



ROBINS REV-UP

Sept. 26, 2014 Vol. 59 No.39

AIM HIGH

F-15 PRODUCTION IN POSITION FOR SUCCESSFUL FUTURE



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

When implementing innovative processes within an aircraft production line – in this case, in the 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron that maintains the Air Force’s F-15 tactical fighter – it’s understood that sometimes things have to get worse before they get better.

And when looking at performance metric charts detailing due-date performance, while it may appear to be all about numbers, those figures don’t tell the entire story.

Since January, there has been a 50-percent increase in throughput of aircraft. That’s cause for optimism; however, let’s step back for a moment.

Take the last 18 months in the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex. It was an atypical period as nearly 1,000 complex employees left as a result of the Voluntary Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Incentive Program – ultimately leading to the loss of hundreds of years of maintenance experience.

The summer 2013 sequestration period also hit the complex hard. But at the same time, the way business was being conducted in getting airplanes out the door wasn’t sustainable.

“We weren’t going to get better”

It was time for a change.

“I’ve said many times that furloughs didn’t cause F-15 problems. They ended any speculation about us getting

better. It was over – we weren’t going to get better,” said Mike Arnold, 561st AMXS director. “The furloughs added 24 days of delay to an airplane that was here for the entire furlough period, and then there were varying numbers of days for aircraft that were touched during that time.

“The furloughs were devastating, but it was really just an exclamation point on a downward trend that was coming through the summer (of 2013),” he said.

Fast forward to the fall of 2013, heading into fiscal 2014, and the squadron’s production lines were not only not producing aircraft, but conducting business in the wrong way, with the wrong results – the worst of both

▶ see **FUTURE**, 3

Saying Thanks

Military retirees to get up close look at base, community orgs

BY ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Team Robins’ annual Military Retiree Appreciation Weekend begins today.

The event offers base and community partners a chance to provide information to the retired military population.

A job fair at the Heritage Club kicks off the weekend today from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. It’s open to all Team Robins members and family members with base access.

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

Col. Chris Hill, Installation commander, will speak to attendees. Other briefings may be provided by the base pharmacy, immunization clinic, TRICARE, security forces and others.

The Legal Office is offering will preparation and legal services by appointment on Saturday. To schedule an appointment, call (478) 926-9276 or DSN 468-9276.

A vendor fair in the Heritage Bingo Room from noon to 4 p.m. will provide on- and off-base organizations the opportunities to introduce themselves and provide education on their products.

On Sunday, retirees can unwind with a golf tournament at Pine Oaks Golf Course beginning at 1 p.m.

It’s that time of year again

Energy Month events planned to help boost awareness, cut costs

BY BRIAN SHREVE
Robins Public Affairs

For some, October means post-season baseball, college football or raking leaves.

But for Team Robins, it also happens to be an opportune time to learn more about resource conservation as Energy Action Month kicks off here and around the Air Force.

With this year’s theme, “I Am Air Force Energy,” the 78th Civil Engineer Group Energy Management Office looks for October’s campaign to promote awareness of the little things everyone can do on a daily basis.

“The simple things we can do are what make a big difference,” said Allen Quattlebaum, base energy conservation program manager. “Turning off lights, radios or fans when we leave the office – or even unplugging them – are easy fixes for us as we think about reducing consumption. We’re all paying for it as taxpayers.”

Highlighted events are set to include online energy awareness training, the Children’s Energy Lesson and Poster Contest, an electronic energy survey and the start of a base-wide conservation competition which will award any organizational team “demonstrating outstanding energy-related contributions,” said Quattlebaum.

Nominations for the contest will come from within each mission partner and be selected by the energy office. Teams will be judged for cost-avoidance initiatives in their work areas spanning a period of January through October and rotating on a quarterly basis from there.

Winners of the competition will receive a trophy donated by a local energy company.

▶ see **ENERGY**, 5

‘Yes ma’am officer, I have been drinking’

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

Several Airmen were recently drinking at their workplace – but it was for a good cause.

As part of mandatory Driving Under the Influence and Standardized Field Sobriety Test training, the participants – all 78th Security Forces Squadron Defenders – volunteered to help make the training as realistic as possible while in a controlled environment.

The interactive, hands-on training provided officers with the opportunity to conduct several exercises with the Airmen who became temporarily intoxicated.

“The overall goal is to have all of our security forces members trained and certified,” said Staff Sgt. Reginald Henderson, 78th SFS training instructor. “This training prepares everyone to know what to look for – what indicators to observe. We’re trying to lower the number of DUIs on base.”

The training included horizontal gaze



checks used to gauge whether someone’s eyes involuntarily jerk from side to side when asked to follow the movement of a finger. It also included a walk and three-point-turn check and a one leg stand.

The base is committed to a zero-tolerance culture for driving under the influence.

One DUI prevention tactic that addressed the increase in DUIs at Robins was the distri-

bution of thousands of flyers at the front gates. The flyer included important numbers of base helping agencies, which can also be accessed by clicking on your desktop icon.

Editor’s Note: See the video for the training on the Robins Facebook page, and see next week’s Rev-Up for information on a DUI prevention sign/slogan competition.

SECOND FRONT

Ceremony honors POW/MIAs, serves those seeking answers

BY BRIAN SHREVE

Robins Public Affairs

Under different circumstances, it might sound like something from an old Patsy Cline song.

She has his picture, they have him ... somewhere.

Sharon Ray was only 7 on Aug. 14, 1950, the day her brother, an Army sergeant, was last seen in Korea.

The Robins Prisoner of War/Missing in Action organization's annual recognition ceremony was held at the Museum of Aviation Sept. 18, a somber observance of the national day of remembrance the following day.

"I've been coming to these events ever since I found out about them," said Ray. "I asked what I could do to help because I don't have money, and organizers just said to make people aware. I can do that. Some people don't even know what that flag looks like, and I want them to know."

Serving as the keynote speaker, retired Lt. Gen. Claude Kicklighter, Department of Defense Commemorations Office director, thanked all veterans and their families in attendance – many traveling from great distances – including those with loved ones still unaccounted for.

Kicklighter, a Vietnam veteran, is the former commander of the U.S. Army in the Pacific, later serving as DOD inspector general, Iraq/Afghanistan Joint Strategic Transition Planning Group director, the first head of the Department of Veterans Affairs Homeland Security office, among other high-profile positions.

The substantial crowd also included local



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

Members of the Patriot Guard and other motorcycle clubs dedicated to honoring military veterans show their support during the POW/MIA Recognition ceremony held at the Museum of Aviation Sept. 18.

politicians, commanders, representatives from the offices of Georgia's U.S. congressmen as well as various veterans groups.

The Rolling Thunder, Patriot Guard, Tuskegee Airmen and other motorcycle clubs dedicated to honoring veterans were on hand, standing with flags throughout the entire ceremony.

But as Kicklighter said himself, the day, belonged to those yet to return home from foreign lands.

"This is a very special day," he said. "Even though there's no way to feel the sorrow and hurt they feel, the least we can do as a nation is say that we share that pain."

In addition to his speech, Kicklighter delivered a special presentation in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, the commemoration of which begins next year and will last through 2025.

Tommy Clack, a leading POW/MIA advocate and triple-amputee following his service in Vietnam, said though he attends many recognition events, he remains impressed with the ceremony at Robins.

"Year after year, they do a great job," he said. "It's about showing up and helping people understand why we need accountability."

Closing comments were given by Joanne Shirley, former chairwoman of the National League of POW/MIA Families; Shirley's brother, Air Force Maj. Bobby Jones, has been listed as missing in action since the Vietnam War.

"Freedom isn't free, and I've had to learn that the hard way," she said. "My chances of closure for Bobby are not very good. But miracles do happen. I will never give up my dream of bringing him home."

Robins joins local community for Triple Ribbon Month observance

BY HOLLY LOGAN-ARRINGTON

holly.logan-arrington@us.af.mil

Robins Air Force Base will be showing its colors throughout October in honor of the 5th Annual Triple Ribbon Month.

The observance – which will span all of Houston County – will promote awareness in Middle Georgia of three areas of concern for the community: **Breast Cancer, represented by the Pink Ribbon; Domestic Violence, represented by the Purple Ribbon; and Drug Demand Reduction, represented by the Red Ribbon.**

In addition to joining in planned activities, people can participate by wearing purple on Oct. 8, red on Oct. 15, and pink on Oct. 22.

Bringing these areas of concern to the forefront of everyone's minds helps people do their part in reducing their incidences, Stuart Bapties, Health and Wellness Center flight commander, said.

"Alcohol and drug abuse have reached epidemic stages, making it imperative that community members launch visible, unified prevention education efforts to eliminate the demand for drugs," he said. "The National Red Ribbon Campaign offers the community

the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to drug-free lifestyles."

Bapties said only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to domestic violence.

"Domestic violence awareness campaigns have been responsible for substantial progress in reducing domestic violence; however, the reality remains that one in four women, and one in seven men in the United States still suffer serious physical violence at the hands of an intimate partner at least once during their lifetime," Bapties said. "Every day, three women lose their lives in this country as a result of domestic violence.

"Millions of Americans live in daily, silent fear within their own homes because domestic violence attacks an individual's privacy, dignity, security and humanity through the use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control or abuse.

Finally breast cancer is the most common cancer among women and is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, following lung cancer, Bapties said.

"The chance of developing invasive breast cancer at some time in a woman's life is about one in eight," he said. "It's estimated that 232,670 women will be

diagnosed with and 40,000 women will die of cancer of the breast in 2014; additionally, 2,360 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed among men and 430 men will die from breast cancer this year."

Death rates from breast cancer have been declining and this is believed to be the result of earlier detection and improved treatment related to increased education and community outreach through awareness campaigns, Bapties said.

The observance begins with a proclamation ceremony today at Central Georgia Technical College at 10 a.m., followed by a month of activities and events.

Some events include:

■ The Houston Educare Pink Picnic on Oct. 9 at 11:30 a.m. at the Museum of Aviation.

■ The Triple Ribbon Color Run/ Walk 5K and Resiliency Fair on Oct. 17 will kick off at 7:25 a.m. and last until 2 p.m. at the HAWC in Bldg. 827.

■ The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on Oct. 18 at 7 a.m. at North Peach Park in Byron.

Editor's Note: For more information, call 327-8480.

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

Commander Kill-A-Watt

UNIT:

78th Civil Engineer Group
Energy Management Office

JOB TITLE:

Robins Energy Guru
Conservation Ambassador



What does your work involve? "My primary responsibility is to help the installation energy manager achieve Air Force energy goals for an energy efficient installation without an adverse impact on the mission or quality of life."

How does your work contribute to the Robins mission? "Robins' utility expenses run in the neighborhood of \$25 million annually. Excluding civilian pay, reimbursements, and facility project expense categories, utility expenses are the single largest component in the base O&M budget. Just like employee household budgets, economizing base utility expenses produces more flexibility in meeting other needs."

What can we expect during the October Energy Month campaign? "Energy Action Month is a federal campaign run by the Department of Energy to promote energy awareness. "I Am Air Force Energy" is the 2014 theme, calling attention to each Airman's hands-on role in applying energy and water conservation principles in their daily jobs. Activities will include energy office representatives greeting cars at base gates, an electronic energy survey, weekly energy savings tips, energy conservation competition and award presentation, children's energy lesson and poster contest, and energy information tables and giveaways at the exchange food court and base restaurant."

DLA Warner Robins receives excellence award

Defense Logistics Agency Distribution Warner Robins was selected as the winner of the Maj. Gen. Kenneth L. Privratsky Award for Distribution Center Excellence. This award recognizes a distribution center that has excelled in performance and made outstanding contributions to "Global Distribution Excellence," and is named after former DLA Distribution Commanding General Maj. Gen. Privratsky.

Submissions were received from all of DLA Distribution's 24 distribution centers located around the globe. Individual winners from Warner Robins include:

► **Materiel Management Senior Civilian Manager of the Year:** Jerry Padgett:

► **Materiel Management Supervisor/Lead of the Year:** Marietta Knight:

► **Materiel Management Civilian of the Year:** Jonah Blunt III

► **Transportation Management Civilian of the Year:** Woodnell Respert

► **Materiel Handling Equipment Civilian of the Year:** Robert O'Donnell

► **Materiel Handling Equipment Operator Civilian of the Year:** Alonzo Patrick

► **Inventory Management Civilian Manager of the Year:** Ronnie Frink

► **Supervisory Systems Analyst of the Year:** Celestine Bones

► **Special Services Supervisor/Lead of the Year:** Samuel Mather

FUTURE

Continued from 1

worlds, according to Arnold.

Hitting bottom

It was after all in early 2013 when the squadron started to see signs of problems, due to a change in some processes. Then the low point came in December 2013.

“That represented the bottom,” said Arnold.

A total of three aircraft were produced in that month.

It was not only time for a change, but time to get back to the fundamentals of what it meant to manage a production machine, a process of how a plane flows through each area during programmed depot maintenance.

Meeting in December 2013 with Doug Keene, then the WR-ALC special assistant to the commander, a set of six fundamental rules were introduced.

They included controlling work in progress; working on supportable aircraft; dedicating personnel to a line; manloading based on staffing; quick-issue resolutions and implementing standard business rules.

“When we got those rules, that was the linkage of giving us very specific actions, then implementing the principles that we were learning with the AFSC Way,” said Arnold.

The AFSC Way is an approach that incorporates scientific production principles and the AFSC leadership model that places emphasis on process discipline and accountability. The idea is to have the production process flow the same way every time.

“Since then it has really been an unrelenting focus to get the process right,” he said.

Looking back to December 2013, various efforts had been tried to get aircraft produced, everything from maximizing overtime to sourcing parts from other planes to move the production line forward.

But beginning January 2014, though using new standards and rules, results

were not immediately felt until months later in April.

One practical outcome of implementing one rule (aircraft supportability) involved freezing 14 aircraft at the time due to not having required parts.

“Immediately we got worse,” said Keene. “When following rules with planes not being supportable and not working them, it gets worse. But it brings the discipline to the system that we want.”

At that time there were nearly 40 planes on station, with about 25 in various stages of work – with 14 stopped.

“There was no other way to shock the supportability side of this to the point where we got the attention inside our squadron that we really needed,” said Arnold.

“IT’S NOT GOING TO BE EASY, BUT I SEE THAT WE HAVE ALL THE TOOLS WE NEED. WE KNOW WHAT AND WHERE OUR PROBLEMS ARE, AND WE’RE WORKING TO SOLVE EACH ONE.”

MIKE ARNOLD
561ST AMXS DIRECTOR

aircraft. The goal is to produce seven to eight aircraft per month.

It was agreed that no single effort can be traced to turning F-15 production; however, there is much to celebrate moving into the new fiscal year.

The culture of the squadron’s 650 personnel has shifted, a sign of commitment amidst ongoing challenges.

“I’m optimistic,” said Arnold. “It’s not going to be easy, but I see that we have all the tools we need. We know what and where our problems are, and we’re working to solve each one.”

“Our goal is not to fix F-15s – our goal is to recreate it into a sustainable business,” he said.

Seeing processes come under control with a consistent pattern of improvement, Keene said he has confidence in fiscal 2015.

“This is an absolute. We are already better,” he said. “I’m looking at the processes and data ... it’s not what we’re going to do, or what we’re thinking about – it’s what we are doing.”

The right results, the right way

As a result of how business is currently conducted – getting the right results in the right way – the squadron has seen a 50-percent improvement in monthly production since January 2014.

In January, the throughput rate went from 3.8 aircraft produced each month, to the current 5.7

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

‘So help me God?’ ... Your call

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Air Force has instructed force support offices across the service to allow both enlisted members and officers to omit the words “So help me God” from enlistment and officer appointment oaths if an Airman chooses.

In response to concerns raised by Airmen, the Department of the Air Force requested an opinion from the Department of Defense General Counsel addressing the legal parameters of the oath. The resulting opinion concluded that an individual may strike or omit the words “So help me God” from an enlistment or appointment oath if preferred.

“We take any instance in which Airmen report concerns regarding religious freedom seriously,” said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James. “We are making the appropriate adjustments to ensure our Airmen’s rights are protected.”

The Air Force will be updating the instructions for both enlisted and commissioned Airmen to reflect these changes in the coming weeks, but the policy change is effective now. Airmen who choose to omit the words ‘So help me God’ from enlistment and officer appointment oaths may do so.

The language in previous instructions was based on an Air Force legal interpretation of 10 U.S.C. 502, 5 U.S.C. 3331 and Title 32, which contain the oaths of office.

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

In Other News

Art of the Possible book available for download

WASHINGTON (AFNS) The Air Force Sustainment Center has completed a book titled “Art of the Possible,” To download it, visit <http://www.afsc.af.mil/shared/media/document/afd-140911-029.pdf>



Top Airman discusses Air Force Future

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh III spoke about the importance of embracing change and creating an adaptive Air Force at the 2014 Air Force Association’s Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition, Sept. 16.

“We need to be bold – we need to be a little fearless right now,” he said. “We need to realize that we can spread our wings a little bit and, in fact as a service, I believe we have to.”

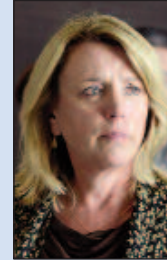
He explained the Air Force’s core missions of air and space superiority; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; rapid global mobility; global strike; and command and control are, and always have been, the constant focus of the Air Force.

“No problems are new – no challenges are new – no missions are new for us,” he said. “This is just a new time. Circumstances are a little different and we’ll roll through these just like we rolled through the past ones. I don’t worry about that.”



U.S. Air Force photo illustration

“We take any instance in which Airmen report concerns regarding religious freedom seriously.”



– Deborah Lee James
Secretary of the Air Force

Welsh has no question America’s Air Force is the best in the world, and he plans to keep it that way, well into the future.

“The real question – how do we stay the best Air Force in the world?” He said. “This is a journey. It doesn’t happen overnight and you don’t stay great for a couple of days – it’s a journey and you need a map. That’s what our new strategic framework is intended to be. The idea is a call to the future that’s looking down the road to keep us moving in a consistent direction.”

The map focuses on maintaining competencies and superiority in the Air Force’s five core missions across the domains of air, space and cyberspace. Welsh wants to be transparent in Air Force decision making, and to make the decisions that make the most sense at the right time.

“Nobody should be surprised by what happens in the Air Force,” he said. “The Air Force Master Plan is being built right now – it brings together all of our core function plans into a single, prioritized master plan so we can have strategic trades discussion from the beginning of the fiscal year to the end.”

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

Air Force announces basing criteria for Installation, Mission Support Center HQ

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Air Force released the criteria it will use to select candidate bases for the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center Headquarters Sept. 15.

The Air Force will use its strategic basing process to identify a location that best serves the mission of AFIMSC.

The secretary and chief of staff of the Air Force approved basing criteria that includes mission, capacity, environmental and cost factors.

AFIMSC, which will report to Air Force Materiel Command, will consolidate installation management functions currently being performed at every major command and will serve as the single intermediate-level



U.S. Air Force photo by AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CHRISTIAN CLAUSEN

Fire in the hole

Staff Sgt. David Garcia, evaluator with the 99th Security Forces Squadron, throws an M-69 practice grenade during the last iteration of the M-67 fragmentation grenade training class at Silver Flag Alpha, Nev. Students completed this course as part of their predeployment training in case of an event that requires use of grenades.

headquarters for the delivery of installation support capabilities.

“The new AFIMSC aligns Air Force-wide installation support authorities, responsibilities and resources to one accountable commander. The consolidation will drive standardized processes, eliminate overhead and drive down costs,” said Timothy Bridges, the deputy assistant secretary for installations. “It makes good business sense to centralize installation support the way we already centralize other support functions such as science and technology, test and sustainment.”

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

PERSPECTIVE

Hispanic Heritage Month: A legacy of history

BY CADET 2ND CLASS STEVEN LUNA

U.S. Air Force Academy

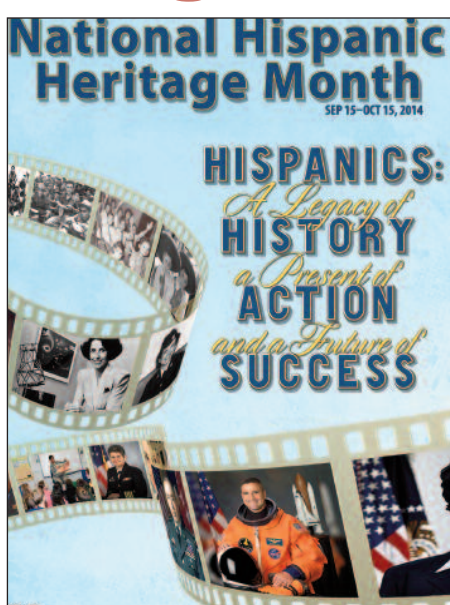
U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY. Colo. (AFNS) – The theme for this year’s Hispanic Heritage Month is, “A legacy of history, a present of action and a future of success.”

The theme resonates with me personally because it encompasses my family’s personal story, as well as the stories of many others of Hispanic origin here at the Academy.

Both my parents were born in Mexico and migrated to the U.S. as teenagers. My father, the oldest of eight children, would travel with my grandfather to work as a migrant during his summer breaks. My mother, the oldest of three children, would work all the hours she was able at a local convenience store.

She would then give my grandparents her paycheck to keep a roof over their heads.

Their strong work ethic is very humbling to me and continues to encourage me to chase my dreams.



Even to this day, my parents continue this legacy.

My father retired as a senior master sergeant after 21 years of active-duty service and my mother earned a variety of professional degrees in her profession.

“A legacy of history, a present of action and a future of success,” incorporates a

presence of action, and that’s where my Academy classmates and I currently reside.

This foundation of humility is something we carry close as a constant reminder of how far we have come and how far we intend to go.

Our diverse backgrounds are the fuel to continue to reach for our ambitions whether dealing with the challenge of Doolie year (first year Air Force Academy cadet) or the unfamiliarity of moving away from home.

Our humble beginnings are what make us who we are today, individuals working hard through the past to become better for tomorrow.

This leads to the last clause of the theme “... a future of success.” Our future continues to build on itself as more Hispanics pave roads to success for younger generations to follow.

We want to proceed on our track of progression founded by our legacy of history.

That legacy, entangled with present actions, allows for the future successes through the incorporation of diversity.

A Closer Look:

Sept. 15th is the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico declared its independence on Sept. 16th, and Chile on Sept. 18th. Columbus Day is recognized on October 12th. Between July 1, 2011, and July 1, 2012, the number of Hispanics in America rose by 1.1 million. This number is nearly half of the approximately 2.3 million people added to the nation’s population during this period.

It’s the melting pot of cultures which allows for the differing thoughts and ideas to be present at the table of the U.S.

The diversity for some, is part of their heritage, their daily lives, and for others a hopeful future, but for cadets it is our strength – an essential component to making our country the greatest nation on

ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER
Col. Christopher Hill

HOW TO CONTACT US

Robins Public Affairs
620 Ninth Street, Bldg. 905
Robins AFB, GA 31098
468-2137
Fax 468-9597

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 and 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.

The Robins Rev-Up is published by The Telegraph, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Robins Rev-Up are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, or Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, Department of the Air Force, or The Telegraph.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical or mental handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

INTERNAL INFORMATION CHIEF
Geoff Janes

EDITOR
Lanorris Askew

PHOTOGRAPHER
Ray Crayton
Tommie Horton
Misuzu Allen

STAFF WRITERS
Jenny Gordon
Brian Shreve
Holly Logan-Arrington

ENERGY

Continued from 1

As for the Air Force Energy Awareness Training, Quattlebaum said all employees are requested to complete the course via Advanced Distributed Learning Services and to report on the final statistics to the EMO.

The Electronic Energy Survey, titled “What’s the State of Energy Conservation Within Your Facility?” is aimed at sampling the awareness level of employees concerning costs savings as they perform their daily work duties.

Officials from a local energy company will present the Children’s Energy Lesson, explaining how energy is used and the necessity to conserve it, at the Robins Youth Center on Oct. 6.

This event will also begin the poster contest, with submissions due to be turned into the Youth Center by Oct. 10. The posters will go on display at the Base Restaurant, where patrons will

vote on them – the top three being awarded ribbons by the end of the month

“Especially with cuts in the Department of Defense, energy conservation becomes more important,” said Quattlebaum. “We need to take action, and that occurs by changing people’s culture in terms of being aware.”

As a whole, the Air Force seeks to reduce energy intensity by 30 percent by the end of fiscal 2015, starting from a baseline of 2003, a goal that has so far been achieved by a nearly 16-percent decrease since then.

Utility expenses at Robins are roughly \$25 million a year, according to Quattlebaum, and represent one of the largest portions of the Operations and Management budget.

For further event details and links to the competition, survey and training, visit the Robins Energy home page at <https://cs.eis.afmc.af.mil/sites/energy/WR/default.aspx?CalendarDate=10%2F24%2F2014>.

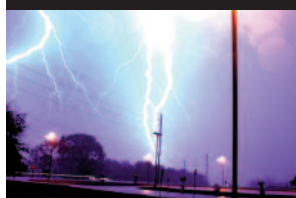


Not in use? Turn off the Juice!



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Thunderstorms and Lightning the underrated killers



Despite their small size, all thunderstorms are dangerous. Every thunderstorm produces lightning ... which kills more people each year than tornadoes.

⚡ An average of 93 deaths and 300 injuries nationwide each year result due to thunderstorms. They also cause several hundred million dollars in forests and property damage yearly.



⚡ The No. 1 thunderstorm killer is flash flooding ... There are nearly 140 deaths each year nationwide. Most flash flood deaths occur at night and when people become trapped in cars.

CHASING STORMS

Giant 'golf ball on stilts' provides weather flight with striking look at Georgia's severe weather

BY BRIAN SHREVE
Robins Public Affairs

There's an old saying that lightning never strikes twice.

But, the weather folks at Robins know better, and will tell you that old myth was busted Sept. 1 when a meteorological radar in Jeffersonville, Ga. was struck for the second time in as many years.

So, in typical Team Robins style, electrical technicians proved they are always prepared to tackle any setback and keep the mission moving.

Often described as a giant golf ball on stilts, the 93-foot tall Next Generation Radar is known commonly as NEXRAD.

Its technical name is the Weather Surveillance Radar-1988 Doppler, and it tracks severe weather and other atmospheric conditions to provide real-time data for Robins and meteorologists across Middle Georgia.

The radar is located in a rural area on Ga. Highway 96 and has been struck by lightning three times in the past 16 years, though only the past two have been described as major.

Despite significant damage following the Labor Day strike, the radar was non-operational for only 72 hours, a considerably short amount of time given that last year, lightning had the system offline for nearly a month.

"It's a towering Plexiglass and steel platform sitting on a ridge, so it's a target," said Roddy Nixon, 78th Operations Support Squadron senior meteorological technician. "Some of the more intense storms move

through that area in Twiggs County. That's why the site was chosen. It's not unusual, but most of the time strikes aren't as severe as we've seen recently."

Nixon said the latest strike was serious enough to fry a couple of major circuit cards and pedestal units in the radar, requiring new parts and internal component replacements.

"It had to be fixed quickly," he added. "Flight safety and resource potential made it critical to get it operational as soon as possible."

According to Capt. Tracy Pete, 78th OSS Weather Flight commander, the NEXRAD generates impulses into the atmosphere and picks up on the feedback where any interference from clouds occurs; how quickly that signal returns to the radar reveals where weather activity is located.

"It allows us to see where cells are moving, building and falling apart," said Pete. "It's a very important tool for severe weather because of its quick changeover as far as tornadoes. Those rotations happen relatively quickly on a radar scanner, and you won't see that on a satellite."

Though the radar has been owned and maintained by the DOD since it was built in 1992, it not only plays an integral role for the base, but for the entire region and the National Weather Service in Peachtree City.

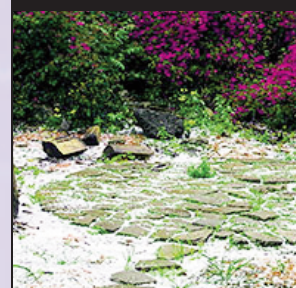
The only other NEXRAD outside of the Robins area is located near Valdosta, and serves Moody Air Force Base.

On average, a single lightning bolt reaches a temperature of 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit and produces enough electricity to power a 100-watt light bulb for three months.



Damaging straight-line winds are another threat posed by thunderstorms.

⚡ Winds can exceed 100 miles per hour!



Hail is another costly threat posed by thunderstorms.

⚡ Causes nearly \$1 billion in damage to property and crops each year.

⚡ The Kansas City hail storm in 2001 was the costliest hail storm in the U.S. which caused damages of an estimated \$2 billion.

The largest U.S. hailstone was 8 inches in diameter, 18.62 inches in circumference, and weighed 1.93 pounds.

BETTER YOU

FDA changes affect Robins pharmacy

BY CAPT.
BRITTNY FRAZIER
OIC Pharmacy Operations



For more information on the changes, call the Robins pharmacy at 468-6335.

Starting Oct. 6, all hydrocodone-containing medications will become Schedule II. That means all prescriptions, including remaining refills on file at Robins Air Force Base pharmacy will become void.

Now patients will have to get a written prescription from a credentialed provider for each fill.

Affected medications at Robins include Norco and Tussionex. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has been working to address the important

problems associated with misuse, abuse, addiction and overdose of opioid analgesics for several years. The unfortunate trend has led to countless public health and safety concerns.

Research shows that more than 16,000 lives are lost each year due to opioid-related overdoses contributing to prescription drug abuse which is the leading cause of injury

death in the United States – surpassing motor vehicle accidents.

In efforts to combat this epidemic, the Drug Enforcement Administration tightened rules on hydrocodone combination medications by moving it to the Schedule II medication class. That restricts prescribers from writing refills and calling-in hydrocodone containing medications to a pharmacy.

Customer Service Week

To celebrate Customer Service Week, the 78th Medical Group will offer the following free seminars in the atrium adjacent to the pharmacy in Bldg. 700 :

Oct. 6 – Enhancing Mental Health, 9 to 10 a.m.

ADAPT, 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Managing Diabetes and Cholesterol, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Oct. 7 – How not to fall for a Jerk/Jerkette, 10 to 10:20 a.m.

Relationship Strength; Know the Communication Danger Signs, 10:20 to 10:40 a.m.

A Humorous Look at Parenting, 10:40 to 11 a.m.

Military One Source (for active duty and dependents), 11 a.m. to noon

Oct. 8 – VA Briefing, 9 to 10 a.m.

Financial Action Plan, 10 to 11a.m.

Oct. 9 – Access to Care 10 to 11 a.m. **Nutrition**, 9 to 10 a.m.

Oct. 10 – Pharmacy processes, 9 to 10 a.m.

Dental, 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Optometry, 10:30 to 11 a.m.

For more information, call Melissa Carré at 327-8475.

USE YOUR WITS NOT YOUR WATTS

Counselor Connection LESSONS LEARNED FROM EEO

MCM Elegante Hotel in Albuquerque, N.M., has agreed to settle a religious discrimination lawsuit filed by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission with a monetary settlement and relief.

The settlement resolves an EEOC lawsuit filed on Sept. 21, 2011, "EEOC v. 704 HTL Operating, LLC and Investment Corporation of America, d/b/a MCM Elegante, 11-cv-00845 JCH/LFG," for alleged religious discrimination against Safia Abdullah, who was hired for a housekeeping position at the hotel. The lawsuit charged the employer would not allow Abdullah to work unless she removed her religious head covering, and fired her when she declined to do so.

Such alleged conduct violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which makes it unlawful to refuse to hire or discharge any applicant or employee because of religion or religious practices including requesting religious accommodation. The law further provides that employers have a duty to

provide reasonable accommodation for sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of applicants and employees, unless doing so would cause an undue hardship.

Such accommodation, for example, may include allowing individuals to wear religious clothing or take time off for religious observances.

In addition to monetary relief, the consent decree settling the suit provides for other important relief, including an injunction prohibiting future discriminatory practices; institution of policies and procedures to address religious discrimination and retaliation; training for employees of MCM, and managers and human resource officials of both defendants on religious discrimination; and posting a notice advising employees of their rights under Title VII.

**78th ABW/EO
706 Ninth Street
Bldg. 936
Robins AFB GA. 31098
(478) 926-2131 DSN: 468-2131**



Robins Air Force Base on Facebook

Check out Robins on Facebook.
Get regular news updates and other base information.
Visit www.robins.af.mil and click on the Facebook link.

WINGMEN WANTED

AIRMAN AGAINST

DRUNK DRIVING –

335-5218;

335-5236; 335-5238

OUT AND ABOUT

FRI 26 SAT 27 SUN 28 MON 29 TUE 29 WED 30 THUR 31

ON TAP
Pee Wee Bumper Bowling League
 Oct. 4
 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Bowling Center
 Cost is \$35
 League starts Oct. 11.
 Bowl 2 games each week for 10 weeks
 Ages 3 to 5 years old
 For details, call 468-2112.

ONGOING
70 Day Fit 4 Life Challenge
 Now through Oct. 31
 Register today

Open to all base ID cardholders and their families
 For details, call 468-2128.

Afterburner September Special
 Vanilla Latte
 Base Restaurant, Bldg. 166
 Mondays through Fridays
 5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 For details, call 472-7827.

Atlanta Falcons Tickets
 Atlanta games
 Upper level tickets \$46
 Lower level tickets \$78

For details, call DSN 468-2945.

Before and After School Care
 Youth Center
 For details, call (478) 327-6834 or 497-6834.

Twilight Golf Rates
 Every day
 4 to 6:30 p.m.
 Pine Oaks Golf Course
 Play 18 holes
 \$20 with cart, no cart \$12.
 For details, call 468-4103.



To register call 497-3760

WEDNESDAYS 6:15pm

Chapel Annex

655 Ninth St.

Volunteers Needed!

Join us for Fellowship Dinner 5:00-6:00PM - FREE!

