

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Sept. 16
The Mississippi State University football team will face off against Louisiana State University at 6 p.m. Sept. 16 at Davis Wade Stadium in Starkville, Mississippi.

Sept. 22-23
The Columbus Arts Council is hosting the Annual Possum Town Tales Storytelling Festival Sept. 22-23, both days starting at 7 p.m. at the Rosenzweig Arts Center in Columbus, Mississippi. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door, or get both nights for \$20, but must be purchased in advanced. For more information, call (662) 328-2787 or go to

70TH BIRTHDAY

(Continued from page 13)

power in recent months and far outstripped other agencies in using solar, wind and other environmentally friendly sources to meet its energy needs. According to the EPA, the Air Force was the largest purchaser of green power in government, and the third-largest purchaser among public- and private-sector employers nationwide.

Social Barriers

In August 2000, Lt. Col. Shawna Kimbrell graduated from initial F-16 training at Luke AFB, Arizona, becoming the first African American female fighter pilot in the Air Force.

On Feb. 24, 2001, Lt. Col. Stayce D. Harris became the first African American woman to command a U.S. Air Force flying squadron. She commanded the 729th Airlift Squadron at March AFB, California.

Brig. Gen. Susan Y. Desjardins become the first female commandant of cadets at the U.S. Air Force Academy in December 2005, and the first woman in the history of any military academy to be appointed to this position.

In March 2006, Maj. Nicole Malachowski became the first woman pilot to fly as part of the U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds, and was the first woman on any U.S. military high performance jet team.

The Tuskegee Airmen were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, March 29, 2007.

On March 10, 2010, Congress awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women's Air Service Pilots of World War II. By a vote of 234 to 194, the House of Representatives adopted an amendment to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Act, May 27, 2010. Seven months later President Barack Obama signed a bill repealing the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Act, Dec. 22, 2010. This overturned policies preventing homosexuals from serving openly in the U.S. military.

Aerospace Advancements

On Sep. 29, 2001, the U.S. launched satellites from

www.columbus-arts.org.

Sept. 23
The Mississippi Science Fest is from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 23 at the LeFleur Museum District in Jackson, Mississippi. Four museums will have hands-on science, technology, engineering and mathematics activities for all ages. For more information visit MSScienceFest.org.

Oct. 14
The Mississippi State University football team will face off against Brigham Young University Oct. 14 at Davis Wade Stadium in Starkville, Mississippi.

Alaska for the first time, using the Kodiak Launch Complex. Previous U.S. spacecraft had been launched only from Florida or California.

The first Lockheed-Martin Atlas V lifted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, Aug. 21, 2002, inaugurating a new type of launch missile. Part of the Air Force's Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle program, the system used a standard booster, adding supplemental boosters as needed for a variety of payloads.

Aug. 31, 2004, ended 13 years of service for the last Atlas II booster, specifically an Atlas IIAS. The booster launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, carrying a reconnaissance satellite into space. The Lockheed-Martin booster had a 100 percent success rate during that time. With the capability of carrying payloads up to 8,200 pounds, the Atlas II was the most powerful member of that missile family.

After several delays, the Minotaur IV launch vehicle took the Space-Based Space Surveillance satellite into orbit, Sep. 25, 2010.

Nuclear Deterrence

President George W. Bush informed Russia, Dec. 13, 2001, that the U.S. would withdraw from the Antiballistic Missile Treaty of 1972, which prevented the U.S. from developing and implementing a missile defense system. Thirteen days later, undersecretary of Defense Pete Aldridge announced Pentagon approval of low-rate initial production of the one-ton Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile, which can penetrate enemy air defenses at ranges beyond 200 miles and destroy enemy targets with precision. Then on May 13, 2002, President George W. Bush announced an agreement between the U.S. and Russia that would reduce the number of nuclear weapons in their arsenals by two-thirds.

President Barack Obama and Russian president Dmitri Medvedev signed the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, known as New START, April 7, 2010, in Prague, Czech Republic. Each side agreed to limit its deployed nuclear warheads to 1,550 and to impose a ceiling of 800 on its total intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles and nuclear-capable bomber

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Dessert du Jour

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Sept. 10th • 11am-2pm • Adults \$19.50 • Children 3-10 \$8

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SILVER WINGS

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Vol. 41, Issue 35

September 8, 2017

Weather

Friday Sunny High 80°F Low 59°F	Saturday Partly Cloudy High 82°F Low 63°F
Sunday Partly Cloudy High 82°F Low 63°F	Monday Partly Cloudy High 80°F Low 62°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

SUPT Class 17-15 Assignment Night
Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-15's assignment night is at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Columbus Club.

Free Club member breakfast at the Club
There will be a free breakfast for Club members and an \$8 charge for nonmembers from 6:30-9 a.m. at the Columbus Club Sept. 26. The buffet will feature a build your own breakfast taco.

Enlisted Dorm Dinner
A dinner for enlisted Airmen living in the dorms is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 27 at the Chapel Annex.

Inside

Feature **8**

SUPT Class 17-14 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.

C O L U M B U S A F B T R A I N I N G T I M E L I N E															
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 (18-09)	-5.36 days	0.42 days	Oct. 20	48th (17-14)	-3.78 days	-0.63 days	Sept. 8	49th (17-LBC)	-0.81 days	-2.54 days	Sept. 20	T-6	250	270	29,918
41st (18-08)	-2.95 days	-0.59 days	Sept. 27	50th (17-14)	0.56 days	-0.07 days	Sept. 8	* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.				T-1	90	73	7,858
The graduation speaker for SUPT Class 17-14 on Sept. 8 is Gen. James Holmes, Air Combat Command Commander.												T-38	98	99	10,659
												IFF	43	41	4,402

REMEMBERING 9/11

(Continued from page 1)

ricades got put up to prevent cars driving in at high speeds and things like that. They're still up today."

Wright and another member of Columbus AFB recalled the events, where they were at the time and how it affected the 14th Flying Training Wing.

"I was at work, next to Sonic Johnson, watching what was happening in horror," Wright said. "We were pretty much glued to the television because we had to land all of our aircraft."

The flights out of Columbus AFB start at about sunrise every morning, and flying operations continue past dusk. On Sept. 11, 2001, no aircraft flew after the attack; no aircraft could fly anywhere in America without approval.

"All traffic needed to land immediately; none of the pilots in the air had any idea what had happened and didn't understand why the training had to be stopped," Wright said.

Next to Wright was Richard Johnson, 14th Flying Training Wing Chief of Public Affairs, who at the time was a T-1A Jayhawk instructor pilot at Columbus AFB.

"I walked in and Mr. Wright asked me if I had known what happened," Johnson said. "Then the second aircraft hit the tower."

Columbus AFB had to get the Air Force's largest fleet of aircraft on the ground, make sure everyone was safe, and take accountability for the pilots; Wright and Johnson were components of that operation.

"The following day, I remember it was beautiful, not a cloud in the sky day and all aviation was grounded. There wasn't a blimp flying," Johnson said. "I remember listening to how quiet the flightline was and it was just eerie; everyone was at work, but there was no flying."

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
11 Patriot Day SUPT Class 18-13 Pilot Partner Welcome, 6 p.m. @ PACCAR	12 Wingman Dinner, 6:30 p.m. @ J. Broussard's	13	14 SUPT Class 17-15 Assignment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Club	15 Air Force Birthday Ball, 6 p.m. @ Trotter Convention Center	16/17 16th: LSU vs. MSU, 6 p.m. @ David Wade Stadium	Sept. 26: Wing Newcomers Orientation Sept. 27: Enlisted Dorm Dinner Sept. 29: SUPT Class 17-15 Graduation Sept. 29: Enlisted Promotions Sept. 30: Ole Miss vs. Alabama Oct. 3: SUPT Class 18-15 Pilot Partner Welcome Oct. 7: Retiree Appreciation day Oct. 13: SUPT Class 18-01 Assignment Night Oct. 14: BYU vs. MSU Oct. 17: Wing Newcomers Orientation Oct. 20: Fiesta Party Oct. 21: MSU vs. Kentucky/Alabama vs. Tennessee
18 Air Force 70th Birthday	19 POW/MIA Recognition Day	20	21	22 Spaghetti Dinner, TBD @ Club	23/24 23rd: CAFB Triathlon, 7 a.m. @ Independence Pool 23rd: Oktoberfest, TBD @ Whispering Pines Cafe 24th: Gold Star Mother's Day	

"American flags were everywhere. It became the America I grew up with, we were no longer worried about our personal agendas," Johnson said.

The pilot training mission soon continued with limited operations, until the airspace was given the all clear.

"I flew the first mission out of Columbus AFB when we were authorized to start limited training flights, and I was taking a crew to go get a stranded T-1 from Midland, Texas," Johnson said. "When I flew over the Dallas airport, there were airplanes parked everywhere, it looked like thousands of airliners parked everywhere."

Though the attacks had passed, emotions were hard to hold back, and the reality of the changes were being shown in full colors in the air.

"When I went into the next Air Traffic Control sector I heard fighters flying Combat Air Patrol over our cities, that's when I got angry," Johnson said. "I had heard of CAP sorties over many different places around the world, but that's when it hit me that we had been attacked, and we were protecting our homeland."

Tragedy can bring out different reactions in people. One thing was certain after the attacks, America came together.

"American flags were everywhere. It became the America I grew up with, we were no longer worried about our personal agendas," Johnson said. "The attacks were horrific and left deep scars, but if you messed with one American you messed with all of them and that was an amazing feeling."

Silver Wings

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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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AFNORTH

(Continued from page 14)

cued by the Department of Homeland Security, Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, FEMA and DOD, 2,078 search and rescue operations were coordinated through Tyndall Air Force Base's Air Operations Center.

The Search and Rescue Operations Coordination Element provided centralized control and prioritization of federal military search and rescue forces to ensure the greatest unity of effort to save lives, prevent human suffering and mitigate great loss of property.

In addition to the search and rescue efforts, the Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations Center requested AFNORTH assistance for airborne command and control over devastated areas of Texas.

The 601st Air Operations Center, which is the operational arm for AFNORTH, employed an E-3 Sentry and E-8 Joint Stars as well as a Navy E-2 Hawkeye to fill the role of a communications relay and act as a tactical hub between the Western Air Defense Sector, Houston Air Route Traffic Control Center, an air support operations squadron and over 80 search and rescue aircraft.

The Navy's P-8 Poseidon, although designed for battlefield intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, also provided aerial imagery of the Texas landscape through their capabilities employed in support of civil authorities heading the relief efforts.

AFNORTH also leaned on the Civil Air Patrol, who has supported the Air Force since World War II, to collect still imagery demanded by rescue units in the field.

Most of the assets under the control of AFNORTH are now packing up equipment and returning to home stations as civil authorities transition to



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Zachary Wolf

A special missions aviator from the 41st Rescue Squadron watches as he raises an evacuee, Aug. 30, 2017, over a residence in the Houston area. The 347th Rescue Group from Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, responded with its aircraft and personnel in support of Federal Emergency Management Agency after Hurricane Harvey brought flooding and destruction to parts of Texas.

recovery operations.

However, as the demand for Hurricane Harvey support wanes, AFNORTH continues to monitor the path of Hurricane Irma, and is prepared to respond at a moment's notice.



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AFNORTH wraps up Hurricane Harvey ops, looks East to Irma

Master Sgt. Benjamin Wilson
Air Forces Northern Public Affairs

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — As Hurricane Harvey slammed into coastal Texas the last week of August, Houston and the surrounding area were pounded with unprecedented amounts of rain – experiencing 50 inches of rain in a matter of days. That is more than the annual average for the region.

Flash flooding decimated the region, putting extreme stress on local and state resources available to provide relief and rescue efforts to the Texans who needed it.

Within days, the state government requested the aid of Defense Department resources through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In response, Air Forces Northern stood up a crisis action team to direct aerial operations of federal military assets supporting the relief effort for the tens of thousands of people displaced from their homes.

“I am proud of this outstanding team of professionals who carried out a critical mission, especially our search and rescue effort, in the wake of this catastrophic storm,” said Lt. Gen. R. Scott Williams, the AFNORTH commander. “This was a total force effort to support our federal, state and interagency partners as we collectively responded to those in need. Our ability to work hand in hand with active (duty), (Air National) Guard and reserve military forces, as well as U.S. Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection assets, was a complete success.”

Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine units from across the continental U.S., along with the Coast Guard and Air Force Auxiliary Force (Civil Air Patrol), banded together with state and local agencies to provide enhanced search and rescue, communications and aerial imagery collection during recovery efforts.

Of the more than 16,800 individuals res-

See AFNORTH, Page 15



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Callaghan

A pararescueman from the 58th Rescue Squadron prepares his gear for a rescue mission, Aug. 30, 2017, at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center in Orange, Texas. The 347th and 563rd Rescue Groups from Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, Nellis AFB, Nevada, and Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, sent rescue boat teams to Orange County, Texas, and the surrounding areas, in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency during Hurricane Harvey disaster response efforts.



Benjamin Caro Jr.,
Chief Master Sargent
U.S. Air Force



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14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 58 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.

Team BLAZE congratulates staff sergeant selects



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra

Twenty-one staff sergeant selects are recognized at the Columbus Club during the 2017 Staff Sergeant Release Party Aug. 31, 2017, at the Club on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Columbus AFB had 35 senior airmen selected for promotion to staff sergeant; as an Air Force, 14,181 senior airmen were selected out of 32,006 eligible, a selection rate of 44.31 percent. The party featured a roast for each promotee, music, cake and a photo booth.

16 Airmen recognized at enlisted promotions ceremony



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra

Columbus Air Force Base recognized 16 Airmen promoted during the month of August and Sept. 1 during the monthly Enlisted Promotions Ceremony Aug. 31, 2017, at the Club on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Hunt Housing tip of the week



Did you know that our Capitol Village community is now open to retired military, active and retired civil servants, Defense Department contractors as well as active-duty service members?

The Capitol Village homes range in size from three bedrooms to four bedrooms, one to two bathrooms, and a one car enclosed garage. For more information, call 662-434-8213.

‘Disasters don’t plan ahead, you can’

Staff Sgt. Cory Henning
14th Civil Engineering Squadron

The month of September is National Preparedness Month, established by Presidential Directive to promote awareness and to remind people that planning for natural disasters is everyone’s responsibility.

Severe weather, heavy rains and earthquakes will always pose a threat to our safety, and therefore it is never a matter of whether a disaster will strike, but simply when. However, accomplishing a small amount of pre-planning, not only can people ensure they protect themselves and their loved ones when disaster strikes, but they can also be a critical component of helping responders and their community recover.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and Air Force Be Ready have several guidelines for standard disaster preparedness. Regardless of the type of disaster being prepared for – flood, fire, hurricane, tornado, or earthquake – many of these basic steps remain the same: build a kit, have a plan and be prepared.

A kit should have basic supplies, such as food, water and first-aid supplies; these supplies should be sufficient to last



each family member several days without resupply. Ensure this includes items for pets as well – they’re part of the fam-

ily after all.

In addition, when planning for a disaster, avoid getting too specific. The unique circumstances and situation of each disaster may vary, but every plan should include a way to get in contact with family members, a primary and back-up meeting place in case of separation, and what supplies to take in case evacuation is needed. It is not the end of the world – pack light, and leave the furniture at home.

The last step of being prepared is practice and situational awareness. Check supplies every few months to ensure food-stuffs have not spoiled, and periodically practice the plan so family members can execute it from memory – an important step, as checklists may not be available, and knowing what to do in an emergency can reduce and manage panic. Lastly, keep up to date on local conditions, and engage with the local community on being prepared. Remember, when disaster strikes, it affects everyone, and we’re all in this together.

(Editor’s note: Information used in this story can also be found at www.Ready.gov and www.beready.af.mil, also visit these sites for more tips on how you can prepare you and your family for disasters.)

Columbus AFB one of four installations participating in Smart Fueling Initiative

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

Columbus Air Force Base is one of four installations chosen to be a test site for a new Department of Defense program called the Smart Fueling Initiative, a program aimed toward providing Airmen with healthier eating options by making those options more convenient, accessible and financially friendly.

A team from the Department of Defense visited the base Aug. 28-31 to assess possible implementations and needs in order to move forward with the initiative.

The other installations involved in the program are Scott AFB, Illinois; U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado; and MacDill AFB, Florida.

“We are here to help provide better fueling options for the Airmen and their families,” said Debbie Karnes, a DOD contractor. “We are taking the demographics of where the Airmen are living and working and trying to come up with a way to get them a source of healthy food.”

The team visited multiple locations on and off base to map food locations in relation to where Airmen and personnel work and live.

On base, they visited each place that had food and beverages and also looked at what type of product was being sold.

The team also visited the enlisted and officer unaccompanied dormitories. They observed the cooking areas to analyze what types of food could possibly be prepared.

The team got a good idea of the work schedules of most Airmen on base. They focused on the pilot training mission and saw how long the student and instructor pilots work.

“The pilot training mission involves long days of training which in turn makes cooking or preparing healthy meals a challenge,” said Kenneth Sorg, Chief of Strategic Planning for the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense. “Our job is to make eating healthy easier and more convenient.”

During the last day of their visit, the team briefed Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander. Scott Pollack, a government contractor hired to aid in the mapping of the populous versus food locations, presented Gosney multiple maps, which showed food locations in relation to Airmen and also went over which locations made more profit.

“One of the biggest challenges is convenience,” Pollack said. “If we can fix that problem, the next step is providing healthy



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

A team of Defense Department contractors enter the unaccompanied officer dormitories Aug. 30, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The team conducted an assessment of Columbus AFB as part of the Smart Fueling Initiative, in which Columbus AFB is one of four bases participating in the initiative. The team examined cooking areas inside the dormitories to determine the capabilities of what meals Airmen can prepare.

alternatives in the places where it is most convenient.”

The team will continue to gather information from the other three installations.

The team will collect more data, work with stakeholders, incorporate feedback, issue a final action plan and schedule and implement initiatives.

2000 - 2010 GENERATION

US Air Force: Breaking barriers since birth

War on Terror

On Sept. 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked four U.S. airliners, crashing two of them into the World Trade Center towers in New York and one into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Heroic passengers rushed hijackers in the fourth aircraft and crashed into a Pennsylvania field. This event led to President George W. Bush announcing the Global War on Terror and initiation of homeland-defense efforts.

Operation Enduring Freedom was one of the first missions started in the GWOT. OEF had six subordinate operations: Afghanistan, Philippines (formerly Operation Freedom Eagle), Horn of Africa, Panksis Gorge, Trans Sahara and Caribbean and Central America. OEF began with air strikes against terrorists and Taliban targets in Afghanistan as a response to the 9/11 attacks. On Oct. 7, 2001, B-2 Spirit bombers flew round trip from Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, to Afghanistan on the longest bombing mission in aviation history.

Operation Iraqi Freedom, a multinational coalition effort to liberate the people of Iraq, started with U.S. Forces firing a barrage of approximately 40 Tomahawk cruise missiles into Iraq. Striking three targets around Baghdad, these missiles took out air defenses, communications infrastructure, leadership targets and other military assets on March 19, 2003. With a drawdown of military presence in country, OIF was officially renamed Operation New Dawn, Sep. 1, 2010 and ended 15 months later.

Air Superiority RQ-4 Global Hawk

On April 23, 2001, the RQ-4A Global Hawk completed the first non-stop crossing of the Pacific Ocean by a remotely piloted aircraft. It flew from Edwards AFB, California to Edinburgh, Australia. This flight demonstrated the long-range potential of an RPA asset. Six months later on Oct. 28, 2004, the 12th Reconnaissance Squadron, stationed at Beale AFB, California, received the first production Northrop Grumman RQ-4 RPA. Two years later in November 2006, the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center Detachment 5 Global Hawk test team concluded the first operational flight test of the RQ-4A Block-10. The team’s final report concluded that the RQ-4A had a substantial impact on persistent intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance operations.

MQ-1 Predator

An MQ-1B Predator fired a Hellfire missile, Feb. 4, 2002, killing a group of al Qaeda members in southeastern Afghanistan. This is the first time an RPA destroyed an enemy target. The Air Force announced the MQ-1 Predator had achieved initial operational capability March 1, 2005. This General Atomics RPA was designed for use in high-risk areas. It had a ceiling of 25,000 feet, a range of 400 nautical miles, a cruise speed of 73 knots and an endurance of 24 hours. The MQ-1 configuration allowed the vehicle to deploy precision-guided munitions, including the Hellfire missile, in addition to its camera and radar suites. On Sep. 25, 2007, the MQ-1 completed its first operational sortie as part of OEF.



F-22 Raptor

The first fifth generation fighter, the F-22 Raptor arrived at Langley AFB, Virginia, May 12, 2005. As the first combat-ready aircraft of its kind, the F-22 featured stealth technology, ground attack capability and the ability to reach Mach 1.5 without using afterburners. The Raptor was generally considered the most advanced fighter aircraft in the world and achieved initial operational capability Dec. 15, 2005. This followed a process of engine testing at Arnold AFB, Tennessee; flight, ground and simulation testing at Edwards AFB, California, and Eglin AFB, Florida; missile testing at Holloman AFB, New Mexico; tactics development at Nellis AFB, Nevada; pilot and maintenance training at Tyndall AFB, Florida; and initial deployment to Langley AFB, Virginia.

C-17 Globemaster III updates

Within the relatively narrow time frame of only 40 minutes, a single C-17 Globemaster III airdropped 32,400 pounds of humanitarian goods to four locations in central and eastern Afghanistan. The mission occurred March 16, 2006, and set a record by airdropping the most cargo to multiple drop zones in the shortest amount of time in the history of U.S. airdrop operations. On March 20, the Air Force fleet of 148 C-17s surpassed its millionth hour of flight when a Total Force crew evacuated injured U.S. troops from Iraq and transported them to Germany for medical treatment. The millionth-hour milestone offered an appropriate occasion to herald the C-17’s role as an aeromedical transport, which combined with advances in battlefield medicine, has saved countless lives of U.S. troops, coalition forces and Afghans and Iraqis during operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Significant mentionable aircraft at a glance

The Air Force received its first operational CV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft March 20, 2006. Lt. Gen. Michael W. Woolley, the commander of Air Force Special Operations Command, flew the aircraft from the test wing at Edwards AFB, California, to the 58th Special Operations Wing at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. He described the CV-22 as “truly transformational.” It combined characteristics of a helicopter—vertical takeoff, hovering and vertical landing—with capabilities of a turboprop—speed, fuel efficiency, and long range.

The CV-22 achieved initial operational capability March 4, 2009. However, its full impact within the specialized air mobility mission, and on special operations, was limited due to the rather slow process of fielding it.

On July 7, 2006, Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley were among those attending the unveiling of the first flight-test model of the F-35 at Lockheed Martin’s Fort Worth, Texas, plant. Moseley announced “Lightning II” as the name of the F-35 and said the name “was a win for aviation heritage and culture.” He noted the Lightning II was named after “two great pieces of air power history”: the World War II Lockheed P-38 Lightning and the supersonic English Electric Lightning interceptor, developed in the early 1950s.

On Sep. 13, 2009 the 436th and 512th Airlift Wings and Lockheed Martin aircrew flew a C-5M Super Galaxy, named “The Spirit of Normandy,” on a single flight that unofficially set 41 world flight records. The flight broke eight existing world records and established standards in 33 other categories where there had been no previous record attempt. The records remained “unofficial” until a governing body certified them.

Technological Advancements

On April 21, 2003, the last of Air Mobility Command’s KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft completed the final PACER CRAG production configuration, known as Block 30. The \$1 billion KC-135 enhancement program also equipped the aging tanker fleet with new avionics systems having five multifunctional displays, color weather radar and a traffic alert and collision avoidance system. The PACER CRAG modification enabled KC-135s to be flown without a navigator. A year later, a KC-135R belonging to the 92nd Air Refueling Wing at Fairchild AFB, Washington, and assigned to the 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, flew the first-ever combat mission, April 22, 2004, with an operational global air traffic management system. GATM was an umbrella term that described a series of air traffic system upgrades which enabled an increasingly larger number of commercial and military aircraft to operate safely in regions having the most congested airspace. Other GATM capabilities enhanced an aircrew’s situational awareness and provided more flexible communications through the addition of satellite communication systems. The KC-135 would also undergo engine and fuel delivery upgrades and be designated as KC-135R models.

The first use of the joint precision airdrop system in a combat mission occurred when a C-130 from the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron airdropped supplies to a U.S. Army unit in Afghanistan, Aug. 31, 2006. The JPADS is a satellite-guided parachute system that allows cargo to be dropped accurately from altitudes as high as 25,000 feet, beyond the range of enemy ground fire.

On Feb. 26, 2008, the Environmental Protection Agency reported the Air Force had nearly doubled its use of green

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events
Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbliving, Instagram at columbus_afb_living, or visit our website at www.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.

Ladies Bowling League
The Bowling Center is offering a ladies bowling league Sept. 11. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Brats and Brews
Celebrate the 70th Birthday of the Air Force with the Columbus Club from 5:30-11 p.m. Sept. 9 The cost is \$5 club members and \$7 non-members; includes brat, brew and ticket for single brew refill for \$1. This is an adult only event. For more information, contact 434-2489.

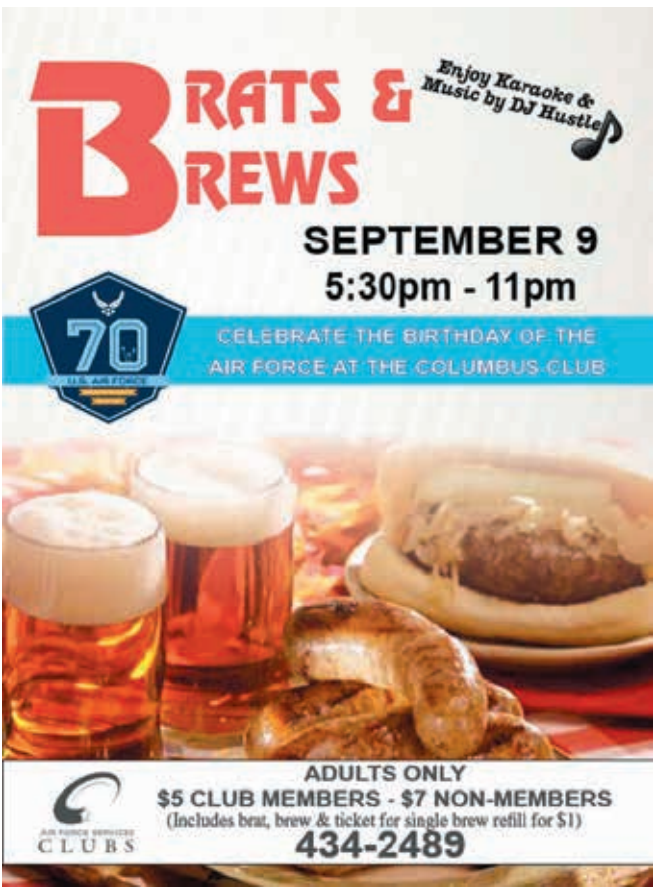
Youth Fall Soccer
The Youth Center is offering Youth Fall Soccer for ages 3-18. All games played on base. Register no later than Sept. 15. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Lap Swim
Independence Pool is offering lap swimming from 6-7:30 a.m. Monday-Friday until Sept. 22. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Free Annual Day for Kids
The Youth Center is offering a free day for kids from 4-5:30 p.m. on Sept. 22. Enjoy fun, food and prizes. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Free Triathlon
The Fitness Center is offering a free triathlon starting at 7 a.m. Sept. 23 at Independence Pool. Each adult participant will swim 300 meters, bike 22K, and run 5K. Individual, team, and youth categories available. For ages 5 years and up. For more information, contact 434-2772.

Free Breakfast for Club Members
The Columbus Club is offering a free breakfast for club members from 6:30-9 a.m. Sept. 26. The cost is \$8 for non-members. The buffet will feature build your own breakfast taco. Speak with any Club staff member to find out how you can become connected with Club membership to enjoy



the perks of free monthly breakfast and other great deals and discounts. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Play Paintball
Book your next paintball event at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$10 per person for party of 10 or more; \$15 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$50 per case of 2,000 paint balls. For more information, contact 434-2505.

The Overrun Open Friday Nights
The Overrun is open from 4:30 p.m.-midnight Fridays. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Library Hours of Operation
The Base Library hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday from 8 a.m.-noon. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair
Lawn mower repair is now available at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$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? Arts & Crafts is looking for craft instructors, 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.

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.

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.

Instructors Needed
The Youth Center is seeking instructors for tumbling classes, dance classes, piano and guitar lessons. For more information, contact the Youth Center.

Fitness on Request
Columbus Air Force Base 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.

Airman on the Street: Where were you during 9/11?



Rank/Name: Lt. Col. John Sullivan
Unit/Duty Title: 14th Flying Training Wing Inspector General

Answer: I was on my way to a deployment at Aviano Air Force Base, Italy, when the towers were attacked. We ended up changing the whole deployment's operation length. We were on a complete lockdown, had a buddy system at all times, and even had to check our cars before entering them for bombs and things.



Rank/Name: Master Sgt. Demetri Harper
Unit/Duty Title: 14th Contracting Squadron Superintendent

Answer: I was an acting supply technician in support of Red Flag training at Nellis Air Force Base, [Nevada], when it happened. The first thing I did was make sure my Airmen were OK, then we supported F-15s in combat patrols across the West coast.



Rank/Name: Chaplain (Maj.) Bradley Kimble
Unit/Duty title: 14th Flying Training Wing Deputy Wing Chaplain

Answer: I was in Birmingham, Alabama, doing hospital visitations. I heard the news on the radio and I did not believe it at first. When I learned that it was real, I was so mad that this was happening to our country.



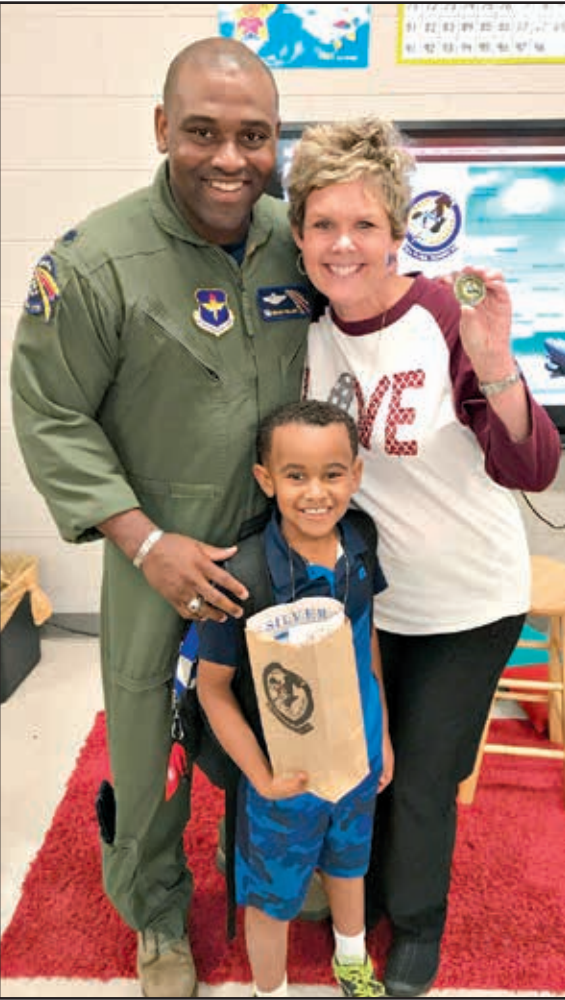
Rank/Name: Mary Crump
Unit/Duty title: 14th Flying Training Wing Multimedia Contract Manager

Answer: I was at the old Multimedia Building [820] and at the time most buildings on base had cable TV. At first my co-workers and I thought it was an accident. When we realized what was happening, we were horrified. It was so terrifying that we had to watch. It was such a terrible tragedy.

Teacher for a day



TOP: Lt. Col. Charles Gilliam, 48th Flying Training Squadron Commander, teaches a classroom of students Sept. 1, 2017, at Caledonia Elementary School in Caledonia, Mississippi. Six Airmen from Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, volunteered during the Teacher for a Day event and taught in local schools on various K-12 subjects. Volunteers taught more than 260 children across two school districts.



RIGHT: Lt. Col. Charles Gilliam, 48th Flying Training Squadron Commander, his son, Bryan, a second grade student, and Shannon Ingram, a Caledonia Elementary School teacher, stand in a classroom at Caledonia Elementary School Sept. 1, 2017, in Caledonia, Mississippi, during a Teach for a Day event. Six Airmen from Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, volunteered to teach in local schools on various K-12 subjects. Some of the areas included ACT prep and health education class, as well as, talking about how to further a career and the opportunities the Air Force offers.

Photos by Jennifer Gilliam



To advertise in Silver Wings,
call 328-2424

Be aware of these deadly cleaning tips

Dana Clemmons
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Google “natural cleaners” and get 47 million results. Add “DIY” to the search, you’ll still have over 4 million results, which shows interest in using fewer “chemical” substances in homes.

But natural doesn’t necessarily mean safe. With that in mind, here are some of the items in your home that can be considered hazardous or deadly, either by themselves or in combination with other common household substances.

First, is vinegar, also known as acetic acid. By itself, vinegar is used for many things, from making pickles, to cleaning windows. Baking soda, also known as sodium bicarbonate, is another versatile substance; it can make chocolate chip cookies rise, or help to remove strong smells from a load of laundry, and also makes a great scouring powder.

So far, all safe suggestions. But if you mix vinegar (an acid) and baking soda (a base) together, the two will neutralize each other. It yields a lot of water, some carbon dioxide gas (the bubbles) and sodium acetate, a salt. Both of these substances can be used as great, natural cleaning agents. Mixing them makes them useless, but with a lot of fizzing noise to make it seem as if cleaning is happening. Other natural suggested cleaners are lemon juice and cream of tartar, both weak acids. The same reactions for vinegar apply to lemon juice and cream of tartar, which is powdered tartaric acid, frequently used to stabilize whipped egg whites.

Hydrogen peroxide also seems like pretty innocuous stuff. Grandmother always used it to disinfect cuts and scrapes, and it was always in the medicine cabinet. Beware! You should never mix Hydrogen peroxide with vinegar. The two will react to form peracetic acid, a chemical that can be highly corrosive, and can cause skin, respiratory, and eye damage. It also does a lot of fizzing and releases carbon monoxide. As a cleaner mixture, it isn’t worth the damage it can do no matter what the websites say. By themselves, peroxide and vinegar can do some good on specific

stains and grime or set stains permanently. Be careful!

Castile soap is another item frequently included in lists of natural cleaners. This is a good, simple soap, but again should not be mixed with vinegar, lemon juice or any other acid. Not because it’s dangerous but because the castile soap is a base and mixed with acids will neutralize, leaving a curdled mess that doesn’t clean anything.

Laundry soap is safe, isn’t it? Laundry detergent can contain chemicals that are toxic to ingest, as evidenced by the spike in children being poisoned by the colorful and concentrated laundry detergent packs. But many of the same ingredients are also present in dishwasher detergent packs. Serious injuries are not common from liquid and dry detergents, but can happen. Fabric softeners contain some of the same chemicals as detergents. Mouth, skin, or eye irritation is possible if a child swallows or splashes fabric softener.

Detergents should also never be mixed with disinfectants containing quaternary ammonia, as this neutralizes the effectiveness of the disinfectant. Read the directions and warnings!

Bleach, often listed as sodium hypochlorite or just hypochlorite, is probably one of the most problematic materials commonly found in the home. If used as directed for laundry or as a diluted disinfectant, it works great. But bleach should NEVER be mixed with anything but plain water! Any website or “friend” advocating mixing hypochlorite with an acid like vinegar or any citrus is setting up a situation that can scar your lungs with toxic chlorine gas.

Bleach even reacts with other cleaners and soaps forming vapors and even more dangerous toxic gasses. Many of these gasses are flammable and cause other even more dangerous reactions! The use of a capful of bleach is enough to start a small reaction generating the gasses.

Visible vapors or the sharp smell of the gas are all the warning it gives before it can do permanent lung, eye and tissue damage. That is one reason washing machines add

bleach after the wash cycle so there is no soap to react with. Also, be aware that some cleaning chemicals, such as mold and mildew cleaners, can contain enough bleach to react with other cleaners.

There are websites advocating using rust remover as laundry product. Rust removers often contain strong acids that can cause eye, skin, and mouth burns on contact. A few rust removers contain hydrofluoric acid, an especially harmful poison. It can be absorbed through the skin and cause severe pain, tissue damage, and even death! If you have rust stains in clothing that commercial laundry stain remover will not get out, maybe it is time to replace it!

The really good bathroom and toilet cleaners are either very strong acids or bases, but different companies use different chemicals. The formulas are meant to do the exact same job, but can react violently if mixed, even if highly diluted. Toilet bowl cleaners and drain cleaners often contain either hydrochloric acid or hypochlorite bleach. These are two chemicals that definitely should never be mixed, and can cause a violent explosion of chemicals all over the user. This can result in chemical burns, blindness and at least a nasty mess to clean up.

Many oven cleaners contain lye (sodium hydroxide) a very strong base that is extremely corrosive. The directions on the container will clearly state the use of latex gloves, an apron and splash goggles are recommended. This is not a recommendation to take lightly. Old fashioned soap is made from wood ash water (lye) and animal fat boiled together. Some websites give a “shortcut” of using oven cleaner or toilet cleaner as the lye source. This can make soap that is dangerously caustic and can burn and scar skin. Be careful how “natural” your soap is.

Some chemicals that we use in the home are surprisingly flammable. Use caution when handling these chemicals, including ethanol in liquors, rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol, acetone in nail polish remover, and furniture polish. Like chlorine, they are also very reactive and when mixed with other cleaners can generate heat, toxic gasses, form

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

■ See page 10 for a Hazardous Chemicals at Home crossword puzzle.

strong acids and ruin clothing, burn skin, and remove finishes.

Antifreeze, specifically the ingredient ethylene glycol, is a chemical that has a sweet smell and taste. In the highly concentrated form of anti-freeze, it is toxic; especially to wildlife. While antifreeze does have ingredients added to make it taste unpleasant, this is sometimes not enough of a deterrent to prevent children or pets from ingesting toxic quantities. Ethylene glycol is also found in windshield washer fluid, brake fluid and is added to food as a preservative!

Windshield washer fluid (winter blend) may contain methanol, which can be absorbed directly through the skin. Methanol and ethylene glycol poisonings cause dozens of fatal poisonings in the U.S. annually. Even relatively small ingestions or skin exposure of these alcohols can produce significant toxicity.

Even hair coloring can be hazardous. Henna is the powdered leaves of a tropical shrub, and is commonly used to dye skin or hair red, brown or yellow. Henna should never be used with commercial hair dyes as the two can produce a dangerous exothermic (heat) reaction that can burn skin, make your hair “fall out” or break off, and what hair is left will be dyed it a weird color (one description was “frog butt green”). Wait at least a few weeks between using henna on skin or hair and commercial hair dyes as to make sure there isn’t enough residue to cause a very unpleasant reaction.

If used as directed, most of the chemicals we use in the home are safe. Be sure to read all the instructions and precautions that are on the container. If you have any concerns, most manufacturer’s websites will have more information on how to safely handle and store household chemicals. Also, always make sure you have the Poison Control Center Phone number in your phone. The Mississippi number is 1-800-222-1222. For immediate help for burns or respiratory distress call 911.

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.)

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. For more information, please contact the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 434-2790.

Pre and Post Deployment Tour Brief

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

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 11-15. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop has seminars on: transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, financial planning, health benefits, Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP and Department of Labor TAP portion. Preseparation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance is eight to 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register, call 434-2839.

Career Technical Training

This transition event is held from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 18-19. The Career Technical Training workshop explores technical careers for post military personnel using Veterans Affairs’ educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, a private company contracted by the VA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of eight participants. To register and for more information, call 434-2790.

Federal USAJobs Workshop

The Federal USAJobs Workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. Sept. 20. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications and job search, using USAJobs. To register, call 434-2790.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

This Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop will be from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 21-22. The workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register or for more information, call 434-2790.

Linked-In Workshop

The Linked-In workshop is from 2-5 p.m. Sept. 25-26 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Learn how to establish and use a Linked-In account. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

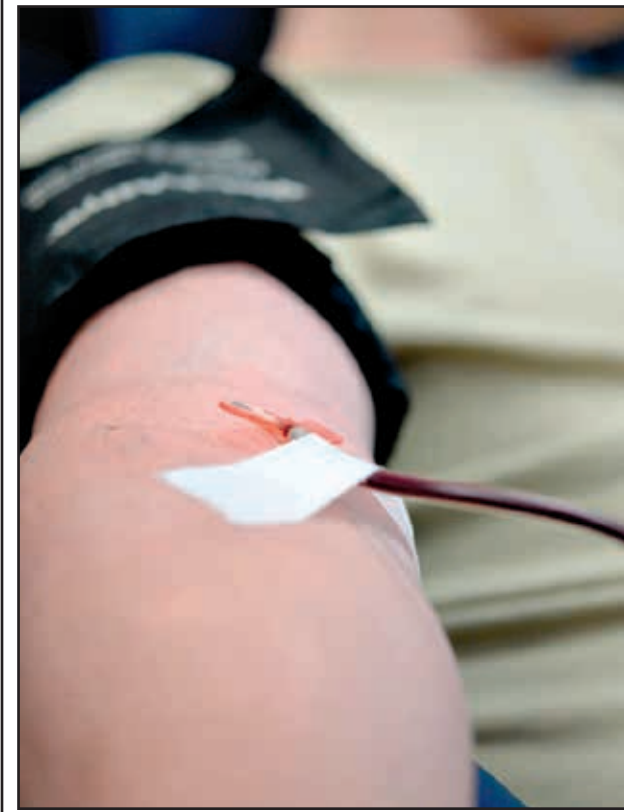
Wing Newcomers Orientation

The Wing Newcomers Orientation is from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Columbus Club. The orientation is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle from 1-2 p.m. Sept. 26. The workshop

Columbus AFB donates blood for use throughout Mississippi



U.S. Air Force photo Keith Holcomb

An Airman gets blood drawn during a blood drive Aug. 31, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The drive collected 46 units of blood for Mississippi Blood Services, and they in turn supply hospitals throughout Mississippi, such as the OCH Regional Hospital in Starkville and Keesler AFB’s Medical Center. One unit of blood can save three lives; blood transfusions are used anytime a patient is losing blood, such as trauma patients in the ER or people undergoing surgery. The next blood drive on base will take place in early 2018 and participants must be at least 17 years old to donate.

allows Veterans Affairs’ contractors to explain to service members; whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member’s military career and how to apply for benefits. To register and more information please call 434-2839/2790.

STOMP

A Specialized Training of Military Parents webinar training opportunity will be from 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sept. 28 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. STOMP is a parent-directed program and exists to empower military parents, individuals with disabilities, professional and community members with knowledge, skills, information, resources and support for all types of disabilities. The training will include TRICARE and applied behavior analysis. For more information and to register by Sept. 25, please call 434-2790.

Hearts Apart

The Hearts Apart Social Program’s monthly event will be from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 28. The event provides community bonding, fun

and appreciation for the families of active-duty personnel who are deployed, remote or on an extended temporary duty assignment. Food and activities will be provided. For more information, call 434-2790.

Resume and Cover Letter

This workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. Oct. 4 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. This workshop gives you preparation for writing effective civilian resumes and cover letters. To sign up call 434-2839/2790.

Smooth Move

This class is from 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 12 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. This class provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, housing, military pay, legal, billeting, TRICARE, medical records, and A&FRC. For more information, please call 434-2790 to register.

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 Jamey Coleman, SBP counselor, at (662) 434-2720.

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)
Start date TBA
4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. – Mass
Fellowship Dinner after Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month
Tuesdays:
11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass
Wednesdays:
11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

Sept. 10th Mass will be in Freedom Park at 5 p.m. followed by our annual parish picnic. Please join us all are welcome!

Protestant Community

Sundays:
9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service
Wednesdays:
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal
Thursdays:
5:30 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)

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



When you see this sign, stop. Help keep our children safe.

‘We stand on the shoulders of giants’

Lt. Col. Ryan Hill
81st Fighter Squadron Commander

The walls of the 81st Fighter Squadron are lined with memorabilia and photographs from the squadron’s 75 years of proud history. These trinkets from the past serve as a reminder of the brave and dedicated men and women who have carried the torch, not only for this squadron, but for our United States Air Force and for our country.

The phrase often used in the U.S. Air Force when we reflect on our history is that “we stand on the shoulders of giants.” This phrase takes on special meaning here in this squadron, as we have the opportunity to train Afghan students and to witness them laboring to develop their own Air Force.

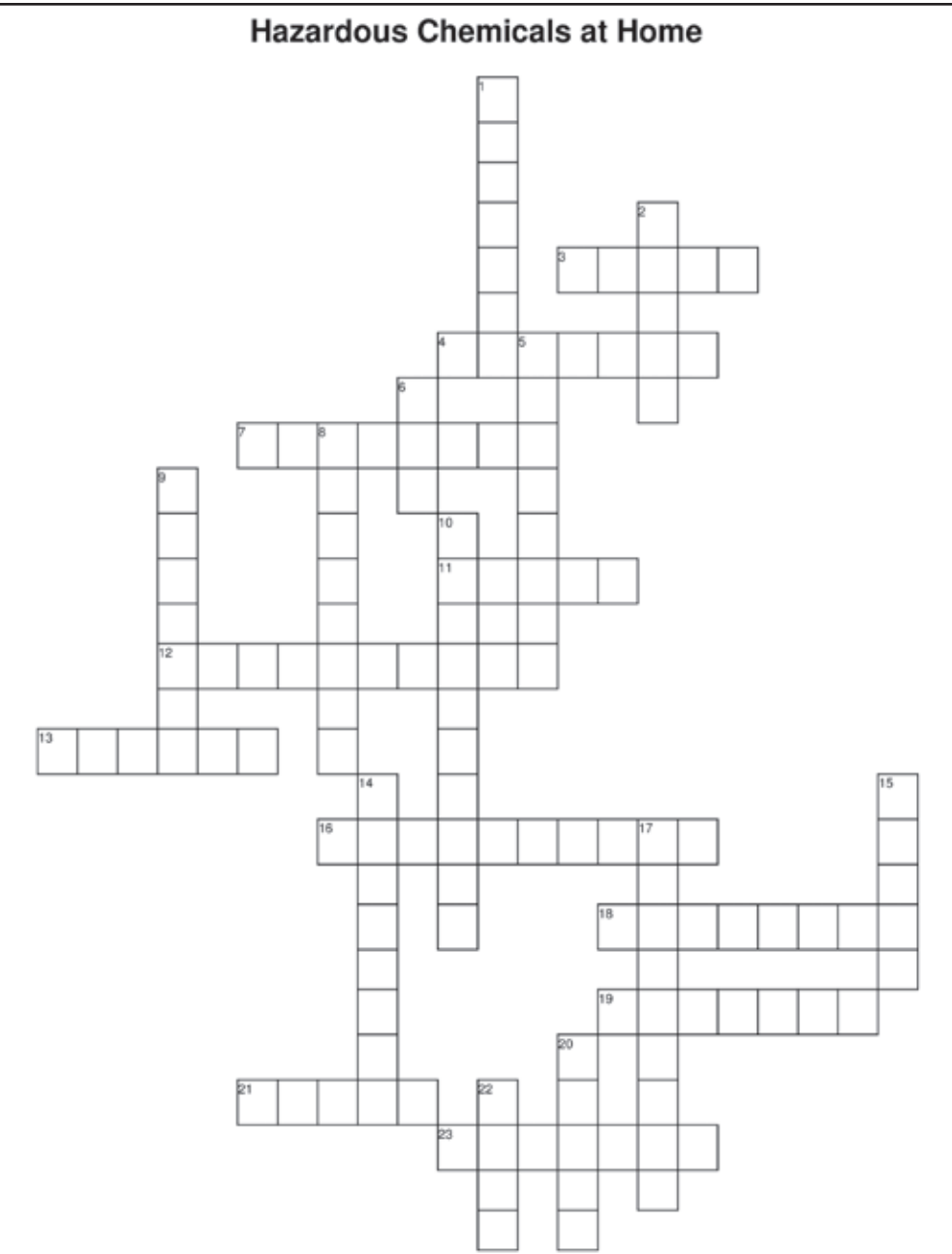
Without shoulders to stand on, they bear the burden of building their own legacy, and I can’t help but feel, as I look at these young Afghans, that I am looking at the giants of their air force. These men have put themselves and their families in harm’s way in order to be a part of something much greater than themselves. They draw to my mind our own trailblazers; men like Billy Mitchell, Hap Arnold, and Claire Chennault. They remind me of where we started, and of the great legacy we carry on today.

The young Afghans who have walked through our doors for the past two and a half years may not face the same challenges as our pioneers of military aviation, constantly coming up with new ways to employ firepower or theorizing about the future of

warfare. However, as pioneers of the Afghan Air Force, they face trials requiring the same dogged determination and enduring spirit. They suffer daily criticism and opposition, as well as constant physical dangers. In fact, one of the pilots was attacked and nearly killed, while others have endured countless threats on their lives and have had to relocate their families multiple times. Nevertheless, they have continued to fight. Day after day, they strap into their A-29 Super Tucanos and launch out to meet their foes. They wreak havoc on the enemy, while being ever-mindful of those whom they have sworn to protect by practicing unprecedented restraint. In the face of grave danger, they blaze a way for future generations of Afghans.

The perspective I have gained by watching these brave Afghan pilots is that it is not easy start an Air Force. We truly do stand on the shoulders of giants. The aviation heroes for whom our bases, streets, and building were named have given us much to live up to, but we cannot afford to sit back and rely on the actions of our predecessors.

As President Ronald Reagan stated, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.” We, as Americans, continue to rely up on our bravest and most talented to step forward and build upon the legacy passed on to us. Witnessing the Afghans build their Air Force gives me a great appreciation for those who built ours and gives me great pride in carrying on the he proud tradition of the American Airman.



Across

- 3. An exit for liquids.
- 4. Ethanol or isopropyl are examples.
- 7. Chemical in windshield wiper fluid that can be absorbed through the skin.
- 11. Vinegar and lemon juice are these.
- 12. When an acid and a base react and cancel each other out.
- 13. Strong alkaline chemical that whitens fabric.
- 16. Common acid found in yellow citrus.
- 18. The interaction of two or more chemicals, sometimes violently.
- 19. Acid made from wine.
- 21. Baking soda is the most common household one.
- 23. Type of soap usually recommended as a natural cleaning agent.

Down

- 1. From nature.
- 2. The cold gaseous phase of a chemical.
- 5. Toxic chemical used in swimming pools.
- 6. The least dense form of matter, or slang for petroleum.
- 8. Acid used to help stabilize egg whites.
- 9. Colorless liquid that is often used in glass cleaner.
- 10. Basic chemical used in baking and as an antacid.
- 14. Liquid commonly used as a first aid antiseptic.
- 15. Natural hair and skin dye, usually reddish brown.
- 17. People are becoming more concerned about these in their homes.
- 20. The Universal solvent.
- 22. Not dangerous

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Hangar tails: F-35A Lightning II

Mission

The F-35A is the U.S. Air Force’s latest fifth-generation fighter. It will replace the U.S. Air Force’s aging fleet of F-16 Fighting Falcons and A-10 Thunderbolt II’s, which have been the primary fighter aircraft for more than 20 years, and bring with it an enhanced capability to survive in the advanced threat environment in which it was designed to operate. With its aerodynamic performance and advanced integrated avionics, the F-35A will provide next-generation stealth, enhanced situational awareness, and reduced vulnerability for the United States and allied nations.

Features

The conventional takeoff and landing (CTOL) F-35A gives the U.S. Air Force and allies the power to dominate the skies – anytime, anywhere. The F-35A is an agile, versatile, high-performance, 9g capable multirole fighter that combines stealth, sensor fusion, and unprecedented situational awareness.

The F-35A’s advanced sensor package is designed to gather, fuse and distribute more information than any fighter in history, giving operators a decisive advantage over all adver-

saries. Its processing power, open architecture, sophisticated sensors, information fusion and flexible communication links make the F-35 an indispensable tool in future homeland defense, Joint and Coalition irregular warfare and major combat operations.

The F-35’s electronic sensors include the Electro-Optical Distributed Aperture System (DAS). This system provides pilots with situational awareness in a sphere around the aircraft for enhanced missile warning, aircraft warning, and day/night pilot vision.. Additionally, the aircraft is equipped with the Electro-Optical Targeting System (EOTS). The internally mounted EOTS provides extended range detection and precision targeting against ground targets, plus long range detection of air-to-air threats.

The F-35’s helmet mounted display system is the most advanced system of its kind. All the intelligence and targeting information an F-35 pilot needs to complete the mission is displayed on the helmet’s visor.

The F-35’s engine produces 43,000 lbs of thrust and consists of a 3-stage fan, a 6-stage compressor, an annular combustor, a single stage high-pressure turbine, and a 2 stage low-pressure turbine.

The F-35 is designed to provide the pilot with unsurpassed

situational awareness, positive target identification and precision strike in all weather conditions. Mission systems integration and outstanding over-the-nose visibility features are designed to dramatically enhance pilot performance.

Background

The F-35 is designed to replace aging fighter inventories including U.S. Air Force F-16s and A-10s, U.S. Navy F/A-18s, U.S. Marine Corps AV-8B Harriers and F/A-18s, and U.K. Harrier GR.7s and Sea Harriers. With stealth and a host of next-generation technologies, the F-35 will be far and away the world’s most advanced multi-role fighter. There exists an aging fleet of tactical aircraft worldwide. The F-35 is intended to solve that problem.

On October 26, 2001, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Edward C. “Pete” Aldridge Jr. announced the decision to proceed with the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) program. This approval advanced the program to the System Development and Demonstration (SDD) phase. The Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche announced the selection of Lockheed Martin teamed with Northrop Grumman and BAE to develop and then produce the JSF aircraft.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Darlene Seltmann

The F-35A Lightning II makes its first appearance March 10, 2014, at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. The aircraft was flown in directly from the Lockheed Martin factor at Fort Worth, Texas, and is the first of 144 F-35s that will eventually be assigned to the base.



U.S. Air Force photo by 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Capt. James Morrison, Master Sgt. Scott Grabham, 58th Aircraft Maintenance Unit and Capt. Timothy Killham, stand by their F-35A Lightning II on display at Columbus Air Force Base Wings Over Columbus Open House and Air Show April 6, 2014. The F-35A Lightning II is a single seat and single engine fighter capable of performing ground attacks, reconnaissance and air defense missions, all with stealth capability. This aircraft is particularly new and has only been shown at one other air show in its lifetime.

The Airman’s Creed

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



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





T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 17-14 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



Capt. Sarah Cassman
Columbus, Ga.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



1st Lt. Fiona Akoth
Kisumu, Kenya
U-28, Cannon AFB, N.M.



1st Lt. Kosuke Watanabe
Nagano, Japan
F-2, TBD, Japan

Twenty-two officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to become Air Force pilots.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-14 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Gen. James Holmes, Air Combat Command Commander, is the graduation guest speaker.

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

First Lt. Kosuke Watanabe, T-38C Talon, and 2nd Lt. Austin Rivera, T-1A Jayhawk, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Peter Davidson, T-38, and 1st Lt. Fiona Akoth, T-1A. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typi-

fied the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Watanabe and Rivera were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 17-14.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

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

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

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 53.6 hours in the flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus AFB. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. SUPT Class 17-14 pilot partners are Lance Walters and Mike Arzamendi with PACCAR.



2nd Lt. Peter Davidson
Hudson, Ohio
F-15E, Seymour-Johnson AFB



2nd Lt. Tiffany Dill
Waxahachie, Texas
C-130J, Little Rock AFB



2nd Lt. Peter Evans
Waterford, Va.
A-10, Warfield ANGB, Md.



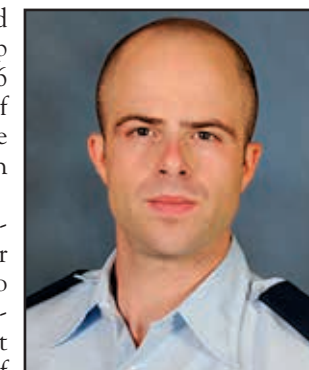
2nd Lt. David Albandoz
San Juan, Puerto Rico
C-130H, Muniz ANGB, Puerto Rico



2nd Lt. Josh Appleton
Round Hill, Va.
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Zach Braum
Twinsburg, Ohio
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Chris Hakobian
Los Angeles
U-28, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Wade Holmes
Washington, D.C.
F-16, JB Andrews, Washington, D.C.



2nd Lt. James Huff
Ocean Springs, Miss.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Andrew Kubinski
Albuquerque, N.M.
T-38, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Arturo Marin
Clifton, Ariz.
C-17, JB Charleston, S.C.



2nd Lt. David McNair
Memphis, Tenn.
C-17, Memphis ANGB, Tenn.



2nd Lt. Richard O'Brien
Jasper, Texas
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Albert Rios
Elkhart, Ind.
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Austin Rivera
White Plains, N.Y.
LC-130H, Stratton ANGB, 109th AW, N.Y.



2nd Lt. Simon Thaler
Atlanta, Ga.
C-17, JB Charleston, S.C.



2nd Lt. Matthew Thomas
Alpharetta, Ga.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Ryan Tillman
Mukwonago, Wis.
MC-130H, Kadena AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Kenneth Wilson
Albuquerque, N.M.
E-8, Robbins AFB, Ga.