

Energy Day set for July 5

An Energy Closure Day is scheduled for July 5 in an effort to meet energy reduction requirements. The use of leave is mandatory for energy closure days. When you leave work for the holiday turn off all equipment not needed for your safety, security or mission. Note, civil engineers will shut down all cooling and heating in nonessential facilities starting at 5 p.m. on Wednesday and resume them early on July 8.

Congrats Tech. Sgt. promotees

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AFSC goals series

Page 2

ROBINS REV-UP

June 28, 2013 Vol. 58 No. 25

Savings at Robins nets more than \$52 million

BY JENNY GORDON

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Every penny counts in today's budget-conscious environment.

That's why Robins is doing its share to make sure it's operating responsibly when it comes to spending money.

A 'Road to \$1 Billion' plan, implemented earlier this year by Lt. Gen. Bruce Litchfield, Air Force Sustainment Center commander, seeks the goal of finding ways to be more efficient and cost effective when it comes to doing business across Air Force Materiel Command bases.

Data available since the beginning of the fiscal 2013, shows what Robins has contributed toward that plan.

To date, more than \$52 million has been saved across the installation.

"How we look at this now is how successful we are by providing support to the warfighter at the lowest cost possible," said Greg Huttner, Financial Management director of AFSC's operating location at Robins. "If things are costing a lot, you're not going to provide a lot of mission. Therefore, if you can figure out a way of reducing that cost, then you can provide more mission."

Huttner pointed out that when looking

closely at that savings amount, it has different meaning depending on if a figure is measured by hard savings, cost avoidance or cost opportunity savings.

In the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, the latest figures show a \$39.3 million figure in expense savings. Included was \$10.8 million in government material back-order reconciliation.

Another example was a one-time cost of \$833,000 – an amount that was found from ordering additional C-5 doors that weren't needed.

"A lot of items we're finding stem from things that were charged incorrectly, or perhaps from a back-order we no

longer needed or from something that was cancelled," he said.

In the 78th Air Base Wing, more than \$13 million in savings was identified, which included more than \$8 million in reduction cost.

"What this is saying is they're doing actions within the wing to try to maintain the same level of service to their customers – with \$8.3 million less," he explained.

Or take the \$54,000 in savings captured as a result of the 78th Dental Squadron bringing in instructors as

► see SAVINGS, 7

NEWS

YOU CAN USE



Independence Day Concert

Reserve Generation from the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, Stillwater and Bobby Eakes will perform at the 31st annual Independence Day Celebration at McConnell Talbert Stadium Wednesday.

This year's event is sponsored by the City of Warner Robins.

Gates open at 6 p.m. for this free concert and fireworks display.

Road and Parking lot Closure near Bldgs. 393 and 351

Peacekeeper Way between Bldgs. 393 and 351 will be closed to traffic from July 12 at 7:30 a.m. through July 20 at 4 p.m.

The parking lot on the south side of Bldg. 351 will be also be closed July 10 from 7:30 a.m. through Aug. 12 at 4 p.m. The closure will affect 26 parking spaces. There are no handicap parking spaces in this parking lot.

The closures are needed to allow contractors to do work on the existing road for the installation of a fire suppression line required for a Defense Logistics Agency fire suppression project.

Deliveries and building access for DLA have had prior coordination.

Signs will be placed to direct traffic. For more information, call Stefanie Dawson 497-2948.



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

Col. Christopher Hill, Installation commander, addresses sexual assault awareness with Team Robins members June 21 during his commander's call at the base theater.

Team Robins participates in SAPR Stand Down Day

BY ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Units across Robins participated in a Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Stand-down Day June 21.

The stand-down was directed by Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel to ensure all of the services had the time to conduct necessary training about sexual harassment and sexual assaults.

Robins has not been immune to the problem. In the last three years, the number of reports of sexual harassment and sexual assault has risen from four in 2010, to 11 in 2011 and 14 in 2012.

Robins leaders are in concurrence that those are disturbing numbers – zero toler-

ance is the standard; one incident of sexual harassment or one sexual assault is too many.

Organizations across the base conducted commander's calls, and complimented them with small group discussions about the issue.

Senior Airman Gary Ferguson, 461st Knowledge Operations, said the stand-down provided him the opportunity to learn something new.

"I learned about women's views on sexual assault. I was shocked to learn about the number of sexual assaults and how often it happens," he said.

Tech. Sgt. Rafael Vasquez, 78th Air Base Wing Protocol, agreed.

"The training was beneficial because ... it allowed us to discuss our feelings and concerns about (this issue) which is so damaging to our military," he said.

Tech. Sgt. Jose Padilla, 461st ACW Safety NCO, said the training also offered people a good look at ways to combat the problem.

"The training was insightful, eye-opening and sobering," he said. "It's comforting that we're being proactive about this problem to ensure it doesn't happen here or anywhere else."

Editor's note: Capt. Jenny Durham and Lynsey Sanderson contributed to this article.

JSTARS trainer keeps crews safe, proficient

BY JENNY GORDON

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There's no other simulation training program like it.

The JSTARS Mission Maintenance Trainer is as unique as the weapons system's platform, providing unparalleled capability to the intelligence community and combatant commanders across the globe.

"For us it's very much a center of gravity for producing new aviators, and also keeping our current aviators up to speed, ready to deliver combat power down-range," said Col. Dean Worley, 461st Air Control Wing commander.

"This is a very important part of our enterprise – basically JSTARS can't exist without it," he said.

The simulator has made its home at Robins for more than 10 years. It's experienced a 100 percent mission-capable rate, training and testing thousands of air crew members in a controlled, scripted and robust combat environment.

In the last several years, its use has gone up, surpassing 40,000 hours' worth of simulated training.

While it's used on a daily basis, it has consistently proven to be a reliable asset, testing its operators on the ground without putting them in harm's way.

The software that puts 461st and 116th Air Control Wing aviators in realistic training scenarios across 18 consoles is a joint partnership between Northrop Grumman and the 577th Software Maintenance Squadron at Robins.

This ongoing successful partnership between industry and defense has resulted in the simulator program being named Air Combat Command's Simulation

► see TRAINER, 2

You're in good hands with radar workers in EMXG

BY JENNY GORDON

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When it comes to an Air Force pilot zeroing in on enemy aircraft, radar testing capabilities at Robins ensure that Airman's life is in good hands.

For example, take a nose radome, or the cover that sits at the front of an MC-130H Combat Talon II aircraft, behind that radome is a powerful radar system that needs to be spot-on accurate.

Once a radome is repaired here, testing follows in a nearby indoor radome and antenna test range known as RAVS, or the Radome Analysis and Verification System. It's the only one of its kind that does this type of testing on the Air Force Special Operations Command plane.

This unique compact testing range, built in the 1990s, is a 30-by-75 foot anechoic, climate-controlled chamber where hundreds of cone-shaped, foam pyramids stick out from almost every surface.

A radome is mounted on a positioner and is manipulated in various directions, meant to simulate flying operations. Radio frequency transmission is directed toward a

large reflector on one wall; data is gathered in a separate control room.

"What testing does is scan the entire radome to make sure any repairs that have been made don't degrade how a signal is received," said David Scarborough, radar range supervisor. "We make sure the radome is in the parameters it's supposed to be, so the antenna performs as it should."

One radome is tested at RAVS nearly every month, which encompasses about 16 hours of tests.

Sitting outside the building just a few hundred yards away is another unique capability – an outdoor range which tests different radar types from C-17s and C-5s, to C-130s and B-52s. They're those vertical structures on the southwest side of the base you may have noticed as you're driving along Ga. Highway 247.

Head a few minutes north and the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group's cavernous facilities in Bldg. 640 houses additional testing capabilities.

One of those is the 568th Electronics Maintenance



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA

David Kelley, 568th Electronics Maintenance Squadron, solders a circuit board for a component of an F-15 radar system. The 568th EMXG performs maintenance and overhaul on F-15 fighter aircraft's radar antennas.

► see RADAR, 2

Page Two

AFSC Goal No. 2: Caring for people

BY BRANDICE J. O'BRIEN

AIR FORCE SUSTAINMENT CENTER, Okla. – Air Force Sustainment Center senior leadership considers its people a most important asset and has expressed its commitment to caring for its personnel. In fact, they created a strategic plan goal for the 32,000-person, geographically-separated workforce. It is: “Enable an adaptable, resilient, professional and highly-skilled workforce and care for our people.”

The goal is one of five the center is striving to achieve to become a more integrated, innovative and efficient center for the future. With the goal are four objectives: (Gain and) maintain workforce engagement greater than 80 percent; Ensure all wings have sufficient trained personnel to fill leadership vacancies; Standardize AFSC wings’ functional training and certification plans by Jan. 31, 2015; and Achieve Voluntary Protection Program Star status criteria across AFSC by Oct. 1, 2017.

“People are clearly a very important component of the Department of Defense and the AFSC,” said United Kingdom Royal Air Force Wing Commander

Jonathan Durke at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Assigned to the Logistics Directorate, he is working with the strategic planning team on the development, maturation and socialization of the AFSC Goals and Objectives.

When brainstorming the goal about people, AFSC leadership discussed the need for the military and civilian workforce to be adaptable and resilient given the challenges the DOD and the AFSC faces, as well as the need to ensure people are trained to the appropriate levels and they, and their families, are cared for.

The objective relating to workforce engagement set the biggest challenge across AFSC. Seven areas were considered important to measure and manage: levels of training; professional development opportunities; leadership; tools to complete the job; safe working environment; support mechanisms in place and welfare capabilities; and the workforce’s adaptability and engagement with change and transformation.

“Rather than have a leadership vacancy and no one trained and losing time, effi-



ciency and affecting the mission, we need to get personnel leadership trained so when vacancies arise we have sufficient resource,” said Durke.

The functional training and certification objective is an additional piece to the goal. The objective is about standardizing the training plans predominantly for supply chain and maintenance personnel, which are the largest pieces to the center. Workforce engagement and the two training objectives are co-led by the AFSC Personnel Directorate and AFSC Logistics Group.

Safety and the culture of creating a secure work environment are also very important to the AFSC.

“We already measure incident rates but there is now a requirement for a more widespread change to meet a commercial safety standard,” the commander said. “We want more of a cultural change and a campaign across the entire organization, and make sure it’s recognized by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration with its ‘Star’ status.”

Overseen by Brig. Gen. Cedric George,

Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex commander, the safety objective has a four-year deadline to ensure the center’s units fulfill their responsibilities and allows enough time for OSHA to complete its evaluations.

“Every area of AFSC focuses on these issues, but the way we measure efforts at different locations varies,” said Janet Johnson, AFSC Logistics Strategic Planning Branch chief and lead at Tinker. “The goal is to standardize. The data exists, but the enterprise-wide view is where the objectives are focused.”

To view AFSC Strategic Goals and Objectives, visit:

<https://org4.eis.afmc.af.mil/sites/1533/lgx/lgxa/Lists/Announcements/DispForm.aspx?ID=1&Source=https%3A%2F%2Forg4%2Eeis%2Eafmc%2Eaf%2Emil%2Fsites%2F1533%2Flgx%2Flgxa%2Fdefault%2Easpx>

To view the AFSC Leadership Model, visit:

<https://org4.eis.afmc.af.mil/sites/1533/lgx/lgxa/Lists/Announcements/DispForm.aspx?ID=3&Source=https%3A%2F%2Forg4%2Eeis%2Eafmc%2Eaf%2Emil%2Fsites%2F1533%2Flgx%2Flgxa%2Fdefault%2Easpx>

RADAR

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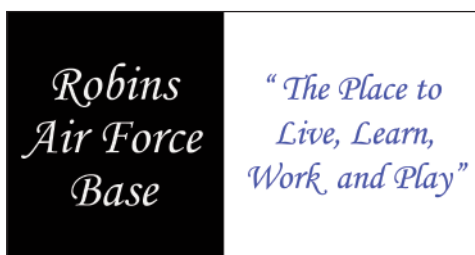
Squadron’s F-15 array work cell, which performs maintenance, overhaul and testing on the fighter aircraft’s radar antennas.

Here one can physically see what sits behind the radome – and why it’s critical that results remain perfect.

It’s apparent why testing must be extremely precise when thinking about the fighter bearing down on an enemy.

The entire array, or antenna, is disassembled here by technicians and repaired on the line.

The large circular asset resembles a sophisticated circuit board that transmits vital radio frequency. Once repaired,



various ‘miniature’ chambers perform functional tests.

A series of similar robust testing is also conducted on the radar used on the long-range, heavy bomber B-52 Stratofortress.

“I continue to be impressed with the capabilities we have in EMXG and with our employees who make the mission happen every day,” said Maj. Wendy Enderle, 568th EMXS commander.

TRAINER

Continued from 1

Training Program of the Year during calendar year 2012.

Working through the highest operations tempo last year, more than 800 Airmen were able to support six combatant commanders, demonstrating the training system’s efficiency and flexibility.

Worley pointed out the Air Force has been working with the Navy in developing and refining air/sea battle concepts,

WHAT TO KNOW

Number of hours MMT is used per year: Around 2,900 hours annually with roughly 2/3 of the time allocated to initial qualification training for new JSTARS aircrew.

Number of students trained annually in the MMT: An average of 280 students, but the number has gone as high as 342.

building scenarios further strengthening JSTARS.

During last year’s ORI, the trainer was also used as part of Distributed Mission Operations with more than 30 different platforms across the country, and more than 120 avia-

tors participating. It was so successful that it has since become an ACC standard.

As upgrades or modifications are made to JSTARS, priority remains on ensuring the trainer keeps aligned with changes to the aircraft.

THE AIR FORCE



Program fights mosquitoes, trains Airmen

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFNS) – Air Force Reserve Command is expanding its Innovative Readiness Training, or IRT, program this summer to help communities control mosquitoes.

C-130 Hercules aircrews will spray Williston and Minot in North Dakota Sunday through Wednesday, and York County and the city of Poquoson in Virginia July 22 through 26. These communities are prone to high mosquito populations due to standing water, flooding and high precipitation.

In addition to drastically decreasing the number of irritations and infections, and the threat of West Nile Virus due to mosquito bites, the IRT missions will provide essential real-world training to aircrews, pest management personnel and maintenance members that they would not have otherwise received.

“From an aircrew perspective, this type of training is necessary for the safe, efficient performance of our assigned duties,” said Maj. W. Travis Adams, an aerial spray instructor pilot.

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

Air Force sets plan to integrate women in combat jobs by 2016

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Air Force has released details of the service’s plan to fully integrate women into previously closed career fields.

The plan was recently submitted to Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel for review.

More than 99 percent of Air Force positions are currently already open to female Airmen. In fact, 2013 marks the 20th anniversary of the Department of Defense allowing women to serve as combat pilots.

The Air Force plans to open the remaining seven career fields – all tied to special operations – by Jan. 1, 2016.

“The Air Force has been actively integrating women into nontraditional skills since 1972,” said Brig. Gen. Gina Grosso, the director of force management policy and deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. “Today, less than one percent of all positions – Active, Guard and Reserve – are closed to women. That equates to about 4,700 positions in a total force of 506,000 people.”

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

F-35 is backbone of Air Force’s future fighter fleet, Welsh says

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Air Force’s most advanced strike aircraft, the F-35 Lightning II, is a vital capability the nation needs to stay ahead of adversary technological gains, the Air Force chief of staff told a Senate panel last week.

Testifying before the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Defense, Gen. Mark Welsh III said air superiority is critical to the nation’s security and how the U.S. military plans to fight.

“The air superiority this nation has enjoyed for 60

Put it out!

Airman 1st Class Chris Parker (right) and Staff Sgt. Aaron Theriault participate in a training exercise in Southwest Asia. Cones were used to represent fire during the exercise. Parker and Theriault are firefighters deployed to the 380th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron.



U.S. Air Force photo by STAFF SGT. JOSHUA GARCIA

years is not an accident, and gaining and maintaining it is not easy,” Welsh said. “It requires trained proficient and ready Airmen and it requires credible, capable and technologically superior aircraft. I believe the F-35 is essential to ensuring we can provide that air superiority in the future.”

The F-35 is an unprecedented fifth generation fighter combining stealth technology with fighter speed and agility, fully integrated sensors, network-enabled operations, and state-of-the-art avionics. However, design issues and production costs have put the F-35 program in jeopardy.

Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Frank Kendall told the committee he believes those concerns have been addressed.

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

Ramstein Airmen build capability with Polish air force

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) – The 86th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron and 435th Contingency Response Group continuously train to meet sustainable medical readiness across the European theater.

Training not only benefits Ramstein Airmen, but other allies like the Polish air force who have consistently engaged in AE training and familiarization throughout 2012 and 2013.

“All NATO countries benefit from having highly skilled and qualified teams to transport wounded warriors from theater back to higher levels of medical care and eventually back to their home country,” said Lt. Col. Kevin Hettinger, 435th CRG flight surgeon and Poland AE Building Partnership Capacity team lead.

In early 2012, Polish AE team members visited the 86th AES Airmen. In turn, three months later, a member of the 86th AES attended the first medical evacuation and aeromedical evacuation conference at the Polish air force academy.



U.S. Air Force photo by MASTER SGT. DONALD ALLEN

F-35 aerial refuel

Pilots in the F-35A Lightning II prepare for aerial refueling off the coast of northwest Florida. The 33rd Fighter Wing at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., is a training wing that trains Air Force, Marine, Navy and international partner operators and maintainers on the F-35. The F-35s are assigned to the 33rd FW.

Last month, two Airmen from the 86th AES, and one Airman from the 435th CRG engaged with Poland again to focus on advancements of the Polish AE team from the previous year.

AFMC priorities, budget effects top executive director’s goals

BY MONICA MORALES

Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – Michael Gill begins his tenure as Air Force Materiel Command’s new executive director today with the long-term objective of providing the right mix of support and leadership to benefit the command and the Air Force.

“I am truly honored to have this opportunity,” Gill said. “I look forward to the successes and challenges we will have taking the command – and the Air Force – to that next level of excellence this country expects and deserves.”

As the command’s executive director, Gill advises the AFMC commander in managing all aspects of the command’s mission to deliver war-winning capabilities, aircraft and weapon systems to America’s warfighters. He also advises the AFMC commander on labor union relations and development of the civilian workforce.

The top goal, said Gill, is supporting AFMC Commander Gen. Janet

Wolfenbarger and, by extension, the priorities of the command. Hand-in-hand with this focus area is tackling the effects felt by a constrained fiscal environment marked by sequestration and workforce furloughs.

“Helping to ensure we continue to provide vital support to our customers and warfighters will be at the forefront of all our efforts,” Gill said. “The other part of that challenge will be taking care of our people as we move forward. Sequestration and furloughs will create a great deal of stress on our workforce and it will be important for us to help them weather the storm by being good wingmen.”

Throughout his career and life, Gill said he has applied the Air Force’s core values as a guide to conducting all aspects of business.

“I have learned that if you keep these core values in mind – integrity, service, excellence – they become a true guide both in your professional and personal life,” he said.

Gill entered government service with the Air Force in 1982 under the Mid-

“I have learned that if you keep these core values in mind – integrity, service, excellence – they become a true guide both in your professional and personal life.”

Michael Gill
AFMC Executive Director



level Management Development Program at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., where he served as a contracting officer and manager supporting aircraft and weapon systems.

His succeeding assignments have included varying positions throughout the Air Force. Gill served as the program manager for the Air Force Contracting and Manufacturing Civilian Career Program, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas; as the director of

the TRICARE Regional Office South, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, San Antonio, Texas; as the director of Contracting, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; and, as the executive director of the Ogden Air Logistics Center, Hill Air Force Base, Utah.

Prior to his current assignment, he was executive director of the Air Force Life Cycle

Management Center at Wright-Patterson. Gill entered the Senior Executive Service in 2001.

This combination of professional experiences, Gill said, has prepared him for the challenges that await in his new assignment as executive director.

“I have had some great experiences in my career,” he said. “Each of them has provided me with lessons and growth opportunities – both personally and professionally.”

ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER
Col. Christopher Hill

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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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To report delivery issues, call 472-0802.

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On the Fly

Fostering Leadership in People awards

Fostering Leadership in People awards were given to five individuals June 21.

Col. Christopher Hill, Installation commander, and Union representatives presented the awards which are given to people who make contributions to improving labor and management rela-

tions here at Robins.

- The latest recipients are:
- ▶ Amber McAtee, 404th SCMS
 - ▶ Kathryn Spivey, 78th FSS
 - ▶ Jimmie Hill, 402nd EMXG
 - ▶ Tech. Sgt. Ronald Megginson, 78th FSS
 - ▶ Lynette Haynes, 78th FSS

JSTARS intelligence officer takes top honors

Capt. Michael Maynard, 461st Operations Support Squadron Intelligence Officer, has graduated from the Air Force Weapons School.



Maynard

Not only that, but he garnered honors as both the outstanding graduate from the 19th Weapons Squadron and was named the Outstanding Mission Award winner.

Maynard was inspired to attend the

school from his interaction with intelligence weapons officers during a deployment.

The school is one of the Defense Department's most challenging courses.

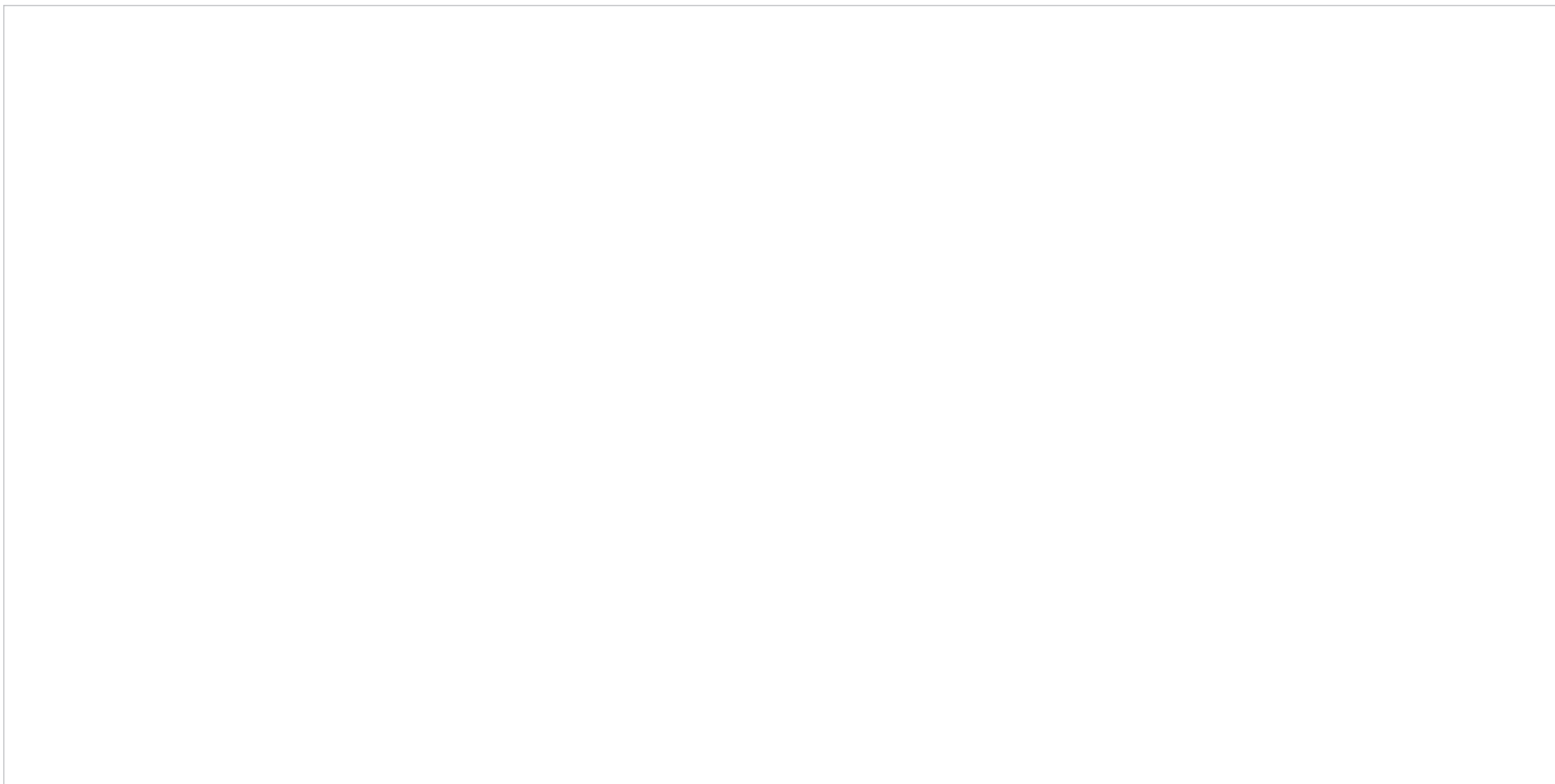
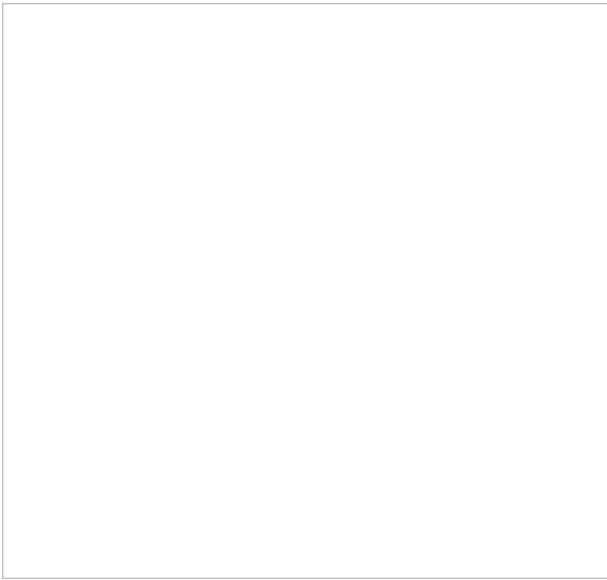
Officers undergo about six months of intensive training where they begin with core academics and end with complex integrated missions and exercises.

Ultimately they're able to not only demonstrate their ability to integrate every Air Force weapons system toward tactical and strategic objectives, but to serve as tactical instructors for the combat Air Forces.

Congrats Tech. Sgt. promotees

Christopher Arflin	Ryan Gebert	Joseph Loffin	Brian Selvidio
Dougary Banks	John Groves	Eric Mabala	Crissy Sharpe
Ryan Beard	William Haney	Justin Mahan	Stephanie Shump
Hillary Beatty	Jeannie Hartman	Jeremy Maples	Travis Small
Joshua Bendall	Timothy Henderson	Michael Mason	Jeremy Smith
Daniel Bricker	Stephen Herron	Nathan McCann	Romain Smith
Angelia Calder	Jonathan Hewitt	Donald Mims	Stenneth Smith
Jeffrey Calvert	Eric Hidalgo	Christopher Oliver	Crystal Vangorder
Demetris Coleman	Jonathan Johnson	Cody Ray	Joshua Vamer
Rachel Collins	Keith Keiser	Kalesha Reaves	Anthony Velazquez
Scott Crim	Chris Knuycky	John Rodriguez	John Vincent
Erik Edwards	Garreth Laney	Robert Salinas	Jason Wilke
John Flowers	Robert Langlois	Shanelle Sapp	Mitchell Williams
Michael Garza	Sharday Leedy	Robert Scire	Shawn Workman

A Tech. Sgt. Promotion Release Celebration will be today at 4 p.m. in the Horizons Event Center. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Kim Coley at 497-4220 or Tech. Sgt. Ty Taylor at 497-6121.



SAVINGS

Continued from 1

opposed to sending personnel on temporary duty elsewhere.

By becoming more efficient in the Communications Directorate, a total of \$2.2 million was realized by software application

consolidation. Server consolidation efforts netted another \$600,000 by bringing servers under a centralized location to reduce manpower and facility footprint.

Robins was previously already moving toward becoming a Department of Defense leader in cost management by looking for continuous process

improvement initiatives and becoming more cost efficient.

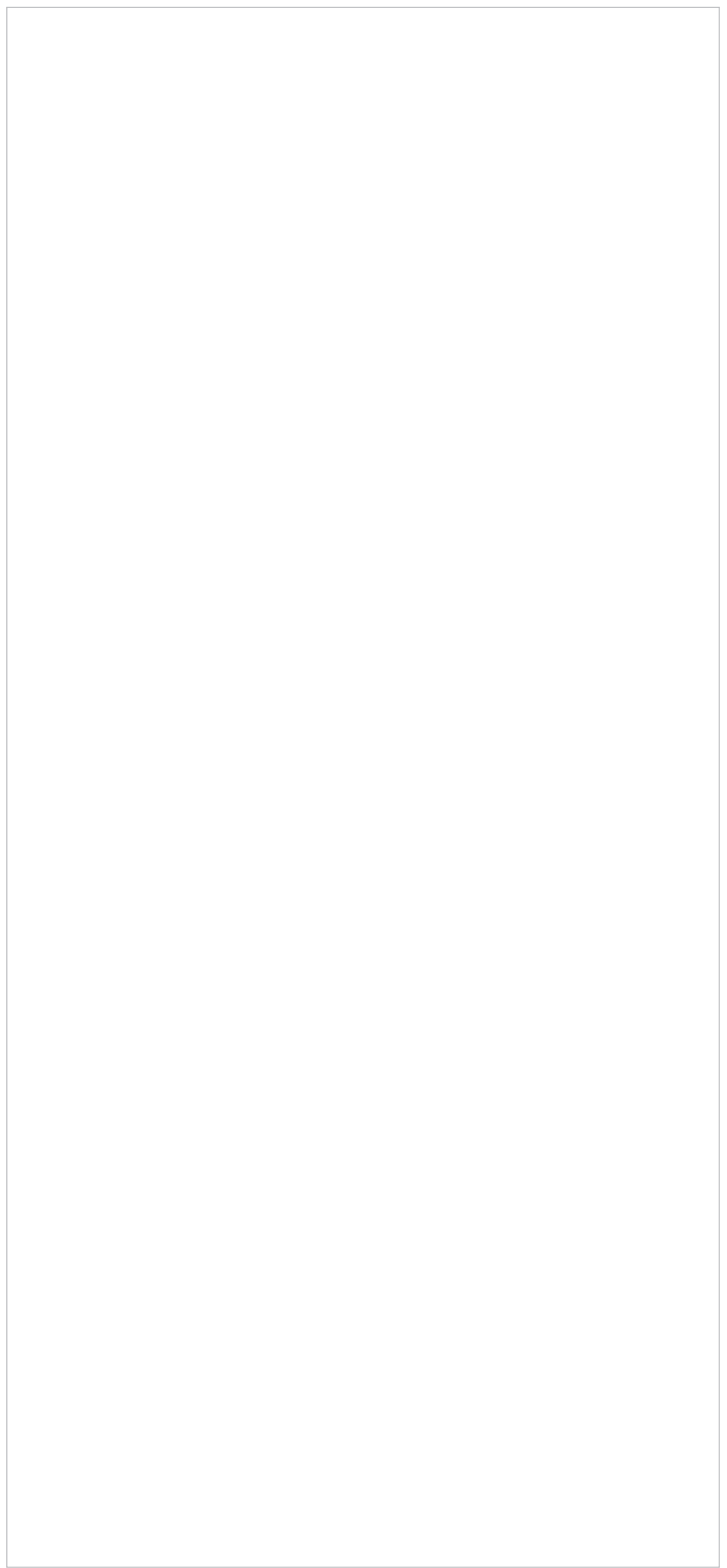
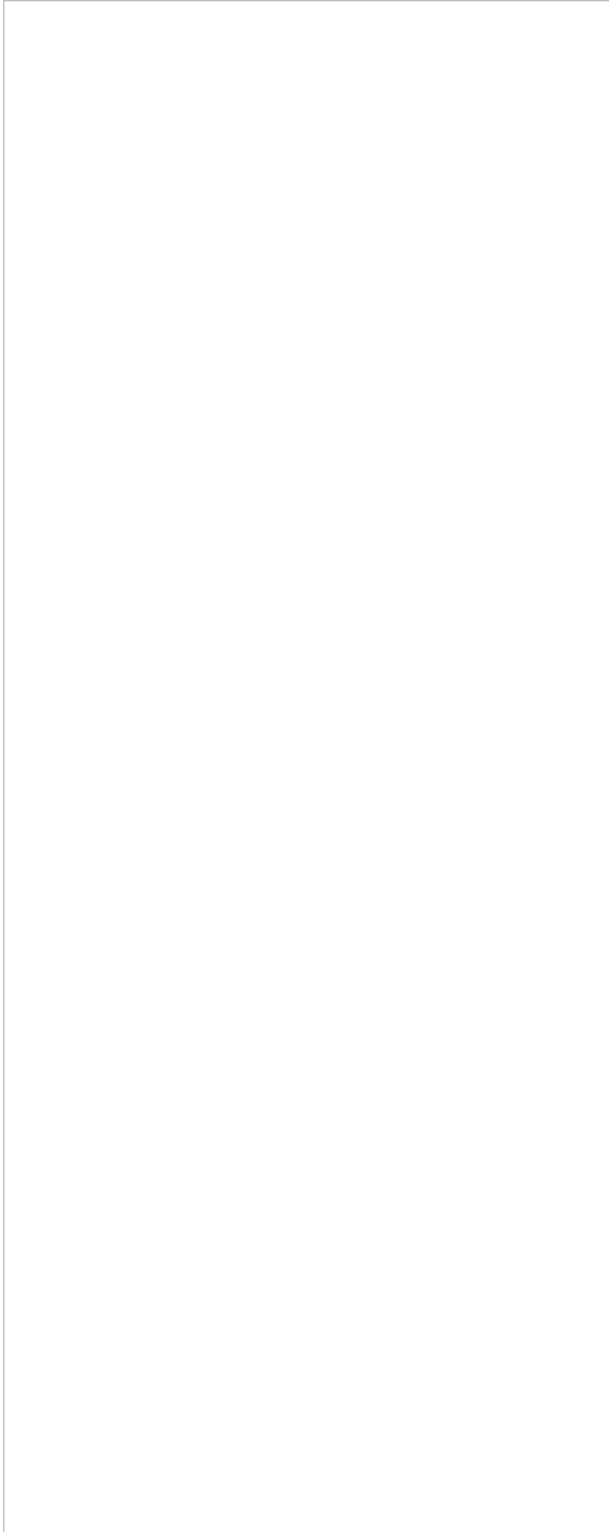
“This is a motivator to get people moving in the right direction. As we share this information across the three complexes, then we can learn from one another and share ideas,” said Huttner.



**ON
ROBINS
IT'S THE
LAW**



**THINK
GREEN ...**
RECYCLE
THIS
NEWSPAPER



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON
Staff Sgt, Benjamin Reeves, 78th Operations Support Squadron weather flight weather technician, monitors weather conditions June 7. The flight's duties include observing daily weather activity, issuing weather warnings and providing vital weather information to in transit pilots.



READ
THE REV-UP
ONLINE AT
<http://www.robins.af.mil/library/rev.asp>

Hurricane season preparedness tips

ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

According to weather specialists, the Atlantic hurricane season – which began June 1 and continues through Nov. 30 – is expected to be a busy one.

With one named storm already in the books, an additional 17 named storms are forecasted this season, including nine hurricanes of which four will become major hurricanes with winds of 110 mph or greater.

The 78th Operations Support Squadron's Weather Flight is busy preparing to ensure Team Robins is aware of the threats posed by land-falling tropical storms.

The team, which consists of 13 men and women, monitor several forecast models, seas surface temperatures and upper

level wind patterns above the Atlantic and Caribbean basins.

And, the initial assessment reflects some comparisons to the 2005 season.

The weather flight won't commit to saying whether the season will be as historic as that year, as 2005 was the most active tropical season in modern history, resulting in major U.S. land-falling storms, Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

Instead, they're focused on being ready for tropical impacts.

"Preparedness and situational awareness remain essential during tropical season," said Roddy Nixon, Jr., senior meteorologist. "Even though we're in Central Georgia, the potential for serious consequences associated with tropical weather remains high."

KNOW THE LINGO

HURRICANE WATCH

Issued for interior counties when sustained winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or greater associated with a hurricane are possible within 48 hours.

HURRICANE WARNING

Issued for interior counties when sustained winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or greater associated with a hurricane are expected within 36 hours.

ROBINS FORECAST AND WEATHER LINKS

www.robins.af.mil/library/weather.asp
Severe Weather Awareness information is located on the right hand side of page.

Sun Safety

While planning for a safe day outdoors, don't forget to protect against the sun and skin cancer. Most commonly, skin cancer is caused from repeated, unprotected exposure to the sun and sunburns. Even one blistering sunburn doubles your chances of developing skin cancer.

Always remember:

- Wear sunglasses with total UV protection;
- Wear wide-brimmed hats, long-sleeved shirts and pants;
- Avoid direct exposure as much as possible during peak UV radiation hours; and
- Apply sunscreen frequently.



101 Critical Days
of Summer

Talk about your wild goose chase

BY JENNY GORDON

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How long does it take four biologists to capture about 40 Canada geese at Scout Lake? Providing all of the birds cooperate – just less than 15 minutes.

The geese were captured June 20 by a team of three biologists from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Leading the effort was Dr. Bob Sargent, Robins' natural resources manager and wildlife biologist.

As the flock of geese was swimming on the lake and neared the water's edge, Sargent lured them with a bag of tasty bread crumbs. Just about all of them tucked into a portable pen a few hundred yards away.

"One of the things we do on base is manage hazardous wildlife that could jeopardize our flying mission," said Sargent. "The birds were nesting here at the lake ... and among other places. They will visit and forage on the airfield."

Once enticed into the waiting pen, the team banded and feather-clipped the mix of juvenile and adult herbivores.

Geese can't fly in late June due to the fact they're shedding their feathers.

That provides a prime opportunity to capture and relocate them.

Clipping some of the adult's growing flight feathers ensured that once they're relocated, they don't simply fly right back to the base.

"Water fowl (ducks and geese) molt their flight



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA

Bob Sargent, Robins' natural resources manager and wildlife biologist lures Canada Geese as part of relocation project.

feathers in the summer, so for three to four weeks they can't fly until they regrow those feathers," said Sargent. "So, they find places like large bodies of water where they've got food and can retreat to for safety."

Capturing and relocating geese is just one important initiative of the Air Force Bird/Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard program – commonly called the BASH program – at Robins.

Past measures included building a fence along the eastern portion of the airfield to prevent wildlife from entering.

Deer, hogs, coyotes and other animals have been known to pose a nuisance on the installation's airfield.

Canada geese are one of the best known species in North America, easily recognized by their black heads and necks, white face patches and brown or gray body coloring.

They're rather large at 10 to 12 pounds, and can pose a threat to aircraft and aircrews performing day

and evening operations inside and outside the base.

It was a flock of geese that caused the commercial airplane to crash in the Hudson River in 2009.

The Air Force lost an AWACS crew and aircraft because of a collision with Canada geese in 1995 at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska.

The presence of any large goose population around base lakes can cause other geese from the city to join them, which can lead to the presence of 100 to 200 geese.

"We're trying to prevent their numbers from increasing here," said Sargent. "We're making sure they aren't harmed, but just as importantly we're making sure our flying mission is kept safe."

He has been involved in catching about 600 geese in the last 17-plus years here.

The geese will be relocated to a state wildlife management area near the Georgia coastal city of Darien, and away from airfields.

WE SUPPORT AFSO21

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ON TAP

Pizza Depot Special

Today
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Caribbean Cuisine
For details,
call 468-0188.

Torch Club

Today
5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Youth Center
Empowers youth to support and influence the club and community, sustain meaningful relationships with others, participate in the democratic process, and to always respect their own as well as the cultural identities of others.
For details,
call (478) 926-2110.

Power Hour - Character/Leadership/Life Skills/Arts

Today
6 to 7 p.m.
Youth Center
For details,
call 468-2110.

Jazz Set at the Heritage

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

Life Skills for Teens

Today
6 to 8 p.m.
Ages 13 through 18
Sessions cover healthy lifestyles, nutrition, public speaking, citizenship, use of public transportation, job searches and more.
For details,
call at 468-2110.

Free movie

Saturday
At dusk
In the field behind the housing office, Bldg. 1898
The movie is open to everyone with base access.
Snacks will be available through different Robins booster clubs.

Thunder Alley

Saturday
9 to 11 p.m.
Bowling Center
\$10 for two hours of bowling with shoe rental.
For details,
call 468-2112.

Adult Watercolor

Monday
10 to 11:30 a.m.
and 4 to 5:30 p.m.
Arts & Crafts Center
To preregister,
call 468-5282.

ONGOING

All-day Robins Lanes Summer Strike Force
Through Aug. 3
Weekly prize drawings to include \$250 cash.
Grand prize is \$500.
Visit the Bowling Center for a complete listing of prizes.

Quick Turn now serves breakfast
Mondays through Fridays
7 to 9:30 a.m.
For details,
call 468-6972.

INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY HOURS

Services activities

All FSS facilities will be closed on July 4th with the exception of:

- ▶ Golf Course 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ▶ Main Fitness Center 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Pools normal hours

All FSS facilities will be closed on July 5 with the exception of:

- ▶ Bowling Center normal hours
- ▶ Main Fitness Center 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ ITT 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶ Outdoor Rec 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶ Fam Camp 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- ▶ Golf Course 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- ▶ Aero Club 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- ▶ Resource Management 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- ▶ Pools normal hours

All FSS facilities will be closed on July 6 with the exception of:

- ▶ Bowling Center normal hours
- ▶ Fitness Center 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Golf Course 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ▶ ITT 8 a.m. to noon
- ▶ Outdoor Rec 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- ▶ Pools normal hours

* For a complete list of FSS hours, visit <http://www.robinsfss.com>.

Commissary

- ▶ Open Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Open July 5 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- ▶ Open July 6 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- ▶ Open July 5 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Shoppette/Class Six

- ▶ Open Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ▶ Open July 5 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Exchange Main Store

- ▶ Open Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶ Open July 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Military Clothing Store

- ▶ Closed Thursday and July 5

Service Station

- ▶ Open Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

*For more Robins Exchange holiday hours visit <http://www.shopmyexchange.com>