

## Aero Club gets students away from it all

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## 101 Critical Days of Summer

The driver's seat is a dangerous bed. If you become tired behind the wheel, pull off the road and rest until you're able to safely drive.

To learn more, visit [www.nsc.org/safety\\_road/Pages/safety\\_on\\_the\\_road.aspx](http://www.nsc.org/safety_road/Pages/safety_on_the_road.aspx).

Keep everyone alive; don't drink and drive. Call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 478-222-0013 or DSN 472-0013.

## Summertime Safety



# ROBINS REV-UP

August 8, 2014 Vol. 59 No.31

## NEWS

### YOU CAN USE

#### WR-ALC change of command

Brig. Gen. Cedric George will hand over the reins of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex to Brig. Gen. Walter Lindsley during a change of command ceremony Monday at 2 p.m. in the Museum of Aviation.

Lindsley is currently the Air Force Materiel Command director of staff. In that capacity, he's responsible for integrating daily operations, management, resources, facilities and executive administrative activities in support of the command headquarters mission.

The 32-year veteran has completed various assignments in the aircraft and munitions maintenance and logistics fields. He also served as a deployed commander in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and operations in Korea.

George, who is the first commander of the complex, is leaving Robins to take a position at Air Force headquarters as director of system integration in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support.

#### JSIVA visit this month

The Joint Staff Integrated Vulnerability Assessment, JSIVA, will be conducted Monday through Aug. 15.

JSIVA is a "vulnerability-based" assessment of an installation's ability to deter and respond to a terrorist incident. The purpose is to identify vulnerabilities which expose the installation to terrorist threats. The assessment will provide an analysis of antiterrorism and installation emergency management programs.

The JSIVA team conducting this assessment will be comprised of highly-qualified subject matter experts covering several functional areas including risk management, security operations, structural engineering, emergency management and more.

#### Logging project begins

Logging operations to clear land for the construction of a solar array began this week. Trucks will be hauling logs from the site at the south end of the base near the Museum of Aviation by early next week. A contract for the operations was finalized with United Forest Products July 30.

#### Legal Assistance

Due to reduced manning Tuesday, there will be a potential chance for long wait times for walk-in legal assistance.

To schedule an appointment, contact Janice Norwood at (478) 926-9276 or DSN 468-9276. The Legal Assistance staff apologizes for any inconvenience.

#### Richard Ray Boulevard construction start delayed

The planned closure of a major portion of Richard Ray Boulevard has been delayed until Aug. 18.

The closure, which is to allow the replacement of asphalt pavement in front of Bldgs. 352 and 358, will be closed for approximately 41 days.

Due to the removal, access from Hannah Road to Robins Parkway will not be accessible. There will be signage to re-direct traffic.



Click the Rev-Up icon on your desktop for base news



U.S. Air Force photo by RAY CRAYTON

Terry Talcott, a 559th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron sheet metal mechanic, drills a fixed fairing for a C-17.

## C-17 division leadership now based at Robins

*Transition to be complete by 2016; potential for nearly 100 new workers*

BY JENNY GORDON

[jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil)

The C-17 System Program Office at Robins has experienced another milestone with the recent transition of division leadership from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Col. Amanda Myers has assumed leadership as the Air Force's C-17 system program director, a position which is now based here as part of a series of moves which began in 2009.

While Wright-Patterson will maintain capabilities development and the chief financial officer position, Robins will continue to focus on C-17 sustainment.

The C-17 system program office transition here is estimated to be completed by 2016, with the potential to include an additional 80 to 95 personnel.

The division, which includes foreign military sales and Boeing representatives, could grow to a total work-

force of about 350.

Col. John Newberry, deputy program executive officer for Air Force Mobility Programs with the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center at WPAF spoke highly of the accomplishments of the program and how it has evolved from its initial concept in the late 1970s to its full inception into the Air Force's mobility fleet.

"This is an exciting time for the C-17 program as we enter into the next chapter with the transfer of leadership to Robins," he said. "Col. Myers has the skills needed to oversee the continued sustainment and modernization of the C-17 fleet."

The previous construct was split between two senior materiel leaders, and consisted of the system program director – recently retired Col. Andrew Ingram who was stationed at WPAFB – and the outgoing system support manager, Col. David Morgan.

The C-17 System Program Office with personnel located at both Robins and WPAFB plays a crucial role in the sustainment, modification, maintenance and overall service of the entire fleet.

Working closely with Boeing, the office has ensured

that the Air Force can execute its core function of rapid global mobility while building a reputation of safety, capability and remarkable reliability.

Since its initial operational capability was declared in 1995, the entire C-17 fleet with FMS partners has flown more than 2.8 million flight hours with a cumulative 756,422 sorties in support of military operations, exercises, patient transport and humanitarian relief.

The Air Force received its final C-17 Globemaster III in the fall of 2013.

Myers recently attended the U.S. Army War College, and was formerly the T-38 system program manager at Hill Air Force Base, Utah.

She has encouraged members of the C-17 team to continue to provide the best support possible to the warfighter, and said her job is to ensure all tools and resources are available to make that happen.

In the words of her favorite president, Abraham Lincoln, she said, "Whatever you are, be a good one. You all have an important role to play. Our mission is so important that I will expect a lot from you. And you are so important that you should expect a lot from me."



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

## BiRD privilege crucial for many riders

BY BRIAN SHREVE

Robins Public Affairs

For many, it's a convenient way to save money and avoid wear and tear on their vehicles. Some even rely upon it as their only means of commuting to and from Robins Air Force Base – the magic bus doing its part to keep them employed.

But whatever the reason, Buses into Robins Daily, better known as the BiRD, continues to offer base personnel a solid alternative. Yes, it's popular among the many who partake in the daily free ride – now in its fourth year of service.

And they all have their stories.

"I live in Jones County, and before, I had to put aside at least \$100 a week on gas for my truck," said Melvin Deberry, 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron transportation specialist. "That and maintenance to my vehicle – that's money I can save and do something else with. I just walk to the terminal, it picks me right up, takes me right back. It definitely serves its purpose."

Brooks Lindsey, 402nd Software Maintenance Group electronics engineer, began taking the BiRD three years ago while living in downtown Macon. He said when he recently purchased a house, the base's transit system played a deciding factor in choosing the location of his family's new home, only six miles away from the Westgate Shopping Center.

"If the BiRD didn't exist, I wouldn't have bought that house," he said. "I have a cheap car and don't want to put a lot of miles on it. That's why I have a cheap car. And I don't like the environmental impact of driving one person all the way to and from work."

The obvious advantage for BiRD riders is widely agreed to be the cost – nothing – for those

▶ see BIRD, 6

## Airman proud of service at home and abroad

BY JENNY GORDON

[jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil)

The number 13 is thought to be a rather unlucky number to some people. But the year ending in 2013 was definitely one to remember for one young Airman stationed at Robins.

With a country at war for more than a decade, there are young yet talented members such as Senior Airman Maresa Miessler who feel the call to serve early on, ultimately volunteering their lives for something greater.

"The Air Force gave me that amazing opportunity - and I'm grateful for it," she said.

At just 21 years old, the Irvine, Calif., native is humbled by the wealth of that opportunity the world has afforded her in just over two years of military service.

Miessler enlisted in the Air Force while still a senior at Churchill County High School in Fallon, Nev.

She completed basic training at Lackland Air

Force Base in January 2012, and prepared for her new career with aircrew fundamentals and airborne operations technician training until April.

In May of the same year she arrived at Robins, beginning training before assuming her new role in the fall as an airborne operations technician with the 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, 461st Air Control Wing at Robins.

She's part of a one-of-a-kind platform, responsible with surveillance and tracking data on the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System.

Her career onboard the unique weapon system has already taken her to corners of the world when peers back home are just now graduating from college.

That thought is not lost on Miessler. At the time she could have been buried in a favorite English or history book, subjects she loved in school, or studying for finals like her friends.

Instead she was beginning her first deploy-



COURTESY PHOTO

Senior Airman Maresa Miessler, a 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron airborne operations technician, has accumulated more than 200 days of deployment or temporary duty since joining the service a little more than two years ago.

▶ see AIRMAN, 6

# Second Front

## Road-ready courses continue to prep riders during 101 CDS

BY JENNY GORDON  
jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil

Every day is a good day to practice safety when riding a motorcycle.

During this season's 101 Critical Days of Summer Campaign, which runs through Sept. 2, road-ready motorcycle courses continue to be offered at Robins which stress basic ridership, skills and safety.

Each month a two-day Basic Rider Course is offered, along with a one-day intermediate Basic Rider 2 course, and one-day Advanced Rider Course. All courses are also offered during weekends in alternating months.

All courses are free and mandatory for military personnel, and are open to dependents and Robins civilians. There is classroom training and hands-on instruction at the training range in front of the PAVE PAWS radar facility.

"There's no end to the amount of training you can give yourself with safety on a motorcycle," said John Ainsworth with the Installation Safety Office.

While a rider can do everything right, participating in required courses



U.S. Air Force file photo

**Manuel Lopez, 560th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, front, listens to instructions before undertaking a driving maneuver during a rider's course.**

and practicing safety on the road, accidents still happen.

Ainsworth said there are several factors for motorcycle mishaps. Speed, riding too fast for conditions, over riding one's abilities and four-wheel vehicle operators are just a few.

Safe riding also includes maintaining your bike. Check out your tires

and wheels, controls, lights, oils and fluids, chassis and side stand, and keep up with your maintenance records and schedule to see if it's due for a major service.

Course Instructor Greg Stephens said it's important for riders to get in the habit of putting on personal protective equipment before getting on a bike.

That includes a Department of Transportation-approved helmet, full-fingered gloves, long-sleeve shirt or jackets, long pants, eye and foot protection.

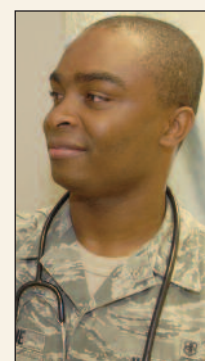
During the July Commander's Call, Col. Chris Hill, Installation commander, described the Air Force 101 CDS safety trends for Robins as being the same as last year. To date, there were 40 mishaps across the service, resulting in eight lost work days and more than 400 restricted duty days.

"Here's what I need you all to do. Keep your head on a swivel – stay aware," he said. "Your actions are not always the only part of the equation that affects your personal safety. When you're doing something dangerous, take the steps. Apply risk management, risk mitigation and live to the next 10 seconds."

## ALL IN

### A DAY'S WORK

Senior Airman Jean Fortune



**UNIT:** 78th Medical Operations Squadron  
**JOB TITLE:** Aerospace Medical technician  
**TIME IN SERVICE:** 3 years  
**HOME TOWN:** Jacksonville, Fla.

**What does your work involve?** "Assisting the providers with delivering healthcare to the active duty populace, their dependents and retirees."

**How does your work contribute to the Robins mission?** "It keeps our military members and their families healthy so they may accomplish their mission."

**What do you enjoy most about your work?** "The daily impact I make in the lives of patients and their families."

**What prompted your interest in your current career field?** "Being able to take care of people so they may take care of others in return."

**Who has been the biggest influence in your life?** "My family raised me to be humble and help others in need."

**What is something people would be surprised to know about you?** "I'm quite possibly the worst singer ever to walk the earth, and the most interesting man in the world."

**What is an accomplishment you're most proud of?** "Being part of the world's greatest Air Force."

## Going for the Gold

As organizations continue to participate in Robins' Voluntary Protection Program Safe Site Challenge, several were recently awarded with Gold recognition for their efforts.

Congratulations to the following organizations which were presented Gold banners Aug. 1 by Col. Chris Hill,

Installation commander, during separate ceremonies:

- ▶78th Force Support Squadron Non-Appropriated Funds/Human Resources Office;
- ▶78th Civil Engineer Squadron Fuels Section;
- ▶78th Civil Engineer Squadron Steam Chill Plant.

### Feds Feed Families

The sixth annual Feds Feed Families campaign has collected 2,466 pounds of food – 123 percent of its original goal of 2,000 pounds. A new goal of 4,000 pounds has now been set in order to help even more families.

The effort runs through Aug. 28, and Defense Department employees are encouraged to bring in non-perishable food

items to help end hunger in Warner Robins.

Designated boxes are located at the commissary, BX, fitness center, base restaurant and throughout the units. Every donation counts.

For more information contact your unit representative, Senior Master Sgt. Christina Myers at 468-3619, or Master Sgt. David Counts at 468-6107.

## Military Retiree Appreciation weekend scheduled for Sept. 26

BY ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Retiree Activities Office is sponsoring the Annual Military Retiree Appreciation Weekend, Sept. 26 through 28.

The event offers Robins Air Force Base and community partners an opportunity to recognize and inform the retired military population.

A job fair at the Heritage Club kicks off the weekend Sept. 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday's activities begin at 6:30 a.m. with a pay-as-you-go breakfast at the Wynn Dining Facility. Briefings begin at 9 a.m.

Col. Chris Hill, Installation commander, will speak to attendees. Other briefings may be provided by the base



### WHAT TO KNOW

For more information contact the following:

- ▶Retiree Activities - robinsrao@gmail.com or Pat Delaney at pdelaney1948@gmail.com
- ▶Job Fair - Garret Gordon at garrett.gordon@us.af.mil

pharmacy, immunization clinic, TRICARE, security forces and others.

A pay-as-you go lunch will be available in the Heritage Club's Pizza Depot from noon until 1 p.m.

A vendor fair will be held in the Heritage Bingo Room from noon to 4 p.m.

The fair will provide on- and off-base organizations which support retirees to introduce themselves and provide educa-

tion on available resources and services.

Local businesses and organizations can set up a vendor table at no charge on a first-come, first-served basis. Set up for the event will be from 10:30 a.m. to noon. All local veterans organizations are encouraged to participate.

Drawings for door prizes will be held from 1:30 to 4 p.m. in the Heritage Club Bingo Room.

## Robins celebrates differences with calendar of events in August

BY ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Throughout August, Robins is celebrating "United Through Diversity, a time to appreciate differences," with events designed to mark uniqueness and how those distinctions contribute to the world.

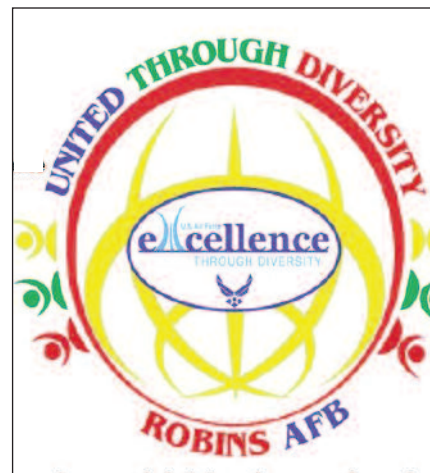
"Diversity Month showcases that although we're different, we're one," said Tech. Sgt. Tiffany Jackson, who is on the committee organizing the diversity celebration. "It takes diversity to make things work."

The month-long celebration officially began Aug. 1 with the Diversity 5K Walk and Run near the Robins Fitness Center.

On Aug. 20, events continue with a panel discussion from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Heritage Club Ballroom.

There will be six members on the panel – one from the Women's History, Black History, Asian American Pacific Heritage, Hispanic Heritage and Native American observance committees.

"The discussion will include ques-



tions from the audience and answers from the panel in regards to their Air Force or Robins mission or life experiences," Jackson said.

A United Through Diversity Luncheon will end the month Aug. 26 at 11 a.m. in the Heritage Ballroom.

The event will feature special dishes from each heritage. Tickets are \$10.

For more information on Diversity Month events visit the Facebook page at Facebook/Robins Executive Diversity Committee or send an email to robinsafbdiversity@gmail.com.



ON  
ROBINS  
IT'S THE  
LAW

# Around the Air Force

## Air Force to change enlisted evaluations, promotions

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Air Force officials announced a series of sweeping changes to the Enlisted Evaluation System and Weighted Airman Promotion System July 31.

The changes are intended to ensure the Air Force truly makes job performance the driving factor and will be implemented incrementally beginning this month and continuing through early 2016. The Air Force will offer additional information and provide in-depth articles on the Air Force webpage for each of the major program changes ensuring Airmen are knowledgeable and ready for the changes.

“What gets measured gets done,” said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James. “We want to make sure performance is the most important thing in every aspect of an Airman’s career, so the evaluation process is going to measure performance, and the promotion system is going to emphasize performance.”

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

## CSAF: A call to excellence for all Airmen

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – In his latest Airman-to-Airman message, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh III urged Air Force personnel to challenge themselves to be better at what they do.

Welsh said the message, part of an ongoing video series aimed at engaging Airmen, was inspired by an email he received from an service member at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.

“Airman 1st Class Devin Nothstine asked me to challenge you to be better than you think you can be,” Welsh said. “I think that’s a fantastic approach to our mission.”

Welsh went on to encourage all Airmen, including himself, to accept Nothstine’s challenge.

“I’ll start by trying to become a better chief of staff of the Air Force and being a better person myself,” he said.

To view video, visit [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

## Air Force implements career intermission pilot program

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Up to 40 active-duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard officers and enlisted members who meet eligibility requirements will be offered between one and three years of partially-paid time out of uniform to focus on personal and professional pursuits under the Career Intermission Pilot Program, or CIPP, Air Force officials announced July 30.

In accordance with the 2009 National Defense Authorization Act, each military branch is authorized to implement CIPP, which authorizes selected members to take a sabbatical and seamlessly return to their active-duty or Air Reserve Component role.

“This program offers a few highly performing Airmen the opportunity to focus on priorities outside of their military career without having to choose between competing priorities,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh III.

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

## AFMC wins Air Force Small Business top command awards

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO – Air Force Director of Small Business Programs Mark Teskey presented Air Force Materiel Command winners with the 2013 Secretary of the Air Force Annual Small Business Awards during a July 24 visit to the headquarters.

The Secretary of the Air Force Annual Small Business Awards Program recognizes teams and individ-



U.S. Air Force photo by MICHAEL PETERSON

## ‘Enforcing the standard’

Staff Sgt. Daniel Kane directs a competitor during a Law Enforcement Pistol Shoot event at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. The pistol competition was open to military and local law enforcement officers. Kane is the range safety officer with the 30th Security Forces Squadron.

uals who have contributed significantly to strengthening the industrial base and meeting warfighter needs through an array of small business capabilities that bring innovation, agility and efficiency.

For the second consecutive year, Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger, AFMC commander, accepted the Secretary of the Air Force Small Business Director’s Top major-command level award.

The award recognizes the contributions of the top MAJCOM for standout achievements in promoting a culture supportive of small business through acquisition strategy decision trends, policies and procedures, and community or industry outreach initiatives.

With the exception of women-owned businesses, AFMC exceeded percentage goals in all socioeconomic categories and achieved 10.82 percent equaling \$3.5 billion dollars in small business contracts for fiscal 2013.

The command also increased industry communication and improved market research to maximize small business participation.

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

## James: Air Force grapples with Congress to fund readiness

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – To balance readiness today and modernization tomorrow, the Air Force’s fiscal 2015 budget request is shrinking like today’s defense budget due to Congress’s priorities and the approaching threat of sequestration in 2016, Air Force leaders said July 30.

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh III briefed the Pentagon press corps on the state of the Air Force and its prospects for the future.

James said that after 13 years of war, “In my opinion we are not where we need to be or want to be when it comes to our full spectrum of readiness.”

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

## Strategic agility is the future of the Air Force

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Success doesn’t happen by accident very often.

As the Air Force preps for new challenges and opportunities of the coming decades, it faces sobering 21st-century realities – global centers of power have become more distributed and the terrorism threat more dispersed.

Most importantly, the emerging environment is demonstrating a trend that could prove to be the defining



U.S. Air Force photo by MASTER SGT. MARK OLSEN

## Sky high pit stop

Master Sgt. Marshall Rice Jr., a 108th Wing boom operator, assigned to the New Jersey Air National Guard at Joint Base McGuire Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., refuels a B-2 Spirit over New Jersey. Air Force ROTC cadets observed the mission as part of the wing’s orientation flight program. The flight offered the cadets an opportunity to observe the pilots and aircrew perform their jobs in a real-world environment.

one of current times: the accelerating pace of change.

Thus, the Air Force’s ability to continue to adapt and respond faster than the potential adversaries is the greatest challenge it faces during the next 30 years.

To meet the challenge, Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Mark Welsh III have developed a strategic framework that will guide Air Force planning and resourcing over the next several decades.

The framework has three main elements: a long-term future look that provides the vectors and imperatives necessary to guide planning activities, a 20-year resource-informed plan, and a 10-year balanced budget, based on fiscal projections.

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

## Legal

# Robins military justice actions

*Nonjudicial punishment, pursuant to Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice, provides commanders an essential and prompt means of maintaining good order and discipline and also promotes positive behavior changes in service members without the stigma of a court-martial conviction. The punishments are determined based on the individual facts and circumstances of each case.*

## The following Airmen have received Nonjudicial Punishment:

►A 52nd Combat Communications Squadron staff sergeant operated a vehicle while drunk in violation of Article 111. For the offense, the staff sergeant received a reduction in rank to senior airman, suspended forfeitures of \$500 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.



►A 78th Security Forces Squadron airman first class was found sleeping on post in violation of Article 113. For the offense, the airman first class received a reduction to airman and a reprimand.

►A 78th Communications Squadron airman first class was late to work on three occasions in violation of Article 86. For those offenses, the airman first class

received a suspended reduction to the rank of airman, 15 days extra duty and a reprimand.

►A 5th Combat Communications Support Squadron senior airman operated a vehicle while drunk in violation of Article 111. For that offense, the senior airman received a reduction to airman first class, forfeitures of \$1,017 pay per month for two months, restriction to base for 30 days, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

►A 52nd Combat Communications Squadron senior airman stole military property valued at more than \$500 in violation of Article 121. For the offense, the senior airman received a suspended reduction to airman first class, forfeitures of \$250 pay per month for two months, 15 days extra duty and a reprimand.

– Courtesy 78th Air Base Wing Legal Office

## ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER  
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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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# In the Spotlight



## Come Fly with me ... Base Aero Club gets students away from it all

BY BRIAN SHREVE

Robins Public Affairs

It was somewhere between the ground and the first 300 feet when my stomach unexpectedly dropped to the floorboard.

I actually closed my eyes for a few seconds, holding it in while Lewayne Davis, Robins Aero Club chief flight instructor, handled the airplane with an old-school Steve McQueen bravado, as if he were routinely driving a Honda to work.

That alone forced me to man up.

I've found myself in many different places in my life, in many situations – some of them thrilling, some strange, others downright crazy and dreadful.

But I can honestly say I would have never imagined I'd be manning a single-engine airplane 1,000 feet above Robins Air Force Base; so what if I only had the controls for less than four minutes?

I can still officially add that to the list of been there, done that.

You see, I have a ridiculously intense fear of heights.

A lot of people say that of course, but we're not talking about a might-think-twice before base jumping from the top of the Empire State Building kind of fear; I mean the light bulb in my living room won't be changed any time soon due to the semi-high ceiling and my knees wobbling the last time I tried – that kind of terror.

In other words, if I can take a flying lesson at Robins Aero Club, anyone can give it a shot.

In fact, a privilege once limited to active duty personnel and Department of Defense civilians, on-base flying lessons are now available to all Middle Georgia residents following a recent partnership between the club and the local community.

And if there's one comfort any curious but apprehensive Aero Club student learns quickly, it's that Davis is a man who knows what he's doing – perhaps because he's been doing it since 1970.

"I eat, sleep and breathe airplanes," he said. "Flying is something we can do others can't. That's why it's great for people to come out here and learn."

I'd never had any trouble flying in general, but we're talking commercial flights – unshakeable fortresses with in-flight movies. I'd even flown on small planes before, but never this small – a four-seater roughly the size of a Fiat – not to mention I had never been in the pilot's seat.

"I'm afraid of heights too," said Davis calmly. "But not when I'm piloting because I have the control."

According to Davis' own analogy, the difference is comparable to that of riding a large bus and climbing behind the wheel of a roadster.

To be specific, this was a 2003 Piper Warrior III. The Aero Club has a total of five Pipers used for lessons, four Warriors and one Arrow used for more advanced commercial training. Now open to the public, the club hopes to expand its fleet, according to Davis.

All of the aircraft are inspected twice a year by Federal Aviation Agency mechanics in compliance with club curriculum and that engines are changed after 2,000 flying hours.

Another advantage for students here is the experience of the staff, which consists of four full-time instructors driven by passion.

"Our instructors are well checked out," said Davis. "The difference here is that we're retirees, not doing this for a living or flight time."

In general, lessons at military flight clubs are among the safest in the country, Davis added.

Robins Aero Club won the Air Force Materiel Command Outstanding Safety Award just last year, among other accolades.

Aero Clubs are safe because there's a lot of oversight, he said.

"There's more control over people flying, more training and more recurrent training," Davis said. "That keeps people safer. We've never had any injuries."

Davis said an 83-year-old student had signed up for first-time lessons the day prior to our flight, reiterating the fact that "anyone can learn to fly an airplane."

As for my own experience, I was already excited to be driving a plane down the largest runway in the state outside of Hartsfield-Jackson International, having no idea Davis would allow me to briefly take the controls once we were airborne.

But when the initial fright of flying a plane out of the blue subsided, I came to appreciate the quiet hum of the engine and the peace that comes with being in the sky – up in a place where there were no bills, no weird neighbors, no loud political pundits.

A large part of life may be about conquering fear. And flying – an experience appropriately born in America – may simply be all about freedom, even if you do have to land eventually.

So now I know why people fly.

You should find out too.

### UP, UP and AWAY

Anyone interested in signing up for flying lessons at the Robins Aero Club should call (478) 926-4867.

## BIRD

Continued from 1

enrolled in the Transportation Incentive Program, which offers financial reimbursement for mass transit commuters; the cost for riders not yet enrolled in TIP is \$6 roundtrip.

Julie Julius, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center program manager, is another BiRD rider who, along with her husband, Denny, has been using the bus for her daily commute to and from Macon for roughly three years.

“We don’t like fighting the traffic, so it’s much more relaxing,” she said. “I can just play with my phone and not have to pay attention to anything. And, I love how the drivers are always very conscientious in making sure those who arrived at the base with them are on the bus for the ride back. So polite and professional.”

With last month’s addition of a park-and-ride system in which a feeder bus transports riders to and from Ferguson Park, overall routes have been expanded at Robins to include high-occupancy areas at the south end of the base – an improvement that “is still working out the kinks,”

according to Jade Daniels, Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority operations manager.”

“We strive to accommodate our passengers and provide them with dependable service,” she said. “We appreciate them being patient.”

And most are, said Lindsey, and they realize that the BiRD is a privilege.

“The new system just started, and with anything at first, you’re going to find what works and what doesn’t,” he said. “No bus ride is going to be as fast as your car, but people should know that. If there have been any delays or anything, I believe they are going to fix those things.”

Julius agreed, adding that because of the new routes, the distance between her office at Bldg. 660 and the nearest bus stop has been cut considerably.

“It’s been really nice for those of us who were further away,” she said. “And thanks to the new route, I’ve actually been getting up and getting to work earlier. I love it.”

For more information on the BiRD, contact the MTA at 478-803-2500.

Motorists wishing to enroll in TIP visit: [www.robins.af.mil/library/transportation/in dex.asp](http://www.robins.af.mil/library/transportation/in dex.asp)?

## AIRMAN

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ment in 2013 in support of U.S. Central Command as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

“I learned on my first deployment a lot on the tactical side of missions,” she said. “At the same time, it was so nice to explore another place, see another culture.”

While she admits she even ran into some high school friends who were also serving downrange, she recalled, “I was pretty nervous because I’d never travelled overseas before. Excited and scared. I just didn’t know what to expect. Things like the climate were definitely different.”

Once she returned after being away for several months, she was able to stay home for a short amount of time before having to leave again.

She deployed a second time in 2013, this time in support of U.S. Pacific Command, spending memorable moments in countries like Japan.

“It was during that deployment that I learned about our coordination efforts and saw things from a big-picture Air

Force perspective,” she said.

In addition, she has deployed to areas in support of U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command, accumulating more than 200 days of deployment or temporary duty since joining the service over two years ago.

For a young Airman with plans to make the Air Force a lifelong journey, her travels have made her appreciate every bit of home, whether it’s on the east or west coast.

Her duty assignments only take up about three lines on her official biography, but her awards and decorations speak for themselves.

“As a team, the 16th ACCS works hard in developing our Airmen, and we are extremely proud of our teamwork and everything Senior Airman Miessler has accomplished in her short career in our Air Force,” said Lt. Col. Bert Jean, 16th ACCS commander.

Miessler was the 2013 Airman of the Year for Robins Air Force Base, and was notably Airman of the Quarter and 2013 Airborne Operations Technician for the 16th ACCS.

“So much has happened so far,” she said. “I just wonder what else lies ahead.”

# A Better You

## Airman & Family Readiness Center Classes, workshops & seminar

► **TAP/DoL/VA Workshop** - Monday through Aug. 15 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

► **Bundles for Babies** - Aug. 19 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Call (478) 327-8398 to register.

► **Right Start** - Aug. 20 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

► **Career Technical Training Track** Aug. 20 through 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

► **Navigating USAJOBS & Resume Writing** - Aug. 27 from 8, to 11 a.m.

► **VA Benefits Briefing** - Aug. 27 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

► **Educational Track** - Aug. 28 through 29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Ron Smith (478) 327-3410 to register.

► **DAV Medical Records Review** - Appointments only. Call 472-4146.

► **Department of Labor** - Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

► **Military and Family Life Counseling** - Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

► **PreDeployment Briefings** - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m.

► **Survivor's Benefit Plan** - Mondays through Fridays, appointments only from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

► **Group Pre-Separation Briefings (separatees)** - Aug. 26 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. **(Retirees)** - Aug. 19 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

***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.*

## 70 DAY FIT 4 LIFE CHALLENGE



Registration for the Team Robins 70 Day Fit 4 Life Challenge has begun. The fitness challenge officially runs Aug. 22 through Oct. 31.

Initial assessments will be Aug. 18 through 21. The challenge is open to all base ID card holders and their families.

Enter individually or in teams of four. Challenge and compete with friends and family.

**Earn points for:** working out; bowling; golfing; participating in events at 78th Force Support Squadron facilities;

renting from Outdoor Recreation; partaking in CDC and Youth Center activities; attending classes at the Health and Wellness Center, and making healthy meal choices at the Base Restaurant, On-Spot Café, Fairways Grille and Pizza Depot.

Individuals and teams may register at the Fitness Center, Bldg. 826.

Family teams may register at the Youth Center, Bldg. 1021, Family Child Care, Bldg. 942, and Child Development centers, Bldgs. 943 and 946.

### Civilian Health Promotion Services

You're always invited to join Civilian Health Promotion Services in the Fitness Center Annex conference room in Bldg. 301, east wing, Wednesdays at 1 p.m. for a weekly wellness class. Classes are open to anyone with base access. Classes typically last 45 to 60 minutes.

Space is limited, so call DSN 497-8034 or email [April.Gray.2.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:April.Gray.2.ctr@us.af.mil).

## Counselor Connection: Lessons learned from EEO

### BY ROBINS OFFICE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

A popular Atlanta-area restaurant and nightclub violated federal law by subjecting female servers to a pattern of sexual harassment by a manager.

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission charged Sirdah Enterprises, Inc. – owner of Taboo 2 Bar and Bistro – alleging that the working conditions were so intolerable that five women were forced to resign when they could no longer tolerate the abuse.

According to the EEOC’s suit, the employer allowed six women to be sexually harassed. The harassment occurred throughout the servers’ employment – daily for some.

Offenses included groping their breasts and buttocks, indecent exposures, explicit sex related comments, requests for sexual favors, and promises of better working

assignments and other benefits if they engaged in sexual acts.

When some of the servers rejected the sexual advances, they were assigned to less profitable sections of the restaurant or had their work schedules negatively changed, which resulted in lower earning opportunities. Although the employees complained to other managers about the harassment, nothing was done to stop it.

Sexual harassment violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The federal agency seeks back pay, compensatory and punitive damages for the servers, and injunctive relief designed to prevent misconduct in the future.

“This case involves charges of gross sexual harassment where a manager – an individual normally entrusted with ensuring that the rights of employees are protected – took advantage of these women by abusing his position

of power,” said Bernice Kimbrough, district director for the EEOC’s Atlanta District Office.

Robert Dawkins, regional attorney for the Atlanta District Office, said, “Taboo 2 was aware of the sexually hostile work environment to which these young women were being subjected, but failed to take remedial measures as required under the law.

“In addition to vindicating the rights of these seven women, this lawsuit is for the purpose of protecting the rights of current and future female employees,” he added.

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

# Out and About

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

**ON TAP**  
**Hot August Night**  
 Today  
 6 to 8 p.m.  
 Heritage Club  
 Adults only. Music by the pool featuring DJ Blacklight and KJ Karaoke Nites  
 For details, call 472-7899.

**Bowl 'till You Drop**  
 Sunday  
 4 to 8 p.m.  
 Bowling Center  
 \$10 per person  
 For details, call 468-2112.

**UPCOMING**  
**Mongolian Night**  
 Aug. 15  
 5 to 7 p.m.  
 Heritage Club  
 Club members \$13.50  
 Guests \$15

Includes tunes from '70s, '80s and '90s  
 For details, call 472-7899.

**King & Queen Championship Tournament**  
 Aug. 15  
 6 p.m.  
 Bowling Center  
 For details, call 468-2112.

**Family Movie Night Monsters University**  
 Aug. 15  
 6:30 p.m.  
 Base Theater  
 Cost is \$2 and includes popcorn and drink.  
 For details, call 468-2001.

**70-Day Fit 4 Life Line Dance Class**  
 Aug. 22

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
 Heritage Club Ballroom  
 For details, call 472-7899.

**Atlanta Braves Game**  
 Braves vs. Marlins  
 Aug. 30  
 Cost is \$50  
 Includes transportation, entry and access to 755 Club.  
 For details, call 468-4001.

**ONGOING**  
**Afterburner August Special**  
 Base Restaurant Bldg. 166  
 Monday through Friday  
 5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
 Espresso Marble  
 For details, call 472-7827.

## Education Fair 2014

Robins Air Force Base  
 Education and Training Office

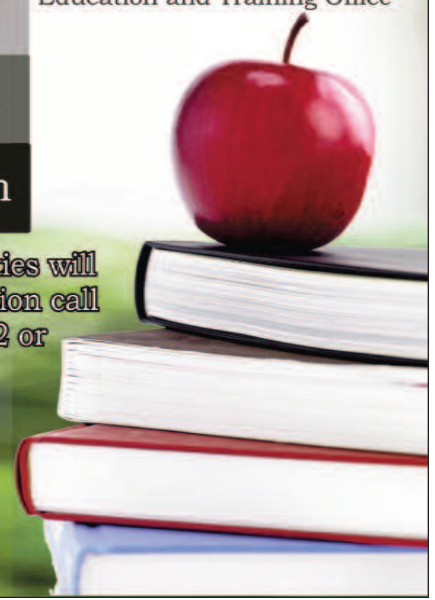
Friday, September 5

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Heritage Club Ballroom

More than 30 colleges and universities will be in attendance For more information call LaShondria Smith at DSN:497-7312 or COMM: 478-327-7312

Anyone interested in learning more about educational opportunities is invited to attend



USE YOUR WITS NOT YOUR WATTS  
 CONSERVE ENERGY