

General Peyer: Thanksgiving a time to reflect on life's blessings

In the autumn of 1621, the pilgrims of Plymouth Colony celebrated the first Thanksgiving. It was a time for the settlers of this newly discovered land to rejoice in all they had accomplished after a year of particularly cruel hardship.

The founders of our nation set aside three entire days to celebrate their survival. The pilgrims had experienced and learned much to get them through the difficulties of life in a strange new environment. With knowledge gleaned from natives of the land, they had adapted to a new land. Powered by an unending faith, they had endured. Their successes and progress under primitive circumstances gave them reason to believe they could prevail over any future challenges.



Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer
Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander

Indeed, they had much to be thankful for.

Given the history of this holiday – the story of a people thankful just to be alive – a question easily comes to mind. How would today's America respond to the challenges of such a rugged situation as our forebears faced?

Well, I happen to have an optimistic viewpoint. I firmly believe American people have always been at their very best when confronted with difficulties. I'm certain the old axiom, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going," is a thoroughly American attribute. That's why I'm confident we as a people would make it through the sternest of hardships and come out not only strong, but just as thankful.

Those who would question our ability to rise above tough times likely wonder if we've become too soft; overly satisfied in the modern comforts available to so many in this land of plenty. But I truly believe that, put to the test, Americans would emulate the example set by our country's settlers. And my positivism in our society, in our people, remains unshaken no matter what the future may bring. Yes, despite news of bailouts, bankruptcies and economic downturns, I remain optimistic that America will prevail.

I know we mustn't take our good standing for granted. I realize things can get complicated in a hurry. I do not doubt that even the strongest nation on earth could be visited by hardship once again.

Yet it is those blessings I am so thankful for on this holiday that feed my confidence. Thanksgiving is a great time to remember the timeless attributes that have always made our nation great. As a people, we've forever possessed a winning and patriotic spirit; the will to not only survive

and succeed, but to flourish and thrive in the face of adversity. The fires of American effort and dedication have always burned hotter when our nation and our fellow countrymen are most in need. These are among the shining qualities exhibited throughout our history – noble characteristics that link generation to generation of Americans.

I know those remarkable qualities are alive and well and among us still.

I know this because thousands upon thousands of brave men and women continue to deploy far from their homes and loved ones in service to our country. Like those pilgrims who founded this land, these valiant warriors have put their lives on the line for our nation's freedom and a better life and future for all Americans. We're all proud of them for answering our nation's call. I know we will all send prayers of thanksgiving this holiday for them and the families they have left behind.

My confidence in our nation's future is further bolstered by the mem-

bers of this incredible installation. I am personally thankful on this day for the privilege of leading Team Robins, a group with an astounding 65-plus year history of patriotic support that matches the greatness of the nation we defend. Your continued dedication and excellence are much appreciated.

We can be thankful for every blessing that is ours on this special occasion. The love of family and friends. The enjoyment of plentiful food and warmth of shelter. The privileges of living in a nation where freedom and liberty abound.

On this Thanksgiving Day, I urge you all to take a moment to reflect upon and count our blessings as Americans, and to strengthen your resolve to meet any and all challenges ahead. And by all means, rest and enjoy the day, and come back to us safely next week.

Brian and I wish you all a safe and happy Thanksgiving and a terrific holiday season. — *Commentary by Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander*

Happy Thanksgiving!



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP
Ryan Underwood and Sierra Sheward work together on a cornucopia cookie in Beverly Crawford's pre-kindergarten class at Robins Elementary Nov. 19. The class dressed as pilgrims and Native Americans to learn about Thanksgiving.

General Hoffman assumes leadership of AFMC

BY JOHN SCAGGS
Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

Gen. Don Hoffman assumed the top position for the Air Force major command responsible for the technology, acquisition, test and sustainment of the service's current and future weapon systems during a ceremony here Nov. 21.



Gen. Don Hoffman
AFMC commander

General Hoffman took the reins of Air Force Materiel Command from Gen. Bruce Carlson during a change of command held at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. General Carlson, who had served as the commander of AFMC since August 2005, is retiring after 37 years of service.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz presided over the change of command and began by highlighting General Carlson's unwavering leadership in establishing a vision known to everyone in AFMC: war-winning capabilities — on time, on cost.

"Bruce, you can be confident that AFMC successfully delivers war-winning expeditionary capabilities to the warfighter," General Schwartz said. "Your work is going to pay wonderful dividends for years to come.

"You leave a legacy of excellence and you were a friend to all Airmen," General Schwartz continued. "We wish you and Vicki the very best."

► see HOFFMAN, 2A

THINK SAFETY



Days without a DUI: 44
Last DUI: 78th SFS
— courtesy 78th Security Forces

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



THE TWO-MINUTE REV

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Safety reminder

All residents on base must abide by the Georgia state laws when it comes to school buses. Please remember to stop -- in both directions -- when

a school bus is loading or unloading children. If bus lights are flashing yellow or red, drivers must stop and be cautious of children. Failure to abide could result in a citation.

OUTREACH



Airmen's dinner

Robins dorm residents get an early Thanksgiving treat, **5A**

CAREER



Troops to Teachers

DOD offers second career for military members as teachers, **3A**

HEALTH



Smoking cessation

Robins offers class to help smokers kick the habit, **4A**

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY
61/35

THURSDAY
68/47

FRIDAY
67/42

HOFFMAN

Continued from 1A

General Carlson, who assumed command of AFMC in August 2005, told the crowd that he considered it an honor to serve and learn from such a diverse and talented group of people.

“During my tenure as AFMC commander, it was a privilege to serve alongside people who were unified in purpose and in decision,” General said. “It’s a remarkable opportunity for a commander when you have a group of people like that around you. The men and women of AFMC understand the mission, comprehend the goals and work hard to ensure they are accomplished. God bless each of you for your service and God bless the U.S. Air Force.”

General Schwartz emphasized AFMC’s vital role in the Air Force’s national security capability and added that he is confident General Hoffman will lead the command to acquisition and sustainment excellence.

“So much of the Air Force’s success hinges on leadership,” General Schwartz said. “General Hoffman will lead a command whose work will be critically important to our Air Force and this nation in the years ahead.”

General Hoffman thanked General Schwartz and Air Force Secretary Michael Donley for their faith in his ability to lead AFMC and then stated he was looking forward to working alongside AFMC’s Airmen, civilians and contractors.

“I’m honored to join this team,” General Hoffman said. “Together, we will continue to produce a product and provide services for our warfighters

that will dissuade and deter those who wish us harm. Your efforts help keep this nation safe.”

Prior to the change of command, General Hoffman received his fourth star during a brief promotion ceremony. After serving as the Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition at the Pentagon for the past three years, General Hoffman becomes the seventh AFMC commander since AFMC stood up on July 1, 1992. He will now lead a work force currently numbering about 74,000 people and manage an annual budget of about \$59 billion.

During an interview preceding the change of command, General Hoffman praised AFMC’s work force.

“The job that the people in AFMC are doing day-to-day plays a critical role in keeping our nation safe and secure,” General Hoffman said. “While this command is unique in that civilians comprise about 70 percent of the work force, it does not matter if someone is a blue suiter or a blue collar worker ... we’re all part of the same Air Force team. I want everyone in AFMC to understand their connection to our mission.

General Hoffman acknowledged that one of his challenges will involve personnel issues.

“We have experience gaps within some career fields,” he said. “We need to positively motivate people to continue their service in AFMC. As a commander, I can help by creating a healthy work environment. I want people to wake up in the morning and look forward to going to work because they enjoy being there and because they believe that their work is

important and valued.

Sustainment of the Air Force’s aging aircraft is another key issue.

“We can indefinitely maintain the fleet through AFMC’s three depots,” General Hoffman said. “The real question is at what price do we continue to sustain our aging fleet? Take the KC-135 for example. AFMC is changing major structural elements such as wing and fuselage skins, engines and landing gear on that aircraft. We’re approaching the point where replacement parts make up more of the aircraft than original components.

“There is a cost to those replacement parts and to the man-hours involved in completing the work,” he continued. “The situation our depots face is similar to a geriatric hospital that cares for older patients. The hospital staff becomes more skilled in ‘sustaining’ the patients but each time the patients return to the hospital, they are sicker and require more difficult ‘sustaining’ by the staff.

That analogy supports the ongoing call by Air Force officials to recapitalize the service’s fleet and incorporate new technologies.

“Even though we replace parts and keep the current fleet flying, we’re still bound by outdated technology,” the general said. “We’re replacing traditional rivets and dealing with corrosion problems. One reason we buy new weapon systems is because they are built with newer technology, like composites, that requires less man-hours and less money to sustain them than the older weapon systems.

Another topic of interest for General Hoffman involves AFMC’s Nuclear Weapons Center and how it



U.S. Air Force photo by BEN STRASSER

In the time-honored military tradition signifying assumption of command, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz (left) passes the Air Force Materiel Command guidon, or unit flag, to Gen. Donald Hoffman. General Hoffman assumed command of AFMC Nov. 21 in a standing-room only ceremony at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The event was attended by a host of Air Force senior leaders.

interfaces with the Air Force’s recently announced Global Strike Command as well as the newly created Air Staff directorate, which was aligned as A10 on the staff and officially called the Strategic Deterrence

and Nuclear Integration Office.

“Global Strike Command has the operators ... they will conduct day-to-day nuclear operations on our flight lines and at our ICBM bases” General Hoffman said.

What are you most thankful for this year?



Carole Smith
578th CBSS

“My family.”



Charity Smith
578th CBSS

“Being with my family especially those I haven’t seen throughout the year and the good food.”



Staff Sgt. Devin Jacobs
78th ABW Chapel

“My family. They’re a great blessing to me.”



Tech. Sgt. Matthew Land
54th CBCS

“That my family, while I was deployed, was safe and sound. That’s directly due to my wife.”



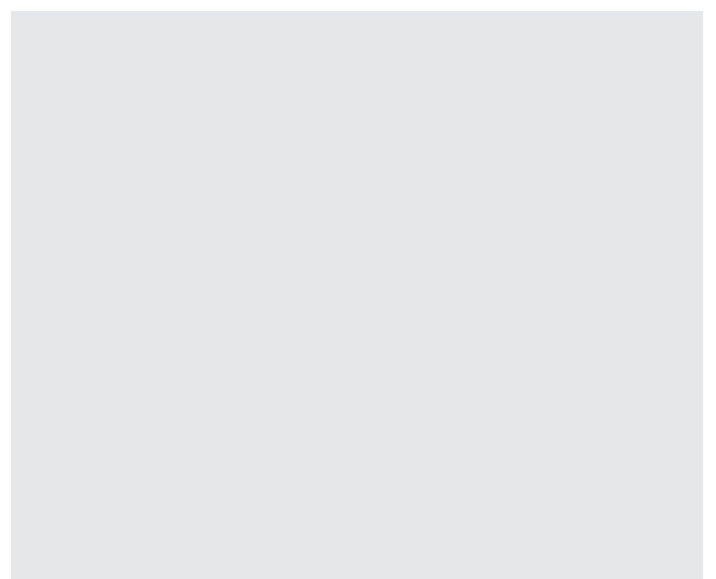
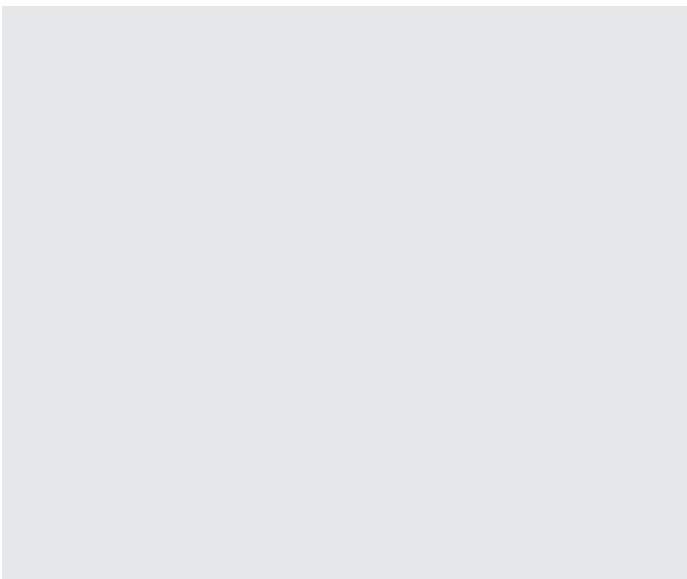
Jessica Wilson
Education and Training Office

“My family, having a job in this economy and being able to pursue my education program.”



CONGRATULATIONS

Thanks to the energy conservation efforts of Team Robins members, electricity use decreased by 8.6 percent (\$15,754 cost avoidance) in October 2008 compared to October 2007.



DOD program turns troops into teachers

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

After 27 years in the Air Force, it might seem like a difficult adjustment to go from leading Airmen to leading eighth graders, but for Chris Shumway, the same principles apply.

"It's really a lot like dealing with Airmen," Mr. Shumway said in describing his job teaching math at Feagin Mill Middle School. "It's like dealing with anyone. You just treat them with respect and expect them to treat each other with respect. Once you lay that foundation, things go pretty smoothly."

After retiring in 2006 from his job in the 5th Combat Communications Squadron here, he set his sights on becoming a teacher. He had earned a bachelor's degree during his time in the Air Force, although he had no education classes. The Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Program, however, allows people with a college degree to get into teaching and earn a teaching certificate while they teach.

Through the Georgia Troops to Teachers program, Mr. Shumway was able to get financial assistance to get his teaching certificate during his first year at Feagin Mill. He is now in his second year of teaching and is fully certified. He is a mentor for the Troops to Teachers program, advising other military members on moving into a career in education.

"He's a great example of what our program is all about," said Bill Kirkland, program manager for



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP
Eighth-grade student Caribe Polk gets some assistance from Chris Shumway, math teacher, at Feagin Mill Middle School Nov. 7. Mr. Shumway entered the education profession through the Troops to Teacher Program.

Georgia Troops to Teachers.

Mr. Kirkland gives a seminar on base once per month on the Troops to Teachers program, usually drawing four or five people, but his most recent program on Nov. 14 drew 10. One of those was Tech Sgt. Yvette Blanton. With 20 years in the Air Force, she plans to enter teaching after she retires in March. She plans to teach in Bleckley County, where she resides and has four children in school. Her enjoyment in coaching recreation soccer is part of the reason she wants to work with children.

"I just love kids," she said. "I know they have their moments, but if you can make a difference in one of their lives, it's a rewarding job. I'm not in it for the money."

She plans to get her feet wet by doing some substitute teaching while she completes her bachelor's degree.

Mr. Shumway substituted before entering teaching full-time, and highly recommends it to anyone considering a teaching career, which he admits is not for everyone.

"That will really let you know whether it is for you or not," he said. "If you can survive as a substitute then you really have it made."

Mr. Shumway said he was nervous on his first day as a teacher, but he said he wasn't afraid for the same reason he wasn't afraid when he deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom to help build an air base: preparation.

"I think the preparation we did ahead of time makes it not scary," he said. "When you are trained and prepared you feel confident."

He felt even more confident going into his second year of teaching, not only because of the teaching certi-

fication classes he took during his first year.

"Just having that year of experience is like night and day this year," he said.

Tim Helms, assistant superintendent of human resources for the Houston County school system, said he has worked with a number of veterans who have become teachers. The experience has been so positive, he said, that veterans who apply for teaching jobs in Houston County have a leg up on other applicants.

"They are very successful," he said. "They bring those qualities - the ideas and concepts - that the military is all about. The ones I have been associated with have made great transitions."

Troops to Teachers is a national program, which is important because it requires a three-year commitment to teach, Mr. Kirkland said.

That means anyone who enters the program in Georgia but then relocates to another state can finish the commitment in any other state.

The program offers up to \$5,000 for tuition assistance in certification training, plus up to \$10,000 in bonus money for teaching in a "high needs" school, which is defined by the poverty level. There is a \$10,000 limit in the total payout for both tuition and bonus money.

The tuition assistance is the focus of the Troops to Teachers program, Mr. Kirkland said. Finding a job is strictly up to the participant. Six school systems in Georgia, mostly in the metro Atlanta area, have a little or no poverty so the Troops to Teachers program does not provide assistance for anyone planning to teach in those schools. No school system is Middle Georgia is restricted for the program, and most Middle Georgia schools would make the participant eligible for the bonus money.

Anyone who wants to learn more about the program can visit the Georgia Troops to Teachers Web site at www.tttga.net. The Web site also has a schedule for the seminars that Mr. Kirkland gives at Robins. Anyone with six years in the military or 10 years as a reservist is eligible for the program. Generally a bachelor's degree is also required, but there are exceptions for those who want to teach vocational careers, such as mechanics, who have years of experience in those careers.

► IN BRIEF

GIFT WRAPPING AT THE BASE EXCHANGE

Free gift wrapping will be available at the Base Exchange Saturday from 9 a.m. 8 p.m., Dec. 17 from 1 to 8 p.m. and Dec. 18 1 to 8:30 p.m. Donations will be accepted. Proceeds will go towards the 78th Air Base Wing Dining Out, a wing sponsored event.

NEW TURN LANE

The right turn lane from Watson Boulevard on to Robins Parkway will be closed now through Dec. 23.

The closure is to construct a new asphalt turn lane. Only the turn lane will be closed. Traffic will still be able to turn right from Watson Boulevard on to Robins Parkway. For more information call Russell Thornbury at 327-8937.

BASE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Team Robins is invited to the annual base Christmas tree lighting Dec. 3 at 5 p.m. on the Chapel lawn. The event will feature the Robins Elementary School Chorus and a guest appearance by Santa Claus. See related photos on page 6A.

CORRECTION

The photo on the front page of the Nov. 21 Rev-Up was misidentified. The photo was of Senior Master Sgt. Scott Leach, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command first sergeant, lowering the organization's guidon to allow Gen. Bruce Carlson, then AFMC commander, to add the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award. The Robins Rev-up regrets the error.

FIT FOR EATING

78th AMDS' Public Health Flight ensures Robins food is safe

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

With the holidays upon us, food is likely to be abundant in the work areas and at festivities around the base.

Before people at Robins can serve up their favorite homemade or even store-bought edible goodies, they are advised to contact the food safety experts in the 78th Aerospace Medicine Squadron's Public Health Flight to make sure the food is safe to eat.

Pat Tooley, lead health specialist in the 78th AMDS, said getting the word out about food safety is important.

"A lot of times, people will bring a vendor on the base during the holidays without contacting us and it's extremely important that we're aware of who's bringing anything on this base to sell as far as food items," she said.

Mrs. Tooley said her flight must be involved in the process of serving and selling food on base from the very beginning.

Master Sgt. Varnell Simpson, NCOIC of Food Safety in 78th AMDS, said protecting people from food borne illnesses is one of her team's main areas of concern.

Sergeant Simpson said people must come through the 78th AMDS as well as the 78th Force Support Squadron's Services Branch before providing food for public consumption and that includes the work area.

"You always want to know where the food source came from," she said. "You don't want to have an event and have unidentified food there, so we always stress to label the food so you know who brought what and food doesn't just show up to your event."

Sergeant Simpson said



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Fred Brown checks the temperature on hot items to make sure they are 135 degrees or higher in the kitchen of Taco Johns in the Base Exchange food court.

food safety includes knowing food's origin, cooking and storing food at proper temperatures, and proper sanitation when handling and storing food.

Robins operates its Food Safety Program under the guidance of Air Force Instruction 48-116, Food Safety Program, and AFI 48-101, Aerospace Medical Operations, as well as the Food and Drug Administration's food code.

Sergeant Simpson said Robins' food safety professionals teach the four basics to food safety.

People should clean their hands thoroughly before preparing food and ensure the food preparation area is sanitized, Sergeant Simpson said.

Separating cooked from raw foods and ensuring proper temperatures during heating and chilling of food are also a must, Sergeant Simpson said.

Cold foods should be kept at 40 degrees or less, and heat-

ed foods should be kept at 135 degrees or higher.

These are just a few of the facts Sergeant Simpson and others, like Fred Brown, an environmental technician in the 78th AMDS, teach people.

Mr. Brown ensures everyone who is going to sell or prepare food on Robins is aware of the ins and outs of food safety.

"I'm the one who normally gives the training to the individuals and gives the approval for having these functions," he said. "They have to come through me before they come through Services."

Mr. Brown said the training he provides and approval of food preparation and food service helps to limit the serving of potentially hazardous foods in temporary settings.

The mandatory training Mr. Brown conducts advises people to not do the food preparation and storage practices they often do at home.

"Basically, we try to make sure they don't do things they

do at home," he said. "We do a lot of things at home that are improper, like thawing our food improperly."

Mr. Brown said food must be thawed through cooking, submerging it in cold, running water, or by setting it in the refrigerator for a few days.

Ensuring proper internal temperature of foods is another area Mr. Brown teaches.

People who are going to sell or handle food must be trained and receive a signed letter to provide as proof of the training, Mr. Brown said.

In addition to ensuring individuals have the proper food safety knowledge, Mr. Brown and others in the program conduct periodic inspections of more than 65 eating establishments on Robins and also investigate customer complaints involving food sold on base.

"We're not out to embarrass or hurt anyone," Mr. Brown said. "We're here to help and promote a healthy environment."



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Maj. Sherry Moore teaches a smoking cessation class Nov. 20 at the Robins Health and Wellness Center.

Smoking cessation class helps Team Robins kick butts

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

Maj. Sherry Moore didn't know when she set the date to teach her first smoking cessation class that it was an important day for smokers wanting to quit.

She learned after scheduling the class that it fell on Nov. 20, which was the Great American Smokeout. It's the second biggest day of the year, next to New Year's, for smokers trying to snuff out butts for good.

It apparently had an impact on participation, as 20 people signed up. She originally expected about a dozen.

Major Moore has never smoked, but she spent 28 years as a nurse where she had many occasions to witness the suffering caused by smoking. She also had a grandmother who died of lung cancer, which she said was as a result of her grandfather's second-hand smoke because her grandmother never smoked.

"I'm very passionate, seeing some of the damage it has caused, both professionally and in my family," she said.

One of the persons who showed up for the class was Tech. Sgt. Paul Phinisee, a smoker for 20 years. He has tried unsuccessfully to quit

before but he said this time he has made up his mind to do it.

"I'm at the point where my body is sending me little signals," he said.

He said a major reason he wants to quit, repeated by others in the class, is the increasing emphasis the Air Force puts on physical fitness.

The class includes four weekly sessions held Wednesdays at 11 a.m. A new series starts each month.

Maj. Moore said it's recommended to start with the first class and attend all four sessions, but if anyone doesn't want to wait for the next series to start they can come and she can fill them in on the previous sessions.

The classes are free and available to all base employees, although only military personnel can get free Chantix, a prescription drug that blocks the pleasurable aspect of nicotine in the brain. Civilian employees can get free nicotine patches.

Anyone who wants to attend the classes can register by calling the Health and Wellness Center at 327-8480.

The program is based on the American Cancer Society's Freshstart program. For more information visit the ACS Web site at www.cancer.org.

A taste of home for the holidays



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Kellie Donaldson, Robins Officers' Spouses Club member, serves Senior Airman Micalea Ramey sweet potatoes at the Airmen Ministry Center Nov. 18. The turkey dinner with all the trimmings was a collaboration between the ROSC and the Robins Chapel to bring Thanksgiving to Airmen in the dorms. According to Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua Payne, a total of 140 meals were served.

► IN BRIEF

RED KETTLE DRIVE

The 2008 Robins Red Kettle drive kicked off Nov. 21 and runs thru Dec. 23.

Robins is sponsoring eight kettles at seven locations throughout the Warner Robins area. Robins volunteers are working to raise funds that will directly impact the lives of those in our community. Volunteers from the base are working to help the Salvation Army Chapter reach its goal of raising \$100,000 to help more than 450 local families with more than 1,000 children under sponsorship by the local Salvation Army.

Following this year's event there will be an appreciation luncheon and presentation of the first ever Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander's Red Kettle Trophy to the unit with the highest participation impact. For more information or to volunteer, call Capt. Bill Ott at 327-7108.

AAFES HOLIDAY HOURS

Nov. 27 — Shoppette/Class Six 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All other AAFES facilities will be closed.

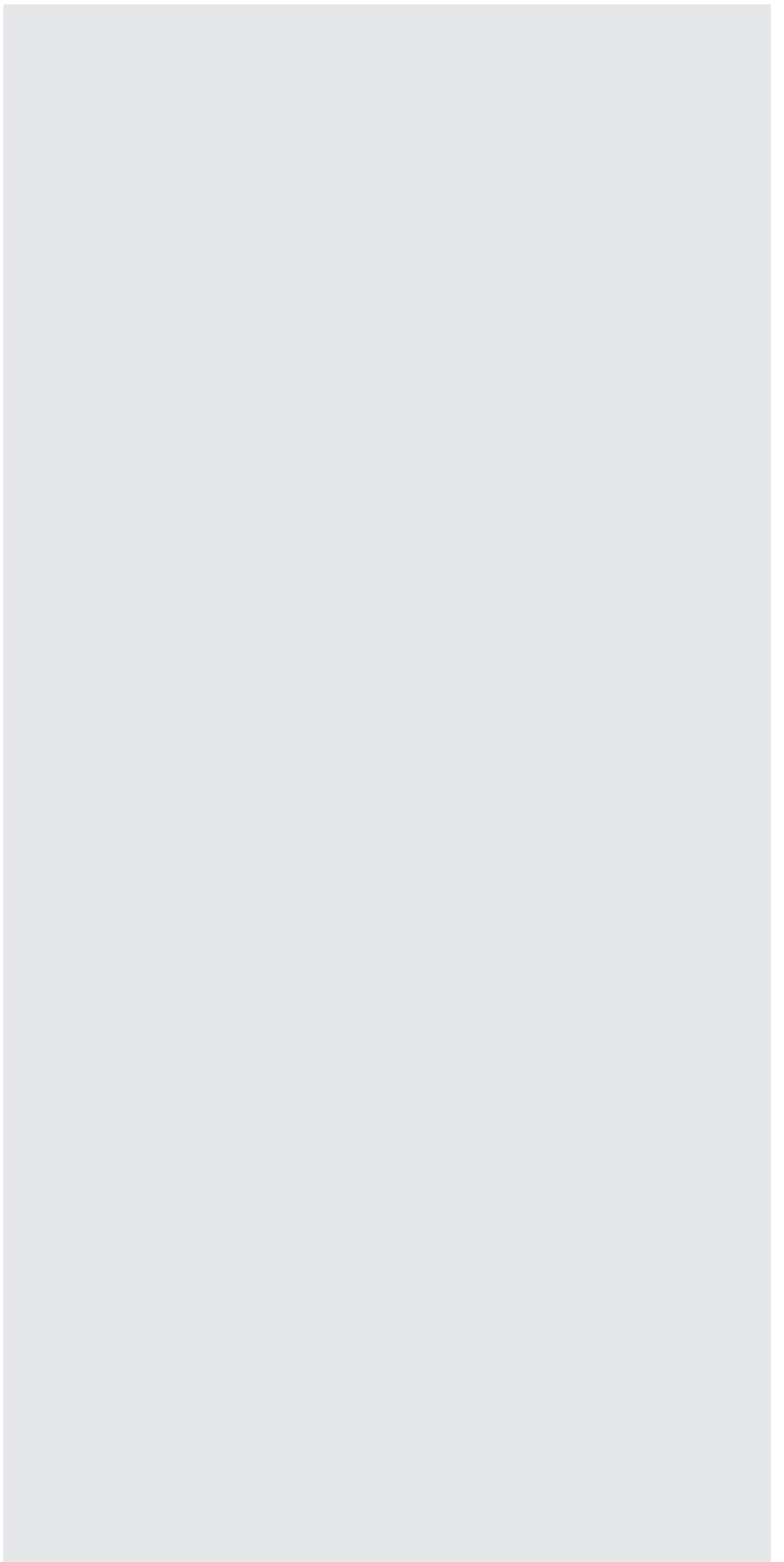
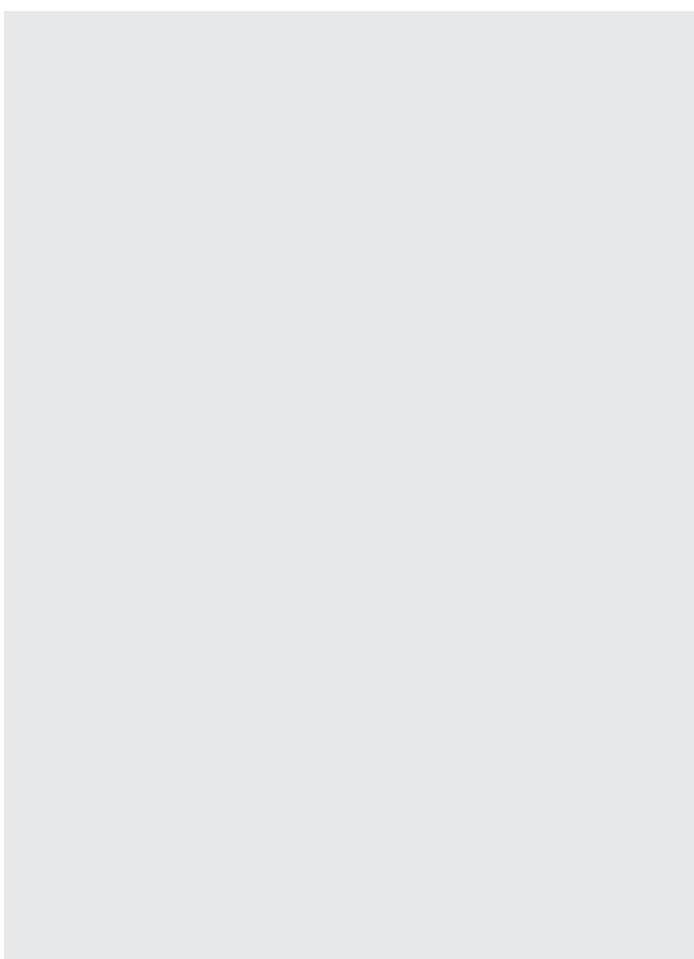
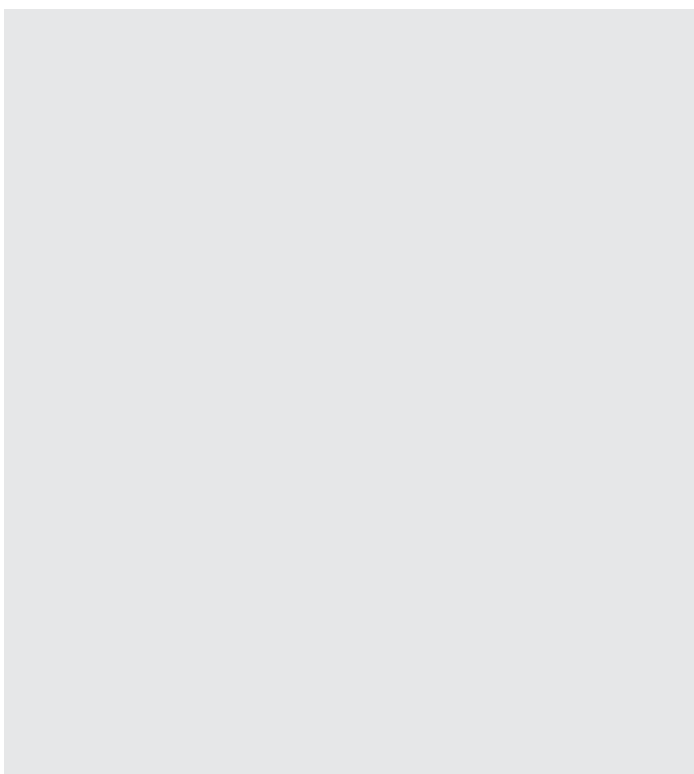
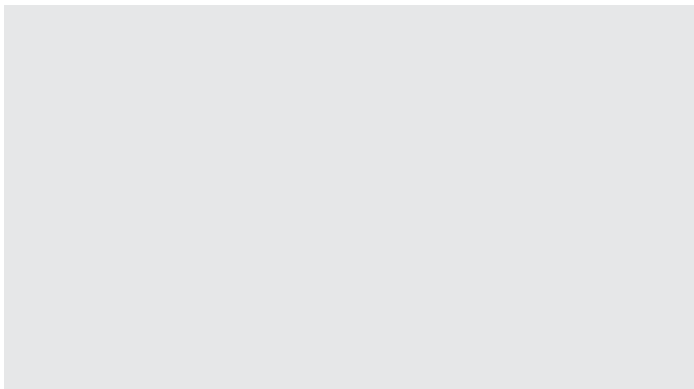
Main BX hours:

Nov. 28 — 4 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Nov. 29 — 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Nov. 30 — 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All other facilities will have regular hours of operation.



Commentary

“ Our American warriors sacrifice much in service to our great country. Our wounded warriors and their families sacrifice even more. As a nation, we made a pledge to our servicemembers - you take care of us and we will take care of you. It is our solemn duty to keep this promise.”
 – Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley

HOW TO CONTACT US

Robins Office of Public Affairs
 620 Ninth Street, Bldg. 905
 Robins AFB, GA 31098
 (478) 926-2137 DSN 468-2137
 Fax (478) 926-9597

EDITORIAL STAFF

COMMANDER
Col. Warren Berry

PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Faye Banks-Anderson

CHIEF OF INTERNAL INFORMATION
Capt. Sequoiya Lawson
 sequoiya.lawson@robins.af.mil
 (478) 222-0802

EDITOR
Kendahl Johnson
 kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil
 (478) 222-0804

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Lanorris Askew
 lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil
 (478) 222-0806

STAFF WRITERS
Holly L. Birchfield
 holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil
 (478) 222-0810

Wayne Crenshaw
 wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil
 (478) 222-0807

PHOTOGRAPHER
Sue Sapp
 sue.sapp@robins.af.mil
 (478) 222-0805

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 kendahl.johnson@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

The Robins Rev-Up is published 50 times a year on Fridays, except when a holiday occurs during the middle or latter part of the week and the first and last Fridays of the year. To report delivery issues, call Kendahl Johnson at (478) 222-0804.

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

The Robins Rev-Up is published by The Telegraph, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Robins Air Force Base, Ga., of the Air Force Materiel Command.

This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Robins Rev-Up are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, or Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, Department of the Air Force, or The Telegraph, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical or mental handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.



Commander's Action Line

The Action Line is an open-door program for Team Robins personnel to give kudos, ask questions or suggest ways to make Robins a better place to work and live.

The most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

Col. Warren Berry
 78th Air Base Wing,
 commander

Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Anonymous action lines will not be processed. Discourteous or disrespectful submissions will not be processed.

Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Robins Rev-Up.

To contact the Action Line:
 Call 926-2886 or for the quickest response, e-mail action.line@robins.af.mil.

<https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>

PHONE NUMBERS

- ▶ Security Forces 327-3445
- ▶ Services 926-5491
- ▶ Equal Opportunity 926-2131
- ▶ Employee Relations 926-5802
- ▶ Military Pay 926-3777
- ▶ IDEA 926-2536
- ▶ Base hospital 327-7850
- ▶ Civil engineering 926-5657
- ▶ Public Affairs 926-2137
- ▶ Safety Office 926-6271
- ▶ Fraud, Waste, Abuse 926-2393
- ▶ Housing Office 926-3776
- ▶ Chaplain 926-2821



Making seasons bright

Base Chapel gets ready for annual tree lighting Dec. 3

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP
 Bill Bandy, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron exterior electric shop worker, puts one of 40 strings of Christmas lights on the Robins Chapel tree from a bucket truck Nov. 20.

Below, Donnie Evans, 78th CES exterior electric shop employee, lines up strings of lights to be placed on the chapel tree.



WHAT'S IN A NAME

Robins archaeologist explains the origin of the name Creek Indian

The Creek Indians are the tribe most closely associated with the landscape of Middle Georgia and Robins Air Force Base. But how did they get their name? Was it because they liked to live along the many rivers and creeks of Georgia, as some have speculated? Or is there another reason nearly lost to history?

Ironically, the Southeastern Indian tribes that we know today, including the Creek, Cherokee, Choctaw, and Chickasaw, came into being because of a series of epidemics that swept the region about 450 years ago. Spanish, French, and British explorers and colonists were unintentional carriers of diseases like smallpox, influenza, measles, and the bubonic plague – diseases for which Native Americans had no immunities.

Historians now estimate that at least 75 percent of Southeastern Indians died during these epidemics, which ravaged the colonial South and swept away the mound-builder civilization.

As whole societies collapsed, many traditions were lost forever and the complex political systems of the day had to be abandoned. What emerged were much smaller, more democratic societies made up of individuals from many different groups. Some of these groups survived largely intact, while

others were able to preserve only a few customs, such as languages and pottery styles.

This was the situation as European colonists began to settle the Southeast just before and after the year 1600. Over the next century, whole tribes sometimes vanished or were absorbed by other tribes. Others successfully played the Europeans against each other and became regional power brokers. No Indians were more successful at this than those who lived in central and southern Georgia and Alabama, and who came to be called the Creek Indians.

When the Spanish and British first encountered them in the late 1600s, many of the ancestors of today's Creek Indians lived along the banks of the Chattahoochee River, and spoke either the Muscogee or the Hitchiti dialects of the Muskogean language.

As the Spanish expanded their mission system, they demanded that the Indians convert to Catholicism, submit to their flag and king, and settle down to be mission laborers. The Indians refused to abide by the Spanish demands, and consequently, several of their towns along the Chattahoochee were burnt to the ground.

By 1690, at least 11 towns along the river were abandoned and the inhabitants had relocated to Middle Georgia



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Stephen Hammack is the Robins on-site archaeologist.

along the banks of Ochese, or Hickory Leaf, Creek. This creek was named by the British for an Indian tribe that had lived there for centuries. The Spanish called it the Rio de Uchisi.

Here, amongst these Ochese Creek towns, British traders from South Carolina soon set up shop. Unlike the Spanish, the British did not demand that the Indians change their way of life. The British simply wanted to find a market for European-manufactured goods. In exchange,

they asked the Indians to provide them with deerskins and Indian slaves. The Indians much preferred having ready-made goods and keeping their traditional ways, so they embraced the British as allies.

Soon the British were calling these Indians the Ochese Creek Indians, even though each Indian town actually had its own name. Because of the importance of these towns to the British, Ochese Creek became known simply as “The Creek,” as if there was no other creek in existence.

The name Ochese soon disappeared (except among these Indians), and now we call the Indians who once lived there the Creek Indians.

During the 1830s, most of Georgia's Indians were relocated to Indian Territory (Oklahoma) on the Creek Trail of Tears. Today some of them have become part of the Creek (Muscogee) Nation in Oklahoma, others are Seminoles in Florida or Oklahoma, and still others are scattered between Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Texas. The names they went by when they lived along Ochese Creek, and the names some prefer to use today, include the Achito, Coweta, Kasita, Kialegee, Kolomi, Okmulgee, Sawokli, and Taskigi.

And just where was this Ochese Creek that was once so famous that it became known only as “The Creek?” It was actually an earlier name for a major Middle Georgia river – a river that flows from Lake Jackson down through Macon, continues east of Robins, through downtown Hawkinsville, and eventually out into the Atlantic Ocean. Of course, you know it better today by another name – the Ocmulgee River. Only now you also know how the Creek Indians got their name.

–This commentary was written by Stephen Hammack, archaeologist.

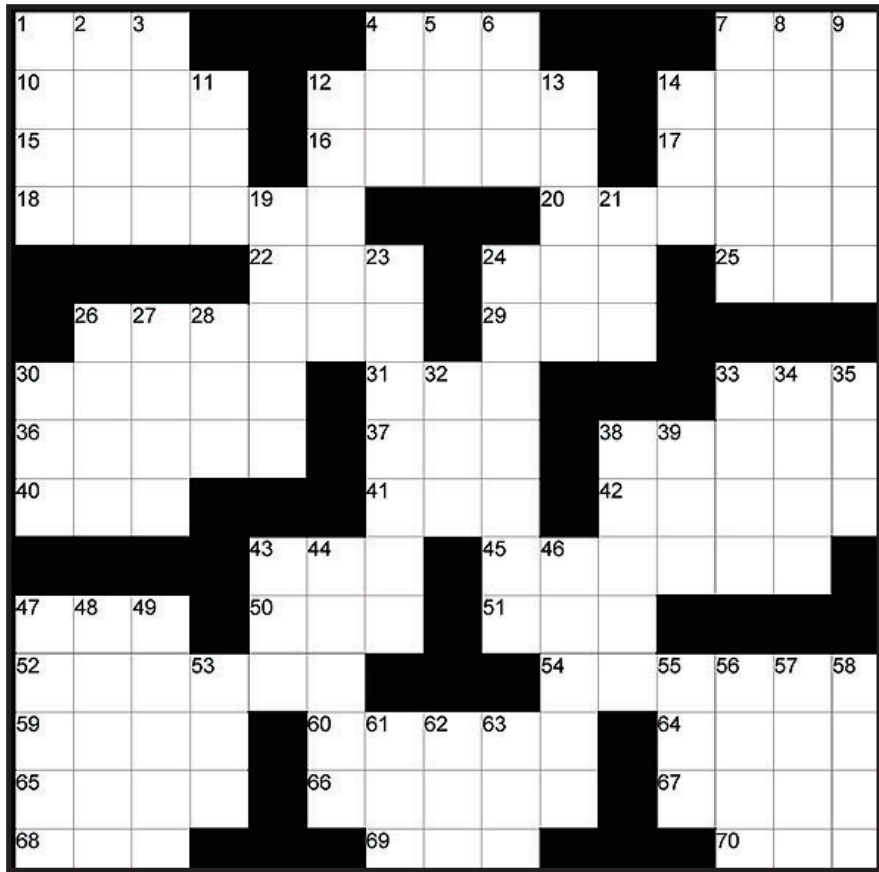
November 26, 2008 ■ The Robins Rev-Up ■ 7A

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 Lanorris Askew at: lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil.

Submissions run for two weeks. The following person has been approved as a leave recipient: **Jerry Morningstar**, 78th ABW/SE. POC is **Richard Thomas** at 926-6643.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Welcome to Japan

By Capt. Tony Wickman
USAFE Public Affairs

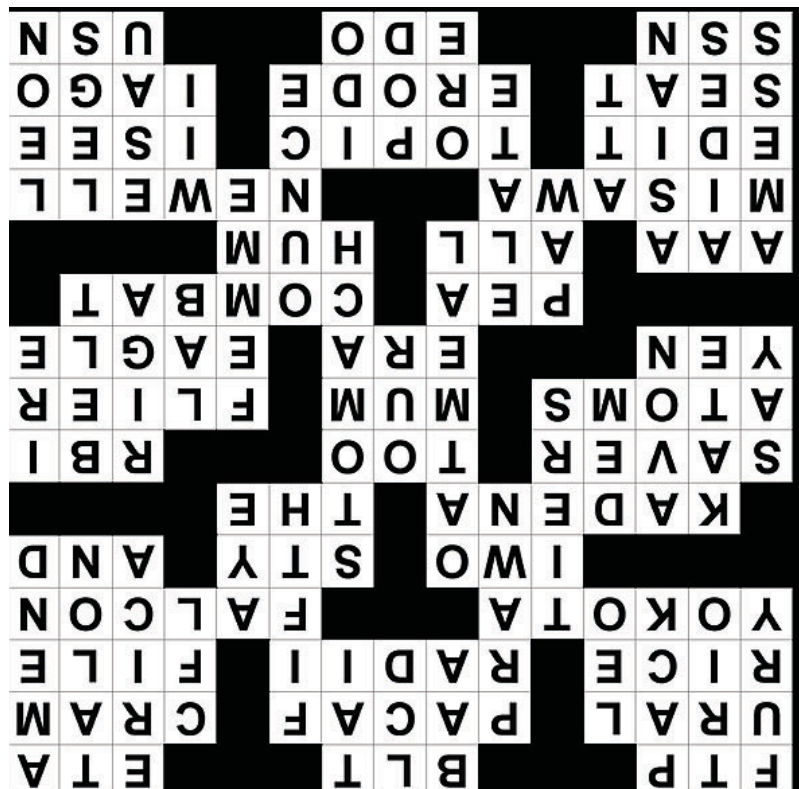
ACROSS

- Network protocol used to transfer data from one CPU to another
- Lunch menu item
- Greek letter
- Russian mountain
- MAJCOM Japan bases are assigned
- Jam
- Current USFJ/13 DOWN commander
- Line segments joining a circle's center with any circumference point
- Column
- Japan base home to 374 AW
- F-16 Fighting ___; jet assigned to 35 FW in Japan
- ___ Jima; Japanese island
- Pig's pen
- Plus
- Japanese base home to 18 WG
- Article
- Penny pincher
- Also
- Baseball stat
- Small particles
- Quiet
- The Wright ___; first military air-plane
- Japanese currency
- Epoch
- F-15; jet assigned to 18 WG in Japan
- Round, edible seed of a widely cultivated legume
- MC-130P ___ Shadow; plane assigned to 18 WG in Japan
- Car club
- Everything
- Drone
- Japan base home to 35 FW
- Col John F. ___ III; current 374 AW commander
- Make corrections
- Agenda
- What you say when you get it
- Place to sit
- Wear away
- Shakespeare villain

DOWN

- Operation Urgent ___; Grenada op
- Group of three persons or things
- Fill up
- Sheep sound
- TV model, perhaps
- ___ Chi; Chinese martial arts
- ___ Kane; Susan Lucci on All My Children
- MC-130 Combat ___; plane assigned to 18 WG
- Correct
- Zodiac sign
- Giant shrimp
- NAF covering Japan bases
- North of the Border sporting org.
- Rows
- Affirmative
- Breakfast food
- Abdomen
- Actress Hudson
- Cosmetics outlet
- Rep opponent
- Orate
- ___ House
- Latvian capital
- Waist band
- Anger
- ___ fatale
- Scientist's workplace
- Animal's hand
- Excite
- Small weight
- ___ Fine ___; Blake Edwards comedy
- General's helpers
- Description of a person of Japanese descent
- Phone co.
- Nintendo game system
- Son of Isaac and Rebekah
- Appendages
- Juan Ponce de ___; Spanish explorer
- Mining goal
- Place to find 43 ACROSS
- Altar words

SOLUTION



78th FSS BRIEFS

A Thanksgiving buffet will be held at Horizons Nov. 27 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings, including salad and dessert bar, will be served. Reservations are required for parties over 10 people. Cost for members is \$12.95, guests \$14.95 and children three – 10 years old, \$7.95. Open to all ranks and grades. For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

All active-duty and retired military members and their families are invited to a traditional Thanksgiving meal at Wynn Dining Facility. The meal will be served by Robin leadership from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 27 for Airmen and Airmen with families and guests and retirees with families. The evening meal for Airmen only will be served from 2 to 4 p.m. Enjoy steamship round, roast turkey and baked ham, combread dressing, rice pilaf and mashed potatoes, peas, green beans, cream corn and more holiday fare. For more information call the dining facility at 926-6596.

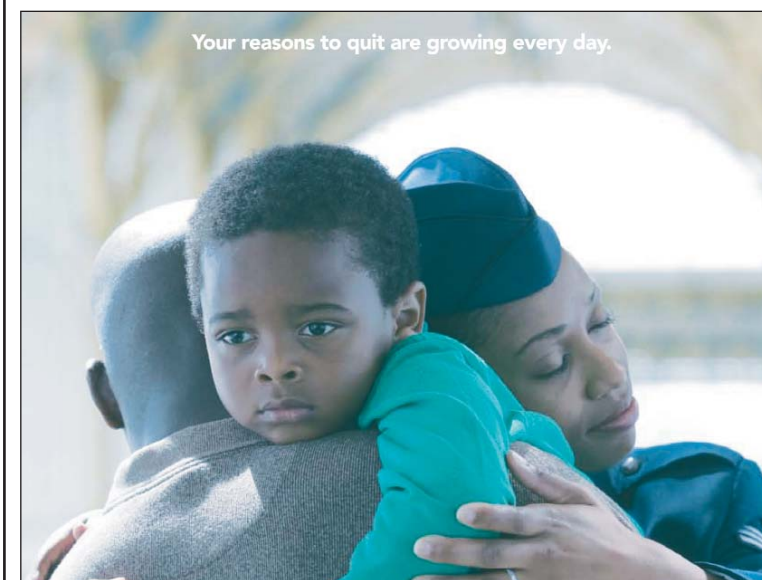
The 78th Force Support Squadron is in partnership with the commissary in collecting canned goods and non-perishable items to make holiday gift baskets for families in need now – Dec. 19. Ready-made Kraft holiday food boxes are available at the commissary to purchase and place in a donation box. Boxes cost \$16.49. To learn how you can help please call the community center at 926-2105.

First Friday will not be held Dec. 5 due to holiday parties at the Heritage Club. For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

Football Frenzy is featured every Sunday. Watch all the play-by-play NFL football action on the Heritage Club multiple television screens and three new high definition plasma televisions with satellite. Doors open at noon with a chance to win a trip to Tampa Bay for Super Bowl 2009, one of two regular season games and a bonus drawing for \$5,000 in gift certificates. An Atlanta Falcon ticket will be given away every week prior to each home game. For more information call 926-2670.

Learn exciting skills starting Dec. 1 in the community center. Piano classes starting Dec. 1 (four weeks) from 7 – 8 p.m., cost \$65 per person; salsa and belly dancing on Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. for salsa and belly dancing from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., cost \$40 per person when you register for one class, get the other for free. Hip Hop classes are

The Great American Smokeout



Your reasons to quit are growing every day.
The Great American Smokeout walk is scheduled for Dec. 5 starting at 11 a.m. Meet at the Health and Wellness Center. For more information call 926-2128.

held Dec. 3, 10 and 17 from 5 – 6 p.m. for \$35 per person. All classes need to be paid in advance. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

Anyone interested in trying out for the Air Force Cross Country or Air Force Wrestling teams must submit an AF Form 303 to Kenny Porter by Dec. 10 for Cross Country and Dec. 17 for Wrestling. Any further information, please contact Mr. Porter at 926-2128 or email at kenneth.porter@robins.af.mil.

The Smith Community Center will host a Beautiful Bag contest Dec. 19. A variety of materials can be used to decorate the bags. Bring your bags by the community center by Dec. 12. Judging will be conducted Dec. 19 with certificates and a camera awarded to the winners. Decorated bags will then be used to make the holiday food baskets to be distributed to families in the Robins community. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

ONGOING

Child care requests are being accepted for school-age children to attend the Robins school-age program during the December break for Houston County Schools. Care will be offered Dec. 22 – Jan. 5 from 6:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. at the youth center for children five – 12 years old. The weekly rate will be charged. The rate is based on total family income. Please use the online child care request form located at www.robinservices.com to apply.

Contact Vera Keasley at 926-6741 for more information.

Dance classes are now being offered on Tuesdays for \$40 a month. Classes for three – four years old are held from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. (ballet/tap), five – eight years old from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. (ballet/tap) and 13 years and older from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. (dance energy class). For more information call the youth center at 926-2110.

Tickets are available for home games to see the Atlanta Thrashers, cost \$21 - \$93 and Atlanta Hawks, cost \$15 - \$85. Prices vary based on ticket location. For more information call ITT at 926-2945.

The Child Development Centers East and West have openings for ages six weeks through 5 years old. Both centers are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and offer full time care. Hourly care is available at CDC West. For more information call CDC East or West at 926-5805 or 926-3080.

A Fantasy in Lights/Callaway Gardens trip will be held Dec. 22 in Pine Mountain, Ga. Cost is \$45 per person, \$65 for one parent and child and \$75 for couples. Meet at outdoor recreation at 2 p.m. for departure at 2:15 p.m. Van 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. For more information call 926-4001.

78th FSS PHONE DIRECTORY

- Services 926-5491
- Community Center 926-2105
- Outdoor Rec 926-4001
- Arts & Crafts 926-5282
- Horizons 926-2670
- Heritage Club 926-7625
- Library 327-8761
- HAWC 327-8480
- Fitness Center 926-2128
- Fitness Center Annex 926-2128
- Youth Center 926-2110
- ITT 926-2945
- Bowling Center 926-2112
- Pine Oaks G.C. 926-4103
- Pizza Depot 926-0188

Additional information on Services events and activities can be found in **The Edge** and at www.robinservices.com

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic

Catholic masses are 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. vigil 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

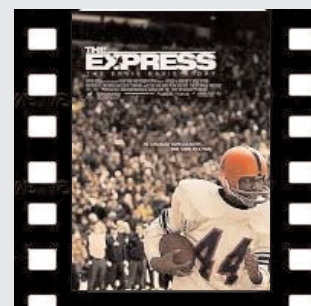
The traditional service meets Sunday in the Chapel at 11 a.m. featuring hymns, anthems, congregational prayers and readings. Contemporary service meets at 6 p.m. in the Chapel sanctuary, singing the latest praise and worship music. The gospel service meets at 8 a.m. at the Chapel, praising God with inspirational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

NOW PLAYING



NOV. 28 — 7:30 P.M.
MAX PAYNE
RATED PG-13

Based on the interactive video game, Max Payne tells the story of a maverick cop determined to track down those responsible for the murder of his family and partner. Hell-bent on revenge, his obsessive investigation takes him on a nightmare journey into a dark underworld.



NOV. 29 — 2 P.M.
THE EXPRESS
RATED PG

Based on a true story of football hero Ernie Davis, the first African-American to win the Heisman Trophy, and his fight for equality and respect forever changed the face of American sports. Raised in poverty, Davis hurdled social and economic obstacles to become one of the greatest running backs in college football history.



NOV. 29
W
RATED PG-13

Whether you love him or hate him, there is no question that George W. Bush is one of the most controversial public figures in recent memory. W takes viewers through Bush's eventful life, his struggles and triumphs and how he found both his wife and his faith, and of course the critical days leading up to his decision to invade Iraq.

Tickets: \$4 adult; \$2 children (11 years old and younger. For more information, call the base theater at 926-2919

Special delivery: Local high school sends care packages to Robins' deployed Airmen



Courtesy photo

Members of the Air Force Office of Special Investigation's Detachment 105, Robins' First Sergeant's Council and Network 56 met with the teachers and students of Houston County High School's Family and Consumer Sciences and Family Career Community Leaders of America to receive more than 170 Christmas packages which will be forwarded to Robins' deployed Airmen throughout the AOR. This is the second year AFOSI has partnered with the school project which is taught by Nelda Clay and Jane Cooper. "Last year we had returning Robins Airmen who were recipients of some of the Christmas packages come to the school and personally thank the students for their efforts and let them know how great it was to receive gifts from home," said supervisory special agent Michael Douglas.

The individually wrapped boxes are filled with books, magazines, toiletries, holiday treats and other items and are packed by each student as part of their school project. The students hold fundraisers or personally purchase the package items in order to give the deployed Airmen a taste of home during the holidays.

Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve deploys overseas

Eight musicians from the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve are scheduled to entertain service members overseas as part of a 60-day deployment to Southwest Asia beginning Dec. 2. This tour marks the third deployment for the band in the past two years.

"We're thrilled to share the gift of music with our deployed troops," said Maj. Donald Schofield, band commander. "We're bringing a taste of home to the men and women who are deployed overseas for the holidays."

A brass quintet, bagpiper and vocalist, performing under the name Mojave during the deployment, will perform music ranging from rock, pop, R&B and classic rock.

"Our service members are making extraordinary sacrifices while serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and other remote areas throughout the world, and spreading patriotism through music is one way we can give back and show them our appreciation," said Senior Master Sgt. Debra Jamison, regional band superintendent.

The Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve consists of 50 full-time professional musicians assigned to Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Ga. The band travels more than 10,000 miles and performs over 400 concerts throughout Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi.

More information on the Band of the Air Force Reserve can be found at <http://www.usafreserve-band.af.mil>.

—Courtesy Air Force Reserve Command.

AFMC aims for adherence to GPC policies

BY AFMC CONTRACTING OFFICE

The Government Purchase Card program contributes to Air Force daily operations by streamlining business processes, freeing up resources to meet other critical needs. Air Force Materiel Command conducts over 500,000 transactions for a total of about \$360 million annually via the GPC.

Unfortunately, there are occasions of misuse of the GPC. AFMC is taking positive steps to address these problems by strengthening surveillance procedures, increasing their frequency, and stressing appropriate use of the GPC and actions when misuse occurs.

To emphasize adherence to GPC policy and procedures, Gen. Bruce Carlson, AFMC commander, released a corrective action policy in December 2007 stating "Commanders and directors at all levels must ensure the integrity of the GPC process is maintained. This starts by eliminating violations through consistent, fair and firm disciplinary actions where warranted."

General Carlson also recently completed a video for all GPC program participants and commanders in which he stated "the AFMC standard is zero GPC violations." The video is available at <https://www.afmc-mil3.wpafb.af.mil/video/gpc.wmv>.

Surveillance and audits have significantly increased, revealing not only willful negligence, but some serious criminal offenses. An example is the Oct. 9 sentencing of two former employees at Robins. These former GPC

holders for a maintenance unit were found guilty in federal court of defrauding the government of more than \$370,000. One person was sentenced to 41 months incarceration while the other was sentenced to 24 months. They must pay restitution totaling more than \$100,000.

The two men used their GPCs to order personal items and conspired with a contractor to order items that were never delivered to the base. They also received gifts from two contractors involved in the conspiracy. For their role, each contractor received 18-month sentences and \$375,000 in restitution.

While this case involved clear transgressions, AFMC officials say all card holders need to be aware of less obvious violations that compromise the integrity of the purchase card system.

According to Mike Cook, the AFMC government purchase card program coordinator, GPC users need to keep in mind that they must not split a purchase to keep a transaction under the allowed limit of \$3,000.

"Additionally, they must always purchase from authorized companies," Mr. Cook said. "All items bought must be necessary for the mission of the cardholder's organization."

To learn more about GPC regulations and what constitutes as a violation, users can read Air Force document, AFI 64-117 or visit the AFMC GPC website at, <https://www.afmc-mil.wpafb.af.mil/HQ-AFMC/PK/pkp/pkpa/gpc.htm>.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Major Chad Steffey, commander of the Band of the United States Air Force Reserve, conducts the band during their annual holiday concert for the local community Dec. 13 at the Museum of Aviation.