

THE ROBINS REV-UP

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PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

Robins Air Force Base, GA

Military working dog dies defending freedom

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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When Staff Sgt. Marcus Reaves, a military working dog handler in the 78th Security Forces Squadron's Military Working Dog Section at Robins, deployed with his canine partner, Arras, he never imagined he'd come home without him.

Arras, a 5-year-old Dutch sheppard explosives detector and patrol dog in the 78th SFS who was assigned to the 447th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron and Joint Operations, Sather Air Base, Iraq, was killed when he touched a location that was electrified by power cables during a search for weapons and explosives in a building Sept. 25.

Sergeant Reaves, who had worked with Arras for six months of 18 months the dog served with his unit, said the day started like most days, with a fun-loving game of tug-of-war with his K-9 partner.

"Before I did anything with him, I petted him on top of his head and asked him if he was ready to go to work, and he gave me this look like, 'Let's do it,'" he said. "So, I sent him off to work and we were going through clearing buildings. One building we got to was fairly dark so I didn't want to send him in to the point where I couldn't see him."

As the military working dog handler bent down to pick up his flashlight, his faithful partner entered what would be his last mission. Sergeant Reaves was

knocked unconscious by the explosion and thrown nearly 30 feet from the site. But, his partner was in a much worse condition.

"I didn't know what was going on," he said. "When I came to, as a handler, my first instinct was, 'Where's my dog?'" I looked all around. I knew the medics were talking to me, but I was just like, 'I don't care what y'all are talking about right now. I just need to find my dog.'"

When faced with the realization that Arras was gone, Sergeant Reaves said it was more than he could handle.

"It was like my world had stopped then and there," he said.

► see ARRAS, 4A

Arras, a Robins military working dog, gave his life in the service of his country.

Courtesy photo



An F-102 Delta Dagger sits on a K-Loader as members of the 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron's Air Freight Transportation team prepare to safely usher the aircraft from the C-5 cargo area. The aircraft was flown to Robins aboard a C-5 Galaxy aircraft from Kelly USA, San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 12 and will be displayed at the Museum of Aviation.

The F-102 made its initial flight Oct. 24, 1953 and became operational with the Air Defense Command in 1956. The F-102 being gained by the museum served with Air Defense Command units at Langley Air Force Base, Va., and Andrews AFB, Md., from 1957 to 1958 and was used at Kelly AFB as a ground trainer until it was retired in 1972. It was the world's first supersonic all-weather jet interceptor and the U.S. Air Force's first operational delta-wing aircraft. Its primary mission was to intercept and destroy enemy aircraft.



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

Senior enlisted leader visits Robins, discusses AF priorities

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON
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trained Airmen who are prepared to continue the fight is top priority.

As part of the Air Force Week Georgia celebration, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley recently visited Airmen at Robins Air Force Base, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and Air Force Reserve Command.

Chief McKinley spoke with several groups and squadrons during the visit. His primary message to the enlisted Airmen is the Air Force has a vision and that vision includes helping Airmen be better prepared to win the war on terrorism.

"The most important thing on our agenda is to make sure we properly organize, train and equip our Airmen to go and do whatever the Air Force tasks them to do for our nation," he said.

The chief said he expects the war on terror is going to last for many, many years and having highly

trained Airmen who are prepared to continue the fight is top priority.

"We've got to stay vigilant and keep on fighting the war on terrorism effectively. However, it's not just about the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. It's a global war on terrorism because we have terrorists all around the globe who daily think of ways they can get in here and change our way of life," Chief McKinley said. "I don't think in three to five years we're just going to be able to say we're done - terrorism is over. This is something we're going to be fighting for a long time. This effort takes support from taxpayers, support from Congress, and support from our government to make sure our military is strong enough to win this war on terrorism."

The second priority for the Air Force is developing and caring for Airmen and their families, he said.

He stressed the importance of

► see MCKINLEY, 10A

GEARING UP Robins readies for 2008 ORI

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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Airmen and civilians alike worked hard this week to ensure Robins was ready to meet the challenge of its Operational Readiness Exercise.

Active-duty military members made sure business affairs such as medical records, wills, and powers of attorney were all in order and that they were up to date on necessary training to prepare them for deployment.

Processing lines and training stations were in place on base to get Airmen what they needed in order to meet the mission in the simulated deployed location at Warrior Air Base during the five-day, two-phase exercise, while Department of Defense civilians served a supporting role in the process.

Wayne Carson, Exercise Evaluation Team chief in the 78th Plans and Programs Office, said it's one of several exercises Air Force Materiel Command organizations at the base will undergo to get ready for the Operational Readiness Inspection to be held at Robins April 12-21.

"(The ORI) is a chance for people to ensure they're prepared for the ORI," he said. "It involves several practices. It's

just like most things. You always practice before your big event. So, that's what we do. We practice, practice, practice and then when the ORI comes, we're ready to perform."

Master Sgt. Rich Geister, an exercise evaluator in 78th ABW/XP, said a lot went into preparing for the ORI.

FIT TO FIGHT

Robins will undergo an Operational Readiness Inspection from April 12-21. The base undergoes an ORI every four years. For more information on scheduling and other factors in the upcoming inspection, visit the "2008 WR-ALC Operational Readiness Inspection" link located at the bottom center of the Robins' home page. To submit suggestions for improving the information link, contact Forest Johnson, 78th Air Base Wing Plans and Programs Division chief, at forest.johnson@robins.af.mil.

"We had several training days ahead of the first exercise out at Warrior Air Base," he said. "We pushed through almost 300 people from various organizations across the base to train them in self-aid/buddy care, to train them in chemical warfare, to train them on M-16/M-9 weapons, all of the stuff that they needed to know for the exercise."

Sergeant Geister said any number out of 300 people could be tasked for the ORI.

Mr. Carson said during the ORI, a team of evaluators from the Headquarters AFMC Inspector General Office will look at how Robins processes Airmen who are deploying.

"We look to make sure they have everything they're supposed to have in their bags and all of their records are up to date and training is up to date," he said. "We want to make sure they have a will and a power of attorney is ready so things at home will continue to flow when the individual is deployed."

Forest Johnson, 78th ABW/XP division chief, said wartime

► see ORI, 10A



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley speaks at the Robins NCO Academy Oct. 11.

THINK SAFETY

Alcohol Against Death Driving

222-0013

To request a ride, call 222-0013, 335-5218, 335-5238 or 335-5236.

Total rides given this year: 546

Days without a DUI: 3
Last DUI: 78th Security Forces - courtesy 78th SFS Reports and Analysis Section

THE TWO-MINUTE REV

Contact your unit representative to contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign.

The campaign runs through Nov. 1.

Help Our World Forward

INSIGHT

Paws for Reading

Robins Elementary School students read to therapy dogs, 1B

SPORTS

Youth football

Robins youth tackle football team wins City Playoff, 3B

AWARENESS

Breast Cancer Luncheon

Annual luncheon celebrates survival, awareness 8A

WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY 79/55

SATURDAY 80/50

SUNDAY 81/56

Pharmacy halts distribution of infant cold medicine

BY AMANDA CREEL

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In compliance with an Oct. 11 Consumer Healthcare Products Association recall for over-the-counter oral cough and cold medicines for infants or for use in children under 2 years old the Base Pharmacy pulled PediaCare Infant Drops Decongestant from their shelves. The pharmacy will no longer be dispensing the over-the-counter drug as a prescription, because the pharmacy is required to return the decongestant to its manufacturer as part of the voluntary national recall.

"We are supporting this initiative as an extra measure of safety to ensure unintended overdoses don't cause harm," said Col. James McClain, 78th Medical Group commander.

In response to last week's voluntary national recall, numerous oral over-the-counter infant and cold medicines were withdrawn from pharmacy shelves around the U.S.

However, base pharmacists and Colonel McClain caution parents there is no reason to panic over the recall.

"It is important to remember this is a voluntary recall and there is not a problem with the drug, the concentration or the label," said Debbie Bozeman, base pharmacist. "We don't want to send people into a panic. When you hear the words recall, it sounds toxic, like something is wrong with the drug, but it's not."

She added, "It is completely safe and effective when used as directed."

Julie Reeves, base pharmacist, said because the decongestant was administered only by prescription by base pediatricians and other doctors on the base, the pharmacy staff never experienced any problems with misuse or dosing errors relating to the recalled decongestant.

"It is an administrative error not a drug strength error," Ms. Reeves said.

Ms. Bozeman said the manufacturers voluntarily recalled the drug out of their own concern because of some instances of misuse by those administering the drugs not with the drug itself or the label directions.

"We want to be crystal clear to the public. There is not a problem with the product, therefore people should not fear if their children received this product in recent history as long as they complied with the user directions," Colonel McClain said.

Ms. Reeves said it was still important to get the message out about the manufacturers' voluntary recall because it makes parents aware even over-the-counter medications can be hazardous if used inappropriately.

"Parents must read labels and must know what they are giving their children," she said.

For more information about the recall and other over-the-counter medicines affected visit www.OTCSafety.org.



Vaccine, hand washing best guards against flu

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD

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According to base and local health officials, getting the flu vaccine combined with frequent hand washing could significantly cut people's risk for getting the flu this season.

Robins hasn't yet received its shipment of the flu shot, Tech. Sgt. Jack Jenkins, NCO in charge at the 78th Medical Group's Allergy and Immunizations Clinic. The office received a shipment of the flu vaccine nasal spray for active-duty military members in need of the vaccination, but all 1,200 doses have been administered.

Staff Sgt. Robert Wilson, a 78th MDG allergy and immunization technician, said it's mandatory for all active-duty to be vaccinated annually against the flu and highly encouraged for others.

Sergeant Wilson said the clinic will wait until it has 80 percent of the active-duty military vaccinated before its staff opens up its vaccines to military families, military retirees and DOD civilians.

Maj. Heather Johnson, officer in charge at the Allergy and Immunizations Clinic and a nurse practitioner at the Family Medicine Clinic on base, said Robins will begin putting messages about flu vaccines on government computers' splash pages in the near future.

The local community offers civilians a few opportunities to get the flu shot at the Houston County Health Department and at the community center at Rozier Park in Perry, Ga.

Debbie Liby, nurse manager

at the Houston County Health Department, said getting vaccinated could help people avoid the aches and pains of the flu.

"The flu shot is highly effective," she said. "Of course, no vaccine is 100 percent, but it's in the 90th percentile."

Mrs. Liby agreed that it's important for everyone to get the flu shot each season.

"Every year, the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) decides which three types of flu are most likely to come to the United States and cause a problem," she said. "Then, they will let the drug manufacturers know (what the) three types are. They then make the vaccine. That's why every year it's a little bit different and you have to get a shot every year."

Pat Tooley, lead health specialist in the Public Health Flight of the 78th MDG's Aerospace Medicine Squadron, said getting the vaccine doesn't guarantee a person won't get the flu.

"You can get another strain of the flu," she said. "(The vaccine) will build up your body's immunity to what's out there the most prevalent, but there's always different types of flu out there."

Mrs. Liby said while other flu strains exist, the flu shot is crafted each year based on the most prevalent strains.

Getting the flu shot is especially important for people who are 50 or older, pregnant women, children who are six months to 5 years old, and anyone who has a chronic disease.

Melinda Asbell, a secretary in the Base Chapel, has received the flu shot for many years. Since she was diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia in 2006, getting the vaccine is of greater importance.

"(I get the flu shot) because I don't like getting the flu and I'd rather have the shot than the real thing," she said.

Mrs. Asbell said it's a good idea for everyone to get the shot so they don't get others sick.

Mrs. Liby said healthcare and daycare workers as well as people living with those in these high-risk groups should also get the flu shot.

While the flu shot is recommended for most people, it's off limits to those who are allergic to latex products and people who are allergic to eggs. The flu vaccine is grown in sterilized eggs, Mrs. Liby

said.

Getting the flu vaccine isn't someone's only defense against the bug.

Mrs. Liby said the solution to staying healthy is in one's own hands.

"Wash your hands," she said. "Avoid places where you know people who are sick are going to be. Unfortunately, that's going to mean (avoiding) stores at busy time periods or doctors' offices or even going to church at times. During the cold and flu season, those people are more susceptible to catch everything."

The nurse manager said people should carry and use hand sanitizer.

"You see people using their hand sanitizers or their handy wipes to clean grocery carts and stuff like that," she said. "It's really a good idea, especially during that time of the year."

Mrs. Liby said coughing or sneezing in one's shoulder instead of their hands is a much better practice for stopping the spread of flu germs.

Also, people should use a paper towel to open public restroom doors after washing their hands to avoid becoming infected, Mrs. Liby said.



HEALTH CLINIC CANCELS FLU LINE

Due to an unexpected delay in the release of further lots of the flu vaccine from the manufacturer, the Allergy and Immunization Clinic has canceled its previously scheduled flu mass immunizations. In addition, the clinic has depleted our entire supply of the flu vaccine. Therefore, there will be no further flu vaccines administered until the supplies are replenished. For readiness purposes, Preventative Health Assessment and Individual Medical Readiness will remain yellow until Dec. 31 and will not turn red until Jan. 1, by which time our supply issue should be resolved.

THINK OPSEC — If you don't want it read, shred

Civilian discipline, adverse actions

The Air Force Civilian Discipline and Adverse Actions Program is designed to develop, correct, rehabilitate and encourage employees to accept responsibility for their actions. The circumstances of every disciplinary situation, including an employee's past disciplinary record, are taken into account when determining appropriate discipline.

The purpose of this article is to ensure employees are more aware of the program and the consequences for misconduct.



April actions:

- ▶ Reprimand for careless workmanship. No priors.
- ▶ Reprimand for violation of tool control procedures. No priors.
- ▶ Reprimand for sending an inappropriate e-mail.
- ▶ Five-day suspension for loafing on duty. Prior three-day suspension.
- ▶ One-day suspension for unauthorized use of a government credit card. No priors.
- ▶ Removal for failure to properly request leave and unauthorized absence. Prior five-day and 10-day suspension.
- ▶ Reprimand for failure to properly request leave and unauthorized absence. No priors.
- ▶ Reprimand for failure to attend scheduled training. No priors.
- ▶ Reprimand for failure to attend scheduled training. No priors.
- ▶ 14-day suspension for inappropriate conduct and battery. No priors.
- ▶ Five-day suspension for unauthorized absence and tardiness. No priors.
- ▶ Reprimand for failure to observe safety practices. No priors.
- ▶ One-day suspension for loafing on duty and failure to follow supervisory instructions.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE CHANGE OF OFFICE HOURS

The Legal Office Customer Service Center, located in Bldg. 708, will change its hours of operation beginning Nov. 5. In order to increase our customer service abilities, the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center Legal Office Customer Service Center announces new legal assistance/claims hours of operation. Notary, power of attorney and claims services will be available on a walk-in basis Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 to 11 a.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 3 p.m. Attorney consultation is available by appointment only. Contact the service center at 926-9276 for additional details.

ARRAS

Continued from 1A

Sergeant Reaves said Arras was more than a means for finding danger. He was a comfort in the midst of danger.

"The military likes to consider these dogs (as) equipment, and we as handlers try to stay in that mentality," he said. "Yeah, they're equipment and anything could happen at any time. But, when we deploy, those dogs stay with us. We feed them, water them and bring them out to play. When we don't have anyone to talk to, the dog is always right there."

The feeling of loss was also shared by many other 78th SFS members. Staff Sgt. Edward Canell, the 78th SFS trainer who trained with Arras, said losing Arras was like losing a human member of the squadron.

"It's just like losing an Airman for us," he said. "You've got to remember, these dogs don't ask for anything in return. Just a little bit of love and companionship and they'll work for you. They never ask you why or ask you questions. They're always there for you. So, it was hard when we heard we lost him."

Sergeant Canell said Arras was a unique part of his military family.

"There's certain stuff that we can't do physically, where a dog's nose can smell something that we can't even come close to," he said. "So, they're very valuable and there are only a certain number of them. To lose one is a really big loss for us."

Tech. Sgt. David Barber, kennel master in the 78th SFS' Military Working Dog Section, said Arras was just as much a source of protection stateside as he was in the deployed location.

From conducting bomb sweeps at local schools and businesses to supporting the president, vice president, and former president Jimmy Carter, Arras left paw prints on many areas, in the military and civilian community alike, Sergeant Barber said.

Sergeant Canell said he hopes others will see the importance of dogs like Arras.

"I hope that when people read this that they understand these aren't just dogs or animals," he said. "They're members of our military force. They go out and put their lives on the line every day, not just in deployed locations, but also state-



Courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Marcus Reaves, a handler in the 78th Security Forces Squadron's Military Working Dog Section, sits with Arras.

side. Everyone that works on base can have a safe feeling because these dogs are at the gate utilizing their noses and sniffing everything that comes through the gate like in a deployed location."

Sergeant Reaves said he'll always remember his four-legged partner as courageous and dedicated.

"Arras was our best dog," he said. "He loved his job. Whoever handled that leash, he loved them. He loved to work and when he was done, he wanted love for it. After he was done working, he was one of those dogs that would come back to you, lick you, wanted you to pet him, and wouldn't leave you alone until you did. I wake up in the morning and of course I thank God for my still being around without being seriously injured. But, he's always in my thoughts."

A memorial service was held in honor of Arras in the deployed location today.

During the ceremony, 447th Air Expeditionary Group commander, Col. Kevin Kriner presented Sergeant Reaves with an achievement medal for his dedicated performance in the line of duty.

Robins will host a memorial service for Arras in the near future.

Political dos and don'ts: Know the Department of Defense guidelines

78TH AIR BASE WING
LEGAL OFFICE

With 2008 being a presidential election year, federal employees should know and follow special guidelines regarding political campaigns. The U.S. Armed Forces have a long-standing tradition of strict neutrality in the electoral process.

Consistent with this tradition, Department of Defense and Air Force policy precludes Air Force members from engaging in any activity that would imply the Air Force or its senior officers have taken an official position on, or are otherwise involved in, a local political issue or campaign. Rules for civilians, instituted by the Hatch Act, and rules for military members, under Air Force Instructions 51-902, were established to ensure impartiality and political neutrality.

Although there may be occasions when elected officials and candidates are invited or request to attend a function on a military installation, such visits must be approved and campaign related statements during such occasions are prohibited.

The following paragraphs are excerpts from the DOD Public Affairs Policy Guidance concerning political campaigns and elections.

Use of installation facilities by candidates:

Installation commanders will not permit the use of installation facilities by any candidate for political campaign or election events, including: public assemblies or town hall meetings, speeches, fund-raisers, press conferences, post-election celebrations, and concession addresses.

This policy does not prohibit members of congress and other elected officials from visiting military installations to receive briefings, tours or other official DOD information. Installation commanders will ensure that candidates who visit military installations to conduct official business do not engage in any political campaign or election activity during the visit.

The preceding prohibition does not apply to the president, the vice president, or the speaker of the House of Representatives. To avoid the appearance of preferential treatment, installation commanders should offer all candidates for national office who are not current members of congress or serving governmental officials the same access to installations as any other unofficial visitor.

Installation commanders should consult the office of the assistant secretary of defense for legislative affairs for guidance or instructions regarding specific visitation requests.

Media coverage of installation visits:

When an installation commander invites a candidate to an installation to participate in official business, and the media seeks to cover the event, the candidate may appear on camera and in photographs as an official participant, and may make a statement or answer questions about the official business being conducted.

Under no circumstances may a candidate receive

approval to make a campaign or election-related statement or to respond to a campaign or election-related media query.

When an elected official arrives or departs a military installation via military aircraft, the installation commander will not authorize media coverage of the arrival or departure if the elected official's itinerary includes political campaign or election activity in the local

community. The preceding prohibition does not apply to the president, the vice president, or the speaker of the House of Representatives.

When the president, vice president, or speaker of the house arrives or departs a military installation via military aircraft and part of that official's itinerary includes political campaign or election activity in support of a particular candidate,

the installation commander will allow the media a photo opportunity to cover the arrival or departure of the president, vice president or speaker of the house.

Installation commanders anticipating a visit by the president, vice president, or speaker of the house that may involve political campaign or election activities should coordinate with OSD-LA and staff assistants planning the visit to ensure all concerned are aware of the provisions of DOD's public affairs policy guidance.

If questions arise, please contact a member of Public Affairs at 926-3127 or Debby Stone of the base legal office at 926-0868. The Office of Special Counsel is responsible for investigating reports or complaints and can be reached at 1-800-854-2824.

GUIDELINES FOR AIR FORCE MEMBERS

Air Force members may:

- ▶ register to vote, and express a personal opinion on candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the Armed Forces.
- ▶ attend political meetings or rallies as a spectator while not in uniform
- ▶ join a political club and attend its meetings while not in uniform
- ▶ display a bumper sticker on a private vehicle

Air Force members may not:

- ▶ participate in partisan political management, campaigns, or conventions
- ▶ speak before a partisan political gathering of any kind
- ▶ march or ride in a partisan political parade
- ▶ participate in any organized effort to provide voters with transportation to the polls, if the effort is associated with a partisan party or candidate
- ▶ make campaign contributions to a partisan political candidate
- ▶ display a large political sign, banner or poster on a private vehicle on or off base
- ▶ attend political meetings or rallies or join a political club and attend its meetings while in uniform

GUIDELINES FOR CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

Civilian employees may:

- ▶ be candidates for public office in nonpartisan election
- ▶ register and vote as they choose
- ▶ assist in voter registration drives
- ▶ express opinions about candidates and issues
- ▶ contribute money to political organizations
- ▶ attend political fundraising functions
- ▶ attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
- ▶ join and be an active member of a political party or club
- ▶ sign nominating petitions
- ▶ campaign for or against referendum questions, municipal ordinances or constitutional amendments
- ▶ campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
- ▶ make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections
- ▶ distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
- ▶ display small bumper stickers on a personally owned vehicle
- ▶ hold office in political clubs or parties
- ▶ run as independent candidates for election to partisan political office and accept or receive political contributions in local city elections. (Candidacy for and service in a partisan political office shall not result in neglect or interference with the performance of the duties of the Federal employee or create a conflict of interest)

Civilian employees may not:

- ▶ use official authority or influence to interfere with an election
- ▶ collect political contributions unless both individuals are members of the same federal labor organization or employee organization and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee
- ▶ knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business before the agency
- ▶ engage in political activity while on duty this includes sending of political e-mail, in any government office, wearing an official uniform or while using a government vehicle.
- ▶ solicit political contributions from the general public
- ▶ be candidates for public office in partisan elections
- ▶ wear political buttons on duty
- ▶ display large political signs, banners or posters on personally owned vehicles while on base

**CONTACT
KENDAHL
JOHNSON
AT 222-0804
WITH
DELIVERY
QUESTIONS OR
CONCERNS**

"Wow—we had a great celebration across the Air Force to commemorate our 60th year as an independent service. We took the celebration international, honoring all Airmen who have taken to the skies to defend their nations. We also paid homage to our own and our Joint service brethren who gave their lives, not just in service to our country, but to keep America free."
— Michael Wynne, Secretary of the Air Force

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Office of Public Affairs at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. Stories and briefs must be submitted as a Word document. They may not exceed two pages, double spaced. They must be typed using the Times New Roman font, 12-point type, with 1-inch margins. All submissions will be edited to conform to Associated Press style. Submission does not guarantee publication.

Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. the Monday prior to the requested Friday publication. They should be e-mailed to lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. If there are further questions, call Kendahl Johnson at (478) 222-0804.

DELIVERY

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ADVERTISING

For advertising information, call The Telegraph advertising department at (478) 923-6432.

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, call The Telegraph at (478) 744-4234.

ONLINE

To read articles online, visit www.robins.af.mil/library/rev.asp

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Robins supports the global war on terrorism



courtesy photo
Staff Sgt. Nicholas Grega (left) of Hilo, Hawaii, and Senior Airman Ryan DelaPena of Pensacola, Fla., inspect communications cabling at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan Oct. 12. Sergeant Nicholas and Airman DelaPena are members of the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing, whose mission is to provide close air support, mobility, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance in support of the global war on terrorism. Airman DelaPena is deployed from Robins where he is a member of the 5th Combat Communications Group's 52nd Combat Communications Squadron. At Robins Airman DelaPena serves as a transmission systems journeyman where he operates and maintains an array of equipment ranging from transmission systems valued at over \$6 million, to an assortment of M-series vehicles.



Col. Theresa Carter
78th Air Base Wing
commander

Commander's Action Line

Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible:

- Security Forces 327-2113
- 78th Support Group service desk 926-3733
- 78th Mission Support Group commander 327-7331
- Comptroller 926-4462
- Communications Squadron help desk 926-4357
- Civilian Personnel 222-0667
- Household Goods 222-0114
- SARC 327-7272
- Vehicle Dispatch 926-3493
- Services Division 926-5491
- EEO Office 926-2131
- MEO 926-6608
- Employee Relations 926-5802
- Military Pay 926-3777
- Civil engineering 926-5657
- Safety Office 926-6271
- Housing Office 926-3776

This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

To contact the Action Line, call 926-6203 or for the quickest response, e-mail one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List.

If sending from a commercial e-mail account, use action.line@robins.af.mil.

Readers can also visit <https://www.mil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Anonymous action lines will not be processed.

Composite sanding

On Sept. 18, in the C-17 hangar, I observed a tech cutting a fiberglass duct in the hanger using a cut off wheel. It created a large dust cloud. I talked to the C-17 Director and asked him if we had a down draft table or booth used for sanding. He stated he was working on it. He then said the tech had his respirator on. I asked what about everyone else? I was then told they should put on theirs also. I replied it needs to be done in a booth or with a vacuum system. He then turned and walked away. He did have the tech stop work after that.

How can a director not know the dangers of composite material and why don't we have some kind of vacuum system? I was also made to feel I was being a problem. I don't think bringing up a safety issue is a problem.

Colonel Carter's Response:

Thank you for your concern and for identifying this problem. This is the Voluntary Protection Program in action. As you mentioned, the director did stop the operation on the spot and is aware of the dangers associated with cutting composite material. The operation was moved to another location where adequate ventilation was available. All future work requiring cutting of composite material will be performed in a location that meets the ventilation requirements and is approved by the bioenvironmental office. The squadron director has also directed supervisors to brief each crew on the hazards of performing this task in the open hangar to ensure the operation will not take place in an unapproved location again.

Please continue to up-channel all safety issues or concerns you may have through your immediate supervisor and your wing leadership. Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson is fully committed to making this industrial complex as safe as possible. Your input is critical as we continue our VPP journey.

Editor's Note: The Rev-Up will print an AFSO21 question-and-answer series the third Friday of every month. Questions may be e-mailed to the WR-ALC/XP workflow with subject line marked AFSO21 question. Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, will respond to AFSO21 questions.

Q: How does Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century really work outside of the production environment?

A: Virtually every aspect of AFSO21 can be applied to all areas of our business, not just industrial production and maintenance. The overarching theme of AFSO21 is to continuously improve by identifying and eliminating waste. Our history with AFSO21 at Robins has primarily focused on Lean and began with our production areas in 1999. We began to incrementally



plant the Lean "seed" within the rest of the Air Logistics Center in 2002. As we continue to improve and build upon our successes and lessons learned we have learned the need to be more flexible as we select and apply our AFSO21 tools. What works for one process or product line may not work as well for another. We have a standard methodology that requires some level of understanding to know what to do and when. That is one of the reasons why our Center has more than 100 organic personnel trained as AFSO21 professionals to help guide us on our journey. These indi-

viduals, known as change managers and core team members, provide a valuable service and can offer training and advice to leaders and the general work force on the most efficient use of AFSO21 tools to get the maximum benefit. They are aligned with each wing and staff office at the Center. If you do not know who your AFSO21 professionals are, ask your supervisor. But I want everyone to remember the heart of AFSO21 is the freedom to use common sense methods to accomplish their jobs in the safest, most efficient way possible.

Air Force continues success in reducing energy impact

The mission of the Air Force is to deliver air power for the defense of America and its global interests, a mission that requires a rapid-response fighting force capable of flying and fighting in air, space and cyberspace anywhere at anytime.

Every October, the Air Force, along with the rest of the federal government, recognizes Energy Awareness Month. Our theme this year echoes our energy vision: "Making energy a consideration in all we do."

This vision serves as the foundation of our energy strategy:

- Reduce demand by increasing our energy efficiency and reducing our energy consumption.
- Increase supply by researching, testing and certifying new technologies.
- Investigating cutting edge uses of renewable and conventional sources of energy in order to create new domestic sources of supply.
- Change the culture to ensure energy is a consideration in all we do.

Energy, from JP-8 in our aircraft to electricity in our

operation centers, powers our combat capability, allowing us to fly, fight and win our nation's wars. The Air Force consumed almost 2.6 billion gallons of aviation fuel in fiscal 2006 at a cost of almost \$5.8 billion. Our total energy bill exceeded \$7 billion when we include energy to operate our bases and fuel our ground vehicles.

We need to think about how energy is essential to this mission and our priorities of winning the war on terrorism, preparing for future conflicts and humanitarian missions, taking care of Airmen and recapitalizing and modernizing our air, space and cyberspace systems.

In his state of the union address last January, President Bush said, "For too long our nation has been dependent on foreign oil. And this dependence leaves us more vulnerable to hostile regimes and to terrorists who could cause huge disruptions in oil shipments, raise the price of oil and do harm to our economy."

The president challenged our nation to wean itself off its addiction to foreign oil.

To meet that challenge, we

have been identifying new domestic sources of supply. In August, the B-52 Stratofortress fleet was certified to use a 50/50 blend of synthetic fuel and traditional JP-8. The C-17 Globemaster III is the next airframe we'll certify, and we're on course to certify the entire Air Force aircraft fleet by early 2011.

Much of our success is due to the innovation of Airmen at all levels of the Air Force. For example, officials at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas; Fairchild AFB, Wash.; and Minot AFB, N.D., acquire nearly 100 percent of their electrical energy requirements from renewable energy. In addition, 37 Air Force bases located in the United States procure green power.

By December 2007, the largest photovoltaic solar array in North America will be operating at Nellis AFB, Nev., providing 14 megawatts of power, enough to satisfy nearly 30 percent of the base's electricity needs, and saving the Air Force \$1 million annually in energy costs.

As Air Force leadership continues to focus on energy, we remain mindful that ener-

gy use and environmental stewardship go hand in hand. We have linked our energy efforts with our continuing drive to reduce the environmental footprint of the Air Force.

Every month is Energy Awareness Month in the Air Force. In your squadrons, during mission planning, on the flightline, in the backshops and in your homes, focus on how you and your team can more effectively use energy. I encourage everyone in the Air Force to continue the great work you are doing to reduce our energy demand. We must continue to reduce our energy demand, identify and increase our domestic energy supply, and make energy a consideration in all we do.

There is more information on Energy Awareness Month on the Installations, Environment and Logistics Web site.

Mr. Anderson is the assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics

— This commentary was written by William C. Anderson, Air Force Senior Energy Official.

► IN BRIEF

WR-ALC COMMANDER'S CALL

The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center Commander, Maj. Gen. Tom Owen will host a series of Commander's Calls at the Warner Robins Civic Center Oct. 30 - Nov. 1.

The Commander's Call is mandatory for all center employees. Although the briefing is not mandatory for host units, associate commanders are welcome to attend.

Due to limited parking, bus transportation will be provided for all base employees. Limited handicap parking is available in front of the civic center. All other private vehicles are subject to being ticketed or towed at the owner's expense. Employees must have their base ID cards in order to ride busses exiting and entering the base. Bus and session schedules will be provided in the next Rev-up.

An interpreter for the hearing impaired will be present at session 3 only (2 p.m., Oct. 30). Organizations having hearing impaired personnel are asked to schedule those individuals accordingly. All base personnel are subject to search. Backpacks and bags are not allowed at the civic center.

For additional information, call Jimetta Strowder 222-0531 or Kimberly Clark 222-0532.

QUARTERLY AWARDS

Col. Theresa Carter, 78th Air

Base Wing commander, will host the 78th ABW 3rd Quarter Awards Ceremony Oct. 26 at 8 a.m. in the Enlisted Club Ballroom.

Outstanding civilian and military performers from the 78th ABW will be recognized.

Commanders, supervisors, family members, and friends are encouraged to attend. Show your unit's pride and spirit; come and join us in congratulating the troops for their stellar achievements. For more information, call Gayle Martin at 926-4940.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Armed Services Blood Program and the American Red Cross will host blood drives at Robins today.

Locations will include Armed Services Blood Program (Ft. Gordon):

► Youth Center 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

► Cotton Auditorium 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

American Red Cross (Mobile Unit):

► Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command Bldg. 210 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

► Bldgs. 640 and 645 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Donations made at this location will directly support our local community.

To schedule an appointment call 327-7931 or e-mail Staff Sgt. Garah Hammack at garah.hammack@robins.af.mil.

PERIMETER ROAD DETOUR

Perimeter Road near the Robins Aero Club will be detoured in order to accomplish road repairs Monday through Oct. 27. Perimeter Road near Bldg. 43 will be closed Nov. 9-12 to complete the project.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Steven Rice at 327-8953 or Master Sgt. Rodney Summer-well at 327-8934.

TROOPS TO TEACHERS

Bill Kirkland, representative for the Troops to Teachers program, will be at the Robins Education Center today from 10 to 11 a.m. to take questions about the program that provides referral and placement assistance to those who have served in the Armed Forces and are seeking a second career as teachers in public schools.

The briefing will be in Bldg. 905, room 250, no reservations needed. For more information, contact Andrea Harris at 327-7312, or Mr. Kirkland at bill.kirkland@gapsc.com.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

New items arrive weekly, including video games and gaming systems, household items and a nice selection of gently used clothing.

Don't forget to check out our uniform closet. We have a vari-

ety of current uniforms offered free of charge. We also welcome donations.

Hours of operation are Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. and the first Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We accept consignments Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 3 to 5:30 p.m., Fridays and the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

VETERAN'S HOSPITAL TRIP

The 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing Advisory Council will sponsor a trip to the Veteran's Day program at the Veteran's Hospital in Dublin Nov. 11. Administrative leave of four hours will be permitted.

For more information contact Diane Nickels at diane.nickels@robins.af.mil.

CAMP WINGS

The Heart of Georgia Hospice will host a bereavement camp for children ages 6 to 16, who have lost a loved one, the first week in November. There is no cost for the camp other than a \$10 registration fee. The camp will be held at Camp Martha Johnston in Lizella, Ga. For more informa-

tion call the Heart of Georgia Hospice Family Support Services at 953-5161 ext. 121.

HALLELUJAH NIGHT

The Robins Chapel will host Hallelujah Night Oct. 31 from

5:30 to 8 p.m. There will be food and activities including a "Trunk or Treat" in the parking lot at 7:30 p.m. The chapel requests no scary costumes be worn. For more information call Marcia Little at 926-2821.

Robins gains 240 employees as DLA activates

BY AMY CLEMENT

Defense Supply Center Richmond Public Affairs

The Defense Logistics Agency gained 240 employees Oct. 15 when DLA-Warner Robins stood up here.

The "new" employees will provide supply, storage and distribution support to the maintenance activities for Warner Robins Air Logistics Center.

DLA activated the new detachment of its aviation supply and demand chain in response to 2005 Base Realignment and Closure supply and storage legislation. The BRAC 2005 decision called for the Department of Defense to reconfigure its supply, storage and distribution infrastructure into one integrated provider — DLA.

The activation of DLA-Warner Robins marks Air Force Materiel Command's first air logistics center to implement the BRAC mandate, with Air Force positions in the 702nd Maintenance Materiel Support Squadron transferring in place to DLA.

This is the first of 13 such supply, storage and distribution activations scheduled to take place over the next several years at all Air Force air logistics centers and aviation depots of other services. Similar transitions will take place

at Air Force ALCs in February at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., and in April at Hill AFB, Utah.

The combined deactivation/activation ceremony was held in the Museum of Aviation at Warner Robins Air Logistics Center. Brig. Gen. Andrew Busch, the commander of the Defense Supply Center Richmond, and Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, the commander of the 402nd Maintenance Wing, presided at the joint ceremony. General Atkinson and Joe Alexander, the director of the 702nd Materiel Support Squadron, officiated during the deactivation. General Busch and Col. Madeline Lopez, the first DLA-Warner Robins commander, officiated during the activation.

"This ceremony ends one era and begins a new era," General Atkinson said. "Often at ceremonies like this, where we furl and case the flag, the flag, the people and the mission go away — but not today. The people, mission and requirements stay. DOD transformation is ongoing and this transfer is part of the change."

General Atkinson told employees from the 702nd MSS they'd remain part of the team.

► see DLA, 10A



U.S. Air Force photo by AMY CLEMENT

Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, commander of the 402nd Maintenance Wing, cases the squadron's colors Oct. 15 during the deactivation portion of the ceremony in the Museum of Aviation. The activation of DLA-Warner Robins marks Air Force Materiel Command's first air logistics center to implement BRAC 2005 mandates on supply, storage and distribution, with Air Force positions in the 702nd Maintenance Support Squadron transferring in place to DLA.

Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon celebrates journey to survival

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD

hollybirchfield@robins.af.mil

Marcia Berlin, a registered dietitian and professional speaker with the National Speakers Association is a two-year breast cancer survivor.

The animated speaker shared her story, of how she was introduced to the disease that took her mother's life at a young age and changed her own life forever, with nearly 500 men and women at the 12th Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon, "The Pink Picnic," Oct. 16 at the Museum of Aviation's Century of Flight Hangar.

Mrs. Berlin said she made it through what she described as one of the defining moments of her life by taking the experience step-by-step.

"I want people to learn they can get the support they need, even when they think they can't, for anything they're going through," she said. "There are always resources to get the support that we need. Also, take things step-by-step because those two things are what helped me get through what I had to go through."

The guest speaker was one of several people who had a story to tell about breast cancer.

Seven breast cancer survivors modeled fashions provided by Belk Department Store during the luncheon, which was sponsored by the Health and Wellness Center at Robins, the Houston Healthcare, the American Cancer Society, and the Susan G. Komen Foundation 'Race for the Cure' in Central Georgia.

Ann Carter, a 53-year breast cancer survivor and model in the fashion show, said she hopes her story helped someone.

"I hope they'll be able to talk

to other ladies and listen to other ladies who have survived (breast cancer) and know that there is always hope for them," she said.

Mrs. Carter, who was diagnosed with the disease at 16, said she came to the luncheon to offer encouragement.

"I think it's important to show the ladies that you can survive with the proper care and learning how to detect breast cancer," she said.

Women aren't the only ones joining in the fight though.

Jim Hunt, a retired Air Force major who is a minister of pastoral care at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, is a 40-year breast cancer survivor.

Getting the disease was a shock for Mr. Hunt.

"At that time, the idea of men having breast cancer was almost unheard of," he said. "So, when I developed a lump in my right breast, I didn't think that much of it. I thought it would go away, but it didn't. I ended up having a mastectomy."

Since his diagnosis, Mr. Hunt has discovered that more than 1,300 men are diagnosed with breast cancer each year and more than 400 men die of the disease yearly.

Mr. Hunt said he hopes his experience will help other men see breast cancer in a different light.

Bridget Zimmerman, HAWC director at Robins, said the luncheon has brought a much-needed awareness to a growing problem.

"It's to keep people aware that breast cancer is still out there and we still need to educate everyone about it," she said. "Women and men need to be aware of it and know how to check for the signs and symptoms of breast cancer."



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Ann Carter, a 53-year breast cancer survivor, models an outfit for the crowd at the Pink Picnic Tuesday at the Museum of Aviation.

Pumpkin Patrol volunteers needed

Robins will observe Halloween Oct. 31. Trick-or-treating hours are 6 to 8 p.m., in conjunction with the city of Warner Robins. Vehicle operators shall slow down during hours of trick or treating. Base housing personnel who are participating need to ensure an exterior light is on during these hours, while those not participating should leave exterior lights off. Security Forces and volunteers will increase the safety and security measures of the housing areas through their annual Halloween Pumpkin Patrol. Those interested in volunteering for this event should contact Tech. Sgt. Andrew Hixson at 222-1990 or e-mail, Andrew.hixson@robins.af.mil. Both military and civilians are welcome to volunteer. Volunteers need to be available from 5 to 8:30pm.

Halloween Safety Tips:

- Parents should accompany children at all times.
- Wear bright-colored clothes

and well-fitting costumes that are breathable and masks that are easy to see through.

- Use reflective vests and/or belts when possible.
- Drivers should watch out for small children where trick or treaters visit.
- Parents should inspect all candy for children.
- Have children carry a flash light or glow stick while out.
- Stop only at familiar houses in your own neighborhood unless accompanied by an adult.
- Instruct children to always use sidewalks. Make sure kids know to stay in populated places.
- Ensure costumes are flame resistant.
- Costumes should be short enough to prevent tripping.
- Hats and scarves should be tied securely to prevent slipping over children's eyes.
- Swords and other costume accessories should be made of soft, flexible material.

Got news to share?
Contact a member of the Rev Up staff

Sue Sapp 222-0805 Holly Birchfield 222-0810
Amanda Creel 222-0807 Lanorris Askew 222-0806
Kendahl Johnson 222-0802

Financial Management transformation to provide Airmen better, more accessible financial services

BY AMANDA CREELE
amanda.creele.ctr@robins.af.mil

The Air Force is undergoing a financial management transformation, which will create a centralized Air Force Financial Services Center.

The transformation will include a movement of work from Robins to Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. The first phase of the transformation, the processing function of documents, will be shifted to the center by major commands.

"It doesn't matter where the documents are processed as long as they are processed in a timely fashion and your folks are paid on time," Maurice Cullen, a member of the FM transformation team said.

Team Robins will make the transition for Phase I in April with the Air Force Materiel Command.

AFMC will be one of the last commands to make the transition allowing Robins and other AFMC bases to benefit from the trials and successes of the other commands.

"We will be watching them closely to make sure we are answering those challenges," said Lt. Col. Kevin Smagh, commander of the 78th

Comptroller Squadron.

During Phase I, Airmen will still be able to visit their local financial services office for face-to-face communication about any issues with their pay or travel expenses.

Phase II will begin Oct. 1 and will include the full-service contact center, which will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by phone or computer. As part of Phase II bases will lose part of their man power to the new customer service center at Ellsworth AFB. During Phase II, Robins personnel will still drop off documents to the Robins financial services office who will forward them to the center at Ellsworth AFB, but all questions and customer service issues should be routed through the call center.

"We are going to be responsible for making sure all the documents are there at Ellsworth for them to process," said Cheryl McNeil-Jordan, financial services officer.

Once the second phase of the transformation begins, Major Cullen stressed the importance of using the call center at Ellsworth AFB because failing to do so would put undue stress on the financial management staff remaining at Robins.

Presently, financial services has 39 employees and after the transformation is complete the end strength will be eight.

"The local wing is going to have a hard time handling more than they are supposed to," Major Cullen said.

The center will provide the highest quality in financial services for all Airmen regardless of duty station because standard processes, policies and guidelines will be implemented for all.

"The challenge is to be able to design that contact center, so that it is logical and can provide the same level of service," Colonel Smagh said.

The center will affect active-duty Airmen and reservists and will allow the financial career field to utilize resources more effectively.

"The mission of the finance office doesn't change," said Major Cullen, adding it will only affect the way in which the mission is achieved.

The result will be the ability to better serve Airmen, but will also free up resources for other Air Force missions such as the acquisition of new aircraft, weapon systems and other needed tools and equipment.

"The industry does it to save

money and we do it to provide more capability to our warfighter," Major Cullen said.

One of the concerns expressed about the FM transformation was the availability of a financial management representative to assist Airmen returning from deployment. But Colonel Smagh has assured base leadership that the deployment responsibility would remain here with the Robins personnel.

Master Sgt. Tony Cater, first sergeant of the 54th Combat Communications Squadron, was pleased with the plans for the FM transformation and is confident it will be an asset to all Airmen in the long run.

Sergeant Cater did express some concerns about the adjustment period to the new financial management process.

Master Sgt. DeWanna McKinney, first sergeant for the 19th Operation Support Squadron and 99th Air Refueling Squadron, was convinced the new approach to financial management will work, but felt it would take some time getting use to.

One issue she was concerned with was the ability of the local financial management representatives to keep the case management responsibility.

Coming together: Men's lunchtime fellowship celebrates five years of encouragement, brotherhood at Robins

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

For five years, a men's lunchtime fellowship has offered inspiration and encouragement to those who share a common bond – their faith in God.

Gregory Hendricks, a minister at First Baptist Church on Garmon Street in Warner Robins and a retired Air Force member, started the group at Robins in October 2002 to encourage and empower men.

What started as a small lunchtime meeting of about eight men on Tuesdays has now grown into a group of more than 20.

Mr. Hendricks, who was stationed at Robins from 1996 to 2000 and has worked closely with the Base Chapel, said the ministry plays an important role in men's lives.

"We try to lift and encourage each other on issues we face as men that may not sometimes be talked about in a normal church or normal setting," he said.

Those issues include the community, their jobs and families.

The first Tuesday of each month is set aside for fasting and praying. The men pray over issues they currently face. Other Tuesdays, the men eat and discuss topics addressed in the inspirational videos of Bishop T.D. Jakes, which offer biblical scripture related to the topic at hand.

Mr. Hendricks said the fellowship gives men a place to relax.

"Sometimes men don't have a place to go as an outlet to deal with men's issues," he said. "Even in a normal church setting with women there and children there, it's not always something geared strictly to men. We try to have stuff here that men go through. We can come in here and vent and talk about what we want to talk about to help one another out."

Johnny Kirk, a project manager for Upper Mohawk Inc. who works as a contractor at Robins and attends church with Mr. Hendricks, began attending the fellowship four years ago.

"It's just a wonderful opportunity for men to get together and talk about issues and pray together," he said. "It's just an inspiration and motivation for me each Tuesday. It gives me that spiritual growth I need after Sunday."

Robert McGraw, a retired chief master sergeant who has been part of the fellowship for nearly three years, said it was his curiosity about Mr. Hendricks' joy in being a Christian that



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP
Booker T. Bledsoe, center, takes communion at the Men's Ministry Oct. 9. The ministry has been meeting on base for five years.

drew him to the group. Once he came, he was hooked.

Mr. McGraw said being able to share what he goes through with others and knowing they'll be there to lift him up is one of the best aspects of the fellowship.

The men's fellowship has meant a lot its founder as well.

"It has just been a blessing to see how God has blessed it for five years," Mr. Hendricks said. "When we started it, I would have never thought it would've lasted this long. To go around

town and be at Wal-mart and listen to the testimony of guys who come in here and how it's changed their lives and to even run into their wives and their wives tell me how it's changed their relationship, it's just blessed me."

What to know: *The men's lunchtime fellowship meets each Tuesday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Base Chapel Annex. The fellowship is open to all men in the Robins community. For more information, call Gregory Hendricks at 923-2749.*

ORI

Continued from 1A

materiel support will be another area inspected during the ORI. Areas such as the 330th Aircraft Sustainment Wing, the 402nd Maintenance Wing, and the 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing may be tested on how well they handle aircraft repair issues in the field.

Other areas, such as safety and the Special Interest Items Program, may undergo a targeted compliance inspection during the ORI.

The inspection is similar to the Unit Compliance Inspection Robins faced in 2006.

"While the team is here, they'll look at some issues they've had, things that are highlighted across the command in certain areas," he said. "They'll also have a major emergency management exercise during this time. That could be anything from a natural disaster to a terrorist-related (incident) to an aircraft crash. Just about anything

could happen (and) you don't know what to expect on that either."

Inspectors will gauge how well Robins responds to whatever is tossed its way, Mr. Johnson said. An advanced team of about six people from the Headquarters AFMC/IG office will arrive Nov. 15 to meet commanders and be on hand to answer questions about the ORI.

"It's a way for them to become familiar and see the area where we do our Phase II, our war exercises, (and) show them where they'll be working out of," he said. "Then, they'll entertain some questions from our organizations and leadership and try to clarify some of the inspection criteria."

Mr. Carson said the inspection team will rate Robins on a scale from outstanding to unsatisfactory. Robins should receive



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP
As part of the Operational Readiness Exercise Oct. 17, Airmen set up an Alaskan small shelter system at Warrior Air Base.

its rating before the team departs.

The inspection is very important to Robins, Sergeant Geister said.

"The ORI is very important to test the 78th ABW to make sure they're mission-ready to go out and deploy in support of any contingency across the world," he said. "To be ready for an ORE and an ORI is to really play it as if it were real."

Being operationally ready is only one part of gearing up for the ORI, said Mr. Johnson.

"One of the biggest things to be successful in any type of inspection like this is your attitude," he said. "Maintain a positive attitude. Make sure you look at the requirements for your area and what you're going to be inspected on. Never give up. Be creative if you need to."

Colonel Warren Berry, 78th ABW vice commander, said he's certain Robins will step up to the ORI challenge.

"Are we ready?" he said. "We will be, and our Air Logistics Center team will rise to the occasion to impress the socks off the IG. I believe the IG will validate what we already know. We are deployment focused. We are warfighter focused and we are mission ready."



Staff Sgt. Timothy Montjoy, 78th Mission Support Group, gets a computer online in the personnel contingency tent at Warrior Air Base Oct. 17. The PERSCO is responsible for accountability for all personnel in the field.

DLA

Continued from 1A

"You're still part of the family and our commitment to warfighters and customers will continue, and I look forward to the years ahead," he said.

"The success of the 402nd Maintenance Wing is largely built on the supply and support (702nd MSS members) provided," General Busch said.

The DLA-Warner Robins detachment will be managed by DLA's aviation supply chain, DSCR, based in Richmond, Va.

"This is Day 1, and our focus is to ensure uninterrupted support to General Atkinson's maintenance line. Work will continue, as

is/where is," General Busch said. "We're also identifying what we'll do on Day 2, which is not a date, but a condition of fail safe support to the maintenance wing as we move through the transformation DOD is asking us to do."

Throughout the transition process, several town hall meetings were held to keep affected employees informed about the transition.

"The communication with us was very good," said John Ricks, one of the employees who transferred to DLA. "The initial concern was that of being anxious and not knowing what to expect. But now that it is here, it's kind of invisible and it has gone smooth so far. People are doing the same functions; we're just working for DLA instead of the Air Force."

MCKINLEY

Continued from 1A

modernization of our air, space and cyberspace systems.

"We need to develop and recapitalize our Air Force. Right now, we have the oldest aircraft in our inventory that we've ever had. Our aircraft average around 24 years of age and that is just too old," Chief McKinley said.

recruiting strong young men and women, then developing them immediately through education and training.

"We do a very good job of giving our Airmen solid training, developing them and their technical skills for their job. We work hard to ensure we are properly taking care of them and their families," he said.

Chief McKinley said the Air Force's professional military education programs are outstanding in developing the Airmen and preparing them to do their jobs. "That goes from airman leadership school to NCO academies to senior NCO academies to the chief's leadership course and several other courses we have in between to make sure we develop our Airmen throughout their career," he said.

The third priority for the Air Force is recapitalization and

standing visit," said Tech. Sgt. Daniel Pacheco, flight instructor at NCO Academy. "It was great to see a senior leader take the time out of his busy schedule to visit us, it says a lot about Chief McKinley."

Tech. Sgt. Janna Wesley was also impressed with the chief.

"Everyone was excited that Chief McKinley was here," she said. "And they were surprised at how down to earth he is. His responses to questions were real — not the typical Air Force responses you'd expect from a senior enlisted leader. I'd really like to see him return to Robins soon."

The chief said he is proud of all the Airmen who volunteer to serve their country.

"It's truly an incredible honor to meet incredible Airmen and their families all over the world," he said. "Our Air Force is accomplishing amazing missions and our Airmen are the ones who make it happen."

Those who were able to hear the chief speak appreciated his comments.

"I thought it was an out-

Paws for Reading



Flynn is one of the certified therapy dogs who joined Robins Elementary School students as part of the Paws for Reading program.

Therapy dogs lend an ear to Robins Elementary students

BY AMANDA CREEL
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For many students reading out loud in class to their peers can be an overwhelming experience, where students dread making a mistake in front of their classmates.

This is why Beverly Kile, the reading teacher at Robins Elementary, jumped at the opportunity to bring therapy dogs into the classroom to help her students practice their oral reading skills without the pressure of impressing their peers.

"They read aloud to them and improve their oral reading. They are more relaxed because the dogs aren't critical," Ms. Kile said.

The opportunity for the dogs to join the Robins Elementary reading program was made possible by Therapups of Central Georgia through the Paws for Reading program, which is designed to help improve literacy using registered therapy dogs.

It was one of the Therapup handlers, who also works at Robins as the Combat Talon flight chief with the 572nd Aircraft Sustainment Squadron, Donna Hartnett, who asked the base elementary school if they would be interested in using the therapy dogs in the classroom.

Ms. Hartnett said her favorite part of the program is that it allows students to practice their reading in a non-critical environment.

"They don't criticize me and they are really cute, and they help me out with my reading a lot," said Peyton Baskerville, 11.

The therapy dogs joined the Robins Elementary students for three weeks Monday through Thursday lending an ear as the students completed their 20 minutes of independent reading each day.

"I have seen a big difference in their reading and even some parents have told us they have noticed a difference too," Ms. Kile said.

Peyton agreed that her own reading has improved since the dogs started visiting their classroom three weeks ago.

"Now I am reading chapter

books and before I was reading little small books," she said.

The students chose some of their favorite books to read to their canine friends.

"Flynn is the dog I read to the most. I just like reading with him. I read the 'Magnificent Mummy' to Flynn. I choose that book because I am interested in ancient Egypt," said Salaam Goins, 10.

Salaam said he too thinks his reading has improved.

"I do less stuttering," he said.

Students involved in the program are thrilled with the opportunity to interact with the dogs and many of the students have a favorite therapy dog they always want to read to.

"She lays on my lap. Her name is Nora and she doesn't correct you if you mess up on a word," said Dylan Fiveash, 11.

"When Flynn first came out. She (Ms. Hartnett) taught us his tricks. He can do high fives," Peyton said. "Flynn gives you a high-five every time he's done reading."

Amy St. Clair, Nora's handler, said one of the most impressive things about the program is, "We become invisible when they are reading to the dog. They just become absorbed in reading to the dog," she said.

Ms. Hartnett agreed and said anything that can be done to help children gain more self-confidence is a great thing.

She said, "Dogs are good listeners and allowing the students to read to them without any distractions builds self-confidence."

Along with helping the students improve their reading skills, the students also get an opportunity to learn how to handle the dogs and are given the opportunity to test the dogs training through drills and by practicing their tricks with them.

Ms. Hartnett, Flynn's handler, said the program also helps children who are timid or afraid of dogs learn to interact with them without being scared.



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

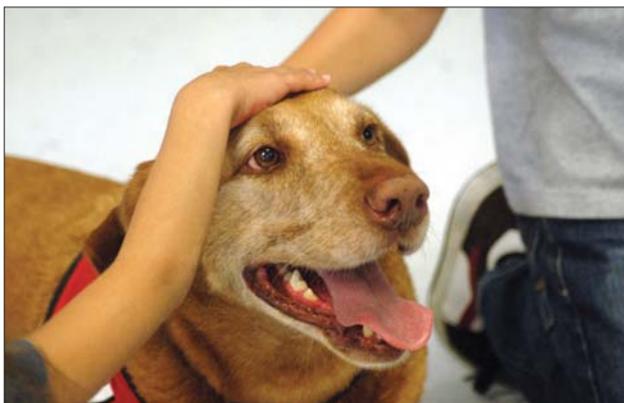
Second grade student, Kade Daniels reads as Shelby Imel and Lindsey Autry listen and interact with Buddy. Buddy is a certified therapy dog who visits schools, hospitals and nursing homes.



Peyton Baskerville, 6th grade, reads to Flynn.



Dylan Fiveash, 6th grade, reads to Nora, a therapy dog.



Buddy, a therapy dog, gets lots of attention from the reading students at Robins Elementary.

A patch on therapy dog Buddy's harness says he loves hugs and kisses.



2B ■ The Robins Rev-Up ■ October 19, 2007

SATURDAY

Local radio personality Chris Williams will be holding a house party every Saturday night from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. starting in October. Doors will open at 9 p.m. Old school variety will be played Oct. 20 and a Halloween house party (come in costume) will be held Oct. 27. Cost will be \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-7625.

SUNDAY

Enter the "Short, Short, Short Story" contest (not to exceed 250 words), using either a funny or scary theme during the Celebrate Teen Read Week from Oct. 14 through 20. Stories can be turned into the library Oct. 14 through Nov. 2. For more information call the base library at 327-8761.

Sunday champagne brunch is open to all ranks and grades from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Robins Officers' Club. Enjoy all-you-care-to-eat breakfast, dinner entrees, carving station, salad bar, dessert and ice cream bar and much more. Cost is \$11.95 for members, \$13.95 for nonmembers and \$6.95 for children (3 to 10 years old) and children two years and younger are free. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

MONDAY

Triple S Monday with soup, salad and sandwiches is available at the officers' club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$7.25. Enjoy made-to-order sandwiches or a full course salad bar with a variety of rotating gourmet soups. New special: soup and half sandwich combo only \$5.25 and wings and nachos for \$3.50. Lunch is open to all ranks and grades. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

TUESDAY

Free tacos are available to club members Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the enlisted club, located in Bldg. 956. For more information call the enlisted lounge at 926-7625.

WEDNESDAY

Enjoy pizza Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Robins Officers' Club. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

Enjoy M.U.G. and Mic Night on Wednesdays at the enlisted club, located in Bldg. 956. Participants may bring musical instruments and show their talent and bring their own mugs and get refills (up to 24 ounces) for only \$2. The fun begins at 7 p.m. Cost for entry is \$2 for nonmembers. For more information call the enlisted lounge at 926-7625.

THURSDAY

The officers' club is available for evening dining on Wednesday and Thursday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. Enjoy Prime Rib on Wednesdays for \$11.95, stuffed flounder on Thursdays for \$10.95, Porterhouse steak (16 oz.) Fridays for \$14.95 and pasta Chardonnay w/salmon on Saturdays for only \$10.95. Kids, 10 years and younger eat free Wednesday and Thursdays off the kid's menu with the purchase of an adult entrée. For more information, call the club at 926-2670.

UPCOMING

Outdoor Recreation For more information on these programs and events call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

► A Christmas shopping trip rendezvous will be held at the North Georgia Premium Outlets in Dawsonville, Ga. on Dec. 15. Cost is \$45 per person. Meet at outdoor recreation at 9 a.m. for departure at 9:30 a.m. and return to outdoor recreation at 7 p.m. A minimum of 10 people is required to host this trip. Register by Dec. 3.

► A Fantasy in Lights/Callaway Gardens trip will be held Dec. 21 in Pine Mountain, Ga. Cost is \$40 per person, \$60 for one parent and child and \$70 for couples. Meet at outdoor recreation at 2 p.m. for departure at 2:15 p.m. Bus will return around midnight. A minimum of 10 people is required for outdoor recreation to host this trip. Register by Dec. 10 at outdoor recreation, Bldg. 914.

► Deer and hog hunting season is open now through February. Hunting requires a valid Georgia state hunting license and hunting safety class offered by outdoor recreation. Cost is \$10 for archery hunting and \$30 for gun and archery.

The teen center will hold poetry nights Oct. 26 at 7 p.m., and a Keystone meeting Oct. 27 at 6 p.m., scrapbooking session on Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. and TRAIL meetings on Oct. 19 at 6 p.m. For more information call the teen center at 926-5601.

A fall festival will be held Oct. 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. Children and parents

Robins Fitness Center

U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP



Team Robins members work out at the fitness center recently.

A Halloween 5K fun run is slated for Oct. 31 at 10 a.m. with prizes for best and scariest costume and top finishers. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

from CDC east and west and Family Child Care are invited. For more information call Child Development Center east or west at 926-5805 or 926-3080.

Watch WWE Wrestling "Cyber Sunday" Oct. 28 in the enlisted lounge, located in Bldg. 956. The action begins at 8 p.m. for both events. Cost is free for members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information call the enlisted lounge at 926-7625.

Family night bingo will be held Oct. 29 starting at 5 p.m. Cost is \$4 for children and \$6 for adults. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-7625.

A Halloween Bingo on Oct. 31. Joint Forces Bingo is located in the east wing of the Robins Enlisted Club. The hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with games starting at 7:15 p.m. Games begin at 2:45 p.m. on Sundays. Enjoy bar bingo five nights a week at 6 p.m. Any one with an active duty, reserve, guard, retired, DOD or family member identification card is eligible to play. The entry fee is free to all Robins' club members, bona fide guests and active duty or retired widow club members and \$5 for eligible non-club members. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-4515 or Teresa Resta at 926-1303.

Private pilot ground school registration will be held now through Nov. 5 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with school starting Nov. 5 through Dec. 21. One hundred percent tuition is available for active-duty military. Cost is \$575 and is due at the time of registration. Ground school is a 45 to 50-hour course, lasting approximately 10 weeks and scheduled on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6 to 8 p.m. Register soon as classroom seating is limited.

Robins School Age Program provides care for children ages 5-12 who are eligible family members of active duty and DOD civilians. The program is accredited by the National Afterschool Alliance. In order to become an accredited program, the program has to maintain compliance with national standards that are designed to describe the best practices in our of school programs for children ages 5-12. Cost of program is based on total family income. For application go online to www.robinservices.com and click on youth center. For more information call the youth center at 926-2110.

All retirees get a free fountain drink or iced tea with a \$4 minimum purchase when they show their retiree ID card along with coupon on page 19 of the October Edge in October. For more information call Pizza Depot at 926-0188.

A 78th Air Base Wing Sports Day will be Oct. 25 starting at 8 a.m. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

► The fitness center annex, located in Bldg. 301 Bay H, is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A retiree appreciation lunch buffet will be held Oct. 23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the officers' club. Military retirees and spouses receive an additional \$1 discount on the lunch buffet when they present their retiree ID card to the cashier. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

ONGOING

The 78th Services Division offers designated driver programs at the enlisted lounge, officers' club and Pizza Depot to assist in reducing alcohol related incidents. For groups of two or more, please identify yourself as the designated driver to the operations assistant on

duty. They will provide fountain soft drinks, fruit juices or non-alcoholic frozen drinks during your visit free of charge. To learn more about Services Designated Drivers programs, please call 926-2670.

The Airmen Against Drunk Driving program provides rides free of charge to all Robins DOD card holders. Coverage is from Perry to Macon. For a free, anonymous ride, please call 222-0013.

Arts & Crafts Center For more information, on the following, call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

► The Arts & Crafts Center will hold the following classes in October: pastels with Tracy Oct. 24 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$15; watercolor painting landscapes Oct. 25 from 1 to 3 p.m., cost \$12; acrylic painting landscape Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to noon, cost \$12; all age acrylic painting beaches Oct. 23 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., cost \$7 kid/\$10 adults; drawing, working on shading Oct. 19 and 26 from 10 to 11:30 a.m., cost \$7 kid/\$10 adults; all ages encaustic with Tracy Oct. 22 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$15; sewing Oct. 19 and 26 from noon to 2 p.m., cost \$15; scrapbooking Halloween; basket weaving class Oct. 22 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$40 (both dates); scroll saw Oct. 24 from 6 to 8 p.m., cost \$12. Advance registration and payment is required for all classes. Classes are subject to change without notice. Wood shop safety classes are held Tuesdays at 6 p.m. and auto shop safety and orientation classes are held every Wednesday at 6 p.m. and every Saturday at 11 a.m. free of charge. Registration is not required. Do-it-yourself framing is available Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Do-it-yourself framing, during the evening and Saturdays, is scheduled by appointment only. All classes are open to active duty, reserve and retired military and family members and DOD civilians.

Take a discovery flight and realize your dream of flying for \$49. Flight consists of one-half hour around local area. For more information call the aero club at 926-4867.

All retirees get a free fountain drink or iced tea with a \$4 minimum purchase when they show their retiree ID card along with coupon on page 19 of the October Edge in October. For more information call Pizza Depot at 926-0188.

The Youth Center JR NBA and JR WNBA basketball registrations will be held Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$55. The program emphasizes fundamentals of skill development, teamwork, sportsmanship and positive adult participation with the goal of providing a fun and rewarding youth basketball experience. A copy of birth certificate and current physical examination will be required. Dedicated basketball coaches are also needed. Apply in person at the center or call 926-2110 for more information.

An Air Force Club Membership Drive "Start from Scratch" is being held now - Dec. 31 at your enlisted club and officers' club. All new members will receive six months free dues along with Air Force wide, 100 new members will be randomly selected to receive additional six months free dues by registering via an online survey. Scratch off tickets will also be given to new members for a chance to win \$100, \$25, \$10 & \$5 instantly. Every scratch off is a winner with a total of \$100,000 to be given away Air Force-wide. New club members, as well as current members, will also receive a coupon value pack

with discount coupons to use in various Services facilities throughout the coming year. Club membership is open to all ranks and grades. To learn more, call the officers' club at 926-2670.

The bowling center has the following specials. To learn more call 926-2112.

► On Spot Café October special is Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich, fries and medium drink for \$5.50. For more information call the On Spot Café at 926-5240.

► All retirees receive one free game of bowling with one paid game when they show their retiree ID card along with coupon on page 19 of the October Edge for the month of October.

► Enjoy Thunder Alley glow-in-the-dark bowling Fridays from 9 to 11 p.m.; cost 12 years and younger, \$5 and 13 years and older, \$10 and Saturdays from 9 to 11 p.m.; cost is \$10 for everyone.

Pine Oaks Golf Course has the following specials. To learn more, call 926-4103.

► A 2007 Base Open Golf Championship will be held Oct. 27 and 28 starting at 9 a.m. Cost is \$45 for AGF members and \$65 for non-AGF members. Price includes golf, range balls, food, drinks and prizes.

► Every Monday and Tuesday in October pay only \$20 for green fee and cart.

► Every Monday through Thursday in October pay only \$15 for green fee and cart starting at 3 p.m.

► Every Wednesday in October enjoy unlimited range balls for \$5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

► In October enjoy several weekly specials at the Fairways Grille for only \$5.95 (includes drink): Oct. 22 - 26: baked spaghetti w/steamed vegetables and garlic bread

► Time to let us know how we are doing in making your golfing enjoyable and you can win a golf course gift certificate worth \$300 or \$100. Go online to www.usafservices.com/golf to fill out one of our golfer's surveys now - Oct. 31. Paper versions are also available in the pro shop.

The Robins Chapel will host AWANA each Wednesday night from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Children ages 3 through high school are invited.

The program will provide Christian teaching, active games and a chance to socialize with other children. For more information call Kiley Glass at 327-3780 information.

The 78th Services Division has a new Internet address. Go to www.robinservices.com for all the information you need regarding Services.

Find out how the 78th Services Division rates!

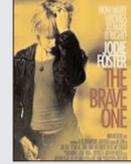
Go to www.robinservices.com and click on the ICE icon. When you make a comment about a Services facility on ICE you will be e-mailed a message stating how the facility has been rated by customers like yourself in the past 147 days.

Let us know what you think about Robins clubs, fitness centers, the golf course, child care centers and more. Share your experiences at Outdoor Recreation, the Robins Aero Club, the Base Restaurant or one of the Base Restaurant snack bars. Tell us what you think about information in the Services Edge, e-mails, posters, marquees and other media by clicking on the marketing link in ICE. To use ICE, go to www.robinservices.com and click on the ICE icon (right-hand side of the screen).

At the next screen, click on the activity link you want to rate or comment on. Provide contact information to receive an answer. To learn more, call 926-5492.

NOW PLAYING

Adult tickets are \$4; children 11 years old and younger tickets are \$2. Movies start at 7:30 p.m., unless noted. For more information, call the base theater at 926-2919. Beginning Oct. 5 All Shows will Start at 7 p.m.



FRIDAY

SHOOT 'EM UP

Clive Owen, Paul Giamatti
Mr. Smith, the angriest, most hardboiled man in the world, finds himself entrusted to protect the most innocent thing of all-a newborn child. When Smith delivers the baby in the middle of a gunfight, he soon discovers that the infant is the target of a shadowy force that has sent a team of mysterious and endless assassins, led by Hertz, to erase all traces of the baby. Amid a hail of bullets and facing every conceivable permutation of gunfight, Smith teams up with a prostitute named DQ to solve the mystery as to why the baby's life is being threatened before this makeshift family all ends up on the wrong side of a bullet. Everyone wants the baby dead. The big question is why? Rated R.

SATURDAY

THE BRAVE ONE

Jodie Foster, Terrence Howard
New York radio host Erica Bain has a life that she loves and a fiancé she adores. All of it is taken from her when a brutal attack leaves Erica badly wounded and her fiancé dead. Unable to move past the tragedy, Erica begins prowling the city streets at night to track down the men she holds responsible. Her dark pursuit of justice catches the public's attention, and the city is riveted by her anonymous exploits. But with the NYPD desperate to find the culprit and a dogged police detective hot on her trail, she must decide whether her quest for revenge is truly the right path, or if she is becoming the very thing she is trying to stop. Rated R

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic
Catholic masses are held at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and 5 p.m. vigili the day before, and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Islamic
Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumua) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

Jewish
Jewish service is Fridays at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue.

Orthodox Christian
St. Innocent Orthodox Church service is at the chapel on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

Protestant
The traditional service meets Sunday in the Chapel at 11 a.m. featuring hymns, anthems, congregational prayers and readings. Contemporary service meets at 6 p.m. in the Chapel Sanctuary, singing the latest praise and worship music. The gospel service meets at 8 a.m. at the Chapel, praising God with inspirational music. Religious education meets in Bldg. 905 at 9:30 a.m.

The chapel helps with spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.

DONATE YOUR LEAVE

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave. To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, wings should

send information to Lanoris Askew at lanoris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks. The following person has been approved as a leave recipient: **Loraine Higgins, HQ AFRC/FMF, POC is Jerianne Werner, 327-1445.**

Youth center football team to play in championships

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON
kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil

For the first time in three years, the Robins Youth Center 11- and 12-year-old tackle football team has a winning record and is making the most of it. The young players have made it all the way to the championship game.

The Falcons are 8-1 and are in the title game. They have a tough challenge ahead; they face a Perry team that hasn't been defeated yet this season. The teams will clash Saturday at 4:30 p.m. at the McConnell-Talbert Stadium in Warner Robins.

Staff Sgt. Roosevelt Marks of the 5th Combat Communications Group has been the head coach for the young team, but a deployment caused him to miss the post-season. His assistant Earl Billingsley, whose son Ja'que plays middle linebacker and center, is filling in.

Billingsley said if his team plays to its potential, it has a good chance of winning on Saturday.

"This is a great accomplishment. I'm so proud of the boys," he said. "We started practicing after all the other teams so they're just starting to gel."

To make it to the final game, the Robins team defeated the Warner Robins Oilers 18-0 in the playoffs. The two teams were scoreless at the half, but an inspired halftime message from the coach motivated the team to score three second half touchdowns.

"Some of our players looked like they just woke up. I had to get them fired up and get some fire in their eyes," Billingsley said. "I challenged them and motivated them to play their best and give it their



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

ABOVE: Earl Billingsley, who is filling in as coach of the Youth Center tackle football for Staff Sgt. Roosevelt Marks, who is deployed, motivates the young players during a halftime speech.

RIGHT: Quarterback Tyler Gray, whose father is Master Sgt. Matthew Gray with the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron, helped lead his team to three second half touchdowns and an 18-0 victory in the playoff game.



all in the second half."

Ron Hayes, youth sports and fitness director, said a combination of coaching and good talent helped propel the team forward. He said he is proud of the youth sports program at Robins.

"Our coaches try to teach more than sports fundamentals," he said. "They try to instill values, like responsibility and dedication. They emphasize attitude and education. They try to incorporate a lot of life lessons with these young kids."

SPORTS BRIEFS

AFA Thank-a-Vet Run and Veterans Day Dedication

The Air Force Association Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter and Prisoner of War Missing in Action Memorial Committee will host the 7th annual Thank-a-Vet Run on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Museum of Aviation. The run will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Check-in time for the 5K/one-mile run/walk begins at 7:15 a.m. The preregistration fee of \$15 covers a T-shirt and refreshments. On-site registration is \$20. A picture identification card is required. Interested persons may register online at the AFA Web site, <http://cv-afa.org/>.

Proceeds will be dedicated to POW/MIA Memorial Monument, which will be erected at the Museum of Aviation. To date, \$110,000 has been raised toward the construction cost of approximately \$130,000.

Sponsors of the event will be recognized and have an area to display materials. Companies or individuals interested in sponsoring the race may contact David Cowles at 955-0568 or 327-3476.

Youth Center Sports

The Robins Youth Center Junior NBA and Junior WNBA basketball registrations will be Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$55. The program emphasizes fundamentals of skill development, teamwork, sportsmanship and positive adult participation with the goal of providing a fun and rewarding youth basketball experience. A copy of birth certificate and current physical examination will be required. Dedicated basketball coaches are also needed. Apply in person at the center or call 926-2110 for more information.

INTRAMURALS

Flag football

Standings (M-W League):			Standings (T-Th League):		
Team	W	L	Team	W	L
78th SFS	7	0	78th CES	6	0
581st SMXS	4	1	19th ARG	7	1
CGOA	5	2	78th LRS	6	2
542nd CSW	3	3	7116th ACW	6	2
78th CS	3	2	18th MDG	5	3
78th CES/CEF	2	4	5th CCGP	2	4
116th ACW (Airmen)	1	5	78th SVS	1	5
402nd AMXG C-130	0	5	330th ASW	1	6
138 MICO	2	0	653rd CLSS	1	3
			402nd AMXG	1	5

Teams below the line have forfeited out of their leagues. Due to the Operational Readiness Exercise, there were no games this week. Games will continue Monday.

HAVE AN IDEA FOR A SPORTS ARTICLE?

CONTACT KENDAHL JOHNSON AT 222-0804



BIRDIE PUTT

With Neal Garrett watching closely, Tech. Sgt. Will Roland, 99th Air Refueling Squadron, putts during the 19th Heritage Group golf tournament.

The tournament is part of several events celebrating the 80th anniversary of the 19th Air Refueling Group. The group will deactivate in 2008 as part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision.

U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

AF skeet team takes world championship

Pull! The command was shouted thousands of times from Oct. 3-13 where the Air Force dominated the 2007 World Skeet Championships as more than 1,700 competitors from around the world gathered at the event in Northwest San Antonio.

Among military teams, Air Force Team One took first place in every gauge, 12 gauge, 20 gauge, 28 gauge and .410 bore, while Air Force Team Two came in second.

Skeet, a competitive target shooting sport, was invented in the U.S. in the 1920s by hunters who wanted to improve their aim for hunting season.

Today, both hunters and

non-hunters around the globe are drawn to skeet ranges where they fire at clay objects, called pigeons, hurled in the air in a crisscross pattern.

The modern skeet competition consists of eight different shooting stations and offers a variety of fast-flying targets that take flight from many challenging directions.

Air Force Team One won the five person military team championship with 2,701 targets hit out of 2,750. The sharpshooters missed only 49 targets while Air Force Team Two hit 2,631 targets.

The Air Force squad is divided into two five-person teams. Team one includes Lt.

Col. Rick Davis, from Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas; Capt. Brian Moore, from Nellis AFB, Nev.; Master Sgt. Stuart Brown (team captain), from Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.; Master Sgt. John Barnes, from Malmstrom AFB, Mont.; and Master Sgt. Mike Geise, from the Pentagon.

Team two includes Lt. Col. Vernon Lucas (overall team captain), from Ramstein Air Base, Germany; Master Sgt. Eric Agney from Scott AFB, Ill.; Master Sgt. John Yanick, from Shaw AFB, S.C.; Staff Sgt. Reid Beveridge, from Offutt AFB, Neb.; and Staff Sgt. Jesse Caldwell, from Nellis AFB.— *Air Force News*

Fire Prevention Week at Robins



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Robins celebrated Fire Prevention Week Oct. 9 -12. The fire department conducted fire safety house classes at Robins Elementary School, hosted a fire prevention poster contest and handed out fire prevention materials at the Base Exchange. Above, Overall winners in the Robins Elementary fire poster contest are left to right Second place - Brittany Fiveash, First place - Geneva Berry, and Third place - Katie Zamora. Other winners included Kindergartners- 1st place: Lillian McElheny, 2nd place: Shelby Hensley, 3rd Place: Joshua Molas; 1st Graders- 1st place: Destinee Williams; 2nd place: Collin Thompson and 3rd place: Jeffery Thomas; 2nd graders- 1st place: Mason Moellenkamp, 2nd place: Trinity Giacoletti and 3rd place: Tayelor Camp; 3rd graders- 1st place: Hannah Nesbitt, 2nd place: Micah Plummer and 3rd place: Cori Calvert; 4th graders- 1st place: Geneva Berry 2nd place: Baily Autry and 3rd place: Sierra Corvin; 5th graders- 1st place: Brittany Fiveash, 2nd place: Emily Sipos and 3rd place: Jin Min Kim; 6th graders- 1st place: Katie Zamora, 2nd place: Erashey Crisler and 3rd place: Adriana Blair.



At right, Senior Airman Adam Millard assists Robins Elementary first grader, Jerico Ortiz, as he climbs out of the fire safety trailer during fire training to teach children about an escape plan.