



FOSTERING A CULTURE OF COOPERATION

Air Force Materiel Command and American Federation of Government Employees Council 214 met at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., for a Partnership Council meeting Oct. 30 and 31. The purpose of the council is to foster a culture of cooperation by involving the union early in the process as a way to jointly work issues and reach solutions. (From left) Council members in attendance were Dr. Todd Fore, AFMC/A1; Patsy Reeves, AFLCMC/CA; Randy Shaw, AFMC/A1K1; Pamela McGinnis, AFGEL-1138; Rocky Tasse, AFGEL-1942; Michael Gill, AFMC/CA; Troy Tingey, AFGE Council 214; David Robertson, AFTC/CA; Jeff Allen, AFSC/CA; Ty Norton, AFGE C214; Monty Lewis, AFGE L-1592; Tom Robinson, AFGE C214; and Gina Martinelli, AFMC/A1KL.

ROBINS REV-UP

'Team Robins - Performing to Our Potential'

'Making Tomorrow Better than Today'

Nov. 7, 2014 Vol. 59 No.45

Fit to be SAFE

'Batman' fix to sustain C-5s for decades, saving millions

BY JENNY GORDON

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Robins has hit another milestone by being the first to complete a new major structural repair on a C-5M which will bring in millions of dollars in revenue and sustain the Air Force's fleet for decades to come.

With completion of the first prototype in September, an additional 51 C-5s will need the new fitting by 2020. The retrofit is also of importance because it keeps the colossal weapon system flying safely.

In the beginning

Following a structural fatigue analysis of the C-5 involving stress, cracks and corrosion, engineers from Robins and Lockheed Martin found that the life expectancy of the 'Batman' fitting was drawing to a close.

The Batman fitting is aptly nicknamed due to its resemblance to the costume headpiece worn by the fictional comic book character.

Weighing about 80 pounds and measuring 10 feet wide and 4 feet high, it's the primary structural component that holds the front part of the tail structure, the vertical stabilizer, to the aircraft's fuselage.

You can't fly the plane without it.

"As part of the process to keep the aircraft flying for the next 40 years, this was one of the steps taken to



U.S. Air Force photos by ISAAC CRUZ

Above, Flight control mechanics install the tail on a C-5M. The Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex will be completing a new retrofit on 51 C-5s between now and 2020. Right, - David McLemore, sheet metal mechanic, installs web plates on the Batman fitting. The fitting gets its nickname due to its resemblance to the cowl worn by the fictional character.

The Batman Team:

David Wilkinson and Don Martz, engineers; Chuck Shoudel, program manager; Mike Ackerman, equipment specialist; Isaac Cruz and Martin Stanovich, planners; Nancy Neubauer, scheduler; Jamie Padgett, Forward Materiel Supportability; and James Evans, structural repair work leader, Warren Batdorf, Abner Maloy III, David McLemore, Michael McUmber, Patrick Sims, Ryan Smith and Calvin Thomas, structural repair mechanics; and Jeff Cranford, sheet metal supervisor.

make that happen," said Andy Ivey, 559th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron planning chief. "After analysis it was discovered when having problems with this area, we needed to do a fleet-wide change to this particular fitting because it's a high-risk area for aircraft structural failure."

Field-level inspections in 2009 identified cracks that were occurring in several aircraft, normally indicative of a fatigue problem. Temporary repairs were made to ensure safe operations.

While recurring field-level inspections were made, Robins and Lockheed engineers were conducting analysis to see what was causing the cracks.



"The fitting was designed from a static-strength perspective. From a fatigue perspective and original design, one of the big considerations was weight," said Russ Alford, C-5 chief engineer. "As part of identifying and fixing the problem, we redesigned the fitting and thickened it up in places where cracks were occurring."

One of the challenges for the replacement was that the original installation drawings did not account for the aircraft's skin and vertical stabilizer being in place.

"To do it now, we had to develop a process on how to remove the Batman fitting without damaging the surrounding structure, and then put in the new fitting. That was a new challenge," he said.

Off to work we go

The first aircraft identified to receive the Batman replacement fitting, once it completed its regularly scheduled pro-

▶ see SAFE, 8

FRIDAY FLYBY: Holiday hours, Page 13



Aviation Degree Program survey

The 78th Air Base Wing is considering a proposal for the Robins Aero Club to partner with a regional college to offer an aviation degree program which prepares individuals for a commercial aviation flying career and provides certificate programs such as a commercial pilot's certificate in fixed-wing and rotary aircraft.

The program offers state of the art technology using high-tech simulators, glass cockpit aircraft, modern airplanes and helicopters.

A survey has been developed to assess the interest in bringing the program to Robins and the local community. Follow the survey link to take the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/APartnership>.

For more information or ques-

tions, contact Bill Woodard at (478) 222-0447 or DSN 472-0447.

Fall Bash slated for Saturday

The 78th Force Support Squadron will host the Fall Bash Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. Portions of Ninth and Warner Robins streets will be closed to allow safe passage to and from Robins Park. For more information, contact 1st Lt. Jessica Richmond at 472-7377.

Gate Barrier Maintenance

One entry and one exit lane of the Russell Gate will be closed Saturday and Sunday so two of the four barriers at the gate can be painted. Crews will prep and paint the barriers starting Saturday at 9 a.m., and the two traffic lanes will remain closed until noon on Sunday to allow the paint to cure. Note: Visitors to Robins' 2014 Fall Bash may want to consider using an alternative gate to enter and exit the base. One entry and one exit lane of the Russell Gate will also be closed during the same hours Nov. 15 and 16.

'Start with a heartfelt thank you'

BY GEN. JANET WOLFENBARGER

Air Force Materiel Command commander

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio

Every generation hopes that the next will never have to go to war.

Yet, as our United States Air Force approaches its 25th year of sustained combat operations, willing men and women from throughout our country continue to answer their nation's call to protect our freedoms.

Veterans Day is a time to remember the men and women who have served in our nation's defense, and to recognize their

courage and sacrifice.

For defending our country and way of life, we owe our veterans a tremendous debt of gratitude and respect.

Although that debt can never truly be repaid, I believe we can start with a heartfelt thank you.

To all veterans, I sincerely and humbly say, Thank you.

May you always be remembered on Veterans Day by a grateful nation.



Wolfenbarger

Base Chapel to assist local community

ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Each year the base Chapel designates thousands of dollars to assist those in need.

"The chapel-designated offerings are a great way for the Robins Air Force Base Chapel parishes to partner with our local helping agencies to support our community," said Lt. Col. Mark Crumpton, 78th Air Base Wing chaplain.

Offerings are collected from its Catholic and Protestant members and are given to both local and



U.S. Air Force photos by RAY CRAYTON

national non-profit organizations that in turn provide support.

For fiscal 2015, \$28,500

▶ see CHAPEL, 8

Weekend Weather

Friday
64/38



Saturday
64/43



Sunday
65/39



SECOND FRONT

Robins C-130 team honored for distinguished performance

BY JENNY GORDON

jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil

When a bleed air duct exploded involving a major weapon system at Robins earlier this year, several people assigned to the 560th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron offered their expertise to quickly solve the problem.

Because of their dedication, the nine civilians were honored with an Air Force Civilian Achievement Medal Oct. 23, presented by Brig. Gen. Walter Lindsley, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex commander.

The citation stated that from “March 15 to April 12, 2014, their in-depth systems knowledge and vast C-130 expertise proved to be invaluable when a C-130 aircraft encountered a



U.S. Air Force photo by RAY CRAYTON

Nathan Horn, C-130 Functional Test Flight aircraft worker, repairs a door latch on a C-130.

bleed air duct failure during an engine run-up operation.

“Their leadership and decisive actions enabled immediate aircraft

Who’s in the crew:

Brad Cantrell and Brian Hall, work leads; and Jedidiah Broussard, Philippe Campos, Joseph Cates, Craig Coates, Nathan Horn, Dean Huber and Dennis Schmidt, aircraft mechanics.

and engine shutdown and safe evacuation of four personnel, which prevented fiberglass dust created by the mishap from being ingested.”

“The actions of these maintainers helped prevent catastrophic damage from occurring in flight, eliminating the potential for aircraft damage or injury to our Airmen,” said David “Opie” Hurst, C-130 Functional Test Flight chief.

Certification program a success for Robins maintenance

BY BRIAN SHREVE

Robins Public Affairs

It’s open season again for the Professional Maintenance Certificate Program, an initiative that encourages personnel to aim even higher while creating a more well-rounded workforce.

The Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex Business Operations Maintenance Training and Management office has begun the latest cycle and will be accepting applications until Jan. 6.

General schedule and federal-wage system personnel in Air Force Materiel Command depot maintenance can apply.

Civil service employees outside of maintenance may be eligible if they meet certain requirements such as training, formal or developmental education and minimum years of maintenance experience, said Michelle Aldana, PMxC program manager.

The PMxCP was created as part of the Defense Department’s goal of developing enterprise logisticians, and is a way to formally recognize skills and expertise across different areas of maintenance.

Once applicants have submitted their packages, they will be reviewed by a PMxCP team comprised of members from all AFMC bases.

Since the program’s launch in November 2012, Robins has had success in the number of workers approved.

Altogether, 79 PMxCP certificates had been awarded here at the close of the last open season, which ended in June.

Last season alone, 103 certificates were obtained throughout AFMC, 32 of them at Robins – the most of any base.

There are five levels of certification. Breaking down the numbers further, Robins has had 46 level-one PMxCs

approved, 27 level twos and four level threes since the program’s inception.

“It’s a really great program in which everyone should invest their time,” said Aldana. “It’s a beneficial guide, and if you follow the plan over the course of your career, you’re really going to get ahead in your field and become a more developed employee learning about all sides of maintenance.”

When the last open season wrapped up, Joshua Mixon, Financial Management budget analyst, was one of 13 maintenance workers to be approved for a level-two certification, only six months after becoming the first financial management employee to receive a PMxCP 501 series, level-one certificate.

Each level of certification involves a different milestone, the second requiring a bachelor’s degree.

In order to obtain the next certificate, Mixon plans to

attend Air Command and Staff College as a professional military education is required.

Mixon – who came to work at Robins nearly seven years ago – said learning different areas of maintenance for certification has helped him become a more mobile, valuable asset to the Air Force.

He also said that the practical training he received surpasses that of a regular college education.

“This has given me a great overview of what makes up maintenance because I get to rotate through all the individual components,” he said. “I think it qualifies a person more than a degree because these certifications prove someone has put in the time and can actually do the job.”

Editor’s note: For more information or instructions on how to apply, contact Aldana at michelle.aldana@us.af.mil.

ALL IN

A DAY’S WORK

Lee Cooper

UNIT: Support Equipment and Vehicles Division, Base and Aircraft Support Equipment Branch

JOB TITLE: Equipment specialist supervisor

TIME IN SERVICE: 21 years

HOMETOWN: Perryville, Ark.



What does your work involve at Robins? “I’m a supervisor for eight equipment specialists. We manage the technical content, configuration and cataloging data for about 10,000 support equipment items.”

How does your work contribute to the Robins mission? “We provide life cycle logistics support for support equipment items located at every Air Force base in the world.”

Who has been the biggest influence in your life? “My father, He taught me that if you’re going to do a job then take the time to do it right, and to always treat people with respect.”

What prompted your interest in your current career field? “Natural progression from an avionics technician to an equipment specialist.”

What do you enjoy most about your work? “Serving the warfighter, those whom I have the pleasure to supervise, and my coworkers.”

What’s something people would be surprised to know about you? “I’m a professional billiard instructor.”

What’s an accomplishment of which you are most proud? “Being a Marine. Ooorraah!”



Med Clinic renovations to affect parking

Renovations to the 78th Medical Group Clinic, Bldg. 700, are scheduled to begin this month, affecting more than 120 parking spaces.

Sixty spaces in the parking lot on the north side of Bldg. 700 and 64 spaces in a portion of the lot on the south side near the dormitories will be closed for about two years.

Additionally, the parking area on the south side of Bldg. 703 will be closed for two weeks to allow the installation of a temporary facility. Once the temporary facility is in-place, the parking lot will reopen.

The driveway leading to buildings 702, 703, 755, 764, and 766 will also be closed for three to four days to allow installation of utilities.

Robins joins America Recycles Day

Nov.15 is America Recycles Day, and Team Robins is doing its part.

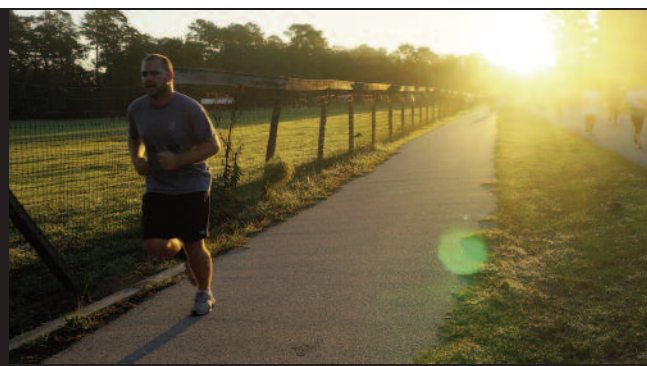
The new base recycling center, Bldg. 987, is located behind the Base Exchange and Auto Hobby Shop. There are 16 drive-up windows which slide open for people to deposit recyclables. Each window is labeled to indicate the type of recyclables accepted.

Recyclables are collected from Bldg. 987 and other small recycling stations and bins across the base three times a week. Other drop-off locations include recycling trailers at Turner and Forest parks, and the Museum of Aviation. During fiscal 2014, the base collected 380 tons of cardboard, 241 tons of paper, nine tons of aluminum, 49 tons of glass and 32 tons of plastics, generating revenue of more than \$93,650. The base recycling program recycled 1,182 tons of scrap metal, 153 tons of used oil and more than 25 tons of batteries. The scrap metal yard is located behind Bldg. 1555.

Editor's note: For information on the Robins Qualified Recycling Program and the scrap metal yard, call DSN 497-9283 or 478-327-9283.

— from staff reports

How Resilient Are You?



Sometimes everyone needs a little help ...

Chaplain – 468-2821
EAP – 327-7588
Suicide Hotline –
1 (800) 273 TALK (8255)

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

Wingman now a part of BMT culture

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. (AFNS) – Glamorized during the '80s movie "Top Gun," the concept of a wingman is to always keep the lead pilot safe, even at the cost of veering off to fight the enemy. For the past few years, "wingman" has become a pledge, promise and commitment between Airmen to take care of themselves and those around them.

Today, at the Air Force's only basic military training unit at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, the term is taking on a different meaning. A Wingman leads by example and takes action when needed, and the term is also used as a way to take a stand against sexual assault.

Col. Michele Edmondson is the commander of the 737th Training Group and the Air Force's basic military training program. She said while there have been challenges during recent years with allegations of sexual assault and sexual misconduct among military training instructors and trainees, she feels using the wingman concept is a positive step in meeting those challenges head on.

"Airmanship and wingmanship are huge, but to me it's also about dignity and respect," she said. "That goes for how each Military Training Instructor, or MTI, treats a trainee. How every trainee treats every other trainee. How every trainee treats an MTI. How I treat every MTI ... and trainee. A lot of the past wouldn't have been an issue if everyone would have treated each other with dignity and respect."

To read more, visit www.af.mil.



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

A military training instructor gives instruction to a trainee and his wingman during a formation at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas.

In Other News

Interactive leadership course graduates first class

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. (AFNS) – The Mathies NCO Academy graduated the first-ever class of technical sergeants through the four-week Intermediate Leadership Experience course at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., Oct. 23.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody was the guest speaker for the 34-student graduation, which was comprised of students from all over the Air Force.

After months of collaborative preparation between the Mathies NCOA leadership and course developers at the Thomas N. Barnes Center for Enlisted Education, Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, Ala., the ILE professional military education course has been constructed to teach leadership and management techniques in a completely new way.

"This isn't the structured, instructional style of development that students are used to," said Master Sgt. Douglas Schmidt, Barnes Center instructional systems designer. "This new course is going to challenge

them to step outside of their comfort zones and be more active – not only in correcting – but in improving themselves and their work centers willingly.

Enlisted promotion system changes continue with weighted factor adjustments

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – This January, changes to the Weighted Airman Promotion System will continue with adjustments to the scoring model for promotions to technical sergeant and below, all designed to help ensure job performance is the most important factor when evaluating and identifying Airmen for promotion.

The current WAPS enlisted performance report calculation model for technical sergeant and below uses the last five years of enlisted performance reports – up to 10 EPRs total – with a maximum value of 135 points. The revised system places increased emphasis on job performance, specifically relative to recent performance.

The weighted EPR points will increase to 250 points and only the most recent closed out EPRs (up to

three) when an Airman is promotion eligible at each grade will be considered. In other words, an Airman's EPR calculation will reset to zero after each promotion.

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

VA to expand Fry scholarship to surviving spouses

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Department of Veterans Affairs is now accepting applications by mail for the Fry Scholarship under newly expanded eligibility criteria to include surviving spouses of service members who died on active duty. The expanded criteria for the Fry Scholarship is the latest in a series of VA actions to implement provisions of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 ("Choice Act").

Specifically, Section 701 of the Choice Act expands the Fry Scholarship to include the surviving spouses of service members who died in the line of duty after Sept. 10, 2001. Prior to the expansion, only children of those who died in the line of duty were eligible for this benefit.

"We can never fully repay the



U.S. Air Force photo TECH. SGT. MATT HECHT

Come on down!

Army Reserve Maj. Russell Anderson, 404th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), floats to the ground after jumping from a C-130 Hercules over the Coyle Drop Zone, N.J. Programmed Depot Maintenance on C-130s is performed at Robins.

debt we owe to these families who have lost a loved one," said VA Secretary Robert McDonald. "It is a privilege to provide educational benefits that will make a positive difference in their lives."

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

PERSPECTIVES

'This is where I need your help'

BY GEN. LARRY SPENCER

Air Force Vice Chief of Staff

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Just as Airmen broke the sound barrier and pioneered new paths to space, Airmen will pioneer new ways to prevent sexual assault in the Air Force.

Preventing this crime is not easy. If it were, America's Airmen would already have eliminated it. As we begin this new fiscal year, I ask for your help in pioneering new ways to prevent sexual assault in the force. To be clear, preventing sexual assault focuses on the individual who commits the crime and how to intervene before a crime takes place.

Whether the campaign is called 'Inherent Resolve,' 'Airmen Powered by Innovation,' or 'Every Airman Counts,' your ideas are at the forefront of solving every challenge the Air Force faces, and eliminating sexual assault is no different.

In the past several years, we have made great improvements in our sexual assault response programs.

We added more sexual assault response coordinators and funded full-time victim advocates at each installation.

We stood up a special victims' capability that is comprised of specially trained investigators, prosecutors and legal support personnel to appropriately prosecute these sex crimes. We also significantly increased our victim advocacy capability with special victim counselors that are available to all sexual assault victims and whose sole purpose is to represent the victim in any legal proceedings or assist in any other legal and policy matters a victim may need.

We have also spent a great deal of time training and educating every Airman about sexual assault prevention and response. This education starts from the day an Airman walks into a recruiting office and continues throughout his or her career.

However, our job is far from done. While we've made progress in victim advocacy and appropriately holding offenders accountable, there is still significant work to do in preventing sexual assault before it happens. Together, we all need to get better at recognizing the characteristics

of the perpetrator and the subtle situations in which we can stop harassment, assault and violence before it happens.

This is where I need your help.

January 12 through 16, 2015, we're conducting a Sexual Assault Prevention Summit at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., and will bring in Airmen from across the force to participate.

While only some of you will be given the opportunity to attend, I want all of your ideas on how we can better prevent sexual assault. Please visit the Air Force's 'Every Airman Counts Blog' at <http://afsapr.dodlive.mil/> and submit your ideas about creating an Air Force free from sexual assault.

It's going to take all of us working together and exploring innovative ideas to come up with a practical toolkit that we can all use to effectively prevent this horrible crime from taking place in the Air Force.

I appreciate you taking the time to make the difference and to bring us to the next level in the fight against sexual assault.

ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER
Col. Christopher Hill

HOW TO CONTACT US

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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 and vance.janes@us.af.mil

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

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To report delivery issues, call 472-0802.

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Set the Date

Robins will host its first Green Sustainability Expo Nov. 21 at the Heritage Club. The Expo will feature 20-minute workshops and question and answer sessions on Green Procurement and an opportunity to visit with vendors to learn more about the program.

Green Procurement, or green purchasing, is the purchase of environmentally preferable products and services such as recovered materials, water efficient products, alternative fuels, biobased products and environmentally preferable products.

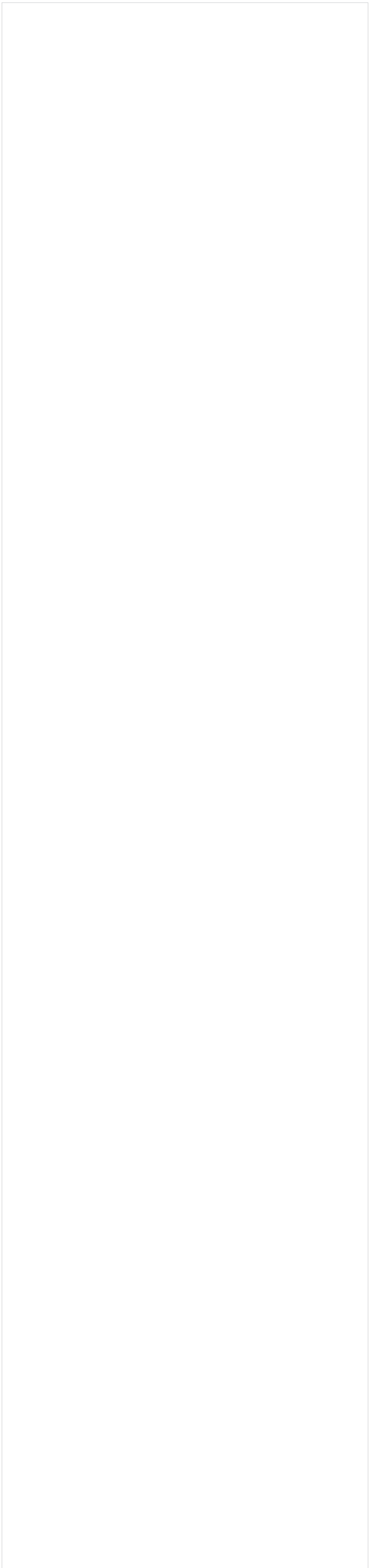
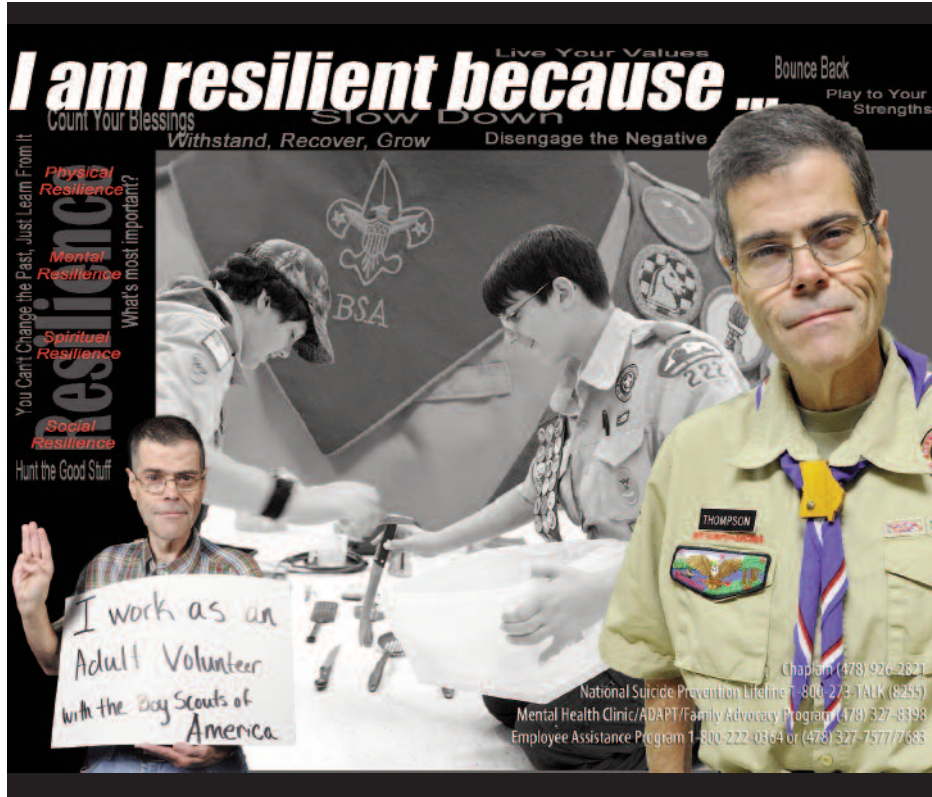
Admission is free and free refreshments will be available. The event is open to all military, civilian, retirees, contractors or others with access to Robins.

Workshops

Beth Martin, U.S. Army Public Health Command, will lead three 20-minute presentations with question & answer to help Robins AFB groups and organizations understand their responsibilities under the Department of Defense Green Procurement Program.

Workshop times are 9:45, 10:30 and 11:15 a.m.

For more information, email casey.lucas.2@us.af.mil or sgreenspan@fdaexpo.com.



CHAPEL

Continued from 1

will be distributed during the next year to 14 organizations.

They include: Abba House, Inc.; Archdiocese for the Military Services; Diocese of Alexandria, La.; Endorser's Appreciation Offering to Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Office of the Chief of Chaplain Services; Gideons International; Manna of Hope Resource Center; Palm

Sunday March offering and Good Friday, April Peters Pence, (Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA); Propagation of the Faith; Antioch of Middle Georgia, Cursillo; RBC Ministries; Robins First Sergeants Group; Robins Air Force Base AWANA Ministry; and Sacred Heart School, Warner Robins.

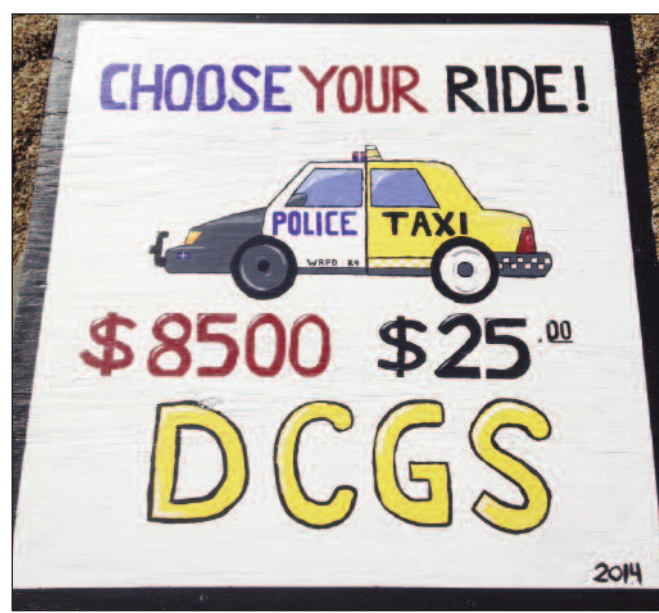
Editor's note: No federal endorsement of any of the listed agencies is intended nor implied.

Here's your winning sign

And the winner of the DUI Prevention sign competition goes to the C2ISR Division's Distributed Common Ground System team.

A total of nine signs were submitted from organizations across Robins, including from the 53rd Combat Communications Squadron, 78th Medical Group and 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron.

The sign competition was part of an ongoing DUI awareness campaign, hosted by the Company Grade Officer Council on behalf of the Integrated Delivery System's Community Action Information Board.



SAFE

Continued from 1

grammed depot maintenance, entered a hangar on June 18.

It would take exactly 108 days with 5,000 hours of work invested from start to finish before returning home in late September to its customer at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

The aircraft was placed on jacks, its horizontal stabilizer removed, dorsal panel taken off, flight cables rolled back, stands constructed for mechanics to work inside, existing fasteners tied to the old Batman fitting removed, and non-destructive inspections conducted on the Batman fitting's substructure prior to its installation.

And that was just the beginning.

But first things first. When putting in a major new structure, you must take out the old, in this case the old Batman fitting.

Since there was no process to begin with, teams from maintenance and engineering had to get together and form one. Constraints were identified and issues were brought up during a rapid improvement event, attended by engineers, planners, schedulers and mechanics.

Michael McUmbert, a 559th AMXS sheet metal mechanic, was one of four day-shift mechanics dedicated to removing the old material, bolts and the like, and passing them through a small opening called an anti-hijack screen door, located just under the tail section of the aircraft.

"After we removed the old fitting, we basically fit-installed it to see if it would fit," recalled McUmbert. "Amazingly, it fit perfectly."

That's not to say everything in those 108 days was smooth sailing. Engineers had to create new blueprints for mechanics to follow. Procedures had to be tested to see what would work best.

"We resolved a lot of issues, especially with the blueprints," said Isaac Cruz, 559th AMXS tactical planner. "Keep in mind these prints were established a long time ago, and they showed outdated parts in there. We had to make a lot of changes to these prints.

"One of the main issues involved the parts listing for things like hardware, nuts, bolts, washers, etc.," he said. "Some of these items were so outdated that they were not stocklisted, so engineering had to research what was currently available and determine a suitable substitute."

Fasteners used on the fitting had to be updated. New holes had to be drilled on the fitting, made of a new aluminum alloy that is much more resistant to corrosion and fatigue.

"Secondary structures like fasteners, webs, none of that fit," said McUmbert. "Those parts had to be remade by hand. Once that happened, then it was just a course of back-drilling everything in and locating holes on the Batman."

To drill up the actual Batman fitting took about two weeks.

Looking ahead

Space is a precious commodity when working inside a military aircraft, even on an aircraft as big as the C-5. It can get cramped. It's dark, and there can be tight awkward turns which can make things uncomfortable at times.

When installing the Batman on this C-5M, there was a distance of about 12 feet from the floor to the top of the aircraft. With access stands in place, there's even less room for maneuvering.

Made of stainless steel, mechanics had to drill in a dorsal longeron or shelf, which would tie everything together from the inside as well as outside. That consisted of four parts all fitting perfectly and safely together – the vertical stab, tail on the outside, Batman fitting, for-

ward spar and dorsal shelf.

After carefully documenting each step of the process with the initial aircraft, it's expected the days to accomplish the second one will be significantly less. The goal is to install the second Batman fitting from start to finish in less than 75 days. The team is optimistic.

"We learned that this can be done in a timely and cost-effective manner," said McUmbert. "Going in, we just didn't know what to expect."

Cruz, who was in on the project from the beginning, credits mechanics like McUmbert who dug right in. He also gave a nod to hydraulics technicians, the weight and balance shop and flight control mechanics.

"It took an entire team to do this," he said.

Dave Nakayama, 559th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron director, told crews working on the fitting to be extra vigilant in tracking the project, taking things slowly and asking questions along the way.

"We have to nail down this new process based on this prototype so we can become much more efficient, much faster when we go into full-scale production," he said.

"The airplane has never been older than it is today, yet we have some of the highest mission-capable rates, some of the highest aircraft availability rates than we've had in 15 to 20 years. That's pretty fantastic," he said. "From what we're being told, this Batman fitting and dorsal longeron modification will keep these planes safely flying for at least another 30 years."

Starting in early 2015, they will do the process all over again – 51 more times to be exact – which should keep things pretty busy here over the next five years.

"This Batman fitting is a good example of what we do here. No one else in the world can do this. The fact that we're able to sustain equipment like the C-5 fleet is hugely beneficial to us as a country, to the Air Force and the Department of Defense," he said.

A BETTER YOU

Kicking the habit Base joins annual campaign to quit

BY STUART BAPTIES

Robins Health and Wellness Center

The Great American Smokeout is an annual event on the third Thursday of every November – sponsored by the American Cancer Society – that encourages Americans to stop smoking for 24 hours.

The first Great American Smokeout was conducted in San Francisco's Union Square on Nov. 16, 1977 when the California Division of the American Cancer Society successfully prompted nearly one million smokers to quit for the day.

This year Team Robins will continue the tradition of encouraging and supporting tobacco users to quit by encouraging them to stop by the Health and Wellness Center, the 78th Medical Group, the Occupational Medicine Clinic or to see one of the Civilian Health Promotions staff members between Nov. 1 and 20 to pick up a free quit kit by taking the pledge of being Tobacco Free Nov. 20.

If you have a friend, family member or co-workers who you want to encourage and support being tobacco free, we also encourage you to take the pledge to support.

What are the reasons to support The Great American Smokeout by not using tobacco for just one day?

Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of disease, disability and death in the United States. More than 443,000 Americans die prematurely from smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke, and another 8.6 million have a serious illness caused by smoking.

The harmful effects of smoking don't affect only the smoker. More than 126 million non-smoking Americans are regularly exposed to secondhand smoke, and it's been proven that even brief exposure can be dangerous because non-smokers inhale the same carcinogens and toxins in cigarette smoke as smokers.

Secondhand smoke causes serious disease and death, including heart disease and lung cancer in nonsmoking adults and sudden infant death syndrome, acute respiratory infections, ear problems and more frequent and severe asthma attacks.



Each year – primarily because of exposure to secondhand smoke – an estimated 3,000 non-smoking Americans die of lung cancer, more than 46,000 die of heart disease, and between 150,000 and 300,000 children younger than 18 months have lower respiratory tract infections.

Coupled with the enormous health toll is the significant economic burden of tobacco use – more than \$193 billion per year in medical expenditures and lost productivity. That's the reason smoking is prohibited on Robins except in areas that have a sign designating them as a Tobacco Use Area. If there's no sign, there's no authorized smoking.

That includes parking lots and sidewalks.

It's easy and in some cases free.

Employees and dependents at Robins, using Tricare or any of the existing Federal Employee Health Benefits Plans are 100 percent covered for Tobacco Cessation Programs to include use of medications at no cost.

Employees and family members with base access can take tobacco cessation classes through the Health and Wellness Center or can do free counseling over the phone at their own convenience by calling Robins' very own American Lung Association QUITLINE at 877-695-7848.

Use of either of these methods will provide access to nicotine replacement therapy if indicated. Tobacco users who enroll for tobacco cessation classes with the Health and Wellness Center or who call the American Lung Association during the month of November will receive a gift package from the Health and Wellness Center.

Editor's note: For more information, call DSN 222-6907.

Ebola Info online

BY ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The President and the Secretary of Defense have called upon the men and women of the armed forces and other government personnel to provide critical support as part of the international response to the Ebola outbreaks in West Africa.

Defense Department personnel will not be involved in direct patient care of the local population.

Resources

Signs and symptoms
www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/symptoms/index.html

Prevention
www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/prevention/index.html

Risk of exposure
www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/exposure/index.html



Do you have a mouth guard?

According to the American Dental Association, an athlete is 60 times more likely to have a tooth injury when not wearing a protective mouth guard.

A mouth guard is designed to help protect the mouth and teeth from trauma. It is an important piece of gear that should not be overlooked during participation in sports.

In addition, mouth guards may reduce the severity and rate of concussions.

A mouth guard should be utilized in contact sports such as football, boxing, hockey and basketball. In addition, a protective mouth guard can also be beneficial in non-contact sports, such as skiing, snowboarding,

skateboarding, soccer, and bicycling.

TAKE CARE OF MOUTH GUARD

- ▶ Rinse before and after each use
 - ▶ Occasionally clean the mouth guard in cool, soapy water and rinse thoroughly (you can clean it with toothpaste and a toothbrush)
 - ▶ Do not leave the mouth guard in the sun or in hot water after use
 - ▶ Do not chew on the mouth guard
 - ▶ Check for wear and replace the mouth guard when necessary
 - ▶ Wear the mouth guard during practice as well as during games
- Mouth guards are available at the fitness center and 78th Dental Clinic. For more information, call the dental clinic at 497-8056.

RECYCLE THIS PAPER

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator



The Robins AFB SARC is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Phone (478) 327-7272 or DSN 497-7272



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.



HAPPENINGS

FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THUR
7 8 9 10 11 12 13

ONTAP

First Friday
Today
5 to 7 p.m.
Heritage Club
Calling all club members
For details,
call 472-7899.

Give Parents a Break & Hourly Care

Today
6:30 to 10 p.m.
CDC East and
School Age program
For details,
call 468-5805.

UPCOMING

Veterans Pick-n-Play Racquetball
Monday
Fitness Center

For details,
call 468-2128.

Robins Base Camp Family Camping Event

Nov. 15 & 16
Free (not including rented equipment)
Games, movie in the park and food
For details,
call 468-4001.

Ping Pong Tournament

Nov. 17
Bldg. 301
Open to all base personnel
Annex Fitness Center
For details,
call 468-2840.

Turkey Trot 5K

Nov. 19

7:30 a.m.
Open to all base personnel
Fitness Center
For details,
call 468-2128.

Family Movie Night

A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving
Nov. 21
6:30 p.m.
Base Theater
Cost is \$2 and includes popcorn and drink.
For details,
call 468-2001.

Yard Sale

Nov. 22
8 a.m. to noon
Bldg. 984
For details,
call 468-4001.

Auto and Wood Hobby shops to open soon

The 78th Force Support Squadron is opening the Auto Hobby and Wood Hobby shop facilities.

Two great facilities with loads of great equipment already in place to meet your favorite hobby needs or just save money by doing it yourself.

Initial meetings will be conducted to discuss the rules of each club and their hours of operation; facility opening dates; safety training requirements for each

facility; opportunity to walk through the facilities; club member dues; and to begin nominations for auto-crafts and wood-crafts club council positions.

If you're a do it yourself auto enthusiast or love woodworking, then join us at one of our meetings to help Team Robins add another great activity to the base.

The Wood Crafts meeting will be Thursday at 5 p.m. in Bldg. 984.

For more information, contact Bill Gurr, Outdoor Recreation/Arts and Crafts director, at william.gurr.2@us.af.mil or 497-5622.

VETERANS DAY HOURS

FSS OPEN TUESDAY

- ▶ Bowling Center 1 to 8 p.m.
- ▶ Golf Course normal hours
- ▶ Main Fitness Center 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Wynn Dining normal hours

COMMISSARY

- ▶ Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

EXCHANGE MAIN STORE

- ▶ Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SERVICE STATION

- ▶ Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SHOPPETTE/CLASS SIX

- ▶ Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MILITARY CLOTHING STORE

- ▶ Closed

78th Medical Group

- ▶ Pharmacy closed Monday and Tuesday
- ▶ All 78th MDG facilities closed Tuesday

For more 78th Force Support Squadron information, visit www.robinsfss.com.

For more Robins Exchange holiday hours, visit www.shopmyexchange.com.