

Columbus Aviator



A 14TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON SPECIAL EDITION PUBLICATION



THUNDER OVER COLUMBUS SET TO ELECTRIFY CROWDS



Get ready for one of the most electrifying events Mississippi has to offer—the Thunder Over Columbus Open House Air Show! On September 21-22, the skies above Columbus will roar as the legendary U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, alongside tens of thousands of their passionate fans, take over Columbus Air Force Base. This aerial spectacle promises to leave you breathless, featuring jaw-dropping maneuvers from both military and civilian performers, a STEM Expo, delicious food, and vendors from across the area. Columbus Air Force Base is thrilled to open its gates to the public and share the excitement of aviation. So, gear up and get ready—here's everything you need to know before diving into the high-flying action of the Thunder Over Columbus Open House Air Show!

Showtime Everybody! START & END TIMES

Get ready to feel the Thunder! The Thunder over Columbus Air Show gates open at 0900 on both September 21 and 22. To make your arrival as smooth as possible, a professionally designed entrance and parking plan is in place, ensuring a seamless transition onto the base. Opening Ceremonies begin at 1200 and the gates will close at 1730.

Air Show Concessions A FEAST FOR THE SENSES!

Everyone knows that one of the best parts of any event is the food, and the Thunder Over Columbus Air Show is no exception. Come hungry and prepare to treat your taste buds! Vendors will be serving up everything from mouthwatering fair food to Mexican specialties, BBQ, shaved ice, and more. Plus, the 14th Force Support Squadron has you covered with two Beer Gardens offering refreshing beverages, soft drinks, and special edition adult slushies in color-changing souvenir cups!

Innovate & Inspire STEM Expo

The STEM Expo is an exciting 2-day event for thousands of 5th-12th graders from the Golden Triangle Region. The Expo kicks off for students on Thursday, September 19, just before the Air Show. It's an opportunity for students to step onto a military base, many for the first time, and dive into a world of innovation. With hands-on activities designed to spark curiosity and creativity, the STEM Expo is all about inspiring the next generation of STEM leaders. By giving these young minds the chance to experience the base community while engaging in interactive learning, we're fueling their passion for science, technology, engineering, and math—setting the stage for a future of endless possibilities.

Air Show visitors can go to each of the exhibitors' booths on Saturday, September 21 and Sunday, September 22 and experience hands-on STEM activities such as robotics, drones, simulators, Virtual Reality, STEM kits, math games, and more!

What can you bring to the Thunder Over Columbus Air Show?

It is going to be an unforgettable day at the Thunder Over Columbus Open House Air Show and STEM Expo! Here's what you need to bring to make the most of it:

- WATER WATER WATER. Even in the fall, September in Mississippi can get pretty hot, so stay hydrated!
- Clear bags with all your essentials for easy access and security checks.
- Sunscreen to protect your skin under the Mississippi sun.
- A wide-brimmed hat to keep the sun off your face.
- A folding chair for a comfortable spot to relax and enjoy the show! Don't feel like bringing your chair? 14 FSS will offer paid seating in the Beer Garden!
- Sunglasses for a clear view of the incredible performances.
- Comfortable footwear — you'll want to be up on your feet and walking the flightline.
- Loose-fitting, breathable clothing to stay cool and comfortable.
- Bring your preferred form of payment. Cash or cards will be accepted at most booths.
- A camera to capture all the action!
- Ear protection — the Thunderbirds are loud, and you'll feel the roar of the engine!

With these essentials, you'll be ready to enjoy every moment of the high-flying excitement!

AUTHORIZED ITEMS

Service Animals	Cameras	Binoculars	Stroller/Wagon
Clear Bags	Small Umbrellas	Cellphones	Small Fans
Prescription Medication	Folding Chairs	Medical Equipment	Sealed Plastic Water Bottles

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Bikes/Skates	Fireworks	Flammable Items	Pets
Balls	Food & Drink	Knives	Illegal Drugs
Non-Clear Bags	Coolers	Weapons	UAVs/Drones



Green Light for Thunder Over Columbus Traffic Improvements

The 2024 Thunder Over Columbus Air Show and STEM Expo are quickly approaching this September 21-22, and Team 14 has shifted into high gear to give our guests a world-class air show.

This year, Thunder Over Columbus traffic can enter the installation using the north and south gates. The north gate traffic can use Barton Ferry Road from Highway 45. The south gate traffic can use Highway 373 to enter the installation.

Additionally, each day the traffic pattern will change to improve entry and exit for our guests. From 9 a.m., to noon on September 21-22, traffic flow from the north and south gates will be one way coming into the parking areas. The flow will return to two-way traffic during the event, and then will be back to one-way outbound traffic at the end of the show day.



Tora Tora Tora Highlights Events of Pearl Harbor

Get ready for a powerful experience at the Thunder Over Columbus Air Show as Tora Tora Tora, the nation's longest-running non-military airshow act, takes center stage! Born in 1972 from six replica Japanese aircraft used in the iconic film, this legendary performance brings history to life with a thrilling reenactment of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

With explosive pyrotechnics and heart-pounding aerial maneuvers, Tora Tora Tora offers a living history lesson that immerses you in the events of December 7, 1941, the day that forever altered America's course.

After 50 years of captivating audiences across 49 states, Canada, and Mexico, this renowned act remains one of the most in-demand airshow performances nationwide. Don't miss your chance to witness this extraordinary tribute at Thunder Over Columbus, where history and high-flying excitement collide!

EXPERIENCE THE FOREFRONT OF AVIATION

From fighter jets, to cargo planes, to bombers, helicopters, and trainers - the Thunder over Columbus Air Show will play host to many of the major players that protect our skies and drive the air superiority of the United States of America. This is your and your family's chance to get up-close and personal with the mighty machines on the ever-evolving edge of aviation technology, courtesy of the World's Greatest Air Force!

HERE'S A LIST OF THE AIRCRAFTS ON DISPLAY

LOCKHEED AC-130J GHOST RIDER



The **Lockheed AC-130** gunship is a heavily armed, long-endurance, ground-attack variant of the C-130 Hercules transport, fixed-wing aircraft. It carries a wide array of ground-attack weapons that are integrated with sophisticated sensors, navigation, and fire-control systems. Unlike other modern military fixed-wing aircraft, the AC-130 relies on visual targeting. Since its large profile and low operating altitudes around 7,000 feet (2,100 m) make it an easy target, its close air support missions are usually flown at night.

ROLE: Ground-attack Aircraft and Close Air Support Gunship for SOF Teams

FAIRCHILD REPUBLIC A-10 THUNDERBOLT II AKA "THE WARTHOG"



The **Fairchild Republic A-10 Thunderbolt II** is a single-seat, twin-turbofan, straight-wing, subsonic attack aircraft developed by Fairchild Republic for the United States Air Force. In service since 1977, it is named after the Republic P-47 Thunderbolt, but is commonly referred to as **the Warthog** or simply **Hog**. The A-10 was designed to provide close air support (CAS) to ground troops by attacking enemy armored vehicles, tanks, and other ground forces; it is the only production-built aircraft designed solely for CAS to have served with the U.S. Air Force. Its secondary mission is to direct other aircraft in attacks on ground targets, a role called forward air controller-airborne; aircraft used primarily in this role are designated OA-10.

ROLE: Close Air Support Anti-Armor Attack Aircraft

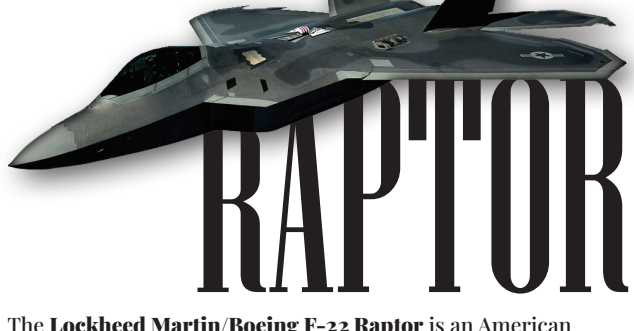
LOCKHEED MARTIN F-35 LIGHTNING II



The **Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II** is an American family of single-seat, single-engine, stealth multirole combat aircraft designed for air superiority and strike missions; it also has electronic warfare and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities. Lockheed Martin is the prime F-35 contractor with principal partners Northrop Grumman and BAE Systems. The aircraft has three main variants: the conventional takeoff and landing (CTOL) F-35A, the short take-off and vertical-landing (STOVL) F-35B, and the carrier-based (CV/CATOBAR) F-35C.

ROLE: Multirole Fighter

LOCKHEED MARTIN F-22 RAPTOR



The **Lockheed Martin/Boeing F-22 Raptor** is an American twin-engine all-weather stealth fighter aircraft developed and produced for the United States Air Force. As a product of the USAF's Advanced Tactical Fighter (ATF) program the aircraft was designed as an air superiority fighter, but also incorporates ground attack, electronic warfare, and signals intelligence capabilities. After a protracted development and initial operational difficulties, the F-22 became a critical component of the USAF's tactical airpower for air-to-air missions against peer adversaries. While designed for counter-air operations, the aircraft has also performed strike and electronic surveillance.

ROLE: Air Superiority Fighter

GENERAL DYNAMICS F-16 FIGHTING FALCON



The **General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon** is an American single-engine supersonic multirole fighter aircraft originally developed by General Dynamics for the United States Air Force. Designed as an air superiority day fighter, it evolved into a successful all-weather multirole aircraft with over 4,600 built since 1976. The F-16's key features include a frameless bubble canopy for enhanced cockpit visibility, a side-mounted control stick to ease control while maneuvering, an ejection seat reclined 30 degrees from vertical to reduce the effect of g-forces on the pilot, and the first use of a relaxed static stability/fly-by-wire flight control system that helps to make it an agile aircraft. The F-16 has an internal M61 Vulcan cannon and 11 hardpoints.

ROLE: Air Superiority Fighter

MCDONNELL DOUGLAS F-15 EAGLE



The **McDonnell Douglas F-15 Eagle** is an American twin-engine, all-weather fighter aircraft designed by McDonnell Douglas (now part of Boeing). Following reviews of proposals, the United States Air Force selected McDonnell Douglas's design in 1969 to meet the service's need for a dedicated air superiority fighter. The Eagle first flew in July 1972, and entered service in 1976. It is among the most successful modern fighters, with over 100 victories and no losses in aerial combat. It proved flexible enough that an improved all-weather strike derivative, the F-15E Strike Eagle, was later developed, entered service in 1989 and has been exported to several nations. Several additional F-15 variants have been produced.

ROLE: Air Superiority Fighter

MCDONNELL DOUGLAS F-15E STRIKE EAGLE



The **McDonnell Douglas F-15E Strike Eagle** is an American all-weather multirole strike fighter derived from the McDonnell Douglas F-15 Eagle. The F-15E was designed in the 1980s for long-range, high-speed interdiction without relying on escort or electronic-warfare aircraft. United States Air Force F-15E Strike Eagles can be generally distinguished from other US Eagle variants by darker aircraft camouflage, conformal fuel tanks (CFTs) mounted along the engine intake ramps (although CFTs can also be mounted on earlier F-15 variants) and a tandem-seat cockpit.

ROLE: Multirole Strike Fighter

LEARJET C-21 COUGAR



The **C-21 Cougar** is a twin turbofan-engine aircraft used for passenger and cargo airlift. The aircraft is the military version of the Learjet 35A business jet. In addition, the aircraft is capable of transporting one litter or five ambulatory patients for aeromedical evacuation operations. The turbofan engines are pod-mounted on the sides of the rear fuselage. The swept-back wings have hydraulically actuated single-slotted flaps. The aircraft has a retractable tricycle landing gear, single steerable nose gear and multiple-disc hydraulic brakes.

ROLE: Passenger and Cargo Airlift

RAYTHEON T-1 JAYHAWK



The **Raytheon T-1 Jayhawk** is a medium-range, twin-engine jet trainer used in the advanced phase of Air Force Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training for students selected to fly strategic/tactical airlift or tanker aircraft. It is used also for training Air Force Combat Systems Officers in high and low level flight procedures during the advanced phase of training.

ROLE: Trainer Aircraft

LOCKHEED T-33 SHOOTING STAR



The two-place **Lockheed T-33 Shooting Star** was designed for training pilots already qualified to fly propeller-driven aircraft. It was developed from the single-seat F-80 fighter by lengthening the fuselage about three feet to accommodate a second cockpit. In addition to its use as a trainer, the T-33 has been used for such tasks as drone director and target towing, and in some countries even as a combat aircraft.

ROLE: Trainer Aircraft

NORTHROP T-38A TALON



The **Northrop T-38A Talon**, the main configuration of the T-38A, has been training U.S. Air Force pilots since 1961. It was developed to replace the T-33 as the main jet trainer for the Air Force. The first Talon flew in 1959 and they began appearing in service in 1961. In all 1,189 T-38s were built between 1960 and 1972. The upgraded T-38C Talon remains in service with the U.S. Air Force as a trainer.

ROLE: Trainer Aircraft

BEECHCRAFT T-6 TEXAN II



The **Beechcraft T-6 Texan II** is a single-engine turboprop aircraft built by Textron Aviation. A trainer aircraft based on the Pilatus PC-9, the T-6 replaced the United States Air Force's Cessna T-37B Tweet and the United States Navy's T-34C Turbo Mentor during the 2010s. The T-6A is used by the United States Air Force for basic pilot training and Combat Systems Officer (CSO) training, the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps for primary Naval Aviator training and primary and intermediate Naval Flight Officer (NFO) training.

ROLE: Trainer Aircraft

NORTHROP T-38C TALON



The **Northrop T-38C Talon** is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer used in a variety of roles because of its design, economy of operations, ease of maintenance, high performance and exceptional safety record. The T-38C model includes upgrades to the avionics systems including the incorporation of a "glass cockpit." Air Education and Training Command is the primary user of the T-38C for joint specialized undergraduate pilot training.

ROLE: Advanced Trainer Aircraft



BOEING KC-135

STRATOTANKER

The Boeing **KC-135 Stratotanker** provides the core aerial refueling capability for the United States Air Force and has excelled in this role for more than 60 years. This unique asset enhances the Air Force's capability to accomplish its primary mission of global reach. It also provides aerial refueling support to Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and allied nation aircraft. The KC-135 is also capable of transporting litter and ambulatory patients using patient support pallets during aeromedical evacuations. Four turboprops power the KC-135 to takeoff at gross weights of up to 322,500 pounds. A cargo deck above the refueling system can hold a mixed load of passengers and cargo. Depending on fuel storage configuration, the KC-135 can carry up to 83,000 pounds of cargo.

ROLE: Aerial Refueling Tanker and Transport Aircraft

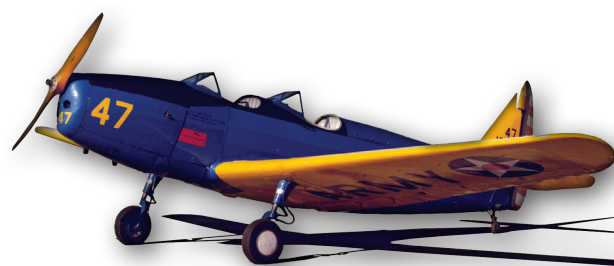


LOCKHEED MARTIN C-130J

SUPER HERCULES

The **Lockheed Martin C-130J Super Hercules** is a four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft. The C-130J is a comprehensive update of the Lockheed C-130 Hercules, with new engines, flight deck, and other systems. The C-130 Hercules primarily performs the tactical portion of the airlift mission. The aircraft is capable of operating from rough, dirt strips and is the prime transport for airdropping troops and equipment into hostile areas. The C-130 operates throughout the U.S. Air Force, serving with Air Mobility Command, Air Force Special Operations Command, Air Combat Command, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Pacific Air Forces, Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve Command, performing in both peace and war situations.

ROLE: Military Transport and Aerial Refuelling Aircraft



FAIRCHILD PT-19

The **Fairchild PT-19** (company designation Fairchild M62) is an American monoplane primary trainer aircraft that served with the United States Army Air Forces, RAF and RCAF during World War II. Designed by Fairchild Aircraft, it was a contemporary of the Kaydet biplane trainer, and was used by the USAAF during Primary Flying Training. As with other USAAF trainers of the period, the PT-19 had multiple designations based on the powerplant installed.

ROLE: Trainer Aircraft



BEECHCRAFT T-34 MENTOR

The **Beechcraft T-34 Mentor** was the primary flight training aircraft during the 1950s. The first military prototype, of the Mentor, designated YT-34 by the USAF, made its initial flight in May 1950. After extensive testing, the USAF ordered the Mentor into production as the T-34A in early 1953. The Mentor remained the standard USAF primary trainer until the introduction of the Cessna T-37 jet trainer. The T-34A was eventually succeeded by the upgraded T-34C Turbo-Mentor, powered by a turboprop engine. The T-34 has remained in service for more than seven decades.

ROLE: Trainer Aircraft



NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION P-51 MUSTANG

The **North American Aviation P-51 Mustang** is an American long-range, single-seat fighter and fighter-bomber used during World War II and the Korean War, among other conflicts. The Mustang was designed in April 1940 by a team headed by James H. Kindelberger of North American Aviation (NAA) in response to a requirement of the British Purchasing Commission for Curtiss P-40 fighters, under license for the Royal Air Force. The aircraft was first flown operationally and very successfully by the RAF and as a tactical-reconnaissance aircraft and fighter-bomber (Mustang Mk I).

ROLE: Fighter



MCDONNELL DOUGLAS C-17 GLOBEMASTER III

The **McDonnell Douglas C-17 Globemaster III** is the most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force. The C-17 is capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward bases in the deployment area. The aircraft can perform tactical airlift and airdrop missions and can transport litters and ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations. The inherent flexibility and performance of the C-17 force improve the ability of the total airlift system to fulfill the worldwide air mobility requirements of the United States. The ultimate measure of airlift effectiveness is the ability to rapidly project and sustain an effective combat force close to a potential battle area. Threats to U.S. interests have changed in recent years, and the size and weight of U.S.-mechanized firepower and equipment have grown in response to improved capabilities of potential adversaries. This trend has significantly increased air mobility requirements, particularly in the area of large or heavy outside cargo. As a result, newer and more flexible airlift aircraft are needed to meet potential armed contingencies, peacekeeping or humanitarian missions worldwide. The C-17 is capable of meeting today's demanding airlift missions.

ROLE: Strategic and Tactical Airlifter



ROCKWELL B-1 LANCER

The **Rockwell B-1 Lancer** is a supersonic variable-sweep wing, heavy bomber used by the United States Air Force. It has been nicknamed **the Bone** (from "B-One"). It is one of the Air Force's three strategic bombers, along with the B-2 Spirit and the B-52 Stratofortress, as of 2024. Its 75,000-pound (34,000 kg) payload is the heaviest of any U.S. bomber. The B-1 was first envisioned in the 1960s as a bomber that would combine the Mach 2 speed of the B-58 Hustler with the range and payload of the B-52, ultimately replacing both.

ROLE: Strategic Heavy Bomber



de Havilland DH-115 VAMPIRE

The **de Havilland DH-115 Vampire** is a British jet fighter which was developed and manufactured by the de Havilland Aircraft Company. It was the second jet fighter to be operated by the RAF, after the Gloster Meteor, and the first to be powered by a single jet engine. Development of the Vampire as an experimental aircraft began in 1941 during the Second World War, to exploit the revolutionary innovation of jet propulsion. From the company's design studies, it was decided to use a single-engine, twin-boom aircraft, powered by the Halford H.1 turbojet (later produced as the Goblin). Aside from its propulsion system and twin-boom configuration, it was a relatively conventional aircraft. In May 1944, it was decided to produce the aircraft as an interceptor for the Royal Air Force (RAF). In 1946, the Vampire entered operational service with the RAF, only months after the war had ended.

ROLE: Interceptor



BELL UH-1H & TH-1H IROQUOIS aka "HUEY"

The **Bell UH-1 Iroquois** (nicknamed "Huey") is a utility military helicopter designed and produced by the American aerospace company Bell Helicopter. It is the first member of the prolific Huey family, as well as the first turbine-powered helicopter in service with the United States military. The Iroquois was first used in combat operations during the Vietnam War, the first examples being deployed in March 1962. It was used for various purposes, including conducting general support, air assault, cargo transport, aeromedical evacuation, search and rescue, electronic warfare, and ground attack missions. Armed Iroquois gunships carried a variety of weapons, including rockets, grenade launchers, and machine guns, and were often modified in the field to suit specific operations. The United States Air Force deployed its Iroquois to Vietnam, using them to conduct reconnaissance operations, psychological warfare, and other support roles. In total, around 7,000 Iroquois were deployed in the Vietnam theatre, over 3,300 of which were believed to be destroyed. Recently, the UH-1H was modified to the **TH-1H** for use as a basic helicopter flight trainer by the United States Air Force.

ROLE: Utility Helicopter



BELL BOEING CV-22 OSPREY

The **Bell Boeing CV-22 Osprey** is an American multi-mission, tiltrotor military aircraft with both vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) and short takeoff and landing (STOL) capabilities. It is designed to combine the functionality of a conventional helicopter with the long-range, high-speed cruise performance of a turboprop aircraft. The CV-22 is operated by the United States and Japan, and is not only a new aircraft design, but a new type of aircraft that entered service in the 2000s: a tiltrotor compared to fixed wing and helicopter designs.

ROLE: Tiltrotor Military Transport Aircraft



BOEING AH-64 APACHE

The **Boeing AH-64 Apache** is an American twin-turboshaft attack helicopter with a tailwheel-type landing gear and a tandem cockpit for a crew of two. Nose-mounted sensors help acquire targets and provide night vision. It carries a 30 mm (1.18 in) M230 chain gun under its forward fuselage and four hardpoints on stub-wing pylons for armament and stores, typically AGM-114 Hellfire missiles and Hydra 70 rocket pods. Redundant systems help it survive combat damage.

ROLE: Attack Helicopter

Window World Supports Veterans With its Thrilling All Veteran Parachute Program



Prepare to be impressed at the Thunder Over Columbus Air Show as the All Veteran Group takes to the skies and delivers exceptional aerial performances, thanks to the support and sponsorship of Window World through their Parachute Program! The All Veteran Group will perform breathtaking air demonstrations, showcasing their incredible skills and military precision.

“We are all indebted to our nation’s service members and their families,” says Window World CEO and Chairman Tammy Whitworth. “While there is no measure of gratitude to repay them for their sacrifices, Window World strives to honor military families however we can. The Window World Parachute Program is an exciting way to showcase military skills while letting communities we serve know that Window World cares for America’s veterans.”

The Window World Military Initiative, dedicated to honoring and supporting America’s veterans, active-duty military, and their families, has teamed up with the All Veteran Group to bring this powerful tribute to the Thunder Over Columbus Air Show. This spectacle highlights Window World’s commitment to honoring veterans, active-duty military, and their families through their Military Initiative.

SUPER DECATHLON: CIVILIAN STAR PILOT

The Pilot: Greg Koontz
Greg Koontz began flying in 1969, earning his Private Pilot Certificate at 17. At 20, he entered the air show world by purchasing a Piper Cub, which he lent back to the original owner in exchange for a chance to perform in Ernie’s Flying Circus. After working with Ernie and his son, Greg transitioned to a corporate airline in 1981. Today, he is a full-time airshow and aerobatics professional.

The Plane: Super Decathlon
The Decathlon and Super Decathlon, which began production in the early 1970s, are the culmination of a design evolution that started in the 1940s. Today, the Super Decathlon is a top aerobatic trainer and a best-seller in its class—a versatile plane built for both training and competition. Powered by a 180-horsepower Lycoming AEIO-360 engine with inverted

fuel and oil systems, it’s designed for precision. Its large wing enables tight maneuvering and slower entry speeds, perfect for close-up aerobatic performances. The Super D is certified for a full range of aerobatic maneuvers, including outside loops, vertical rolls, and accelerated stalls.

Rate of Climb: 1280 fpm
Max Speed: 155 mph
Service Ceiling: 15,800 ft
Max Gross Weight: 1950 lbs
Useful Load: 600 lbs
Acrobatic Limit Loading: +6, -5 G’s



FULL THROTTLE: A SQUAD FULL OF PROS

The Full Throttle Formation Team from Atlanta, Georgia are the largest precision formation airshow team in America! Their pilots are all aviation professionals with more than 300,000 total hours of flight experience in military and commercial aircraft. They fly “Van’s Aircraft” experimental aircraft, many of which were built by the pilots who fly them. Their mission is to entertain airshow audiences throughout America and inspire our spectators to follow in our footsteps to experience the joys of flight. In addition to performing thrilling airshow displays, they educate future aviators on ways to open the door to careers in aviation.



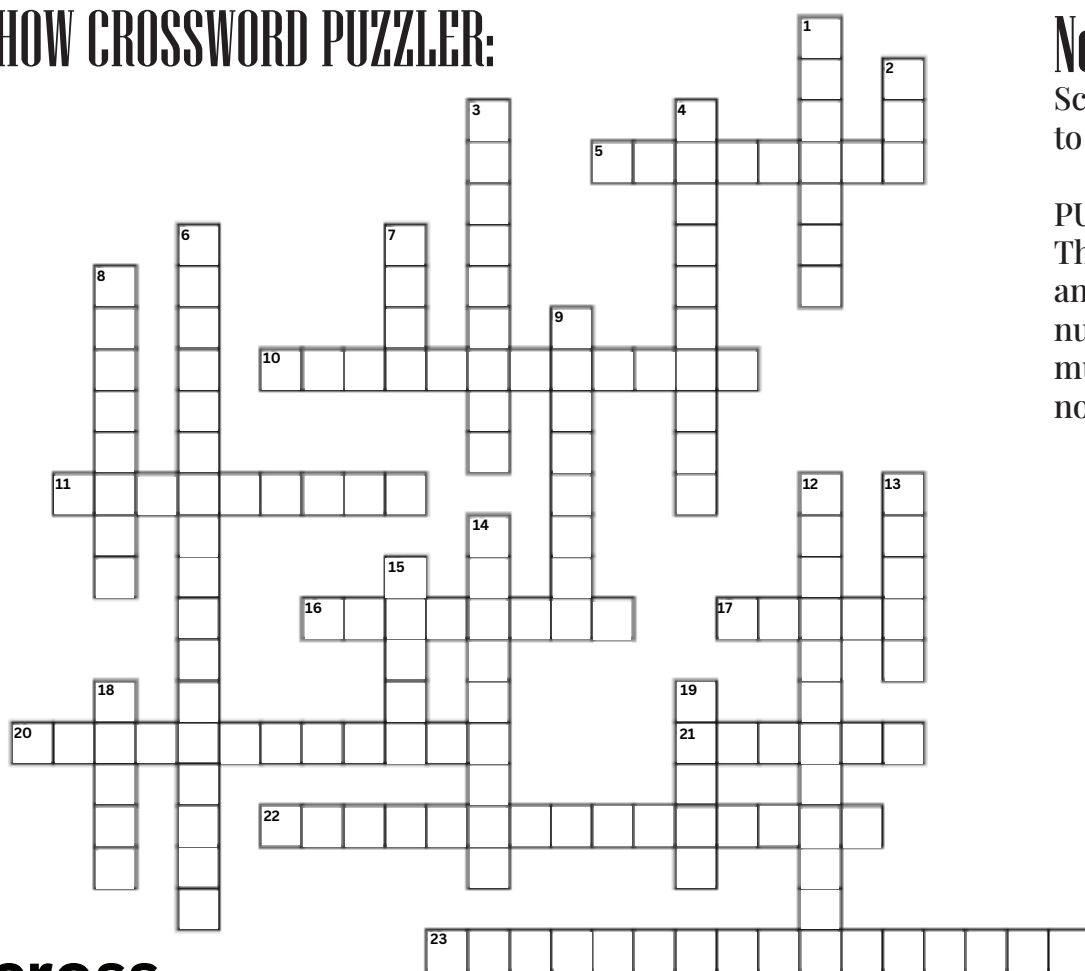
TITAN T-6 BRINGS THE BIG GUNS



Rumbling over the skies of Columbus with their 600-horsepower, Pratt & Whitney radial engines, the North American Titan Aerobatic Team will combine nostalgia, romance, and entertainment in their colorful, World War II-era warbirds. The Titan team, led by Mark Henley, flies four North American AT-6G Texans in precision aerobatic maneuvers, including the bomb burst, avalanche, and breathtaking “Switch Blade”.

North American AT-6 “Texan” FAST FACTS:
Engine: Pratt & Whitney R-1340 AN-1
Wing Span: 42 ft.
Length: 29 ft. 6 in.
Maximum Take-Off Weight: 5,617 lbs.
Maximum Level Speed: 212 mph
Normal Range: 870 miles

AIR SHOW CROSSWORD PUZZLER:



Need a hint?
Scan this QR Code to see the answers:



PUZZLER BEWARE!
This puzzle has answers with numbers and multiple words, but no spaces!

In History: September 21

The Air Show kicks off on Saturday, September 21, the 264th day of 2024. There are 101 days left in the year.

- On this date:**
- In 2008** - Last baseball game played at historic Yankee Stadium
 - In 1961** - Boeing CH-47 Chinook military helicopter made its first hovering flight.
 - In 1947** - Steven King was born
 - In 1942** - Boeing B-29 Superfortress flies for the first time.
 - In 1937** - “The Hobbit,” by J.R.R. Tolkien was first published.

YOUR 2024 AIR SHOW FORECAST

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
87°	87°
THUNDER	THUNDER

PROBABILITY OF ELECTRIFYING ACTION: 100%

Across

- 5. The town where the air show is taking place.
- 10. When a large number of aircraft taxi in sequence.
- 11. Flight Surgeon
- 16. The flying or operating of aircraft.
- 17. Minimum fuel for a safe return to base.
- 21. An air show maneuver
- 20. The longest continually performing non-military airshow act in the United States.
- 22. A stealthy, multirole, all-weather air-to-air and surface attack fighter jet.

- 23. This aircraft’s primary missions are close air support, air interdiction, and armed reconnaissance.

Down

- 1. Head of the Air Department onboard a carrier; ruler of the flight deck.
- 2. Permanent Change of Station. To be assigned to another base.
- 3. Nicknamed The Jayhawk.
- 4. Where the planes are parked.
- 6. The two brothers that made the first flight in a powered aircraft.
- 7. A student pilot who is brought back to teach other student pilots.
- 8. Also known as the White Rocket.
- 9. An innovative alternative to the typical science fair.
- 12. Ambassadors in Blue
- 13. A person who operates the flying controls of an aircraft.
- 14. The Pilot Maker.
- 15. Weapons Systems Officer Nickname
- 18. A hard turn.
- 19. Nylon trousers that wrap the legs and abdomen. Filled automatically with compressed air in high-G maneuvers

FAQ's

Is the air show free?

Yes, the air show is FREE for the public to attend, in September 2024. This also includes FREE Parking.

Will there be specific parking for the disabled?

Yes, there will be Disabled Parking areas (ON BASE ONLY). Show your valid Disabled Parking tag to security to be directed to this area.

Is there a fee for admission or parking?

No. Admission to the show on Saturday and Sunday as well as Parking are FREE!

I have small children. Can I bring a stroller, wagon, diaper bag, or change of clothes?

Yes. Strollers and wagons are allowed but will be hand-searched at the security checkpoint. Small coolers for infant nursing and medical supplies are permitted.

Can I bring my camera, video camera, or cell phone?

YES, we encourage you to bring your cameras! This will be an amazing weekend for the family, and we want you to make as many fun memories as possible. If you plan to bring a camera bag it must conform to the following size: 12in height x 12in width x 12in length.

Will there be any food or souvenirs available?

You bet! Food and souvenir vendors will be on the show grounds.

Can I leave and re-enter the Air Show?

Yes. You may leave and re-enter as many times as needed throughout the show day. You will have to go through the security checkpoints again to re-enter the show grounds.

Can I bring my motor home or RV on base?

No. We do not have the room to accommodate these vehicles. However, there are several RV parks in the Columbus, Mississippi area that offer parking services.

Is there special parking for motorcycles?

Yes. There is a designated area on the main base for motorcycle parking.

Is tailgating allowed?

Guests will not be allowed to tailgate, but you are welcome to join us inside, you'll have a better view of the show!

Is smoking allowed?

Yes, but only in designated areas and NOT on the flight line.

Are alcoholic beverages allowed?

Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase for guests 21 and over, from designated vendors. Outside alcoholic beverages will not be allowed into the showgrounds.

Do I need an ID?

We highly recommend you bring a form of ID for a variety of safety reasons. Photo IDs of small children are a great idea in case they find themselves with our guardians at the "Lost Parent" tent.

Can I bring the necessary prescription medication?

Yes. If you have the necessary prescription medication, you must have identification that matches the name on the bottle. Please only bring what you need for the day.

Are service animals allowed?

Yes. Please bring the appropriate documentation for your service animal along with your identification. Emotional support animals are not allowed. This is a loud event by human standards - we recommend considering the health and safety of your service animal when deciding to attend.

Can I bring folding chairs?

Yes. If your folding chair is one of the types that come in a carrying-case, please have it out for inspection.

Can I bring my bicycle?

No. Bicycles, skateboards, scooters, heeies, roller skates or roller blades are prohibited and will not be allowed into the show grounds.

Can I take pictures or get autographs?

Yes. Many of the performers make themselves available for autographs and pictures during the show and after performances. Listen for the autograph session & location announcements!

Will it be necessary to have hearing protection?

Due to the nature of the event, it is highly encouraged you bring hearing protection, especially for children. There will be a number of aircraft taking off, landing, and performing, which will be extremely loud. Hearing protection will be available for purchase as well. Pro-tip, soft inner ear protection

Will there be shade?

There are limited areas of shade available throughout the flight line. You can take a walk through one of our larger static displays to get a break from the sun, as well as an open hangar featuring displays. Head on over to the STEM EXPO area and spend some time in the shade with over 40 Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics exhibits!

What happens if it rains?

In the event of rain, some flying demonstrations may be delayed. However, unless the weather poses a serious threat to the safety of the visitors and participants, the show will proceed as scheduled with some modifications.

Are umbrellas allowed at the air show?

Small rain umbrellas are fine to bring (the small ones that fit in a purse), but large golf umbrellas or shade umbrellas are banned as they may block the view of spectators behind you.

What type of medical services will be available?

First aid only will be provided such as oral hydration, treatment for minor cuts and bruises, and application of emergency medications (ex. Epi-pens). Medical personnel will stabilize and coordinate transportation to a higher level of care for all other injuries/illnesses. Civilian Emergency Medical First Responders will also be available for emergencies.

Is it safe to come to the Air Show?

Safety is always a primary concern at air shows. The personnel at Columbus Air Force Base work very closely with local and federal authorities to ensure safety. They follow and enforce all security rules and regulations required.

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The 14th Force Support Squadron and Columbus Air Force Base are grateful to all the generous sponsors who helped make the Air Show possible, and to 14 FSS Sponsorship Coordinator, Ms. Shea Jenkins, without whom these wonderful connections between the United States Air Force and our community would not be possible.



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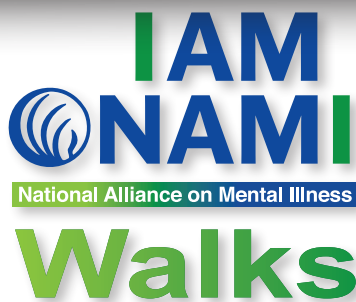
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT COLUMBUS

The continued success of the WHAC! Magazine and the 14th Force Support Squadron is owed in part to our fantastic community partners and advertisers! Keep reading to see some of the incredible deals and services the city of Columbus has to offer!

NAMI Walks Mississippi - Columbus

Thursday September 12
4pm - 7pm

Columbus Soccer Complex
3rd St. North
Columbus, MS 39701



MentalHealthForAll



JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN AND WELLNESS!

Enjoy free food, exciting games, jumpers, music, and face painting for all ages! Plus, don't miss out on our health fair, which has valuable resources and much more.

FORM A TEAM AND GET INVOLVED!

Create a team of 10 or more and easily sign up by scanning the QR code below. Team leaders get a free t-shirt, and the largest team will win the trophy for one year, serving as "The Best in Mental Health Wellness Team of the Year."

Support the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline & NAMI WALK

Your participation helps promote mental wellness in our community.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT COLUMBUS

THE PARTY NEVER STOPS WITH THE 14TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

All DoD Cardholder with base access, keep reading to see some of the great upcoming events Columbus Air Force Base has to offer! Want to join the fun and become an event sponsor? Contact Ms. Shea Jenkins at Landis.Jenkins@us.af.mil!



OKTOBERFEST 2024:
Get ready for a twist of a night with Oktoberfest and Trivia Night at the Event Center on 27 September from 1800 to 2200! There will be a live DJ, games, food, and a Biergarten for this two-in-one festivity.

Attendees can choose to purchase the packages below:

- Engraved glass stein and a first pour for \$18.
- Engraved glass stein, a first pour, and a German dinner which includes: bratwurst with peppers and onions, meatballs, potato salad, and an apple strudel all for \$30.

*Limited quantities available



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TANDEM SKYDIVING

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Come Join ODR for Skydiving at 14000 FT!

19 OCT
0630 - 1700
DEPARTING RETURNING

662-434-2505

Get ready for a thrill-seeking adventure with Outdoor Recreation's **Skydiving Alabama Trip!** Whether you're a seasoned skydiver or trying it for the first time, this is your chance to feel the thrill of jumping into the open air for \$100 Active Duty!



REC-ON DEEP SEA FISHING

JOIN ODR FOR A FUN HOLIDAY WEEKEND FISHING TRIP!

12 OCT - 14 OCT
DESTIN, FLORIDA

\$175 ACTIVE DUTY | REGISTER BY 8 OCT

PRICE INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION, LODGING, CHARTER BOAT, FISHING GEAR, & FISH CLEANING.



Join Outdoor Recreation as they fish the Florida waters on the Destin Reel Legend Fishing Charter during the Destin Fishing Rodeo. Discover the history of Destin, from its roots as a quaint fishing village to its development as a hub for the fishing industry.

The trip runs from 12 October to 14 October, coinciding with the holiday weekend, and costs \$175 (RFR). This price includes transportation, lodging, charter boat, fishing gear, and fish cleaning. Register by 8 October to secure your spot, as spaces are expected to fill up FAST.

ZOMBIE MUD RUN

19 OCT @ SAC LAKE
AT 0900 CAFB

SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP!



THE ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE TAKES OVER CAFB
Cover yourself in mud, climb obstacles, and dodge zombies at the most spooky Zombie Mud Run yet at Sac Lake on 19 October at 0900.

MILITARY & FAMILY READINESS

2ND ANNUAL MFRFC

YE OLDE OPEN HOUSE

MFRFC OPEN HOUSE:

The Military & Family Readiness Center is hosting its Annual Open House on 18 October from 1400 to 1600 outside in the MFRFC courtyard. Each Program will host interactive Medieval Renaissance-themed stations where attendees can learn about the services that the programs provide. As attendees visit each station, they will be able to sign up for classes and workshops on-site as they get to know each team member and grab MFRFC swag! There will be door prizes, light snacks, and popcorn!



BOOFEST HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL



Boofest is a multi-day Halloween Festival with events across the 14th Force Support Squadron Facilities!

- 28 October | 1000-1500**
BOGO Spooky Bowling
Buy one game of bowling and get the second for FREE! Don't forget to grab lunch and a DIY Ghost Craft to bring home!
- 29 October | 1100 - 1400**
Fall Lunch Special at the Event Center
Enjoy a wickedly tasty grilled cheese served alongside a cauldron of creamy butternut squash soup and a crisp salad. This spellbinding combo is so good, it's scary!
- 30 October | 1530**
Boss and Buddy at the Event Center
Join in on the camaraderie, cheer on the new enlisted promotees, and hang out outside the workplace with your team!
- 31 October | 1500-1700**
Youth Boofest
Boofest 2024, CAFB's Halloween Celebration will take place at the Event Center! There will be Costume Contests, Pumpkin Carving Contests, Prizes, Live Entertainment, and so much more!
- 31 October | 1800-2200**
Adult Halloween Party and Trivia Night
The festivities continue for adults only with spooky drink specials, tasty finger foods, and a live DJ keeping the energy high! Get ready for exciting trivia and costume contests with incredible prizes up for grabs. Don't miss out on this thrilling night of fun!

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE FITNESS & SPORTS

CAF B 2024 PAWS5K

16 NOV 0800 AT SAC LAKE

(662) 434-2772



Join the Fitness Center on Saturday, 16 November at 0800 for an exciting 5K Run—and bring your furry friend along! This fun run kicks off and finishes at SAC Lake (near Perimeter Road on CAFB), with an alternate start at the Alpha Warrior Tent by the Tennis Courts. It's the perfect chance to enjoy a scenic run with your dog by your side! Don't miss out on a fun morning of fitness, fresh air, and wagging tails!



For a full list of on-base events, visit ColumbusAFBLiving.com!

