



The Dispatch is preparing to honor military veterans and active service members from the Golden Triangle in a special Veterans Day tribute section. We're asking veterans or their families to complete and submit this form, along with photos that can be used in the publication. Submissions can be made in person, through the mail or by email. All physical photos submitted will be scanned and available for pick up after the publication prints on Sunday, Nov. 5. **Deadline for submissions is Oct. 20.**

Name: _____ Age: _____

City of Residence: _____

Rank: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Time of Service: _____ Foreign Tours: _____

Combat Experience: _____

Why You Joined the Military: _____

Thoughts/Memories from Your Service: _____

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SILVER WINGS

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Vol. 41, Issue 39

October 6, 2017

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Weather

Friday  Partly Cloudy High 85°F Low 63°F	Saturday  Rain High 82°F Low 70°F
Sunday  Thunderstorms High 84°F Low 72°F	Monday  Rain High 86°F Low 73°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Columbus Day

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

SUPT 18-01 Assignment Night

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-01 will have assignment night at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Columbus Club.

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

Fire Prevention Week is highlighted in this week's feature.



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

Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service Commander, speaks at Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-15's graduation ceremony Sept. 29, 2017, at the Kaye Auditorium on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Harencak was the guest speaker for the graduation. As commander of Air Force Recruiting Service he oversees more than 2,470 Airmen and civilians in more than 1,100 recruiting offices across the U.S. and abroad.

Harencak to graduates: ‘It’s just the end of the beginning’

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service commander, congratulated and addressed the Air Force's and partner nations' newest aviators during the Specialized Un-

dergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-15's graduation ceremony, Sept. 29 at the Kaye Auditorium here.

The Air Force's and partner nations' 24 newest aviators spent 52 weeks learning and honing their piloting skills, and now go to their first duty assignment where they've been as-

See HARENCAK, Page 3

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (18-09)	-0.06 days	1.51 days	Oct. 20	48th (18-01)	-4.92 days	0.11 days	Oct. 27	49th (18-ABC)	-0.68 days	-0.76 days	Oct. 20	T-6	430	482	482
41st (18-10)	0.48 days	1.08 days	Nov. 16	50th (18-01)	-2.05 days	-3.75 days	Oct. 27					T-1	132	106	106
												T-38	165	188	188
												IFF	63	68	68

* 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.

TRICK OR TREAT



Oct. 28, 2017

6-8 p.m.

BOO! BOO! BOO! BOO!



Base trick or treating through
Capital, State and Magnolia housing

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
9 Columbus Day, most base offices closed	10	11 Noxubee High School JROTC Tour, 9 a.m.	12	13 Sen. Cochran staffer visit SUPT Class 18-01 Assignment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Club	14/15 14th: BYU vs. MSU, @ Davis Wade Stadium	Oct. 27: SUPT Class 18-01 Graduation Oct. 28: Base Trick or Treating Oct. 28-29: Autocross Oct. 31: Enlisted Promotions/Quarterly Awards Nov. 3: SUPT Class 18-02 Assignment Night Nov. 4: LSU vs. Alabama/UMass vs. MSU Nov. 9: International Spouses Luncheon Nov. 11: Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony Nov. 11: MSU vs. Alabama Nov. 14: Wing Newcomers Orientation Nov. 15: Hearts Apart Nov. 16: Daedalian's Meeting Nov. 16: Dorm Dinner
16	17 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club	18	19	20 Retiree Appreciation Day, 9 a.m. @ Club	21/22 21st: MSU vs. Kentucky/Alabama vs. Tennessee	

Columbus Day
Holiday hours

Airman & Family Readiness Center ...Closed Oct. 9
Arts & Crafts.....Closed Oct. 9
Back GateClosed Oct. 9
Bowling Center.....Closed Oct. 9
Child Development Center.....Closed Oct. 9
Columbus ClubClosed Oct. 9
Commissary Closed Oct. 9-10,
will resume normal hours Oct. 11
Exchange Open Oct. 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Fitness Center..... Open 24/7 (register at front desk)
Medical Group.....Closed Oct. 9
Military Personnel and Finance.Closed Oct. 9
Multimedia.....Closed Oct. 9
Outdoor Recreation.....Open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 9
Shoppette..... Open Oct. 9, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Visitor's Center..... Closed Oct. 9
Youth CenterClosed Oct. 9

Silver Wings

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Submission Deadline

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

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

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

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


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Evening Worship - 6pm
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Kid's Drama - 6 pm
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Oct. 11
Willie Nelson, country music singer, will perform at 7 p.m. Oct. 11 at the Tuscaloosa Amphitheatre in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Jamey Johnson will also be performing.

Oct. 13
Columbus Arts Council will host OctoBEER Fest at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 13 in Northside Columbus. Their goal is to bring the community together, strengthen relationships, and raise awareness of

all the good downtown Columbus has to offer. They'll have great German cuisine, and a selection of craft beers from Better Brands in West Point. Guests are asked to bring cash donations for the cause.

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.

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 Bar-

gain 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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Bargain Line advertisement

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

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

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

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

Type of advertisement (circle one) Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement _____

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Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

HARENCAK

(Continued from page 1)

signed an aircraft to master.

Harencak recalled the day he graduated pilot training more than 30 years ago, and said he can still remember the emotions he experienced that day.

"Ever since I was a little boy, I wanted to be a pilot in the United States Air Force and I thought 'wow I'm done ... I made it, it's over,'" he said.

Harencak said he couldn't have been further from the truth. Quoting Winston Churchill after the Battle of Egypt, Harencak told the graduates, "It's not the end, it's just the end of the beginning."

He said as an Air Force pilot, they have chosen a life "where there is no finish line." After they master one task they'll be expected to master another, and after being qualified on one weapons system, they'll then be expected to start on another.

"Every time you get comfortable, we're going to make sure you don't stay comfortable," he said.

Harencak said the pilots have chosen a life "of adventure and challenge, a sense of accomplishment, fulfillment and purpose without boundary." There were so many other lives they could have chosen but they chose the life of an Air Force pilot and there is no other that is more rewarding, he said.

"The greatest weapons system we have does not come with a tail number. The greatest system does not come with a serial number stamped on it. The greatest weapon system we have comes with a social security number," he said, emphasizing just how important Airmen really are.

As the pilots get ready to embark on their first assignment, Harencak said he advises them to learn their craft and trade, but enjoy and appreciate every single day they get to be an Air Force pilot because it will never get better.

"Every single day, I know what a gift it has been to serve," he said.

He said the mission and people are what have influenced him to serve nearly 35 years, and when his time comes to step away, he said he knows there will be no other organization he'll serve or work in that will have the same high-caliber men and women.

In order to continue to recruit the number of high-caliber Airmen the Air Force needs, Harencak said it's crucial that Airmen — past and present — let the youth of today know of the opportunities the Air Force affords its members. He said there's no doubt the Air Force makes its Airmen better people than they were before they served, and it's



Members of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-15 stand at the front of Kaye Auditorium as they're recognized during their graduation ceremony Sept. 29, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The class completed a 52-week curriculum and training to become the Air Force's and partner nations' newest aviators.

"Every time you get comfortable, we're going to make sure you don't stay comfortable," he said.

important that Airmen and veterans voice that message to the young people of today.

He said they should also know the sense of family they'll experience if they join and said it's very evident at Columbus Air Force Base.

"The level of outstanding leadership at all levels is apparent in everything that happens here," he said. "Morale is high, people are motivated, people are focused and this Air Force family here at Columbus is doing a tremendous job for our Air Force and our nation."



U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Christopher Gross
Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service Commander, speaks at Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-15's graduation ceremony Sept. 29, 2017, at the Kaye Auditorium on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Harencak was the guest speaker for the graduation and helped 24 of the newest Air Force and partner nations' aviators celebrate their day.

To advertise in Silver Wings,
call 328-2424

Team BLAZE promotes four Airmen



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Dublin

Four 14th Flying Training Wing enlisted Airmen are recognized for being promoted to their next rank Sept. 29, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. As Airmen are promoted, they are expected to take on more responsibility and leadership roles.

Fire Chief retires after 27 years of service



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra

Fire Chief William Songer, Columbus Air Force Base Fire Department Fire Chief, receives his retirement pin from his daughter, Haleigh, during his retirement ceremony Oct. 2, 2017, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. Songer served 23 of his total 27 years in the fire and emergency career at Columbus AFB. Some other locations he has served at included Offutt AFB, Nebraska; Eaker AFB, Arkansas; and Myrtle Beach AFB, South Carolina. He will move on from Columbus AFB to be the Fire Chief at a fire department in Curacao.

Track Select

1st Lt. Connor Muilenburg	T-1	2nd Lt. Brian Reed	Helo
2nd Lt. Daniel Alotta	T-1	2nd Lt. Sarah Riggs	T-1
2nd Lt. Cody Apfel	T-1	2nd Lt. Austin Rohrer	T-1
2nd Lt. Wyatt Bertrand	T-1	2nd Lt. Noah Sondag	Helo
2nd Lt. Daniel Brown	T-38	2nd Lt. Steven Trojan	T-38
2nd Lt. Spencer Davenport	T-1	2nd Lt. Nathaniel Volk	T-38
2nd Lt. Edison Dohms	T-1	2nd Lt. Kimberly Webb	T-1
2nd Lt. Justin Gonzalez	T-1		
2nd Lt. Austin Gregory	T-38		
2nd Lt. Chase Leftwich	T-1		
2nd Lt. Brian Hibbert	T-1		
2nd Lt. Levi Hintzsche	T-1		
2nd Lt. Erin Kelly	T-1		
2nd Lt. Matthew Kottenstette	T-1		
2nd Lt. John Kornahrens	T-1		
2nd Lt. Marcus Malecek	T-1		
2nd Lt. Marcial St. John	T-1		
2nd Lt. Rachel Jovene	T-1		
2nd Lt. Alexander Matacia	T-1		
2nd Lt. Holden McDaniel	T-1		
2nd Lt. Yasuhito Nakanishi	T-38		
2nd Lt. Lauren Nichols	T-1		
2nd Lt. Sean OShea	T-38		
2nd Lt. Daniel Rondez	T-38		

Dubisher Award

2nd Lt. Nathaniel Volk

Top Guns

Contact:
2nd Lt. Steven Trojan

Instrument:
2nd Lt. Justin Gonzalez

Formation:
2nd Lt. Daniel Brown

18-08

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.

Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website, with exception of Air Force publications, through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at 434-7068.

Air University bolsters officer training

Officer Training School



Officer Training School faculty revamped its course to incorporate 28-hours of distance learning materials prior to cadets coming to Total Force Officers Training here.

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — Officer Training School cadets are now starting their curriculum before stepping onto Maxwell Air Force Base.

Faculty with OTS revamped their course to incorporate 28-hours of distance learning materials prior to cadets coming to Total Force Officers Training here.

The changes were the result of a Jeanne M. Holm Center for Officer Accessions and Citizen Development tiger team that analyzed learning methodologies and 21st Century instructional techniques to identify opportunities to improve the program, according to Col. Stephen Frank, OTS commandant.

“The tiger team was looking for a more effective way to educate future officers,” Frank said. “We train 60 percent of the officers in the Air Force. It is critical we get the training right and effectively prepare officers for the operational Air Force, because our Airmen are the best in the world and they deserve world class leadership. [We] wanted students to be participants versus recipients of curriculum.”

The challenge for this new curriculum, said Frank, was how to fit the training and experience in only eight weeks. In response to these constraints, the tiger team offered a technological solution to provide time in the TFOT syllabus for deeper learning.

“Our academic affairs team identified 75 hours of knowledge-level lessons that were being delivered in an auditorium lecture format,” said Jim Wiggins, Dean of Academic Affairs for the Holm Center. “They suggested that the material could be offered to inbound cadets using a web-based delivery system resulting in more time which could be used to improve the experience for cadets.”

The newer course began during the summer classes in 2017. Cadets now take a more experientially-focused program by spending

less time in lecture halls and more time actively engaged in leadership-building exercises and discussions.

“Distance learning has become part of professional military education Air Force wide, and its utilization at OTS enhances experimental learning for future Air Force officers,” Wiggins said. “Cadets now have the opportunity to learn at their own pace depending on their level of familiarity with the material.”

The prerequisite material accommodates the prior-enlisted Air Force members who may have the opportunity for a one-time, test-out option known as the Challenge Test. Those eligible for this option take the test at their installation education office.

“The result is that upon arrival, cadets all have the same level of prerequisite knowledge, and will be engaged in a higher level of learning throughout the resident course,” Frank said. “There are now more opportunities for hands-on leadership, group problem-solving activities, such as field leadership problems and a simulated deployment, allowing cadets to experiment with different leadership styles and grow their skills based on immediate peer and instructor feedback.”

So far, two classes have graduated under the new program. The Holm Center tiger team plans to stay engaged, refining the TFOT curriculum and syllabus to achieve the optimal commissioning training program.

Household goods, vehicle shipment programs for DOD consolidated under USTRANSCOM

Michael P. Kleiman
U.S. Transportation Command

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — The U.S. Transportation Command is now the single manager of the Defense Personal Property Program, or referred to as DP3, which oversees the Defense Department’s household goods and privately-owned vehicle shipment programs.

For the past eight years, the U.S. Army’s Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, a USTRANSCOM component, directed the DP3. During the same timeframe, USTRANSCOM guided the Defense Personal Property System, or referred to as DPS, the DP3’s electronic application that offers 24-hour access throughout the entire move process via the website www.move.mil. While administered by two separate units, the DP3 and its web interface, DPS, did not operate as effectively or efficiently as they could, prompting the consolidation of both under USTRANSCOM.

“Although DP3 met customers’ requirements, the program’s consolidation provides the unity of effort and alignment to enhance the relocation experience of military members, DOD civil servants, and their families,” said Army Col. Ralph Lounsborough, USTRANSCOM’s Strategy, Capabilities, Policy, and Logistics Directorate Personal Property Division chief. “A consolidated DP3 management structure also offers one entry point for program inquiries, requests, and concerns from the military branches and the moving industry.”

Program improvements will gradually occur, including an update to the www.move.mil website, with most in place for the peak moving season next summer. Planned website upgrades include making critical relocation procedural tips more user-friendly, understandable and accessible, as well as providing accurate key contact information for local assistance.

“In the vast majority of cases, the quickest resolution for move-related issues is through the installation transportation or traffic management office. This won’t change under the DP3 consolidation,” stated Air Force Lt. Col. Todd Jensen, USTRANSCOM’s Personal Property Division chief of operations. “We don’t want any customer to struggle with the move process. If their questions aren’t being adequately addressed locally, they can elevate their concerns to USTRANSCOM.”

Even with a consolidated DP3, customers should plan ahead for a successful relocation by either visiting their local TMO or registering for a DPS account on www.move.mil prior to, or when they receive, their permanent change of station orders. Planning ahead is the best way to ensure your move is a success.

“We’re more aware than ever that it’s not about the stuff we move, but it’s about the families we relocate and how you deliver exceptional customer service,” said Air Force Gen. Darren McDew, USTRANSCOM commander.

Observing its 30th anniversary yesterday, the U.S. Transportation Command continues to answer the Nation’s call, whether delivering an immediate and decisive force when and where needed, assuring unrivaled global expeditionary capability, or now, providing more efficient, effective, and customer-first relocation services.

Women need to make time for their health

TRICARE Communications

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Each October, women are reminded to put themselves first and make time for their health. Making your health a priority helps you stay in optimum shape and keeps illnesses and disease at bay.

Women often put their families' needs ahead of their own, ignoring minor symptoms year after year until they affect their health. Using preventive care is one of the best ways to stay healthy, allowing you to give your all in everything you do for your family and yourself.

Each year, get a well-woman exam. At this exam, you should have your blood pressure checked and talk to your health care provider about what other screenings, immunizations or family planning you might need based on your age, health habits, family and medical history.

The American Cancer Society recommends all women should begin cervical cancer screening at age 21. Women aged 21 to 29, should have a Pap test every 3 years. Thanks to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, most private health plans must cover this and other preventive care services at no cost. TRICARE also covers annual preventive women's health services that may include a Pap smear, pelvic and breast exam and mammogram at no cost.

There are other actions you can take to live a healthy life:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Exercise for a least 30 minutes at least five days a week



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Christopher R. Morales

Airman 1st Class Nicole Rent, 703d Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace maintenance apprentice, stretches in a PiYo class at the Elmendorf Fitness Center, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, March 22, 2016. Exercising while pregnant is helpful because it promotes better posture, improves endurance, and reduces backache.

Women often put their families' needs ahead of their own, ignoring minor symptoms year after year until they affect their health.

- Limit alcohol use
- Quit smoking
- Practice safe sex
- Get 7-8 hours of sleep per night
- See your health care provider every year
- Get appropriate screenings as recommended by your health care provider

It's important to get screenings, especially if you are at a higher risk for certain diseases like breast cancer or diabetes. Talk to your health care provider about family, emotions, stress and non-physical concerns as well. Life events can bring higher stress with symptoms of anxiety, depression, and sleep difficulties. These concerns are just as important to discuss as your physical health in order to stay or become more healthy.

For more information about TRICARE, visit Is It Covered? on the TRICARE website.

Retired AF pilots welcomed back on active duty

Kat Bailey

Air Force's Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Retired Air Force pilots holding Air Force Specialty Code 11X are encouraged to apply for the Voluntary Retired Return to Active Duty Program in order to fill rated staff positions to help alleviate the existing manning shortages within the Air Force rated pilot community.

The Secretary of the Air Force approved VRRAD for implementation on July 11, 2017, as one of a wide range of initiatives the Air Force is pursuing to improve pilots' quality of life and quality of service in order to increase retention.

Air Force efforts to address the pilot shortage include reviewing requirements to ensure pilots are utilized effectively. As a number of non-flying staff positions require a pilot's expertise, the Air Force reviewed these positions to determine which ones require pilot expertise and which staff positions do not. VRRAD Rated Liaison Maj. Elizabeth Jarding, from the Air Force Personnel Center, said volunteers for VRRAD would help fill positions where pilot expertise is required.

"We will match VRRAD participants primarily to state-side rated staffs that don't require requalification in a weapon system, with emphasis on larger organizations like major command staffs," she said. "They'll fill critical billets that would otherwise remain vacant due to the shortage of active-duty officers available to move out of operational flying assignments."

Pilots who retired within the last five years in the rank of captain, major or lieutenant colonel, and under age 60, may apply for the program. Participation is limited to 25 retired pilots and active-duty tour lengths are limited to 12 months.

In addition, the program requires applicants be medically qualified for active duty with a flying class II physical and they must have served in a rated staff position within 10 years, or have been qualified in an Air Force aircraft within five years of application.

AFPC will accept applications until Dec. 31, 2018, or until all openings are filled, whichever happens first, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Retired pilots returned to active duty will not be eligible for the aviation bonus and will only deploy if they volunteer. Officers who retired pursuant to, or in lieu of, a Selective Early Retirement Board and officers who retired for physical disability are not eligible to apply.

VRRAD application procedures, to include detailed eligibility criteria, are located on myPers on the Retiree Officer Assignment landing page at myPers>Retiree>Officer, under "Learn More About" on the left side, then click the Assignment link.

Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following the instructions.

Columbus AFB to host Retiree Appreciation Day

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base welcomes all retirees to its annual Retiree Appreciation Day Oct. 20.

The event is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and includes an information fair at the Columbus Club, discounts across the base provided by the 14th Force Support Squadron (with retiree ID card), retiree appreciation discounts at the Commissary and Exchange, and an opportunity to tour the air traffic control tower and view aircraft static displays.

"We have this event every year to provide our retirees the opportunity to learn more about the services provided at Columbus Air Force Base and to thank them for their many years of service," said Lt. Col. Jenny Christian, 14th Mission Support Group Deputy Commander.

The day begins with an information fair at the club that

"We have this event every year to provide our retirees the opportunity to learn more about the services provided at Columbus Air Force base and to thank them for their many years of service," said Lt. Col. Jenny Christian, 14th Mission Support Group Deputy Commander.

includes several booths from the 14th FSS and 14th Medical Group, to include support services, physical therapy, optometry, Humana/Toppa, and the pharmacy. Flu shots may be

available if they arrive on base in time. Additionally, there will be dedicated lines at the 14th FSS Military Personnel Flight for ID cards and DEERS services, as well as at the 14th MDG Pharmacy for retirees.

At 11:30 a.m., participants are welcome to grab lunch at the club and listen to guest speaker Col. Guy Majkowski, 14th MDG Commander. Majkowski provides and coordinates comprehensive healthcare for a community of 7,800 beneficiaries including occupational and public health, as well as physiological training for 3,000 wing employees. He provides the strategic plan and guidance for the comprehensive healthcare provided during 29,400 annual outpatient visits, valued at \$2.4 million.

Please visit the Columbus AFB website at www.columbus.af.mil for future updates on the availability of flu shots and more details on the information fair.

There's nothing casual about a casual lieutenant

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert

14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

When walking around Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, it doesn't take long to realize the high population of lieutenants. They are either in pilot training or waiting until their class starts.

Each year, roughly 375 lieutenants go through the 14th Student Squadron Casual Lieutenant Program.

"This program is a great opportunity to experience a career field they would otherwise never get to see," said Capt. Ryan Fortney, 14th STUS Transition Flight Commander.

The Casual Lieutenant Program has been around for a long time, but while on casual, the lieutenants are anything but casual. They still have required training and events. Every Monday morning, all casuals attend mentoring and training provided by Fortney.

While on casual status, those students without a civilian private pilot license are required to attend Introductory Flight Training in Pueblo, Colorado; which for many is their first taste of a formal flying training program.

Once they graduate the IFT program, they are eligible to start Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training.

There are several other benefits to the casual program which help the lieutenants have a better understanding of how various Air Force squadrons and organizations operate and contribute to the total mission.

When the lieutenants first arrive, depending how long the wait is for their class to start, the students are assigned to an organization



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

Second Lt. Christina McMillan, 14th Student Squadron student pilot, is assisting the 14th Medical Group by organizing files on a computer Oct. 4, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Most lieutenants on casual status have to juggle studying for Introductory Flight Training and Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training with their jobs.

based on their preferences and available jobs.

Most of the lieutenants are fresh out of ROTC, Officer Training School or the U.S. Air Force Academy and are adapting to the operational Air Force.

"At USAFA [the U.S. Air Force Academy] everything was so close and you lived where you worked; here you are more responsible for your own schedule and what you need to do," said 2nd Lt. Marcello Peray-Genovese, 14th STUS student pilot, who is assisting the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs office.

Fortney said almost every section on base

has a few casuals working with them. They are motivated and work to the best of their ability, some even putting in extra hours after work.

"There is always something going on and it keeps me busy and helps me prepare for the busy schedule of pilot training," Peray-Genovese said.

Some of the casuals even work in the wing headquarters offices, and others are trained and trusted with the security of the base by working the gates.

Second Lt. Austin Rineer, 14th STUS stu-



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

Second Lt. Jason Bentley, 14th Student Squadron student pilot who is assisting the 14th Security Forces Squadron, works the front gate Oct. 3, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Before entering the 37th or 41st Flying Training Squadrons, student pilots will work with other units on base to help manning and learn about everyday base operations. Casual lieutenants who assist the 14th SFS receive four days of training and all certifications required to work the gate.

dent pilot, who is assisting the 14th Security Forces Squadron and other casual lieutenants who assist the 14th SFS receive four days of training and all certifications required to work the gate.

"Security Forces is one of the more interesting jobs," Rineer said. "There's is a lot of responsibility but I'm glad to help defend our base."

The hard work and dedication of the young lieutenants' helps support the mission to Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen and Feed the Fight.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: C-12 Huron

Mission

The C-12 Huron is a twin turboprop aircraft used for cargo and passenger airlift. The aircraft is a military version of the Raytheon 1900C regional airliner. In addition to providing cargo and passenger airlift, the aircraft is capable of transporting two litter or ten ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations.

Features

The C-12 can carry 19 passengers or up to 3500 pounds of cargo. The fuel capacity of the C-12 is 675.2 gallons with refueling accomplished directly into each of its four fuel tanks through filler caps located on the top of each wing. The safety and operational capabilities of the C-12 are increased by the autopilot, color weather radar and tactical air navigation system, as well as high frequency, very high frequency and ultra high frequency radios.

The aircraft has a crew of two and may be flown from either cockpit seat. The C-12 fleet recently finished an

extensive avionics upgrade and modernization program, which added three multi-function displays able to display all essential navigation information to the pilots. Additionally, three integrated Global Positioning Systems, two Flight Management Systems, a new autopilot, VHF/UHF communications radios and weather radar were installed.

Background

Delivery of the C-12 fleet began in July 1992. The U.S. Air Force currently operates four C-12 aircraft; three of these aircraft are operated by the 459th Airlift Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan, and one is operated by Air Force Material Command from Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico.

General characteristics

Primary Function: Passenger and cargo airlift

Prime Contractor: Raytheon Aircraft Company (formerly the Beech Aircraft Corporation)

Propulsion: Two Pratt & Whitney PT6A-65B turbo-prop engines, each with a four-blade, full-feathering, reversible composite propeller, generating 1,173 shaft horsepower (3,400 ft-lb of torque) on each engine

Length: 57 feet, 10 inches
Height: 14 feet, 11 inches
Wingspan: 54 feet, 6 inches
Maximum Takeoff Weight: 16,710 pounds
Maximum Speed: 284 mph
Ceiling: 25,000 feet

Fuel Capability: 675.2 gallons; 1,035.2 gallons with ferry tanks

Maximum Range: 1,450 nautical miles, 1,669 statute miles

Maximum Load: 19 passengers or 3,500 pounds of cargo
Crew: Two (pilot and co-pilot)

Date Deployed: July 1992
Inventory: Active forces, 4; Air National Guard, 0; Air Force Reserve, 0



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

Staff Sgt. Benjamin Stover, 821st Contingency Response Support Squadron crew chief, prepares to place chocks around the tires of a C-12 Huron Sept. 15, 2017, at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida.



U.S. Air Force photo by Osakabe Yasuo

A C-12 Huron with the 459th Airlift Squadron parks at Yokota Air Base, Japan, Nov. 3, 2014. Members of the 459th AS participated in the annual Japan Air Self-Defense Force Iruma Air Show, Nov. 3, 2014.

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.

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 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 life-

Columbus AFB Airmen educate students



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

Staff Sgt. Donald Porter, 14th Communication Squadron technician, explains the mission of the U.S. Air Force's communications career field Oct. 4, 2017, at the CREATE Expo in Tupelo, Mississippi. Several Air Force careers were displayed in various ways and Airmen explained to students from schools across Mississippi what opportunities the Air Force can provide. More photos will be released in the next issue of Silver Wings.

style. 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.

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.

Military and Family Life Counselor Program

The Military and Family Life Counselor or Program 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 martial 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.

covery. 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.

Employment Workshop

An employment workshop on local and base employment opportunities is held every Wednesday at 1 p.m., Airman & Family Readiness Center. The POC is A&FRC, 434-2790.

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 Airman & Family Readiness Center. Topics of discussion include preparing for a move, environment/cultural issues or needs, adaptation and community awareness. The POC is A&FRC, 434-2790.

Sponsorship Training

An electronic version of sponsorship training called eSponsorship Application & Training (eSAT) is now available. It can be found on the Military INSTALLATIONS homepage militaryinstallations.dod.mil, under "Are You A Sponsor?"

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



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



Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events
Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter 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.

BLAZE Book Club at the Library
If you are interested in reading and discussing popular books, stop by the Base Library and pick up “The Light Between Oceans” by M. L. Stedman Oct. 2 during normal business hours. The BLAZE Book Club will meet at 6 p.m. Nov. 16 for discussion. 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.

Game Night at the Base Library
The Library will host a game night, featuring “Apples to Apples,” at 5 p.m. Oct. 12. New games hosted on the second Thursday of each month. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Free Family Friendly Magic Show
Air Force Entertainment presents Jason Michaels, an illusionist/magician at 8 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Kaye Auditorium. For more information, contact 434-2405.

Free Breakfast for Club Members
Start your morning at the Overrun. The Columbus Club is offering free breakfast from 6:30-9 a.m. Oct. 17 for Club members; \$8 non-members. For more information, contact 434-2489.

October Fun with the Library
Stop by the Base Library from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 24-28 and get creative decorating a paper pumpkin. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Decorate a Pin Contest
Decorate a bowling pin and win! Stop by the Bowling Center during normal business hours and pick up a pin. Drop off entry for judging by 9 a.m. Oct. 27. Judging will be at 1 p.m. Oct. 27. You do not have to be present for judging. For more information, contact 434-3426.

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. This is a free event for all ages. Sign



up at the Youth Center no later than Oct. 17. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Suggested Reading at the Base Library
Stop by the Base Library during normal business hours during the months of October and November and check out a book for your reading pleasure. Suggested reading will feature books related to these special days/observances: fire prevention, cookbook, report card, Count Your Buttons, election, Halloween, Veteran’s Day and Thanksgiving. For more information contact 434-2934.

Free Mango Languages
If you would like to learn a new language for free there are Mango Languages available at the Base Library. The program features real-life conversations in over 70 languages. For more information, contact 434-2934.

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.

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.

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.

MyMC2 app



Welcome to the My Military Communities information page. MyMC2 is the mobile application that centralizes all of your installation’s community events, organizations and services right in your pocket.



How do I get MyMC2 for my phone?

You can access this app by navigating to the native app store or market on your device and search for “MyMC2”, or you can scan this QR code and it will take you directly to the download page in your phone.



iPhone
QR code

Android
QR code

If you have any questions or need support please visit www.facebook.com/mymc2support.

Success and failure

Col. Leslie A. Knight
11th Medical Group

JOINT BASE ANDREWS, Md. — What is your biggest failure? How did you handle it? Looking back, do you think you handled it well? Because really, the question is not if you are going to fail. It’s how you are going to handle that failure.

There are many options for how to do that, but only a few of them are productive. If you mope around and beat yourself up, then the likelihood that you will handle this particular issue well the next time around is slim. If you adopt a defeatist attitude, you may not ever try that particular thing again. Then you truly have failed. But if you look at one failure as a learning opportunity and make it your habit to always treat setbacks that way, you will look for opportunities to try again.

Thomas Edison said, “I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.” When you have an opportunity to try something new, your experience with failure in the past will color how you approach new things.

I like to look at new endeavors as an experiment because experiments are allowed to fail. If I want to try a new way to do an old process, sometimes the people I’m working with will say the new way won’t work. Instead of telling them we are trying a new process,

I say we are trying an experiment. I let them know that if it doesn’t work, we can try again a different way.

Many times people are willing to experiment when they aren’t willing to change. Edison also said that “our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”

On the flip side, success sometimes comes not from getting dealt a good hand, but in playing a poor hand well. You won’t ever have everything you want to do the job perfectly. There are never enough people, supplies, and money to do the job the way we envision it.

But take what you have and let your folks experiment to find brilliant new ways to make ends meet. Let them amaze you with their ingenuity. We get paid to handle problems, so don’t run from them. If it weren’t for the problems of our jobs, someone else could be paid to do it for half as much!

When you do succeed, try something harder next. Resting on your laurels will only cause stagnation. And stagnation stinks. If you don’t try something harder, you are wasting your talent and energy doing something that doesn’t expand yourself or your abilities.

So...go forth and fail! Then try again. And let others know it’s alright to push the boundaries and have a failed experiment. And when you succeed, try something harder.

Professional Organization Corner

Company Grade Officers Council

The council — second and first lieutenants, and captains — promotes the development of CGOs throughout the 14th Flying Training Wing. They maintain an informational network to enhance the professional development and officer camaraderie throughout the wing.

Meets first Friday of every month at 11:30 a.m. at the Columbus Club.

President: 1st Lt. Jamion Lewis; **Vice President:** Capt. Sheila Butler
BLAZE Top 3

The Top 3 establishes and maintains a spirit of comradeship and esprit de corps that will enhance the prestige of all senior NCOs, encourage an attitude of unified purpose and set an example for all enlisted personnel according to the standards, traditions and customs of the Air Force.

Meets the third Thursday of every month at 3 p.m. at the Columbus Club.

President: Master Sgt. Carmina Beedle; **Secretary:** Master Sgt. Jimmy Kitchens
BLAZE 5/6

The 5/6 represent motivated staff and technical sergeants. They provide an opportunity to meet Airmen, and to network with peers. The organization mentors junior enlisted, assist other private organizations, and are heavily involved with community relations.

Meets the last Wednesday of every month at noon at the Columbus Club

President: Staff Sgt. Whitney Felder; **Vice President:** Jeffrey Vanrees
AFSA Chapter 651

The Air Force Sergeants Association is the only association solely dedicated to representing enlisted men, women and their families. AFSA has a by-name seat at the influential tables in Congress and the Pentagon to help shape the tough policy decisions affecting the enlisted corps today. Members do not have to be an NCO. Meets the third Thursday of the month at noon at the Columbus Club

President: Master Sgt. Kristina O’Meara; **Vice President:** Master Sgt. Eric Severs
First Four

The Airman’s Activity Council functions as a social and professional organization established to enhance morale, esprit de corps, and cooperation between members from the E1-E4. This is accomplished through fundraisers, on and off base, volunteer opportunities, and events or trips for those eligible to become members.

Meets the last Friday of every month at noon at the Montgomery Village

President: Senior Airman Brittani Amavizca-Waddington; **Vice President:** Airman 1st Class Katelyn Jaime; **Secretary:** Airman 1st Class Kiara Crespo



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

Columbus AFB goes all out for Fire Prevention Week



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
William O'Meara, Assistant Chief of Health and Safety for fire and emergency services, narrates a simulated aircraft crash Sept. 30, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. A P-19 Stryker firetruck was used to extinguish the burning wreckage. The P-19 holds 1,500 gallons of water, 500 gallons of foam and has a top speed of 72 miles per hour.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
Airman Michael Cargile, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, uses a shovel to take coals from a fire and place them in a barbeque pit Sept. 29, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Columbus AFB Fire Department hosted a s'mores roast and played an informational video for families during Fire Prevention Week Sept. 25-30.



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



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
ABOVE: Members of the Columbus Air Force Base Fire Department prepare a fire for fire extinguisher training Sept. 27, 2017, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. The training was one of the many events the fire department organized as part of Fire Prevention Week Sept. 25-30. This year's theme was "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!"

LEFT: Senior Airman Ryan Offerman, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, uses a power tool to cut up a vehicle for a live rescue demonstration Sept. 30, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The demonstration simulated an accident that involved texting while driving and showed how the firefighters have to rescue the victim. The event was part of Fire Prevention Week Sept. 25-30.

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

The Columbus Air Force Base Fire Department values the safety of its Airmen and their families, and during Fire Prevention Week Sept. 25-30, they organized 11 events to educate the base and local community on fire prevention and safety.

"Our goal for Fire Prevention Week was to educate everyone about fire prevention," said William O'Meara, Assistant Chief of Health and Safety for fire and emergency services. "We put on several activities that were designed to be fun and teach everyone prevention is key when it comes to fires."

The theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week was "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" The Columbus AFB Fire Department educated about 7,000 people on how to develop a family escape plan and prevent fires from happening by not throwing combustible materials in the same trash can, such as a battery and steel wool.

"As a firefighter, it's my job to help educate people on fire hazards in their home," said Airman Justin Weeter, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter.

The fire department visited Caledonia Elementary and taught pre-K through third grade children about fire drills and evacuation plans.

One of the many events the fire department organized was fire extinguisher training at the Base Exchange and at the Hunt Housing Community Center. The purpose of the training was to ensure employees know how to properly use an extinguisher. They were taught the acronym PASS; pull the pin, aim the nozzle, squeeze the handle and sweep side to side.

The fire department also tailored their safety training to families and young children. They hung bags with safety messages throughout base



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

Families watch the different fire trucks pass by Sept. 30, 2017, in Magnolia Village on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, and the surrounding communities. The trucks and vehicles, from Columbus AFB and surrounding communities' fire departments, participated in a parade as part Fire Prevention Week.

"Our goal for Fire Prevention Week was to educate everyone about fire prevention," said William O'Meara, Assistant Chief of Health and Safety for fire and emergency services.

housing, hosted a s'mores roast with an informational movie on fire prevention, and hosted a parade through base housing followed by an open house with live demonstrations.

"We tried to make the activities fun and engaging for the children," O'Meara said.

The open house was the biggest event and allowed the fire department to share multiple messages simultaneously across varied ages.

The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Airmen used multiple power tools to cut open a vehicle that had been in a simulated car crash. While all the viewers were fascinated with the destruction of the car, the message was that texting while driving was not worth the risk.

The last event to wrap up Fire Prevention Week was the aircraft crash simulator. Airmen and their families gathered on the outskirts of the flightline to watch a structure, simulating an aircraft crash, engulfed with flames be extinguished by Airmen. The heat was so intense some of the crowd covered their faces, and just when the heat was becoming unbearable, the fire department's P-19 Stryker came speeding in to put out the massive fire.

O'Meara said the fire department went all out for Fire Prevention Week, and will continue to educate the base and local areas throughout the year to ensure that Columbus AFB stays safe.



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

Representatives from fire departments on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, and the surrounding communities, make their way through Magnolia Village housing Sept. 30, 2017, as part of a parade for Fire Prevention Week. Members of the Columbus AFB Fire Department planned a week full of fire prevention events from Sept. 25-30; some the events included talking to students in elementary schools, and fire extinguisher training.



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

Capt. Zachary Shuler, 14th Operations Group Standards and Evaluation, and his two children, Grady and Paige, roast marshmallows Sept. 29, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Columbus Fire Department hosted multiple family activities in honor of Fire Prevention Week Sept. 25-30.



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

A family in Magnolia Village on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, waves to a fire truck from the City of Columbus Fire and Rescue Sept. 30, 2017, as part of a parade for Fire Prevention Week. Members of the Columbus AFB Fire Department planned a week full of fire prevention events from Sept. 25-30, and this year's theme was "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!"