pilot and Reconnaissance Systems Officer
Payload: 3,500 lbs. of sensors
Length: 107 ft. 5 in.
Wingspan: 55 ft. 7 in.
Height: 18 ft. 6 in.
Wing area: 1,800 ft.²
Empty weight: 67,500 lbs.

Loaded weight: 152,000 lbs.
Maximum takeoff weight: 172,000 lbs.
Powerplant: 2 × Pratt & Whitney J58-1 continuous-bleed afterburning turbojets
Wheel track: 16 ft. 8 in.
Wheelbase: 37 ft. 10 in.
Aspect ratio: 1.7

Performance

Maximum speed: Mach 3.3 at 80,000 ft.
Range: 2,900 nmi
Ferry range: 3,200 nmi
Service ceiling: 85,000 ft.
Rate of climb: 11,820 ft./m
Wing loading: 84 lbs./ft.²
Thrust/weight: 0.44



Courtesy photo

The SR-71 was known for being the fastest plane in history. If a surface-to-air missile launch was detected, the standard evasive action was simply to accelerate and outfly the missile.



Courtesy photo

Reconnaissance Systems Officer George Morgan stands in front of a Cold War-era U.S. Air Force SR-71 spy plane. Nearly 40 years later, the SR-71 still holds many flight records for speed.

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.)

Smooth Move

The Smooth Move class takes place 10-11:30 a.m. July 13. 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.

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is held 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. July 17 - 21. 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.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. July 18 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. July 18 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.

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.

Stone experiences life of pilot



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Savannah Stephens

Blake Stone, Pilot for a Day, takes a ride in a T-6A Texan II aircraft simulator June 16, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Stone and his family toured the base, visited the fire department and ate lunch at the 41st Flying Training Squadron.

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.

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 426-2527, or 434-2790 for an appointment. Get help managing finances, resolving financial problems and reaching 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 Staff Sgt. 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 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



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



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.

A Night of Elegance: Wine Tasting
Join the Columbus Club for a night of wine tasting, finger foods and live music at 7 p.m. June 23. Prices are \$10 for club members and \$12 for non-members. Call 434-2489 to sign-up.

Independence Run
There will be an Independence Run at 7 a.m. July 14 starting at the fitness center.

Breakfast at the Club
The Columbus Club will host a free breakfast for club members from 6:30 – 9 a.m. July 18. Breakfast includes classic breakfast choices and a waffle station.

Library Summer Reading Program
The Library Summer Reading Program has begun. Please see the Library for the schedule of activities.

BLAZE Commons Coffee House on 5th
The Blaze Commons Coffee House on 5th is open from 6 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday – Friday and serves coffee items, smoothies, breakfast and lunch items. Drive-thru service available as well as call ahead. Call 434-CAFÉ (2233). The commons also houses the Library, an ITT and ODR kiosk, a computer lab, and FedEx drop-off point.

Library Hours
The library is open from 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; from 7:30 a.m. – 7 p.m. Thursdays; and from 8 a.m. – noon Saturdays. The library is closed Sundays and holidays.

Base Pool Hours
Independence Pool is open from noon – 7 p.m. daily. The daily rate is \$3 for non Club members and \$2 for members. Summer passes are available based on family size. Call 434-2505 for more information.

Water Aerobics Instructors Needed
Independence Pool is looking for Water Aerobics Instructors for the 2017 pool season. Lifeguards are also needed. Call 434-2505 for more information.

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 call 434-2479 for more information.

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

Story Time and Circle Time
The Base Library offers Story Time at 11 a.m. every Friday for all ages. Circle Time is offered each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. for ages up to 4 years old. For more information, call 434-2934.

5th Annual Columbus AFB 5K
Wet n Wild
Color Run
at CAFB Lil Blazer Park
June 24
8:30 a.m.
\$10 per person
FREE to Military ID Holders
This is a one of a kind experience that is less about speed and more about enjoying a color crazy day with your friends and family!
Information sheets may be picked up at the CAFB Youth Center or Fitness Center!

- Check-in at 7:30 a.m.
- Ages 2-adults, all fitness levels
- You may walk or run
- White shirt dress code at the official start line
- Non-Military ID holder register at active.com by June 19
- Military ID holders register free at the Fitness Center or Youth Center by June 19

For More Information
434-2504

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

Free Wood at Whispering Pines
Wood is available at Whispering Pines from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sundays. Contact Whispering Pines Monday-Friday to arrange pick-up. Call 434-7932 for more information.

Wood Shop
The wood shop is now open from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

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, call 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed
Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, call 434-7836.

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

Skeet & Trap
Skeet and trap is available at Outdoor Recreation. Call 434-2507 for more information.

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 Outdoor Recreation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, call 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, call 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.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed
Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, contact 434-7836.

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, call 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. Call 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.

SILVER WINGS
June 23, 2017

VIEWPOINT

Eradicating toxic leadership

Chief Master Sgt. Bradley Reilly
14th Operations Group Superintendent

Ever heard of the term “Toxic Leadership?” Toxic leadership is not typically a hot topic of discussion in leadership development programs. Rightly so, no one wants to focus on bad leadership, any decent approach to teaching leadership and training leaders, especially in the military, should be an inherently positive one.

Not only do we desire great leaders, we naturally and optimistically want to assume every leader will approach their roles and responsibilities with a positive attitude and with the best interest of the people and institution they serve at heart.

Why discuss negative aspects of leadership at all? Because it's real; it exists every day in our military and it must be addressed.

What exactly is toxic leadership? I recently read a great article from Task and Purpose, written by Brock Young who described several symptoms that I thought perfectly captured a toxic command climate. I urge you to read the article, which can be found at <http://taskandpurpose.com/8-symptoms-of-a-toxic-command-climate/>

From his article, Young lists eight symptoms of toxic command climate.

1. Micromanagement exists often on an epic scale.
2. There's a lack of respect shown from higher echelons to lower, and the lack of simple professionalism.
3. Zero-defect mentalities and zero-tolerance policies are standard.
4. Leaders tend to have a suffocating adversity to risk.
5. There's no meaningful purpose behind any order or task given to subordinate elements.
6. There is no attempt to develop subordinates.
7. Superiors take all authority from the noncommissioned officers and subordinate grade officers within the command.
8. There is a complete lack of trust of superiors, between peers and between subordinates.

Boiled down, the eight symptoms fall under two cornerstones: Distrust on all levels and self-preservation at all cost.

If you have never had the displeasure of serving under a toxic leader, consider yourself very fortunate. Toxic leadership is a disease with no antidote.

When a toxic leader infects a command all you can hope to do is survive it. There are no effective tools to deal with a toxic leader. The short list of suggested techniques includes “the foxhole” and “when in Rome” — neither are helpful.

Worse, there are no tools to remain an effective leader in a toxic environment. As much as you try to protect and in-

Not only do we desire great leaders, we naturally and optimistically want to assume every leader will approach their roles and responsibilities with a positive attitude and with the best interest of the people and institution they serve at heart.

sulate your team, all of your best positive leadership tools will be quickly stripped from your arsenal or rendered completely irrelevant by the senseless decisions of a power grabbing toxic leader.

The climate created under the oppressiveness of a toxic leader permeates every fiber of a command. It severs trust across the breadth and depth, stifles initiative and creates apprehensiveness, crushes innovation and creative problem solving and turns the most motivated and hardest workers into 9 to 5'ers.

Distrust: At the heart of a toxic leader is fear and self-doubt. Low self-esteem, low self-confidence and high fear of endangering their next promotion makes them afraid of everyone and everything they can't control. Micromanagement is the instrument of choice for the toxic leader.

Toxic leaders can't delegate because they don't trust enough in their subordinates to empower them. They micromanage everything because they are terrified that a subordinate is going to mess it up and in their fall take the toxic leader down too. They create a zero defect mentality not because they are perfectionists, but as a tools to hold against their subordinates, to prove that you cannot be entrusted with responsibilities, to bring up time and time again to remind you and validate their micromanagement over you.

Self-preservation: Adversity to accept risk is another essential trait of the toxic leader. It's not exactly what you might be thinking; this is not about mitigating necessary operational risk through the operational risk management process. This is about making command decisions that exclusively eliminate personal risk to the toxic leader.

If a toxic leader can't effectively remove himself from the frag pattern of a risky decision, a barricade of well-timed and cleverly worded emails will certainly absorb the blast. Their

career progression is more important than anything else to them; including the unit, mission, and the people they are entrusted to lead.

If developing subordinates is essential to great leadership, under developing leaders is essential to toxic leadership. Toxic leaders have no time to develop leaders as they have absolutely no plan to trust you as a leader, and since they are largely terrified by anyone competent, developing a subordinate leader would be the very worst thing a toxic leader could do.

So what do you do?
All you can really do is survive. You can't hope to change a toxic leader, but you can prevent your subordinates from becoming one in the future.

Inoculate the future: Toxic leaders don't start out all bad, they evolve to it. Toxic leadership grows best when there is a vacuum of concerned leadership, a lack of mentoring and professional development and a lack of “toxic” inoculation from subordinate leaders. It grows where apathy, assumption and lack of expectation prevails. It grows where subordinates lose trust. The best way to prevent toxic leadership is to eradicate the behavior before it starts.

Build trust: Building and maintaining trust up and down the chain of command may be the single most important and difficult task of a great leader. You cannot surge trust, trust must be earned, and it can only be earned over a protracted period of observation and mentorship.

The only way that you can effectively build trust across your organization is by training, tasking, observing and empowering your subordinate leaders to accomplish or supervise essential tasks. Start with a clear intent and what you think the end state looks like. Guidance, mentoring and feedback complete the trust loop, you have to provide clarity and shared understanding to ensure your subordinate leaders have the information required to make solid decisions; it's the only way that subordinate leaders will be able to understand your expectations, predict your approach and anticipate the decision that you would make under the same circumstances.

Over time, empowered, entrusted, trained and mentored, the subordinate leader will begin to make predictable decisions of his own, consistent with the mission, and lock step with the intent of the commander. You will have gained unequivocal trust for your subordinate. But it gets better, your empowerment, investment and mentoring provide an observable example of what right looks like. Through your own consistency in decision making, thoughtful deliberation of critical issues and sage guidance you will have earned the reciprocating trust of your subordinates and the organization will flourish.

Buckle up!
It's the law.

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.

Bioenvironmental Flight ensures Airmen can breathe, drink at ease



U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert

Senior Airman Kevin Morgan, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Bioenvironmental Technician, digs through a Quicksilver Kit June 20, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The kit contains multiple ways to test air, water and soil for hazardous materials.

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

They are the ones who run in after a dangerous chemical spill or a biological attack in order to protect Airmen. They make routine visits to ensure a work environment's air, water, and materials are clean and free of toxins and other harmful substances.

The 14th Medical Operations Squadron's Bioenvironmental Flight ensures wherever Airmen work, they can complete the mission safely.

Capt. Thomas Witter, 14th MDOS Bioenvironmental Flight Commander, believes in practicing "preventive medicine." Witter said their mission is to identify hazards in a work environment, find where they come from, how far the hazard has spread and find a way to clean it up.

Bioenvironmental covers a lot of different things. One of their daily tasks include doing routine visits to shops around base. This allows them to establish rapport with fellow wingmen so that they feel comfortable reporting a hazard and the Airmen know exactly who to call for help.

Another common task is doing monthly water samples around base. The sampling ensures that dangerous chemicals have not contaminated our drinking water, showers or any water used for personal consumption.

Bioenvironmental covers a lot of different things. One of their daily tasks include doing routine visits to shops around base. This allows them to establish rapport with fellow wingmen so that they feel comfortable reporting a hazard and the Airmen know exactly who to call for help.

Lastly, Bioenvironmental fits Airmen with gas masks. Every Airman has to make sure they can safely and properly wear a gas mask while deployed. Bioenvironmental tests the seals of the mask with the Airmen's heads to ensure there is an air tight seal.

However, the job comes with a unique set of challenges.

"Figuring out what the hazard is and knowing how much is there is a challenge," Witter said. "Every installation has

different chemicals in the ground and different material. It is important to know what is around in order to prevent an accident."

At bases in the U.S., Bioenvironmental does mostly occupational safety. Their time to shine is when there is a new work site overseas. They are sent in to test all the resources, make sure there are no chemical or biological hazards, and plan for a possible incident. Witter gave one example of how water is used for everything, therefore it is vital to keep it clean.

"Overseas is where we do a lot of the vital jobs," Witter said. "Going into a new site, we have to figure what is in the ground, water and air in order to keep the Airmen safe."

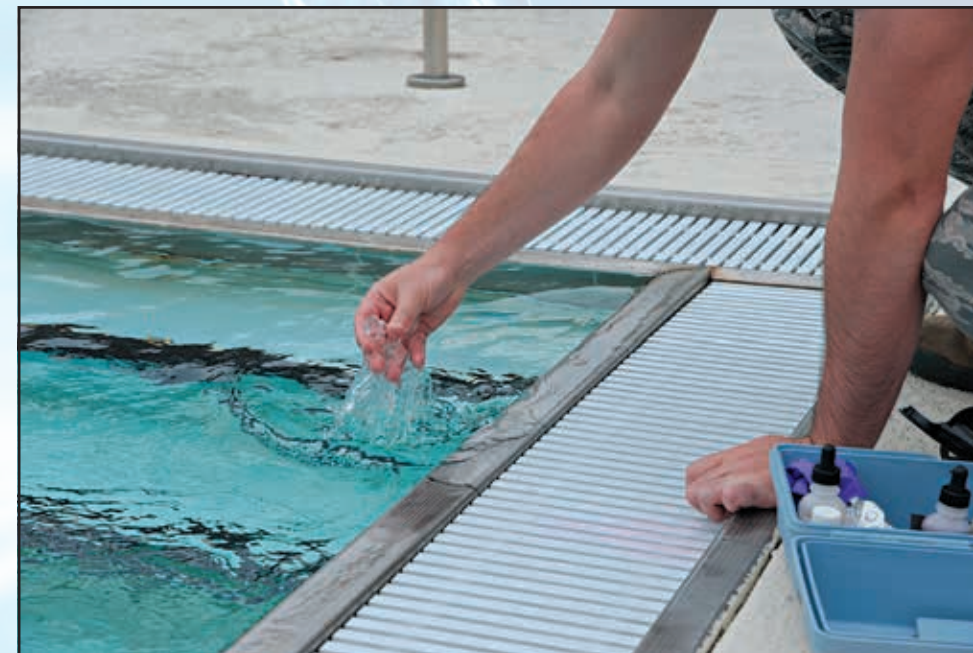
The Bioenvironmental Flight has no shortage of equipment for testing. Their tools range from direct reading instruments, mass spectrometers, and a small lab for water testing. These tools are used to test pH levels in water, radiation in the air, and different biological substances that could be potentially harmful.

This career field is one that has a new challenge every day.

"Working in the Bioenvironmental Flight is a challenge," said Senior Airman Kevin Morgan, 14th MDOS Bioenvironmental Technician. "There is always something to do and every day is never the same."



Senior Airman Kevin Morgan, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Bioenvironmental Technician, assembles an XM machine June 20, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The XM is a vacuum that takes in air and runs it through water which can then be tested for chemicals and biological material.



Airman 1st Class Michael Mannarino, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Bioenvironmental Technician, fills a vial with pool water June 21, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Bioenvironmental Flight test the base pool to ensure it is safe to swim.



Airman 1st Class Michael Mannarino, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Bioenvironmental Technician, uses a device to test the chlorine levels in the base pool June 21, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Mannarino has to test different areas in the pool to come up with an average chlorine level.



Airman 1st Class Michael Mannarino, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Bioenvironmental Technician, reads a device used to read the pH level in water June 21, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Bioenvironmental Flight uses a range of tools to test water, air and soil for hazardous materials.