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“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

February 9, 2018

Vol. 42, Issue 5

Weather

| | |
|--|--|
| Friday P.M. Rain High 64°F Low 51°F | Saturday Rain High 67°F Low 48°F |
| Sunday A.M. Rain High 61°F Low 44°F | Monday Partly Cloudy High 63°F Low 48°F |
| Forecast provided by the 14 th OSS Weather Flight | |

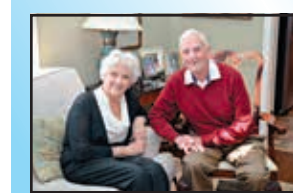
News Briefs

SUPT Class 18-05 Graduation
Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-05 graduates at 10 a.m., Feb. 16 at the Kaye Auditorium. The highlighted squadron for the graduation will be the 14th Communications Squadron.

President's Day Holiday
Columbus Air Force Base will observe President's Day Feb. 19. Most base offices will be closed.

SUPT 18-06 Assignment Night
Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-06 will have assignment night at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature 8
Col. Carlyle “Smitty” Harris is highlighted in this week’s feature.



Natasha Sykes, 14th Force Support Squadron Child Development Center direct care staff, reads to children Feb. 5, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Staff at the Columbus CDC take time to ensure children are engaged and interactive with the curriculum taught.

CAFB Child Development Center earns 5-star accreditation

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
The Child Development Center on Columbus Air Force Base recently earned a five-star accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

The CDC is required by the Air Force to be accredited by a civilian childcare organization. NAEYC is a professional membership organization that works to promote high-quality early learning for all young children.

See CDC, Page 3

| COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|----------|-------|--------|
| PHASE II | | | | PHASE III | | | | IFF | | | | WING SORTIE BOARD | | | |
| Squadron | Senior Class | Squadron Overall | Track Select | Squadron | Senior Class | Squadron Overall | Graduation | Squadron | Senior Class | Squadron Overall | Graduation | Aircraft | Required | Flown | Annual |
| 37th (18-13) | -5.41 days | -9.67 days | Feb. 9 | 48th (18-05) | 1.80 days | 1.14 days | Feb. 16 | 49th (18-EBC) | -4.50 days | -0.23 days | Mar. 2 | T-6 | 553 | 0 | 10,235 |
| 41st (18-14) | -11.86 days | -11.42 days | Mar. 7 | 50th (18-05) | 0.88 days | -1.98 days | Feb. 16 | | | | | T-1 | 185 | 166 | 2,842 |
| * Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling. | | | | | | | | | | | | T-38 | 202 | 206 | 4,071 |
| Maj. Gen. James Scanlan, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Florida, is the guest speaker for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-05's graduation at 10 a.m. Feb. 16 in the Kaye Auditorium. | | | | | | | | | | | | IFF | 96 | 78 | 1,527 |

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14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 31 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.

Tax Center Hours

The Columbus Air Force Base Tax Center will be open Feb. 13-April 6 to prepare taxes for retirees, active-duty military, and their dependents. Hours are from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and from noon-5 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays.

The following are issues that fall outside of the scope of our tax center:

- Net operating loss (current year or carryforward)
- Self-employment income not shown on Form 1099
- Self-employment expenses in the form of payments to employees/independent contractors
- Home office expenses
- Airbnb income
- Extensive investment income
- Health savings accounts
- Returns for 2016 or amended returns

To schedule an appointment, please call the Columbus AFB legal office at Comm. 662-434-7030.

Volunteers needed for tax season

The 14th Flying Training Wing Legal Office is seeking volunteers for 2017 tax season, starting in February 2018. Accounting experience is a plus, but is not a requirement. Childcare fees may be eligible for reimbursement. Please contact Capt. Casey Keppler or Senior Airman Anna Miller at 742-7030 for more information or with any questions.

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat/Sun | Long Range Events |
|---|--|-----------------------|--|---|---------|---|
| 12 | 13 SUPT Class 19-05 Pilot Partner Welcome, 6 p.m. @ Zachary's | 14 Valentine's Day | 15 Daedalian's Meeting Lafayette JROTC Tour, 11 a.m. | 16 SUPT Class 18-05 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye | 17/18 | Feb. 28: Enlisted Promotions Mar. 2: Dorm Dinner Mar. 6: Wing Newcomers Mar. 8: Daedalian's Meeting Mar. 9: SUPT Class 18-06 Graduation Mar. 9: Sen. Cochran Staffer Visit Mar. 17: CGOC Beer Garden Mar. 22: Hearts Apart Mar. 23: SUPT Class 18-07's Assignment Night Mar. 24: Easter Egg Hunt and Youth Craft Show Mar. 26: Happy Irby Golf Tournament |
| 19 President's Day, most base offices closed | 20 | 21 | 22 Hearts Apart, 5 p.m. @ A&FRC | 23 SUPT Class 18-06's Assignment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Club | 24/25 | |

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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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.

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

VOTING

(Continued from page 14)

Post Card Application that can be used to register to vote, request an absentee ballot and submit a change of address to local election officials. During their reintegration brief, voting assistance representatives remind Airmen to change their address back to their home address to ensure they receive their absentee ballots at the correct location.

In addition to deployments, active-duty Airmen are also required to check into the centers when separating from the service or retiring.

"During each of these touch-points, we provide Airmen voting forms and an information sheet to make the voting process as easy and convenient as possible," Weakly said. "Our goal is to ensure our active-duty members and their families are fully informed and can exercise their right to vote."

Visit AFPC's Air Force Voting Assistance page or go to the Federal Voting Assistance Program's web site at <https://www.fvap.gov/> for more information.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers. Eligible individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following these instructions.

Air Force C-130s, Airmen deploy to Portugal for Real Thaw 18

Staff Sgt. Andrew Park
94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

MONTE REAL AIR BASE, Portugal — Approximately 50 Airmen and two C-130H3 Hercules assigned to the 94th Airlift Wing, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia, arrived at Monte Real Air Base, Portugal to participate in Real Thaw 18, a Portuguese-led exercise.

The annual two-week exercise includes armed forces from multiple nations participating in training missions aimed at merging and deploying different platforms toward a major objective, covering a vast range of activities including air-to-air and air-to-ground training, tactical air transport operations and close air support.

"It provides a unique training opportunity," said Maj. Richard Konopczynski, 700th Airlift Squadron deputy mission commander. "We get to work with our coalition partners. We have other C-130 units here from different countries, and we get to not only compare our techniques, but also work in a deployed environment."

This year's exercise included 1,500 participants and 35 aircraft from Spain, Denmark, Netherlands, France, Portugal and the U.S.

The exercise also goes beyond the scope of flying missions to include support roles such as communications, security forces, maintenance and intelligence. The scenarios will integrate daily realistic interoperability tasks in the air and on the ground between multinational units.

"We set up a scenario that resembles a very specific situation in the world," said Lt. Col. Joao Rosa, exercise coordinator and Portuguese air force fighter pilot. "We are simulating that we deployed a NATO force to a country. What we are going to do with all the types of aircraft we have, with all the army forces and navy forces, is to protect that small country."



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Park
Portuguese paratroopers board a C-130H3 Hercules at Monte Real Air Base, Portugal, Jan. 29, 2018. The Hercules, from Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., flew the paratroopers as part of exercise Real Thaw 18. Real Thaw 18 is an annual two-week exercise that invites armed forces from various countries to participate in training missions aimed at merging and deploying different platforms toward a major objective, covering a vast range of activities including air-to-air and air-to-ground training, tactical air transport operations and close air support.

"The goal is for participants to know each other on a more personal level to establish rapport and create lasting bonds," said Rosa. "The exercise brings everyone together as much as possible, whether it be flying, briefing or working together."

These relationships have real-world consequences with much of the warfighting effort involving a number of allied forces from different countries working together now and in future contingency operations.

"It's an opportunity to exercise a lot of our skills, tactics and procedures in a coalition environment," said Konopczynski.

Dobbins ARB is participating for the first time in the exercise, which will last from Jan. 29 to Feb. 9, 2018.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Feb. 10
Brantley Gilbert, an American country singer, songwriter and record producer, will be performing at the BancorpSouth Arena in Tupelo, Mississippi. Tickets are for sale online.

Feb. 11
The Mississippi State Bulldogs Women's Basketball team will face the Kentucky Wildcats 2 p.m. at the Humphrey Coliseum on campus in Starkville, Mississippi. Tickets are for sale online.

Feb. 16
The Columbus Arts Council presents GALA 2018, a Masquerade Ball honoring Trudy Gildea, at 5:30 p.m. in Trotter Convention Center in Columbus, Mississippi. Doors open at 5 p.m. with a silent auction from 5:30-7 p.m., live auction at 8 p.m. and a dance 9 p.m. Dress will be costumed attire with black tie, optional. Tickets are \$75 with VIP tables seating 8 available for \$650. Please purchase tickets by Thursday, February 8, at the Rosenzweig Arts Center.

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, how-

ever, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Miscellaneous

For sale: HP 11.6 inch touch screen 360 Convertible Notebook with high-speed Wi-Fi running Windows 10, Intel Pentium N2840 Dual Core Processor with a 32-gigabyte hard drive, webcam with integrated microphone plus numerous other features and programs. This is a blue colored notebook with all updates and Norton Security Deluxe installed. Excellent condition, asking \$195.00, call (662) 327-1205.

For sale: Lightly used Belkin N300

Wi-Fi router. Makes a great router for computer, tablet and smart phone connections. Router is in excellent condition, asking \$39, for more information, call (662) 327-1205.

For sale: LEM 779 meat grinder with No. 8 head, along with accessory kit. Brand-new condition. Asking \$200, call or text (662) 386-1408.

Transportation

For sale: 2005 Cadillac CTS, 3.6 liter V6 Engine. Two previous owners with 64,000 miles. White with white leather seats. Asking \$7,200, call (662) 244-586

Airmen save missing child, sharpen interoperability

Tech. Sgt. Nick Wilson
435th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

AGADEZ, Niger — Recently, an 822nd Expeditionary Base Defense Squadron Security Forces patrol team collaborated with local military members to rescue a two-year-old girl, after being notified by local villagers that she was lost near Nigerien Air Base 201.

“She simply wandered away from the village in the late evening hours,” said Chief Master Sgt. Rick A. Schlachter, 822nd EBDS Security Forces manager. “By village we’re literally talking mud and stick huts in the middle of the desert.”

The 822nd EBDS has complex and multi-layered duties in Africa. Sustaining positive relations with their host-nation partners is part of a unique mission that promotes regional stability and prosperity.

“Being available at the right time and the right place to help find their daughter was nothing short of a divine intervention,” said Lt. Col. Julia Jefferson, 822nd Expeditionary Base Defense Squadron commander. “We are so thankful for the opportunity to help the child make it home safely into her mother’s arms. That is what neighbors do for each other.”

The patrol team consisted of 14 security forces members, all of whom were prepared to assist, regardless of the situation.

“We all felt the urgency to help and we tried to put ourselves in the family’s shoes, so to speak, and use that emotion to put a search into action,” said Tech. Sgt. Douglas N. Spangler, 822nd EBDS Security Forces squad leader. “We have heard that a similar situation happened in the summer of 2017. However, the outcome was not as good... the child in that incident was found deceased.”

The patrol team’s linguist met with the villagers outside of the base, where they found evidence that could lead to the child’s whereabouts.

“The linguist was on patrol with security forces when we made contact with the locals,” Spangler said.

In the black of the night, hundreds of tiny footprints scattered throughout multiple directions across a span of roughly two miles.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua Dewberry

Tech Sgt. Douglas N. Spangler, 822nd Expeditionary Base Defense Squadron Security Forces squad leader, speaks to children from a nearby village outside of Air Base 201, Niger, Dec. 11, 2017. Spangler led a 13-member patrol team to find a missing two-year-old girl who was lost for six hours outside of Air Base 201.

“When we found the footprints, we knew we had a chance to find the missing girl,” Spangler explained. “The squad’s feelings toward the possibility of finding the missing girl was to ensure we did everything we could to help the parents; we were just trying to help people in a time of need.”

The locals took the patrol team to the last known location of the footprints, where an organized search began.

“Much of the credit for finding the tracks and staying on course goes to our linguist,” Spangler said. “Without his help and knowledge, we wouldn’t have been able to locate the girl as fast as we did, if at all.”

In addition to the host nation military members, more than 40 villagers from the local area accompanied the Airmen during the search.

“It’s nice to be able to count on the host nation to support their local communities during times like these,” Spangler said. “The support they provided helps portray a positive im-

age of the Forces Armées Nigeriennes to local nationals.”

The Airmen finally found the child after two hours of rum-maging through the night in sandy desert terrain. It was so dark that they could only use flashlights to search through hard packed sand, slate rock formations and gravel.

“Our first thoughts when finding the girl alive were feel-ings of joy and happiness, knowing that we were able to help the parents during their time of panic and need,” Spangler said.

Immediately, Spangler assessed the child for injuries, bites and wounds. The child appeared to be in good health when the team found her, but she was tired, scared and cold.

“She was dressed in just a T-Shirt and flip flops,” Spangler said. “When we found her, she was very dusty from the wind and appeared distraught.”

The temperature that night was somewhere around 50 de-grees Fahrenheit. Spangler wrapped the girl in a blanket to keep her warm and prevent hypothermia.

“The potential for hypothermia existed because the girl had been missing for six hours before she was found,” Span-gler said. “Fortunately, she sustained no injuries.”

Both parents shed tears when their daughter was returned.

“The parents stated, ‘the ultimate sign of friendship is dropping everything to help someone in need,’” Spangler said. “The villagers said they are very happy U.S. forces are in their country helping and they truly believe U.S. forces are here doing good things for the people in the local area.”

The Airmen not only showcased their capabilities that night, but also demonstrated the U.S. Air Force’s effective-ness in working alongside host nation security forces to build interoperability as a team.

“If you can rapidly locate a small child hidden by the cover of darkness somewhere within three kilometers of your base security zone, then you can identify and intercept any threat approaching your installation,” Schlachter said. “By quickly finding and returning the child to her village, the security team cemented a trust and goodwill that extends well beyond the base perimeter for years to come.”

CDC

(Continued from page 1)

This isn’t the first time the Columbus AFB CDC has had this kind of recognition. While the CDC has been around since June of 1964, 1992 was the start of accreditation reviews and the CDC here has been accredi-ted since their first review in 1993.

“We had to a process in which everything was evaluated from the program manage-ment to the classroom, participation and so on,” said Martha Mann, 14th Forces Support Squadron CDC Director. “We take the whole program and provide over 200 files of docu-mentation to the validator and also provide a program portfolio to NAEYC for a panel to review.”

According to the Columbus AFB Living website, the Columbus CDC has five unan-nounced inspections annually; these include fire, public health, safety, a multi-disciplinary team and an inspection by an Air Force team of highly trained child development inspec-tors who validate and make recommenda-tions for areas of improvement. The fire de-partment, public health and safety provide quarterly visits.

Children can be enrolled in the CDC



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

Ava, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Mia Johnson, 14th Force Support Squadron Logistics Man-ager, enjoys her time at the Child Development Center Feb. 5, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Children are taught basic social skills that will help them as they get older.

starting at six-weeks old and can stay en-rolled through age 5 or once they are enrolled

in kindergarten.

The staff at the Columbus AFB CDC work

to develop each child as they go through their early stages of life. Staff members read to the children, teach them songs and dances and help ensure that the children know how to socialize with other children.

“I enjoy working with children, watching them learn, seeing them grow and I also en-joy hearing [what the] parents [have to say] when they visit,” said Yvonne Covington, 14th FSS CDC Training Curriculum Special-ist.

Darlene Sander, also a CDC Training Cur-riculum Specialist, said that the connection between staff and children is very unique. She said they are involved with the children not only during the day, but also after they leave the CDC. The staff takes time to get to know the children and parents on personal levels to ensure the learning environment is more fun and interactive.

Looking forward, the Columbus CDC’s goal is to keep the quality care up, make the program more developmentally appropri-ate and to offer more activities and insight into every child. Mann said they will also be changing their curriculum to better match other military installations around the world, making it easier for the children and families that will eventually PCS.

14th FSS wins AETC Awards

Congratulations to the 14th Force Support Squadron for winning multiple Air Educa-tion and Training Command level awards. Wish them luck as they are now competing at the Air Force level.

- Major General Eugene L. Eubank Award: 14th FSS
- Commander Support Team Award: 14th FSS
- Lieutenant General Norm Lezy Award: Mr. Steven Huebner, 14th FSS
- Dr. Beverly L. Schmalzried Award: Ms. NaTarsha Shellman, 14th FSS

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 prob-lems 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. Ques-tions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.



Richard Salomon
Air Force’s Personnel Center
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RAN-DOLPH, Texas — Air Force officials recently released guidance that streamlines the orga-nizational structure and functions of the Air Force Voting Assistance Program.

A November 2017 Air Force guidance memorandum realigned the program under installation Airman and Family Readiness Centers, thereby eliminating voting assis-tance officers as an additional duty at Air Force units. The move is part of an Air Force-wide effort to reduce Airmen’s additional

duties so they can more effectively focus on their core missions.

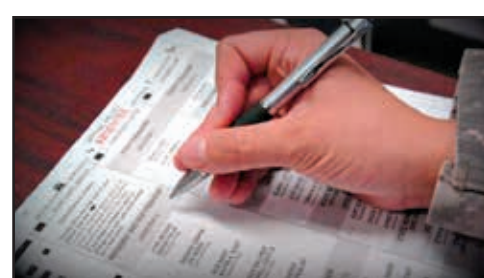
The Air Force Voting Assistance Program ensures Airmen, their eligible family mem-bers and overseas U.S. citizens are aware of their right to vote and have the necessary tools and resources to do so worldwide. Pro-gram representatives assist with voter regis-tration and absentee ballots, coordinate vot-ing awareness campaigns and answer various voting questions.

“Having the Voting Assistance Program knowledge base located at the Airman and Family Readiness Centers makes it more con-venient for Airmen to get the information they need since they already attend manda-

tory arrival and departure briefings there,” said Kelly Weakly, Air Force Voting Assis-tance Operations Program manager at the Air Force’s Personnel Center.

Airmen are also required to attend pre-and post-deployment briefings at their instal-lation Airman and Family Readiness Centers if they are deploying for six months or more. Before deploying, voting assistance officers remind Airmen to update their temporary address (deployed location) and obtain an absentee ballot in case there is an election while deployed.

Deploying Airmen also receive a Federal



U.S. Air Force courtesy photo

The Air Force Voting Assistance Program re-cently realigned under installation Airman and Family Readiness Centers. The move is part of an Air Force-wide effort to reduce Airmen’s additional duties so they can more effectively focus on their core missions.

See VOTING, Page 15

New Team BLAZE members learn about Columbus AFB



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

Chaplain (Maj.) Bradley Kimble, 14th Flying Training Wing Deputy Wing Chaplain, speaks at a Wing Newcomers Orientation brief Feb. 18, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The newcomers brief is a way to get familiar with all the different organizations on base and learn how Columbus AFB operates.

F-22 prepares for air show season at Columbus AFB



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Christopher Gross
Airmen watch as an F-22 Raptor, flown by Maj. Paul Lopez, flies by during an aerial demonstration Feb. 2, 2018, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Lopez is a member of Air Combat Command's F-22 Single Ship Demonstration Team at Joint Base Langley Eustis, Virginia.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
An F-22 Raptor, flown by Maj. Paul Lopez, flies by Airmen during an aerial demonstration Feb. 2, 2018, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Lopez performed aerial demonstrations the aircraft will not carry any ammunition and will open the bomb doors to show off the array of areal capabilities the airframe has.



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Christopher Gross
An F-22 Raptor, flown by Maj. Paul Lopez, flies over the flight line on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Feb. 2, 2018, during an aerial demonstration. Lopez is a member of Air Combat Command's F-22 Single Ship Demonstration Team at Joint Base Langley Eustis, Virginia. Lopez utilized the airspace at and around Columbus AFB as he prepared for the 2018 air show season.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
An F-22 Raptor, flown by Maj. Paul Lopez, flies over the flight line on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, Feb. 2, 2018, during an aerial demonstration. The F-22 has a maximum takeoff weight of 83,000 pounds. For public demonstrations the aircraft will not carry any ammunition and will open the bomb doors to show off the array of areal capabilities the airframe has.

Air Force Readiness Programs

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790.)

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 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, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Smooth Move

The next Smooth Move workshop is from 10-11 a.m. Feb. 13, in the A&FRC. This monthly venue provides information for relocating members and families. Here you'll learn what to expect before you move from agencies such as Traffic Management Office, Housing, Military Pay, Lodging, Tri-Care, School Liaison Officer and A&FRC. To register or for more information, please call the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

Heart Link

The next Heart Link is from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Feb. 21 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.

Hearts Apart

The next Hearts Apart is from 5-7 p.m. Feb. 22, in the A&FRC. 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.

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

This workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 26-March 2, at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. The Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Workshop has seminars on: transition, military occupational code cross-walk, financial planning, health benefits, Mis-



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
Members of Team BLAZE watch the Super Bowl LII coin flip Feb. 4, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Over 150 people were at the Columbus Club to watch the game, where the Philadelphia Eagles defeated the New England Patriots 41-33.

issippi Department of Employment Security, Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Department of Labor (TAP portion). Preseparation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance eight to 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register, call 434-2631.

Career Technical Training Track Workshop

The next Career Technical Training Track Workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. March 5-6 in the A&FRC. This workshop covers the importance and how to go about obtaining skills required to make better decisions about your technical goals. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m. March 6 at the Columbus Club. The orientation is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The next Military Life Cycle is from 1-2 p.m. March 6 VA contractors explain to service members (whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran) what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Federal USAJobs Workshop

This workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. March 7, This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications and job search, using USAJobs. Call 434-2790 to register.

Super Bowl party

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

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

This workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. May 10-11. The entrepreneurship workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register and more information call 434-2790.

Linked-In Workshop

The Linked-In workshop is from 2-5 p.m. May. 14-15. This workshop will teach you how to establish and use a Linked-In account. To register and more information, please call 434-2790.

Bundles of Joy

The next Bundles of Joy workshop is scheduled for 1-3:30 p.m. May 17, at the A&FRC. This program is designed for active duty Air Force members and/or their spouses who are pregnant or have a child 4 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.

Employment Workshop

An employment workshop on local and base employment opportunities is held every Wednesday, 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.

Sponsorship Training

An electronic version of sponsorship training called eSponsorship Application & Training (eSAT) is now available. It can be found on the Military Installations homepage military-installations.dod.mil, under "Are You A Sponsor?" For additional information, please contact the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

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.

Survivor Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan. As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling your Mary Chambers, SBP Counselor, at (662) 434-2720.

Chapel Schedule

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

Catholic Community

Sundays:
3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex) Start date TBA
4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. – Mass
Fellowship Dinner after Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month
Tuesdays:
11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass
Wednesdays:
11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

Protestant Community

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

Eccumenical services

Wednesdays:
6 p.m. – AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade
6 p.m. – Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John
6 p.m. – Youth Group

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events
Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbliving, Instagram at columbus_afb_living, or visit our website at www.columbusafbliving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact 434-2337.

Lunch Buffets at the Overrun
Lunch buffets are back beginning Feb. 6. Enjoy daily lunch buffets Tuesday thru Friday at the Columbus Club. Daily buffets include: Tuesday–taco and nacho \$9, Wednesday–chicken wings and pasta \$11, Thursday–southern style \$11 and Friday-fried catfish \$11. Club members receive a \$2 discount. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Tasty Thursday
Stop by and grab lunch from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. on Thursdays at the 14th Operations Group area between buildings 268 and 230! Enjoy super cheeseburger and kettle chips Feb. 15; buffalo-infused grilled chicken wings with Jack Daniels Barbeque Beans Feb. 22. Cost is \$6 for members and \$8 for non-members. In the event of inclement weather, this event will be moved to the Columbus Club. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Monster Jam Tickets
Monstrous savings for Columbus Air Force Base families and personnel! Purchase your tickets at Information, Ticket and Travel for the March 3 event at 1 p.m. or 7 p.m. Pit Party tickets available for \$10 each and require the purchase of a 1 p.m. event ticket. Event held at the BancorpSouth Arena in Tupelo, Mississippi, and tickets must be purchased no later than Feb. 9. For more information, contact 434-7861.

Youth Valentine's Dance
The Youth Center is offering a Youth Valentine's Dance from 6 p.m.–10 p.m. Feb. 10. Cost is \$10 per person. For ages 9–18 years old. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Sweetheart's Dinner
The Columbus Club is offering a Sweetheart's Dinner Feb. 14. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner served at 6:45 p.m. Dinner options include choice of grilled Portobello mushroom, grilled chicken breast or grilled center cut sirloin. Each option includes two jumbo shrimp skewers, mashed potatoes, roasted asparagus, salad, dessert table and one bottle of wine. RSVP no later than Feb. 9. Cost is \$60 per couple. For more information, contact 434-2489.

BLAZE Book Club
Stop by the Base Library and check out “Winter Garden” by Kristin Hannah. The BLAZE Book Club meeting is at 6 p.m. Feb. 15 at the BLAZE Commons to discuss this book. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Storytime with Mother Goose
Special guest, Mother Goose, will attend Storytime at the Base Library at 11 a.m. Feb. 16. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Mardi Gras at the Columbus Club
Celebrate Mardi Gras at the Columbus Club from



7 p.m.-midnight Feb. 24. The cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members. Menu includes red beans and rice, gumbo with rice and king cake. Must be 18 years old to attend. Drink specials available. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Baseball, Tee Ball and Girls Softball Registration
Registration begins Feb. 26 for youth 3–18 years of age. The cost is \$35 for ages 3–4 years and \$40 for ages 5–18 years. Register by March 2 and save \$5 per registration. Volunteer coaches needed. Sports physical required. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Tennis Registration
Registration begins Feb. 26 for youth 8–18 years of age. The cost is \$40 per participant. Register by March 2 and save \$5 per registration. Volunteer coaches needed. Sports physical required. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Game Night at the Library
The Base Library is offering a free game night at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of each month. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Horse Boarding Available
The Columbus Air Force Base Riding Stables usually has stall space available. For pricing and more information, contact Outdoor Recreation at 434-2505.

Free Mango Languages
Learn a new language today! Free Mango Languages available at the Base Library; real-life conversations in over 70 languages. For more information, contact 434-2934.

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

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

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

Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair
Outdoor Recreation is now offering lawn mower repair and self-help bicycle repair. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed
Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? Arts & Crafts is looking for craft instructors. For more information, contact 434-7836.

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

RV Storage Lot
Don't clutter your home space, park with us. Outdoor Recreation offers a great place to store your RV year around. You will have 24-hour access and can pay monthly or yearly. For more information, call 434-2505.

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

Fitness on Request
The Fitness Center offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with 119 different classes on the Fitness on Request system. For more information, call 434-2772.

Space A Lodging
The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at 434-2548.

Ride in Style
Information Tickets and Travel offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. For more information, contact 434-7861.

Scanlan to speak at SUPT Class 18-05 graduation

Maj. Gen. James P. Scanlan, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, Air Force Special Operations Command, at Hurlburt Field, Florida, will be the guest speaker at Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 18-05's graduation at 10 a.m. Feb. 16 at the Kaye Auditorium. As the Air Force component of United States Special Operations Command, AFSOC provides Air Force special operations forces for worldwide deployment and assignment to unified combatant commanders with approximately 19,500 active-duty, Reserve, Air National Guard and civilian professionals.



General Scanlan was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps at Villanova University in 1985. Following Basic Naval Flight Officer Training and Joint Undergraduate Navigator Training he was designated a Naval Flight Officer in August 1986. Following one operational squadron tour flying the EC-130Q and one staff tour, he was selected for pilot training. Upon completion of undergraduate pilot training, he was designated a Naval Aviator in February 1993. After two E-6A operational squadron tours and a wing tour, he separated from active duty in November 1999, and entered the Naval Reserve. In May 2000, he was commissioned as a major in the Air Force Reserve and completed KC-10 Initial Qualification Training. His operational assignments include flight commander, squadron commander, deputy operations group commander and wing commander. Prior to his current position, the general was the Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey.

EDUCATION
1985 Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting, Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania
1996 Aviation Safety Officer Course, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California
2004 Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama
2008 Masters of Business Administration, Western Governors University, Salt Lake City, Utah
2009 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Senior Reserve Officers Course, Oberammergau, Germany
2010 Senior Executive Fellows Program, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, Massachusetts
2010 Reserve Component National Security Course, National Defense University, Washington, D.C.
2010 NATO Senior Officer Policy Course, NATO School, Oberammergau, Germany
2011 Advanced Joint Professional Military Education, Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia

2016 Capstone General and Flag Officer Course, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS

- June 1985 - February 1986, Student, Basic Naval Flight Officer Training, Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida
- March 1986 - August 1986, Student, Joint Undergraduate Navigator Training, Mather AFB, California
- January 1987 - March 1990, EC-130Q Navigator and Airborne Communications Officer, Legal Officer, Communication Security Custodian, Navigator and ACO Instructor and Evaluator, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Three, Naval Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii
- April 1990 - December 1991, Assignment Officer, Bureau of Naval Personnel, Arlington, Virginia
- January 1992 - February 1993, Student, Primary, Intermediate and Advanced Pilot Training, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas
- February 1993 - June 1996, E-6A Instructor Pilot and Evaluator, Aircraft Division Officer, Assistant Maintenance Officer, Safety Officer, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Three, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma
- July 1996 - August 1997, TC-18F Instructor Pilot, Current Operations Officer then Deputy for Operations, Strategic Communications Wing One, Tinker AFB, Okla.
- September 1997 - January 1999, Training Officer, Operations Officer, E-6A Instructor Pilot and Evaluator, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Four, Tinker AFB, Okla.
- February 1999 - November 1999, E-6A/B & TC-18F Instructor Pilot, Strategic Communications Wing One, Tinker AFB, Okla.
- December 1999 - May 2000, Seventh Fleet Reserve Detachment 111, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas.

- May 2000 - October 2002, KC-10 Instructor Pilot, Flight Commander, 78th Air Refueling Squadron, McGuire AFB, N.J.
- October 2002 - May 2003, Deputy Commander, 514th Operations Group, McGuire AFB, N.J.
- May 2003 - April 2006, Commander, 76th Air Refueling Squadron, McGuire AFB, N.J.
- April 2006 - September 2006, Special Assistant to the Wing Commander, 514th Air Mobility Wing, McGuire AFB, N.J.
- October 2006 - October 2009, Senior IMA to the Director of Plans and Policy, Headquarters, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb. (October 2008 - March 2009, Chief of the Joint Operations Center, Headquarters U.S. Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla.)
- October 2009 - July 2012, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, 19th Air Force, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas (December 2010 - April 2011, Chief of the Joint Operations Center, Headquarters U.S. Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla.)
- July 2012 - October 2012, Mobilization Assistant to the Director of Plans, Programs, Requirements and As-

sessments, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, JB San Antonio, Texas

18. October 2012 - July 2013, Deputy for Inaugural Support, Joint Task Force-National Capital Region, Washington, D.C.

19. July 2013 - June 2015, Commander, 440th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, Pope Field, N.C.

20. July 2015 - January 2017, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center, JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.

21. February 2017 – present, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

- October 2006 - October 2009, Senior Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) to the Director of Plans and Policy, Headquarters, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb., as a colonel
- October 2008 - March 2009, Chief of the Joint Operations Center, Headquarters U.S. Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla., as a colonel
- December 2010 - April 2011, Chief of the Joint Operations Center, Headquarters U.S. Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla., as a colonel
- October 2012 - April 2013, Deputy for Inaugural Support, Joint Task Force-National Capital Region, Washington, D.C., as a brigadier general

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: command pilot
Flight Hours: more than 7,000
Aircraft Flown: T-34C, T-43A, T-44A, C-130F/G, EC-130Q, C-130H2, E-6A/B, TC-18, KC-10A, T-1A, T-6A, T-38C

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster
Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
Air Medal
Joint Service Commendation Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal
Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two gold stars
Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Ensign May 22, 1985
Lieutenant junior grade May 22, 1987
Lieutenant June 1, 1989
Lieutenant Commander/Major, August 1, 1995
Lieutenant Colonel September 1, 2000
Colonel May 1, 2006
Brigadier General February 17, 2012
Major General December 7, 2016
(Current as of February 2017)

Not Just the Heroes of February

Rufus Ward
Retired lawyer and
local historian

February is designated as Black History Month and Black history is in reality American history. The role of Blacks in the exploration and settlement of the Tombigbee River Valley is so important and so significant it should be celebrated every month not just February. It began with the earliest European exploration, continued through colonial times, the earliest days of the town of Columbus and into today.

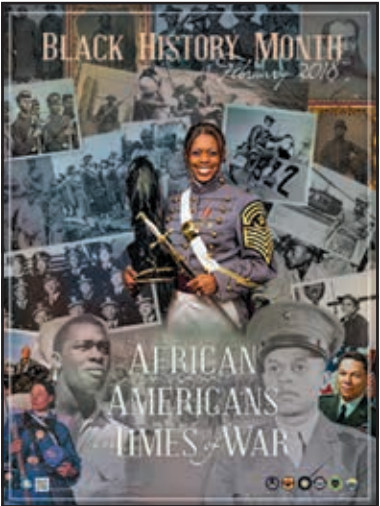
When Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto's expedition passed through this area in 1540-1541, seven or eight free Blacks served with him. The French military forces operating along the Tombigbee out of Mobile in 1736 included a company of Black soldiers who were under the command of Simon, a free Black French officer. In an ill-fated attack against the Chickasaw village of Ackia (at present day Tupelo), the French were soundly defeated. It appears that Simon was one of the few French heroes of the battle.

During the American Revolution, free Blacks served in Ameri-

an and Spanish forces fighting the British in the Mobile area. The first man wounded in the 1780 Spanish assault on the English Fort Charlotte in Mobile was a free Black man. Lorenzo Montero. Another free Black, commanded a cannon in a Spanish battery during the assault against the British. Unfortunately, the names of many of the Blacks who played an important role in our earliest history have been lost.

After American independence, the role of Blacks continued to expand. By 1791, William Cooper, a free Black contractor, was working and trading over the entire region from Baton Rouge to Mobile and up the Tombigbee. George Gaines in March 1814, transported supplies by flatboat from John Pitchlynn's at Plymouth Bluff to St. Stephens. He had a crew of five, including Dick, a Black man. Earlier in January, 1814, Gaines had sent a Choctaw Factory (trading post) boat up river from St. Stephens to Pitchlynn's. Two unnamed Black men were hired to row the boat. Between 1806 and 1816, 22 different Blacks were employed at various times by the U.S. Choctaw factory on the Tombigbee River.

Black men played a key role in



Not Just the Heroes of February, is one of countless stories that acknowledges the impact of African-American contributions in securing our Nation. To further the discovery of America's diversity, mark your calendars for Columbus Air First Base's first annual Diversity Day. The cultural celebration will be held at 10 a.m. July 19th at the Walker Center.

the founding of Columbus. The first keelboat for Tombigbee River trade built at the site of present day Columbus was said to have been built by two unnamed Black men in 1817. An interesting figure from the time of Columbus' founding was James Scott. During the mid-1820s, he sold lumber in Columbus and the 1822 through 1825 tax records indicate that no whites resided in his house thereby indicating that Scott was a free black man. Dr. B.C. Barry began construction of a frame house in Columbus on the southwest corner of what is now Market Street and College Street in 1824. He purchased his lumber from James Scott.

In 1842, Horace King, though a slave, was an engineer and bridge builder. He built several bridges in Lowndes County including the first bridge over the Tombigbee. That bridge came off of the top of the bluff at Fourth Avenue South. It was a wooden covered bridge 420-feet long and 65-feet high. King was eventually given his freedom by his owner and then, as a free

Columbus Sailor celebrates Black History Month in South China Sea



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kyle Carlstrom
Chief Fire Controlman Elanthesus Davis, from Columbus, Mississippi, speaks to Sailors during an African American/Black History Month celebration on the mess decks of the amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6). Bonhomme Richard is operating in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region as part of a regularly scheduled patrol and provides a rapid-response capability in the event of a regional contingency or natural disaster.

man, formed a partnership with his former owner.

Isaac and Thomas Williams appeared in Columbus not long after 1840. They were "free men of color" who were from South Carolina. Isaac was a carpenter/laborer and Thomas was a blacksmith. Their business prospered and about 1843 they built a fine house for their family. It still stands across the corner from the present day Trotter Convention Center and is known as the Williams-Gass House. From the city's earliest days, black carpenters and contractors, both free and slave, were the builders of Columbus. Their history and contributions show a very important but little understood or recognized part of local history.

During the early morning hours of March 1, 1858, the Steamboat Eliza Battle, while traveling from Columbus to Mobile, caught fire and burned on a freezing flooded Tombigbee River. It is considered the greatest disaster to occur on the Tombigbee claiming the lives of at least 29 persons. It was a night of horrors as passenger and crew faced either burning to death on the steamer or freezing to death in the

river. Newspaper accounts named the captain and officers of the boat and honored their courageously helping save many lives but they were not the only heroes. A slave serving as a cabin boy was cited for his "manly and noble conduct" but was only identified as the servant of Mrs. King. Possibly the most courageous person that night was identified only as a deckhand who was a slave. That unknown hero had obtained a wooden plank with which he could safely float away from the burning boat without soaking in the freezing water. However, he saw a cold scared lady who was at a loss as to how to escape. He got her, put her on his plank raft and pushed her dry and safe away from the conflagration, though knowing it would cost him his own life. Such are real heroes and such a sin to never know their names.

Unfortunately, the names of so many of the Blacks who played an important role in our earliest history have been lost. It is incumbent upon us to at least remember and celebrate their deeds. Such founders, builders and heroes should be celebrated whenever our history is told and not just in February.

Columbus AFB instructor pilots attend fighter competition

Capt. Joe Hollway
50th Flying Training Squadron

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. – From Jan. 29 to Feb. 2, Luke Air Force Base hosted the 2018 Haboob Havoc fighter pilot competition; six first assignment instructor pilots from the 50th Flying Training Squadron were in attendance, accompanied by their commander, Lt. Col. Nathan Smith.

These young instructors were invited to acquaint themselves with fighter aircraft operations and bridge the gap between undergraduate and graduate flying training.

The weeklong exercise showcased Air Force, Navy, Marine and international fighter pilots competing in air-to-air and air-to-ground competitions. Participating aircraft included the F-35A Lightning II, F-16 Fighting Falcon, A-10 Thunderbolt II, F/A-18 Super Hornet, and AV-8B Harrier II.

Events like Haboob Havoc provide opportunities for pilots

to hone their combat skills, build camaraderie, and revitalize the fighter pilot culture. Involving FAIPs and other UPT-instructors serves to motivate the next generation of flyers and foster ties between the fighter and trainer communities, which have become less intertwined in recent years.

"This is a chance for us to build culture and bonds inside of our organization," said Lt. Col. Jason Bartels, 62nd Fighter Squadron, F-35 pilot and organizer of this year's Haboob Havoc. "We want to make sure we are recruiting the very best and making sure our youngest instructor pilots at training bases are fired up about sending future aviators to fly our aircraft."

The Columbus FAIPs were given flights in D-model F-16s, attended an airpower demonstration at the Barry M. Goldwater Range, sat in on briefs and debriefs, and received tours of the F-16 and F-35 squadrons. The week culminated in a flying-award ceremony, concert and piano-burn.

"It really is a double-edged sword," said 1st Lt. Ryan May,

50th FTS. "Not only do we gain experience as potential fighter pilots ourselves, but we have an opportunity to pass what we've learned on to students currently going through UPT."

"One of the coolest aspects was reconnecting with our former students who are now on the cusp of being wingmen in combat units," said 1st Lt. Brett Machen, 50th FTS IP. "Less than a year ago they were learning the basics back at Columbus."

The F-16 rides were the unanimous highlight of the trip for the FAIPs. Each pilot took to the Arizona skies to execute one of many unique missions of the multi-role fighter. These ranged from surface attack to basic fighter maneuvers against a variety of adversaries.

"The Fighting Falcon is an awesome aircraft," said 1st Lt. Taylor Skrobot, 50th FTS IP. "It was great to see it in action."

The 50th FTS would like to thank the women and men of the 56th Fighter Wing for their incredible hospitality.

VIEWPOINT

The man in the arena

Chief Master Sgt. Bradley Reilly
14th Operations Group
Superintendent

I want to provide you an opportunity to come to terms with your life, your career and your service. I want, for your own self-worth, and for the future of this great institution, to save your military soul. I want you to decide today, and until your last day wearing the cloth of our nation, if you are going to stand in the arena and be a doer of deeds — or just be another faceless critic jeering incessantly from the side.

On April 23, 1910, Theodore Roosevelt gave what would become one of the most widely quoted speeches of his career. Roosevelt delivered a speech called "Citizenship in a Republic," which, among some, would come to be known as "The Man in the Arena," he said:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but

who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Are you a critic, or are you a doer of deeds?

Being a critic is fairly easy work. From the security of the sidelines it's so easy to simplify the efforts of others, jeer the unpopular, laugh at failure and bluster on about how much better you would do if you were to go in there. More, as a critic, you don't really need to know much about the fight going on in the arena, you actually can get away with knowing nothing at all! We live in a time where, without knowledge, understanding or credibility, anyone with an opinion and access to a handheld device can anonymously provide vast quantities of uninformed, undesired and unhelpful criticism to those striving valiantly to make a difference. A critic risks nothing, fails infrequently and in the end, switching when it becomes convenient, always seems to land on the popular side of the opinion. As a critic, it's hard to get blamed for doing anything wrong — chiefly because you do very

What matters is what you do. Not what you say you will do tomorrow, not what you thought about doing yesterday, not what you might do one day when it is more convenient — but what you do today: for your people, the mission, the Air Force, and the Nation.

little.

Standing in the arena on the other hand is tough, thankless work. There is not always a clear end to your strife, nor a clear victory to be won. You must be willing to divest of your own self-interest and embrace the chaos and the quagmire, knowing that the machine only moves forward with the efforts of the few. There is danger and sacrifice in the arena, and careers are made or broken striving valiantly. But without risk, there is no valor. There is no better place in life than to stand, with great enthusiasm and great devotion, than in the arena. To share the dust and the sweat and the blood, to feel the depths of defeat and then rise again to the triumphs of high achievement. Better, to do it amongst other champions, brothers and sisters in service, which through the fight stand undauntedly by your side.

What matters is what you do. Not what you say you will do tomorrow, not what you thought about doing yesterday, not what you might do one day when it is more convenient

— but what you do today: for your people, the mission, the Air Force, and the Nation.

Get in the arena; get some skin in the game.

Stop riding the sidelines of life. Quit dabbling with military service and serve. Now and for the rest of your career be an "all in" leader. Invest in yourself and your career, be more critical of your deeds and stop worrying about what everyone else is doing. Invest in the lives and careers of others, strive to make champions of the Airmen you serve with and lead. Invest in the greater organization, be present, be visible and be relevant.

I promise you that you will find more satisfaction from living one day in the arena, victory or defeat, than a life spent standing on the side. And if you fail, fail daring greatly — then get back up, dust yourself off, and get back in the fight.

"So that your place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."



Courtesy photo

A 1915 photo of the crewmen on a Tombigbee/Alabama River steamboat. As early as 1814, Blacks, both freed and enslaved, served on Upper Tombigbee flatboats, keelboats and later steamboats. Two black crewmen were heroes of the Steamboat Eliza Battle disaster in 1858.

BLAZE Hangar Tails: KC-10 Extender

Mission

The KC-10 Extender is an Air Mobility Command advanced tanker and cargo aircraft designed to provide increased global mobility for U.S. armed forces. Although the KC-10's primary mission is aerial refueling, it can combine the tasks of a tanker and cargo aircraft by refueling fighters and simultaneously carry the fighter support personnel and equipment on overseas deployments. The KC-10 is also capable of transporting litter and ambulatory patients using patient support pallets during aeromedical evacuations.

Features

The KC-10 can transport up to 75 people and nearly 170,000 pounds (76,560 kilograms) of cargo a distance of about 4,400 miles (7,040 kilometers) unrefueled. In addition to the three main DC-10 wing fuel tanks, the KC-10 has three large fuel tanks under the cargo floor, one under the forward lower cargo compartment, one in the center wing area and one under the rear compartment. Combined, the capacity of the six tanks carries more than 356,000 pounds (160,200 kilograms) of fuel - almost twice as much as the KC-135 Stratotanker.



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Heather Redman
A KC-10 Extender, from Travis Air Force Base, California, prepares for landing at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Oct. 30, 2017. Using either an advanced aerial refueling boom, or a hose and drogue centerline refueling system, the KC-10 can refuel a wide variety of U.S. and allied military aircraft within the same mission.

Using either an advanced aerial refueling boom, or a hose and drogue centerline refueling system, the KC-10 can refuel a wide variety of U.S. and allied military aircraft within the same mission. The aircraft is equipped with lighting for night operations.

The KC-10's boom operator controls refueling operations through a digital, fly-by wire system. Sitting in the rear of the aircraft, the operator can see the receiver aircraft through a wide window. During boom refueling operations, fuel is transferred to the receiver at a maximum rate of 1,100 gallons (4,180 liters) per minute; the hose and drogue refueling maximum rate is 470 gallons (1,786 liters) per minute. The automatic load alleviation and independent disconnect systems greatly enhance safety and facilitate air refueling. The KC-10 can be air-refueled by a KC-135 or another KC-10A to increase its delivery range.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Aerial tanker and transport
Contractor: The Boeing Company
Power Plant: Three General Electric CF6-50C2 turbofans
Thrust: 52,500 pounds, each engine

Length: 181 feet, 7 inches (54.4 meters)
Height: 58 feet, 1 inch (17.4 meters)
Wingspan: 165 feet, 4.5 inches (50 meters)
Speed: 619 mph (Mach 0.825)
Ceiling: 42,000 feet (12,727 meters)
Maximum Takeoff Weight: 590,000 pounds (265,500 kilograms)
Range: 4,400 miles (3,800 nautical miles) with cargo; 11,500 miles (10,000 nautical miles) without cargo
Maximum Cargo Payload: 170,000 pounds (76,560 kilograms)
Pallet Positions: 27
Maximum Fuel Load: 356,000 pounds (160,200 kilograms)
Crew: Four (pilot, co-pilot, flight engineer and boom operator) Certain missions may require additional crew members. In aeromedical evacuation missions, a basic crew of five (two flight nurses and three medical technicians) is added. Medical crew may be altered as required.
Unit Cost: \$88.4 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars)
Date Deployed: March 1981
Inventory: Active force, 59; Air National Guard, 0; Air Force Reserve, 0



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen
Lt. Col. Jarett J. Mazza, 76th Air Refueling Squadron KC-10 Extender pilot, 514th Air Mobility Wing, maneuvers a KC-10 in to be refueled by another KC-10 over the Atlantic Ocean Oct. 14, 2017. The KC-10 is an Air Mobility Command advanced tanker and cargo aircraft designed to provide increased global mobility for U.S. Armed Forces and is assigned to the 305th Air Mobility Wing and is maintained and flown by the 514th Air Mobility Wing, Air Force Reserve Command and the 305th.



Medical Corner

In Flight Wellness Weekly

Health Promotion
Air Force Medical Service

Basic Injury Prevention Tips

For any individual who is physically active, there is a possibility of sustaining an injury. While some injuries, such as an ankle sprain or fracture, are difficult to prevent, many other injuries are preventable. By following a few simple guidelines, injuries such as muscle strains, tendonitis and overuse injuries can be reduced. Every workout must begin with a warm-up and end with a cool-down. A warm-up is necessary to prepare the body for exercise by increasing heart rate and blood flow to working muscles. The warm-up should start slow and easy and consist of a general cardiovascular exercise such as walking, jogging or biking. The goal is to break a sweat. After five to 10 minutes, the warm-up should focus on muscles and movements more specific to the exercise activity planned. Creating a smooth transition from the warm-up to a specific activity is a great way to prevent injuries. For example, a soccer player could pass, dribble and shoot a ball; a weight-lifter could lift light weights before moving onto greater resistance.

Stretch, Warm-Up, Cool Down

Flexibility is absolutely a part of every good warm-up. Once the muscles are warm, they become more elastic and are ready to be stretched. Whether you choose to perform static stretches (by holding each position for 10-30 seconds) or perform dynamic stretches (by moving the body through a functional range of motion) flexibility prepares the muscles, tendons and joints for work by allowing them to move freely through a full active range of motion. The more prepared the body is, the less likely it is to get injured.

An area that often gets ignored is the cool-down after activity. Just as the warm-up prepares the body for work, the cool down brings it back to its normal state. Time spent performing five to 10 minutes of low-intensity cardiovascular activity followed by stretching immediately after the workout will decrease muscle

soreness and aid in recovery, both helping to prepare the body for the next workout.

Create A Routine

Start slow. Most people often jump right into a workout and try to do too much too fast, creating excessive muscle soreness and tightness. Proper progression is the key to preventing injuries. Slowly increase the amount of time of each workout, the intensity of the workout and the resistance of the weights. A five per-cent increase as the exercise becomes too easy is a safe progression. Exercise at a level that is appropriate for your age and your fitness level. A young athlete competing with older children may not be as physically strong, predisposing them to injury. The same can be true for a weekend warrior athlete who jumps into a game with athletes who have trained throughout the week.

If equipment is involved in your exercise program, take the time to ensure you have the proper equipment, that it fits correctly and that it meets safety standards. Too often, old, faulty or imp-properly fitted equipment, such as footwear, mouth guards, helmets, goggles or shin pads, can cause injuries.

Getting Enough Sleep & Rest and Eating The Right Stuff

Rest is a critical component to any good workout routine and time spent allowing the body to recover is a great way to prevent injuries. A rest day must occur at least one to two times per week. Even small breaks during a workout are sometimes required to get the most out of the workout and prevent injuries.

A healthy, well-balanced diet can aid in injury prevention as well. A poor diet can lead to muscle weakness, decreased muscle strength and endurance. Equally important is maintain-in hydration throughout the day, during and after your workout. A body with adequate fuel (food and water) will stay sharp and keep moving at the intensity you desire.



Cycle safe, wear a helmet



A personal message from your health promotion Health Myth Busting Team

Dear Health Myth Busters,

I've heard the saying "No pain, no gain." I don't consider myself an exercise buff but I do work out on a regular basis and have "pushed through the pain" to achieve some gains in both muscle and tone. I have read hundreds of articles on athletes who have overcome their injuries and become the best of the best despite their previous physical set-backs. How accurate is the saying "no pain no gain?"

Sincerely,
Pain & Gain

Dear Pain & Gain,

I am glad that you have people that inspire you to be the best, but the old mantra of "no pain, no gain" is not always true. There is a reason we feel pain. Pain is our body's way of warning us. Warning us that there is a problem and that something isn't right. Push through the pain and you will simply exacerbate the problem, likely leading yourself right to an injury that will sideline you from your training. Doesn't seem like a gain, does it?

Training around injuries can be useful and even necessary for competitive athletes. Training through pain, however, isn't a great idea before an injury and it's a horrible idea once a tissue has been damaged. Pain is the body's warning sign, and pushing through it will lead to dysfunctional motor patterns and possibly even chronic pain that lingers after the injury is healed. If you've developed this dysfunctional way of moving it will lead to further pain and injury down the road. A better solution is to distinguish necessary discomfort from harmful pain. For example, if you are working to build strength and endurance in your legs with a squat workout, you may experience some burning in your muscles during exercise. That burn is the lactic acid moving out of the muscles and the feeling should go away 30 seconds to one minute after you stop exercising. This is the acceptable kind of pain that could be considered necessary discomfort. If you are experiencing prolonged soreness or pain, especially joint pain, after workouts, that's a good warning sign of overdoing workouts. Another important thing to remember is recovery, which can be done through rest, or less intensity and repetitions, which is recommended. Recovery time is essential for injury prevention when working out consistently. Without rest and recovery, the body eventually becomes overloaded and fatigued. Rest days don't necessarily mean you have to be sedentary, but reduce your usual workout to a yoga session, light swim, or bike ride.

To establish a solid physical activity foundation of fitness and strength, build up over time to allow for pain-free and injury-free participation. Doing too much too quickly or exercising for too long, especially after little to no physical activity, can lead to injuries. Overuse injuries can be subtle, occurring gradually over time, so early recognition and prevention is important.

Sincerely,
Health Myth Busters

Local POW recalls return home 45 years later

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

Stepping off the bus, recently freed American prisoners of war formed up from the tallest to shortest, stiff at attention facing Capt. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris and with a salute they defied their Vietnamese captors one final time.

Proving their grit and American pride could outlast any amount of torture or pain. They stood tall in defiance as a C-141 Heav- en cargo aircraft in front of them prepared to bring the men home.

The now-retired Col. Harris recalled the moment he and his fellow POWs were re- leased from captivity by American troops; and the moment seemed surreal to him.

Harris spent 2,871 days in Vietnam as a POW after being shot down April 4, 1965, during a bombing run targeting the Thanh Hoa Bridge, one of the most important

"They did take us onto the airplane and we sat down, and we were really happy but we were so stoic. We didn't know if we would taxi around the runway and be re-incarcerated or what, so we just could not get our excitement out until we felt the wheels let out underneath us."

transportation routes the North Vietnamese had throughout the war.

He said even after they were loaded onto buses with better clothing and no blindfolds, they were still unsure of the situation. They arrived to their aircraft, buses stopped and were let out.

"We lined up by height in lines of two at stiff attention, I gave my facing movements and a salute because we knew it would really tick off the North Vietnamese," Harris said.

He explained how their names were called and how they loaded onto the aircraft, preparing to leave the life they had lived in Vietnam, it was almost too good to be true.

"They did take us onto the airplane and we sat down, and we were really happy but we were so stoic. We didn't know if we would taxi around the runway and be re-incarcerated or what, so we just could not get our excitement out until we felt the wheels let out underneath us."

He took multiple stops before getting home going from base hospital to base hospital until finally staying at a base near his wife and family, where they would see him, and for his son; where he would see him for the first time in the eight years he'd been alive.

"Everyone was doing well, it was 2 o'clock in the morning and my whole family was there," he remembered fondly. "I hugged the girls, they had come screaming, because they had still remembered me but my son when I hugged him he didn't really hug back because I was a total stranger."

He later was receiving gifts from his family when he noticed his son in the corner out of the families gift exchange, and Harris opened his arms to his son and was welcome to find his son run and jump into his arms, and he recalled knowing in that moment they bonded as father and son.

There are many memories that have faded, Harris said, but the stories never fully leave him.

He recalled the day before his capture, where they executed a mission in which they attacked the Thanh Hoa Bridge with mostly guided missiles, and were told to follow the same exact plan for a follow-up mission April 4, with an exception to use bombs rather than guided missiles.

"We went in at the same time from the same direction at the same altitude and I was the first flight of four in and boy were they ready for me," Harris said.

Harris was the first aircraft to drop his bomb on target April 4, and explained what happened after he dove down.

"There was so much anti-aircraft fire bursting everywhere they were sitting there with their fingers on the trigger ... they knew precisely where to aim," he laughed, "and they really let loose!"

He explained the amount of focus it took to drop a bomb and he was unable to register what was going on; the training kicked in and instincts began to drive his actions.

"All that took up every bit of my attention," he said. "It didn't affect me until after I dropped the bomb and bottomed out, doing six G's or so, and my aircraft was hit. I wasn't able to stay with it very long. I tried to radio my squadron mates and tell them I'd been



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Stephanie Englar
Retired Col. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris and retired Lt. Col. Richard "Gene" Smith, former Vietnam POWs, speak under the Harris Street sign, July 1, 2015, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The sign was named in honor of Harris. He spent 2,871 days in Vietnam as a POW after being shot down April 4, 1965, during a bombing run targeting the Thanh Hoa Bridge.

hit and would probably have to eject, but the transmission was never received."

He was captured and kept alive for information as he was transported to multiple POW camps, most notably the 'Hanoi Hilton,' an infamous camp that held U.S. prisoners throughout the Vietnam War.

"One of the things I was driven by was to never do anything that would bring dishonor to me, the Air Force or my family," Harris said.

His wife, two daughters and newborn son wouldn't see him for over eight years, but would remain in some form of contact whenever possible with letters sparsely being sent back and forth throughout his time as a prisoner.

Communication with his family was important, but the communication inside of the camp was absolutely essential for every-



U.S. Air Force photo by Randy Martin
Louise Harris and her husband retired Col. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris pose for a photo in their living room Feb. 2, 2016, in Tupelo, Mississippi. Harris was held captive in in Vietnam for more than eight years after his plane was shot down while Louise persevered and raised their three children alone in the U.S.

one's survival. Harris taught the TAP code to other POWs and it proved to be one of the most effective ways for individuals to have some form of conversation.

"We had to have some kind of communication to carry out the senior ranking officers directives and also it was wonderful for our morale to have another American to talk to about anything," Harris said.

They were tortured periodically, moved from camp to camp, and had every opportunity to break, but didn't. By watching their fellow POWs return with honor, it reinforced them to stay strong when it was their time for interrogation. Surrounded by the military family, they pushed each other to be outstanding even in the hardest of situations.

"We had a lot of peer pressure to do the best that we could, because when all of us

would accept torture to a large degree before giving them anything, it denied the North Vietnamese the objective of what they were trying to do," Harris said. "We became tougher and gained pride we were doing something that was beneficial."

Beneficial it was, the TAP code had saved his life, and many others on many occasions and was used even after his release in February 1973.

"We assumed that release was coming up very soon," he recalled. "So when we came back to Hanoi we provided a notification of our release. We were really enthralled, happy it was going to be over, but we were also very weary that would actually come to happen. We kind of took it with a grain of salt, hopeful, but not sure."

Now 45 years later after that uncertainty, Harris said keeping connections with his

fellow POWs is also important to him, and a large group of them meet every year and have kept up with each other outside of the reunions as well.

"We bonded pretty well as a brotherhood, because everyone there knew that anyone there would go through the ultimate trials to save his buddies," Harris said.

Many years after his repatriation and return home, Harris said he can look back now and see nothing had changed. He stood his whole life with pride in America, in the Air Force and with his work.

"I think the greatest lesson I was most proud of was the service, the honor integrity and importance of our service to the country," Harris said. "We were all proud to be able to do what we did to the best of our abilities ... I guess that what I've taken away from it all."



Courtesy photo
Retired Col. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris speaks to media and a nearby crowd in Feb. 1973. He did not realize his wife was within a few steps of him during the address, but saw her later along with the rest of his family.



Courtesy photo
Prisoners of war are marched in a Vietnamese prison camp during the Vietnam War. Retired Col. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris was shot down April 4, 1965, during a bombing run targeting the Thanh Hoa Bridge.