



ROBINS REV-UP

March 21, 2014 Vol. 59 No.11

Air Force resumes all Force Management Programs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Air Force leaders announced a resumption of all force management programs March 15 following a recently discussed strategic pause.

“After providing senior leadership a chance to evaluate the programs and assess our early progress, we are ready to resume immediate processing of voluntary applications in most categories and begin notifying Airmen of their status,” said Lt. Gen. Sam Cox, Air Force deputy chief of staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services. “We expect to receive final approval authorities early next week for a select few categories, like rated and health professions, at

which point we will be actively processing all voluntary applications.”

Notifications to Airmen could start as early as next week, the general added.

Cox also confirmed previously announced force management boards would proceed as currently scheduled.

The eligible populations for those boards will remain the same with the exception of a small group of about 500 Airmen who will no longer be eligible for the current voluntary or involuntary programs. Those individuals will be personally notified of their eligibility status by the Air Force Personnel Center.

“Resuming the current programs on the previously announced schedules and

under the same basic criteria means minimal changes for our Airmen,” Cox said.

One item assessed during the pause was the pace of the programs and whether or not the Air Force could achieve required reductions on the original schedule. The analysis revealed the need to include a second round of programs in 2015.

“Airmen who were eligible for programs during the first round in 2014 will not be eligible for the retention boards in 2015, unless they have specific negative quality force indicators,” Cox said.

Ensuring well-performing Airmen are

not subject to multiple involuntary programs is key, according to the general.

Details on the nature and timing of the second round of programs will be announced in the coming weeks.

The general continues to encourage eligible officers and enlisted Airmen to apply for the Temporary Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Pay programs. The current TERA application window remains open until Wednesday and the VSP application window is open to May 1.

For more information on force management, force shaping, reduction in force and other personnel programs, visit <https://mypers.af.mil>.

NEWS

YOU CAN USE

New Commissary hours begin April 1

To provide better customer service to its patrons, the Robins Commissary will have new store hours starting April 1.

New hours are:

►Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

►Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

►Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

►Monday closed

For more information, contact the commissary at (478) 222-7637.

Gate 5 opening postponed

The completion date for construction at Gate 5, Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., has been delayed due to recent inclement weather and other unforeseen site conditions.

The gate is now scheduled to open April 10, with complete construction finished by April 30.

One reason for the setback involves making certain the ground beneath the unearthed pavement is sufficiently stable, according to Becky McCoy, 78th Civil Engineering Group Engineering Division chief.

The MLK Gate has been closed since Jan. 13.

At that time, resurfacing began to remove and replace pavement and the sub-base of the road which vehicles use to enter the base from Ga. Highway 247.

The gate was originally scheduled to reopen today prior to this latest delay.

– By Brian Shreve



CRITICAL SUPPORT

U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

Ken Boyd, 566th Electronics Maintenance Squadron electronics worker, assembles a gyro motor and gimbal in preparation for installation into a sub-assembly.

Robins plays vital role in returning Army's Black Hawks to the skies

BY JENNY GORDON

jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil

Robins not only maintains some of the world's premier Air Force weapon systems, but is also currently providing a hand to keep the Army's Black Hawk UH-60 helicopters flying for years to come.

If you weren't already aware, repairing aviation electronics can be a tedious task at times. But in the 566th Electronics Maintenance Squadron's Gyro Repair Shop, when the call comes, its technicians are up for any task.

The shop rose to the occasion during the

summer of 2013 when its technical expertise was sought for a solution to the Black Hawk's mechanical gyroscope system.

A portion of the aircraft's fleet encountered an issue with its Dual Fiber Optic Gyros System, a navigation system that impacted the UH-60's ability to fly in instrument conditions.

As a result, a Safety of Flight memo was issued by U.S. Army Command to restrict certain A and L model Dual FOGS.

More than 1,000 helicopters were affected – almost half of the entire Black Hawk fleet – according to Col. Thomas Todd, Utility Helicopters project manager at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

One of the key components, the mechanical gyro system, is maintained and overhauled by the 566th EMXS – one of the shop's missions here for more than 30 years. It was decided that one of these gyros would be added back into each affected aircraft.

Up until June, the shop had been maintaining anywhere from four to 12 gyros per month.

Because of an almost overnight exceptional requirement for remanufactured mechanical gyros – nearly 1,000 of them – it would require close coordination between the Army and Air Force to put the

► see **GYRO**, 6

Program connects teachers with military heroes

BY BRIAN SHREVE

Staff Writer

When it comes to bolstering the core values of citizenship, integrity and patriotism among schoolchildren, it often helps to include someone with a proven track record of personifying those traits.

As a group of educators from around Middle Georgia learned last week, few may be better equipped to handle that mission than one who has received the nation's highest military honor.

Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Leo Thorsness, a Vietnam Veteran and recipient of the Medal of Honor, led a discussion with teachers at the Museum of Aviation March 12, representing a primary component of the Medal of Honor Foundation's Character Development Program.

A free curriculum resource, the CDP is a national endeavor aimed at perpetuating the legacy of MOH recipients while reinforcing lessons of character among students through training teachers.

Bill Kuhar and Karen Wilkins – both full-time

teachers from Pennsylvania and Florida respectively – led the day-long instruction for educators, which included the dialogue with Thorsness, who told participants their “job is the most critical.”

Thorsness, 82, said he believed both children and adults may have become complacent with their freedoms and that Americans' idea of sacrifice has changed considerably over time, something he added could be attributed to human nature.

“We take things for granted, and every generation wants their kids to have something better,” said Thorsness. “This program tries to show examples of how you can give something real because so much is not real.”

While serving as a pilot in Vietnam, Thorsness' plane was shot down in enemy territory, forcing him to spend six years as a prisoner of war. In 1973, he received the Medal of Honor upon his release for actions conducted before his capture. (See details in “Back from Hell ...” on page 6.)

Another cornerstone of the mission is the realization that in order to educate students on these issues, teachers oftentimes have to be educat-



U.S. Air Force photo by RAY CRAYTON

Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Leo Thorsness, a Vietnam Veteran and recipient of the Medal of Honor, speaks at the Museum of Aviation.

ed first. “It brings them up to speed a little faster and gives them more background on the Medal of Honor,” said Noel Wall, Development and Education director at the Medal of Honor

Foundation. It's incredibly valuable.”

Also at Robins for the day's event was Martha Reichrath, Deputy Superintendent for the

► see **HEROES**, 6

Second Front



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA

Russell Parkway Gate inbound traffic changes started March 17. Five of the six lanes are open on weekdays to inbound-only traffic from 6 to 8 a.m. The change increased 'throughput' on to the base during the morning, without compromising security.

Women Warriors

In recognition of Women's History Month, the Robins Rev-Up is spotlighting some of the installation's "Women Warriors" each week during the month.

**TECH. SGT.
WAYMIE**

WILLIAMS-BRANDT

Job title: Command Post
Emergency Actions Controller

Hometown: Angeles City,
Philippines

Years in federal service:
10 years



What does your work involve? "We provide Emergency Actions Messages to leadership, enabling them to generate forces to action. We alert the base and relay time-critical emergency management messages during an exercise or real-world crisis."

What are some of the challenges you have faced being a woman in your career field? "I'm happy to say that in my 10 years in the Air Force, I

have not encountered or noticed an issue specifically because I'm a woman in the career field.

When is a time that you had to show 'Courage, Character, Commitment' for the mission? "Every day I come to work and lead a shift I must represent those qualities. Work as a Command Post/Emergency Actions Controller is very unpredictable; things can quickly change from the mundane to fast-paced emergency response situations."

What woman has inspired you and why? "My previous supervisor and superintendent from Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., Senior Master Sgt. Chastity Solomon; she's a woman who came from humble beginnings and achieved personal and professional success."

If you could give any advice to future women warriors, what would it be? "Life and career challenges can be tough but there is nothing we can't handle. We just have to have an open mind and do our best. Everything will fall into place because everything happens for a reason."

Congratulations Senior Master Sgt. promotees

78th ABW

Jason Anderson
Charisse Bruce
Loretta Fisher
Jennifer Nesbitt
Pablo Rivero

Brian Yelton

461st ACW

Timothy Brust
Jeremy Lindner
Brian Recknagel

AFLCMC

Wilbert Terrell

AFRC

Tamara Jones
Kerry Parsons

BIRD improvement passes WR council

A new component of mass transit to and from Robins is now set to become a reality, following a vote by the Warner Robins City Council March 3.

The project, which had been proposed by the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority, adds a park-and-ride feature to Buses into Robins Daily, or BIRD, the MTA's partnership with Robins.

The current BIRD system consists of three city buses that transport Macon residents to and from the base. Two of these will remain as such, with one being utilized as a feeder bus designated to transport passengers from Ferguson Park on

Elberta Road to and from Robins.

The effort will potentially add bus stops around the base, service more areas and cut travel time on the BIRD route.

The park and ride system also aims to benefit Warner Robins residents, who will now be able to park in the city and ride an MTA bus to work in Macon.

As of now, plans are still awaiting a draft contract to be approved by the Warner Robins city attorney before the new route can begin, but a target start date for the park and ride is July 1.

MTA will evaluate the route and prepare for a public hearing on the system, which would suggest workshops and trip planning sessions to help riders learn the bus schedule and to be generally prepared.

Congratulations Team Robins Annual Award winners



Senior Airman Maresa Miessler
Airman of the Year



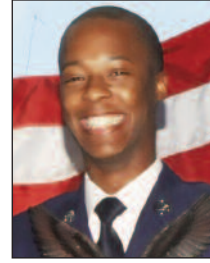
Quiana Dansby
Civilian of the Year
Cat. 1



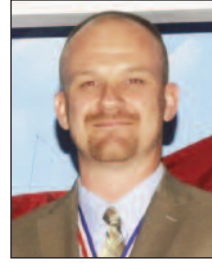
Senior Airman Princeter Fazon
Ceremonial
Guardsman of the Year



Lt. Col. Elliot Safdie
IMA Officer
of the Year



Staff Sgt. Dominique Williams-Harrington
NCO of the Year



Michael Austin
Civilian of the Year
Cat. 3



Senior Master Sgt. Bridget Bruhn
Senior NCO
of the Year



Master Sgt. Kyle Shipp
First Sgt. of the Year



Alexander Carmack
Civilian of the Year
Cat. 5



Capt. Marvin Brown
CGO of the Year



Shelby Jennings
Civilian of the Year
Cat. 6



Etta Davis
Volunteer Excellence
Award



Thomas Chester
Volunteer Excellence
Award



Jamie Cook
Volunteer Excellence
Award

The Team Robins Annual Awards ceremony was conducted March 13 in the Museum of Aviation Century of Flight Hangar. Guest speaker was retired Lt. Gen. Charles Stenner, former commander of Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command. The theme is "Honoring Greatness and Celebrating Success."

The following winners were unable to attend the ceremony but the awards were accepted on their behalf. They are: Heidi Avant, Civilian of the Year Category 2; Victor Osborn, Civilian of the Year Category 4

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

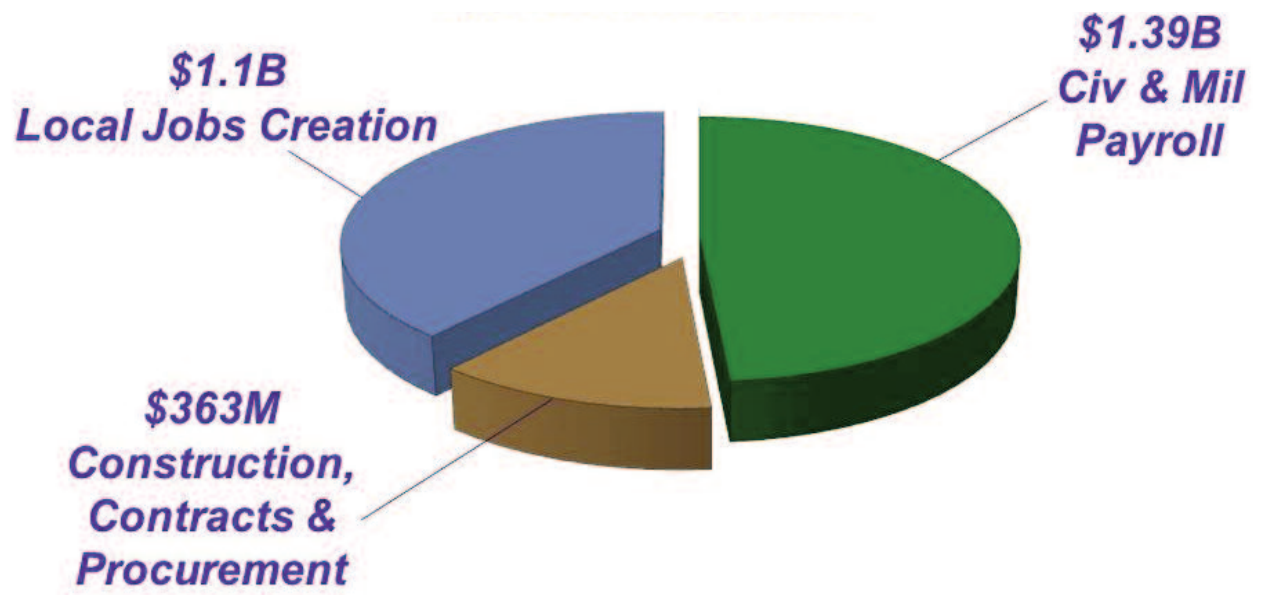
About the statement

The Economic Impact Statement provides information about the economic impact of Robins Air Force Base on Georgia. It is made available to federal, state and local officials, as well as business leaders and the general public.

An installation's economic impact on the state is calculated by identifiable on- and off-base spending in the state from gross expenditures. All financial figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Editor's Note: This statement is for fiscal 2013. The report is based on numbers from the Air Force Sustainment Center Financial Management Operating Location at Robins.

Total Impact In Georgia: Approximately \$2.9 Billion



*Impact within 50-mile radius of Robins AFB

AT A GLANCE

Robins Air Force Base has an annual federal payroll of \$1.39 billion, with annual expenditures of \$363 million. The base has an annual impact on Georgia of nearly \$2.9 billion.

Net Payroll
\$1.39 billion

Retiree Payroll
\$645 million

Annual base expenditures in Georgia
\$363 million

Annual value of indirect jobs created
\$1.105 billion

Total Economic Impact in Georgia
\$2.856 billion

Replacement value of Robins facilities
\$7.98 billion



SUMMARY OF PERSONNEL

APPROPRIATED FUND & MILITARY	Living on base	Living off base	Total
Active Duty	1,087	2,693	3,780
AF & USMC Reserve/ANG	3	2,061	2,064
Non-extended AD Reserves	0	638	638
Total			6,482
AD Military Dependents	1,226	4,442	5,668
APPROPRIATED FUND CIVILIAN			TOTAL
General Schedule/NSPS			8,170
Federal Wage Board			5,038
Other			1,424
Total			14,632
OTHER FUNDS			TOTAL
Civilian Non-Appropriated Fund			450
Base Exchange			196
Contract Civilians			1,692
Private Businesses on Base			55
Total			2,393

RETIREE IMPACT

NUMBER	
Civilian	16,652
Military	7,030
Total	23,682
ANNUITIES (Millions)	
Civilian	\$460
Military	\$185
Total	\$645

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL ASSETS

LAND	ACRES
Fee Owned	6,779
Easement	138
Right-of-Way	11
Leased	4
License	3
Total	6,935

BUILDINGS	NUMBER	SQ FT
Administrative	125	2,369,182
Shops/Hangars	155	4,333,734
Warehouses	159	4,315,790
Terminal	1	68,258
Other	9	264,576
Family Housing	0	Privatized
Total	449	11,351,540

FLIGHT LINE FACILITIES	SQ YDS
Taxiways	504,414
Aprons	1,319,425
Overruns	66,666
Paved Shoulders	507,486
Dangerous Cargo Pads	26,917
Warm-up/Holding Pads	60,816
Power Check Pads	4,212
Total	2,489,936

RUNWAY — Northwest/Southeast
Length — 12,001 feet **Width** — 300 feet

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

FEDERAL SCHOOL IMPACT FUNDS	
Houston	\$1,411,000
Crisp	\$11,000
Dooly	\$4,000
Macon	\$6,000
Total	\$1,432,000

UTILITIES CONSUMED

Utility	Quantity	Cost (Millions)
Electricity (KKWH)	314,386	\$20.8
Natural Gas (KCF)	851,974	\$3.3
Water (K Gallons)	512,084	\$0.9
Fuel Oil (Gallons)	350	\$0.001
Propane (Gallons)	218,642	\$0.3

SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION & CONTRACTS

CONSTRUCTION	COST (Millions)
Military Construction Program	\$82.8
Operations and Maintenance	\$56.3
Depot Capital Improvement	\$29.7
Total Expenditures	\$168.8
CONTRACTS & PROCUREMENTS IN GEORGIA	COST (Millions)
Services Contracts	\$44.3
Advisory & Assistance Services Contracts	\$99.5
Commissary	\$1.0
Base Exchange	\$1.4
Health	\$29.8
Education	\$7.8
Temporary Duty	\$2.5
Other materials, equipment and supplies	\$7.7
Total Expenditures	\$194

SUMMARY OF CONTRACT INFORMATION

TOP TEN CONTRACTORS (Millions)

Boeing	\$1,568.6
Lockheed Martin	\$756.7
Northrop Grumman	\$741.7
Raytheon	\$369.1
Al Raha Group	\$353.8
GA-ASI	\$289
BAE Systems	\$215.2
L-3 Communications	\$184.5
Rolls Royce	\$141
Korean Airlines	\$58.9

CONTRACTS AWARDED TO FIRMS IN GEORGIA (Millions)

Houston	\$228.57	Dougherty	\$1.65
Cobb	\$161.59	Gwinnett	\$1.50
Fulton	\$19.13	Lowndes	\$1.05
Bibb	\$6.50	Carroll	\$0.58
DeKalb	\$4.12	Peach	\$0.52
Muscogee	\$3.30	Other (aggregate only)	\$1.12
Laurens	\$1.81	Total	\$433.11
Dooly	\$1.67		

CCG demos new Giant Voice

BY 2ND LT. DANIEL PITTMAN

51st CBCS OIC Plans and Programs

The 5th Combat Communications Group, in partnership with the Robins Air Force Base Operational Contracting Office, recently purchased and received four new Whelen Giant Voice systems. The Giant Voice systems replace the older ADT Giant Voice systems that were previously used.

The upgraded systems will greatly increase mission capabilities, while more importantly providing improved safety for the deployed warfighter with louder alarms, sirens and an expanded coverage area.

For the same price as the previous ADT systems, the new Giant Voice provides many upgrades and improvements.

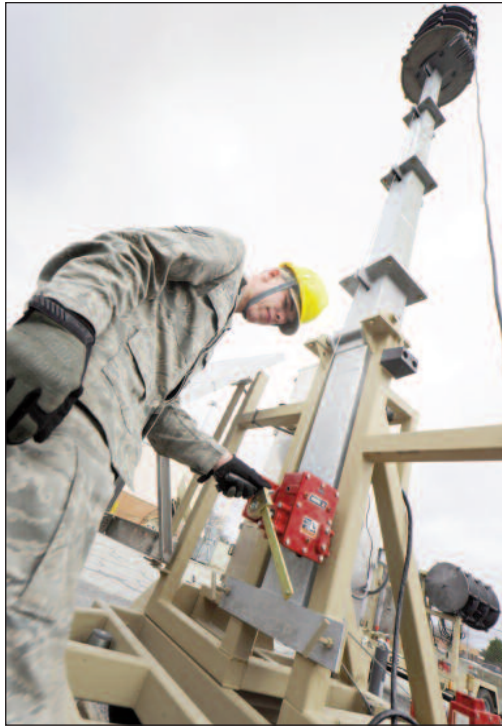
It's equipped with solar panels which are designed to trickle charge the battery packs that power the speakers and expand on self-sustainment.

This feature alone will save a significant amount of money over the life of the new system when compared to the older ADT Giant Voice which required a gas powered generator.

Because the new system doesn't have a generator, it doesn't require grounding. That reduces valuable deployment and set-up time. In addition to time and money saving features, the new system has new software and hardware upgrades which allow for the system, alarms and sirens to be remotely operated. That enables sirens, warnings and other announcements to be made at a moment's notice.

Finally, the new system has a significantly larger coverage area than the previous one.

This coverage area expansion is because the speakers carry a higher power ratio and decibel level while also being attached to a taller tower.



U.S. Air Force photos by TOMMIE HORTON

Top, Airman 1st Class Robert Ringer III, RF Transmission Systems Technician, sets up one of four new Whelen Giant Voice systems in order to demonstrate the new technology for 5th Combat Communications Group leaders.

Above, (from left to right) Tech. Sgt. Jason Douglas, RF Transmission Systems supervisor, Airman 1st Class Robert Ringer III, and Senior Airman Jesse Turner, RF Transmission Systems technicians, position the Giant Voice system for the demo.

The new Giant Voice system will greatly increase the mission capabilities of the 5th CCG, while also saving time, money and more importantly, lives.

Energy reduction contest

During April the Base Energy Office is sponsoring an Earth Day Energy Conservation contest. Periodic energy conservation contests are one of the ways base officials are striving to foster an energy aware culture among employees.

"We need all Robins organizations and their employees to make energy conservation a routine part of their daily practice," said Terry Landreth, Energy Office supervisor.

The contest will include base organizations and mission partners with the goal of achieving the lowest use of electrical energy during April.

Each facility with a discrete electric meter will be ranked in terms of the largest percentage reduction in electricity consumption during the month.

Determination will be made in connection with the 78th Civil Engineer Group's normal monthly billing procedures. The 78th Air Base Wing commander will recognize the facility and associated organizational occupants who

achieve the largest percentage decrease in electricity during the month with a trophy.

CGOC scholarship

The Robins Company Grade Officers' Council is offering a \$500 scholarship to local high school seniors who have a parent currently working at Robins.

The scholarship is designed to reward outstanding academic achievement and leadership by assisting a senior who plans on attending a four-year college or university.

To enter, students must complete the application packet and all of the required attachments. That includes a one-page essay, a one-page resume with school transcript attached and a letter of recommendation.

Scholarship packets can be obtained from school counselors. The application and all attachments must be converted to .pdfs and submitted to robins.cgoc.scholar@us.af.mil. Submission deadline is March 31.

**THINK OPSEC!
PRACTICE IT AT WORK,
HOME, EVERYWHERE.**

U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON
Kelvin Bryant, 566th Electronics Maintenance Squadron electronics worker, secures the wiring of a TRU-2 sub-assembly prior to performing the delicate task of connecting them to the electronic components of the assembly.



GYRO

Continued from 1

units back into the supply system, and back onboard the Black Hawks as quickly as possible.

But first, additional personnel needed to be brought back and reinstated to ramp up the production line in Bldg. 158.

Parts would also need to be ordered and procured by the Defense Logistics Agency before a single unit could be produced.

DLA sought to acquire and ship needed items like the gyro's motor bearings, gimbal assembly and electrical components including the demodulator and inverter. An added benefit to the project was the availability of many repairable assets.

"With DLA, overhead support

from our production controllers and planners, and our teams of technicians, all have played a vital role in being able to provide our customer what they need," said Ronnie Massengale, 566th EMXS Avionics and Instruments Flight director.

"With what we had to do to get parts, everything has gone very well," he said. "This shop knows what its mission is – to keep the warfighter flying."

Known as the TRU-2 turn rate gyro, its function is to relay electrical signals proportional to the rate of turn of the aircraft, due to its climb, dive, etc. The signals are provided to instruments in the cockpit which are then read by the pilot.

Technicians painstakingly disassemble the entire system, which includes a motor that must be taken apart, cleaned and repaired.

On average it takes 30 hours of labor from disassembly to final testing.

"Considering we started from almost scratch, our crews have done a great job," said Waymond Smith, Gyro Repair Shop supervisor.

As of March 4, 646 gyroscopes were produced by the 566th EMXS, with a goal of finishing by June.

According to Todd, the Black Hawk's project manager, the Robins effort has allowed the aircraft to return back to an unrestricted flight, allowing the Army to plan and execute both visual or instrument flights.

"The 566th EMXS Squadron in Warner Robins has provided outstanding support and assistance to the U.S. Army's Black Hawk fleet," said Todd. "These efforts have returned 800-plus aircraft to their fully mission-capable status."

HEROES

Continued from 1

Georgia Department of Education's Division of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, who reminded teachers of their essential roles in students' lives.

"You as educators are crucial when it comes to the goals they set, the values they have," said Reichrath. "Be good examples."

She, along with George Chip, assistant director for the Douglass County Schools System, was instrumental in the CDP's inception in Georgia.

According to Wall, Chip began the effort through grassroots work, spreading word of the program at the state level.

The CDP was created by a team of Pennsylvania teachers and school administrators in 2008.

Launching the program in Georgia had been in the works for the past couple of years, said Wall.

There have been more than 50 trainings across the country, she said, and that overall enthusiasm was high among the nearly 1,500 educators who have participated.

According to Wall, the program isn't entirely about the military but about values – the kind these Medal of Honor recipients happen to have displayed in their lives.

"It provides teachers the values to pass on to their students," she said, "all while learning important academic lessons.

"But it's also such an important slice of history for the next generation," she added.

BACK FROM 'HELL' AND STILL SERVING

BY BRIAN SHREVE

Staff Writer

When Lt. Col. Leo Thorsness is asked how his longtime friendship with Sen. John McCain began, he remembers the circumstances all too vividly.

"People ask how I met him, and I tell them 'No, John met me because I was there first,'" he said.

And the "there" Thorsness – retired Air Force pilot, Vietnam Veteran and Medal of Honor recipient – is referring to couldn't be farther from the halls of the U.S. Capitol.

The year was 1967, and there was Hoa Lo Prison, known more infamously as the Hanoi Hilton.

As prisoners of war at Vietnam's most notorious confinement, the two men, along with several others, learned the true meaning of the word endurance.

Thorsness shared his story of service, patriotism and survival at the Museum of Aviation March 12 during a discussion with local educators as part of the Medal of Honor Foundation's Character Development Program.

"I don't know if I'd call myself a hero," he said. "We were just in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Weeks prior to his capture, Thorsness was flying a mission over North Vietnam when his wingman was shot down by the enemy.

Though his F-105 was low on fuel and not even designed for aerial combat, Thorsness engaged the enemy aircraft, destroying it before taking on a barrage of Vietnamese planes.

In the ensuing fight, he shot down a second enemy

plane, driving the rest to retreat while allowing friendly aircraft to return to base.

For that action, Thorsness was awarded the Medal of Honor, though he was one of the last to hear about it.

On April 30, 1967, Thorsness's own plane was shot down over enemy territory, forcing him to spend the next six years as a prisoner of war.

He first learned about his honor years later while still in captivity by a "tap code" communicated through the prison walls by fellow POWs; he didn't receive his medal until 1973, shortly after his release.

After serving 23 years in the Air Force, Thorsness – originally from Minnesota – retired to pursue various endeavors, including one term as a Washington State Senator. He is currently on the Board of Directors and Vice Chairman of the Medal of Honor Foundation. His autobiography, "Surviving Hell: A POW's Journey," was published in 2011.

Thorsness said for anyone facing trying times, he often shares four things that helped him through years of daily physical pain and grueling boredom 10,000 miles from home.

"It was hard to be optimistic while being tortured," he said. "The first thing it takes is a strong will to survive, then the ability to concentrate on your heartbeat and take it one day at a time, telling yourself you can last another minute ... and the other guys, some of whom would take torture for one another. Last but not least, I had to believe that prayers are answered."



A Better You



courtesy graphic

Wingman culture

Campaign reminds Robins that everyone counts

BY HOLLY LOGAN-ARRINGTON
holly.logan-arrington@us.af.mil

Sometimes people get lost in the rush to meet mission requirements.

In 2008, Robins Air Force Base initiated a concerted outreach and education campaign with the central message of “You Matter.” That message was expanded in 2012 to include “I Matter, You Matter, We Matter.”

Capt. Kimberly Lane, 78th Medical Operations Squadron clinical social worker, said the campaign is about changing Robins’ culture.

“The ‘I Matter’ message is directed at the individual level,” she said. “It’s based on the

four pillars of the Comprehensive Airman Fitness Model (mental, physical, social and spiritual), and focuses on personal resilience through monitoring one’s own wellness.

“The ‘You Matter’ message is modeled after the traditional wingman approach of reaching out to Airmen beside you,” she added. “The ‘We Matter’ message is an approach to organizational health, which encourages units to assess and structure their comprehensive Airman Fitness events, wingman days, sports days and social gatherings.”

Wingman Boldface Cards which emphasize the campaign’s message continue to be distributed across the installa-

tion, and development of campaign objectives is ongoing through the Intergraded Delivery System.

Everyone needs to participate, Capt. Lane said.

“‘I Matter, You Matter, We Matter’” is the culture at Robins, so each member of Team Robins plays an important role,” she said.

“Every one of us serves as a role model by practicing healthy behaviors, and caring for the person next to them.

“Units have assigned resilience training assistants to assist in the development of CAF and their unit’s resiliency efforts.”

Editor’s note: *To get more involved, ask your leadership or RTAs how you can help.*



Buckle up ... It’s the Law



According to Air Force Instruction 91-207, all motorists and passengers must wear seat belts when operating and/or riding in a moving vehicle. Individuals found not wearing a seat belt in a moving vehicle may be issued a ticket by the 78th Security Forces Squadron.

Out and About

FRI 21 SAT 22 SUN 23 MON 24 TUE 25 WED 26 THUR 27

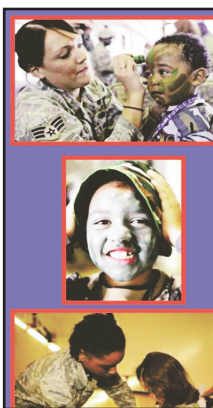
ON TAP
Boss n Buddy
 Today
 4 to 5 p.m.
 Heritage Club Lounge
 DJ, small buffet
 and surprises
 Club members free
 \$5 for guests for buffet
 For details,
 call 472-7899.

Stone Mountain
 Sign-up deadline is today.

Activity is March 29
 Adults - \$40
 Children (3 to 12) - \$30
 Price includes
 transportation, entry
 For details,
 call 468-4001.

Bar Bingo
 Sunday
 2 p.m.
 Heritage Club
 For details,
 call 468-4515.

ONGOING
Lazy Man Ironman
 Through March 31
 Fitness Center
 Attempt the total distance of
 an actual Iron Man Triathlon.
 Designed to give novice
 triathletes the chance to
 hone their skills and give
 veteran athletes a little
 something to add to their
 training.
 For details,
 call 468-1256.



**KUDOS Kids Understanding
 Deployment Operations**
April 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Children of military members 5 to 15 years old
 (must be accompanied by an adult)
Registration ends April 15
 For more information call
 DSN 468-1256 or commercial 478-926-1256.

Heavy lifting: WW II bomber gets a raise

BY BRIAN SHREVE
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This bomber may never again soar to the heights of its World War II glory days, but this week it did manage to get off the ground.

The B-29B – a fixture at the Museum of Aviation since 1983 – was raised 8 feet above the floor of the WW II Hangar Thursday by a team from the 402nd Expeditionary Depot Maintenance Group with the assistance of museum exhibit specialists.

The crew used aircraft jacks to lift the bomber and position it onto large display stands in an effort to add walking space beneath the plane for visitors while making room for new aircraft in the building.

“Preserving these aircraft for future generations is the name of the game,” said Bill Paul, museum collections manager.

The process began roughly three months ago with the engineering work and the actual lifting taking several hours.

“Because this is a vintage aircraft, we have to take precautions,” said Anthony Faircloth, museum exhibit specialist. “It may have issues being that old, so we have to make sure we protect it and that the workers are safe.”

The B-29B, weighing about 70,000 pounds without its wartime armor, is the



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

Exhibit specialists aided by the 402nd Expeditionary Depot Maintenance Group work to lift a B-29 Bomber on display at the Museum of Aviation World War II Hangar March 13.

largest aircraft on display inside the museum. It used to be displayed outside with other planes until 1997 when it was brought into the Century of Flight Hangar. It was moved to its current home five years ago with the addition of the World War II building.

Built in 1944, the aircraft is one of only 16 B-29s known to remain of the 5,000 built.

It’s the only B-model of the aircraft in existence and the last B-29 built at Bell Bomber in Marietta, Ga., which closed immediately following World War II.

It arrived at the museum from Aberdeen Air Force Base and had originally been planned to be used as a target. Instead, it was fully restored as an addition to the museum, according to Paul.

