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- Robert, Manager
(Retired Air Force Pilot's son)
in addition to Jessica & Corrie

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Weather

Friday Partly Cloudy High 90°F Low 65°F	Saturday Partly Cloudy High 90°F Low 66°F
Sunday Partly Cloudy High 88°F Low 63°F	Monday Partly Cloudy High 82°F Low 61°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight


News Briefs

CREATE Expo
The Northeast Mississippi Career Expo will be Oct. 3-5 at BancorpSouth Arena in Tupelo, Mississippi. The expo will have booths that represent various careers to give the students attending an opportunity to see what is available after graduation. More than 7,000 students are expected to attend, and units from Columbus Air Force Base represent the Air Force. The expo is open to the public from 2-5 p.m. Oct. 4.

Columbus Day
Columbus Day is Oct. 9. Most Columbus Air Force Bases offices will be closed, so personnel should plan accordingly.

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

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 17-15 graduates today at 10 a.m. today at the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, signs the Fire Prevention Week Proclamation Sept. 21, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. This year's theme is "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!"

Fire Prevention Week teaches BLAZE members household safety

Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
14th Flying Training Wing

Fire Prevention Week is a nationally recognized week and gives fire and emergency members a chance to teach their communities ways to stay safe and prevent unwanted fires from starting.

"Fire prevention week was enacted by President Calvin

Coolidge, it was in response to the Great Chicago Fire," said Peter J. Delillo, 14th Civil Engineer Squadrons fire inspector. "Calvin Coolidge designated one week a year for fire protection specialists to teach the communities how to help prevent fires."

This years' theme is "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out," in reference to always having two means of escape when

See FIRE PREVENTION, Page 3

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)	-3.97 days	-1.09 days	Oct. 20	48th (18-01)	-4.21 days	-2.09 days	Oct. 27	49th (18-ABC)	-2.35 days	-1.21 days	Oct. 20	T-6	2,532	2,619	32,537
41st (18-10)	-3.53 days	-0.08 days	Nov. 16	50th (18-01)	-0.99 days	-3.71 days	Oct. 27					T-1	800	637	8,422
												T-38	803	952	11,512
												IFF	354	344	4,705
* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.															
The graduation speaker for SUPT Class 18-01 on Oct. 27 is Col. Joel Carey, 12th Flying Training Wing Commander.															



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 60 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.

Newly arrived Airmen learn about opportunities at new base



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross

Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, speaks to a room full of incoming personnel Sept. 26, 2017, at the Club on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Shortly after active-duty and civilian personnel arrive to Columbus AFB they receive 28 briefs from various base units and organizations to help them get adjusted and familiar with the base and surrounding area.

Silver Wings

How to reach us

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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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Entrées

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Dessert du Jour

Chocolate-Pumpkin Cake \$6

Sunday Brunch

Oct. 1st • 11am-2pm • Adults \$19.50 • Children 3-10 \$8

Prime Rib • Roasted Duck with Apricot Sauce • Smoked Salmon Carving Station
Red Field Peas • Mushroom Risotto • Sautéed Broccolini • Roasted Root Vegetables
Seafood Gumbo • Banana Fosters Bread Pudding • Chocolate Pumpkin Cake

Brunch Selections Include:

Cheese, Pastry & Fruit Station • Salad Station • Egg Station
Waffle Station • Breakfast Station

Short Order Menu Also Available That Includes Sandwiches, Salads, & Burgers

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: 1989 Alumacraft Super Bandit 17.5 feet with an 80-horsepower Mercury 2 stroke engine, very few hours on it. Runs great, has new plywood, new Tempress high-back seats, new Minn Kota 25-pound electric anchor, Minn Kota 40-pound trolling motor and fish finder. Asking \$4,000. If interested contact, 662-574-6823.

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News Around Town

Oct. 5-7

The Seventh Avenue Heritage Festival will take place Oct. 5-7 in Columbus, Mississippi. The festival will feature comedian Rickey Smiley at 7 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Trotter Convention Center, tickets are \$35 in advance. A parade will also start at noon Oct. 7 beginning at Catfish Alley on Fourth Street in Columbus to the festival area near Seventh Avenue and 15th Street North. There will also be music, food and other events near Seventh Avenue. For more information, visit http://visitcolumbusms.org/index.php/upcoming_events/.

Oct. 7

The Richard E. Holmes II Memorial Foundation, Inc. will host the fifth annual Veterans Memorial Walk/Run Oct. 7 at the Columbus Soccer Complex in Columbus, Mississippi. Registration is at 7 a.m. and the walk/run begins at 8 a.m. Participants can either participate in a 5K walk/run or 1-mile fun run. Cost is \$20 per person for the 5K and teams of five for the fun run at \$10 per person. For more information, call 662-889-0180.

Oct. 14

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

Oct. 19-21

Celebrated novelist Daniel Wallace returns as the keynote author of the 29th annual Eudora Welty Writers' Symposium, Oct. 19-21. Wallace will start off the symposium with his reading in Poindexter Hall's Connie Sills Kossen auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 19, followed by a book signing with all symposium authors. For a list of times and speakers, visit <http://www.muw.edu/welty>. All symposium events will be held on the Mississippi University for Women campus and are free and open to the public.

Visit us online!

www.columbus.af.mil

Afghan Air Force receives first delivery of UH-60s at Kandahar Airfield

Tech. Sgt. Veronica Pierce
438th Air Expeditionary Wing and Train, Advise, Assist Command-Air Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — The first two Afghan Air Force UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters arrived at Kandahar Airfield.

The UH-60s are the first to be delivered to the AAF under the Aviation Transition and Modernization program. The plan to modernize and increase the AAF fleet will provide firepower and mobility enabling the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces to bring a decisive advantage to the fight against anti-government forces.

The first group of UH-60s will remain at Kandahar Airfield, where flight training for Afghan pilots is slated to begin in October. Air advisors assigned to Train, Advise, Assist Command-Air, 738th Air Expeditionary Advisory Group, will oversee the training program. Over the coming years, additional Blackhawks will be distributed to four primary AAF bases throughout Afghanistan.

“The AAF has grown in the last year and they’re asymmetric effects are changing the battlefield,” said Col. Armando Fiterre, 738th AEAG commander, TAAC-Air. “As the AAF mission grows they are becoming a more modernized, sustainable and more capable air force.”

The UH-60s are just part of the plan to modernize and expand the AAF. Additions to its current fleet will increase strike aircraft numbers from 58 to 173, while its rotary aircraft fleet will increase from 74 to 173.

“The Blackhawks will gradually be replacing the Mi-17 in the AAF inventory over the next few years,” said Brig. Gen. Phillip Stewart, commander of the 438th Air Expeditionary Wing and Train, Advise, Assist Command-Air. “While the Mi-17 is one of the AAF’s most advanced programs when it comes to aircrew and maintenance capabilities, the program cannot be continued indefinitely. The Mi-17s are expensive to maintain, difficult to sustain and experiencing higher than expected attrition rates.”

Earlier in this year, the U.S. committed more than \$814



U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Veronica Pierce

An Afghan Air Force UH-60 is towed as two AAF A-29s taxi for take-off Sept. 18, 2017, at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. The UH-60 was the first to arrive in Afghanistan as part of modernization efforts to transition the AAF to a more sustainable and modern helicopter fleet.

million for fiscal year 2017, funded by the U.S. Contingency Operations Afghan Security Forces Fund.

The funding will be used to shape and modernize the Afghan fleet over the next several years by procuring UH-60s, with refurbishment and modification of the first 18; additional armed MD-530F helicopters, A-29 attack aircraft and AC-208s aircraft, which will provide Afghan National Defense and Security Forces an advantage on its domestic battlefields.

The planning involves seven different weapon systems, 14 different program offices and more than 20 major contracts. As the UH-60s arrive, contract maintenance experts will establish initial program stability, while Train, Advise, Assist Command-Air advisors conduct training classes and on-the-job training or Afghan pilots and maintainers.

“The UH-60 training will involve a blend of contractors, military and Afghan pilots,” Stewart said. “The Afghan Air Force will begin by transitioning Mi-17 pilots and maintainers as we expect they will adapt faster to the Blackhawk.”

Once the Afghans aviators graduate and become mission ready, combat missions will be planned and conducted by



A U.S. Air Force C-17 loadmaster assigned to Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, prepares two Afghan Air Force UH-60 helicopters for off loading Sept. 18, 2017, at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. These are the first UH-60s delivered to Afghanistan for the modernization of the AAF and development of a professional, capable and sustainable Afghan Air Force.

AAF crews independent of coalition forces.

“Growing an air force takes time, it takes many years of training and planning during peace time and the Afghans are doing this during war,” Fiterre said. “It is a herculean effort for the Afghans, and frankly, they are knocking this achievement out of the park.”

The primary purpose of the UH-60 will be for troop and cargo transport, including casualty evacuation.

However, in addition to the 61 base model UH-60s, the AAF will also receive 58 UH-60 models with fixed forward-fire capabilities. According to TAAC-Air advisors, these numbers are based on the final forecasted end strength, assuming no attrition.

“The mission of TAAC-Air is to help our Afghan partners build a professional, capable and sustainable air force,” Stewart said. “We stand ready to give our Afghan counterparts the best training and assistance possible, regardless of what aircraft they are flying.”

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross

Will O'Meara, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Assistant Chief of Health and Safety, speaks to a first-grade classroom at Caledonia Elementary School Sept. 26, 2017, in Caledonia, Mississippi. Fire and emergency service members from Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, went to the school to bring recognition to Fire Prevention Week. The week places emphasis on a number of items such as checking fire detectors and knowing who to call in case of an emergency, along with many other prevention and safety measures.

FIRE PREVENTION

(Continued from page 1)

inside of a building. This for most people will mean understanding two separate ways to evacuate their home because they spend the most time there.

“Another thing we will be speaking about this year is spontaneous combustion,” Delillo said. “We want people to understand how mixing regular household waste and yard waste or organic waste increases the risk of starting a spontaneous combustion fire.”

The National Fire Protection Association completed a four-year study, where the results showed more than 4,400 house fires were attributed to spontaneous combustion direct-

ly caused by improperly stored materials.

“This week is filled with events primarily to bring the fire department closer to the community, so they know we are here and they know what we can do,” Delillo said. “We want people to be comfortable when they are dealing with us, a lot of times they only see us during emergencies and that can be scary.”

Another thing the NFPA tries to stress to communities is the importance for children to know their home addresses.

This allows children to call 911 and communicate effectively with the dispatcher to quickly send help to the location with the emergency taking place.

“You know there’s no call that’s the same,” said William O’Meara, Assistant Chief of Health and Safety for fire and



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb

Jamey Thibodeau, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Station Captain, and Airman 1st Class Michael Findlay, 14th CES firefighter, help a student pilot with an in-flight emergency Sept. 26, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Fire protection must be able to respond within minutes of any in-flight emergency in order to prevent any injuries, fatalities or damages that may be preventable.

emergency services. “Every day we walk into something different and it makes the job interesting, we help out with so many different kinds of situations, when people have an emergency it’s nice to be the first people they call.”

The fire station on Columbus AFB has the capabilities to handle any sort of fire or accident on base, as well as some medical capabilities, allowing them to stabilize individuals before being taken by an off-base medical response team to the nearest hospital.

The NFPA has an easily accessible website for teaching the community at any time, <http://www.nfpa.org/>. Parents can find ways to create fun and interesting ways for children to learn fire prevention and safety, as well as how to escape when a fire is in the home.

JOINT TEAM

(Continued from page 13)

humanitarian relief prior to joining the Air National Guard.

“I love it. It’s why I joined the National Guard,” said Manca. “When our unit was activated I think most of us were excited to help. We empathize with the people of St. Croix. When we were here as a staging area for St. Thomas after Hurricane Irma, the people were great and very supportive. To see them going through this is sad. I’m grateful we were able to come back and continue to help out.”


The Federal Emergency Management Agency provided food and directed where supplies were being delivered. The Virgin Islands National Guard has processed pallets of supplies and distributed them throughout the island.

“Having done countless combat operations with

these aircraft, it’s nice to use the aircraft in another role for which it is completely capable, namely, humanitarian relief,” said Flight Lt. Matt Jenkinson, 14th AS British royal air force exchange pilot. “We’ve taken in supplies to help ease people’s pain and make their life a bit more comfortable. I feel very privileged to play a part in the relief operations responding to Hurricanes Irma and Maria.”

Mobility Airmen provide essential peacetime and contingency access to global areas of operations through partnerships built with allied nations. Jenkinson has been assigned to the 14th AS for three years during his first posting in the U.S.

“We train together because we fight together,” said Jenkinson. “The United States military is a strong ally of ours and has been for a long time. Working with the United States Air Force has been a proper privilege and will be for the years to come.”




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

WEDNESDAY
Kid's Drama - 6 pm
Adult/Youth Bible Study, RAs, GAs
& Mission Friends - 6:30 pm
Nursery available for all services.

Columbus AFB hosts second triathlon

Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 14th Force Support Squadron organized a base-wide triathlon Sept. 23 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

The race started with a 300-meter swim in the pool and from there, participants transitioned to the bike ride portion. They biked 22 kilometers to the center runway and back to the pool, where they began running the last leg, a 5K.

“Doing these events are for the community and also to promote fitness,” said Maj. Douglas Hickey, 14th FSS Commander.

Columbus AFB tries to hold a run or event for base members every month to help keep community members involved and active. This was the second triathlon the 14th FSS hosted this year.

“We talk about the pillars in the Air Force, physical is one of them, if they can get out here with friends and family that’s even better,” Hickey said.

Providing these outlets allows newer base members to meet their neighbors, and helps welcome the new student pilots every month into the BLAZE team.

“It’s good to get out with your friends and a good way, especially on casual status, to get out and stay active and keep ready for your physical testing in Initial Flight Training,” said



Second Lt. Brooke Cecil, 14th Comptroller Squadron Financial Services Flight Commander, bikes during the base triathlon Sept. 23, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. This is one of the few events where BLAZE members will be able to bike down the entire center runway, and shows members who aren’t pilots what the flightline looks like.

2nd Lt. Träger Kviten, 14th Student Squadron student pilot.

The 14th FSS looks forward to hosting other events like this in the future Hickey said.



Second Lts. Dennis Cook and Forrest Schaffer, 14th Student Squadron student pilots, finish the triathlon Sept. 23, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Some student pilots competed in pairs or groups, using the Saturday event to socialize and exercise.

Upcoming base events include The Illusionist (magic show) Oct. 13 at the Kaye Auditorium, and a Fiesta Party Oct. 20 at the Club.

Base, community emergency management teams build stronger bonds

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Thirty-nine representatives from 21 base functions and 15 community, county, regional and state organizations gathered during the Regional Emergency Planning Committee Icebreaker Event Sept. 26 at the Columbus Event Center here.

Representatives from the Navy; Air National Guard; Mississippi Emergency Management Agency; AmeriCorps; Federal Aviation Administration; and Monroe, Clay and Oktibbeha counties — among other organizations — gathered to discuss possible ways to forge stronger emergency management relationships with regional and state agencies.

The REPC is a product of the Secretary of the Air Force’s Public-Public, Public-Private Partnership initiative. The community has been working this P4 initiative together since earlier in the summer during a sequence of workshops facilitated by a team from the Pentagon.

The First Air Force (Air Forces Northern) Emergency Preparedness

Liaison Officer briefing to wing leadership is required annually and instead of just providing it to commanders this year, Columbus AFB capitalized on the opportunity to share the topic, Defense Support to Civil Authorities, with their state and civil emergency management counterparts. The goal was to help everyone involved have a better understanding of the operations between federal and civil assistance in the event of a large scale man-made or natural disaster, such as Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

Additionally, Dave Snider, from MEMA’s Field Response Team, provided an overview of MEMA operations and their after-action report from the Marine KC-130 crash in Leflore County, Mississippi, earlier this summer. It was a learning opportunity for all emergency managers in the local area, and showed how civilian and military response are integrated.

Albert McCray, the FAA’s Aviation Safety Inspector, also shared vital information on the growing policy for unmanned aerial systems and how they can legally be used in support of emergency situations.



Jim Cross, Installation Emergency Manager, speaks to a group of emergency management representatives during the Regional Emergency Planning Committee Icebreaker Event Sept. 26, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Thirty-nine representatives from 21 base functions and 15 community, county, regional and state organizations gathered to discuss possible ways to forge stronger emergency management relationships with regional and state agencies.

AF expands Career Intermission Program opportunities

Kat Bailey

Air Force’s Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The Air Force has changed the Career Intermission Program to expand participation opportunities for Airmen from one application window each year to three.

In addition, Airmen with humanitarian circumstances may submit out-of-cycle CIP applications, as can dual-military married Airmen when a join spouse assignment cannot be supported, provided they meet CIP eligibility criteria. If desired, the Air Force Personnel Center will expedite the CIP application.

Open to regular Air Force and career-status active Air National Guard and Reserve Airmen, 108 Airmen have been selected to participate in the program since its inception in 2014.

Designed to allow Airmen the flexibility to manage short-term conflicts between service responsibilities and life priorities, CIP offers Airmen the opportunity for a one-time temporary transition from active duty to the Individual Ready Reserve. The participation period is a minimum of one year, not to exceed three years, and provides a mechanism for seamless return to pre-CIP active-duty status.

CIP also provides a means to enhance retention of Airmen by preserving their valuable experience and training that might otherwise be lost by permanent separation.

“The Career Intermission Program affords an avenue to meet the changing needs of today’s service members,” said Adriana Bazan, military personnel specialist at AFPC. “This work-life flexibility initiative will enable the Air



U.S. Air Force photo by Kat Bailey

The Air Force Career Intermission Program may be your way to manage short-term conflicts between service and self, enabling the Air Force to retain valuable talent by providing career flexibility to attend to personal and professional needs without having to choose one over the other. To meet the changing needs of today’s Airmen, CIP has expanded to provide new participation opportunities.

Force to retain talent which reduces cost and adverse impacts on the mission.”

Application windows will be available each year from April 1 to May 13 (Cycle A), Aug. 1 to Sept. 12 (Cycle B) and Dec. 1 to Jan. 12 (Cycle C). However, to allow time to implement program changes, Cycle B for 2017 will open Sept. 22 through Oct. 31.

An Airman’s potential to serve the Air Force in the future, including leadership, duty performance, profes-

Joint team delivers relief in Hurricane Maria aftermath

Airman 1st Class Megan Munoz

Joint Base Charleston Public Affairs

ST. CROIX, U.S. Virgin Islands — Members of the 14th Airlift Squadron from Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina delivered 17 pallets containing more than 129,000 pounds of food and water to St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, in support of relief efforts after Hurricane Maria, Sept. 24, 2017.

The mission to St. Croix was one of two humanitarian missions flown to the Virgin Islands within 48 hours. The air crew flew their first mission to the islands on Sept. 23, delivering a mobile air traffic control tower and 13,000 pounds of food.

Nine pallets consisted of meals ready to eat, with more than 2,000 MREs per pallet. Eight pallets contained cases of bottled water, with more than 11,000 bottles per pallet.

The Rhode Island Air National Guard’s 143rd Airlift Wing was activated after Hurricane Irma to provide humanitarian aid to St. Thomas and St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Before

“When we left before the hurricane everything was green, lush and beautiful,” said Staff Sgt. Andrew Manca, 143rd LRS cargo specialist.

Hurricane Maria, 143rd Logistics Readiness Squadron evacuated to St. Croix.

“When we left before the hurricane everything was green, lush and beautiful,” said Staff Sgt. Andrew Manca, 143rd LRS cargo specialist. “When we came back it was completely different. Everything was brown, trees and telephone poles were flat. Houses had their roofs blown off. It looked like a bomb had gone off.”

Manca was in the Army and specialized in

See JOINT TEAM, Page 14



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Megan Munoz

Maj. Kari Flemming, left, 14th Airlift Squadron pilot, and Flight Lt. Matt Jenkinson, 14th AS Royal Air Force exchange pilot, both from Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, perform preflight checks at Kelly Field in San Antonio, Texas, Sept. 24, 2017. Members of the 14th AS delivered more than 129,000 pounds of food and water to St. Croix, Virgin Islands, in support of relief efforts after Hurricane Maria. The mission to St. Croix marked the second mission the crew flew to the Virgin Islands for humanitarian aid in 48 hours.

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.

Airman Free Movie Night

The Base Library is offering a free movie night at 5 p.m. Oct. 5. The featured movie is “Split.” A new movie will be shown the first Thursday of each month. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Children’s Morning Matinee

The Base Library is offering a free movie at 10 a.m. Oct. 7. The featured movie is “Hocus Pocus.” A new movie will be shown the first Saturday of each month. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Glow in the Dark 5K Run/Walk

The Youth Center is offering a Glow in the Dark 5K Run/Walk at 6 p.m. Oct. 27. Free event. All ages welcome. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Play Paintball

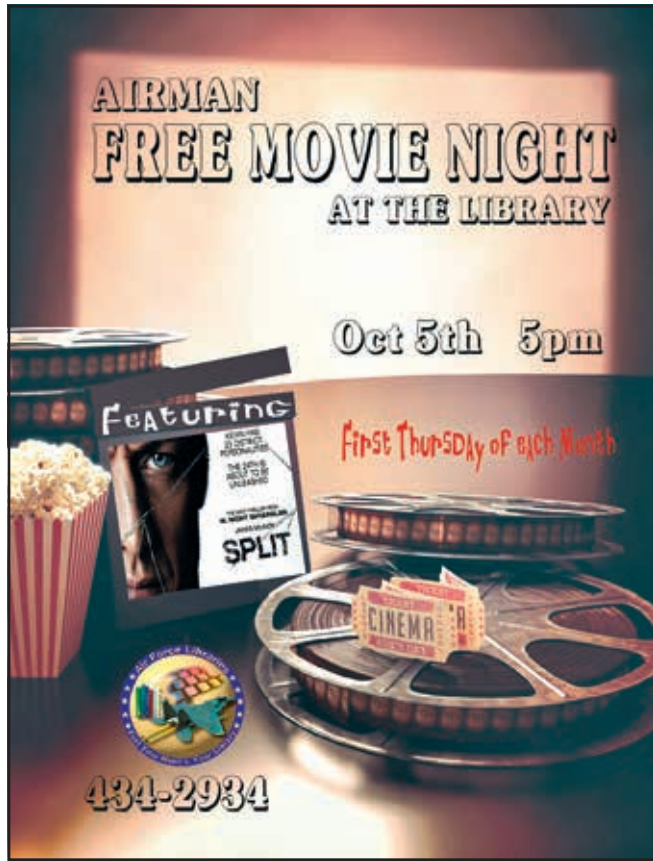
Outdoor Recreation offers paintball for groups or individuals. You must book 24 hours in advance; 17 years old and under must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$15 per person for party of 10 or more; \$20 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$50 per case of 2,000 paint balls. For more information, contact 434-2505.

The Overrun Open Friday Nights

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

Library Hours of Operation

The Base Library hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 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.

Referees Needed

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

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.

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.

14th MDG blazes forward with ‘Lean Daily Management’

1st Lt. John Morrow

14th Medical Support Squadron

Ask any medic at the Koritz Clinic about Continuous Process Improvement, and you will likely be steered toward their section’s Lean Daily Management board and given an in-depth explanation about an ongoing project.

LDM is based on error reducing methods revolutionized by Toyota’s manufacturing operations in the 1980s. Lean process improvement principles have since moved from manufacturing industries to service industries, where the ideas now proliferate the healthcare system nationwide.

The Military Health System format for LDM originated at the 59th Medical Wing at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, as a simplified form of CPI designed for daily medical operations. Recently, the Air Force launched the new Trusted Care initiative with a focus on “zero patient harm.” As a result, LDM was quickly adopted and adapted as the method the Koritz Clinic utilizes to create a culture that embraces process improvement and error reduction, ultimately leading to better patient outcomes.

LDM thrives on structure and visual management, so daily briefs are conducted in front of LDM boards by the healthcare team members. This allows sections to flex according to daily operations concerns like manning or support issues. It also facilitates the identification of process concerns or potential CPI projects, and provides a venue to monitor the section’s ongoing CPI project.

Projects are designed to have a measurable and quantifiable goal, and data is tracked until a trend is observed. Root cause analysis is done, and countermeasures are created with projected timelines. When projects are worked to resolution, the project can be closed out. Section leaders complete a simplified “CPI 8-Step” which shows all phases of the project from data collection and root cause analysis, through countermeasure creation and implementation. Sustainability is key in LDM, so ensuring that new processes are captured in continuity binders, operating instructions, or group instructions is necessary.

Not every problem requires lengthy data collection and a root cause analysis, so sections are also able to complete and document “just-do-its” to track sustainable quick process

changes.

Weekly leadership rounds solidify efforts by ensuring senior leaders and process improvement mentors are available to assist with additional resources or coaching when roadblocks occur. Since roll-out in 2015, the 14th Medical Group’s robust LDM program boasts a return on investment of 30 completed projects, numerous just-do-its. In 2016, the 14th MDG received kudos from the Joint Commission, a civilian healthcare organization conducting the 14th MDG’s accreditation survey.

The 14th Medical Group has also shared the best practices that it has gleaned from its program with the base Process Improvement Team. In return, the 14th MDG has leveraged the knowledge of the members trained at the Wing CPI Green Belt course to act as mentors in each section during rounding.


Ultimately, the LDM toolbox provides a conduit for effective change for those most vested in daily operations, and a means by which efficient and sustainable change can be created. In an environment where units are tasked to accomplish more with fewer resources, the waste reducing tactics of lean operations are essential to continued mission success.

New Airmen get introduction to first duty assignment




U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens

Master Sgt. Ryan Johnson, 14th Force Support Squadron Career Assistance Advisor, stands with 13 Airmen who completed the First Term Airman Course Sept. 21, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Johnson leads FTAC but over the course of five days, 16 base organizations aided in teaching Airmen more about their first duty station and all of the functions and programs available for them to use. FTAC changed the course curriculum in July 2017 to help the Airmen engage in the course and have a better understanding of what the Air Force can offer.



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



Hispanic Heritage Month

By 2nd Lt. Anna Meiusi
14th Student Squadron

Celebrating Hispanic heritage began in 1968 when President Lyndon B. Johnson reserved a week to highlight the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens with Hispanic ancestors.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded this to a 31-day period from Sept. 15-Oct. 15.

The observation begins Sept. 15 to mirror the anniversary of five Latin American countries gaining their independence – Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile followed only a few days after. According to the 2014 census, Hispanics make up 17 percent of the U.S. population with 55 million American citizens. Despite people of Hispanic origin being the nation's largest minority, in 2011 they made up only 7 percent of the science, technology, engineering, and math workforce.

Throughout America's history, Hispanics have fought bravely for the United States in wars ranging from the Civil War to the Vietnam War with a reputation of being the first in and last out, often without recognition. President Barack Obama honored 24 Hispanic, Jewish, and African-American veterans in 2014 by awarding them with the Medal of Honor after being passed over originally for their racial or ethnic background. The United States continues to this day to fight for equal rights for all citizens, recognizing diversity as a main pillar of our country.

"The future of America is inextricably linked to the future of our Hispanic community. Our country thrives on the diversity and ingenuity of

all our people, and our ability to out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world will depend greatly on the success of Hispanics. This month, as we honor their struggles and successes, let us recommit to ensuring our Nation remains a place big enough and bold enough to accommodate the dreams and prosperity of all our people." – President Barack Obama

Pvt. Joseph P. Martinez – First Hispanic-American to receive the Medal of Honor on May 23, 1943, for combat heroism during World War II.

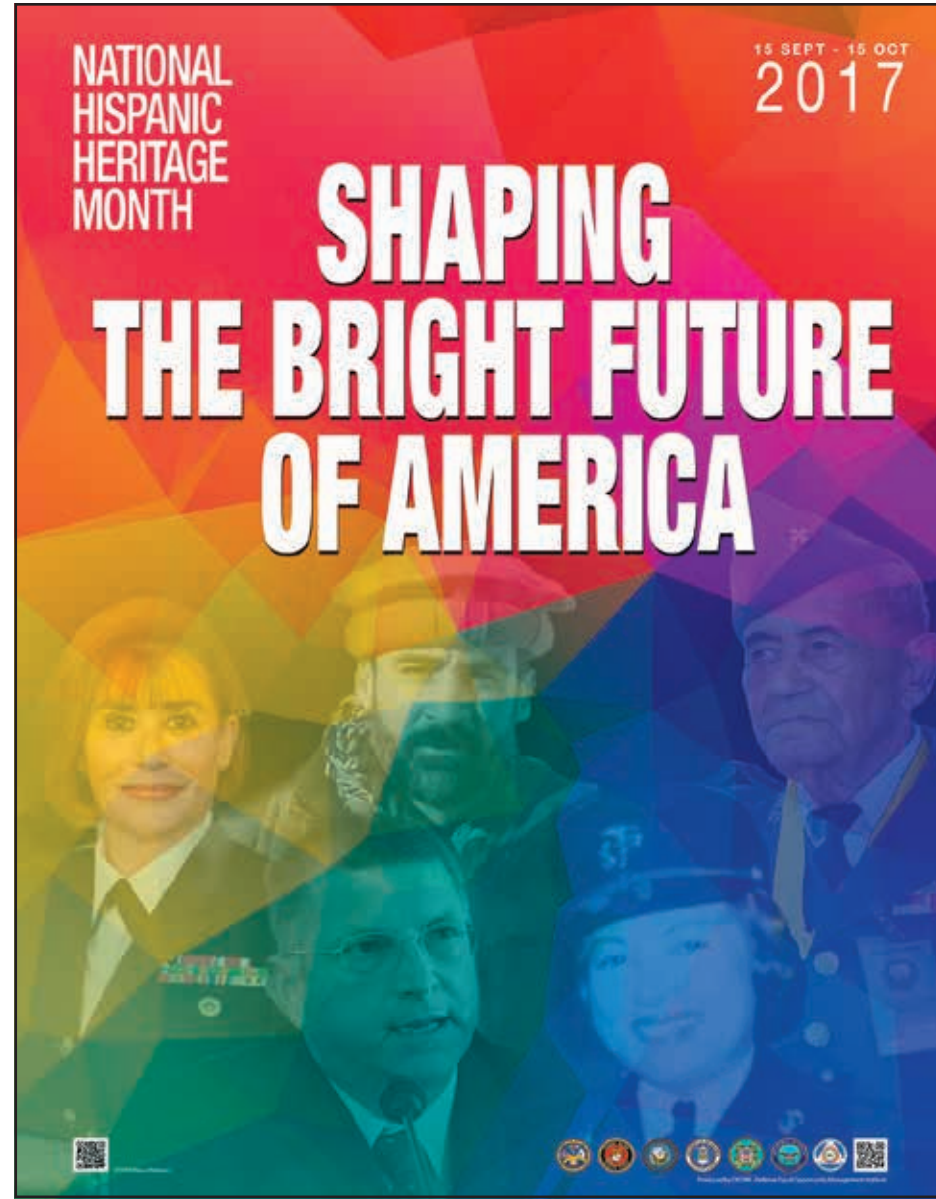
Ellen Ochoa – Became the first Hispanic director of the Johnson Space Center in 2012, after being the first Hispanic woman to go to space on the Discovery in 1993.

Dr. France Anne Cordova – The youngest person to hold the position of NASA chief scientist, received NASA's Distinguished Service Medal, and was the first Hispanic woman to serve as the president of Purdue University.

David G. Farragut – The first admiral in the U.S. Navy after Congress created the rank and awarded it to him following his Aug. 5, 1864, victory in the Battle of Mobile Bay during the Civil War.

Cesar Chavez – Prominent union leader, created National Farm Workers Association which used nonviolent methods to secure raises and improved conditions for farm workers in California, Texas, Arizona, and Florida. A U.S. Navy dry cargo/ammunition ship was named after him in 2012 to honor his efforts as a civil rights activist as well as a Navy veteran.

(Editor's note: Information used for this article was retrieved from www.DEOMI.org.)



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.

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.

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.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This orientation will be from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Oct. 17 and 26. It is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is at the Columbus Club, for more information call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop is from

Volunteers construct CAFB deer blind for wounded warriors



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross

Chief Master Sgt. Johnathan Hover, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, Frank Lockhart, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Conservation Manager, and Staff Sgt. Evan Narred, 14th Security Forces Squadron Vehicle Control Officer, work on a permanent deer blind Sept. 23, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The three were among eight volunteers who volunteered on Saturday, however 13 people total have worked on the project since construction began in April 2017. The blind is primarily for wounded warriors and disabled veterans.

1-2 p.m. Oct. 17 allows the 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.

Golden Triangle Employment Expo

The Golden Triangle Employment Expo is from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 18 at the American Legion Building in Columbus, Mississippi. Go to <http://www.jobfairs.ms.gov/> for list of participating vendors, more than 40 employers will be offering jobs. For more information call 434-2790.

Heart Link for Spouses

This event is from 8 a.m.-noon Oct. 19 at the Columbus Club. The event is for spouses new to Columbus Air Force Base or the military lifestyle. It is a fun-filled spouse orientation program with info on protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. It is a great way to meet others new to Columbus AFB. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

Trick-or-Treating

Trick-or-treating will be from 6-8 p.m. Oct. 28 in the housing complexes on Columbus Air Force Base.

Military and Family Life Counselor Program

The Military and Family Life Counselor Pro-

gram counselors provide a 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 marital issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All counselors 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.

Personal Financial Resources

Need help with financial matters? Want to make the most of your money? The Personal Financial Counselor can help you and your family: manage finances; resolve financial problems; and reach long-term goals such as education, buying a home and planning for retirement. PFC services are no cost, private and confidential. For more information, call the PFC at (662) 998-0411 or 434-2790, or email PFC.Columbus.USAF@zeiders.com; the PFC is also located in the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Airman and Family Readiness Center. They 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's 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 is 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: have a serious illness or injury, are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time or may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

Relocation Assistance

A Relocation Assistance workshop on programs, services and resources available through the Airman & Family Readiness Center is held every Wednesday from 9 - 10 a.m. at the A&FRC. Topics of discussion include preparing for a move, environment/cultural issues or needs, adaptation and community awareness. The POC is A&FRC, 434-2790.

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

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

Items Needed:

Non-perishable foods	New baby items (diapers, wipes, unopened formula/food, clothes)
Can openers	Personal hygiene items (soap, lotion, towels, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.)
Bottled water	School supplies (backpacks, pens, pencils, crayons, markers, notebooks, etc.)
Hand sanitizer	Pet food
Bed linen	Toys
Batteries	No Clothes Please!
Hats and gloves	
First-aid kits	
Mosquito repellent	
Paper items (plates, cups, paper towels, utensils)	

Donate at a location near you!

Hurricane Relief Drive

Oct. 1-31

Squadron POCs

14th OG - Airmen 1st Class Williams, R., and Lucero
14th OSS - Airman 1st Class Williams, S.
14th MSG/WSA - Staff Sgt. White, J.
14th MDG - Staff Sgt. Pena and SrA Harris
14th CES - Tech. Sgt. Mcanally
37th FTS - Airman 1st Class Ganter
48th FTS - Staff Sgt. Cunningham
Rapcon/Tower - Tech Sgt. Albrecht and Staff Sgt. Warner
14th CONS - Tech Sgt. Jiggetts & SSgt. Hovland
Chapel - Tech. Sgt. Daniels
Fire Department - Tech Sgt. Felder

For questions or concerns contact Staff Sgt. Whitney Felder at 850-866-8304.

Drop Off Locations:

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OSS
MSG
WSA
MDG
CES
37TH FS
48TH FTS
RAPCON/TOWER
CONS
CHAPEL
Fire Department

Focus on what you can control

Maj. Jonathan Harmon

14th Communications Squadron Commander

As I near the completion of the 14th month of my 24-month command tour of the 14th Communications Squadron, I have learned a lot about myself and leadership.

Leading in the communications or cyber field is very frustrating since nearly 95 percent of information technology services Airmen use on a daily basis are not under local control. From email, to web surfing to even connecting an external hard drive, my unit does not have the rights to manage.

This has been a tough pill to swallow because I serve in an environment where we strive for excellence. Additionally, I

Leading in the communications or cyber field is very frustrating since nearly 95 percent of information technology services Airmen use on a daily basis are not under local control.

am a results driven person that likes to get the job done and move on to the next challenge. As a professional Airman I take it personal when a capability I am charged with providing to mission partners is unavailable.

So what do I do? I spend roughly 30 percent of my day pushing organizations that control enterprise-level systems. The remaining 70 percent of my day is focused on improving Columbus Air Force Base at the local level. Regardless of who controls what, the mission continues and my team and I must improve and support operations where we can. Everyone will have a different balance dependent upon assignment and scope of responsibility. There is not a magic formula to figure out the balance and it is not in a continuity book, one must develop it on their own. My lesson to those frustrated by situations outside of your control is to invest more time, energy and resources on items within your span of control while continuing to push external change.



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Hangar tails: C-5 Galaxy

Mission

The C-5 Galaxy is one of the largest aircraft in the world and the largest airlifter in the Air Force inventory. The aircraft can carry a fully equipped combat-ready military unit to any point in the world on short notice and then provide the supplies required to help sustain the fighting force.

Features

The C-5 has a greater capacity than any other airlifter. It has the ability to carry 36 standard pallets and 81 troops simultaneously. The Galaxy is also capable of carrying any of the Army's air-transportable combat equipment, including such bulky items as the 74-ton mobile scissors bridge. It can also carry outsize and oversize cargo over intercontinental ranges and can take off or land in relatively short distances. Ground crews are able to load and off-load the C-5 simultaneously at the front and rear cargo openings, reducing cargo transfer times. Other features of the C-5 are:

- Able to operate on runways 6,000 feet long (1,829 meters)
- Five sets of landing gear totaling 28 wheels to distribute weight
- Nose and aft doors that open the full width and height of the cargo compartment to permit faster and easier loading
- A "kneeling" landing gear system that permits lowering the parked aircraft to facilitate drive-on/drive-off vehicle loading and adjusts the cargo floor to standard truck-bed height
- Full-width drive-on ramps at each end for loading double rows of vehicles
- A maintenance diagnostics system that records and analyzes data from more than 800 (C-5A) and 7000 (C-5M) test points, reducing maintenance/repair time.

The C-5 has the distinctive high T-tail, 25-degree wing sweep, and four turbofan engines mounted on pylons beneath the wings.

The C-5 has 12 internal wing tanks with a total capacity of 51,150 gallons (194,370 liters) of fuel — enough to fill 6 1/2 regular-size railroad tank cars. A full fuel load weighs 332,500 pounds (150,820 kilograms). A C-5 with a cargo load of 270,000 pounds (122,472 kilograms) can fly 2,150 nautical miles, offload, and fly to a second base 500 nautical miles away from the original destination — all without aerial refueling. With aerial refueling, the aircraft's range is limited only by crew endurance.

Background

Lockheed-Georgia Co. delivered the first operational Galaxy to the 437th Airlift Wing, Charleston Air Force Base, now known as Joint Base Charleston, S.C., in June 1970. C-5s are operated by active-duty, Reserve, and Air National Guard crews. They are currently stationed at Dover AFB, Del.; Travis AFB, Calif.; Lackland AFB, Texas; Martinsburg ANGB, W.Va. and Westover ARB, Mass.

In March 1989, the last of 50 C-5Bs was added to the 76 C-5As in the Air Force's airlift force structure. The C-5B



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Liliana Moreno

A C-5M Super Galaxy from Travis Air Force Base, California, prepares to land at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida, Sept. 16, 2017. The aircraft redeployed personnel and equipment from the 66th Rescue Squadron back home to Nellis AFB, Nevada. The team was deployed in support of Hurricane Irma relief efforts.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Trevor Rhynes

Load masters from Travis Air Force Base, California, and 22nd Logistics Readiness Squadron logisticians work together to load a fuel truck onto a C-5M Super Galaxy July 26, 2017, at McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas. The fuel trucks were transported as part of Mobility Guardian 2017, which is Air Mobility Command's largest exercise of the year.

includes all C-5A improvements as well as more than 100 additional system modifications to improve reliability and maintainability.

Based on a study showing 80 percent of the C-5 airframe service life remaining, AMC began an aggressive program to modernize the C-5 in 1998. The C-5 Avionics Modernization Program included upgrading the avionics to improve communications, navigation and surveillance/air traffic management compliance. The upgrade also added new safety equipment and installed a new autopilot system.

Another part of the C-5 modernization plan is a comprehensive Reliability Enhancement and Re-engining Program (RERP). Fifty-two C-5s (1A, 2C's, and 49B's) are scheduled to receive the RERP modification by fiscal 2017. The centerpiece of this program is the General Electric CF6-80C2 (F-138) commercial engine. This engine delivers a 22 percent increase in thrust, a 30 percent shorter take-off roll, has a 58 percent faster climb rate and will allow significantly more cargo to be carried over longer distances. With its new engine and other system upgrades, the RERP modified C-5A/B/Cs become C-5Ms, Super Galaxy. This modernization program will make the C-5 much quieter (FAA Stage 4 Compliant) and enhance aircraft reliability and maintainability, maintain structural and system integrity, reduce cost of ownership and increase operational capability well into the 21st century.

In fiscal 2004 and fiscal 2011, Congress authorized the retirement of 46 C-5As. In fiscal 2006, one C-5B crashed at Dover AFB, Del., and was not repairable. (In fiscal 2013 Congress authorized an additional 27 C-5A retirements, one of which has retired. The remaining 26 aircraft will retire between fiscal 2014 and fiscal 2015.) The current resulting fleet size from these events is 78, i.e., 26 C-5As and 52 C5B/C/M.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Outsize cargo transport

Prime Contractor: Lockheed-Georgia Co.

Power Plant: Four General Electric TF-39 engines (C-5A,B,C)/ Four F-138 General Electric engines (C-5M)

Thrust: 43,000 pounds, each engine (C-5A,B,C)/ 51,250 pounds, each engine (C-5M)

Wingspan: 222 feet 9 inches (67.89 meters)

Length: 247 feet 1 inch (75.3 meters)

Height: 65 feet 1 inch (19.84 meters)

Cargo Compartment:

- Height, 13 feet 6 inches (4.11 meters)

- Width, 19 feet (5.79 meters)

- Length, 143 feet, 9 inches (43.8 meters)

Pallet Positions: 36

Maximum Cargo: 270,000 pounds (122,472 kilograms)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 840,000 pounds (381,024 kilograms)

Speed: 518 mph

Unrefueled Range of C-5M: About 4,800 nautical miles, e.g., Dover AFB, Del., to Incirlik AB, Turkey, with 120,000 lbs (wartime planned load) of cargo. About 7,000 nautical miles with no cargo on board.

Crew: Seven (pilot, co-pilot, two flight engineers and three loadmasters)

Fly Away Unit Cost: C-5A – \$152.8 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars); C-5B – \$179 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars); C-5C (Space Cargo Modification) – \$88 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars); C-5M (RERP Modification) – \$90 million (fiscal 2009 constant dollars)

Deployed: C-5A in 1970; C-5B in 1986; C-5C in 1988; C-5M in 2009

Inventory: Total C-5 fleet changes monthly based on congressional approval of C-5A retirements; 52 C-5Ms are scheduled to be in the inventory by fiscal 2017; 16 C-5Ms have been delivered through December 2013.

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T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 17-15 earns silver wings



Capt. Laurel Koltonski
Sutton, Neb.
C-130H, Maxwell AFB, Ala.



Capt. Timothy Mann
Montville, N.J.
F-16C, Atlantic City IAP, N.J.



Capt. Issa Tangara
Bamako, Mali
A-29

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-15 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service 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. David McCarthy, T-38C Talon, and 2nd Lt. Charles Lambert, 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. Sean Brennan, T-38C, and 2nd Lt. Clayton Neal, T-1A. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

McCarthy, Lambert and Neal were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 17-15.

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, turbo-prop T-6A Texan II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, take-off 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, 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, 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 17-15 pilot partners are The Eat With US Group and Cell Phone Repair Geeks.



1st Lt. David McCarthy
Leesburg, Va.
F-22, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



1st Lt. Akihiko Nishi
Saitama, Japan
UH-60, Komaki AB, Japan



1st Lt. Shokei Yunoshita
Tokyo, Japan
F-15, Nyutabaru AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Saleh Alasiri
Abha, Saudi Arabia
Eurofighter, Saudi Arabia



2nd Lt. Aaron Bellini
Klamath Falls, Ore.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Sean Brennan
Swedesboro, N.J.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Charles Lambert
Lexington, Ky.
C-17A, JB Charleston, S.C.



2nd Lt. Jason LaPre
Owings, Md.
C-130J, Yokota AB, Japan



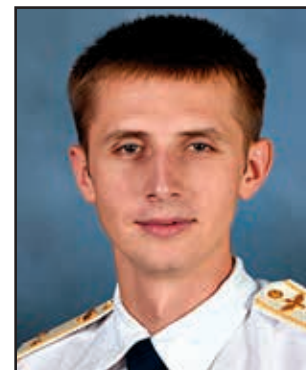
2nd Lt. John Lerda
Pittsburgh
KC-135R, Pittsburgh IAP, Pa.



2nd Lt. Clayton Neal
Overland Park, Kan.
KC-135R, Forbes Field, Kan.



2nd Lt. Corey Pinsonneault
Epsom, N.H.
KC-10, JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.



2nd Lt. Vasyl Polazhynets
Mukachevo, Ukraine
AN-30



2nd Lt. John Pollet
Mandeville, La.
C-17A, Jackson, Miss.



2nd Lt. Paul Schone
Arenzville, Ill.
C-5M, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Jesse Sikora
Willits, Calif.
KC-135R, Niagara Falls ARS, N.Y.



2nd Lt. Austin Styta
Placerville, Calif.
U-28, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Collin Tuthill
Navarre, Fla.
KC-135R, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Lea Zolnai
Budapest, Hungary
TBD