



SPRING FORWARD SUNDAY

The return to Daylight Savings Time from Daylight Standard Time will occur Sunday at 2 a.m. Clocks will be set forward one hour. Employees working when time 'springs forward' to daylight savings time will be credited with the actual number of hours worked. Any time worked in excess of eight hours will be paid at the appropriate overtime rate or as compensatory time. For more information, contact Employee Relations at (478) 926-5802 or 926-0677.



2013 forum
scheduled for
March 14 and 15

ROBINS REV-UP

March 8, 2013 Vol. 58 No.9

AFMC to implement sequestration cuts, analyze impacts

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio

As a result of sequestration taking effect March 1, the Air Force is expected to absorb more than \$12 billion in reductions this fiscal year. At the same time it is working to mitigate an overseas contingency operations funding shortfall and operate under a highly-restrictive continuing resolution.

Air Force Materiel Command convened a task force this week to implement reductions and analyze mission impacts to the command, according to AFMC officials.

Now that sequestration has occurred, the command will take actions to include the following:

- Prepare to implement a furlough of civilian employees of up to 22 days between April and September.

- Cancel all temporary duty travel unless directed by the AFMC commander or specifically approved in Air Force guidance.

- Reduce weapon systems sustainment and testing.

- Implement major reductions in spending across all appropriations, working capital funds and other reimbursable programs.

- Cancel air shows, flyovers and demonstration flights.

- Reduce non-mission critical education and training. Exceptions include long-term professional military education, pre-command training, Chief of Staff of the Air Force-mandated training, initial and pre-deployment expeditionary skills training, and functional skills training required by law

These actions follow steps announced in January to save money such as implementing a temporary civilian hiring freeze, releasing non-mission critical term and temporary employees and cancelling non-mission critical travel. Other measures include limiting supply purchases, reducing some service contracts and postponing non-emergency facility sustainment.

These previously-announced actions will continue through the end of the fiscal year.

As updated information becomes available, it will be posted on a special AFMC sequestration website at www.afmc.af.mil/sequestration.asp.

Base discusses budget challenges with community

BY JENNY GORDON
jenny.gordon@robins.af.mil

A standing-room only crowd of several hundred community members was given a candid briefing Wednesday on how sequestration will impact Robins Air Force Base.

The event at Houston Lake Stadium Cinemas in Warner Robins included discussions

about the overall Department of Defense fiscal picture, how the current budget uncertainty will impact military readiness, and the potential of civilian furloughs – to include the effect they'd have on the Middle Georgia economy.

The members were briefed by leaders from more than a dozen organizations on Robins, including Headquarters Air

Force Reserve Command, the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, the Defense Logistics Agency, the 78th Air Base Wing, the 116th and 461st Air Control wings, the 689th Combat Communications Wing, and the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center operating locations here.

A base representative also

spoke about small business and contracting matters.

Col. Kevin Clotfelter, 116th commander, said sequestration will, over time, cause "...some degraded operations and adverse impacts to its (his wing's) flying missions, maintenance and mission support."

Col. Dean Worley, 461st

► see **COMMUNITY**, 7

Team JSTARS honors



U.S. Air Force photo by MASTER SGT. ROGER PARSONS

Team JSTARS aircraft crew chiefs recover an E-8C Joint STARS from a mission here. Members of Robins' 116th and 461st Aircraft Maintenance Squadrons have earned a 2012 Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award.

Maintainers take Air Force effectiveness award

ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maintainers from the military's only unit that operates the E-8C Joint Surveillance Attack Radar System have earned a 2012 Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award.

Members of Robins' 116th and 461st Aircraft Maintenance Squadrons received the award for "outstanding contributions to the success of the Air Force and Department of Defense maintenance mission."

"It's truly an honor for our team to be recognized," said Lt. Col. Bobby Nash, 116th AMXS commander.

"Maintainers juggled robust home station Ready Aircrew Program requirements and higher headquarters inspections while simultaneously delivering unprecedented aircraft generation rates that met the appetite of multiple com-

batant commanders."

Simply put, it's all about the people, both aircraft maintenance squadrons working side by side," added Lt. Col. Karen Bice, 461st AMXS commander.

During 2012, Team JSTARS supported six combatant commanders in five different areas of responsibility. The units launched 766 local and 1,033 deployed sorties, providing commanders with critical ground and maritime surveillance and command and control capability.

While deployed to support operations over Libya, Team JSTARS maintainers generated a perfect 141 of 141 tasked combat sorties; a 100 percent mission effectiveness rate recognized by Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt, Air National Guard director, as "a feat so impressive, it may never again be duplicated."

461st Airmen earn five of 17 ACC awards, now compete at AF level

BY JENNY GORDON
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Five 461st Air Control Wing Airmen have taken top honors in the 2012 Air Combat Command Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Awards.

There were 17 individual categories; the winners from Robins will now compete at the Air Force level.

"In 2012, the 461st Air Control Wing delivered world-class C2ISR to six combatant commanders, including the first sensitive reconnaissance operations sorties in the history of the weapons system," said Col. Dean Worley, 461st ACW commander. "After it was said and done, JSTARS

► see **AIRMEN**, 10

New installation command chief shares vision, goals

Chief Master Sgt. Sandra LePine is the new installation command chief at Robins. She recently took the time to answer a few questions about her goals and philosophies. To read the full interview, visit www.robins.af.mil.

Q. In so much as supporting the installation commander, how do you see yourself fitting into the big picture?

A. My main charge as a command chief is to represent the enlisted force to (Installation Commander) Col. Butikofer and articulate his intent and policies. However, I also see myself interacting with our community leaders, acting as a liaison to all commanders, and representing all Airmen, "Big A", assigned to

Robins ... everyone on this installation and in the Middle Georgia community contribute to the success of our team. I will further articulate your concerns, provide sound advice on enlisted matters and work issues as needed.



LePine

Q. With a base this size, incorporating units from different commands, not to mention services, what do you see as the most difficult task ahead, and how do you plan to approach it?

A. The biggest immediate challenge I face is understanding the mission and organizational structure for the 78th Air Base Wing and our mission partners. As many can attest, every command and installation has unique policies, processes and programs. Every time you PCS, you must learn and adjust accordingly. Since this is my first assignment to an Air Force Materiel Command installation, and we support diverse missions from several major commands, I have a slightly higher learning curve with this move. I'm going to tackle it head on by immersing myself over the next month learning about Team Robins by visiting units, asking many questions, reading and listening.

Q. As installation command chief, what do you see as your primary goal where developing the enlisted force is concerned?

A. We have one of the most developed enlisted forces in the world already, so my goal is to ensure we maintain and enhance this level of excellence. Development is a continuum. Whether you're an airman basic or a chief master sergeant, it never ends. Airmen at all levels must strive to seek out and develop others through training, education and sharing experiences. This should be a top down approach, meaning we as a leadership team must figure out what we are doing right and where we can improve on

► see **CHIEF**, 7

Page Two



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Congressman Scott visits Marines

U.S. Rep. Austin Scott receives a briefing from Cpl. Michael Plog while touring Marine Aircraft Group 49, Det. A, Feb. 20. During his visit here, the congressman was given state of the Installation updates – including information on VERA/VISIP, sequestration and potential impacts – from Col. Patricia Ross, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander.

Calling it a day ...



U.S. Air Force photo by MASTER SGT. ROGER PARSONS

Chief Master Sgt. Donald Camp, Georgia Air National Guard state command chief, speaks during his retirement ceremony here, March 1. Camp retired after more than 40 years of service during which he was one of the longest serving chief master sergeants in Air Force history. Camp spent the last 23 years of his career as a chief master sergeant.

Looking for solutions

ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Team Robins will conduct its 2013 Caring for People forum March 14 and 15 at the Horizons Event Center.

Thursday's portion of the forum kicks off at 3 p.m., and will include an overview of the results from the 2012 forum. It will also include an overview of the CfP 2013 expectations and agenda.

At 8 a.m., March 15, focus groups will break out to discuss the numerous areas of consideration. They include:

Support for deployments, families, single Airmen, guard, higher education and housing. Other focus groups will look at spouse communication; military child education; special needs family members; Health and wellness; and resiliency.

Focus Groups will be made up of 12 to 15 people. Attendees will work in their assigned focus groups to identify the top quality of life concerns in



GET INVOLVED

Team Robins members and their spouses interested in participating should contact their first sergeant to register. When doing so, indicate the focus group of interest. For more information contact: Lesley Darley, community support coordinator, by phone at 478-327-7692 or DSN 497-7692. She can also be reached by email at lesley.darley@robins.af.mil

regards to their assigned focus area. As a focus group they will select their top two concerns as well as proposed solutions.

Beginning at 2 p.m. March 15, a representative from each group will present their top two concerns and proposed solutions. Installation leadership will have the opportunity to hear concerns, and identify

issues that can be resolved at the local level.

All attendees will then vote on the top 10 issues to be forwarded to major command and Air Force for further resolution.

Local issues will be tracked and resolved by our local integrated delivery system and Community Action Information Board representatives.

SAFETY AND HEALTH

Taking care of the workforce

ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Taking care of the safety and health of base employees is a priority at Robins.

Many people in organizations such as the medical group, safety, bioenvironmental engineering and civil engineering, work behind the scenes every day to address, identify and help workers when potential diseases or health hazards are found in the workplace.

For example, when visible mold was identified in the heating ventilation and air conditioning systems in Bldgs. 300 and 301, the 78th Medical Group conducted a thorough review of its surveillance measures, reviewed air quality surveys conducted during a two-year period, and reviewed occupational illness or injury reports and found no trends of medical issues related to indoor air quality.

Also, measurements that were taken were found to be within the accepted ranges established by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

However, for those individuals who are diagnosed with hypersensitivity to mold because of respiratory illnesses, asthma or severely-impaired immune systems, proactive measures

can be worked through the occupational medicine services clinic in Bldg. 207 – where occupationally-related illnesses and injuries are managed.

While mold can be found anywhere in Middle Georgia – mostly outdoors – it can grow indoors as well given the right conditions of excess moisture and high humidity. So the base is following procedures similar to those adopted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Additionally, senior leaders have been involved from the beginning and steps are being taken to remediate the visible mold and reduce excess moisture through preventive maintenance and care of the HVAC systems until funding is provided to replace the already identified 16 HVAC systems.

What can you do to help?

Report any water leaks to your facility manager.

Take pride in your work area.

Clean and dust your work area occasionally just as you do at home. This includes your immediate work area plus common areas such as hallways, doorways, break areas, etc. The accumulation of common dust is one of the largest culprits of allergy and other respiratory problems.

For more information, contact your facility manager or supervisor.

AFMC launches surplus supply site

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – Air Force Materiel Command has launched a “Unit-Purchased Supplies Efficiency” site to help the command manage surplus supplies and equipment.

All AFMC employees have access to the site – an Enterprise Information Management / SharePoint site – and they can post a listing of any excess supplies they have in their units. Similarly, employees

can check for available supplies or equipment, sorted by location, to “shop” for what they need. The idea is to create savings by repurposing supplies.

“The site allows quick access to view items that are available – at no cost,” said Eddie Robinson, a change management specialist in the Program Integration & Business Operations Branch. “This is an AFMC consolidated site, so people can sort and

view items by base. It allows for easy redistribution of supplies, which will help since so many offices don’t have much funding for supplies or equipment.”

Editor’s note: To learn more about the site, contact your unit’s Government Purchase Card holder, equipment custodian or facility manager, or call 937-904-0025 (DSN 674-0025).

NEWS FROM AROUND THE AIR FORCE



AF leaders warn of sequester impacts on replacing an aging fleet

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Two senior Air Force leaders have warned of the impacts sequestration and a continuing resolution will have on the service's acquisitions and programs.

Lt. Gens. Michael Moeller, the deputy chief of staff for strategic plans and programs, and Charles Davis, the military deputy, office of assistant secretary of the Air Force acquisitions; testified to the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee Feb. 28 on Capitol Hill.

"In this fiscal crisis environment, we believe the choice to preserve readiness will drive us to make tough decisions," Moeller said.

Some of those decisions include slowing the pace of modernization, struggling to sustain capabilities and looking to programs or force structure to make up the difference, he said.

Davis explained how these fiscal hardships have already impacted modernizing an aging fleet.

"We've significant modernization that we have to undertake now to be able to replace key items in our inventory that will reach service life," he said.

The service's top three modernization priorities make up about 15 percent of the modernization program: the new long-range bomber, the KC-46 refueling tanker and F-35 Lightning II.

To learn more, visit www.af.mil.

Reserve activates cyberspace operations group

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas (AFNS) -- Air Force Reserve Command activated the first cyberspace operations group in the Air Force March 1.

Col. Lloyd Terry Jr., the 960th Cyberspace Operations Group commander, is charged with providing combat-ready forces with specialized expertise in the operation and defense of Air Force and Defense Department global information grids.

"The 960th is the one belly button for cyber in AFRC," Terry said. "Just like the 310th Space Wing is the one-stop shop for all things space in AFRC, we are the one-stop shop for cyber."

The 960th CYOG has administrative control of 10 Reserve cyber organizations throughout the country.

There are four combat communications squadrons – the 55th CBCS at Robins, the 23rd CBCS, Travis Air Force Base, Calif.; 35th CBCS, Tinker AFB, Okla.; and the 42nd CBCS, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. – which provide theater-deployable communications during wartime and contingency operations or humanitarian missions in austere locations.

Patriot Sands

A Florida sunset backdrops a Westover C-5B Feb. 21, at MacDill Air Force Base. Patriot Wing Airmen flew aboard the C-5 Galaxy along with more than 70,000 pounds of cargo for Patriot Sands 2013 – a national contingency exercise.



U.S. Air Force photo by MASTER SGT. ANDREW BISCOE

The command's two classic associate network operations squadrons – the 860th NOS, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., and 960th NOS, Peterson AFB, Colo. – work with their active-duty counterparts to operate, sustain and defend assigned Air Force networks.

To learn more, visit www.af.mil.

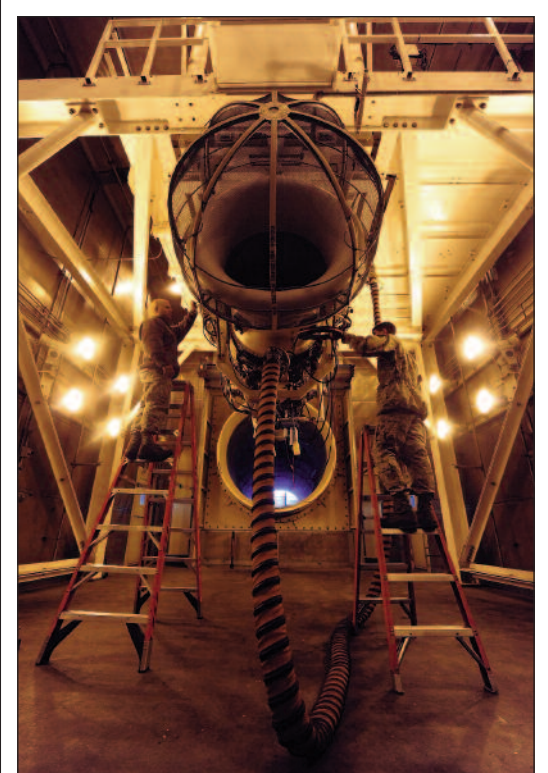
First rotation of U.S. Air Force personnel, aircraft arrives in Poland

SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany -- The first rotation of aircraft to the Poland Aviation Detachment (Av-Det), Detachment 1, arrived at Powidz Air Base, Poland, Feb. 22. For this rotation, a number of U.S. Air Force 37th Airlift Squadron C-130J Hercules and personnel from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, will train with the Polish Air Force until Saturday.

Types of U.S. aircraft will vary, and up to 200 military personnel and civilian contractors will rotate on a quarterly basis. Sixty-six Air Force personnel from Ramstein will interact and train with Polish Airmen. This increased cooperation between the two nations will strengthen international interoperability for NATO allies through regular combined training exercises.

The Av-Det was activated in November and marked the first enduring presence of U.S. military members on Polish soil. The Av-Det in Poland makes it possible for Poland to host other Allied Air Force elements and to serve as a regional hub for air training and multi-national exercises. The Av-Det also facilitates and enables combined U.S. and Poland training and exercises to increase air support to NATO.

To read more, visit www.amc.af.mil.



U.S. Air Force photo by STAFF SGT. NICK WILSON

Heart of the Spirit

Staff Sgt. Eric Barnes and Airman 1st Class Lester Popham close an inlet bell mouth for a B-2 Spirit engine inside a test cell at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The inlet bell mouth distributes and guides air into the motor to allow the engine to run smoothly in the test cell.

Perspective

How AFAF became calm in storm

BY STAFF SGT. AUSTIN M. MAY

100th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

RAF MILDENHALL, England – I don't know what I hate more, asking to borrow money or being in a situation where I have to.

In instances where I've had to borrow, it's always been the last resort. I do my best to save for things I want and put aside for emergencies, but I found out the hard way what so many people already told me – bad things happen when you least expect them.

Near the end of summer 2006, I was a newlywed who had just moved into a new house and started Airman Leadership School. My wife had just begun working at a new job, and the future was looking bright.

But things change.

For as long as I live, I don't think I'll ever forget the procession of one-sided conversations I heard as my wife, getting more and more flustered by the second, learned from her family that her mother had gone missing while driving home on the long stretch of road between Anchorage and Homer, Alaska. It's a road that winds through some of the most unforgiving wilderness I have personally seen.

To say I felt helpless would be a gross understatement.

My guess was as good as anyone's at how the whole thing would turn out, and I had to look my new wife in her tear-filled eyes and tell her everything would be fine while every fiber of my being knew I was lying. That's not to say I didn't have hope, but hope can be a thin veil when the odds are stacked so high against you.

The thought didn't occur to me until several hours

after we got the news that we would probably have to send my wife home. The realization of that fact was followed by another – we didn't have the money for a last-minute plane ticket from Texas to Alaska.

We didn't have anything close to it.

In desperation, I called my supervisor for advice. Without blinking, he had the answer, and a few hours later my wife and I were in an office discussing travel arrangements with an Air Force Aid Society representative. Two days later, she was home with her family. The worst of our fears had been realized, but she was where she needed to be.

To this day, my appreciation for what AFAS did for us is the first thing I think of when I fill out my Air Force Assistance Fund donation form. But I don't do it because I feel indebted to the organization. Debt, if anything, is the last reason I give.

My wife had been a part of the Air Force family for only three months, but that family was there for her when she needed them, and they didn't bat an eye. People with hearts bigger than their wallets had ensured that we had one less thing to worry about when the entire world came crashing down around us.

Each year, when my unit's Air Force Assistance Fund representative comes into my office for his 100-percent contact, I'm ready. I'm ready because I know what it's like to need help and not have to worry whether or not it will be there. No matter how bad the situation gets, not having the fear of "What am I going to do?" is priceless.

The sacrifice can be minimal, but the benefit will be immeasurable. Even if we've never met, we are a family,



Courtesy photo

Blanketed in snow, a small wooden cross on the side of a road in Alaska serves as a reminder of a time when, for one Airman and his new wife, life was anything but peaceful. The Air Force Assistance Fund helped get Staff Sgt. Austin May's wife, Kaitie, home to her family, taking a huge source of stress out of a trying time.

and no family member of mine will ever have to go without as long as I can provide for them. But I can't do it alone.

What can you do to support your family?

Editor's note:

The Robins AFAF campaign runs through April 12. To donate see your unit AFAF representative.

ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER
Col. Mitchel Butikofer

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. Wednesday, the week prior to the requested Friday publication.

They should be e-mailed to lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil and vance.janes@robins.af.mil

Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. For information, call Lanorris Askew at 472-0806.

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Migration of the Military Personnel Data System will continue through March 27. During this period MilPDS will be unavailable, however provisions have been made to handle critical transactions through the Military Personnel Section.

For more information, call MPS at 497-7337.

The following **leadership classes are scheduled for March:**

►Carl Unholz will present “Diversity” Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Contracting Directorate’s Executive Conference Room in Bldg. 301 East Wing.

►Bob Zwitch and Eric Jones will present “Supervisor’s Guide to Mentoring on Resumes & Interviewing Preparation” Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 905, Room 244.

►Karan Fowler will present “Five Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace” March 27 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Contracting Directorate’s Executive conference room in Bldg. 301 East Wing.

Please view the Robins Splash Page and click on Team Robins for any changes in class schedules.

Robins is celebrating **Women’s History Month** with the following events:

►Female volunteers are needed to visit local schools as part of a youth program. POC is Marchelle Glover at 468-9812.

►A luncheon is scheduled March 26 at 11:30 a.m. at Horizons Event Center. Brigid Petrie O’Hearn, 577th Software Maintenance Squadron director, will be the guest speaker. Deadline to purchase tickets is March 15. The cost is \$15. POC is Tech. Sgt. Jessica Colunga at 241-3025.

►An “All Women Home Build” is scheduled for April. Volunteers will work with Habitat for Humanity to give a needy family a home.

POC is Waymer at 241-3025.

The **Finance Office will close** March 15 at 1p.m. for an official function. The office will re-open March 18 at 8:30 a.m.

For emergencies, contact Master Sgt. Pablo Rivero at 478-550-2910.

The next **meeting of the Central Georgia Marine Corps League Detachment #1373** will be at 7 p.m.,



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Tax Center open through April 16

Master Sgt. Kendra White, at right, goes over some tax records with Mark Mang. The Robins Tax Center is open for the 2012 filing season. Hours of operation are Mondays through Thursdays from 8 to 11 a.m., and 1 to 4 p.m. The center is located in Bldg. 995. For eligibility, visit www.robins.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123332457.

March 28, at Flint Energies off Highway 96 between Sun Trust Bank and Houston County High School.

Please bring your DD214 or retired I.D. card and \$35. A short application will be provided.

For more information, call John Harmon at 472-0853.

EAP Management Coaching is now available for managers and supervisors. The Management Coaching program is not counseling. The program focuses on maximizing a manager’s strengths to improve performance – and enhance his or her qual-

ity of life.

For more information, call 497-7577 or 497-7683.

To have a leave recipient listed here, email lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil.

Space permitting, submissions will run for two weeks.

Robins continues to partner with **The Clean Air Campaign** to help reduce local traffic and air pollution.

To participate, visit www.logyourcommute.com/TeamRobins.



CHUCK-IT is the latest addition to the Air Force’s “Win the War Against Waste” tool kit – designed specifically to support the service's worldwide solid waste management objectives. For more, visit www.afcec.af.mil.

Check out the Rev-up online at www.robins.af.mil

Getting commanders ready for their close-ups

BY SUE SAPP

Sue.sapp@robins.af.mil

Interacting with the media can be pretty daunting for a wing commander – regardless how positive or negative the message he or she is sharing.

However, Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs has a program in place to help them feel a little more at home in front of the cameras.

The office conducts media training in its multimedia center at Robins for AFRC wing commanders twice a year in conjunction with the Professional Development Center's Wing Commanders Course.

The class lasts about 90 minutes, during which commanders are briefed on different scenarios such as interviews and press conferences.

Then, they meet with mock media in front of real television cameras where the scenarios can range from friendly



Left, Chandra Brown, Air Force Reserve Command media training program manager, and Heather Newcomb, AFRC Public Affairs deputy director, offer suggestions to Col. James Fontanella as he receives instructions on press conferences and meeting with the media. The training is designed to be as realistic as possible and can range from friendly interviews to dealing with aggressive reporters.

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

to hostile.

The training not only helps prepare commanders for situations they

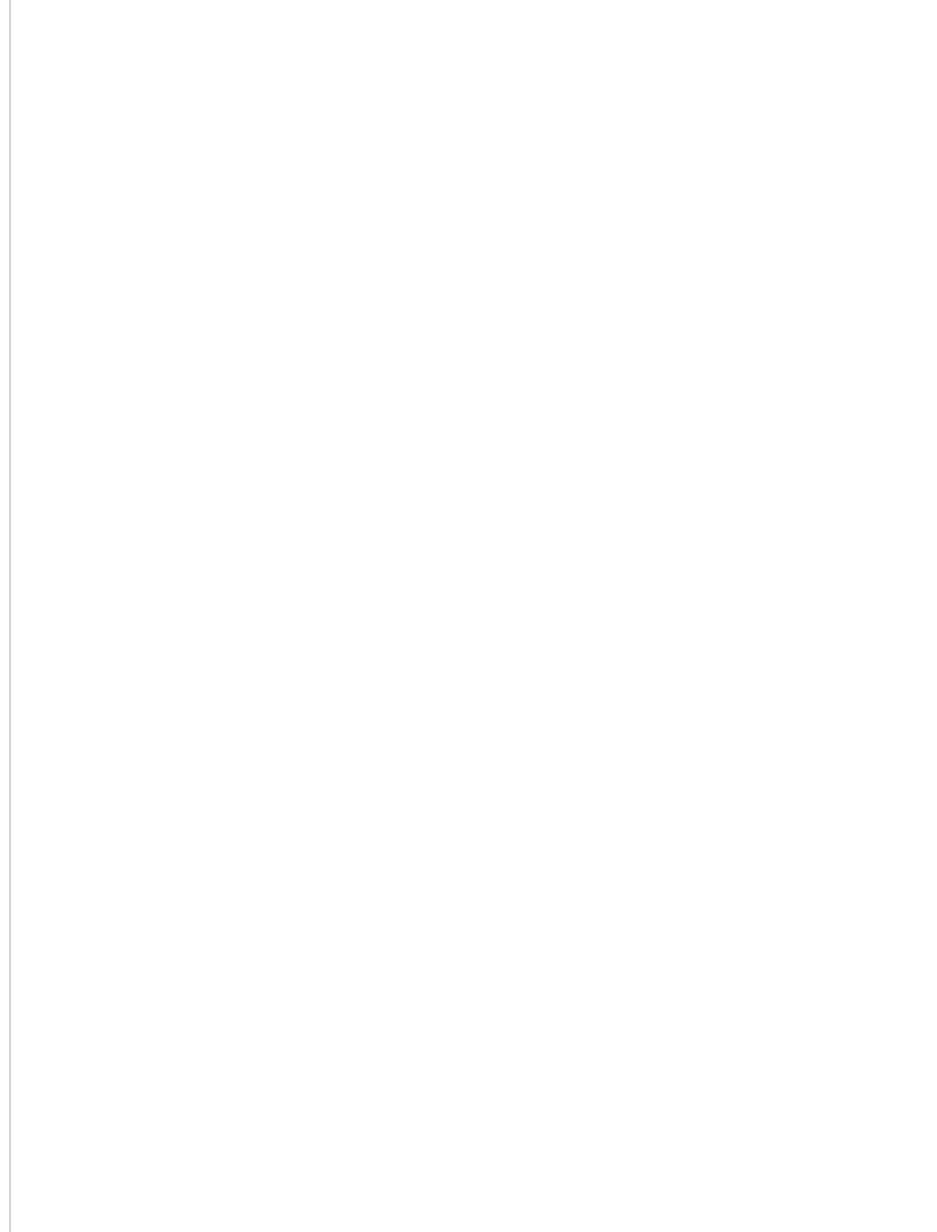
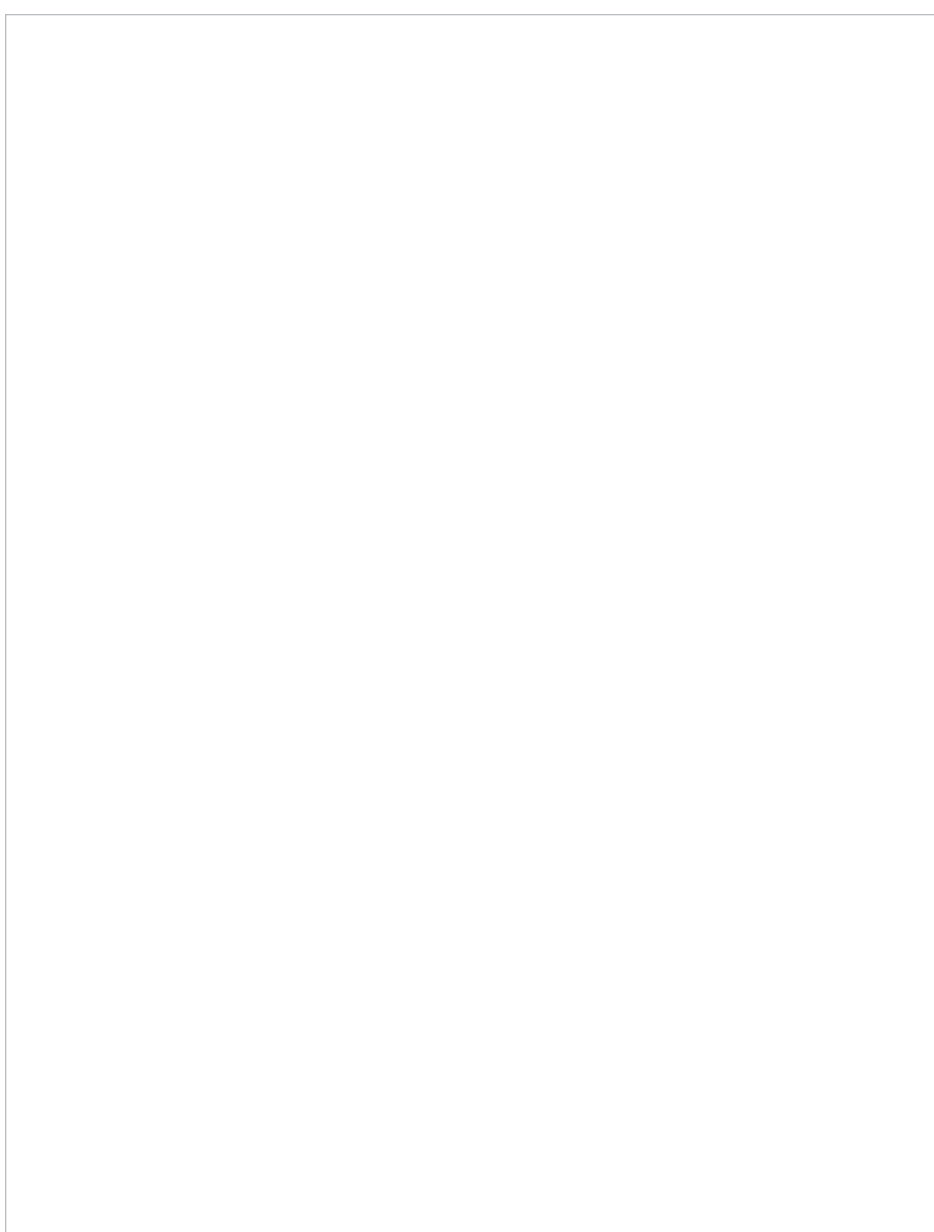
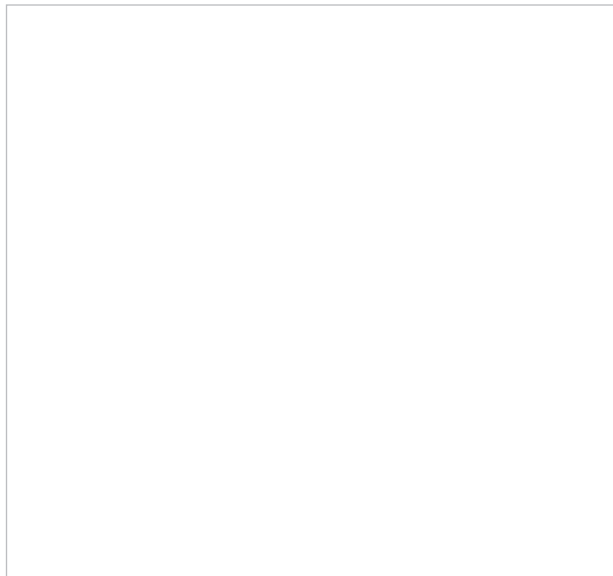
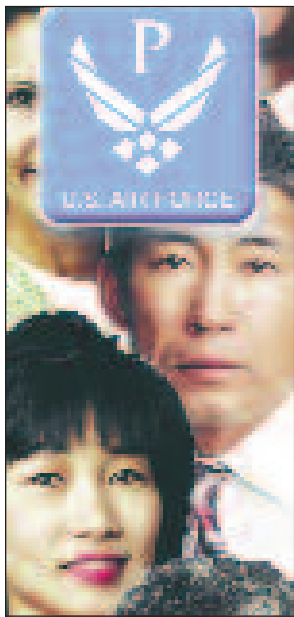
may face in their positions, but also helps public affairs come up with more diverse scenarios

for training and keep up with current issues commanders may have to address, according to

Heather Newcomb, AFRC PA deputy director.

Once the instruction

is complete, commanders are provided a recording of their training with critiques.



COMMUNITY

Continued from 1

commander, echoed Clotfelter's, explaining that if the full effects of sequestration come to pass, including a furlough of civilian employees, "Our ability to train will be degraded," adding, "This will directly impact our ability to send multiple forces downrange."

Nearly 15,000 civilian employees across the base are subject to furlough of up to 22 days between April and September, said Col. Mitch Butikofer, installation and 78th Air Base Wing commander. This would have a nearly \$150

million financial impact within a 50-mile radius of the base, he said.

Inside the gates, a furlough would cause a number of changes, from delays in awarding contracts as a result of reduced availability of small business and contract specialists to increased wait times for base access, the leaders said.

Brig. Gen. Cedric George, Complex commander, said if his largely civilian workforce is furloughed for 22 days, that's "860,000 hours' worth of production" that won't happen.

The Complex is already wrestling with the fact that, because of sequestration, 28

fewer – 149 instead of 177 – aircraft may be sent here for service, he said.

"What this means is that about a million hours' worth of workload would not come to this depot," he said.

Despite what may lie ahead, Butikofer expressed gratitude to the community for its ongoing support to Robins.

"You have (our) commitment that we will be as up front and transparent with you as we possibly can as we go through this," he said.

"Our request from you," he said, "is you continue with the support that you've provided the last 70 years."

CHIEF

Continued from 1

development by talking to our Airman and staying engaged.

Q. During your career, what has been the most laughable thing that has happened to you, what have you learned from it and how would you use that situation to help others grow and progress?

A. I'm assuming by "laughable" you mean where did I royally screw up? There have been plenty of mistakes I've made during my career, but I can't really say any are laughable – for me or the other person involved. Growing up in a customer support environment, your mistakes – 99 percent of the time – impact someone else ... and, it's usually an emotional event. So, I'll share one story that may help explain. I was working on a senior master sergeant promotion release (before virtual releases). My job was to pull the list and provide the select lists to both the wing and squadron commanders. I also provided results via phone to several units that were geographically separated.

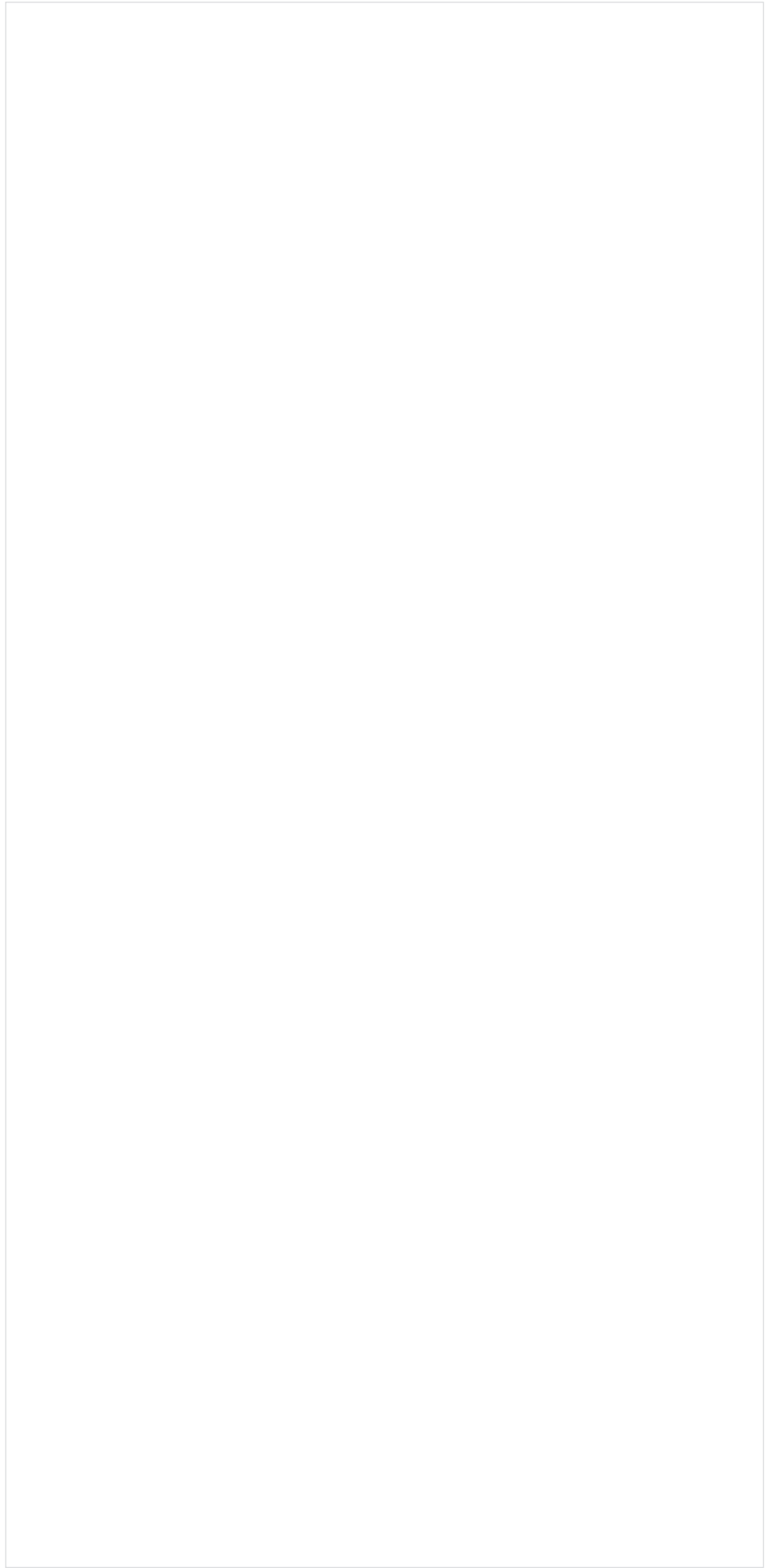
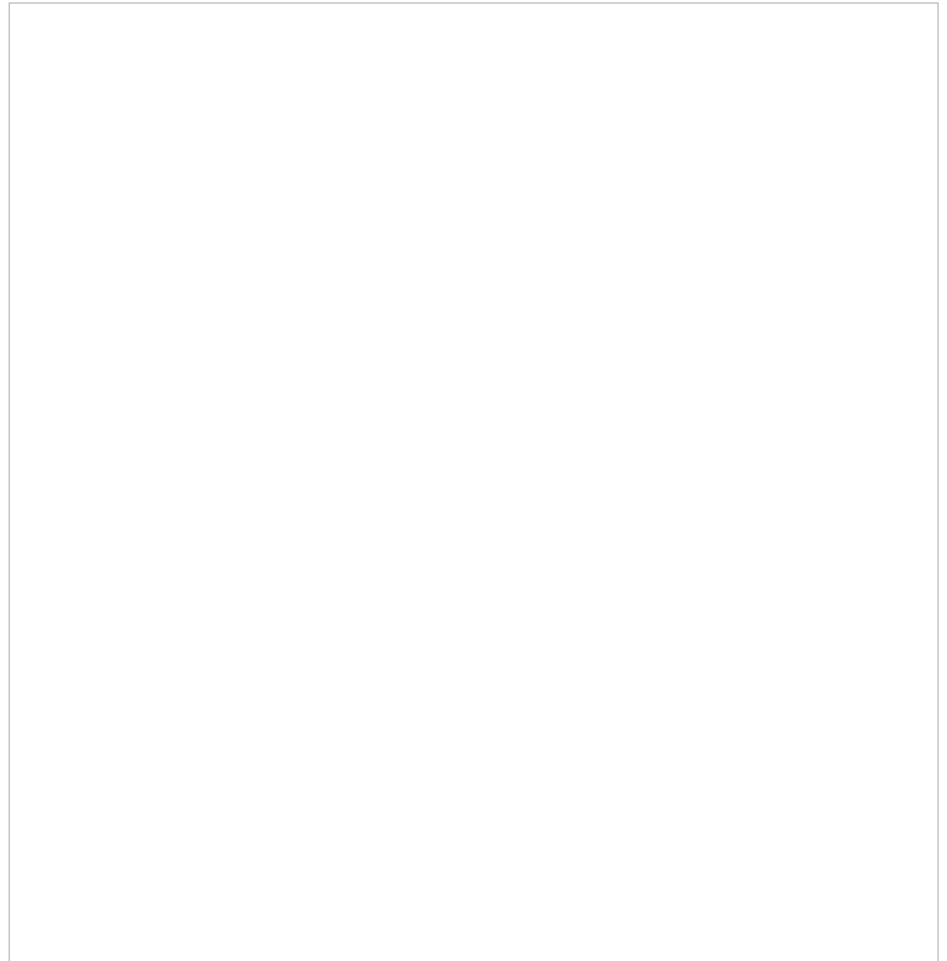
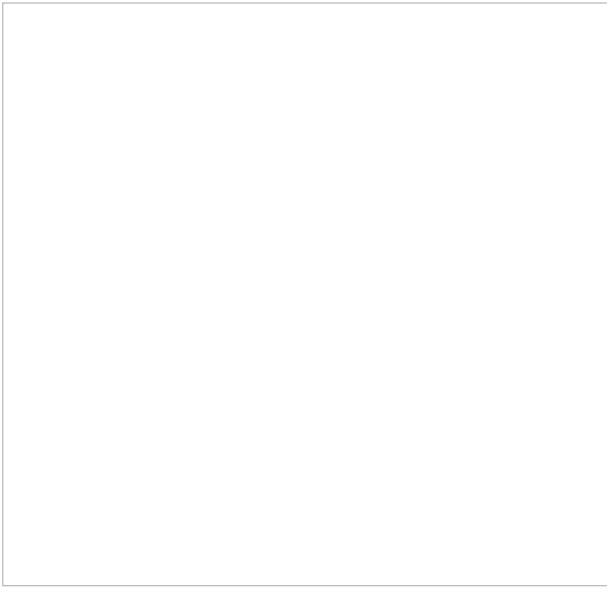
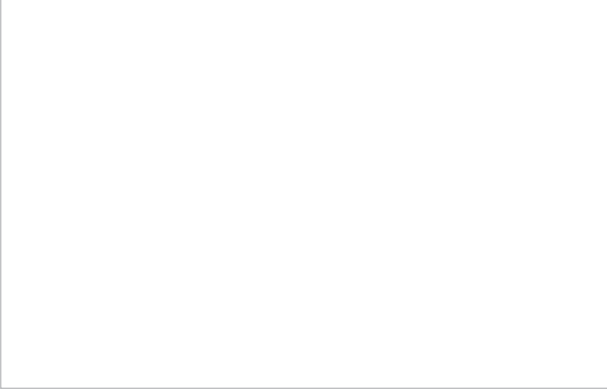
One of those units called me to get its results. I relayed they had none. Come to find out, the unit actually had three. Unfortunately, I discovered the mistake the next day, not on my own, but through my supervisor and chief. Don't think I'll ever forget that day as I also found out they told the three individuals they were non-selects. Long story short, I didn't read the PAS code correctly and didn't understand the organizational structure for the base and command. I also failed to ask questions. So here's what I learned – understanding who you serve and the organizational structure is imperative. However, the key message I'd share is realize no one is perfect; we all make mistakes, and that's OK. The key is to admit your mistakes and take action to ensure you don't make the same mistake twice. Always seek feedback and share your knowledge. I called the unit that day, apologized profusely, but also created a continuity binder with an organizational chart, PAS codes, and POCs, etc. I not only ensured I didn't make the mistake again, but I passed my book on to my replacement. Sharing knowledge both up, down, and across organizations will only make us stronger as a force.



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Light *UP* the *Night*



Base firefighters from the 78th Civil Engineer Group perform a night-time aircraft live fire training exercise Feb. 28.

Night training – which is offered annually – affords the firefighters an opportunity to showcase their firefighting skills while operating in a less than optimal environment.

Even though it's not a foreign concept for firefighters to operate in impaired environments, the challenge is the safe and efficient use of specialized rescue equipment and operation of the vehicles.

The aircraft mock-up shown here is fueled by a 12,000-gallon liquid propane gas tank, and is safely ignited and controlled by an ignition officer in the facility control tower, a safety officer roaming the fire ground, and a lead instructor who is responsible for all operations within the mock-up area.

Firefighters operating in the training facility are only allowed to attack exterior and interior fires with water even though they have Aqueous Film Forming Foam concentrate available on their major crash fire rescue vehicles.

To watch a video of the training, visit www.robins.af.mil.



U.S. Air Force photos by ED ASPERA
Russell Adams, ignition officer, controls the rate of burn during the exercise.

Refractive surgery for active duty

Do you wear eye-glasses or contact lenses for correction of your distance vision? Are you an active duty member?

Then you may be eligible for refractive surgery through the U.S. Air Force Refractive Surgery program.

Pre-testing is performed at the 78th Medical Group Optometry Clinic, and the surgery is then typically performed at an Air Force Refractive Surgery Center.

Follow-up exams are done at the optometry clinic here.

However, certain factors, such as number of applicants, population seeking routine eye care, and optometry manning may preclude some from participating in the program.

There have been times when the clinic has had to monitor a waiting list or limit eligibility only to aviators or active duty members required to wear a mask for their primary duties, but that isn't currently the case.

Now is a good time to consider signing up.

The obvious benefit of looking better without glasses is only part of the picture.

The USAF-RS program was developed in order to free military members from the hindrance of vision correction, whether it's glasses or contact lenses.

From a readiness standpoint, a member is better equipped for service if they're not encumbered with vision correction devices. It's a value-added service.

The optometry clinic will be hosting informational Refractive Surgery Briefings on Tuesdays at 9 a.m.

This briefing will cover eligibility, process of application and testing, as well as details about the actual surgery procedures.

We will also provide each attendee with a summary of what the next step in the process would need to be.

Briefings will be space-available. Interested members should call central scheduling at 497-7850 to attend a briefing.

Even though there's no



Medic's message

AFMS - Robins - 78th Medical Group
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U.S. Air Force photo by ADAM BOND

Ophthalmologist Col. (Dr.) Joseph Giovannini, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron commander, performs a PRK procedure at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

cost to the member, refractive surgery is not a Tri-Care covered benefit, and members are not guaranteed surgery, even if they qualify for the pre-operative evaluation.

Members may also seek surgery with a civilian surgeon, but at their own cost.

Further, commander's authorization must be granted, and the member must attend a briefing with a health benefits advisor at the 78th MDG.

For more information about the USAF-RS pro-

gram, the optometry clinic encourages military members to go to https://kx.afms.mil/kxweb/dotmil/kj.do?functionalArea=RS_USAF, on Defense Department secure computers or to http://airforcemedicine.afm.s.mil/idc/groups/public/documents/webcontent/knowledgejunction.hcst?functionalarea=RS_USAF&doctype=subpage&docname=CTB_070655 on personal computers.

*- Courtesy
78th Medical Group*



Carle Dolphin Legette Messer Fogleman

AIRMEN

Continued from 1

completed the busiest year in its 21-year history, and the hard work of our Airmen has not gone unnoticed.

"We're proud of what they do, every day – delivering combat power against our nations enemies," he added.

Col. Dan Talati, 461st Operations Group commander, said that in the world's increasingly complex operational environment, there's a premium placed on Team JSTARS' ability to quickly digest tough problems and execute creative, decisive solutions.

"To meet that demand, Team JSTARS crews are challenged daily to maximize the E-8C's vast capability around the globe," he said. These five amazing Airmen have led that charge. They have developed joint, interagency, and coalition relationships as well as first-of-a-kind tactics to protect U.S. borders, counter drug smuggling, hone air-sea battle tactics, and drive U.S. surface warfare to a smarter and more lethal end game.

"I simply couldn't be more proud of

these world class Airmen," he added.

The winners are:

Maj. Jonathan Carle – Outstanding ISR Officer Contributor of the Year

461st Operations Support Squadron assistant director of operations

Capt. Arlene Dolphin – Outstanding Air Reserve Component ISR Company Grade Officer of the Year

IMA to the Chief, Wing Intelligence, 461st Operations Support Squadron

Master Sgt. Corey Legette – Outstanding Enlisted ISR Instructor of the Year

Evaluator airborne intelligence technician/flight chief, 330th Combat Training Squadron

Tech Sgt. Jay D. Messer – Outstanding Air Reserve Component ISR Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year

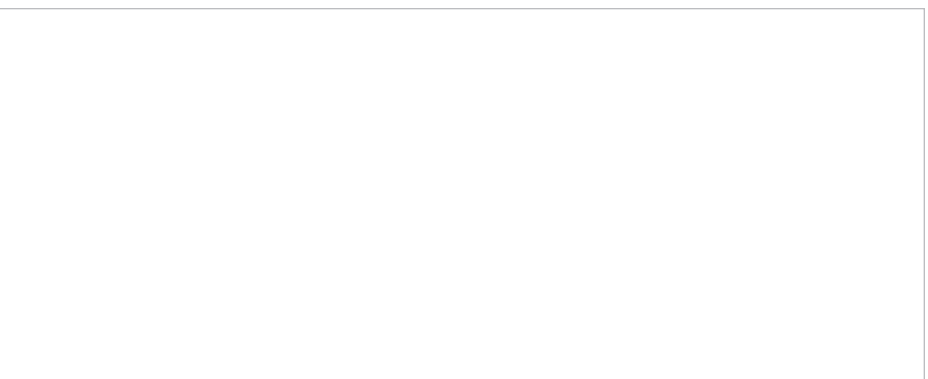
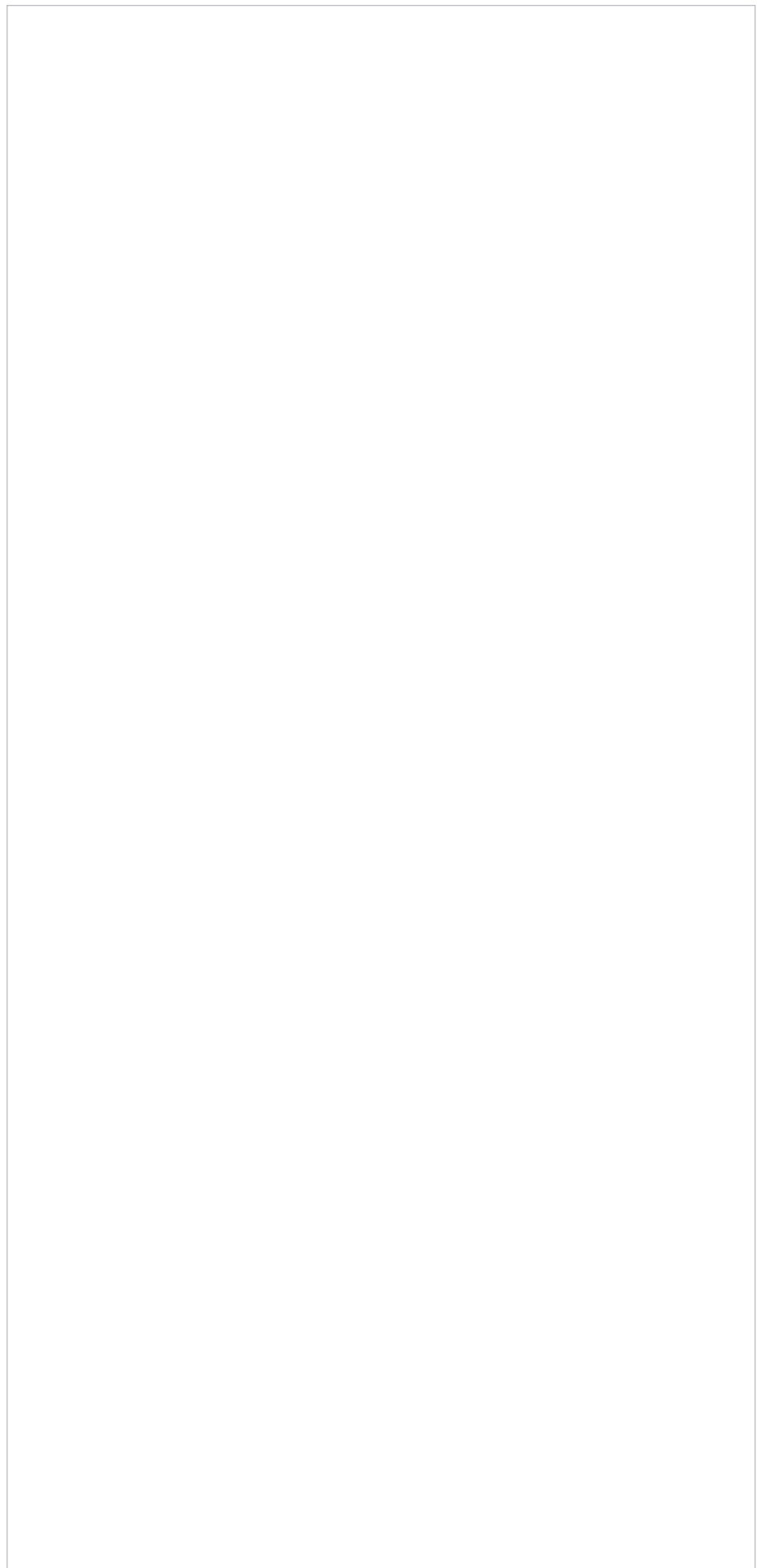
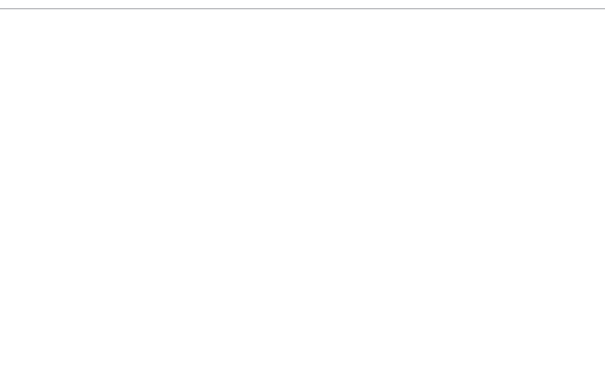
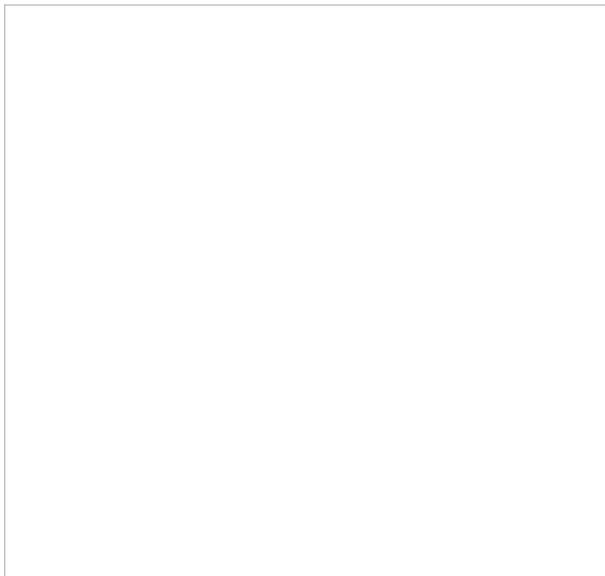
NCOIC, Intelligence Analysis, 461st Operations Support Squadron

Tech Sgt. Jeremy Fogleman – Outstanding ISR Enlisted Contributor of the Year

Instructor Senior Director Technician and NCOIC of 12th Airborne Command and Control Squadron.



READ THE REV-UP ONLINE AT
www.robins.af.mil



FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ON TAP

White Water Rafting, Ocoee River, Tenn.

April 6
\$125 per person
Register by today
Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 914
For details, call 468-4001.

Thunder Alley Bowling

Friday and Saturday 9 to 11 p.m.
For details, call 468-2112

UPCOMING

Dog Obedience Class

Coming this month
For details, call Trudy Reynolds at 953-4488.

Boss N' Buddy

March 15
4 to 5 p.m.
Heritage Lounge
Members Free
Guests \$5
For details, call 472-7864.

ITT Travel and Recreation Show

March 21
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Heritage Club Ballroom
Prizes to be given away
For details, call 468-2945

Home Alone Workshop

March 28
5:30 to 7 p.m.
Youth Center
For details, call 468-2110.

Atlanta Zoo

April 20
\$70 to \$74 per person
Sign up early
Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 914
For details, call 468-4001.

ONGOING

Quick Turn now serves breakfast

Mondays through Fridays 7 to 9:30 a.m.
Open to all Team Robins members
For details, call 468-6972.

QuickShot Bingo

Mondays through Fridays at all Base Restaurant snack bars
6 a.m. to close
For details, call 468-6972.

Golf Annual Legoland Florida Tickets

1 day \$54 per person
2 days \$62 per person
For details, call 468-2945.

FSS Wireless Hot Spots

Facilities include: the Golf Course, Base Restaurant and Afterburner, Heritage Club, Horizons Event Center, Library and Bowling Center.

Remote Control Bowling Ball

Available for Wounded Warrior Program and those with special needs. For a fee, it can also be used as a novelty item for parties. For details, call 468-2112.

Not just a geek thing ...



U.S. Air Force photos by TOMMIE HORTON

Above, Dennis Brockway (left), and Myles Kelvin display their company's portable computer system equipment Tuesday during the annual Robins Technology Exposition. The event was hosted by the 78th Communications Directorate.



At left, Amy Blankenship, showcases her company's technology at the Horizons Event Center. Expo attendees had the opportunity to engage in hands-on demonstrations of multiple types of information technology equipment.

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