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*Lighter Fare*  
Museum of Aviation honors  
military tradition with  
nose art display

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# ROBINS REV-UP

'Team Robins - Performing to Our Potential'

'Making Tomorrow Better than Today'

September 25, 2015 Vol. 60 No. 38

## Success Here equals Success There



Meticulous task  
ensures global  
F-15 missions  
accomplished

BY JENNY GORDON  
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"It's like an octopus eating a bowl of spaghetti."

So goes the saying in the 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron's Rewire Flight, whose mission is to remove and replace every single piece of wire inside an F-15.

It's a meticulous task no doubt, but when that fighter aircraft flies away from the Robins flight line toward home, a successful mission here means another F-15 is available for deployment somewhere in the world.

Every single line of wire inside an F-15 has a purpose. Without them, the aircraft can't fly, its instruments can't be controlled during flight, it can't land and pilots can't complete their crucial missions.

If you were to measure how many wires are inside one and lay them end-to-end, it would equal to about 27 miles. If that doesn't

U.S. Air Force photo by RAY CRAYTON

Ingrid Causey, 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Rewire Flight electrician, unmounts jacks on one of the panel doors of the F-15.

► see SUCCESS, A6,

## NEVER FORGET

Team Robins observes  
70th anniversary of  
the end of World War II

BY ANGELA WOOLEN  
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With two candy bars and two lifesavers in his pocket, B-17 engineer Wesley Chester figured he would freeze to death after his plane was shot down during World War II. He was in a deep forest in the winter and there was snow on the ground.

"I had to bail out of an airplane at age 19 ... I didn't know what country I was in," Chester said.

After parachuting out of his B-17, he and his crewmember knew they couldn't be captured by the enemy. At the time, there was no room in the prisoner of war camps and the enemy would shoot the pair on sight.

It turns out the teenager from Wrightsville was near the border of Germany and Austria. He managed to evade the Germans for five weeks eventually making his way to a small town in Yugoslavia.

► see WORLD WAR II, A5

## C-5 due date performance 100 percent on time for fourth consecutive year

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

In the current sustainment environment, there are military aircraft flying worldwide missions every day protecting American interests.

Their sustainment is crucial.

One of those airframes is the C-5 Galaxy – one of the world's largest airlifters – which was first deployed more than 45 years ago and is maintained right here at Robins Air Force Base.

For all its capabilities transporting large cargo such as mine-resistant and ambush-protected vehicles, helicopters and heavy battle tanks, it has remained one of the world's most called-upon aircraft for transporting outsized cargo.

"The Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex is one of three Air Force ALCs that focuses on sustainment," said Dave Nakayama, 559th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron director at Robins. "Sustainment is more critical than ever simply because our equipment is getting older, and we're not replacing it as we did during the Cold War. We don't have the luxury of new equipment anymore.

"Bottom line is we want to keep the C-5 fleet like new, all the while improving our efficiency and reducing our cost," he added. "Not everything can be easily, feasibly replaced, so that's when sustainment becomes critical. We're principal players."

And playing that key role is something Team Robins



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA

Eric Simmons, C-5 mechanic, works inboard cargo rails during programmed depot maintenance at the air logistics complex.

takes seriously.

That means the squadron has produced a total of 30 PDM aircraft and 21 unscheduled depot level maintenance C-5s

► see C-5, A7

## FRIDAY FLYBY: Put Your Hands Together For ... ALS graduates, Page A3

### Robins Parkway construction begins soon

A construction project which will mill the asphalt, apply geotextile fabric, and repave Robins Parkway from First Street to Gate 127-48, the parking lot on the east side of the Robins Parkway Extension and part of Eagle Street, will begin Oct. 6.

The project will be completed in two phases. Phase 1 consists of Robins Parkway Extension from First Street to

the intersection of Eagle Street. Phase 2 will consist of the remainder of Robins Parkway Extension, Eagle Street and the parking lot.

Phase 2 won't begin until Phase 1 is complete. A detour has been established to minimize impact to the work areas.

For more information, contact Ricky Davis at 478-319-6714 or Lori Simmons at 478-327-3977.

### Celebrating Diversity – Hispanic Heritage

Eva Jacques came up a bit short when she enlisted to serve in World War II; she was 4'11", one inch short of the minimum height. But she had two great advantages: three years of college, and she spoke Spanish and English. The Army Air Force waived its height requirement. She spent two years in the Pacific Theater, 1944 in New Guinea and 1945 in the Philippines, as an administrative aide. Conditions in New Guinea were exceptionally primitive, but the camaraderie made up for the lack of basic amenities.



Weekend  
Weather

Friday  
73/64



Saturday  
81/65



Sunday  
79/66



"Safety is cultivated through leadership and standards."

## SECOND FRONT

# Robins to host colorful events for Triple Ribbon Month in October

## STAFF REPORTS

Robins has teamed with Houston County community leaders to support a campaign designed to increase awareness and foster prevention in the areas of drug abuse, domestic violence and breast cancer.

On Thursday, the mayors of Warner Robins, Centerville, and Perry, along with the Houston County Commission chairman and Robins' Installation Commander, Col. Jeffrey King, will sign a proclamation announcing October is Triple Ribbon awareness month during a public ceremony at Central Georgia Technical College.

Stuart Bapties, Health and Wellness Center flight commander, said the day will begin a month of awareness events coordinated between base helping agencies and their local community counterparts.

Robins will host a free 5K Color Walk and Run and Resiliency Fair at the HAWC Oct. 16 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., with free T-shirts for the first 350 people to arrive.

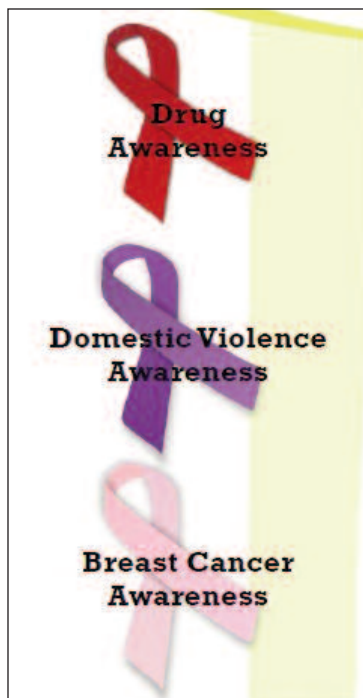
Weekly road shows and spirit days will give Robins a fun way to learn about the month's important topics.

The annual Houston Educare Pink Picnic Oct. 29 at the Museum of Aviation will round out the month's events.

Bapties said the red ribbon signifies that alcohol and drug abuse have reached epidemic stages.

"It's become clear that visible, unified prevention education efforts by community members are essential to eliminating the demand for drugs," he said.

The National Red Ribbon campaign offers the community



an opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to drug-free lifestyles.

The campaign will be celebrated in every community in America during Red Ribbon Week, October 23 through 31.

This year's theme is "Respect Yourself! Be Drug Free."

Bapties said the purple ribbon is a reminder that while there has been substantial progress in reducing domestic violence, there are still one in four women and one in seven men in America still suffering serious physical violence at least once in their lives.

"Every day, three women die in this country as a result of domestic violence, and millions of Americans live in daily, silent fear within their own homes," he said. "Domestic violence attacks an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity through the use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control or abuse."

"Children who grow up in

violent homes often believe that they're to blame, live in a constant state of fear and are 15 times more likely to be victims of child abuse," he added.

Domestic violence costs the nation billions of dollars annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelter and foster care expenses, sick leave, absenteeism and non-productivity.

It also accounts for 15 percent of all violent crime, Bapties said.

"Only community involvement and awareness will put a stop to these heinous crimes and create an environment that supports safe, healthy relationships," he said.

The pink ribbon highlights Breast Cancer Awareness.

"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, and it's estimated 231,840 women will be diagnosed with it and 40,290 women will die of breast cancer in 2015."

"The good news is that death rates from breast cancer have been declining, and that change is believed to be the result of earlier detection and improved treatment related to increased education and community outreach," Bapties said.

Visit the Health and Wellness Center on Oct. 16 between 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. to speak with a host of community vendors who will provide free information on ways people can improve their resiliency.

For more information, call the center at 478-327-8480.

## Base Energy Competition

The Energy Office is offering base organizations a chance to enter into a friendly competition by sharing good news energy stories.

The competition is intended to highlight organizational energy and water conservation achievements.

All base mission partners and organizations at any level are eligible to compete.

Submissions should describe in detail an organization's good news energy conservation or energy awareness story and how their efforts are positively influencing employee culture and aiding in wise management of energy resources.

Nominations should cover activities during the period Oct. 1, 2014, through Sept. 30.

For full rules and regulations visit the Robins homepage at [www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil).



## Job Fairs

Team Robins will host two job fairs Oct. 2.

A civilian career fair will be in the Heritage Club Ballroom from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event is open to people with base access only.

All Team Robins members and eligible family members may attend.

Bring resumes and come dressed to interview.

A military career fair will be at the Horizon Event Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is open to base-access personnel only.

Forty-five to 60 employers are expected to attend.

## Retiree Appreciation Day

Robins' annual Military Retiree Appreciation Day is slated for Oct. 3.

The day-long event will kick off with a pay-as-you-go breakfast for retirees at the Wynn Dining Facility from 6:30 to 8 a.m. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with opening ceremonies beginning in the Heritage Club Ballroom at 9 a.m.

Military retirees and active-duty service members, Guardsmen and Reservists nearing retirement are invited to attend.

For more information, email the Retiree Activities Office at [robins.roa@gmail.com](mailto:robins.roa@gmail.com) or call 478-284-9879.

## Legal Notice

Anyone having claims against the estate of Airman 1st Class Alic Collier should immediately contact Dominique Lewis at 472-7271 or 478-222-7271.





## Robins teen earns big bucks for college

Veterans High School senior Andrew Brown was named the Southeast Region Military Youth of the Year in June and won a \$40,000 scholarship for secondary education and a chance to compete for the national title.



Brown

In August he competed at the national level in Washington D.C. Although not selected, he had a great experience and represented himself, his school, Robins Air Force Base and Georgia in an outstanding manner.

Veterans High Principal Chris Brown commented, "Chase is a fine young man who possesses a servant's heart, strives to better the lives of those he meets and has a strong inner drive to be the best at whatever he is doing."

The program is sponsored by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America in partnership with the U.S. Armed

Forces. Brown joined the Robins Boys and Girls Clubs Chapter at his stepfather's encouragement in 2012 when he was a freshman.

The MYOY honor recognizes club members who demonstrate exceptional character and accomplishments. Club coordinator Marvin Hawkins recognized Brown's potential and coached him as he prepared for the many interviews and speeches as he became a teen ambassador for military youth and the Boys and Girls Club.

After graduating from Veterans High in 2016, Brown plans to attend Morehouse College to major in Sports Medicine. In addition to his school activities, he is also the president of two leadership clubs at Robins – Keystone Club and the Base Teen Council.

Brown previously won a scholarship in February when he was selected as the Georgia MYOY and was awarded \$7,500 for college.

– From staff reports

The "Put your hands together for ..." feature is a monthly installment to the Robins Rev-Up.

Due to the overwhelming number of awards people at Robins receive, we just aren't able to cover them all. This feature is our way of ensuring we give credit where we can.

The installment will run in the last issue published each month.

To have an award included in the feature, submit a brief write up of the award and the people who have earned it. Photos may be submitted, but space is limited. Submissions should be sent as a word document; photos should be .jpegs. For more information, contact Geoff Janes at [vance.janes@us.af.mil](mailto:vance.janes@us.af.mil) or Lanorris Askew at [lanorris.askew\\_ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew_ctr@us.af.mil). Either can be reached by phone at 468-6386.

## Airman Leadership School Graduates

- ▶ Senior Airman Ramiro Arevalo Jr., 52nd Combat Communications Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Romauni Bakerqualls, 78th Air Base Wing Judge Advocate
- ▶ Senior Airman Elijah Ball, 51st Combat Communications Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Shannon Blixt, 51st Combat Communications Squadron
- ▶ Staff Sgt. James Breznitsky, 5th Combat Communications Support Squadron
- ▶ Staff Sgt. Nicholas Coney, 116th Air Control Wing
- ▶ Senior Airman Joshua Creamer, 78th Communications Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Julian Deane, 461st Air Control Networks Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Spencer Duplessis, 461st Air Control Networks Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Gary Ferguson Jr., 330th Combat Training Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Theresa Hall, 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Jaric Henson, 78th Security Forces Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Romy Jean, 920th Force Support Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Christopher Keller, 51st Combat Communications Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Justine Kelley, 461st Operations Support Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Michelle Kimberly, 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Edgardo Macabalo, 12th Airborne Command and Control Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Aaron Merlino, 78th Communications Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Garry Mitnaul, 78th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Armando Moore, 116th Civil Engineer Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Ryne Robertson, 461st Maintenance Group

- ▶ Senior Airman Jose Salgado Jr., 5th Combat Communications Support Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Keith Smith, 908th Force Support Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Walter Thompson, 461st Maintenance Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Phillip Van Wyk, 52nd Combat Communications Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Bryce White, 78th Operations Support Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Evan Wiemers, 78th Medical Group
- ▶ Senior Airman Chi Wong, 52nd Combat Communications Squadron
- ▶ Senior Airman Ariel Wright, 78th Comptroller Squadron

### Special Awards

- ▶ **John L. Levitow Award** -Senior Airman Chi Wong, 52nd Combat Communications Squadron
- ▶ **Academic Award** -Senior Airman Evan Wiemers, 78th Medical Group
- ▶ **Distinguished Graduates**  
Senior Airman Edgardo Macabalo, 12th Airborne Command and Control Squadron  
Senior Airman Phillip Van Wyk, 52nd Combat Communications Squadron
- ▶ **CMSgt Richard L. Etchberger Award**  
Senior Airman Julian Deane, 461st Air Control Networks Squadron



# AROUND THE AIR FORCE

## Quality of civilian work-life tops discussion at annual union meeting

BY STACEY GEIGER

Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS)** – During an annual joint national labor management meeting Sept. 1, Air Force Materiel Command and union officials came together to discuss quality of work-life for the command's civilian workforce.

Gen. Ellen Pawlikowski, AFMC commander, joined J. David Cox, American Federation of Government Employees national president, and other officials to discuss workforce issues and expectations of the labor-management partnership for fiscal 2016.

“When I was told about the event, I thought it was a great idea to have an opportunity to dialogue on strategic issues,” Pawlikowski said. “As I’ve visited the bases in the command, I’ve been impressed by the cooperative working relationships between management and the union, both focusing on common objectives. I’m very encouraged at what I’ve seen so far, and I hope this meeting and others will continue to build on that relationship so we can meet any challenges together.”

The briefings started with the Partnership Council's annual report provided by council co-chairs Michael Gill, AFMC executive director, and Troy Tingey, AFGE Council 214 president.

Gill and Tingey provided updates to action items from the 2014 meeting. One suggestion was to include more union involvement in reviewing command suicides. As a result, the union will be given the opportunity to provide meaningful input on possible contributing factors.

Debra Warner, Air Force Civilian Force Management director, provided an update to the new Department of Defense Civilian Performance Management and Appraisal Program. A major goal of the program is to drive consistency throughout DOD so affected employees moving between components will be covered by the same performance management rules.

The program will focus on fostering cultural and attitude changes regarding performance management. The program's projected implementation date is April 2017.

Cox provided the AFGE national update and said workforce planning for the future is going to be a greater issue.

We're going to face tougher times, and being able to have a strong labor and management partnership certainly makes AFMC stronger to resolve problems and deal with many issues, Cox said.

“We'll continue to fight the battles for increased funding for federal government and agencies, for federal employees' pay as well as fighting back any attempts to change the retirement system or the

health system,” Cox said. “I believe we need to over and over tell our story of the great things that go on in all government agencies and how well we serve the American people.”

Pawlikowski closed the meeting by providing her vision of the way ahead for AFMC.

“One of my top priorities is the civilian workforce,” she said. “We've taken a 36 percent reduction in AFMC over the last three years, and that's huge. We have to do a better job communicating to the Air Force and our congressional members the contribution of our civilian workforce.”

“The success of this command very much relies on the entire workforce,” she added. “The workforce in this command has a large percentage of civilian representation. This is a community I've grown up in, and I'm very comfortable with that. I very much appreciate the role of the civilian workforce. Council 214 is a critical part of our success.”

The Partnership Council was formed in 1999 as a collaborative approach to attain workplace efficiencies, improve quality of work-life, provide early union involvement and resolve issues. Annual Joint National Labor/Management meetings were then initiated in 2000 to review progress.

The council is co-chaired by the AFMC executive director and the AFGE Council 214 president and meets three times a year.

## In Other News

### F-15s complete Hungarian deployment

**KECSKEMET AIR BASE, HUNGARY (AFNS)** – Four 123rd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron F-15s and support personnel completed a forward deployment to Kecskemet, Hungary, from Campia Turzii, Romania, Sept. 15.

The 123rd EFS is part of the 142nd Fighter Wing out of Portland, Oregon, and is deployed as part of the European theater security package.

The four aircraft forward deployed in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve to train and test their ability to operate out of Kecskemet Air Base, strengthen interoperability, and demonstrate U.S. commitment to the security and stability of Europe.

“Overall, establishing the relationship with us being here and being able to communicate with them and integrate our training together solidifies our relationship with our NATO allies and makes it a lot easier for us to do this in the future,” said Capt. Aaron Lamont, a 123rd EFS F-15 pilot, while discussing the importance of gaining proficiency working

### This week in Air Force History



On Sept. 21, 1960, Tactical Air Command accepted its first Republic F-105D Thunderchief – an *all-weather fighter able to carry a nuclear weapon* – during a ceremony at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

with partner nation equipment and locations.

### AFRL providing cost-effective inspection solutions for turbine engine aircraft

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO (AFNS)** –

Aircraft engine inspections are an essential part of maintaining a healthy and reliable fleet. However, the inspection process is often labor-intensive and challenging, and parts are often replaced before their serviceable life is over.

The Air Force Research Laboratory Materials and Manufacturing Directorate is working to change that.

In an effort to improve the turbine engine inspection process, researchers have recently transitioned the Sonic Infrared nondestructive evaluation inspection method for turbine engine airfoils.

This system can replace traditional inspection methods for crack detection, such as Fluorescent Penetrant Inspection, which can be costly and time-consuming.

Through SIR, ultrasonic waves are used to vibrate the part, creating friction between crack faces.

That friction creates a tiny amount of heat, which can then be detected using highly-sensitive infrared cameras, thereby pinpointing the defect.



U.S. Air Force photo by AIRMAN 1ST CLASS STORMY ARCHER

## Water battle

First Lt. Clayton Schmitt, a 902nd Security Forces Squadron operations officer, uses a fire hose during the 2015 Battle of the Badges at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. This year's Battle of the Badges included three main events: a tactical shooting challenge; a firefighter combat challenge; and a fire truck pull.

## PERSPECTIVE

### Suicide Prevention : How one person can make a difference

BY KATIE LANGE

DOD News, Defense Media Activity

**FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md.** – Thoughts of suicide are not necessarily something people announce to the world, which means loved ones often have no idea their friend or family member is thinking about it.

But there are signs and risk factors, and while somebody might think they can't make a difference, that's wrong. Experts say sometimes that's all it takes.

And that's the point of the Power of 1 campaign, launched by the Defense Department and Department of Veterans Affairs in observance of Suicide Prevention Month.

“One smile, one conversation, one comment, one caring gesture toward somebody at risk can make a difference in their experience and perhaps instill hope and get them to help,” said Dr. Keita Franklin, the Defense Suicide Prevention Office director.

The number one thing to know: Suicide is preventable. Warning signs are just missed sometimes.

“Inevitably, we always know that somebody has told somebody that they were struggling,” Franklin said of her office's research. “Unfortunately, that person may not have known the extent of the risk.”

To be better prepared, here are some of the signs you can look for:

- ▶ Expressing sadness often

- ▶ Anxiety and agitation
  - ▶ Deteriorating physical appearances and neglect of personal welfare
  - ▶ Sleeping all the time, or having trouble sleeping
  - ▶ Withdrawing from friends and family
  - ▶ Losing interest in hobbies; loss of appetite
  - ▶ Performing poorly at work or school
  - ▶ Dramatic and frequent mood changes
  - ▶ Acting recklessly; showing violent, self-destructive behavior
  - ▶ Expressing feelings of guilt, shame or failure
  - ▶ Desperation – feeling like there's no way out or no solution to the problem
  - ▶ Giving away prized possessions
  - ▶ Making out a will or otherwise getting his or her affairs in order
  - ▶ Trying to secure weapons, pills or other things that can be used for harm
- Common risk factors for suicide include relationship, financial or legal struggles.

#### It's OK to not be OK

Franklin said a big part of suicide prevention in the military is making sure those at risk feel like they belong and are valued in their roles.

That means making sure the at-risk person knows his or her chain of command cares and is willing to help – that it's OK to not be OK.

“Leaders need to be able to convey to their units that people can bounce back from their stress issues and that they're not always terminally broken,” Franklin said.

She said it's important for at-risk people to know that getting help with mental health issues is a sign of strength, not weakness.

“It's a big first step, and it can save a life, whether you're the person at risk or the person helping the person at risk,” Franklin said.

She said service members are also provided peer-to-peer training that focuses on them looking for signs and risk factors and, more importantly, asking the question, “Are you thinking of killing yourself?”

“We won't know if people are at risk until then,” Franklin said.

For more resources on how to support military members and veterans in crisis, visit [Veteranscrisisline.net](http://Veteranscrisisline.net) or the Defense Suicide Prevention Office website. Service members and veterans who need help can call the Military Crisis Line and speak to a counselor by dialing 800-273-TALK and pressing 1. If overseas, you can still get help by calling:

In Europe: 00800 1273 8255 or DSN 118\*

In Korea: 0808 55 118 or DSN 118

In Afghanistan: 00 1 800 273 8255 or DSN 111

DOD statistics show that in 2014, there were 268 confirmed suicides among active-duty military members, 79 confirmed in the Reserves and 87 in the National Guard.

### ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER  
Col. Jeffrey King

### HOW TO CONTACT US

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### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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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.

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Chester trained at Keesler Field in Mississippi, and was a crewmember on a B-17 like the one above during World War II.

## WORLD WAR II

Continued from A1

Chester's plane was hit during his 36th mission over Germany. He would go on to fly 14 more missions after he was rescued.

Trained at Keesler Field in Mississippi and in Las Vegas at the Las Vegas Army Air Field, Chester and the crew flew a new B-17 out of Savannah.

During his first mission overseas, he knew it was the real deal.

"It didn't take long (before) we found out that Germany, they were playing for keeps," he said.

Although he'd never been superstitious, Chester's crewmates were. The plane was hit many times with flak, but his luck was good so Chester started wearing the same clothes, down to his underwear and socks, during each mission. When the rescue aircraft took off from the small runway in Yugoslavia, Chester knew he'd make it.

"You can imagine when we got in that C-47 and going down that runway and lifting the landing gear up, what a feeling we had that we were safe on our journey back home," he said.

Chester came from a large family with 10 sisters and one brother. After his war service, he was the postmaster in Wrightsville for 39 years.

**Editor's note:** This is the last entry in a four-part series celebrating the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II.



CHESTER

# A life well lived

## WWII VET DID WHATEVER NEEDED

BY JENNY GORDON

jenny.gordon.ctr@us.af.mil

Having lived in Puerto Rico much of his life, Eustacio "Tasito" Rivera made the move to Warner Robins this past winter to live with his son, Tony, an engineer with the 404th Supply Chain Management Squadron.

At first glance the first thing you notice is that Rivera, a 97-year-old World War II veteran, has a steady gait to match his quick smile, which he readily shares when folks glance his way.

He exercises every day, keeps his mind sharp by reading and woodworking, and stays away from processed foods, only eating nutritious, freshly-prepared meals made by his son. He has a shot of liquor each evening, has never used a cane to support his nimble frame, and requires the use of only one type of medication for his health.

"I'm fully healthy," he declared. "I diet, and eat no more, no less, only what's needed."

With passion Rivera has lived his life intentionally, with purpose, always assisting his fellow neighbor when needed, never giving a second thought to what came out of his own pocket. There is little he regrets.

Sitting with Rivera one afternoon, his piercing gaze was at times content, other times strained with memories that a man who fought in the D-Day Invasion would rather forget. But memories of war remain.

Born in Corozal, Puerto Rico, one of nine siblings, he described himself as a "country boy" whose childhood revolved around nature.

Always a connoisseur of information, he followed news of the second war, hoping it would end soon and the U.S. would prevail.

In the early 1940s he had inherited a grocery business in San Juan. But the war would draft him at 22 in 1943. At a lean 108 pounds, he recalled the ongoing joke around town was if he was ever drafted, everyone else would follow suit.

He explained that his job in the Army was whatever they told him to do: working in the kitchen, in supply



RIVERA

and logistics positions at various camps, as a mail clerk, assisting with new recruit training, whatever was needed.

While still deployed to France, just months before the end of the war, he received news that his wife passed away. With two small children back home, he was discharged from service and became their sole caretaker.

"If I were born again, I would have completed my entire military career. I love my country," he said.

Son Tony, also an Army veteran, revels in the thought that he can now care for the friend and father who has sacrificed so much of himself for others.

On answering the customary question to the secret of living a long and happy life, he simply replied, "I worked every day of my life in business, masonry, carpentry; it was always easy for me to have money. For those who needed it, I gave it to them.

"I am grateful for what I have been given," he added. "I'm satisfied with all I've had in this world. Do for others."

# SUCCESS

Continued from A1

sound like a lot, it's a little over the distance you'd travel on Watson Boulevard from the Robins front gate to the I-75 bridge – three times.

You can't see each individual wire because they're tightly bundled inside various sizes of wiring harnesses.

In turn, these harnesses are painstakingly connected piece by piece from the back end of the aircraft all the way to the cockpit, where most of the wires reside for various computer systems.

When those wires are removed from inside an aircraft, while the harnesses may resemble a fusion of spaghetti noodles all tangled together inside a boxed crate, it's anything but when new wires are assembled in their place.

Just steps from functional test where maintainers repair any remaining issues after a pilot takes the plane up for final testing, the squadron's rewire shop dedicates six spots for F-15 rewire work.

The entire process – which averages 6,000 hours – takes 49 days, and includes F-15 C and D models only.

As part of the wiring modification and programmed depot maintenance in Gate 2, the process is further divided into three subgroups for wire removal, wire integrity testing and buildup.

Before an F-15 gets to the rewire shop, equipment inside has already been removed so its wires are accessible.

Large yellow platforms near each aircraft allow nearly 140 mechanics to get

to any surface they need. A total of 13 electricians can be working at any given time on a single aircraft.

Mark Erwin, an aviation electrician, spends most days inside an F-15C model cockpit, one of the aircraft's more difficult and tight spaces for rewire work.

His progress in this area is critical as well, since just about every wire in some form passes through his hands.

It's a big deal since an F-15 rewire project can include as many as 15,000 different connection points

“By now this work is very routine for me,” said Erwin, a former C-130 mechanic. “I could do it in my sleep.

“You have to put the wiring harnesses in just right for them to clamp,” he added. “As you can tell, there's not a lot of room in here.”

Eric Underwood, a 561st AMXS supervisor, agreed.

“If you're claustrophobic, it's not a good job for you,” he said.

Derrick Corbin, another aircraft mechanic, spends his shift, for 35 work days, standing upright inside the aircraft's central environmental cooling system – the most tightly-confined space of all.

The ECS pumps hot or cold air into the cockpit that not only keeps the pilot comfortable, but regulates temperatures for the aircraft's computers.



U.S. Air Force photo by RAY CRAYTON

**Keith Washington, 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron electrician, replaces the circuit breaker in the relay panel of an F-15.**

Since this particular workload began at Robins in 2009, continuous process improvements have continued to drive the number of flow days down.

In the beginning that number stood between 60 and 70 days. It's been further reduced to the current 49.

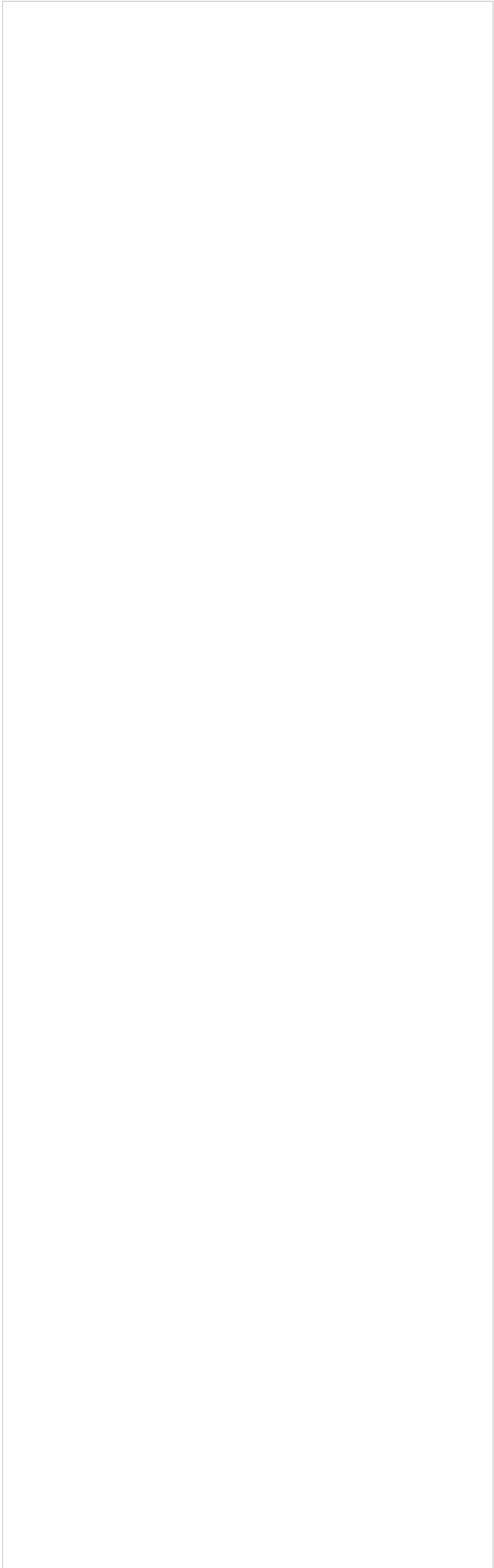
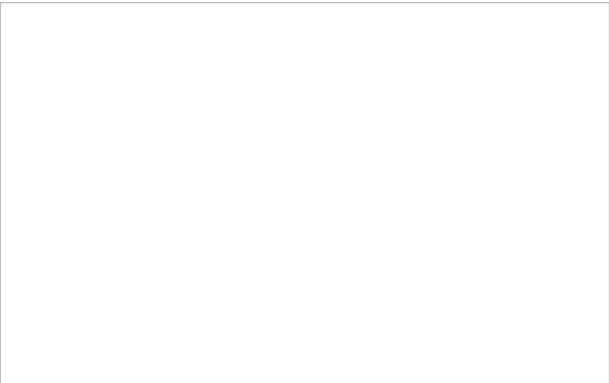
By implementing Art of the Possible theories, identifying and eliminating constraints in the production process and standardizing those processes, several areas were improved.

Most notably, incoming evaluations and inspections were conducted much earlier once an F-15 arrived at Robins. Parts ordering this early in the process worked well so they were ready by the time an aircraft entered the hangar.

By continuously coming up with processes that are standard and repeatable for every aircraft, the flight and

the squadron overall is looking ahead to what possibilities may come.

“If we increase quality and stay on the critical path, aircraft will flow smoothly,” said David Pryor, 561st AMXS supervisor.



# C-5

Continued from A1

from fiscal 2012 through fiscal 2015, which closes out Wednesday.

With those aircraft returned on time, that's another C-5 that can transport troops as well as much-needed equipment and material downrange, or move special space mission payloads for NASA or Air Force Space Command to their launch site.

In the business of aircraft maintenance and modification at the ALC, the processes come straight out of the pages of the Air Force Sustainment Center's "Art of the Possible," which describes reaching beyond today's limitations to grasp previously unimagined heights of performance.

It's not about settling for what already exists, but to challenge one another in order to recognize opportunities, eliminate constraints, improve processes and optimize resources to achieve world-class results.

All production machines have an average throughput, work-in-progress (in this case, the number of aircraft on station) and flow time. According to AoP, AFSC production machines must be designed to exceed customer expectations and reduce WIP. With reduced WIP comes reduced infrastructure and reduced resource requirements, creating capacity for additional workload and reducing costs.

By reducing its WIP and flow days in the C-5 squadron, Robins has arrived at a crucial juncture. That reduction allows additional resources, such as time, manpower and equipment to be used to

complete work on other aircraft.

Looking at C-5 PDM performance over the last several years, PDM WIP has improved significantly, from a WIP of 12 aircraft in the first quarter of fiscal 2011, to a WIP of four in the first quarter of fiscal 2015. C-5 A-model retirements contributed to those reduced numbers, as well as process improvements.

The flow-day trend dating to fiscal 2011 was around 420 days for a completed PDM. Today, that number averages about 280 days. The goal is to continue to drive that number down, reducing it to 220 days. But it doesn't stop there.

"We keep improving our processes," said Nakayama. "We keep realigning things so they flow together better. Our Art of the Possible goal is 180 days."

While that may take a few years, it took just as long to see numbers level off to where they are today.

"With our flow days coming down, it allows us to do more in PDM. That way it helps with our aircraft availability rate going even higher," said Nakayama, referring to the overall fleet AA rate in fiscal 2014 being the highest in the last 22 years.

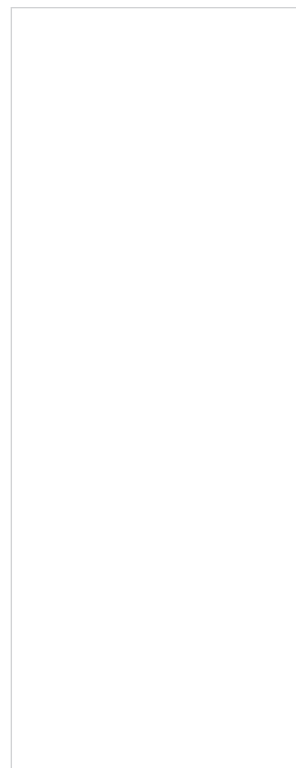
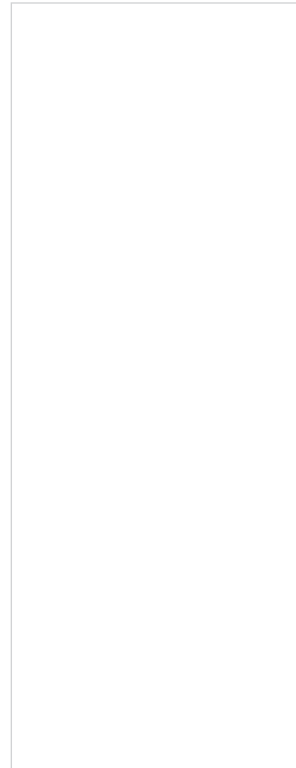
Looking ahead, sustainment and safety of the fleet will remain priority one.

With a small and aging fleet, parts availability issues, and incorporating more complex technology into an older airframe, challenges will remain as the aircraft is scheduled to remain in the inventory for the next 20-plus years.

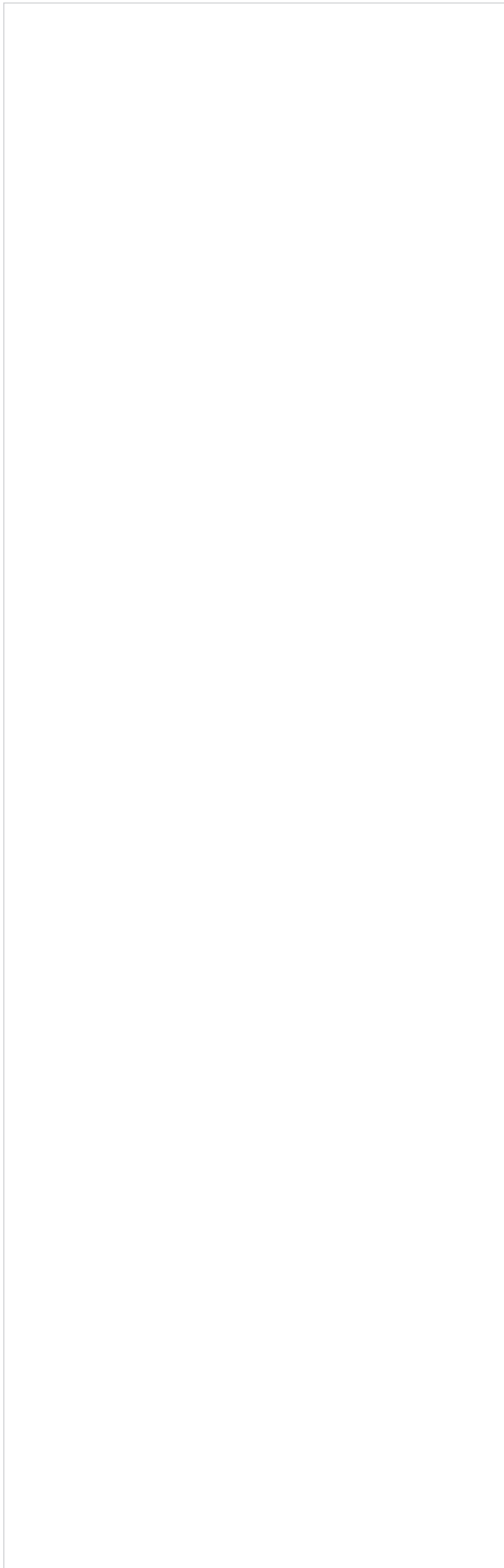
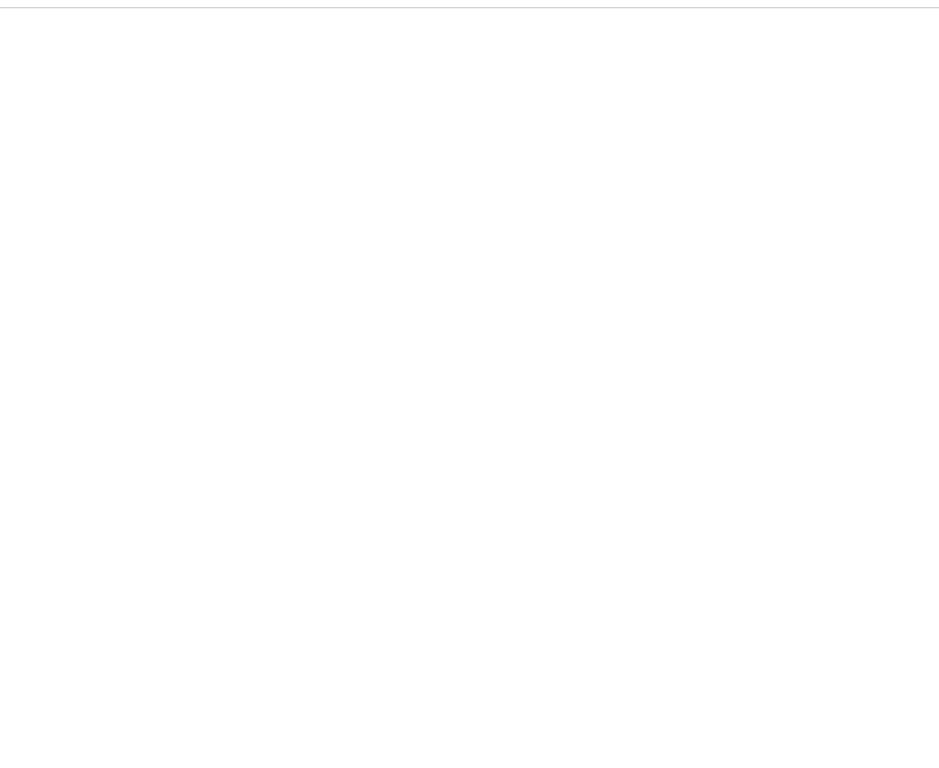
"We're still not satisfied and we still want to improve," said Nakayama. "What we're doing at the depot is contributing to the

good things that are happening in the fleet, yet the airplane has never been older than what it is today."

**Editor's note:** Read the full story at [www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil).



## WE SUPPORT AFSO21

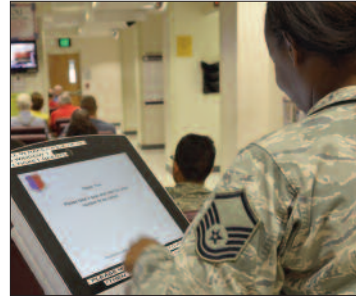




## Thought for the week

"It ain't over till it's over."

– Yogi Berra



## What's inside

MDG Pharmacy virtual check in, B2

Hear the beep where you sleep, B4

Fun for all at Fall Bash, B5

# Lighter Fare

THE ROBINS REV-UP ■ SEPTEMBER 25, 2015

THE PLACE TO LIVE, LEARN, WORK AND PLAY

## A DAY AT THE MUSEUM



# On the Nose

## MUSEUM OF AVIATION HIGHLIGHTS TRADITIONAL ARTWORK WITH DISPLAY

BY ANGELA WOOLEN  
angela.woolen.ctr@us.af.mil

The practice of painting the nose of military aircraft began during World War I and has continued to the present day.

The Museum of Aviation now has a collection of nose art from the C-141 Starlifter displayed on the second floor of the Eagle Building.

The nose art had been held in storage at the museum since 2005. When the space became available, they wanted to put the art front and center.

"Nose art has been ... all through military history. Some of the best examples are on aircraft," said collections manager Bill Paul.

The eight pieces of nose art in the display feature a wide assortment of designs and subjects. From 9/11 artwork to a tribute to the original Memphis Belle, each piece is unique.

Bruce and Darlene Barnes of Woodstock recently visited the museum for the first time and took photos of the nose art.

Bruce Barnes said he liked the Desert Rat artwork which was taken from a plane that was based in Arizona. His wife preferred the Night Train art which had been on an aircraft which was based in Memphis, Tennessee.

The museum received the pieces from actual skin panels removed from the C-141 at the boneyard in Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona.

Robins was "so involved with the C-141. We were the depot and we were the program manager for its entire history," Paul said.

Not only did the museum want to showcase the art which was on the nose of the plane but as a nod to Robins and how it supported the C-141 mission, Paul said.

"They've been just about everywhere including the South Pole," he said.



U.S. Air Force photos by MISUZU ALLEN

Above, Bruce and Darlene Barnes of Woodstock, take photos of the new display of nose art at the Museum of Aviation Wednesday.

Right, Museum staff members Bill Paul (left) and Doug Monahan discuss the installation of C-141 Starlifter nose art panels. Paul is curating the exhibit and Monahan installed the panels in the exhibit case. The nose art – "Let's Roll!" above right – has been in storage at the museum for years. Personnel from the 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, cut the panels from C-141s as the aircraft were being recycled.



Above, Museum of Aviation photo



### ABOUT THE C-141 Starlifter

The Starlifter was in operation from 1963 to 2006 and all 285 produced were serviced at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center. What was designed for about 7,000 flying hours was stretched to tens of thousands of hours in some cases thanks to the work done at the depot level.

### ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF AVIATION

The museum opened to the public on Nov. 9, 1984. There were about 20 aircraft on display in an open field and another 20 were in various stages of restoration.

The Heritage Building – the museum's first building – housed exhibits as well as offices, storage and a gift shop. The opening was the culmination of years of planning that began in the late 1970s. Since then, the museum has grown to become the second largest in the Air Force and the fourth most visited museum in the Department of Defense. Since opening, nearly 13 million people have visited.



### HOURS

The museum is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The museum is closed on Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Admission is free. For more information, call 478-926-6870.



# A BETTER YOU

U.S. Air Force photo by RAYMOND CRAYTON

**A patient at the 78th Medical Group pharmacy signs in for an appointment.**

**The touch screen check-in system has been updated to streamline the process for military and patients and dependents.**



## Pharmacy works to improve wait times with new refill, sign in process

**BY ANGELA WOOLEN**

angela.woolen.ctr@us.af.mil

The pharmacy at Robins can fill as many as 1,300 prescriptions a day. That can sometimes mean long lines and a long wait.

To lessen the wait for some patients, there is now a pick-up window for called in refills. Patients can just stand in the line to pick up a refilled prescription.

“You don’t have to pull a ticket for called in refills,” said Maj. Bridget Moore, 78th Medical Group Diagnostics and Therapeutics commander.

For those who don’t want to wait when dropping off a prescription, there is now a drop box. Customers can drop off a new written prescription in the sealed envelope, time stamp it and place inside a locked box. The staff processes these orders and patients can pick up in two duty days, Moore said.

The two additions were implemented Aug. 31 in a direct

response to complaints about wait times from pharmacy customers.

Those customers who use the drop box feature will also be able to use the pick-up window.

“It is a reward for dropping off prescriptions,” Moore said.

The touch screen check-in has also been updated to streamline the process. Before there were several different choices depending on if a person was active duty, needed to activate prescription, pick up a completed prescription, pick up a refill etc.

Now, the screen has two options, active duty in uniform and all others. The one ticket that’s pulled is your ticket for any service you need. In the past, some patients were confused and would pick a ticket for one thing when they should have pulled a ticket for something else. With the one ticket system, it cuts down on confusion and questions. One ticket takes care of all your needs.

Those in uniform are given priority.

Currently, the pharmacy is going through Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century, or AFSO21.

“It is a step-by-step guide to see where we can improve. It can also give us data we need to justify a satellite pharmacy.” Moore said.

The pharmacy was built in 2000 and doesn’t accommodate the large crowds we have now. Wing leadership is in the process of requesting funding for a satellite pharmacy to accommodate more beneficiaries. Until this happens, we request your help to make our operations function as well as can be expected under the current conditions.

Moore reads each complaint or compliment left in the comment box near the pharmacy. She takes those and tries to find ways to improve or maintain the current processes to better serve the customer.

### TRICARE Pharmacy Rules Changing for Maintenance, Brand-name Drugs

Beginning Thursday, TRICARE beneficiaries who take certain brand-name medications on a regular basis will be required to fill prescriptions at a military treatment facility or through a mail-in program, a Defense Health Agency official said yesterday.

George Jones, DHA’s pharmacy operations division chief, said the new policy doesn’t apply to active-duty troops, overseas beneficiaries, nursing-home residents and those with other health insurance which has a prescription-drug program.

In some cases beneficiaries could be waived from the program on an individual basis.

The brand-name, regularly used, or maintenance medications could include those to treat chronic conditions such as blood pressure or cholesterol issues.

Generic medications are not affected by the new policy, he said.

#### Beneficiaries to Be Notified

TRICARE pharmacy beneficiaries who will be affected will receive a letter from TRICARE in early to mid-September, with instructions on making the transition from retail pharmacies to a military pharmacy or the Express Scripts mail-in program, he said.

Those with questions about medications in the brand-name maintenance category can call Express Scripts customer service at 1-877-363-1303 or look up the drug online at TRICARE’s website.

Beneficiaries can track their medication status and expected delivery date by calling or going online to Express Scripts.

The new TRICARE policy stems from the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act and is designed to save beneficiaries and taxpayers money, Jones explained.

#### Program Expected to Save Money

“Based on estimates, the program is expected to save beneficiaries \$16.5 million in reduced copays, and projected Defense Department savings is \$88 million during the first year,” he said.

That translates into a savings of about \$176 per medication per year, he added. A pilot program on the new pharmacy initiative was conducted in 2014, and it was very successful.

#### 78th Medical Group upcoming closure

The 78th Medical Group will hold its mandated Wingman Day event Oct. 16 from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. During this time all medical group services, including the pharmacy and the central appointment line will be closed.

The clinic doors will close at 11 a.m. and reopen Oct. 19 at 7 a.m. All clinic services will resume normal duty hours starting at 7:30 a.m.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.



# Need Help?

Local Helping Agencies are available to assist Team Robins members with a variety of issues. See list below on how to get the help you need.

- ▶ Finances & Work-Life Balance – Airman & Family Readiness Center at 478-926-1256
- ▶ Health and Wellness Education – Health and Wellness Center at 478-327-8480
- ▶ Health Screenings – Civilian Health Promotion Services at 478-327-8030
- ▶ Work, Personal or Family Issues – Employee Assistance Program (800) 222-0364
- ▶ Work Stress, Psychological Issues – Organizational Consulting Office at 478-327-9803
- ▶ Mental Health & Substance Abuse – Houston Healthcare at 478-922-4281
- ▶ Unplanned Pregnancy – Houston Healthcare at 478-922-4281
- ▶ Suicide Prevention – National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at (800) 273-8255
- ▶ Sexual Assault & Victim Advocacy – Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 478-926-2946
- ▶ Crime Victim Advocacy – Victim Witness Assistance Program at 478-327-4584



RECYCLE! WHEN YOU ARE DONE READING THIS PAPER.



## U.S. AIR FORCE EagleEyes

WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.

**REPORT  
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY  
TO 468-EYES**

## SAFE AND SECURE

# National campaign urges use of bedroom smoke detectors

BY ROBINS FIRE EMERGENCY SERVICES

This year's Fire Prevention week theme is "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep: Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm."

This theme stresses the importance of having working smoke detectors in the bedrooms of our homes – they protect our families.

Along with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide, Robins Air Force Base Fire Emergency Services is joining forces with the National Fire Protection Association during Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 4 through 10.

The week is designed to remind Team Robins about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home and testing them monthly.

To help do that, firefighters and inspectors will be talking with people at various base venues during the week including the Exchange, commissary, Base Restaurant, Child Development Centers and even at the flight line entrance gates.

Robins FES is encouraging all base employees not only to practice fire safety at work, but also to bring the message home to share with their entire family.

According to NFPA statistics, half the U.S. home fire deaths occur at night between the hours of



11 p.m. and 7 a.m., making being asleep one of the leading causes of home fire fatalities.

Having working smoke alarms cuts the risk in half of dying in a fire. In fact, three out of five residential fire deaths occur in homes without working smoke alarms.

### Smoke is the real killer in a house fire

Smoke is full of chemical compounds that are lethal when inhaled. Those chemicals, combined with low oxygen levels caused by the fire, make it difficult for the brain to function and maintain consciousness.

Death from smoke inhalation can occur in as little as two minutes from the ignition of a fire.

That's why it's so important to practice and use

your family escape plan. Once a smoke alarm sounds, leave immediately. If you live in on-base housing, use a cell phone or a neighbor's phone to call 911, or 478-222-2900 to reach the Robins Emergency Communication Center.

### Smoke alarms can't protect you if they don't work

Test alarms monthly. Push the test button. If the alarm does not sound, replace the battery. If it still doesn't sound, replace the unit. Alarms should be replaced every eight to 10 years. Make sure you buy a smoke alarm that's approved by a recognized testing laboratory (such as Underwriters Laboratories).

NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code®, requires a smoke detector/alarm in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Smoke detectors and alarms should be installed either on the ceiling, or high on a wall, 4 to 2 inches from the ceiling. Don't install alarms in the kitchen, garage, bathroom or workshops. Cooking fumes, steam, and other air particles can create false alarms. Also, dust can cause false alarms, so when you change your batteries every six months, use a vacuum to gently remove dust.

To learn more visit NFPA's Web site at [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org).



For more information, visit [www.robinsfss.com](http://www.robinsfss.com) or visit the 78th FSS' Facebook page by searching Robins Force Support Squadron.

**T**eam Robins will host its annual Fall Bash Oct. 3, from 1 to 5 p.m.

The family-friendly event, slated to take place at Robins Park across from the Heritage Club, is a yearly tradition that allows the Robins' community to take a break and have some fun.

The free event – which will include rides, face painting, games, live music, a craft fair and other family-friendly activities – is open to all Robins Air Force Base ID cardholders.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase at the event.

Safety saves lives. Start your savings account today

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

PRACTICE OPSEC EVERY DAY, EVERYWHERE.



U.S. Air Force photo illustration by **CLAUDE LAZZARA**

**UNIT:** 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron

**JOB TITLE:** Transportation Specialist

**TIME IN SERVICE:** 39 years

**HOMETOWN:** Macon

**What does your work involve at Robins?** "Transportation – I help ship people and cargo all over the world."

**What do you enjoy most about your work?** "Meeting and helping people."

**How does your work contribute to the Robins mission?** "My work contributes to the mission by getting people and assets where they need to be to support the mission."

**What prompted your interest in your current career field?** "Job opportunities."

**Who has been the biggest influence in your life?** "My mother, Susie M. Boston. She lead by example, and made me what I am today."

**What is the best advice you've learned?** "Stay in your own lane."

**What is something people would be surprised to know about you?** "I wanted to be a Marine drill sergeant."

**What is an accomplishment you are most proud of?** "My children and grandchildren."

## STRAIGHT TALK HOT LINE



For up-to-date information about base emergencies call 478-222-0815

# HAPPENINGS/SERVICES

FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THUR  
**25 26 27 28 29 30 1**

**ON TAP**  
**Arts & Crafts fair at the Fall Bash 2015**  
 Reserve your space by Monday. Tables \$20 each. Registration forms available at the Art & Crafts Center. For details, call DSN 468-5282.

**Thunder Alley Family Night**  
 Today  
 9 to 11 p.m.  
 Bowling Center  
 12 years and under \$5  
 13 years and older \$10

Includes shoes and two hours of bowling.

**UPCOMING**  
**Georgia National Fair tickets**  
 Oct. 8 through 18  
 ITT Office  
 For details, call DSN 468-2945

**Fit 2 Fight**  
 Now through Oct. 30  
 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays  
 11 a.m. to noon  
 Fitness Center.  
 For details,

call 468-2128.

**ONGOING**  
**Karaoke on Thursdays**  
 7 p.m. to closing  
 Heritage Club Lounge  
 For details, call DSN 472-7899.

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



## KUDOS

### Kids Understanding Deployment Operations

**Oct. 3**

**from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**Children of military members 5- to 15-years old (must be accompanied by an adult)**

**Registration ends today**

For more information call Master Sgt. Avis Smith or Tech. Sgt. Ronald Megginson

at DSN 468-1256 or commercial 478-926-1256