Tragedy in Boston being used as lure

Individuals wasted no time registering domain names related to the explosions at the Boston Marathon. Some domains will likely target individuals looking to contribute to fundraising efforts. It is unclear what each registrant's intent may be, but historically, scammers, spammers and other malicious actors capitalize on major news events by registering such domains. To read more, visit www.robins.af.mil.

dedicated to workforce

Page 2



Reserve unit supports African Lion

Page 7

REV-U

Base generates \$1M savings for DOD

BY JENNY GORDON

jenny.gordon@robins.af.mil

Robins Air Force Base is one of two Defense Department locations able to provide a powerful capability in support of the National Airborne Operations Center.

As a result of a significant Team Robins effort, four trilectron generators assigned to support the JSTARS fleet underwent modifications here in order to support both JSTARS and NAOC aircraft.

Working with the Air Force Sustainment Center engineering department and the NAOC program office, the 116th Maintenance Squadron developed the first such modification of its kind, further enhancing the generator's value and versatility.

The modification added additional cable receptacles specific to the E-4B aircraft, and allowed a switchable configuration from JSTARS to the NAOC aircraft in minutes.



U.S. Air Force photo by PAUL WENZEL

Staff Sgt. Ronald Michaud, 116th Maintenance Squadron, demonstrates the start-up procedures for a trilectron generator assigned to the 116th Air Control Wing.

The generators – a V-6 diesel engine that generally takes about 15 minutes to successfully warm up and connect to an aircraft – are self-contained units which sit on

the ground supplying immediate electrical current for aircraft to be in a mission-ready posture.

Cost savings are significant in that they assist with keeping an aircraft running while its engines are powered down and not in use – a unique feature for this loca-

By doing this, a substantial amount of jet fuel is saved, to the tune of about \$1.2 million, according to Master Sgt. Bob Cliche, 116th ACW Aerospace Ground Equipment Flight supervisor.

An additional \$179,000 savings per visit is also realized for the E-4B. That's huge considering the fuel burn rate per hour on station for the E-4B is 500 gallons per hour with engines running.

JoAnn Campbell, 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron program manager, took advantage of an end of year funding opportunity to complete the initiative to purchase four cables that allow full support of the E-4B when here. This project was years in the making, and is now fully operational.

Worker safety, health remains focus across installation

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

Can you identify what your workplace safety hazards are? Do you know how to report those hazards?

If you can answer yes to these questions, you've been touched by just one of many processes now in place here that are the result of working groups created to address safety and health issues across the installation.

A few years ago, when the Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued Robins 39 citations, the then-Warner Robins Air Logistics Center stood up a Workplace Safety and Health Team. That team provided critical leadership to help the base get compliant with OSHA regulations.

By creating standard processes and procedures, it helped develop controls and solutions to environmental safety and occupational health issues across a number of defined focus areas.

▶ see SAFETY, 7

NEWS

YOU CAN USE

Robins AFAF campaign exceeds goal

The Robins 2013 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign has reached its goal with donations totaling \$79,432.

"A tremendous thank you is in order to the entire Robins installation for your support and contributions to the 2013 Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign. This year was truly an all hands in effort as units from across Robins worked hard to make our 2013 goal," said 1st Lt. Gregory Cappuzzo, the campaign's installation project officer. "We, the Airmen of Robins Air Force Base, thank all of the personnel who generously volunteered their time, financial assistance and support from all levels of leadership as we once again made the campaign a tremendous success.'

The six-week campaign, with the theme, "Commitment to Caring," raises money for charitable affiliates that provide support within the Air Force family, and includes the Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Villages Charitable Foundation, the LeMay Foundation and Air Force Enlisted Village.

In 2012 through the AFAS, the official charity of the Air Force, Robins was able to provide 116 forms of emergency loan assistance and four grants.



U.S. Air Force photos by TOMMIE HORTON

YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH ROBINS

AFMC, AFSC leaders tour base, meet workforce

Above, Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger, commander of Air Force Materiel Command, and Lt. Gen. Bruce Litchfield, Air Force Sustainment Center commander, join Brig. Gen. Cedric George, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex commander, in a rally with 572nd Commodities Maintenance Squadron F-15 ramp shop employees during a visit here Monday.

At right, retired Air Force Col. Craig Wolfenbarger is briefed Monday by Capt. Kevin Nail, 78th Dental Squadron dentist, during a tour of the 78th Medical Group facility here.



TOP NOTCH TEAM

OSS named 'model' Gold site during VPP assessment

BY JENNY GORDON

jenny.gordon@robins.af.mil

The 78th Operations Support Squadron at Robins has achieved Gold status as part of the Robins Voluntary Protection Program Safe Site Challenge. A site assessment was conducted April 11.

"It was a tremendous effort on everyone's part," said Lt. Col. Jake Trigler, 78th OSS commander. "I am very proud of how everyone in the squadron came together. With each of our flights and everything we do on the airfield, safety and risk management are a critical part of every decision made."

The 78th OSS is comprised of 100 personnel that include airfield management,

GOLD SITES AS JANUARY 2013

78th FSS Honor Guard, 78th ABW/XP; 560th AMXS front office staff; AFSC-DP Avionics Training Center; 78th FSS Fitness Center; 409 SCMS, Bldg 300 EW, Bay G; 78th CES/CEOUW-2, (drinking water); 404 SCMS, Bldg 300 EW, Bay F; 78th CEG/CER (Resource Mgt); 78th LRS Vehicle Ops; and 78th LRS/LGRW Munitions Flight

transient alert, air traffic control, Host Aviation Resource Management, air traffic control and landing systems, and weather

In preparation for the team's assessment for a Silver award last year, the squadron had a clear goal of achieving Gold status. Through its commitment to VPP principles, clear lines of communication in hazard reporting, conducting weekly safety briefings and continuing to accomplish work and home safety goals, the squadron can be proud of the hard work achieved during its VPP journey.

"The entire squadron worked very hard on this," said Tom Geraldsen, 78th OSS VPP rep.

By keeping a safety mindset and continuing the practice at home, he said that, "VPP has made it easier and more efficient

▶ see GOLD, 10

ronze Star 116th flight superintendent receives award for leadership

Senior Master Sgt. James Love, 116th **Civil Engineer Squadron Operations Flight** superintendent, smiles with his family by his side after being awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

Love was awarded the medal for extraordinary leadership and management skills while being deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Maj. Gen. Jim Butterworth, adjutant general of the Georgia National Guard, presented the Bronze Star Medal to Love, at Robins April 12.



OMS: Helping your flight path toward mission success

One of only four bases in the Air Force with a stand-alone clinic for civilian employees, the 78th Medical Group's Occupational Medicine Services stands dedicated to the improvement of health and safety for civilians.

"OMS is the busiest Occupational Medicine Clinic in the Air Force, seeing thousands of employees annually," said Col. Michael Rappa, OMS chief. "We have a staff of 30 employees made up of active duty, contract and federal employee personnel who are all dedicated to our workforce on base."

The staff includes six medical providers, three who are specialtytrained and board-certified in occupational medicine, and three sports rehab specialists who assist injured employees.

Available medical care

The clinic provides medical care for workplace injuries and illnesses, work-related medical exams, assistance with workplace accommodation due to non-work related medical conditions, and preventive health and safety education.

Employees who incur nonemergency job-related injuries or illnesses should report to OMS for initial assessment and treatment during duty hours. For immediate care needs after hours, employees should refer to an urgent care facility for minor injuries and illnesses.

Employees seen off base for injuries that require duty restrictions are to follow up with OMS as soon as practical and before



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON Steve Bounds receives a follow-up hearing exam performed by Capt. Erin Artz, 78th Aerospace Medicine Squadron hearing conservation program manager, at the Occupational Medicine Clinic at Robins.

returning to work. Injuries or illnesses are to be reported as soon as possible to the supervisor. All employees returning to work after a work-related injury or illness should first be seen in OMS.

A limited number of same day appointments may be scheduled according to availability. The employee must bring appropriate medical documentation from their treating physician. Industrial workers will provide medical documentation to OMS before returning to work. Industrial workers returning from maternity reasons must report to OMS before returning to work.

WHAT TO KNOW

OMS is located in Building 207 on the corner of First Street and Page Road. Hours are 7:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 7:15 a.m. to noon on Friday. The clinic may be reached at 327-7591.

Non-industrial (for example, office or administrative) employees do not need to be evaluated at OMS for return to work status if their injury or illness was nonwork related, unless there are duty limitations that interfere with their job function.

Robins units unaffected by **ACC** stand down

HEADQUARTERS AIR COMBAT COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Air Force began standing down active duty combat units April 9 to ensure the remaining units supporting worldwide operations can maintain sufficient readiness through the

remainder of the fiscal year. The stand down will not affect flying operations within the 116th and 461st Air Control Wings, which operates the E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System.

"Despite the fiscal challenges, the demand for JSTARS and our highly trained Airmen in both the 461st and 116th Air Control Wing is at an all-time high," said Col. Dean Worley, 461st ACW commander. "While Team JSTARS is not currently standing down like other ACC assets, we constantly look for ways to balance the fiscal constraints we are under, find new ways to make our training more efficient and effective, while delivering unmatched C2ISR capability around the

The stand down is the result of cuts to the command's operations and maintenance account, which must be implemented in part by flying approximately 45,000 fewer training hours between now and October 1 than previously scheduled.

"JSTARS is unique because we are a low density, high demand platform, owned and funded by the Air National Guard. All of the JSTARS aircraft are ACC gained as a force provider to combatant commanders," said Col. Kevin Clotfelter, 116th ACW commander. "As a national asset, Team JSTARS continues to support six Combatant Commands and maintains our homeland defense missions."

ACC, as the Air Force's lead for Combat Air Forces, manages the flying-hour programs for four major commands. This decision to stand down or curtail operations affects about one-third of the active-duty CAF aircraft - including those assigned to fighter, bomber, aggressor and airborne warning and control squadrons - stationed in the U.S., Europe and the Pacific.

"We must implement a tiered readiness concept where only the units preparing to deploy in support of major operations like Afghanistan are fully mission capable," said Gen. Mike Hostage, ACC commander. "Units will stand down on a rotating basis so our limited resources can be focused on fulfilling critical missions."

Some units currently deployed, including A-10s, B-1s, F-16s and F-22s, will stand down after they return from their deployments. The remaining units stood down operations on April 9. Active-duty aircrews assigned to Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard A-10 or F-16 squadrons under an arrangement known as "active associations" will also stop flying.

The stand down will remain in effect for the remainder of fiscal 2013 barring any changes to current levels of funding.

AIR



FORCE

Air Force officials announce civilian Reduction in Force

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – In a continuing effort to meet the Department of Defense funding targets in the fiscal 2012 President's Budget and re-balance the civilian workforce, approximately 60 Air Force installations will implement civilian Reduction in Force authorities effective through about Aug. 23, to assist in the placement of employees not assigned against funded positions (termed "surplus employees").

These actions started in fiscal 2012 and are not related to the current sequestration actions.

To meet the funding targets in the fiscal 2012 President's Budget, the Air Force was required to reduce more than 16,000 civilian positions. The Air Force was able to successfully reduce approximately 15,000 positions minimizing adverse impact to civilian personnel, but now needs to use RIF authorities, which will provide options to help place most of the remaining civilians on unfunded positions.

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

AFSPC ops leader highlights command's new warfighter role

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – The Director of Air, Space and Cyberspace Operations for Air Force Space Command spoke at the Space Warfighters Luncheon April 9 during the 29th National Space Symposium held at the Broadmoor Resort, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Maj. Gen. Jack Weinstein addressed a packed room of both military and civilian attendees on the impact of Gen. Shelton's designation as Commander, Air Force Forces for space and cyber forces to United States Strategic Command and its importance to the warfighter.

"This new design for the AFSPC commander as COMAFFOR is a truly revolutionary and positive change for our Air Force," said Weinstein. "The COMAFFOR operates and supports the Air Force Forces assigned or attached to the Joint Force commander... a COMAFFOR is a warfighter."

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

Air Force restarts tuition assistance

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Air Force has officially restarted military tuition assistance, effective immediately.

The service restarted the program as a result of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013, where Congress called for the MTA program to continue in the current fiscal year.

As a result of the restart, the program will resume the same benefits as before. Airmen are eligible for up to \$4,500 per fiscal year and a maximum of \$250 per semester hour or quarter hour equivalent to cover tuition and allowable fees. Military tuition assistance is not available retroactively to cover courses taken and paid for using any other funding source during the suspension of military tuition assistance.

"Military tuition assistance will be the same program Airmen are used to," said Russell Frasz, the director of Force Development. "The same policies and procedures will be in place."

With this change, current and future Airmen will be given another tool to develop professionally through advanced education, Frasz said.

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

Night Light

Beneath the light of a full moon, Airmen from the 19th Airlift Wing prepare a C-130J Hercules for a flight, at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. The 19th Wing's responsibilities range from supplying humanitarian airlift relief to victims of disasters, to airdropping supplies and troops into the heart of contingency operations in hostile areas.



U.S. Air Force photo by STAFF SGT. RUSS SCALF

New resources promote fitness culture JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH,

Texas (AFNS) – To help improve Total Force fitness levels, Air Force Personnel Center officials are fielding new fitness resources accessible online, in person or on DVD.

These resources, including the Operational Fitness Program, Xtreme Wednesday Workouts, the Air Force Fitness DVDs and the Fitness on Request kiosks are available to all Total Force Airmen, retirees and families, through base Fitness and Sports Centers and unit physical training leaders.

The Operational Fitness Program provides detailed exercise plans for individuals of all fitness levels and is easily accessible on www.usafservices.com.

"The goal of the program is to help maintain resilient Airmen and encourage healthy lifestyles for our Air Force communities at large," said Scott Nunnelly, the AFPC fitness program manager. "While the program isn't mandatory, it provides a great baseline for people to maintain their fitness throughout the year."

AFPC officials reached out to installation fitness and sports managers as well as exercise physiologists for their feedback to help develop the workout plans. Currently, the program offers detailed workouts for three levels of fitness.

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

AMC commander stresses importance of new tanker

WASHINGTON (AFPS). – The commander of the Air Force's Air Mobility Command recently stressed the high priority his service places on the KC-46A tanker aircraft program.

Air Force Gen. Paul J. Selva discussed progress with the program and stressed its priority in a meeting with Defense Writers Group reporters.

Air Force officials announced award of a \$3.5 billion engineering and manufacturing development contract to Boeing Co. for the new tanker in February 2011.

"I'm on the record saying that our No. 1 acquisition priority in AMC -- and it remains the Air Force's No. 1 priority -- is making sure the KC-46 tanker delivers on time, on cost," he said. "And because we have a firm fixed-price contract for the development of that airplane, if we allow ourselves to get into the position where we don't have the funds to pay for the initial development of the airplane, that contract gets reopened."



U.S. Air Force photo by **TECH. SGT. CHRISTINA STRAYER**

Hey bladder bladder

Airmen assigned to the 380th Air Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron position a 200,000 gallon fuel bladder inside a containment area at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia April 4. Sixty Airmen operate the fuels farm, moving anywhere from 300,000 to 600,000 gallons of fuel each day.

This would be a bad outcome for the Air Force and for the nation – in reverse order, Selva said.
"We'll pay more for the airplane than we know we

have to based on the existing contract," he added.

The general said an initial round of site surveys for

where the aircraft will be based has taken place, and the critical final design review is scheduled in July.

"We're in source selection for the simulator training

devices, which means we're already started into the process of developing the curriculum and deciding how we're going to train the crews that operate the airplane," Selva said.

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

compiled by Holly Logan-Arrington

Perspective

VSAF asks Airmen for innovative ideas

working together as an unbeatable team. As we face fis-

Fellow Airmen

I need your help. Throughout my Air Force career I've learned that when times get tough, Airmen consistently figure out a way to "get it done." Today, complex security and fiscal challenges reemphasize the need to capture and implement your innovative ideas for the Air Force and for the Nation. I want to hear from you and I encourage your participation in a 30 day "Airmen Powered by Innovation" call for ideas on how we can cut costs and better fly, fight and win.

There are two options for you to participate in this

effort. During the month of May, you can provide your



Spencer

ideas using the Air Force Portal or the Air Force's public website. The Air Force Portal link provides for submission of ideas and/or an interactive discussion forum at https://www.my.af.mil.

The Air Force Public site is set up for access via your mobile device or home computers at http://www.af.mil.

The future of our Air Force starts with you. Providing global reach, vigilance and power requires all of us

cal challenges, we must make prudent choices to ensure the Air Force is able to unleash the full potential of airpower. Each of us must find new ways to win the fight, strengthen the team, and shape the future. Every Airman, every day, can make a difference. Be that Airman and let me know your thoughts on how we can better fly, fight and win!

 This message was written by Gen. Larry Spencer, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff

ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER
Col. Mitchel Butikofer

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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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U.S. Air Force photos by **MASTER SGT. ROGER PARSONS**

Air National Guardsmen from the 116th Civil Engineer Squadron, use a vacuum and a pressure washer from a sewage truck to clean out a drainage ditch while correcting a storm water drainage problem here April 13. The 116th CES offered to fix the drainage problem on the road in order to provide training for their Guardsmen during a Unit Training Assembly weekend.

Road Work

116th CES takes on drainage repair as part of training

The 116th Air Control Wing's Civil Engineer Group conducted two projects April 13-14.

One involved the correcting of drainage issues between Bldgs. 2081 and 2082 on Mertins Avenue; the other was removing about 350 cubic yards of dirt that was used as part of a temporary hardened shelter.

The projects involved 50 individuals, including heavy equipment operators, engineers and utili-

ties experts.

As part of meeting training requirements, traditional Guardsmen and Reservists in the past would travel to other locations. This opportunity at Robins allowed the team to stay proficient while providing training.

"They were very eager to get their hands on the project," said Senior Master Sgt. James Love, 116th Civil Engineer Squadron operations flight chief. "We're look-



Senior Airman Shane Kilgore, a heavy equipment operator with the 116th Civil Engineer Squadron, uses a backhoe to break up and remove concrete while correcting a storm water drainage problem.

ing to do more projects closer to home to get our requirements, while also keeping the morale of the unit high. One of the ways we do that is to give them the tools they need, and let them do what they do."

On the Fly

AFA annual award winners

The Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter of the Air Force Association has announced the recipients of its 2012 Annual Awards, and 15 of 18 awardees are from the base.

Col. Mitchel Butikofer, Installation commander, and Dan Penny, vice president, Carl Vinson Chapter 296, will make the presentations at a luncheon Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Museum of Aviation's Hangar One.

The Robins winners are:

- ► Acquisition Manager/Supervisor of the Year Award: **Capt. Jay Samples**, C2ISR Division
- ► Administrative Support of the Year Award: **Staff Sgt. Antoine Steele**, 78th Medical Group
- ► Cargo/Tanker Aircraft Technician of the Year Award: Capt. Sean
- **Bojanowski,** C2ISR Division.

 ►Civil Engineer Manager/Supervisor of the Year Award: **Erika Orr,** 778th
- Civil Engineer Squadron

 ►Community Relations of the Year

 Award: Eric Danforth, 78th Civil

 Engineer Group
 - ▶Engineer of the Year Award: **Rodney**

Peters, Special Operations Forces/Personnel Recovery Division

- ► Logistics Achievement of the Year Award: 559th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- ► Maintenance Manager/Supervisor of the Year Award: **Gary Hatcher**, 567th Electronics Maintenance Squadron
- ► Medical Profession Manager/Supervisor of the Year Award: Master Sgt. Nyel Aquino, 78th Medical
- ►Outstanding Mission Support of the Year Award: Capt. Marvin "Mitch" Brown Jr. 461st Air Control Wing
- ► Specialist/Technician of the Year Award: Michelle Laurine, 448th Supply Chain Management Wing
- ► Support Manager/Supervisor of the Year Award: **Master Sgt. Larry Hancock**, 78th Air Base Wing
- ► Trades and Craft Worker of the Year Award: **Robert Matusky**, 568th Electronics Maintenance Squadron
- ▶Reconnaissance/Rescue/Trainer Aviator of the Year Award: Capt. Matthew Krauss, 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron
- ► Support Contractor of the Year Award: **John Langston**, Special Operations Forces/Personnel Recovery Division

YOUR CHANCE TO BE HEARD

The 2013 Air Force Community Assessment Survey is underway, and Team Robins members asked to participate are encouraged to do so.

The assessment is designed to assist chaplains and people working in installation-level Airman and family readiness centers, family advocacy programs, health and wellness centers, mental health clinics and child and youth programs.

Topics include personal and family adjustment, individual and family adaptation, community well-being, deployment, resiliency, post-traumatic stress, and help-seeking stigma.

The survey, which is a total force effort, will be available until May 30 and is completely anonymous.

A notification letter, including a link to the Web-based survey, will be sent to work email addresses of everyone selected. Spouses will be mailed a postcard.

The survey should take 30 to 45 minutes to complete.

Data will be analyzed and briefed to wing and

Air Force leaders. The information will help make community-wide program planning and resource allocation decisions, which ultimately enhance the quality of life, readiness and retention of AF personnel.

Previous survey results are credited with expanding financial counseling programs to members and their families, developing a user-friendly support network for Air Force single parents, and setting up marriage-support seminars for junior enlisted members and their spouses.

An **Armed Services Blood Program** blood drive will be conducted today in the Fitness Center Annex from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Due to TDY budget restrictions, the blood drive hours will be shortened. The organization sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience this change might cause, especially for those who already have early appointments scheduled.

Online appointments for this drive are mostly booked already so there will be some growing pains as adjustments are made to the new schedule. Please see

https://www.militarydonor.com/index.c fm?group=op&step=2&opid=58067 to reschedule appointments.

Through its partnership with Robins, Mercer is offering a Master of Science in Organizational Development and Change for those interested in advanced leadership positions in the public or private sectors.

The only offering of the eight-week program for 2013 begins in May and will prepare students to lead others effectively and identify innovative solutions to challenges in a variety of professional settings, including the nonprofit, public, health care, military and technology sectors.

For details about the program, information sessions will be conducted at the following times and locations:

Monday and May 6

- ▶ 9 a.m. in Bldg. 905 room 120
- ▶10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Heritage Club, front atrium
- ▶1 p.m. Bldg. 301, Engineering Conference Room, (Located near the snack bar or follow signs near door 460, at the northeast entrance of building).

If you are unable to attend, contact Stephen Jenkins at jenkins_sd@mercer.edu or 678-547-6436 for more information.

The following leadership classes are scheduled for April:

► Carl Unholtz will present "Diversity" Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m.

in Bldg. 905, Room 244.

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

The Robins Education and Training Office is conducting a Needs Assessment Survey to determine the current educational needs of the Robins population.

Completing the survey determines what degree programs, colleges, universities and other instructional learning formats best meet Robins' needs.

Visit the Air Force Virtual Education Center through the Air Force Portal under Training/Education/Force Development and complete the survey.

For those who don't have a base ID card, visit the Education Office in Bldg. 905 to complete a survey. The survey will end May 31.

For more information, call the Education and Training Office at 497-3408.

The following leave recipients have been approved through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program:

Michelle Price of HQ AFGSC. POC is Wilmon Bolden, who can be reached at 781-3288.

Donna Foster of 578th SMXS. POC is David Ensley, who can be reached at 468-9758.

Janine Jackson of 78th MDG. POC is Tammy Holland, who can be reached at 497-8390.

To have a leave recipient listed here, send an email to Lanorris Askew at lanorris.askew@ robins.af.mil.

The Robins Equal Opportunity office will be conducting EO Refresher Training June 25 and 26 at the base theater. There will be two Supervisors' Sessions June 25 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 3:30 p.m. and two Employees' Sessions on June 26 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Sign up for any of these classes, on the portal, on the Robins Homepage or by calling the EO office at 468-2131.

Robins reserve combat comm unit supports African Lion exercise

BY BO JOYNER

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

Fourteen members of Air Force Reserve Command's 55th Combat Communications Squadron are in Morocco providing critical communications support for African Lion 2013, an annually scheduled, bilateral U.S.- and Moroccan-sponsored exercise designed to improve interoperability and mutual understanding of each nation's tactics, techniques and procedures.

The Reservists and five pallets of computers, cables, switches, satellite dishes, tents and other supplies left Robins on a KC-135 in early April. After their arrival in Agadir, Morocco, the comm specialists set up the communications network that will serve as the backbone for African Lion, which runs through the end of the month.

"We're providing SIPR (secure internet), NIPR (non-secure internet), voice and some VTC (video teleconferencing) for this large-scale exercise," said Senior Master Sgt. Bart Sawyer, 55th CBCS superintendent.

"Our folks have been



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Will Toussaint Master Sgt. Aaron Smith Jr., left, fine tunes a radio frequency module shot to the Marine Forces Africa command center while Master Sgt. Megan Reed ensures the primary satellite communications antenna is stable in support of African Lion 2013 in Morocco on April 9.

training hard," added Lt. Col. Lee Mumford, 55th CBCS commander. "We finished an ORI in December of 2010 and a UCI in August of 2012, and we're ready to put our training to the test and show we can provide comm to the warfighter in an austere location."

Providing communications for African Lion is a challenging mission. More than 1,400 U.S. military service members are joining more than 900 Moroccan soldiers in various regions of the country to take part in a wide vari-

ety of training, including command post operations, life-fire and maneuvering, peace-keeping operations, amphibious operations, and aerial refueling and lowlevel flight training.

In addition, exercise participants will provide medical, dental, pediatric and optometry care to thousands of Moroccans throughout the country.

Editor's note:
To read the full story,
visit
http://www.robins.af.mil/
news/story.asp?id=1233
43872.

SAFETY

Continued for

Once the group stood down, officials realized some sort of formal mechanism was needed to ensure standard processes and procedures are continued to be identified and employed. One of the things born from that was a Safety Management System team, which includes three engineers and a safety representative from the largest union on base, the American Federation of Government Employees Local 987.

"What we want are well-defined processes that include production, quality and safety," said Jake Dickson, an SMS team member. "For

instance, if you're a mechanic, a process will show exactly what task you're going to do and how to do it, while remaining safe and in compliance.

"This is taking a proactive approach to eliminating hazards in the workplace," he added.

During the past year, the team has been helping identify and standardize work processes in the 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Support Squadron. It's now preparing to expand its efforts across the base.

Those efforts include the use of a risk assessment tool the team developed which documents each step a worker goes through in his or her job – whether it's rewiring an aircraft or sanding a part and identifies potential hazards within those steps.

"The risk assessment tool takes all of this into account and puts it all together," said Jamerson Parrott, another SMS team member. "Now you can generate a risk score as part of evaluating safety."

Robbie Tidwell, the union safety rep on the team, said it will take some time before the entire system is in a mature state. But, he said it's already a big shift from how things were done in the past when the focus was primarily on tasks and not those performing them.

"The safety management system has essentially created a voice for the employee," he said.



Water conservation project underway

BY ROBINS ENERGY OFFICE

Stewardship of natural resources, along with supporting mission critical activities, is a fundamental part of conservation programs across the Air Force.

Conserving water not only helps preserve this vital natural resource, but also has benefits that go beyond what some may realize. Consuming less water also reduces energy consumption and the use of chemicals – which ultimately reduces the cost of operations.

Each gallon of water used has to meet drinking water standards. When water consumption increases, so does the amount of chemicals needed to treat the water.

As for energy, the water wells that pump water into the distribution system and add treatment chemicals, are large electrical energy users. When water consumption increases, so does the amount of electricity used to run the wells, pumps and treatment equipment, resulting in higher electrical costs. Conserving water helps keep these costs down.

"It is important for Team Robins to be a responsible entity and combine efforts to conserve resources for the future," said Jim Rieker, the energy office's resource efficiency manager.

To assist in this effort, the 78th Civil Engineer Energy Office is focusing on a new project for water conservation. This project, in coordination with engineers and operations personnel within the group, is aimed at reducing the number of gallons used, wasted, or lost within given applications.

Utility shops helped identify key problem areas that result in the estimated loss of more than 3,000,000 gallons per year and this project will help reduce these losses.

"It takes a total team concept to reduce water usage. The base community can contribute to the conservation effort by ensuring water is turned off when not in use and reporting any water leaks or related issues to the appropriate facility manager," added Rieker. "If we are aware of the problem, we can address it and fix it. The effect of our combined efforts to conserve water now will help us preserve our natural and fiscal resources for the future."

Earth Day 2013 Robins AFB Celebrations

Today

Clean-up at Bryant Cemetery

HQ AFRC/A7IA and Keep Warner Robins Beautiful Great American Clean-up at Bryant Cemetery on Memorial Dr. (also known as South First St.) from 2 to 4 p.m.

POC is Shan Williams at 327-8373.

Today

Stream Clean-up

Meet at Scout Lake at 9 a.m. Supplies will be provided. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing. This is a Keep Warner Robins Beautiful Great American Clean-up qualified project.

POCs are Russ Adams at 327-8304 and Paul Barker at 327-8305.

Saturday

Bird Watching with Dr. Bob

Meet at the Bldg. 359 at 7:45 a.m. Bring binoculars and field guides. POC is Bob Sargent at 327-3974.

Thursday

2013 Earth Day on the Greens/SAME Golf Tournament

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.
9:30 to 11 a.m. Putting and Chipping contests
10:30 a.m. Lunch, 11:30 a.m. Shotgun Start
Pine Oaks Golf Course (see Earth Day web site for application)
POC is Laurel Cordell at 327-9275.

Thursday

Arbor Day Ceremony

9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Robins Parade Field Arbor Day Ceremony and Tree City USA Presentation to Base POC is Bob Sargent at 327-3974.

April 26

E-Cycling

8 a.m. to noon Bldg. 987, Hosted by QRP and CEAN
Bring your old computers and other electronics to be recycled.
For a full list of accepted items, visit the Earth Day web site.
Non-government items only.
POCs are Randy Stillwell at 327-4173 and Darryl Mercer at 327-3976.



Sponsored by 78th CEG/CEAN Environmental Management Cosponsored by HQ AFRC/A7IA Environmental Management For more details, visit





GOLD

Continued from 1

to be at work."

VPP site assessments are visits, not inspections, and include a union representative to reflect a true partnership effort among union, employees and management.

Team members visit tour areas looking for a culture of safety and verify that employees are practicing safety principles. American Federation of Government Employees Local 987 – which participates in all VPP Gold assessments - representative Leslie Rogers noted the squadron's efforts in redesigning work areas for better efficiency and safety, employee rewards, removing unnecessary lighting and using roundthe-clock safety checklists.

In particular, she pointed out the weekly walkarounds of all buildings and office spaces.

"One of the areas under 78th OSS's purview reported an uneven cracked walkway leading into a building. A work order was submitted to prevent slips or falls, and in the interim personnel thought outside the box by



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Andrea Lancaster, who works in Base Operations, discusses a situational display which can pinpoint the location of an aircraft and the length of time before it reaches Robins. Base Ops is one of the many areas of the 78th OSS which aced its recent VPP assessment.

using bold pink spray paint on the walkway for awareness until it could be properly repaired," said Rogers. "In this time of decreasing funds and resources, these over-and-above efforts show a true commitment to the Robins Safe Site Challenge."

The Safe Site Challenge, which began in 2008, is a locally-developed approach to implementing VPP tenets across Robins.

Recognition is awarded to offices, shops or teams and smaller areas for commitment to safety and health. Assessments are conducted to help ensure a thorough examination of a site's true maturity level in adhering to VPP principles.

"The 78th OSS is one of our finest VPP safe sites to date with an excellent Safety & Health Management System," said Allen Quattlebaum, installation VPP program manager. "They demonstrated a keen understanding of risk management principles, and effectively applied hazard identification, control measures and continuous improvement in all of its administrative and industrial work areas."

Editor's Note: 345 AFMC safe sites at Robins have achieved various levels: 183 Gold; 114 Silver; 26 Bronze; and 22 Green.



Positive workplace relationships enable everyone to perform at their very best



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EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ON TAP Pizza Depot Special

Today 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Heritage Lounge BBQ ribs, baked beans, corn on the cob, cole slaw \$6.95 members \$7.95 guests For details, call 468-0188.

Boss n Buddy

Today 4 to 5 p.m. Heritage Club Lounge Join us for fun food, entertainment and prizes. For details, call 472-7864.

Andersonville

Civil War Museum Deadline to sign up is today at 5 p.m. **Outdoor Recreation** Bldg. 914 Trip is May 11 For details, call 468-4001.

Teen Night

Saturday 5 to 10 p.m. Youth Center Ages 13-18 only For details, call 468-2110 or 468-5601.

Thunder Alley

Saturday 9 to 11 p.m. **Bowling Center** 12 years and younger \$5, 13 years and older \$10. Includes 2 hours of bowling and shoe rental. For details, call 468-2112.

Family Fitness Fun

Saturday 9 to 10 a.m. Fitness Center For details, call Scott Peavy at 468-2128.

Kids Pizza Making Class

Saturday 1 to 2 p.m. Pizza Depot For details, call Nelia Lewis at 926-0188.

Adult Watercolor Monday

10 to 11:30 a.m.

and 4 to 5:30 p.m. Arts & Crafts Center, Bldg 984 To preregister, call 926-5282.

Power Hours

Monday "Education & Career" 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday "Health & Life Skills" 4 to 5 p.m. Youth Center For details, call 468-2110.

Home Buying Workshop

Tuesday 9 to 11 a.m. A&FRC, Bldg 794, For details, call 468-1256.

Fit Factor Tuesday

4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Youth Center Ages (9-18) For details, call 468-2110.

Golf tips from the Pro

Tuesday 5 to 6 p.m. Pine Oaks Golf Course Pay \$5 for all of the range balls you can hit and get free tips from the PGA head golf professional. For details, call 468-4103.

Financial Beginnings (First Term Officers)

, Wednesday 9 to 11 a.m. A&FRC For details, call 468-1256.

PreSeparation Briefing (Retirees)

Thursday 12 to 4 p.m. A&FRC, Bldg 794, This briefing is mandatory for all separatees and retirees. For details. call 468-1256.

Mug Night at the Heritage

Thursday 3:30 to 9 p.m. Heritage Lounge Bring your own beer mug (20 oz or less) For details, call 472-7864.

UPCOMING Jazz Set at the Heritage

April 26 6 to 8 p.m. Heritage Lounge Stop by and relax after a long day at work. For details, call Sharon Royster at 472-7864.

ONGOING Summer Camp **Requests for Care**

Applications accepted now through April 26 weekdays, 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Lottery drawing April 29. Parents of selected youth will be notified April 30. For details, call 468-2110.

Auto Hobby Shop Safety/Equipment Class

Tuesdays 5 to 7 p.m. Saturdays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This class must be completed before using the Auto Hobby Shop. For details, call 468-2049.

Pee Wee League Bowling Saturdays

Noon to 2 p.m. **Bowling Center** For details call, 468-2112.

Quick Turn now serves breakfast

Mondays through Fridays 7 to 9:30 a.m. Open to all Team Robins 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.

Legoland Florida Tickets 1 day \$54 per person 2 days \$62 per person For details,

call 468-2945.

GET OUT AND PLAY! with PLAYpass

The PLAYpass program through December 2013. To get your PLAYpass, stop by the 78th Force **Support Squadron** Marketing Office in Bldg. 983, at the corner of **Tenth and Warner** Robins streets, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more details, call Venus Mansourzadeh at 468-6559.

WINGMEN WANTED

EAP - 327-7683;

AIRMAN AGAINST

926-9516

DRUNK DRIVING -

335-5218;

335-5236: 335-5238

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER



TURN OFF THE JUICE WHEN NOT IN USE