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# ROBINS REV-UP

May 9, 2014 Vol. 59 No.18

## NEWS

### YOU CAN USE

#### Camellia Gardens

Sunday is the last day to submit a family member, friend or coworker to be recognized at the annual Camellia Gardens Memorial Service.

The service – which pays tribute to deceased members of Team Robins – will be May 22 at 10 a.m. in the tranquil garden across from Horizons Event Center.

For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Ronelda Charles at DSN 468-2821, commercial 478-926-2821, or roneda.charles@us.af.mil.

#### Upcoming exercise

An active shooter exercise will be May 20 with the 78th Air Base Wing, 461st and 116th Air Control Wing from 9 to 11 a.m.

The purpose of the exercise is to give first responders an opportunity to evaluate their tactics in a simulated and controlled environment.

“This exercise will give us a good look at how our leadership and support agencies respond to a mass casualty event. Many agencies would be called upon for support after such a tragedy,” said Tony Purtee, with the 78th ABW/IG Exercise and Inspections Plans Office. “Most of us see just the defender response on the news, but working very hard in the background are men and women from the medical group, force support squadron, legal community, Office of Special Investigations, chaplain, Command and Control community, public affairs and many others.”

“This exercise will give these and several other organizations an opportunity to test and evaluate their processes,” he said.

“There will be gate closures during the initial portion of the exercise,” said Dave Berry, IG office. “This is a necessary response to an active shooter but will be minimized to the shortest delay possible.”

During the gate closure, traffic will still be able to exit through the outbound lanes of the Green Street Gate.

For more information, call 468-4735 or 468-6163.

#### Gate changes

Barring inclement weather Gate 3, the Watson Boulevard Gate, will be closed from 2 a.m. May 24 to 5 p.m. May 25 so that the 78th Civil Engineer Group contractor can repair the controls that raise and lower the barriers. Gate 5, the Martin Luther King Gate, will be open from 2 a.m. May 24 to 5 p.m. May 25 while the Watson Gate is closed. The hours will be advertised with electronic signs posted on Ga. Highway 247.



U.S. Air Force photos by ED ASPERA

579th Software Maintenance Squadron Flight C employees Rickey King (left), Ray Vines (center) and Suzy Crespo, perform testing of ALQ-213 3-D audio organic software.

## Audio system provides interoperability on A-10s

BY JENNY GORDON

jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil

The cockpit of an Air Force weapons system can be a noisy, busy place.

Discerning the various audio that comes across that space occurs within an important technology being tested for use on the service’s A-10 aircraft. A piece of that work happens here at Robins in the 579th Software Maintenance Squadron.

Known as the ALQ-213, this electronic warfare management system consolidates cockpit controls, and displays and connects independent systems, allowing them to all work together to interface with an aircraft’s pilot. “It basically performs automatic and semiautomatic countermeasure responses for the pilots so they don’t have to do those things manually,” said Matthew Bryant, ALQ-213 subject matter expert. “It also enhances situational awareness through sensor correlation, display indications and audio cues.”

The 3-D audio technology incorporates active and electronic noise reduction and spatially separates audio sources for pilots.

This is important because



Rickey King, 579th Software Maintenance Squadron computer scientist, adjusts the heads up display on ALQ-213 3-D audio organic software worn by Suzy Crespo, electronics engineer.

they can encounter audio cues and radio channels from various sources while in the air. The move will reduce information overload and mental fatigue by significantly reducing noise.

“From an electronic warfare standpoint, the ALQ-213 dynamically renders electronic warfare sensor information and threat audio cues to the 3-D audio panel,” he said. “The 3-D audio technology automatically sorts and presents information spatially in real time to the pilot to include the direction of threats.”

The technology moves inside a pilot’s helmet as he turns his head to determine where threats may be coming

from. It not only boosts situational awareness and pilot response time, but also reduces pilot fatigue through cleaner audio.

“When the pilot looks a certain way, the audio moves with him,” said Bryant. “It takes into account such things as angle and head orientation. Since the aircraft systems are interfaced together, information is shared among systems to provide the 3-D audio capability.”

Although the system has been flight tested, due to budget constraints, there is current debate on the future of the A-10 fleet, which has provided close-air support since the 1970s.

## Small business office helps little guys navigate system

BY JENNY GORDON

jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil

When a small business seeks to pursue work at Robins, it is the mission of the Office of Small Business Programs to ensure a fair proportion of contract dollars is awarded to that population.

“We work with small businesses trying to help them navigate the government procurement system to allow them the opportunity to do more for Robins and the Air Force,” said Debbie Jackson, Robins OSBP director. “There’s a lot of innovation and technology in that community – and we need to tap into that market.”

Currently, the goal is to award 23 percent of all federal government contracts to small businesses, according to Jackson.

In 2013, within the Air Force Sustainment Center at Robins, the goal was exceeded with \$135.9 million, or 28 percent, of contracts awarded to small businesses that were local and elsewhere.

Examples of these contracts included a maintenance design-build contract to a service disabled-veteran small business owner, and information technology application support awarded to a woman-owned, small-disadvantaged business.

The office works closely with base contracting officers and requirements organizations but is not responsible for awarding contracts. They are more of an information tool for those who wish to do business here, while also ensuring those same businesses are considered for competition.

The Federal Acquisition Regulations states that you first consider four socio-economic categories that small businesses represent.

“The four the government recognizes include service-disabled, veteran-owned small businesses; women-owned small businesses; historically underutilized business zone firms located in an area that the Census Bureau designates as a HUB Zone; and small disadvantaged businesses who are certified by SBA into the Section (8)a program,” she said.

On the AFSC side last year, Robins awarded a total of \$67.3

► see SBO, 6

## BACK IN BUSINESS: Base hobby shops set to reopen this summer

BY BRIAN SHREVE

Robins Public Affairs

The Auto Hobby and Wood Skills shops are scheduled to reopen this summer, signaling good news for those discouraged by the popular facilities’ closing earlier this year.

This time, the shops will operate as member-run clubs with enthusiasts maintaining operations themselves with oversight from the Force Support Squadron, according to Kent Jenkins, 78th FSS Community Flight chief.

Now known as the Wood Craft Club and Car Care

Club, the facilities will remain located on Tenth Street at Bldgs. 981 and 985 respectively.

“We’re working a consolidation of some of our activities that will give us the opportunity to open similar type operations to what we had before,” he said. “This allows us to reintroduce these services that people have asked about and have sorely missed.”

As clubs, the shops will have their own board of directors and will be self-funded through membership dues – though FSS will assist with the facility infrastructure

and safety training.

There will still be personnel available at the shops to provide expertise for those who need assistance.

Jenkins added that the management of the shops would be similar to that practiced at the base horse stables.

“Our intentions here are that members keep the places clean and tweak the machinery,” he said. “And then, we’ll have those people in place who can help them if they have any questions.”

Those paying a monthly membership fee will be



U.S. Air Force file photo

The Auto Hobby and Wood Skills shops, which closed their doors earlier this year, are expected to reopen this summer with a new name and membership format.

► see HOBBY, 6

# Second Front

## Must my employer give me time off to vote?

Voting is the essence of democracy. Voting in the United States is voluntary. This article is to provide employees with information on management's policy of granting limited time off from work (i.e., excused absence) to vote in federal, state, county, or municipal elections.

Typically, polling places throughout the U.S. are open for extended periods of time, and an increasing number of jurisdictions are offering early voting options. Therefore, excused absence should rarely be needed. In Georgia, voting at the polls on Election Day, is from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. An employee who is granted excused absence for voting is required to obtain a certificate of voting from the poll site and submit to their supervisor.

In accordance with AFI36-815, Absence and Leave, Chapter 8, Excused Absence, an employee may be granted excused absence for voting if the polls are not open at least three hours either before or after an employee's regular

### 2014 Georgia Election Dates

- ▶ General Primary is May 20. Registration has ended.
- ▶ General Primary Runoff is July 22. Registration has ended.
- ▶ November General Election Day is Nov. 4. Voters must be registered by Oct. 6.
- ▶ General Election Runoff is Jan. 6, 2015. Voters must be registered by Oct. 6.

work hours. Management may grant a limited amount of excused absence to permit the employee to report for work three hours after the polls open or leave from work three hours before the polls close, whichever requires the lesser amount of time off. An employee's regular work hours should be determined by reference to the time of day the employee normally arrives at and departs from work.

When an employee is scheduled to work from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the employee's polling place is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., the employee should not be granted excused absence for voting since the employee would still have at least three hours after the end of his or her workday to vote.

However, if an employee is scheduled to work from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the employee's polling place is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., the employee may be granted a half-hour of excused absence from 4 to 4:30 p.m., if requested.

An employee should only be granted excused absence for early voting when (1) the employee will be unable to vote on the day of the election because of activities directly related to the agency's mission (such as travel) and cannot vote by absentee ballot, or (2) early voting hours are the same as, or exceed, voting hours on the day of the election.

Employees who need to request excused absence for voting should contact their supervisor.

### BAH recertification underway

Service members military-wide who receive with-dependent rate Basic Allowances for Housing will be required to complete a new AF Form 594 (no digital signature, must be wet signature) and provide a copy of their supporting documentation such as marriage certificate, birth certificate or approved dependency application.

Members may come by the 78th Comptroller Squadron Finance Office, Bldg. 301, East Wing, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or the Library, Bldg. 905 lobby, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays. This process must be completed by Dec. 31.

### Dash for Trash

Dash for Trash, a 60-day initiative, which runs through June 14, is aimed at helping the Robins workforce and the

planet by gathering and disposing of unwanted materials and hazardous wastes.

Participating personnel are asked to quantify and categorize any obsolete materials in their workplaces and refer to a list of contacts, which can be found on the Robins home page at [www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil), for assistance in discarding the rubble.

When workstations have too much trash or clutter for garbage or recycling containers, these contacts from the 78th Civil Engineer Group will provide directions to a facility to turnover the materials or make other arrangements to have them removed.

Though any trash will be accepted, the cleanup is focused on four targeted categories: general refuse and wood pallets; recyclables; hazardous waste and any unused government equipment such as furniture and computer components.

## IF THE VEST FITS ...



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

Robert Lemons (left) and Terry Walker (right), 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron supply technicians, help Rabb Wilkerson, local attorney and Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee member try a flak vest during the committee's visit to the squadron's deployment supply area Tuesday. The committee members were able to test out deployment gear such as gas masks, vests and cold weather equipment.

## VPP Gold banners awarded

The following work sites have achieved Gold recognition through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Voluntary Protection Program at Robins.

Gold banners were presented on May 2 by Brig. Gen. Cedric George, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex commander; Col. Chris Hill, Installation commander; Bryant Aaron, IAFF Local F-107; and Todd Surber, AFGE Local 987. They included: Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex Environmental and Ergonomics

Office, 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group Nondestructive Inspections, 78th Security Forces Squadron Investigations and the 78th Force Support Squadron Bowling Center.

The Safe Site Challenge continues as the installation's premier platform for strengthening and reinforcing employee involvement and participation in the local safety and health program.

To date, there are 184 work center sites at Robins which have achieved Gold status; 86 Silver, 17 Bronze and 11 Green sites.

## SE&TM awards

Congratulations to the following 2014 AFSC Science, Engineering and Technical Management Award winners:

- ▶ **Junior Civilian Scientist or Engineer:**  
Matthew Risser, 402nd SMXG
- ▶ **Mid-Career Civilian Scientist or Engineer:**

William Johansen, 638th SCMG

▶ **Senior Civilian Scientist and Engineer:**  
Shelby Jennings, 402nd EMXG

▶ **Career Achievement:**  
David Frase, 402nd EMXG

▶ **Gen. Lester L. Lyles Award:**  
\*Thurmasia Love, EN  
\* AFSC and AFMC winner

### POLICE WEEK 2014 schedule of events

▶ **Monday** – 7 a.m. Opening Day formation at the Warner Robins Police Department. POC is John Clay at 478-808-2117.

▶ **Monday** – 6:30 p.m. Candle Light Vigil at Southside Baptist Church. POCs are Matthew Azulay at 661-526-8581 or Mark Campbell and Jerry Wall at 478-397-0511.

▶ **Tuesday and Thursday** – 10 a.m. Shooting Competition (Pistol) at the Perry Police Department Training Center.

Entry fee is \$10. POCs are Gary Turley at 478-808-2585 and Jonathan Harris or Corey Jackson at 478-926-5031.

▶ **May 16** – 7 a.m. Fun Run at the Robins 5K Trail; start off Wingman Day.

▶ **May 16** – 3 to 7 p.m. Closing Events and BBQ social at Fountain Park in Warner Robins. Awards will be presented at 5 p.m. POCs are John Clay at 478-808-2117 or Gary Turley or Mark Campbell at 478-808-2585.

## ALL in a Day's WORK



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

**Name:** Staff Sgt. Thomas A. Potvin  
**Unit:** 51st Combat Communications Squadron  
**Work title:** RF transmissions supervisor  
**Hometown:** Shreveport, La.  
**Number of years in federal service:** 10

**What does your work involve?** "We work and train on deployable communications equipment in preparation for real world deployments and exercise support. Also, I am looking forward to moving to my new job as a communications engineer, working to plan the communications for real world deployments and exercise support."

**How does your work contribute to the Robins mission?** "My work directly contributes to the Air Force deployed success by creating and implementing the communications plans in the deployed environment all over the world."

**What do you enjoy most about your work?** "I enjoy the opportunities to grow and learn in my career field every day, as well as the

opportunities to deploy and showcase all that I have learned and trained on."

**What prompted your interest in your current career field?** "I have been in the communications career field my entire career. I chose this AFSC while at the Military Enlistment Processing Center. My father was in the communications career field when he was in the Air Force and taught me a lot about electronics when I was a kid."

**Who has been the biggest influence in your life?** "My siblings have always had a big influence on my life. They always kept me focused and out of trouble for the most part. They were also a big driving factor in my life choices, and I thank them every day for that."

**What is the accomplishment you are most proud of?** "I received a Meritorious Service Medal last month for my deployment to a Forward Operating Base in Afghanistan."

# Around the Air Force

## CAF gains official AFI

**INCIRLIK AIR BASE, TURKEY (AFNS)** – Comprehensive Airman Fitness is not a new term; however, Air Force Instruction 90-506 was released in April and further defines requirements for CAF in an effort to enhance the resilience of individuals, families and communities.

CAF is described as a holistic approach to develop over-arching Airman fitness and fortitude. When the word “Airman” is referenced it encompasses military, civilian and family members who all play a role in CAF.

It also explains how the platform is a cultural shift in how to view and maintain fitness in a more comprehensive manner and enables Airmen to hold each other accountable to Air Force core values.

To read more, visit [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

## SGLI Premium Adjustment Effective July 1

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** – The Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance program will adjust its monthly premium rate from 6.5 cents per \$1,000 back to the 2006 rate of seven cents per \$1,000 of insurance, a modest increase to ensure the SGLI program remains in a strong financial position.

The Department of Veterans Affairs continues to place the interests of servicemembers first and foremost by keeping SGLI premiums as low as possible while also maintaining the necessary reserve levels to ensure funds are available to pay claims to servicemembers’ beneficiaries. Since the start of the SGLI Program in 1965, monthly premiums have decreased from 20 cents per \$1,000 to the current 6.5 cents per \$1,000. There have been periodic increases and decreases, but over the past 30 years premiums have fluctuated only 2.5 cents per \$1,000 of insurance.

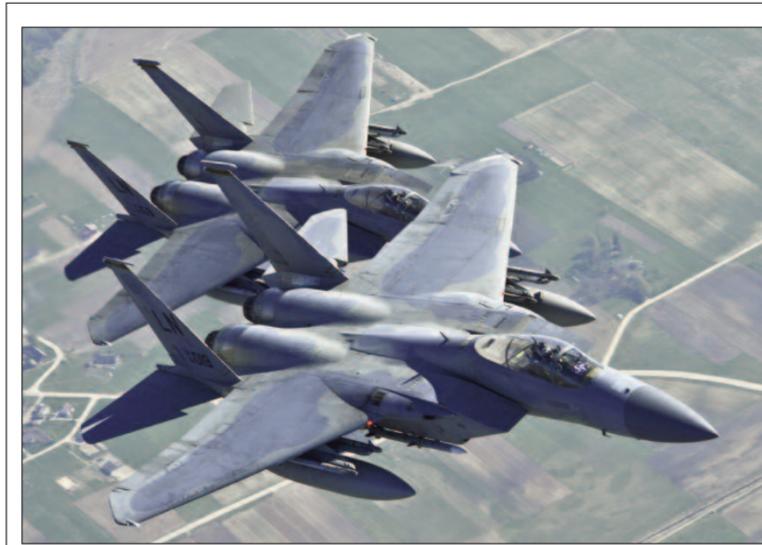
In order for the program to remain in good financial condition, it is now necessary to increase the premium rate by half a cent per \$1,000 of insurance. Since 2008, as a result of the half-cent reduction and decreases in interest rates, reserve funds have decreased. Insurance companies hold reserve funds to ensure they can pay future claims. It is common practice in the group insurance industry to adjust premium rates as reserve funds increase and decrease. VA also uses actuaries, individuals who deal with financial impact of risk, to conduct program experience studies when evaluating and adjusting reserve assumptions; and each year, an independent auditor verifies the accuracy of their reserve calculations.

To read more, visit [www.afpc.af.mil](http://www.afpc.af.mil).

## AF implements DOS Rollback Phase II

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS (AFNS)** – The Air Force has implemented the 2014 Enlisted Date of Separation Rollback Program Phase II, Air Force Personnel Center officials said recently.

The program accelerates the date of separation for Airmen who declined to acquire retainability for an assignment, training, retraining or professional military education, and who have fewer than 18 years or 20 years or more of total active federal military service. Airmen



U.S. Air Force photo by AIRMAN 1ST CLASS RYAN CONROY

## Policing mission

Maj. Barak Amundson and 1st Lt. Matthew Scott, 493rd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron pilots fly during a training mission with the Lithuanian air force over Lithuania. The 48th Air Expeditionary Group has been conducting the Baltic Air Policing mission since January and will be handing over the mission to the Polish air force during May.

identified for separation under this second phase of the fiscal 2014 DOS rollback program must do so by Sept. 29. Those eligible to retire must apply for retirement by May 29 and must be retired by Sept. 1.

To read more, visit [www.afpc.af.mil](http://www.afpc.af.mil).

## Enlisted members interested in attaché duty must apply by June 2

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS (AFNS)** – If you’re interested in broadening your career path, opportunities await you.

Active-duty staff through senior master sergeants interested can apply for attaché duty assignment opportunities with international affairs teams around the world, but those interested must submit their applications by June 2 to be considered, Air Force officials announced April 30. The office of the secretary of the Air Force, international affairs, is accepting applications for enlisted defense attaché specialists at 17 locations, with tour lengths ranging from 12 to 36 months, said Jim Yarbrough, the Air Force attaché program chief.

To read more, visit [www.afpc.af.mil](http://www.afpc.af.mil).

## Tutoring anywhere, anytime

**DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, ARIZ. (AFNS)** – The Department of Defense is funding a program for younger military dependents to help further their education.

Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families is a program available to grades K-12 students in eligible military families that provides expert tutoring and homework help at no cost.

“Tutor.com allows students to work one-on-one with a live tutor online for help with homework, studying, test preparation, proofreading, essay writing and more,” said Pamela Brehm, Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families director of outreach and client services.

Whether the parent is active duty, reserve or guard, students can access Tutor.com as often as needed, from



U.S. Air Force photo by FRANK CARTER

## This is how it's done

Staff Sgt. Kevin Mulchahey, a 362nd Training Squadron instructor with the A-10 crew chief course, teaches Airmen the proper techniques and steps for the raising and removal of an A-10 Thunderbolt II front windshield at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

any place that has internet access.

“Eligible military students have on demand access to personalized help with tutors 24/7, 361 days a year, with no appointments necessary,” Brehm said. “On the go students with tablets or smartphones can also connect with a tutor using the Tutor.com mobile app.”

For more information, visit [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military).

## Perspective

# Trial by fire, SecAF marks first 100 days in office

BY SENIOR AIRMAN ALEXANDER RIEDEL

Air Force News Service

**Editor’s Note:** This feature is part of the “Through Airmen’s Eyes” series on AF.mil. These stories focus on a single Airman, highlighting their Air Force story.

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** – Deborah Lee James, who took over as Secretary of the Air Force late last year, knows that sometimes life can throw a curveball.

Educated at Duke and Columbia universities, James originally came to Washington, D.C., to join the State Department as a diplomat in the Foreign Service. When she wasn’t selected for the position of her dreams, the young graduate embarked on an alternate and ultimately highly successful 30-year career in the government and growing defense industry.

However, decades later and only weeks into her new job as the Air Force’s senior civilian leader, James had barely settled into her new office at the Pentagon after her swearing-in Dec. 20, when yet another proverbial curveball hit her desk.

Thirty-four Air Force officers, charged with the crucial launch authorities over intercontinental ballistic nuclear missiles, were found to have actively benefited from or to have tolerated the compromise of mission-related qualification exams, which tested missileers’ knowledge of systems and crucial procedures.

“It was revealed – in fact, we revealed to the public – that there had been a cheating incident at Malmstrom Air

Force Base (Mont.),” James recalled. “I remember vividly; I was about two and a half weeks into the job, when we made the decision that we were going to explain this publicly within days of learning about it.”

In agreement with her leadership team composed of Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, Under Secretary of the Air Force Eric Fanning, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Larry O. Spencer and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody, James opted for an open approach of bringing the news to the public quickly, rather than trying to deal with it behind closed doors. The move prevented further mistrust, but also put the newly appointed secretary under unexpected public scrutiny.

“We thought it was important we tell the story rather than someone else learning about the story, and then of course learning only some of the facts,” she said. “That allowed us to tell this story, as best as we knew it and as it has been unfolding.”

James promised accountability and shifted her schedule to fit in a mid-winter trip to the country’s ICBM arsenal bases in North Dakota, Montana and Wyoming to investigate the situation firsthand.

“I thought it was important that we visit the bases,” she said. “I wanted to talk to the missileers and the people around them, so I could do my best personal due diligence and understand the environment of what was going on and how this failure of integrity could occur in the first place.”

After meeting with command leaders, James priori-



U.S. Air Force photo by R.J. ORIEZ

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James listens to the 90th Operations Group’s pre-departure given to missile combat crews prior to their going on alert earlier this year at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo. James and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody visited the 20th Air Force and 90th Missile Wing to learn about the ICBM mission.

tized her meetings with missile launch officers to get an unfiltered view on what seemed to have become a systemic issue that forced some to resort to cheating in order to stay on top of their careers.

James quickly turned her focus to taking care of Airmen in the future, by changing the climate that forced them to cheat in order get the perfect scores necessary to advance in their careers.

To read the full story, visit [www.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/223/Article/484233](http://www.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/223/Article/484233)

## ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER  
Col. Christopher Hill

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## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

They should be e-mailed to [lanorris.askew.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew.ctr@us.af.mil) and [vance.janes@us.af.mil](mailto:vance.janes@us.af.mil)

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

## DELIVERY

To report delivery issues, call 472-0802.

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# From the Command Down

## Wingmen continue successful interventions across AFMC

BY KIM BOWDEN

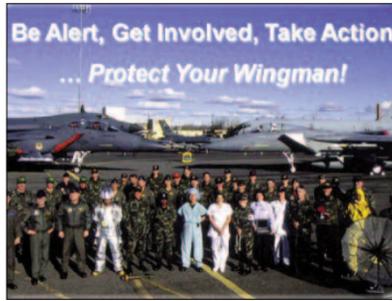
Air Force Materiel Command  
Public Affairs

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – Across Air Force Materiel Command, Airmen continue to embrace the command’s culture of respect and resiliency. This is especially evident in their behavior as wingmen.

“Accountability is at the core of the culture we emphasize, and it’s at the core of the wingman concept,” said Jennifer Treat, AFMC Community Support Coordinator. “A good wingman stays alert for signs of danger from whatever source – whether suicide, safety mishaps, alcohol abuse, sexual assault, bullying, medical issues or other difficulties; gets involved by knowing their fellow Airmen; and takes action when necessary to protect their wingman, on and off duty. We’re proud to have so many true wingmen in our command who look out for the welfare of their colleagues and community.”

In one example of successful wingman intervention, an Airman noticed a coworker experiencing severe chest pains, left arm pain, shortness of breath and jaw pain. The wingman convinced the initially-reluctant coworker to seek medical attention. When the coworker was admitted to the hospital for three days, the wingman checked in regularly to offer support. The wingman’s actions were instrumental to preventing permanent heart damage in the coworker, who is now on the road to recovery and also has an improved overall health outlook.

In another situation, a vigilant supervisor called an employee at home when the employee did not show up for work. When no one answered the phone, the supervisor sent someone to the employee’s home. Noticing a car in the drive-



Courtesy graphic

**Wingman intervention is one part of AFMC’s culture of respect and resiliency.**

way but no answer at the door, the wingman called local police and requested an immediate response. Paramedics found the employee unconscious, in diabetic shock. By staying engaged and being concerned about employees, the supervisor and wingman saved a life.

In yet another example, a distressed Airman expressed thoughts of suicide to a friend and fellow Airman. The wingman contacted the squadron supervisor, who ensured the unit provided comprehensive oversight by staying engaged around the clock, making sure the distressed Airman remained safe.

AFMC has been consciously building the concept of wingman intervention since 2004. The goals are to raise awareness of helping behaviors, increase the motivation to help, develop the skills and confidence to intervene and assist when necessary, and ensure the safety and well-being of self and others.

If you become aware of situations in which personnel have recognized at-risk behaviors and proactively intervened, please contact your local Community Support Coordinator. AFMC’s goal is to highlight these situations as teachable moments to encourage similar behavior and continue its focus of maintaining a “Culture of Respect and Resiliency.”



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN  
**Fred Anderson, Small Business specialists, discusses the business opportunities with his customers, Jerry Tritle (left) and Dave Garcia, from Peerless Technologies, on Wednesday.**

## SBO

Continued from 1

million for small disadvantaged businesses; \$24.18 million for women-owned; \$19.05 million for service-disabled veteran owners; and \$15.16 million for HUB zone small businesses.

What classifies a business as small can vary based upon whether you're procuring a supply or service, and then it depends largely on the business sector you're doing business with.

The government groups businesses into sectors according to similarity in the process used to produce those goods or services, known as North American Industry Classification System or NAICS codes.

There are thousands of NAICS codes, and depending on the business industry and its definition, determines whether the

business is large or small within that particular industry. For a supply NAICS code, it's employee based; for a service industry, it's revenue based.

"So for example if you're buying aircraft manufacturing parts, you could have as many as 1,500 employees – and still be considered a small business. That's pretty large," said Jackson. "Again, it's based on the industry in which you're doing business and whether you classify that particular industry as a supply or service."

"Nothing is black and white," she said.

The office is a one-stop shop of sorts to assist both established and new businesses with an understanding of the process for pursuing government business. The goal is to help these business owners compete in the American economy, said Jackson.

There are currently four employees in the office, including small business specialists and one small business source development specialist.

A total of 443 contractors came through the doors of Bldg. 205, located just outside the main gate along Ga. Highway 247, in fiscal 2013. The numbers have increased in the last several years, with 282 in 2011 and 323 in 2012.

"We meet with many contractors one-on-one to help them understand how we do business," she said. "Everyone has their own way of doing things, but we always say the government isn't going to change how we do business. You need to be able to adapt to the government's way of buying goods and services. We try to help them accomplish that."

To learn more, visit <http://www.robins.af.mil/library/smbus.asp>.

## HOBBY

Continued from 1

allowed to use the club whenever they choose. Anyone who doesn't want to join the club formally can use the facility by paying a daily usage fee.

Once consolidation efforts are complete, which would include outdoor recreation equipment relocated to the area behind the hobby shops, the facilities are expected to be up and running by the end of July, said Jenkins.

"We're in the process of working the charter that customers would have to follow," he said. "But it shouldn't be an issue as long as we can get enough peo-

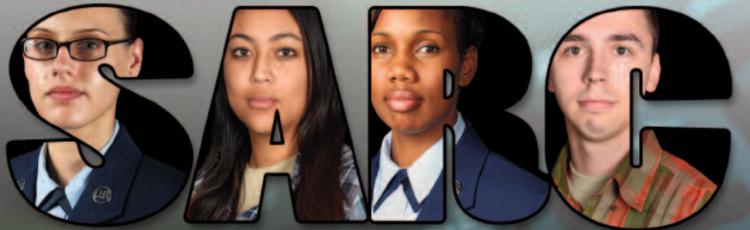
ple who want to join the club."

The shops – formerly run by mostly volunteers – were closed in February due to Air Force-wide budget cuts. Since then, Jenkins and his cohorts had been searching for other options to bring the services back to Robins.

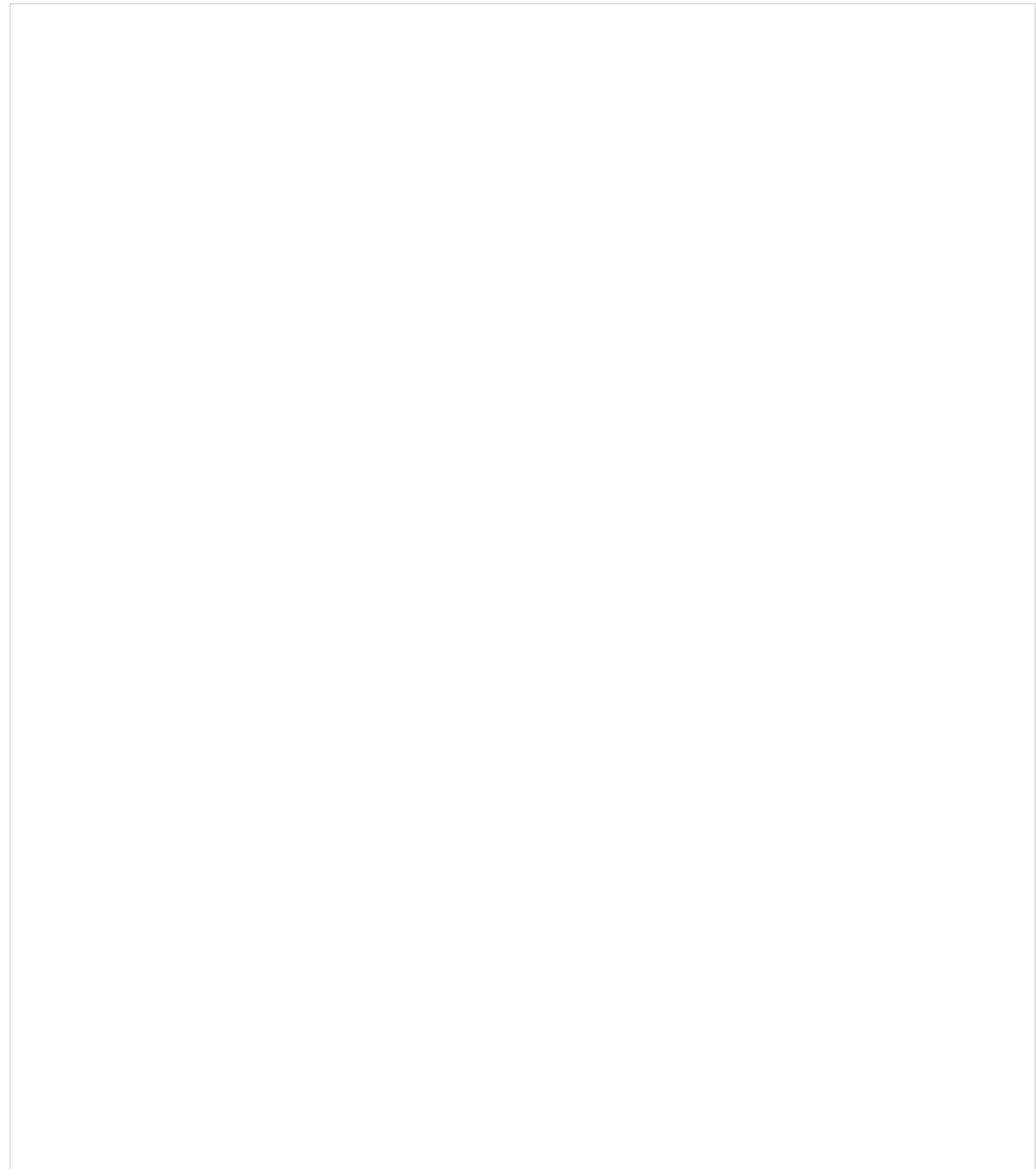
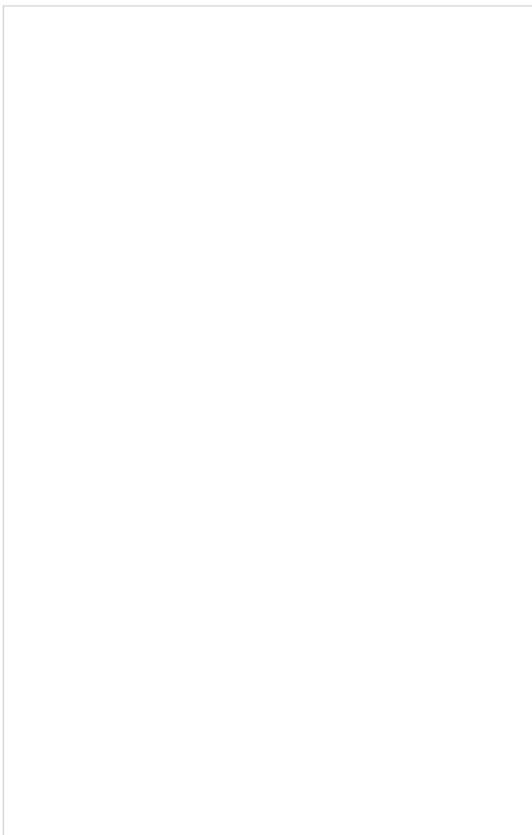
Before closing, both shops were fixtures at the base known for providing do-it-yourself convenience for the past 20 years or so, places where Airmen and others could access equipment and expert instruction for a minimal fee.

According to Jenkins, club members are needed in order for the reopening to be a success, and anyone interested in joining may contact him at 478-327-5915.

## Sexual Assault Response Coordinator



The Robins AFB SARC is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Phone: (478) 327-7272



# A Better You

Where do you draw the line?

## Anonymous alcohol use self-assessment gives free gauge to possible problems

BY STAFF SGT. DEMICA MCINTOSH  
Demica.mcintosh@us.af.mil

Grabbing a beer after work, meeting friends for some drinks, or sipping a glass of wine with dinner are all enjoyable moments for many people. However, if you have an alcohol problem, these events can lead to trouble in many areas of your life. People often wonder where to draw the line with their drinking and how they can tell if their drinking is a problem.

It is important to know that alcohol use disorders are common and highly treatable, and screenings are an important first step to take in the identification of high risk behaviors. If you have ever wondered about your alcohol use, take this free, anonymous alcohol use self-assessment at [www.DrinkingIQ.org](http://www.DrinkingIQ.org). This assessment takes only a few minutes and

### Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment

The Air Force recognizes alcoholism as a preventable, progressive, treatable, and non-compensable disease that affects the entire family. The ADAPT Clinic provides prevention, substance abuse education, assessments and rehabilitation.

#### Services provided

- ▶ Substance abuse evaluation and outpatient treatment
- ▶ Referrals for medical detoxification and rehabilitation at local civilian hospitals
- ▶ Evaluation for civil service employees via Civilian Personnel Office coordination

**Located in Bldg. 700 the entry to the ADAPT program office is in the southwest corner of the building, near ambulance bay. Clinic hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For more information call DSN 497-8398 or commercial 478-327-8398.**

will tell you if your symptoms are consistent with an alcohol problem. If you are concerned about a friend or family member, tell them about

this quick and confidential tool. For more information regarding alcohol or drugs, contact the ADAPT clinic at 478-327-8398.

## Lunch & Learn

May 15  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Professional Development Center, Bldg 941

Let Communication Be Your



To A Happy Relationship

Communication is "key" to a strong, healthy relationship. Learn skills to increase strengthen your communication.



To Register, Contact  
Family Advocacy at 478-327-8422

## Airman & Family Readiness Center

Classes, workshops & seminar schedule

- ▶ **Military Spouse Appreciation Day** - Today from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ▶ **DoL/TAP/VA Workshop** - Monday through May 16 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ▶ **Bundles for Babies** - May 20 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Call 478-327-8398 to register.
- ▶ **Career Technical Training Track** - May 21 and 22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ **Educational Track** - May 22 and 23 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Ron Smith 478-327-3401 to register.
- ▶ **Senior TAP/DoL/VA Workshop** - May 27 through 30 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ▶ **Navigating USAJOBS & Resume**

- ▶ **Writing** - May 28 from 8 to 11 a.m.
- ▶ **VA Benefits Briefing** - May 28 from 8 to 11 a.m.
- ▶ **DAV Medical Records Review** - Appointments Only
- ▶ **Department of Labor** - Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ▶ **Military and Family Life Counseling** - Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

*Editor's Note: All classes require pre-registration. For more information, call DSN 468-1256, commercial 478-926-1256, or visit Bldg. 794 Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

### WINGMEN WANTED

ASIST - 926-2821; 327-8480

AIRMAN AGAINST DRUNK

DRIVING - 335-5218; 335-5236; 335-5238



Courtesy photo by ASHLEY WILLIAMSON  
Senior Master Sgt. Sally Perez (left) and Master Sgt. LeSharee Hicks (right) from the 78th Medical Group make sure the header is properly aligned before nailing it together. The header will help support the windows and doors on Nannetta Tennyson's home – the 50th Habitat home in Houston County. Women Build volunteers built headers and jacks for Houston County Habitat for Humanity's 50th home. This was HoCo Habitat's second annual Women Build in support of National Women Build Week.



## Counselor Connection Lessons learned from EEO

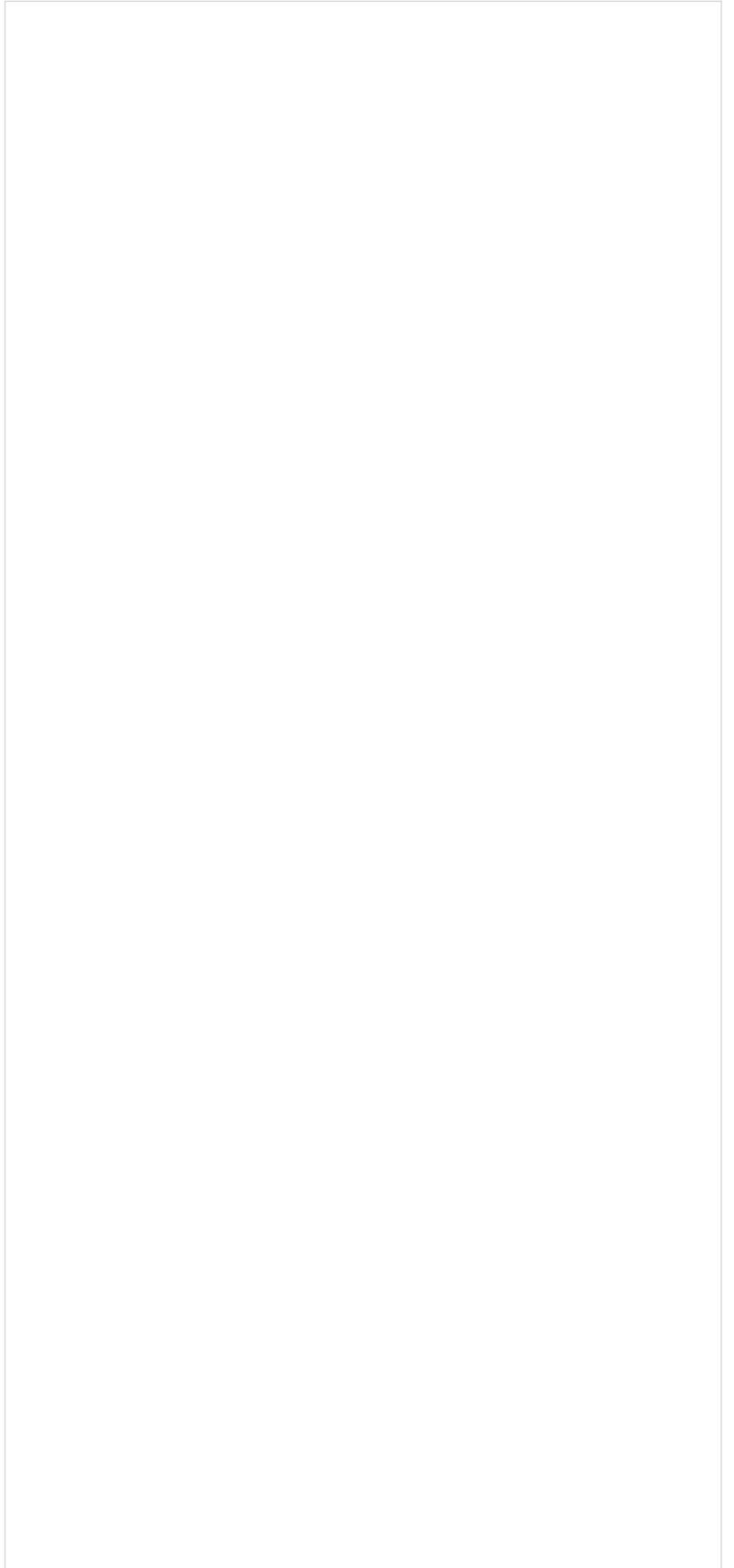
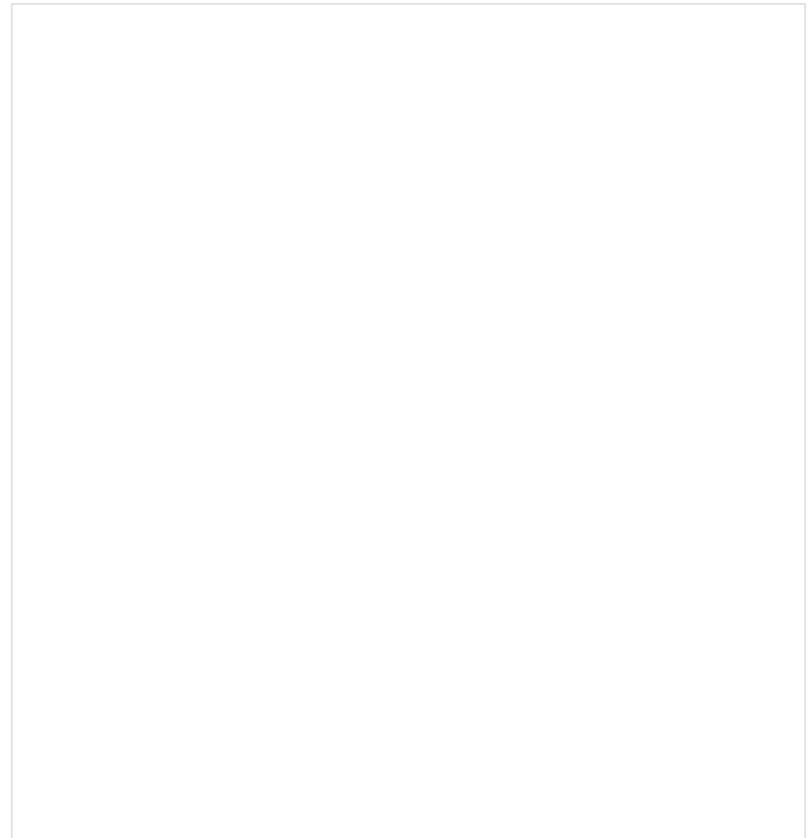
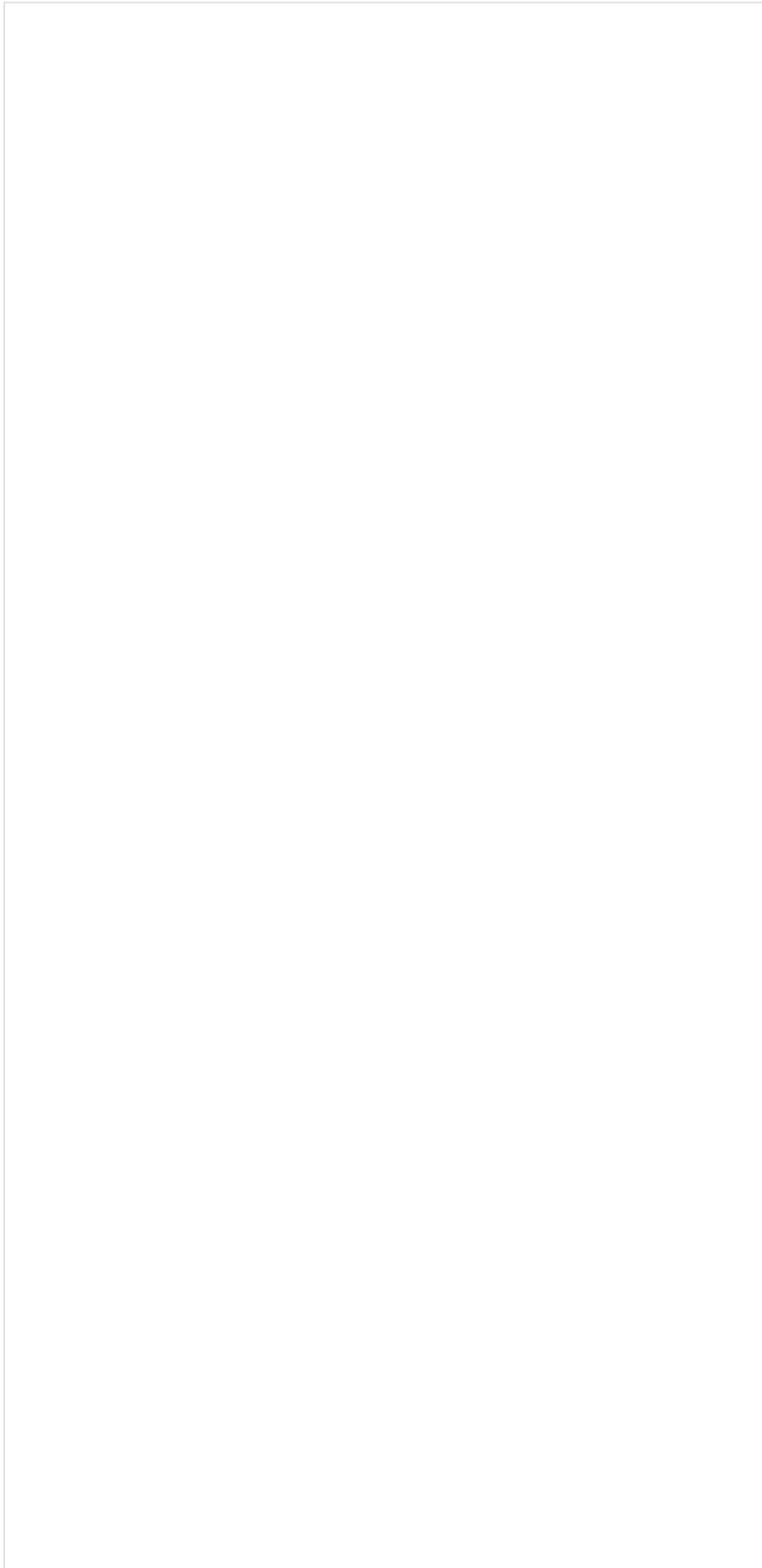
In *Mireles v. U.S. Postal Service*, a mail processing clerk for the U.S. Postal Service alleged that the agency subjected her to discrimination based on race (Asian), national origin (Philippines), sex (female), color (brown), disability (carpal tunnel syndrome, knees, tendinitis), and age (52) when it informed her there was not work available within her limited-duty restrictions and sent her home. The EEOC found that the agency did not subject the complainant to discrimination. Regarding her reasonable accommodation claim, the agency did not contest that she was an individual with a disability, but it argued that she was not qualified for the position because her permanent medical restrictions prevented her from being able to perform the essential functions of her position with or without a reasonable accommodation. The court agreed, pointing out that the clerk stated that she was not able to perform all of the job's essential functions.

The EEOC explained that the agency was required to consider the availability of a reassignment as an accommodation. The agency searched the facility and the entire district for an available position in which the clerk was qualified and met her work limitations. The record showed there were no vacant funded positions available

for which she was qualified and could have been reassigned. Therefore, the EEOC found that the clerk failed to establish that she was denied a reasonable accommodation.

Regarding her disparate treatment claims, the EEOC assumed that she established prima facie cases. The agency articulated legitimate, nondiscriminatory reasons for its actions. The clerk could no longer perform the essential functions of her position and, due to her severe medical limitations, there were no vacant funded positions for which she was qualified and could have been reassigned. The agency also asserted that because of the decrease in mail volume and the resulting financial crisis, there was a nationwide reduction in work hours, and there was no work available for the clerk within her restrictions. As a result she was sent home. The clerk failed to establish pretext. The EEOC found no evidence that discrimination played a role in the agency's actions.

78th ABW/EO  
706 Ninth Street  
Bldg. 936  
Robins AFB GA. 31098  
926-2131 or DSN: 468-2131



# Out and About

| FRI | SAT | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15   |

**ON TAP**  
**Bar Bingo**  
 Sundays  
 2 p.m.  
 Heritage Club Bingo Room  
 For details,  
 call 468-4515.

**UPCOMING**  
**Family**  
**Movie Night**  
 May 16  
 6:30 p.m.  
 Base Theater  
 Cost is \$2  
 For details,  
 call 468-2001.

**Yard Sale**  
 May 17  
 8 a.m. to noon  
 Outdoor Rec parking lot,  
 1 table and 2 chairs for \$7  
 For details,  
 call 468-4001.

**Annual America's**  
**Armed Forces Kids Run**  
 Register at the Youth Center  
 or online at  
[www.americaskidsrun.org](http://www.americaskidsrun.org)  
 by Wednesday  
 Event is May 17  
 Fitness Center Track  
 Ages 5-13  
 For details,

call at 497-6831.

**ONGOING**  
**Military Spouse**  
**Appreciation Specials**  
 Base Restaurant, Bldg. 166  
 All through May  
 ▶ Mondays – garden panini  
 \$2  
 ▶ Tuesdays – fried rice  
 95¢  
 ▶ Wednesdays – egg biscuit  
 75¢  
 ▶ Thursdays – Bowl of grits  
 75¢  
 ▶ Fridays – 32 oz. beverage  
 \$1  
 A dependent ID card is required.

**TEAM ROBINS**

**"Making tomorrow better than today."**

**TEAM ROBINS**  
**CAREER FAIR**

**Friday, May 30**  
**10 am - 3 pm**  
**Heritage Club Ballroom**  
**Bldg 956**

*Open To Base Access Personnel Only*

All Team Robins Members  
 and Eligible Family Members

**Bring Your Resume**  
**Come Dressed to Interview**

Sponsored by Robins Civilian Personnel Services

**MILITARY**  
**CAREER FAIR**

**Friday, May 30**  
**10 am - 2 pm**  
**Horizon Event Center**  
**Bldg 542**  
 (Formerly the O'Club)

*Open To Base Access Personnel Only*

Register at <http://adobe.ly/NfWeRi>

Hundreds of jobs available and  
 on-the-spot hiring by the Georgia  
 Department of Corrections!

Sponsored by Robins Civilian Personnel Services