

October 5, 2018

**To advertise in Silver Wings, call 328-2424**



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. 11. **Deadline for submissions is Oct. 19.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

City of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Foreign Tours: \_\_\_\_\_

Combat Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Why You Joined the Military: \_\_\_\_\_

Thoughts/Memories from Your Service: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE  
DISPATCH**

516 Main Street  
PO Box 511, Columbus, MS 39703  
Email: [community@cdispatch.com](mailto:community@cdispatch.com)



2018 Veteran's Summit

All Military/Veterans/National Guard and Families are Welcome!

Location: Starkville Sportsplex, 405 Lynn Ln, Starkville, MS

When: October 23, 2018 @ 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

VA Benefits – You earned them, use them! Get answers about VA enrollment, disability, education, housing, financial planning, employment and more.

Find a job, or find a better job! Network with Vet-friendly employers. Remember to bring your resumes for job and your DD214 for benefits!

Connect with your fellow Vets. Get to know local Veteran Organizations.

- Establish eligibility for state veterans benefits (bring your DD form 214)

- Apply for state and federal benefits

- Get help obtaining military medals and records

- Find out about employment opportunities

- Obtain information about nursing home care

- If you served during the Vietnam Era and were honorably discharged and live in Mississippi, bring your DD 214 to receive your free copy of Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Commemoration hardbound book

- Learn about the wide range of benefits available including: health care, long-term care, education, veteran loans, job training, funeral honors and more!

Scheduled to attend:

Organizations & Resources:

☐American Legion

☐American Red Cross

☐County Veteran Service Officers

☐DAV

☐Department of Veterans Affairs: Representatives to assist with federal entitlements

☐ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve)

☐Female Veterans Resources

☐Golden Triangle Planning & Development (Council of Aged)

☐Humana Military

☐Job Corps

☐MS Veterans Health Care System

☐MS Veterans Home Purchasing Board: Home Loans, Land Loans, Home

Improvement Loans, State Veterans Homes and State Veterans Cemeteries

☐MS Vocational Rehabilitation

☐MS Veterans Commission: Counselors to assist with disability and pension claims, employment services and educational benefits

☐MUTEH (Mississippians United To End Homelessness)

☐Oservs

☐Richard Homes II Foundation

☐Social Security

☐Tricare

☐VA Outpatient Clinic

☐Veterans Comprehensive Resource Center

☐VFW

AND MORE...

For information contact Sharon Dollarhide

[sdollarhide@vab.ms.com](mailto:sdollarhide@vab.ms.com)  
(662) 325-6867

**D.C. TRIP**  
(Continued from page 4)

It was fulfilling for me to be able to facilitate a lot of it and see the commander's vision come to fruition."

As the Alley Cats stepped to their jets to return home on the last day, they pre-flighted during one of many ramp freezes Andrews Air Force Base experiences each week. As they waited for the go-ahead to start engines, Air Force One landed

just a few hundred yards away. They watched as the leader of the free world taxied clear of the runway and over to the 89th AW building they had just left, and then took off again in the Marine One helicopter, headed for the White House. In that moment, every sortie, every brief and debrief, every grade sheet and every long day spent studying with a struggling student, found its place in the grandeur that is the Air Force mission.

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1 YEAR LEASE - NO PETS

662-329-2917 OR  
662-574-9708 CELL

MSU vs AuburnFootball

Mississippi State University Bulldogs will face off against Auburn University at 6:30 p.m. Oct 6, at Davis Wade Stadium in Starkville, Mississippi. Tickets available online.

unWINE Downtown

The Greater Starkville Development Partnership Welcome Center in Starkville, Mississippi, will host an unWINE Downtown event from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Oct. 5. The tickets are \$20 each and check in is from 5:30 to 6:30pm. Starkville Main Street members will be open after hours for shopping and wine tasting. Participating shops include R. Tabb & Co., Fleur-de-Lis, Klara Haloho, Occasions, The Pop Porium, Merle Norman Luna Bella, Reed's, L.A. Green, George-Mary's, JCG Apparel, and 929 Coffee. Tickets may be purchased online or at the door during check in.

Eudora Welty Writers Symposium

The 30th annual Eudora Welty Writers Symposium is scheduled from Oct. 18-20 at 1100 College Street, Columbus, Mississippi 39701. The symposium is a three-day celebration of Southern Literature. The guest speaker will be Steve Yarbrough, who is the recipient of the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award for Fiction, the Richard Wright Award, and the Robert Penn Warren Award. For more information visit muw.edu/welty or call (662) 329-7386.

Pumpkinpalooza

Main Street Starkville will host their annual Pumpkinpalooza from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 26. Children can enjoy trick or treating and face painting. Other events include pumpkin painting, late night shopping and a window display contest. For more information log onto visit.starkville.org.

Ghost and Legends Tour

The city of Columbus will be hosting a Ghost and Legends tour from Nov. 9-10 at 300 Main Street, Columbus, Mississippi. The tour begins at the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center and takes guests to places such as the Friendship Cemetery, Haunted dorm rooms and historic homes. For more information call 662-328-2787.

Overwhelmed by those Early Briefs?

Don't worry we have a LATE GO!

So don't ORM yourself from church,  
come fly over to Airmen's Hill, last line of  
the day at Good Shepherd is at 1830!

•East (main) Campus service time at 1000- 321 Forrest BLVD, Columbus

•North (Airmen's Hill) Campus service time at 1830—144 MS 373, Columbus

Get more information on our website: <http://goodshepherdcolumbus.dioms.org/>

or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherd.columbus>,

Twitter @GoodShep39705

14TH  
FLYING  
TRAINING  
WING  
DEPLOYED

Col. Daniel McDonough, 182nd Airlift Wing commander, Peoria Air National Guard Base, Illinois, and Col. Samantha Weeks, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, speak with Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-15 students before their graduation Sept. 28, 2018, n Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. McDonough told the graduates how they are a part of the Air Force during a great time in its history.

MCDONOUGH

(Continued from page 1)

how they are a part of the Air Force during a great time in its history. He talked about how the National Defense Strategy is switching from counter-insurgency tactics to fighting a uniformed enemy. He said the Air Force is expected to grow and change.

“The Air Force Chief of Staff we have right now is focusing on lethality and readiness,” McDonough said.

Col. Daniel McDonough, 182nd Airlift Wing commander, Peoria Air National Guard Base, Illinois, and Col. Samantha Weeks, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, speak with Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-15 students before their graduation Sept. 28, 2018, n Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. McDonough told the graduates how they are a part of the Air Force during a great time in its history.

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“If it doesn’t support the National Defense Strategy, we’re not doing it. He said it last week, we are getting rid of the ‘queep.’”

He then spoke about life in the Air Force. He explained that he has worked as a civilian pilot, but he is now back working full-time for the Air Force and couldn’t be happier.

“Normally I tell people I have the greatest job in the Air Force, but today I would say you guys do,” McDonough said. “Think about it, you were paying to fly a ‘bug smasher’

New graduates from Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-15 are recognized for completing their training Sept. 28, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. SUPT is comprised of three parts; academics, T-6A Texan II training, and either T-1A Jayhawk or T-38C Talon training.

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

and now we are going pay you to fly one of these awesome airplanes.”

McDonough continued his speech by reminded the new pilots that their training isn’t over. He said when they reach their next base, they will have to keep the discipline and self-motivation they learned in SUPT and use it to continue to keep being the best they can be.

Among the 10 graduates in attendance, one of them will be under McDonough’s command. McDonough singled-out Maj. Justin Childers for his hard work and persistence. He told the audience the story about how he told Childers he was going to SUPT at his wedding.

To wrap up his speech, McDonough congratulated the graduates and thanked the families for being supportive. He also wanted the graduates to know that they didn’t make it here alone and thanked Team BLAZE for ensuring the graduates had the opportunity to become the next generation of Air Force aviators.

Air Force awards next-generation fighter and bomber trainer

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Air Force awarded The Boeing Company a contract worth up to \$9.2 billion for the Air Force's new training aircraft Sept. 27.

The Air Force currently plans to purchase 351 T-X aircraft, 46 simulators, and associated ground equipment to replace the Air Education and Training Command's 57-year-old fleet of T-38C Talons.

The indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract allows the Air Force to purchase up to 475 aircraft and 120 simulators. The contract is designed to offer taxpayers the best value both today and in the future should requirements change.

“This new aircraft will provide the advanced training capabilities we need to increase the lethality and effectiveness of future Air Force pilots,” Secretary of the Air Force Heather A. Wilson said. “Through competition we will save at least \$10 billion on the T-X program.”

The original service cost estimate was \$19.7 billion for 351 aircraft.

The T-X program is expected to provide student pilots in undergraduate- and graduate-level training courses with the skills and competencies required to transition to 4th- and 5th-generation fighter and bomber aircraft.

“This is all about joint warfighting excellence; we need the T-X to optimize training for pilots heading into our grow-

“This new aircraft will provide the advanced training capabilities we need to increase the lethality and effectiveness of future Air Force pilots,” Secretary of the Air Force Heather A. Wilson said. “Through competition we will save at least \$10 billion on the T-X program.”

ing fleet of fifth-generation aircraft,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. “This aircraft will enable pilot training in a system similar to our fielded fighters, ultimately enhancing joint lethality.”

The first T-X aircraft and simulators are scheduled to arrive at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, in 2023. All undergraduate pilot training bases will eventually transition from the T-38 to the T-X. Those bases include: Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi; Laughlin AFB, Texas; Sheppard AFB, Texas and Vance AFB, Oklahoma.

An initial delivery order for \$813 million provides for the engineering and manufacturing development of the first five aircraft and seven simulators.

The contract supports the Air Force’s objective of an initial operational capability by 2024 and full operational capability by 2034.

“This outcome is the result of a well-conceived strategy leveraging full and open competition,” said Dr. Will Roper, assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition, technology and logistics. “It’s acquisition’s silver bullet.”



# 48th FTS sees squadron's impact on national level during D.C. visit

**Capt. Katie Baldwin and  
1st Lt. Tricia Pasque**  
48th Flying Training Squadron

WASHINGTON — “Coming here is a good reminder of why we do what we do every day,” said Maj. Mary Ortiz, chief of strategic communication for the Air Force Chief of Staff’s Executive Action Group.

She stood outside the Pentagon 9/11 Memorial Chapel, surrounded by 24 members of the 48th Flying Training Squadron from Columbus Air Force Base, as one by one, the T-1A Jayhawk instructor pilots filed through the quiet, somber room, reflecting on the 184 lives lost in the attack, and how that day the military, and the world, changed forever.

It was one moment of many like it during the squadron’s four-day visit to Washington, D.C., a trip focusing on professional development and how the 48th FTS fits into the bigger picture of the Air Force mission. After battling strong crosswinds and low ceilings during their approach, the Alley Cat contingent of seven T-1s containing a mixture of first-assignment instructor pilots (FAIPS), flight commanders, shop chiefs, and squadron leadership arrived at Joint Base Andrews Sept. 24.

“Our primary goal was to provide a better understanding of our role in HAF’s (Headquarters Air Force’s) plan to resolve the pilot crisis as well as the other lines of effort being worked,” said Lt. Col. Jason Richardson, 48th FTS Commander. “Ultimately, connecting a name and a face to ‘big Air Force’ helps us understand that we are all still working toward a common goal.”

To that end, the 48th FTS descended on the Pentagon, where Ortiz let them peek behind the glass doors, giving a tour of the world’s largest low-rise office building that employs a population as large as the town of Colum-



Courtesy photos  
**Members of the 48th Flying Training Squadron gather in front of the White House Sept. 25, 2018, in Washington D.C. The visit was part of a squadron's TDY that allowed 24 Alley Cats to see how their daily jobs fit into the greater Air Force mission.**

bus. After lunch in the fishbowl, Maj. Gentry Kramer briefed the group on the actions of the Aircrew Crisis Task Force (ACTF). The efforts of his team are wide-reaching, attacking the pilot shortage from three different angles: retention, production, and requirements.

Undergraduate Pilot Training is an integral piece of the production aspect, and the Alley Cats learned how heavily the ACTF depends on them and the rest of Columbus Air Force Base to efficiently and effectively train the Air Force’s next generation of pilots. The 48th FTS IPs also provided feedback on other task force initiatives aimed at pilot retention.

Retired Maj. Gen. Rowayne Schatz, Jr., HAF’s Deputy A3, also addressed the group; his primary desire was to hear from those experiencing the effects of his staff’s ideas and programs. The members of the 48th FTS raised issues ranging from the FAIP assign-

ment process to the perceived pressure to graduate a higher quantity of students at the expense of quality; Schatz reiterated the Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein’s intent that IPs continue to hold the line, maintain the standard, and deliver first-rate pilots to the operational Air Force.

Tours of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the White House, and the 89th Airlift Wing complemented the Pentagon’s thirty-thousand-foot view and fulfilled Richardson’s second goal for the trip: to connect the IPs to a uniquely Mobility Air Forces mission set that they and their students will support in Air Mobility Command.

Maj. Todd Early, a former Alley Cat now leaving an impact at the White House Military Office (WHMO), guided the group through the Eisenhower Building. The 48th FTS members, dressed to impress in service

coats and shiny low quarters, rode the D.C. Metro from their hotel in Alexandria and filed through security early that morning. They spent time roaming the same hallways as the former members of the War Department, State Department, and Department of the Navy – the first of the building’s tenants after completion of its construction in 1888. The structure now houses the White House executive staff, to include the office of the vice president. In one of the many conference rooms in the building, the Alley Cats listened intently as they heard from WHMO leaders Navy Capt. Joe Stavish and Air Force Col. Charles Cooper. They described the upper echelons of military airlift, the highest priority missions tasked with carrying or supporting the President and those in his inner circle.

On their last day in D.C., the 48 FTS squeezed in one last look at another aspect of military life in the National Capital Region as Lt. Col. Joel Gorham led them through an 89th AW mission brief and tours of the C-32, C-37, and C-40. Responsible for the highest rungs of DV airlift, the 89th is AMC’s only selectively manned unit, hiring its pilots from the best the Air Force has to offer. Simply walking the halls and visiting the aircraft that many consider to be the pinnacle of military airlift was enough to draw the 48th FTS IP corps out of the daily grind of UPT.

Capt. Rob Rohmiller, the Alley Cat orchestrator of the trip, was pleased with the results.

“I wanted to cover every detail from start to finish so everyone’s energy and focus could be directed toward professional and leadership development,” he said. “Namely, how can we align ourselves for the most positive impact in the constantly evolving process of pilot production and what can senior leadership do to help mitigate some of our specific challenges?”

See **D.C. TRIP**, Page 14



**Air Force One lands Sept. 27, 2018, at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, as T-1A Jayhawk instructor pilots from Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, wait to start engines. Capt Rob Rohmiller, 48th Flying Training Squadron D Flight assistant flight commander and trip organizer, executed the 48th FTS’s trip dedicated to professional development and a big-picture view of the Air Force and UPT’s role in the mission.**

## 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.)*

### Bundles of Joy

The next Bundles of Joy workshop is from 1-3:30 p.m. Oct. 18, in the A&FRC. This program is designed for active-duty Air Force members and/or their spouses who are pregnant or have a child four months old or less. Attendees will learn about finances, labor and delivery, and infant care. A \$50 gift card sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society will be provided for each qualifying child. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### Wing Newcomers Orientation

The next Wing Newcomers Orientation will be from 8 a.m.-noon Oct. 23 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.

### Hearts Apart

The next Hearts Apart will be from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 25. This monthly social event is for family members whose sponsor is deployed, on a remote tour, or TDY for more than 30 days. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### Heart Link

The next Heart Link is from 8:30 a.m.-noon Nov. 15, in the A&FRC. This half-day program is open to all spouses of active-duty military members assigned to Columbus AFB. Attendees will receive information about life in the Air Force, in the local area, and at Columbus AFB from local subject matter experts including spouse leaders. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### Federal USAJobs Workshop

The next Federal USAJobs workshop will be from 9-10:30 a.m. Nov 14. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications, and job search using the USAJobs website. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

### 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.

## Airmen inspire students during CREATE Career Expo



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Hannah Bean  
**Senior Airman Jimmy Runnels, of the 14th Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms Training and Maintenance, talks with students about the different career field options within security forces Oct. 2, 2018, during the Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo at the BancorpSouth Arena in Tupelo, Mississippi. The expo, hosted by the CREATE Foundation, showcased a multitude of career opportunities for more than 7,200 eighth grade students over the duration of three days.**

### 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.

### Military and Family Life Counselor Program

Military and Family Life Counselors 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 martial 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.

### Employment Workshop

An employment workshop on local and base employment opportunities is held every Wednesday, from 1- 2 p.m. This program provides military families and DoD civilian members individual assessment and career counseling to assist with local employment, preparation for

future endeavors via education, job search, or self-owned business objectives in the local area. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 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 Coun-

selor Mary Chambers at (662) 434-2720/2790.

### Installation Voting Assistance Office

A&FRC houses the Voting Assistance Office which is open 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, 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, 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.

### Career Exploration & Planning Track Workshop

The next Career Exploration & Planning Track workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Jan. 22 in the A&FRC. This workshop helps members identify skills, increase awareness of training and credentialing programs, and develop an action plan to achieve career goals. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

## Chapel Schedule

Whether you are new to Columbus Air Force Base or have been around for a while, our parish communities welcome you to join us as we worship, fellowship, and encourage one another. For more information, please call 434-2500.

### Catholic Community

**Sundays:**  
3:30 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)



**“Answer:** My favorite thing about fall is Auburn football.”



# Student pilot showcases paintings in Columbus's Art Walk

**Tech. Sgt. Christopher Gross**  
14th Flying Training Wing

Second Lt. Morgan Eckert, 14th Student Squadron student pilot, showcased some of her paintings during the Art Walk Sept. 27 in downtown Columbus, Mississippi.

The Art Walk allowed artist to be paired with downtown business owners, and their artwork was displayed inside the shops. According to the local news station WCBI-TV, the event has grown so much in the past several years, that artist now line the sidewalks and occupy Leadership Plaza.

Eckert, who's flying with the 37th Flying Training Squadron, said she doesn't normally display her art, however, the opportunity was just presented and she said she thought "since I have the paintings I might as well. I like getting to know the local people." During the Art Walk, Eckert showed off more than 10 pieces of work, with the center piece being a large painting of a horse. She saw a similar painting of the horse she painted at her former roommate's house in Kentucky one day and really liked it, "I'll just paint one for myself."

As much as Eckert said she enjoys painting and drawing, she said she doesn't get nearly as much time to do it as she'd like. However, she recalled what really got her interested in art. As a little girl rummaging through the attic one day, she came across a bunch of her mother's sketch books.

"That's kind of what sprouted my inter-



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

**Second Lt. Morgan Eckert, a 14th Student Squadron student pilot, sketches out a future painting Sept. 26, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Sept. 26, 2018. Eckert showcased several of her paintings during the Art Walk Sept. 27 in downtown Columbus, Mississippi. A lot of her paintings come from request from friends or family, or she spends time painting scenes that have meaning to her.**

est, cause then her and I would get out some coloring books or just do a lot of doodling together. I enjoyed that as a kid," Eckert said.

"My middle school art teacher, Mrs. Spoltman, saw my potential and encouraged me to challenge myself. That's when I began filling my free time with painting and sketching," Eckert explained. As she got older she said she would use painting as a way to un-

wind and relax.

"It allows me to get away," she said. "Through high school and even through college, when I would get stressed or before a test I would just sit down and do a lot of painting."

A lot of her paintings come from requests from friends or family, or she spends time painting scenes that have meaning to her. Something she's currently working on is for her grandfather, who was recently admitted to a nursing home unexpectedly. Growing up, she said her grandfather was one of her best friends, so she wants to surprise him with something the next time she heads home to Fort Wayne, Indiana. The painting will be of her grandfather sitting in a donut shop, which is where he use to spend a lot of time, and where, in the last few years, she had the best conversations with him.

Eckert said she has also done a lot in the past for the squadrons she's been in, designing patches, coins and other pieces of art work. Enlisting into the Indiana Air National Guard in 2012, she said this has been some of her favorite works to produce. Eckert's journey to being a pilot started back in 2012; after basic training, she was sitting in the dining facility on Shepherd Air Force Base, Texas, and saw aircraft flying around and thought, "that will one day be me."

Several years later, after spending her time in the Guard with the 122nd Fighter Wing in Fort Wayne, Indiana, as a fuel

system mechanic, Eckert commissioned as an active-duty second lieutenant through the AFROTC detachment at Indiana State University. Now, in phase two of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Class 19-18, she said she's excited to get going.

"I'm really excited about the flying aspect of it," Eckert said. "I love traveling ... there's so much out there, so many opportunities."



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

**Second Lt. Morgan Eckert, a 14th Student Squadron student pilot, puts on her G-suit Oct. 1, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Eckert commissioned through the ROTC detachment at Indiana State University. Now, in phase two of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Class 19-18.**



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Hannah Bean

**Second Lt. Morgan Eckert, a 14th Student Squadron student pilot, sketches while sitting on a bench at the Art Walk in downtown Columbus, Mississippi, Sept. 27, 2018. The Art Walk allows artist to be paired with downtown business owners, and show off their artwork.**



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Hannah Bean

**Second Lt. Morgan Eckert, a 14th Student Squadron student pilot, talks to attendees about her art during the Art Walk in downtown Columbus, Mississippi, Sept. 27, 2018. The Art Walk has grown so much in the past several years, that artist now line the sidewalks and occupy Leadership Plaza.**

## Upcoming changes to commercial pilot – military competence testing

As of Oct. 15, 2018, the Federal Aviation Administration will discontinue the Military Competence – Airplane (MCA) and Military Competence – Helicopter (MCH) airman knowledge tests.

In place of the MCA and MCH knowledge tests, military and former military pilots seeking a Commercial Pilot Certificate in accordance with 14CFR part 61, section 61.73 will be required to take the Commercial Pilot - Military Competence Non-category (MCN) airman knowledge test.

Unexpired MCA and MCH Airman Knowledge Test Reports (AKTR) will continue to be accepted after Oct. 15, 2018, to meet the requirements of 14 CFR part 61, section 61.73(b)(2).

Guidance for evaluators who issue Commercial Pilot Certificates based on 14 CFR part 61, section 61.73 will be available in October 2018.

Use the following link to view the Commercial Pilot — Military Competence Airman Certification Standards:

[https://www.faa.gov/training\\_testing/testing/acs/media/mcn\\_acs.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/acs/media/mcn_acs.pdf)

Use the following link to view the Knowledge Testing Authorization Requirements Matrix: [https://www.faa.gov/training\\_testing/testing/media/testing\\_matrix.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/media/testing_matrix.pdf)

Use the following link to view the Commercial Pilot – Military Competence, Non-Category Sample Questions: [https://www.faa.gov/training\\_testing/testing/test\\_questions/media/mcn\\_sample\\_questions.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_questions/media/mcn_sample_questions.pdf)

## VIEWPOINT

# CAFB Fire Department encourages residents to 'Look. Listen. Learn.'

**14th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Fire Department**

Today's home-fires burn faster than ever. In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Knowing how to use that time wisely takes planning and practice.

The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) – the official sponsor of Fire Prevention WeekTM for more than 90 years -- to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week Campaign, "Look. Listen. Learn. Be Aware. Fire can happen anywhere™"

NFPA statistics show that the number of U.S. home fires has been steadily declining over the past few decades. However, the death rate per 1,000 house fires that are reported to fire departments was 10 percent higher in 2016 than in 1980.

"These numbers show that while we've made significant progress in teaching people how to prevent fires from happening, there's still much more work to do in terms of educating the public about how to protect themselves in the event of one," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. "This is particularly critical given the in-



creased speed at which today's home fires grow and spread."

Carli also notes that although people feel safest in their home, it is also the place people are at greatest risk to fire, with four out of five U.S. fire deaths occurring at home. That over-confidence contributes to a complacency toward home escape planning and practice.

"Working in the fire service for many years, we know that people often make choices in fire situations that jeopardize their safety or even cost them their lives," said Tech. Sgt. Justin Gilbert, 14th CES Fire Department fire inspector. "We need to do a better job of teaching people about the potentially life-saving difference escape planning and practice can make and motivating them into ac-

tion."

Gilbert said this year's "Look. Listen. Learn." campaign highlights three steps people can take to help quickly and safely escape a fire:

- **Look** for places fire could start.
- **Listen** for the sound of the smoke alarm.

• **Learn** two ways out of every room. While the NFPA and the 14th CES Fire Department are focusing on home fires, these fire safety messages apply to virtually anywhere.

"Situational awareness is a skill people need to use wherever they go," Gilbert said. "No matter where you are, look for available exits. If the alarm system sound, take it seriously and exit the building immediately."

# What honor guard means to me

**Senior Airman Hayden Harrison**  
Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard

Imagine being the last image of the Air Force for a grieving widow or widower. Someone whose spouse and themselves have dedicated a large portion of their lives to serve. Being the sole representation of the Air Force and having its reputation in your hands. Even with all this pressure, you have to perform your duties with perfect bearing and grace. That is the task given to Columbus Air Force Base ceremonial guardsman as we perform our duties.

Throughout this year, I have witnessed the best Airmen and NCOs that this base has to offer. I have had amazing mentorship, a deeper understanding about our heritage and I've seen the sacrifice that is given daily by our brothers and sisters in arms.

This firsthand look into the reality of the military is something that I think every single deserving man and woman in our service should have a chance to experience. I plan on using these tools granted to me to help mold a greater understanding in the young Airmen of today's Air Force to ensure they stand for something greater than themselves.

They provide a direct impact in guaranteeing life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I believe that mission permitting, if you have a desire to do this, take that first step and ask.



## Columbus AFB's newest promotes



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Dublin  
**Col. Samantha Weeks, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Raul Villarreal, Jr., 14th FTW command chief, stand with Columbus Air Force Bases's newest promotes during the wing's promotion ceremony Sept. 28, 2018, in the Kaye Auditorium on Columbus AFB, Mississippi.**

## Columbus AFB celebrates national “Coffee with a Cop” day



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Hannah Bean  
**Airmen converse with 14th Flying Training Wing Office of Special Investigations and 14th Security Forces Squadron investigators during National Coffee with a Cop day at Coffee House on 5th inside the BLAZE Commons Oct. 3, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The event gave people an opportunity to enjoy a cup of coffee with fellow law enforcement to better understand what they do and who they are.**

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

PARADE STARTS AT 9 a.m. SATURDAY Oct. 6



**FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE FOLLOWING PARADE**  
- LIVE FIRE DEMONSTRATION - VEHICLE EXTRICATION DEMONSTRATION  
- HOT DOGS AND HAMBURGERS - GAMES

## Fire Prevention Week activities

### Oct. 6

Parade through housing will begin at 9 a.m. and will go through all the housing areas (see map). Columbus Air Force Base leadership will be riding along and fire trucks from off base stations will also be participating in the parade.

An open house will be from 10 a.m. to noon at the fire station. There will be a live-fire demonstration, vehicle extrication demonstration, games, and hot dogs and hamburgers.

### Oct. 9-12

Public education demonstration from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. behind the Base Exchange and Commissary. There will be a fire engine present and those that come out will be able to handle some fire equipment and ask questions. The fire department will also have information available about safe cooking habits, home exit drills and more.

Home EDITH drills will be offered to housing residents from 4-7 p.m. from Oct. 7-upon request. EDITH stand for Exit Drills in the Home, and members of the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department will come out access the resident's home, develop and practice a

plan. Those interested should call 434-2271 or 434-2262.

### Oct. 9

Sparky will be visiting the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron at 2 p.m.

### Oct. 10

Sparky will be visiting 14th Comptroller Squadron at 2 p.m.  
The smoke trailer will be at the Youth Center at 4 p.m. and fire department representative will be talking to children about safe exit habits, stop drop and roll, staying low to the floor when exiting and more.

### Oct. 11

Sparky will be visiting the wing headquarters building at 2 p.m.

### Oct. 12

Movie on the Lawn and s'mores snacks from 5-7 p.m. at the fire department. People are welcomed to come out enjoy a bonfire, roast some s'mores and watch a movie that is to be determined.

# BLAZE Hangar Tails: F-117 Night Hawk

## Mission

The Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk is a single-seat, twin-engine stealth attack aircraft that was developed by Lockheed's Skunk Works division and operated by the United States Air Force. The F-117 was based on the Have Blue technology demonstrator, and was the first operational aircraft to be designed around stealth technology. The maiden flight of the Nighthawk took place in 1981 and the aircraft achieved initial operating capability status in 1983.

## Features

Early stealth aircraft were designed with a focus on minimal radar cross-section (RCS) rather than aerodynamic performance. Highly-stealth aircraft like the F-117 Nighthawk are aerodynamically unstable in all three Aircraft principal axes and require constant flight corrections from a fly-by-wire flight system to maintain controlled flight. It is shaped to deflect radar signals and is about the size of an F-15 Eagle. The single-seat Nighthawk is powered by two non-afterburning General Electric F404 turbofan engines. It is air refuelable and features a V-tail.

It has quadruple-redundant fly-by-wire flight controls. To lower development costs, the avionics, fly-by-wire systems, and other parts are derived from the General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon, McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 Hornet and McDonnell Douglas F-15E Strike Eagle. The parts were originally described as spares on budgets for these aircraft, to keep the F-117 project secret.

The aircraft is equipped with sophisticated navigation and attack systems integrated into a digital avionics suite. It navigates primarily by GPS and high-accuracy inertial navigation. Missions are coordinated by an automated planning system that can automatically perform all aspects of an attack mission, including weapons release. Targets are acquired by a

thermal imaging infrared system, slaved to a laser rangefinder/laser designator that finds the range and designates targets for laser-guided bombs. The F-117A's split internal bay can carry 5,000 lb (2,300 kg) of ordnance. Typical weapons are a pair of GBU-10, GBU-12, or GBU-27 laser-guided bombs, two BLU-109 penetration bombs, or two Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAMs), a GPS/INS guided stand-off bomb.

The F-117 has a Radar cross-section of about 0.001 m2 (0.0108 sq ft). Among the penalties for stealth are lower engine thrust, due to losses in the inlet and outlet, a very low wing aspect ratio, and a high sweep angle (50°) needed to deflect incoming radar waves to the sides. With these design considerations and no afterburner, the F-117 is limited to sub-sonic speeds.

The F-117A carries no radar, which lowers emissions and cross-section, and whether it carries any radar detection equipment is classified.

The F-117A's faceted shape resulted from the limitations of the 1970s-era computer technology used to calculate its radar cross-section. Later supercomputers made it possible for subsequent planes like the B-2 bomber to use curved surfaces while staying stealthy, through the use of far more computational resources to do the additional calculations needed.

An exhaust plume contributes a significant infrared signature. The F-117 reduces IR signature with a non-circular tail pipe to minimize the exhaust cross-sectional volume and maximize the mixing of hot exhaust with cool ambient air. The F-117 lacks afterburners, because the hot exhaust would increase the infrared signature, and breaking the sound barrier would produce an obvious sonic boom, as well as surface heating of the aircraft skin which also increased the infrared footprint. As a result, its performance in air combat maneuvering required in a dogfight would never match that of a dedicated fighter aircraft. This was unimportant in the case of

this aircraft since it was designed to be a bomber.

Passive radar, bistatic radarHYPERLINK \l "cite\_note-Bistatic\_Radar\_Sets-40" and especially multistatic radar systems detect some stealth aircraft better than conventional monostatic radars, since first-generation stealth technology (such as the F-117) reflects energy away from the transmitter's line of sight, effectively increasing the radar cross section in other directions, which the passive radars monitor.

## Background

The F-117 was widely publicized for its role in the Gulf War of 1991. Although it was commonly referred to as the “Stealth Fighter”, it was a strictly ground-attack aircraft. The U.S. Air Force retired the F-117 on 22 April 2008, primarily due to the fielding of the F-22 Raptor. Sixty-four F-117s were built, 59 of which were production versions with the other five being demonstrators/prototypes.

## General characteristics

**Crew:** 1  
**Length:** 65 ft 11 in (20.09 m)  
**Wingspan:** 43 ft 4 in (13.20 m)  
**Height:** 12 ft 9.5 in (3.78 m)  
**Wing area:** 780 ft² (73 m²)  
**Empty weight:** 29,500 lb (13,380 kg)  
**Loaded weight:** 52,500 lb (23,800 kg)  
**Powerplant:** 2 × General Electric F404-F1D2 turbofans, 10,600 lbf (48.0 kN) each  
**Maximum speed:** Mach 0.92 (617 mph, 993 km/h)  
**Cruise speed:** Mach 0.92  
**Range:** 930 NM (1720 km)  
**Service ceiling:** 45,000 ft (13,716 m)  
**Wing loading:** 65 lb/ft² (330 kg/m²)  
**Thrust/weight:** 0.40



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Master Sgt. Kim Frey  
**Two specially painted F-117 Nighthawks fly on one of their last missions. The F-117s were retired March 11 in a farewell ceremony at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Brian Ferguson  
**Twenty-five F-117 Nighthawks line up before takeoff from Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. The planes were part of a formation celebrating the Nighthawk's 25th anniversary and 250,000 flying hour. The 25 aircraft were separated into five groups and flew over the base to end the celebration ceremony.**





U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert  
**The Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard carries a training casket during their open house Sept. 21, 2018, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. The honor guard's primary mission is to provide military honors to fallen service members, but they also perform at official Air Force ceremonies and parades.**



**Members of the Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard fire blank rounds during their open house Sept. 21, 2018, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. The firing party fires off a three-round volley, commonly, but incorrectly, referred to as a 21-gun salute, during a retiree funeral.**

# Columbus AFB Honor Guard honors past, present service members

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Honor Guard was formed in 1948 with one mission, to represent Airmen to the American public and the world. The vision of the Air Force Honor Guard is to ensure a legacy of Airmen and service members who promote the mission, protect the standards, perfect the image and preserve the heritage of the organization.

The Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard is responsible for performing at military funerals, official Air Force ceremonies and events. Their area of responsibilities covers 72 counties spanning 40,000 square miles. The members have a great sense of pride in the work they do.

"It means a lot to be a member of this team," said Tech. Sgt. Crayton Felder, NCO in charge of Columbus AFB Honor Guard. "I am delivering the Air Force and (commander and chief) message every time we go out to the loved one's and we're representing the face of the Air Force during a grieving time for certain individuals that have been lost from our past heritage."

There are several different roles ceremonial guardsmen perform during official ceremonies, funerals and parades. Each member must be trained and maintain proficiency to perform each role.

"We do training from flag folding, funeral details and weapons training," Felder said. "It's important to train, because we represent the Air Force to the community, therefore we need to be proficient and professional at all times."

The most common role in Honor Guard is the posting of the colors. This role is performed at official Air Force ceremonies on Columbus AFB. Before each ceremony begins, four ceremonial guardsmen (two bearing rifles, one holding the American flag, one holding the Air Force flag) march slowly to the front of the venue. They post the colors by dropping the Air Force flag to a 45-degree angle and calling the rifle-bearing ceremonial guardsmen to attention. At this time, the "Star-Spangled Banner" is played. Once the anthem has completed, the ceremonial guardsmen then march out of the room.

A critical piece Honor Guard plays is providing military honors to fallen service members. Once again, these ceremonies require different roles to perform perfectly. The first role for funerals is the body bearers. They are entrusted to carry the casket or urn of the deceased service member perfect-

*"It means a lot to be a member of this team," said Tech. Sgt. Crayton Felder, NCO in charge of Columbus AFB Honor Guard. "I am delivering the Air Force and (commander and chief) message every time we go out to the loved one's and we're representing the face of the Air Force during a grieving time for certain individuals that have been lost from our past heritage."*

ly level and show no signs of strain, to their resting place. After the fallen service member has been brought to their gravesite, the American flag is then lifted off the casket/urn while the fallen service member is lowered into their grave. The ceremonial guardsmen then fold the flag and present it to the next-of-kin and recite: "On behalf of the President of the U.S., the U.S. Air Force, and a grateful nation, please accept this flag as a symbol of our appreciation for your loved one's honorable and faithful service."

Another role during a funeral is the firing party. Each member fires blank rounds using modified M-14s. The number of ceremonial guardsmen depends of the type of funeral. A retiree funeral consists of a three-member team that fires a three-round volley (commonly, but incorrectly, called the 21-gun salute).

The last role during a funeral is the bugle player. Their job is to play "taps" while the service member is being lowered to their final resting place.

It takes countless hours of practice to ensure each ceremony is performed flawlessly. That is one of the reasons the Columbus AFB Honor Guard doesn't pick just anyone to become a member. For many of the members, that is something they take pride in.

"Honor Guard is more than just getting out of your job for an extended amount of time," said Senior Airman Hayden Harrison, Columbus AFB Honor Guard ceremonial guardsmen. "We work extra hard to ensure that we represent our base and the Air Force, because for some people, this will be the last interaction with Airmen they will ever have."



**Airman 1st Class Robert Carrico, Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard ceremonial guardsman, demonstrates the proper way to fold an American flag Sept. 21, 2018, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. During a military funeral, the American flag is folded into a triangle and presented to the next-of-kin as a symbol of appreciation for the fallen service member's service to their country.**



**Tech. Sgt. Janessa Ebbert, former Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard NCO in charge, presents an American flag to Col. Gary Hayward, 14th Mission Support Group commander, during a funeral demonstration Sept. 21, 2018, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. The Honor Guard hosted an open house to teach Airmen and base leadership that the ceremonial guardsmen work hard to represent the Air Force and Columbus AFB.**