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SILVER WINGS





“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Vol. 42, Issue 33

August 24, 2018

Weather

Friday  Partly Cloudy High 90°F Low 69°F	Saturday  Partly Cloudy High 91°F Low 70°F
Sunday  Partly Cloudy High 90°F Low 70°F	Monday  Partly Cloudy High 92°F Low 71°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Wing Newcomers

All new active-duty service members are required to attend the Wing Newcomers Brief at 8 a.m. Aug. 28 at the Columbus Club. Spouses are also encouraged to attend.

Enlisted Promotions

The monthly Enlisted Promotion Ceremony will be at 3 p.m. Sept. 30 at the Columbus Club.

AETC Family Day/Labor Day

There will be an Air Education and Training Command family day Aug. 31. The family day is in conjunction with Labor Day Sept. 4. Most base offices will be closed.

Inside



Feature 8

The 14th Flying Training Wing Leadership Structure is highlighted in this week's feature.



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

Col. William Denham, 14th Flying Training Wing vice commander, listen as Col. Samantha Weeks, 14th FTW commander, speaks at Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-13's graduation Aug. 17, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. SUPT class 18-13 was the first graduating class under Weeks' command.

Weeks speaks at SUPT 18-13 graduation, sets baseline for 14th FTW

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


Col. Samantha Weeks, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, spoke at Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training

Class 18-13's graduation Aug. 17 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, and shared experiences throughout her career. She stated to SUPT Class 18-13 those decisions and experiences

See GRADUATION, 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 (19-06)	-18.13 days	-9.55 days	Aug. 13	48th (18-14)	1.77 days	6.42 days	Sept. 7	49th (18-LBC)	-4.84 days	-3.12 days	Sept. 19	T-6	2,211	1,976	24,999				
41st (19-08)	-5.39 days	-9.99 days	Sept. 27	50th (18-14)	-0.89 days	-1.73 days	Sept. 7	* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.				T-1	746	592	8,258				
												T-38	800	702	9,352				
												IFF	310	254	3,907				



14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 27 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Deployment numbers provided by the Installation Personnel Readiness Office.

Team BLAZE's newest staff sergeants



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Yabarra

The newest 14th Flying Training Wing staff sergeants selects stand for a group photo Aug. 22, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Thirty senior airmen from Columbus AFB are to promote to the rank staff sergeant, which had under a 53 percent promotion rating this year.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
27	28 HQ AETC Command Chaplain Visit Wing New-comers, 8 a.m. @ Club	29	30 → Enlisted Promotions, 3 p.m. @ Club Hearts Apart, 5-7 p.m. @ Dewayne Hayes Splash Pad	31 AETC Family Day (most base offices closed)	1/2 1st-2nd: 40th Annual Prairie Arts Festival, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in West Point	Sept. 11: Patriot Day Sept. 14: SUPT Class 18-15 Assignment Night Sept. 18: Air Force Birthday Sept. 21: POW/MIA Recognition Day Sept. 22: AF Birthday Ball Sept. 25: Wing Newcomers Sept. 28: SUPT Class 18-15 Graduation Sept. 28: Enlisted Promotions
3 Labor Day (most base offices closed)	4	5	6	7 SUPT Class 18-14 Graduation	8/9	

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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Sept. 7
Alabama, American country-music group, will be performing at 7:30 p.m. at the Bancorp South Arena in Tupelo, Mississippi. Tickets are available online.

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: Collection of 14 assorted ceramic ducks which includes three small ducks, two large planter ducks, one candy dish large duck, three medium ducks and five large ducks. These ducks are in excellent condition. Asking \$29, one buyer only.

Six different Avon collector miniature ducks 1984, ducks in original boxes. The miniature ducks are in perfect condition. Asking \$29, one buyer only.

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.

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If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@us.af.mil.

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Photo for illustration purposes only.

"Before I was in recovery, I thought I could live my life on prescription drugs. Then, I decided that wasn't enough and added meth to it. I went crazy, but my lowest point was to see my parents, children, and sister's look of disappointment when they knew for sure what I had been doing. I came to the Pines and Cady Hills because I had nowhere else to go and I intended to only stay for 30 days. Well, God did for me what I couldn't do for myself. I worked with my counselor on many things that were holding me down. Then, I went to the Last House on the Block. Staying at the Last House helps me to stay sober, as well as going to meetings and working the steps with my sponsor. Prayer and meditation helps a lot with hard times and helps me to understand my part in all matters. All these things make me who I am and influence who I will become. I believe my Higher Power has many plans for me because he brought me to life when I was born dead. He has brought me through many times that should have killed me."

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Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

GRADUATION

(Continued from page 1)

were guided by the lessons learned throughout her time at pilot training.

Weeks stepped to the podium and immediately congratulated the new pilots, Airmen, families, friends and community for making the graduation possible.

She then focused on her target, to share her experiences and learned lessons with the U.S. Air Force's and partner nations' newest aviators to help them as they prepare to fly multimillion dollar airframes to impact the Defense Department and their respective countries' mission with priceless precision.

"Maintain aircraft control, analyze the situation, and take the appropriate action," Weeks said. "Military pilots have a reputation of being calm, cool and collected. It doesn't mean we don't get stressed and it doesn't mean we can handle every situation we are faced with. It does mean facing those challenges we are able to keep a stable platform, maintain basic control of our aircraft, keep our jet in the sky, keep things in line and provide time to assess and act."

She continued, paralleling the stress of flying to stress in everyday life. Each can be difficult to navigate, but staying calm and effectively assessing the situation will result in some sort of success.

She then spoke about a personal experience in the F-15C Eagle, which involved enforcing a no-fly zone during Operation Southern Watch.

"We were on the tanker, my flight lead was taking his gas when an E-3 [Sentry] AWACS told us an aircraft was crossing north of the no fly zone," Weeks said. "My flight lead disconnected from the tanker and called us to immediately head south. I looked at my gas, but knew my responsibility was to trust my flight lead, fly my jet (maintain aircraft control), and be in position."

She said she wondered 'What would come next,' an air-to-air engagement or a divert to an auxiliary field due to gas? She recalled her training took over and without thinking too much of the possible outcomes she followed the procedures learned throughout training.

"Throughout that engagement I fell back on that basic first step; maintain aircraft control," Weeks said. "I challenge you to not only maintain aircraft control, but also maintain our proud heritage, our legacy, and continue to build upon it. ... I ask you to own that pride and I ask you to spread that pride. ... Be proud and humble of what you do."

The second step for an emergency situation involves analyzing the situation. Weeks charged the graduates to assess the environment before they act.

No matter the situation or environment they must use the tools available to assess their next course of action. In the air their tools are the controls in the cockpit, but in life that could be family, friends, co-workers, wingmen, and oneself.

To highlight this, Weeks relayed the story of Col. Robin Olds, commander of the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing at the time and explained his role in Operation Bolo during Vietnam. The operation was formed to deceive Vietnam People's Air Force into a combat environment in which they were outnumbered by U.S. forces. Olds observed

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-13 stands and recognizes a few instructor pilots during their graduation Aug. 17, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. There are thousands of people who make pilot training possible for the U.S. Air Force aviators.

“Maintain aircraft control, analyze the situation, and take the appropriate action.” Weeks said. “Military pilots have a reputation of being calm, cool and collected. It doesn’t mean we don’t get stressed and it doesn’t mean we can handle every situation we are faced with.”

career was founded here. That is part of the Team BLAZE legacy. Be proud of that, add to it, and build upon it.”

She left a few words for the Team BLAZE members, charging each individual to be a leader. She quoted Vince Lombardi, former head coach of the Green Bay Packers and his charge of “watch your words, they become your actions; watch your actions they become your habits; watch your habits, they become your character.”

This was Weeks' first SUPT graduation as the commander of the 14th FTW; she helped congratulate more than 25 pilots on their accomplishment and wished them luck as they get ready to continue their journey.

“Your families provided the foundation of your character, and our Air Force core values require integrity,” she stated. “It is up to you to turn your character and our core values into leadership. My parting message is to see yourself as a leader in any and every role you serve in. Right now, our Air Force needs bold leaders ... so be bold!”

the enemy to ensure he understood the situation before he took action.

The final step is to take the appropriate action, Weeks stated. This is the critical aspect and its foundation's within step one and two.

She then highlighted a story of heroism from a Columbus Undergraduate Pilot Training graduate, Sully Sullenberger and U.S. Airways flight 1549.

“In a few split seconds he maintained aircraft control, assessed the situation, used his training and experience to take the appropriate action and saved 155 lives that day on the Hudson River,” she stated. “His aviation

Increasing your influence regardless of rank

Master Sgt. Jordan Boothe
14th Operations Support Squadron

The ability to influence others is important no matter what role you fill in an organization, including the military. Influencing is an art, learned over time through education, personal experience and trial and error.

I was recently asked the question, “How do I increase my influence as a Junior Enlisted Airman?” Reflecting on my own personal experience, I remember the hard lessons learned from both failures and successes as a follower, a peer and as a leader. Below are a few tips to help anyone increase their level of influence regardless of rank.

First, embody the common personality traits of an influential person. Selflessness, humility, genuineness, passion, transparency and charisma are the first handful that come

to mind. Self-evaluation and requesting feedback from others will help identify areas that need to be worked on.

Use different approaches. There isn’t a one size fits all method. Influencing styles or tactics have been researched and categorized by many different institutions.

Harvard Business Review places them into five styles: rationalizing, asserting, negotiating, inspiring, and bridging. Identifying your natural influencing style and becoming aware that it’s not the only one nor the most effective in every situation is a good place to start. Try different styles for different situations to see what works and what doesn’t.

Attach yourself to influential mentors and role models. By observing their actions in all scenarios, you can see what methods they use to influence others as well as the personality traits they possess. Ask them to give you direct and honest feedback on how you can grow your influence.

Understand how others think and operate. The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator is a popular tool that breaks down personality types into 16 categories each with unique interests, reactions, values, motivations and skills. Acknowledging and comprehending that there are multiple personality types that you are surrounded by will help you choose which influencing style may work best.

Be credible. Just like trust, credibility is tough to earn and easy to lose.

“When it comes to earning and retaining credibility, two key factors are reliability and consistency,” stated Master Sgt. Josh Matias, 14th Operations Group tower chief air traffic controller.

Maintaining transparency and setting the example also play a major role in credibility.

Credibility has a direct relationship with influence. Walk the walk!

Knowledge is power. As Master Sgt. Dave Pennington, 14th OG first sergeant says, “Learn your job!”

Being the subject expert in your realm increases your level of influence. Ways to increase your knowledge power include reading, life experience, lessons learned through both failures and successes, and being willing to ask questions. Knowledge power doesn’t necessarily mean you have to know all of the answers. It also includes knowing where to find the answers and the ability to network with those that are experts in their realms.

This is not an all-inclusive list of tips to increase your level of influence but hopefully a good starting point.

“The key to successful leadership today is influence, not authority.” - Ken Blanchard

Bowling Center closed for renovations

Gwendolyn Granderson
14 Force Support Squadron
Marketing Director

The 14th Force Support Squadron is at it again. In a continued pledge to deliver fun, value and variety, the squadron announces a new round of renovations.

A significant part of these enhancements is the renovation of the Bowling Center to include a contemporary redesign with new flooring and tables.

Additional plans include renovation of the snack bar area.

“We are committed to offering a fun environment for our military families,” stated Kathleen More, Bowling Center manager.

During the Bowling Center closure, breakfast will be offered by the Columbus Club 6:30-10 a.m. from Aug. 27-31. Lunch options will include the Café at Whispering Pines and the Columbus Club. The Bowling Center will reopen Sept. 1.



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

USDA net system reduces aviation bird strikes

Staff Sgt. Joshua King
386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA — The U.S. Department of Agriculture works with safety teams around the Air Force to limit the presence of birds on and around airfields to protect aircraft from bird strikes, an issue that costs the Air Force millions of dollars every year in damages.

At an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, the USDA team has taken a system for catching birds used at a few state-side installations in the Air Force and created one fitted for use at the busiest aerial port in U.S. Air Forces Central Command.

Ted Pepps, USDA wildlife biologist, designed a drop net system for this area of operations and worked with the base’s combat metals shop to build it in-house.

“The drop net is a mass capture device,” said Pepps. “It allows us to catch more birds in a shorter amount of time. It is more efficient and effective. Back home we use it for bird control and wildlife research, and we hope to do the same here.”



The simple design horizontally suspends a 15-by-15 foot net between electromagnets powered by a car battery. The operator drops the net flat to the ground on unsuspecting birds using a remote similar to a garage door opener with a range up to about a football field.

“This is a big deal in the AOR because there are a lot of sensitive areas,” said Pepps. “Areas that we can’t shoot guns or pyrotechnics, so this [system] will fill that void.”

Most birds are skeptical of changes in their environments, so USDA members do not drop the net daily. Once the birds have acclimated to the device, which normally takes a few days, they go out and drop it early in the morning while the birds are eating seed placed under the net.

Once captured, the birds are humanely removed from the area.

“A system like this demonstrates the potential that our Airmen from all components of the total force—civilian, Guard or Reserve, or active duty—have to make a difference through their ingenuity and creativity,” said Lt. Col. Edmund Harrington, AFCENT deputy director of safety. “Mr. Pepps’ drop net presents a simple solution to a variety of challenges with mitigating the wildlife strike risk in the [area].”

This solution will not completely phase out other cages and traps that require the constant attention of USDA personnel.

Ted Pepps, U.S. Department of Agriculture wildlife biologist, kneels in front of the drop net bird trap he created and built in July 2018. This trap system has been used to capture more than 20 birds alive at a time, with minimal manpower time invested. U.S. Air Forces Central Command safety sees many uses throughout the area of responsibility for similar systems in order to reduce bird strikes to aircraft, which cost AFCENT an average of over \$3 million annually.


Those methods still require the team to replenish the food and water, and they can’t leave the birds exposed to the elements. The traps must be checked often to ensure that when a bird is captured, it remains alive.

“With most traps, you use a lot of man-hours for a minimal result,” added Pepps. “With the drop net, where you pull the birds out immediately, there is not a huge time commitment with catching 50 to 100 birds.”


The entire system is mobile and can be easily placed in a variety of locations, ensuring that it can be used wherever the birds relocate, said Pepps.

The drop net system is placed away from the airfield and attracts the birds that would normally fly in the vicinity of the flight line, as well as other important areas around base.

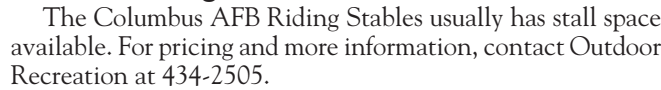
“We hope to see devices like this one in broader use throughout the [area], and I encourage our safety teams to look for other innovative ways to reduce mishap risks for our Airmen and joint and coalition partners,” said Harrington.



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



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The 2018 Air Force Birthday Ball will take place on September 22, 2018, at the Trotter Center in downtown Columbus. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit: <https://www.tickettailor.com/event/view/id/162451>

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.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: E-8C Joint STARS

Mission

The E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System, or JSTARS, is an airborne battle management, command and control, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platform. Its primary mission is to provide theater ground and air commanders with ground surveillance to support attack operations and targeting that contributes to the delay, disruption and destruction of enemy forces.

Features

The E-8C is a modified Boeing 707-300 series commercial airframe extensively remanufactured and modified with the radar, communications, operations and control subsystems required to perform its operational mission. The most prominent external feature is the 27-foot long, canoe-shaped radome under the forward fuselage that houses the 24-foot long, side-looking phased array antenna.

The radar and computer subsystems on the E-8C can gather and display detailed battlefield information on ground forces. The information is relayed in near-real time to the Army and Marine Corps common ground stations and to other ground command, control, communications, computers and intelligence, or C4I, nodes.

The antenna can be tilted to either side of the aircraft where it can develop a 120-degree field of view covering nearly 19,305 square miles and is capable of detecting targets at more than 250 kilometers. The radar also has some limited capability to detect helicopters, rotating antennas and

low, slow-moving fixed wing aircraft.

As a battle management and command and control asset, the E-8C can support the full spectrum of roles and missions from peacekeeping operations to major theater war.

Background

Joint STARS evolved from Army and Air Force programs to develop, detect, locate and attack enemy armor at ranges beyond the forward area of troops. The first two developmental aircraft deployed in 1991 to Operation Desert Storm and also supported Operation Joint Endeavor in December 1995.

Team JSTARS men and women have contributed tremendously to overseas contingency operations, flying more than 85,000 combat hours in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn Odyssey Dawn, and Unified Protector. Their operational resume includes support of six Combatant Commands including U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Africa Command, U.S. Europe Command.

Team JSTARS was the first organization in the U.S. Air Force to activate under the Air Force's Total Force Initiative as a "blended" wing. America's first "Total Force" wing, the former 93rd Air Control Wing, an active-duty Air Combat Command unit, and the 116th Bomb Wing, a Georgia Air National Guard unit, were deactivated Oct. 1, 2002. The 116th Air Control Wing was activated blending Guard and active-duty Airmen into a single unit. In October 2011, the

Active Associate construct was formed by the newly activated 461st Air Control Wing as a member of Team JSTARS.

Team JSTARS through the 116th ACW is the only unit that operates the E-8C and the Joint STARS mission.

General Characteristics

Primary function: airborne battle management

Contractor: Northrop Grumman Corp.

Power plant: four Pratt and Whitney TF33-102C

Thrust: 19,200 pounds each engine

Wingspan: 145 feet, 9 inches (44.4 meters) Length: 152 feet, 11 inches (46.6 meters) Height: 42 feet, 6 inches (13 meters)

Weight: 171,000 pounds (77,564 kilograms)

Maximum takeoff weight: 336,000 pounds (152,409 kilograms)

Fuel capacity: 155,000 (70,306 kilograms)

Payload: electronic equipment and crew

Speed: 449 - 587 mph (optimum orbit speed) or Mach 0.52 - 0.65 (390 - 510 knots)

Range: nine hours

Ceiling: 42,000 feet (12,802 meters)

Crew: (flight crew), four; (mission crew) normally 15 Air Force and three Army specialists (crew size varies according to mission)

Unit Cost: \$244.4 million

Initial operating capability: December 1997

Inventory: total force, 16



U.S. Air Force photo by Greg L. Davis

A number of E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft from the 116th Air Control Wing, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, evacuated to Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, to escape the path of Hurricane Irma Sept. 9, 2017. Joint STARS aircraft are operated by Air Combat Command.



U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Roger Parsons

An E-3 Sentry AWACS from the 964th Airborne Air Control Squadron (AACS), 552nd Air Control Wing (ACW), Tinker Air Force Base (AFB), Oklahoma, sits on the flightline next to an E-8C Joint STARS from Team JSTARS at Robins AFB, Georgia, Oct. 26, 2017. The 964th AACS, along with aircraft maintainers from the 552nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and security forces Airmen from the 552nd ACW, flew out of Robins AFB while supporting Exercise Bold Quest. The exercise gave the 964th a chance to test new software and integrate with the E-8C Joint STARS. Team JSTARS, consisting the 116th ACW, Georgia Air National Guard, active duty Air Force 461st ACW, and ARMY JSTARS, provides joint airborne command and control, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance over land and water, and combat support forces to meet state and national objectives.

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, and is to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. Counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m., and it takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact Airman & Family Readiness Center (A&FRC) at (662) 434-2790 for more information.

Pre- and Post-Deployment Tour Briefing

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 A&FRC. Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2794/2790 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 (SBP). As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision. Always get the true facts about SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Mary Chambers at (662) 434-2720/2790.

Military and Family Life Counselor Program

Military and Family Life Counselors (MFLCs) provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (single and married), spouses, and other family members 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, and they 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, please call (662) 364-0504/434-2790.

Installation Voting Assistance Office

A&FRC houses the Voting Assistance Office (VAO) which is open Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and closed weekends/holidays. The VAO offers voting assistance including voter registration, absentee ballot requests and voting, change of address, and provides answers for other general voting questions to uniformed service members, their family members, and civilians with access to A&FRC. Assistance includes but is not limited to aid in preparing and submitting Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) SF-76,

AETC Public Affairs leadership visits CAFB



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

Rufus Ward, local historian, introduces the history of the Victory Fliers to Col. Dedra Witham, Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs (PA) director, Chief Master Sgt. Pamela Anderson, AETC chief enlisted manager, and the 14th Flying Training Wing PA team Aug. 17, 2018, in Columbus, Mississippi. Witham and Anderson spent three days with the 14th FTW PA team to observe work, answer questions and provide feedback on the performance of the office.

Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) SF-186, and National Mail Voter Registration Form (NVRF). For more information, please contact the Installation Voting Assistance Office at (662) 434-2701/2790 or e-mail: vote.columbus@us.af.mil.

Personal Financial Readiness

Need Help with Financial matters? Want to make the most of your money? The Personal Financial Counselor (PFC) 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 at no cost, private, and confidential. Please contact the PFC at (662) 998-0411/434-2790 or e-mail PFC.Columbus. USAF@zeiders.com, located in the A&FRC.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the A&FRC. We have volunteer opportunities located across the base for one-time events, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman's Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities Office, and many other locations. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Transition Assistance Program GPS (Goals, Plans, Success) Workshop

The next Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop will be held Sept. 10-14, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. and includes seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Department of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, and Department of Labor. Preseparation counseling is required before attending, and recommended

attendance is 8-12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register or for more information, please call the TAP Manager at (662) 434-2631/2790.

Discovery Resource Center

The Columbus A&FRC has 12 computers with internet access available for job searches, assessments, resumes, cover letters, state and federal applications, and companies' employment information. A printer and fax machine is available. A lending library of books, DVDs, and periodicals on transition and EFMP topics are available for check out. These resources are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Key Spouse Program (KSP)

The mission of KSP is to provide information and resources to military spouses, supporting families in successfully navigating through the military life cycle. The KSP is a CC's program. The CC establishes and maintains the program within the unit, to include choosing team members. Once selected as a KS in writing, you will need to attend initial/refresher KS training and continuing education. For more information, please call (662) 434-3323.

School Liaison Officer

The School Liaison Officer (SLO) assists DoD employees and their families in making a smooth transition in and out of local public, private, and homeschool environments. The SLO is the primary point of contact for all school related matters, advocates for the needs of military students, make referrals, provides educational options and networking opportunities, and is the liaison between the base, schools, and local community. The SLO office is located in the Airman & Family Readiness Center and can be reached at: work (662)

434-2791, cell (662) 352-6456; email SLO2@us.af.mil .

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

The Recovery Coordination Program (RCP) 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 (RCC) who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill, and injured Airmen who: (1) have a serious illness or injury, (2) are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time, (3) may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Columbus AFB A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

The next Wing Newcomers Orientation will be held on Aug. 28, 8 a.m.-noon. This event is mandatory for all newly arrived active duty and civilian personnel, and spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club. To register or for more information, please call the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

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:

3:30 p.m. - Religious Education, grades K-9 (Start in Fall)
4 p.m. - Choir Practice
4 p.m. - Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. - Mass
1st and 3rd Sunday - Fellowship Meal following Mass

Tuesdays:

11:30 a.m. - Daily Mass (Phillips Auditorium)

Wednesdays:

11:30 a.m. - Adoration (Phillips Auditorium)
2nd Saturday of each month - Faith Ablaze

Protestant Community

Sundays:

9 a.m. - Adult Sunday School
10:45 a.m. - Community Worship Service (Donut Fellowship following)
3rd Sunday of Each Month - Protestant Faith Ablaze

Wednesdays:

6 p.m. - AWANA: Begins September 26th (Open to all denominations)

Thursdays:

5:30 p.m. - Student Pilot Bible Study (Open to all denominations)

****All Sunday Worship Services are held in the Kaye Auditorium until further notice****

The Making of an Afghan A-29 Combat Pilot

Lt. Col. Ryan Cleveland
81st Fighter Squadron commander

The goal of the 81st Fighter Squadron is to build a self-sufficient, effective Combat Air Force for Afghanistan. Four years ago, the squadron was re-activated and charged with creating a few dozen combat ready attack pilots and over a hundred maintainers for Afghanistan.

Currently, we are just over halfway to those goals. This article will focus on the long road in the making of an Afghan A-29 Super Tucano combat pilot, of which the men and women of Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, play a vital role.

Our students come from a wide variety of tribes, education levels, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Some students grew up in the city of Kabul and others were raised in small villages spread throughout war-torn Afghanistan.

Some are sons of professors, doctors, or military officers while others are from more modest beginnings, but all of them remember the dark days of Taliban rule. The drive to ensure those days never return and the notion of someday creating a peaceful Afghanistan bond them together as brothers-in-arms.

All students complete military training in Afghanistan and receive their commission as officers in the Afghan Air Force. Much like officer training in the U.S., some attend a four-year military academy, while others complete a six-month course similar to our Officer Training School.

From there students are chosen for pilot training and start their long journey away from home. Students attend introductory flight training abroad in various Cessna aircraft (C-152s, C-172s, and C-208s).

The students are away from Afghanistan for anywhere from two to four years as they complete this basic aircraft handling and instrument training. Upon returning home, the

students who finish at the top of their class with the highest scores in English compete to attend A-29 training in the United States.

After achieving the minimum English score in Afghanistan, students are sent to the Defense Language Institute (DLI) to hone their language skills and ultimately prepare them for Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) at Columbus AFB. DLI training takes another two to six months depending on the student.

At Columbus AFB the fire hose begins. In Phase 1, trying to learn academics in a second (third or maybe fourth) language at the intense rate of UPT is a daunting task, to say the least. It takes the average Afghan student 10-15 minutes per page of the T-6 Flight Manual or more to fully translate, comprehend, and understand the material.

Phase 1 of T-6 training is a tremendous challenge for our students, but the study habits and lessons learned in the course are invaluable. From there, the students move into Phase 2, which is a slightly paired down T-6 flying syllabus. The focus of this six-month course is to provide an introduction to aircraft general handling, patterns/landing, instruments, and formation flying.

The fundamentals they learn at Columbus provide the backbone and building blocks for their follow-on training at Moody AFB.

Over the next year in the 81st FS, our students build on the skills learned at Columbus AFB. They spend the next six months in A-29 Initial Qualification Training, which expands on all the same phases (contact, instrument, low level, and formation) as the Columbus T-6 syllabus.

The last six months of their training is called A-29 Mission Qualification Training (MQT).

In MQT, they learn the necessary skills for employing the A-29 as a weapons system. This course teaches them how to protect civilians and friendlies while efficiently finding,

fixing, and destroying enemy targets. Specifically, they are trained in convoy escort, armed reconnaissance, air interdiction, and close air support (CAS).

This training concludes with high-density altitude and mountain flying training in Colorado where realistic Afghan combat missions are simulated.

Within weeks of returning to Afghanistan, our students will fly their first combat sorties and put their training to the test. On these missions they must fall back on their extensive CAS training to quickly assess the situation on the ground, determine if civilians are present, and make life or death decisions about whether and where to employ their weapons.

Unlike U.S. Air Force deployments, which typically last four to six months, Afghan A-29 pilots face an enduring battle.

They must balance their normal family life with the stress of supporting continuous combat missions launched from within their homeland.

Despite all these pressures, Afghan pilots are airborne everyday to provide critical support and lethal firepower for their troops on the ground.

The journey to become an A-29 combat wingman has taken them away from their home and family for up to six years. Many of our students have wives and children back in Afghanistan, a few even have met their young child for the first time upon their return home from the United States.

It is difficult for Americans to relate to this level of personal sacrifice and their hard work and determination is awe-inspiring. These truly are a next generation of Afghan leaders and they possess the ability to lead their country forward.

Thank you, the men and women of Columbus AFB, for your important role in the making of an Afghan A-29 combat pilot. Please, when you see these Afghan pilots around base, thank them for their sacrifice and dedication to their country. "ATTACK!" -Gilligan



Medical Corner

Getting a daily dose of essential fatty acids



The battle of the Omegas

Hemp seeds, hemp oils and any food substance derived from the plant Cannabis Sativa are classified as being "off limits" for those serving in the military. Although there are many health benefits from consuming or using these items, there is a chance that by doing so any drug screenings may produce false positives.

Why people use hemp

The hemp plant, or cannabis sativa plant, is commonly confused with marijuana. The global market for hemp consists of more than 25,000 products in nine submarkets: agriculture, textiles, recycling, automotive, furniture, food and beverages, paper, construction materials, and personal care. Although they are cousins, the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol or THC found in hemp is only a fraction of what is in marijuana – less than one percent in hemp vs three to 15 percent or upwards of 30 percent found in marijuana.

In today's modern health driven economy and new agricultural age, there are more and more individuals and families looking for ways to live a healthier life as we live longer. From eating more organic and plant-based, to veganism and vegetarianism, many look for a way to eat healthier and to be healthier. In recent years, hemp has gained a foothold outside of health food stores in what was once thought to be only for hippies and stoners and has made it's way into both large box-chain grocery outlets and online retailers.

Hemp has many health benefits. The most common forms of hemp consumed are hemp seeds and hemp oils. Hemp seeds from the Cannabis sativa plant contain two-essential fatty acids: linoleic acid (omega-6) and alpha-linolenic acid (omega-3). These two substances are important components for improving the health of cell membranes, regulating blood pressure, and controlling inflammatory responses. The human body is not capable of producing these fatty acids and have to be consumed from a diet making them "essential fatty acids."

Why consuming hemp is banned in the military

Because hemp is a cousin to marijuana and comes from the same family, cannabidiol (CBD) – a chemical compound naturally found in marijuana – can still be found in hemp. Consuming hemp oil or hemp seeds can still trigger a positive result on any drug screening test as it still contains THC.

DoD policy as set in DoDI 1010.01 specifically mentions marijuana, "synthetic cannabinoids," and controlled substances (which include THC), but does not mention hemp *per se*, and test levels for THC are described in DoDI 1010.16. Because CBD is classified as a Schedule I controlled substance by the Federal Drug Administration, any use of cannabinoids are punishable under Uniform Code of Military Justice. Although there is no specific mention of hemp in DoDI 1010.01, AFI 90-507 *Military Drug Demand Reduction* Program does clearly state that any use of hemp or hemp products is punishable under UCMJ – "In order to ensure military readiness, the ingestion of products containing or products derived from hemp seed or hemp seed oil is prohibited. Failure to comply with the mandatory provisions of this paragraph by military personnel is a violation of Article 92, UCMJ."

Other ways to get your Omega-3 and Omega-6

The use of hemp as part of a daily diet to consume omega-3 and omega-6 may be the "newest and greatest thing since sliced bread," but it is definitely not the oldest nor the best. If you truly want to keep your daily intake of essential fatty acids at peak levels, here are a few healthy and legal ways to do it.

- Eat fish high in omega-3 fats such as salmon, albacore tuna (fresh and canned), sardines, lake trout and mackerel.
- Use moderate amounts of vegetable oils such as canola oil, soybean oil, flaxseed oil and walnut oil.
- Add walnuts or ground flaxseed to cereals, yogurt and salads. Whole flaxseeds will not work as well — they simply pass through the body undigested.
- Substitute ground flaxseed for butter or oil when baking. Use three tablespoons of ground flaxseed instead of one tablespoon of oil.
- Nibble on an omega-3 fatty acid-rich snack such as edamame or steamed soybeans, which are sold fresh or frozen.

Additional References & Resources:

1. A Community-Based marketing Campaign at Farmers markets – CDC:
2. Should You Get Your Nutrients From Food Or From Supplements? – Harvard Medical School
3. Lose To Win: Some Service Members Struggle With Weight – Health.Mil

A personal message from your health promotion Health Myth Busting Team



Dear Health Myth Buster,

I was reading that Hemp is good for you but I am confused because it is prohibited from use if you are in the military. What gives?

Signed,
Seedless

Dear Seedless,

Hemp seeds are rich in healthy fats and essential fatty acids. Hemp seeds are a good source of polyunsaturated and essential fatty acids. They have about a 3:1 ratio of omega-6 to omega-3, which is considered in the optimal range. They are also a great protein source and contain high amounts of vitamin E, phosphorus, potassium, sodium, magnesium, sulfur, calcium, iron and zinc. Whole hemp seeds are a good source of both soluble (20 percent) and insoluble (80 percent) fiber.

Despite being incredibly nutritious, all hemp products are banned from use by military members. That is because hemp seeds are the seeds of the hemp plant, Cannabis sativa. They are from the same species as cannabis (marijuana). Even though, hemp seeds contain only trace amounts of THC (the compound that causes the drug-like effects of marijuana), AFI 90-507, section 1.1.6, states that "the ingestion of products containing or products derived from hemp seed or hemp seed oil is prohibited." This is why it is prohibited from consumption while serving in the military although there are health benefits from doing so.

Hemp seed, oils and other hemp products are often sold in dietary supplements. In addition, hemp seed and oils are added to foods like yogurt, energy bars, and smoothies and based on current policies these products are prohibited. If you are looking for a healthy alternative, include other super seeds such as flax and chia for alternative protein sources, added vitamins and minerals along with phytochemicals. Choose chia over hemp as it contains a richer source of fiber as well as vitamins and minerals and won't be putting you in the "hot" seat.

Sincerely,
Health Myth Busters

Got questions on other health issues related to sleep health, physical activity, tobacco, or nutrition? Share them with us and we will help you "Bust The Myths!" Send your questions to usaf.jbsa.afmoa.mbx.hpo@mail.mil. Make sure to include in the subject line "Health Myth Buster." For more online health tips visit the Air Force Healthy Living webpage <http://www.airforcemedicine.af.mil/HealthyLiving/>

Commander's Action Line

434-1414



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

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

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

The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.

I am a Warrior.

I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.

My mission is to fly, fight, and win.

I am faithful to a proud heritage.

A tradition of honor,

And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman.

Guardian of freedom and justice,

My nation's sword and shield,

Its sentry and avenger.

I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman.

Wingman, leader, warrior.

I will never leave an Airman behind.

I will never falter,

And I will not fail.

14th FTW command structure:

A look at your wing



Col. William Denham
14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander



Col. Samantha Weeks
14th Flying Training Wing Commander



Chief Master Sgt. Raul Villarreal
14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief

FEATURE

14th Medical Group



Col. Guy Majkowski
Group Commander



Chief Master Sgt. Tracy Tolliver
Group Superintendent

14th Operations Group



Col. Derek Stuart
Group Commander



Chief Master Sgt. Kelli Brisse
Group Superintendent (Incoming)

14th Mission Support Group



Col. Gary Hayward
Group Commander



Chief Master Sgt. William Witt
Group Superintendent

Wing Staff Agency



Lt. Col. Dustin Mowrey
14th Flying Training Wing Director of Staff



Senior Master Sgt. Wade Steinback
WSA Superintendent

L-3 Communications Vertex Logistics Solutions



14th FTW Maintenance
Mr. John Hall
Division Manager



14th Medical Support Squadron
Lt. Col. Tracy Snyder
Commander



14th Medical Operations Squadron
Lt. Col. Sean Marshall
Commander

Lt. Col. Ryan Sullivan
Lt. Col. Jason Smith
Lt. Col. Jeremy Domb
14 OG Deputy Commanders



14th Student Squadron
Capt. Dan Bailey
Commander



37th Flying Training Squadron
Lt. Col. William Free
Commander



43rd Flying Training Squadron
Lt. Col. William McElhinney III
Commander



49th Fighter Training Squadron
Lt. Col. John Macasek
Commander



14th Operations Support Squadron
Lt. Col. James Winning
Commander



41st Flying Training Squadron
Lt. Col. Brent Curtis
Commander



48th Flying Training Squadron
Lt. Col. Jason Richardson
Commander



50th Flying Training Squadron
Lt. Col. Nathan Smith
Commander



81st Fighter Squadron
Lt. Col. Ryan Cleveland
Commander

Lt. Col. Bennet Burton
14 MSG Deputy Commander



14th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Lt. Col. Dennis Widner
Commander



14th Civil Engineer Squadron
Lt. Col. Peter Joo
Commander



14th Security Forces Squadron
Maj. Eric Eaton
Commander



14th Communications Squadron
Maj. Eddy Gutierrez
Commander



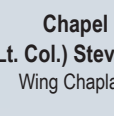
14th Force Support Squadron
Maj. Douglas Hickey
Commander



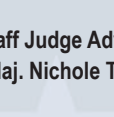
14th Contracting Squadron
Maj. Stuart Perlow
Commander



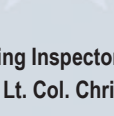
14th Comptroller Squadron
Maj. Randi Ludington
Commander



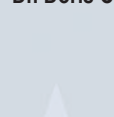
Chapel
Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Steven Richardson
Wing Chaplain



Staff Judge Advocate
Maj. Nichole Torres



Maintenance Quality Assurance
Lt. Col. Jeff Miller



Wing Inspector General
Lt. Col. Chris Best



Wing Historian
Dr. Doris Crusoe

Commander's Action Operation Center (CAOC)
Commander's Action Group: Maj. Benjamin Peacock
Public Affairs: Mr. Richard Johnson
Protocol: Jo Spears

Wing Safety
Lt. Col. Phillip Poeppelman
Chief of Safety

Equal Opportunity Office
Capt. Alisha Foster

Command Post
Master Sgt. Michael Pearce

Plans and Programs
Lt. Col. Michael Cancellare

14th FTW SARC
Dr. Marcia Stewart

Information Protection
Tim Abbey

14th FTW Green Dot
Mrs. Daisy Jones-Brown



Tenant Units

- University of Alabama AFROTC Detachment 10
Lt. Col. Mark Valdez
- Mississippi State University AFROTC Detachment 425
Lt. Col. Joseph Cassidy II
- University of Mississippi AFROTC Detachment 430
Lt. Col. Theresa Beaver
- 332nd Recruiting Squadron (Nashville, Tennessee)
Lt. Col. Terrance Holmes
- AFOSI Det, 406
Special Agent Kelly Luzum
- Missile Defense Agency
- Defense Intelligence Agency

